

American Demographic History Chartbook: 1790 to 2000

Campbell Gibson

www.demographicchartbook.com

Provides a wide-ranging audience of persons interested in American history – including historians, other social scientists, teachers, and students – with graphics portraying the demographic history of the United States, as shown by the decennial census of population.

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AMERICAN DEMOGRAPHIC HISTORY CHARTBOOK: 1790 TO 2000

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ABOUT THE CHARTBOOK

Introduction

The first decennial census of population in the United States was taken in 1790, reflecting the constitutional requirement (Article I, Section 2) that an enumeration be conducted every ten years for use in apportioning members of the House of Representatives among the states. The information collected was tallied by household and included five items in addition to the name of head of the household: the numbers of persons who were White males 16 years and over, White males under age 16, White females, other free persons, and slaves.¹

During the following two centuries, the items on the census of population were expanded to include a wide range of social and economic characteristics. Starting in 1850, information was collected for each person (rather than by household), permitting the addition of items with a large number of possible responses, such as place (state or foreign country) of birth and occupation. The census of housing, conducted in conjunction with the census of population, was introduced in 1940, although information on household tenure (owner/renter) had been collected previously in the census of population. The many changes in the decennial census in addition to content included the introduction of electrical tabulating machines in 1890, sampling in 1940, electronic computers in 1950, and the gradual replacement of door-to-door enumerators with mail-out, mail-back data collection from 1960 to 1980. Starting in 1880, the decennial census has been taken under some provision for confidentiality. The decennial census is currently taken under Title 13, U.S. Code, which requires that the Census Bureau release no data that would permit the identification of any person or household.²

Data from the decennial census of population were published in printed reports starting with a single 56-page report for 1790 and surpassing 100,000 pages for 1960, when data were first made available also on computer tape files. In general, the increase reflected the increase in the amount of data collected, the quantity of cross-tabulations produced, and the geographic detail for which the data were published. The Census Bureau Internet site (www.census.gov) has supplanted printed reports as the primary medium for releasing census data, and printed pages were reduced to about 50,000 in just three report series for 2000.

While many of the older printed reports from the decennial census are not readily available, most of these publications for the 1790 to 2000 period are now available on the Census Bureau Internet site. In addition, two other major sources for historical census data merit description here. The first of these is the five-volume *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition* (2006) hereafter referred to as *Millennial Edition*.³ It was produced by an academic consortium and published by Cambridge University Press, and supersedes editions of *Historical Statistics of the United States* published by the Census Bureau in 1949, 1960, and

¹Bohme et al, 1973.

²Bohme et al, 1973; Anderson, 1988; Gauthier, 2002. The requirement for confidentiality is 72 years, after which period microfilm copies of decennial census schedules are available to the public from the National Archives, pursuant to Title 44, U.S. Code..

³Carter, Gartner, Haines, Olmstead, Sutch, and Wright, editors in chief, 2006.

1975.⁴ The *Millennial Edition* facilitates the use of historical data by presentation in time series format, and in the case of decennial census data in particular, includes data at the regional and state levels as well as the national level on several topics.

The second of these additional sources is the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS), which is based on representative samples drawn from census schedules from 1850 to present, excluding 1890 (destroyed by fire in 1921), and which is maintained by the Minnesota Population Center.⁵ (IPUMS data for 1930 were not yet available when the content of the *Millennial Edition* was finalized.) IPUMS “harmonizes” the coding of information on census questions over time and thus facilitates the development of time series with a consistent set of classifications. This is especially helpful in the case of topics for which the census classifications have changed over time and for topics on which data were not tabulated at each census in which the underlying data were collected. Several time series of decennial census data based on IPUMS are included in the *Millennial Edition*.

As suggested by the preceding description, there is a tremendous quantity of data available based on the decennial census of population. In addition, there is extensive scholarly analysis of American demographic history based on the census and other sources of demographic information.⁶ These other sources include, for example, administrative data on vital statistics (births, deaths, marriage, and divorce) and immigration, and national survey data since the 1940s on a wide range of social and economic characteristics.

The purpose of the American Demographic History Chartbook is to present basic information about demographic trends and differentials in the United States in the 1790 to 2000 period, as revealed by the decennial census of population, and to do so using graphics designed for a general audience of persons interested in U.S. history. In keeping with the stated purpose and general audience, the Chartbook has been kept relatively short. Those persons interested in more detail on any of the topics included here may consult References, which are divided into Decennial Census Publications and References Other than Decennial Census Publications.

Scope of the Graphics

Limiting the length of the Chartbook, as described above, requires some choices regarding four parameters: geographic detail, topics, cross tabulations, and census years. For example, graphics showing data down to the county level (which still would not include data for

⁴For simplicity, the term Census Bureau is used in the text to include its predecessors, the Bureau of the Census and the Census Office. See References, Decennial Census Publications.

⁵For a description of IPUMS, see Minnesota Population Center (no date), “IPUMS-USA, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ),” <http://usa.ipums.org/usa-action/faq.do>.

⁶The essays in the *Millennial Edition*, along with the references provided in these essays, provide an extensive analysis of American demographic history. See especially, Carter, Haines, Sutch, and Wright, 2006; Haines, 2006a; Haines, 2006b; Ferrie, 2006; Barde, Carter, and Sutch, 2006; Ruggles, 2006; Carter, 2006; and Sobek, 2006a. For a one-volume “survey” of American demographic history, see Klein, 2004. For demographic methods and techniques of analysis, see one of the editions of *The Methods and Materials of Demography*, the first and the most recent editions being Shryock, Siegal, and Associates, 1971; and Siegal and Swanson, editors, 2004.

individual cities) for all topics in the decennial census of population for all years (1790 to 2000) with extensive cross-tabulations (e.g., by type of residence and by race and Hispanic origin) would require several hundred thousand pages.

The geographic coverage in the Chartbook is primarily for the United States and for regions (North, South, and West, as discussed below). In addition, data are shown on some topics for states and for the ten largest cities and the ten largest metropolitan areas in the United States.

The Census Bureau designations of subnational regions (based on aggregations of states) has changed over time (Dahmann, 1992; Hindman, 2006). The four regions used currently by the Census Bureau are the Northeast, Midwest, South, and West; however, it is preferable here to use the three regions listed in the preceding paragraph for geographical, historical, and demographic reasons. These three regions are much more similar in land area (representing 25.5 percent, 24.6 percent, and 49.6 percent, respectively of U.S. land area in 2000) whereas the Northeast represents only 4.6 percent of U.S. land area.⁷ The major conflicts in American history reflect North-South comparisons more than Northeast-Midwest comparisons.⁸ Historical differences between the North and the South are much greater than between the Northeast and the Midwest for a wide range of demographic characteristics, including, for example, population growth rates, urbanization, racial composition, educational levels, and the proportion foreign born.

Geographic detail is shown for the United States as defined at each census. This includes the enumerated area of the conterminous United States and includes territories, which frequently had very different boundaries than states subsequently created from them. Alaska and Hawaii, being outside the conterminous United States, are included first in 1960. Important changes in state boundaries include the creation of the District of Columbia from parts of Maryland and Virginia in 1791, the retrocession of the Virginia portion of the District of Columbia in 1846, and the creation of West Virginia from part of Virginia in 1863. The Oklahoma Territory and the Indian Territory, shown for the only time in the census in 1900, were merged to form the state of Oklahoma in 1907.⁹ Prior to 1890, the enumeration of the American Indian population in the decennial census excluded those living in tribal society (the large majority of the Indian population), and information on the full range of census items was not collected for the American Indian population until 1900.

Three maps are included for use with the graphics. Map 1 and Map 2 show states and territories for the 1790 to 1840 period and the 1850 to 1900 period, respectively (after which no major changes in boundaries have occurred in the conterminous United States, except as noted above for Oklahoma). Map 3 shows the United States by census region, census division, and state in 2000.

⁷U.S. Census Bureau, 2004.

⁸This is reflected in textbooks on American history. For example, see Kennedy, Cohen, and Bailey, 2010.

⁹For a description of boundary changes, as well as historical population counts for states and counties, see Forstall, 1996.

Because the focus here is on American demographic history for the full 1790 to 2000 period, the topics included are limited to those for which information has been collected, or is derivable from the information collected, in the decennial census for at least a century and reflect some judgment about what topics are of most general interest. The topics included are indicated in the chapter titles. In two cases, presentation of data on a topic reflects a change in the census item. Educational level was measured by illiteracy rates (i.e., from a negative perspective) prior to 1940, by years of school completed from 1950 to 1980, and primarily by educational diplomas and degrees in 1990 and 2000. Fertility was first measured by children ever born in 1910; however, child-woman ratios can be calculated using data on age and sex back into the 19th century.¹⁰

With a few exceptions, the topics shown in the graphics are not cross-tabulated by other characteristics, for reasons of space. The primary exception is that some social and economic topics (e.g., marital status and labor force participation rates) are shown by age and sex, which are of fundamental importance in demographic analysis.¹¹ In general, data are not shown by race or Hispanic origin, except for censuses prior to 1870 when data on some topics were collected only for the White population or for the free population. For many topics, data are available in decennial census publications on population characteristics down to the state level by type of residence (e.g., urban and rural) and to the county level.

At the national level, the graphics show data for every census year for which data are available in the 1790 to 2000 period. With a few exceptions, data are shown at the regional and state levels only for selected years. In general, these years are 1790 (the first census) 1820, (about midway between 1790 and 1860, and following the effects of the War of 1812), 1860 (on the eve of the Civil War), 1900 (turn of the century), 1940 (on the eve of World War II and the baby boom), 1970 (end of the baby boom and the beginning a new wave of large-scale immigration), and 2000 (turn of the century).

Accuracy of the Data

General information on census data, including area classifications, definitions of topics, accuracy of the data, and collection and processing techniques, is provided in decennial census publications (and with census data sets on the Internet). The United States has been taken primarily on a *de jure* (usual place of residence) basis rather than on a *de facto* (location at the time of the census) basis. Estimates of census coverage and net under-enumeration have been prepared for the decennial census on a regular basis since 1940. While the estimated rates of net undercount have varied somewhat, they have generally shown higher rates of net undercount for males than for females, for young adults than for other age groups, and for minority groups than for the White (or White non-Hispanic) population.¹³

¹⁰For a comprehensive list of items on the population questionnaire at each decennial census in the 1790 to 2000 period, see Gauthier, 2002.

¹¹Hobbs, 2004.

¹³For discussion and estimates of estimated net undercount, see U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1975 (Historical Statistics of the United States, Part 1, p. 1); Fay et al, 1988; Robinson et al, 1993; and U.S. Census Bureau, 2003.

Since 1940, some data in the decennial census have been collected on a sample basis, and since 1960, this has been the case for data on most social and economic characteristics. The use of sample data (in decennial census publications and tabulations based on IPUMS) is indicated in headnotes for the graphics. In general, estimates of sampling error are provided in decennial census publications that show sample data.

Sample estimates may differ somewhat from the data that would have been obtained if information had been collected for the entire population. In addition to sampling error for data based on a sample, both 100-percent data and sample data are subject to nonsampling error. Nonsampling error may be introduced during any of the numerous operations used to collect and process data. Such errors may include the following: not enumerating every household or every person in the population, failing to obtain all required information from the respondents, obtaining incorrect or inconsistent information, and recording information incorrectly. In addition, errors can occur during the review of the enumerators' work, during clerical handling of the questionnaires, and during the processing of the questionnaires.

The magnitude of sampling error is determined primarily by sample size and to a lesser degree by the sampling rate. Since the sample data shown in the graphics are for the United States, regions, states, and large cities (and not, for example, for small towns), the samples on which the sample data are based are sufficiently large that the resulting sampling errors are relatively small. As noted above, information on sampling error typically is provided in decennial census publications; however, the following very general guideline is offered, unless there is particular reason to question the comparability of data (e.g., due to changes in definitions). Changes (over time) and differences (for the same census year) of less than one or two percentage points (in the case of percentages) or of less than one or two percent (in the case of other measures, such as ratios, or numbers) do not merit emphasis. Such differences may not be statistically significant due to sampling error and/or nonsampling error. In addition, such small changes may not be of substantive significance, even if they are of statistical significance.¹⁴

This general guideline does not apply to estimates based on sample data for net migration of the population born in the United States. In this case, estimates of in-migration and of out-migration are each subject to sampling error, and the resulting estimate of net migration, which may be a much smaller number, may have a large sampling error relative to the size of the estimate.

Acknowledgments

The author thanks the many demographers at the Census Bureau and in academe for their contributions over the years to his understanding of historical U.S. decennial census statistics and their limitations, and thanks others, including several high-school history teachers, for their input

¹⁴For illustration, an example at the national level is provided using 1950 census data on children ever born to ever-married women. These data were based on a 3 and 1/3 percent sample, much smaller than for most census sample data. For a weighted population of 1,000,000 (meaning about 33,000 sample cases), the standard error on an estimated percentage of 10 percent with zero children ever born is 0.2 percentage points, and the standard error on an estimated rate of 3.00 lifetime births per woman is 0.02 births (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1955). There is about a 69-percent chance that the sample-based estimates would be within one standard error (and about a 95-percent chance within two standard errors) of what would have been obtained from a complete census.

in developing the Chartbook. In particular, the author thanks David M. Kennedy (Donald J. McLachlan Professor of History, Emeritus, and Director of the Bill Lane Center for the American West, Stanford University), Herbert S. Klein (Gouverneur Morris Emeritus Professor of History, Columbia University, and Hoover Fellow, Stanford University), and Alexander E. Landry (Reference Librarian at the U.S. Census Bureau) for their consultation and their support.

Maps

Three maps of the United States are included with the Chartbook. The first two are outline maps of states and territories covering the period from 1790 and 1900 and are from U.S. Bureau of the Census (1909), *A Century of Population Growth from the First Census of the United States to the Twelfth: 1790 to 1900*. These maps are for the states and territories for which data were published in the decennial census publications and differ in a few cases from the boundaries of the states and territories at the time of the census. For example, Maine is shown separately from Massachusetts starting in 1790, even though Maine was part of Massachusetts and did not become a separate state until 1820. The map corresponding to the 1860 census is for 1861 when Kansas became a state and Colorado was organized as a territory.

The third map is an outline map showing boundaries in 2000 for regions and divisions, as defined by the Census Bureau for statistical purposes, and for states. In addition, the third map shows the North region, as defined for use in the Chartbook, which combines the Northeast and Midwest regions defined by the Census Bureau. For further information, including a discussion of this combination, see [Data Sources](#). Since the 1880 census, most decennial census reports showing counts of total population by geographic area have included maps of the United States.

List of Maps

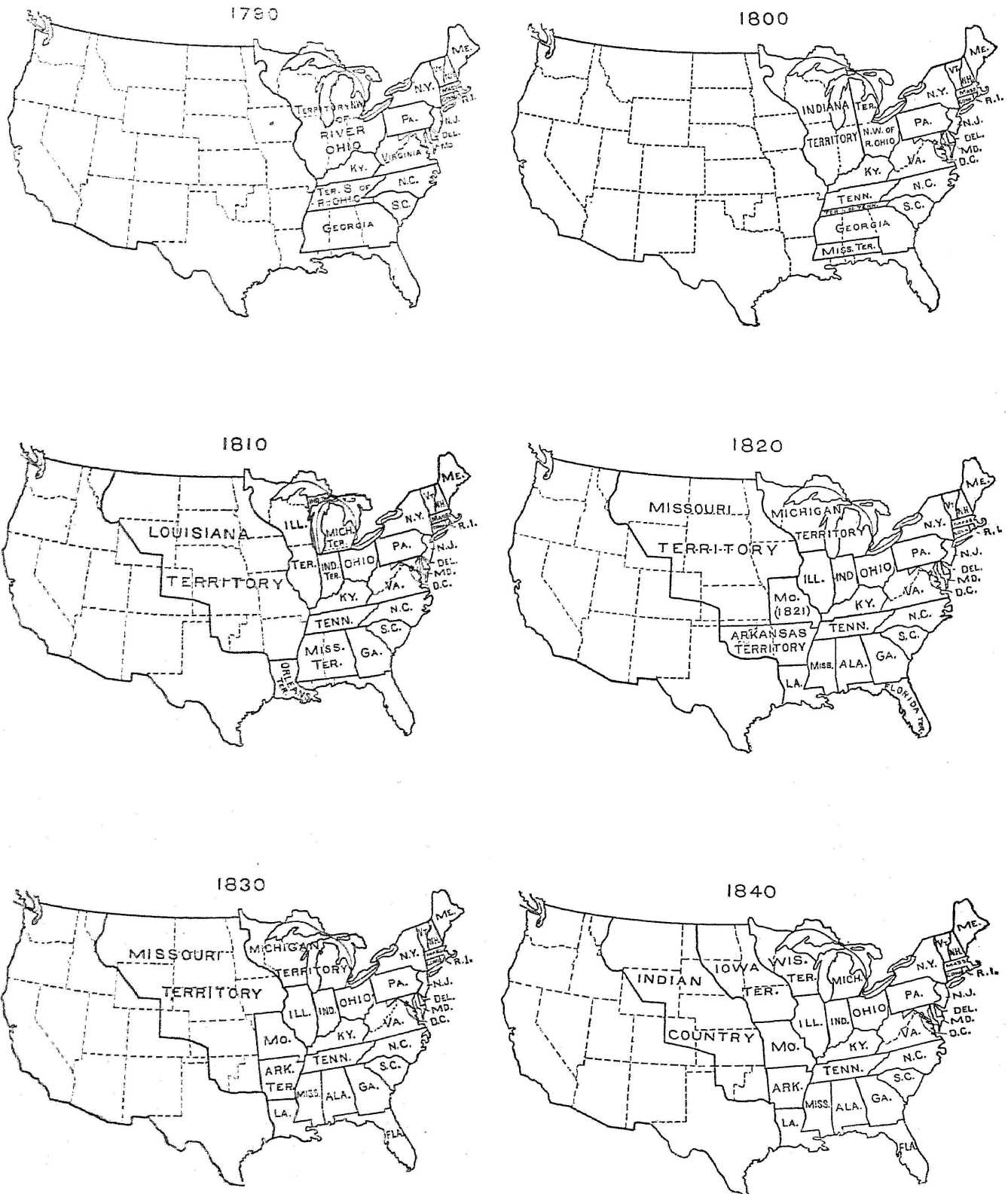
Map 1. Map of the United States Showing States and Territories: 1790 to 1840

Map 2. Map of the United States Showing States and Territories: 1850 to 1900

Map 3. Map of the United States Showing Regions, Divisions, and States: 2000

Map 1.

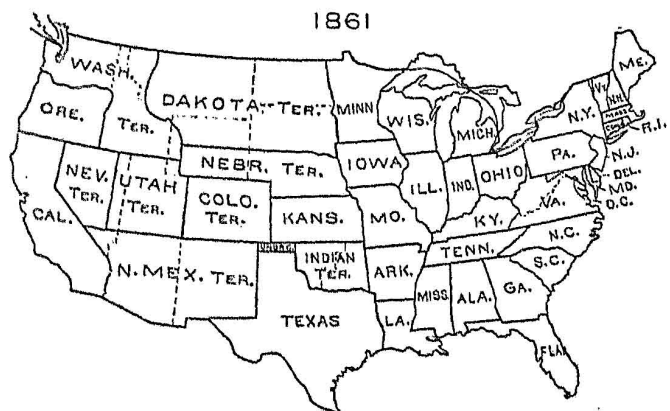
United States by State and Territory: 1790 to 1840



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census (1909), *A Century of Population Growth from the First Census of the United States to the Twelfth: 1790 to 1900*, p. 52.
See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

Map 2.

United States by State and Territory: 1850 to 1900

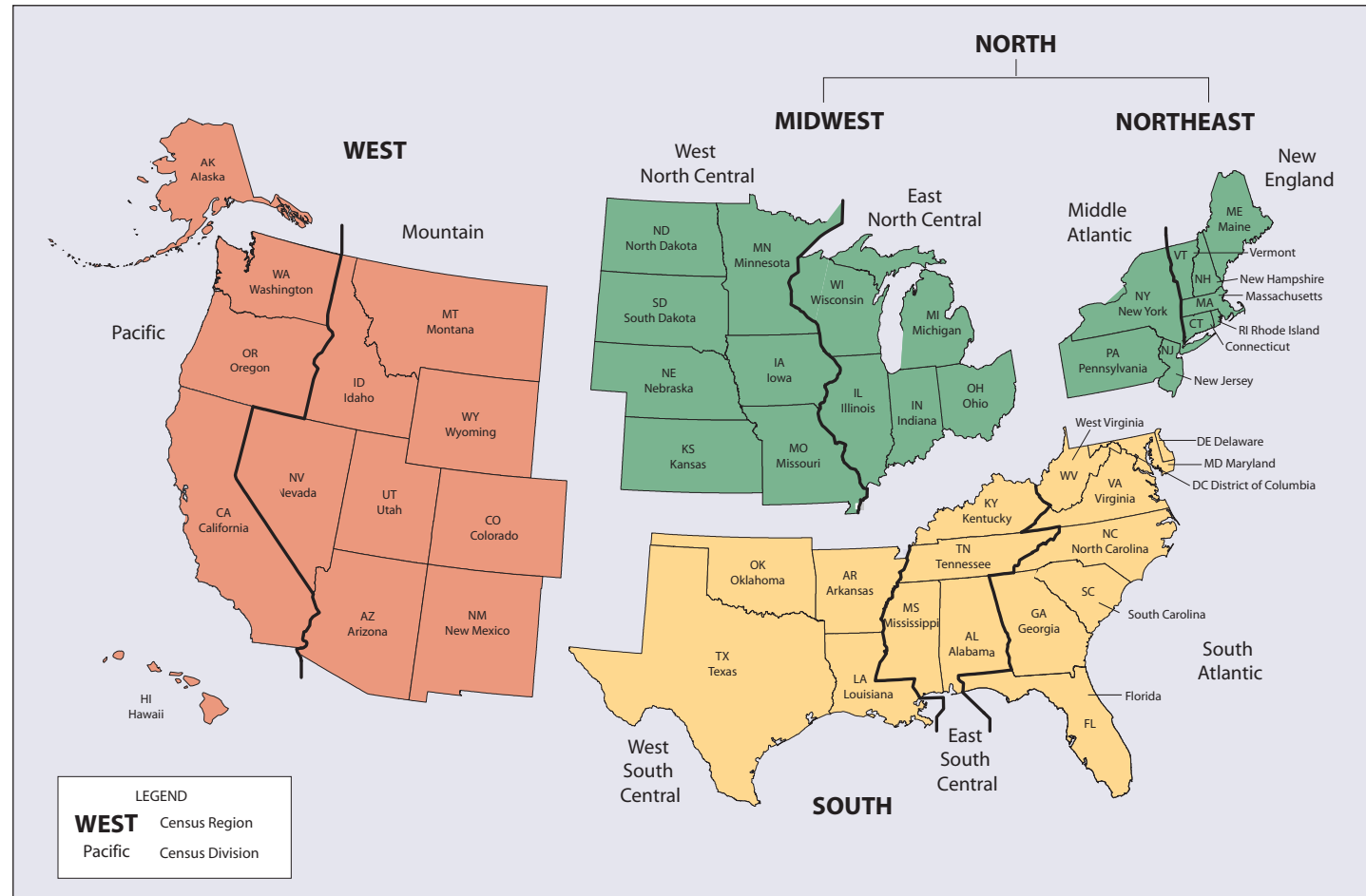


Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census (1909), *A Century of Population Growth from the First Census of the United States to the Twelfth: 1790 to 1900*, p.53.
See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

Map 3.

United States by Region, Division, and State: 2000

(The four regions – Northeast, Midwest, South, and West – and the nine divisions, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau for statistical purposes. For historical purposes, the Northeast and Midwest regions are combined here as the North region)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2004), 2000 census, PHC-3-1, Part 2, p. F-3 (2004). See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

January 4, 2010

Chapter 1. Population Growth, Distribution, and Congressional Apportionment

The first decennial census of the population of the United States was taken in 1790. In general, the census has been taken on a *de jure* (place of residence) basis rather than on a *de facto* (place at time of the census) basis. While there have been changes in the details of the residence rules used in conducting the enumeration, these have had very little proportionate effect on population counts for the geographic areas included in the Chartbook. Early census reports included numerous typographical errors and inconsistencies, and as a result, population totals for the 1790 to 1870 period are taken from the 1870 census, Volume I (U.S. Census Office, 1872a), which corrected these problems. From 1870 to 2000, population totals are as published for each census, and do not include any revisions published in subsequent censuses.

As described in the 1890 census, Volume I, pp. xi-xii (U.S. Census Office, 1895), the 1870 census enumeration was believed to have been particularly deficient in the South. Based on some rather simplistic assumptions about population growth rates in the 1860-1870, 1870-1880, and 1880-1890 decades, it was estimated that the undercount in 1870 for the South, and thus for the United States, was 1.3 million. If this estimate is used, changes to data in Figures 1-1 to 1-5 would be as follows. Figure 1-1: 1870 population (in millions) for the United States (39.8) and the South (13.5). Figure 1-2: 1860-1870 and 1870-1880 numerical increase (in millions) for the United States (8.4 and 10.3) and the South (2.4 and 3.0). Figure 1-3: 1860-1870 and 1870-1880 percent increase for the United States (26.6 and 26.0) and the South (21.7 and 21.9). Figure 1-4: 1870 percent distribution of population for the North (63.5), South (34.0), and West (2.5). Figure 1-4: 1860-1870 percent distribution of numerical increase for the North (66.7), South (28.8), and West (4.4). Figure 1-4: 1870-1880 percent distribution of numerical increase for the North (63.8), South (28.7), and West (7.5).

For general information on the boundaries of states and territories at each census from 1790 to 1900, when most of the boundary changes occurred, and for 2000, see [Maps](#). For general information on the history, development, and coverage of the decennial census of population, see [Data Sources](#).

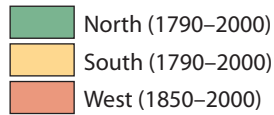
Figures

- 1-1. Population for the United States by Region: 1790 to 2000
- 1-2. Numerical Increase in Population for the United States by Region: 1790 to 2000
- 1-3. Percent Increase in Population for the United States by Region: 1790 to 2000
- 1-4. Percent Distribution of Population and of Numerical Increase in Population for the United States by Region: 1790 to 2000
- 1-5. Percent Distribution of Population for the United States by Division and Other Selected Geographic Areas: 1790, 1820, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000
- 1-6. Ten States with Largest Population for the United States: 1790 to 2000
- 1-7. Percentage of the Population in Each of the Ten States with Largest Population for the United States: 1790 to 2000
- 1-8. Center of Population for the United States: 1790 to 2000
- 1-9. Congressional Apportionment for the United States by Region: 1790 to 2000

Figure 1-1.

Population for the United States by Region: 1790 to 2000

(Numbers in millions. Reference month and day of census shown below census year. See Chapter 1 text regarding data for 1870)



Populations not shown on figure:

North

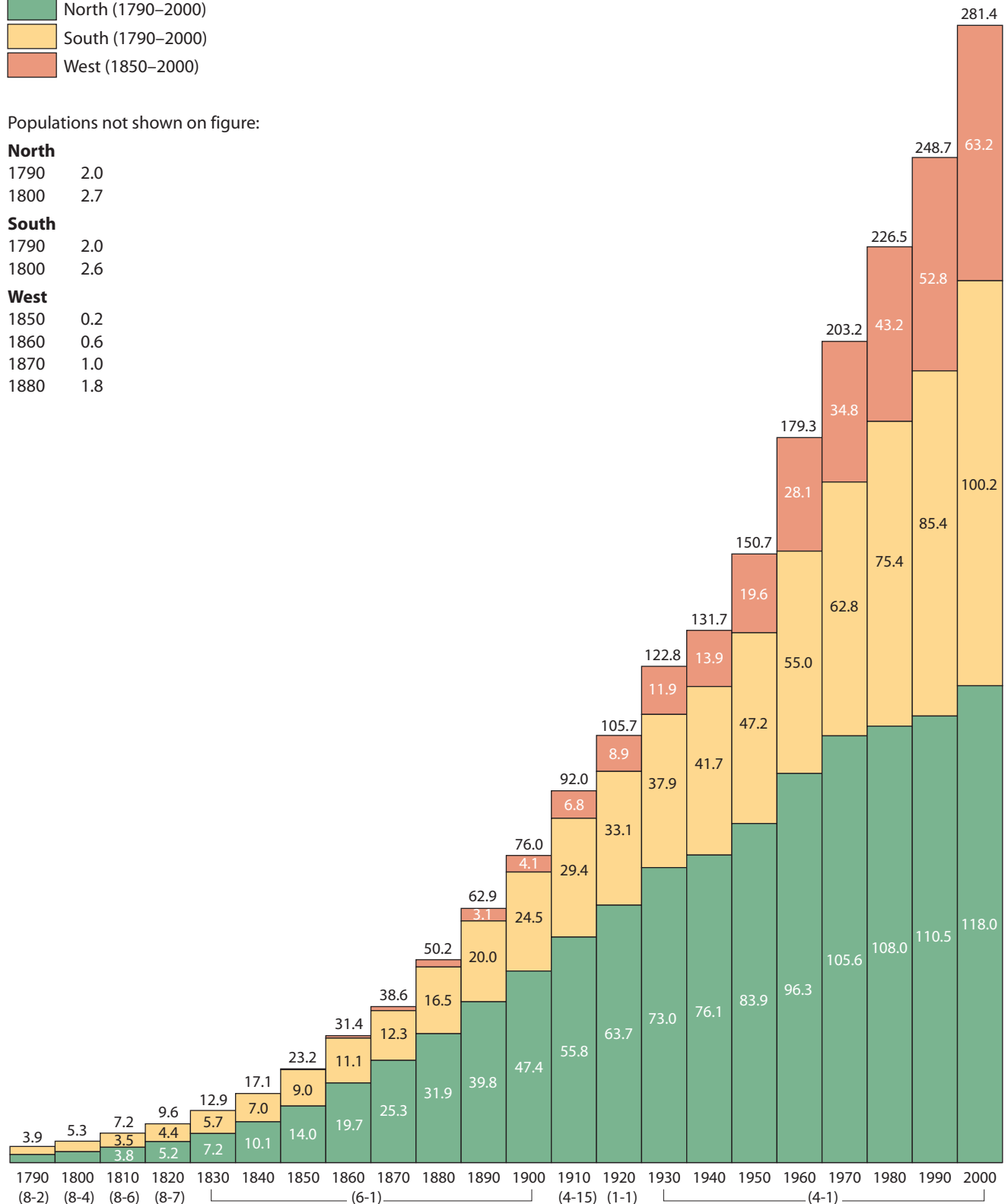
1790 2.0
 1800 2.7

South

1790 2.0
 1800 2.6

West

1850 0.2
 1860 0.6
 1870 1.0
 1880 1.8



Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

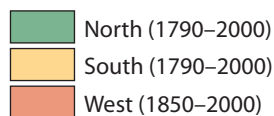
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Figure 1-2.

Numerical Increase in Population for the United States by Region: 1790 to 2000

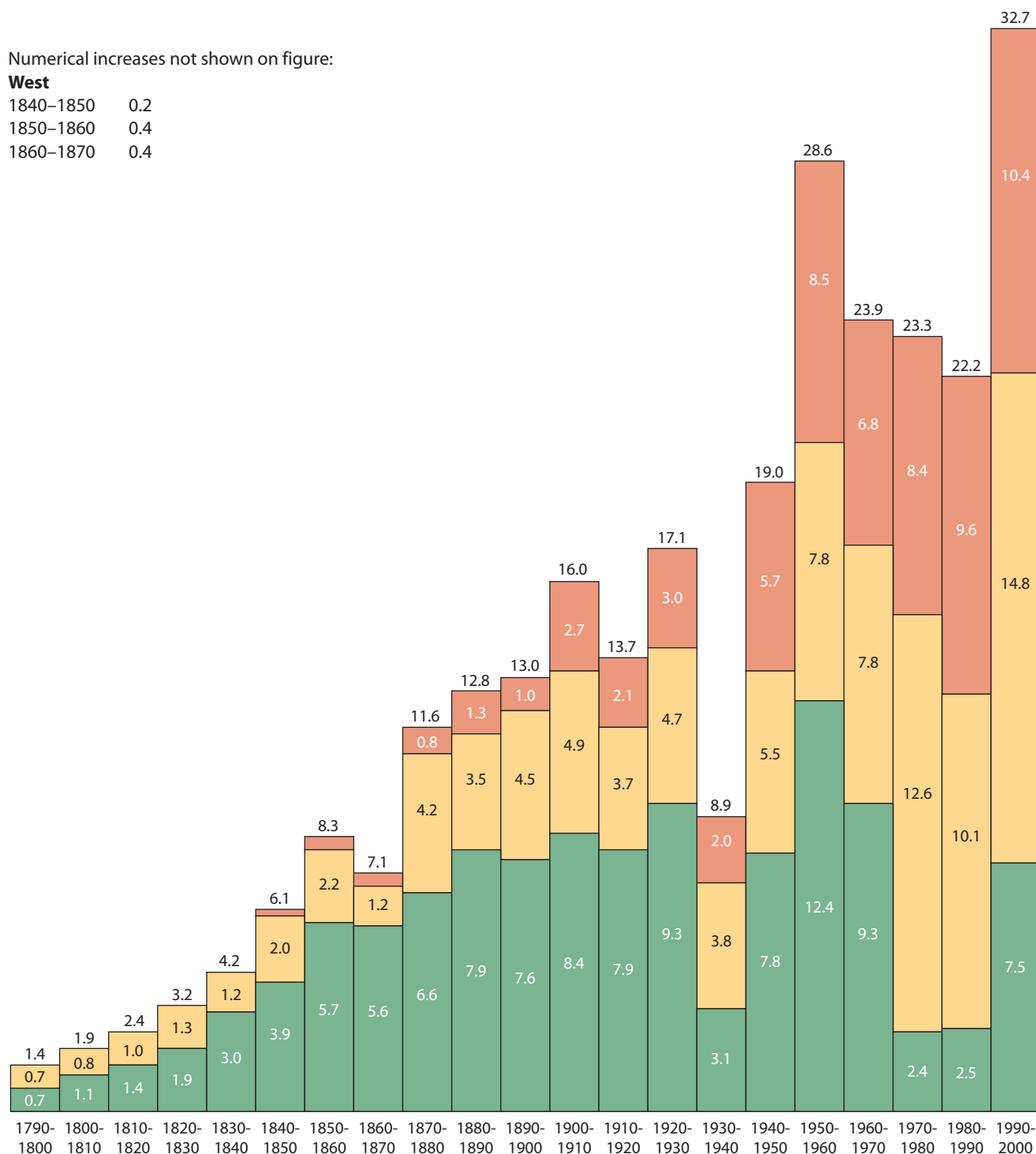
(Numbers in millions. See Chapter 1 text regarding data for 1860-1870 and 1870-1880)



Numerical increases not shown on figure:

West

1840–1850	0.2
1850–1860	0.4
1860–1870	0.4



Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

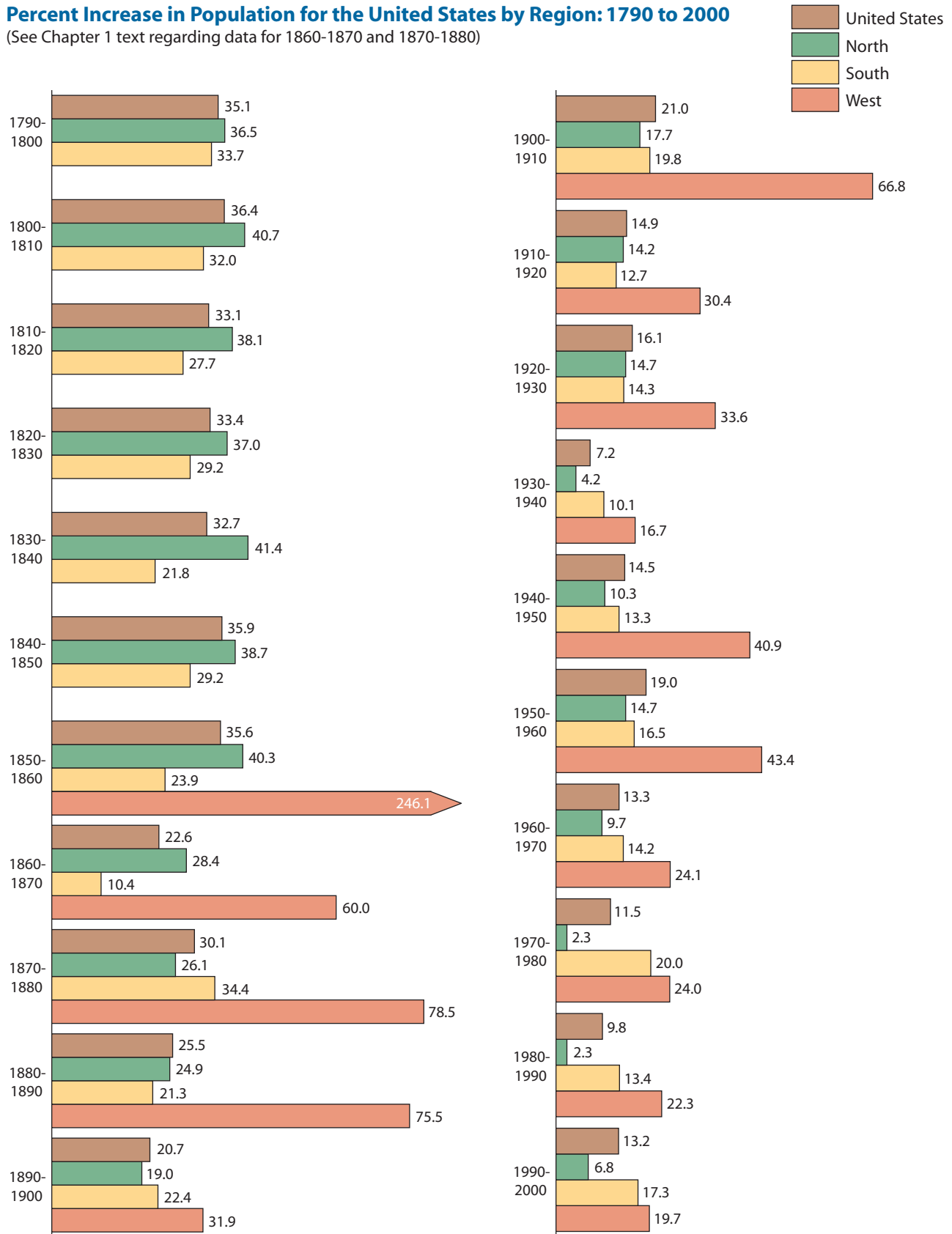
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Figure 1-3.

Percent Increase in Population for the United States by Region: 1790 to 2000

(See Chapter 1 text regarding data for 1860-1870 and 1870-1880)



Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

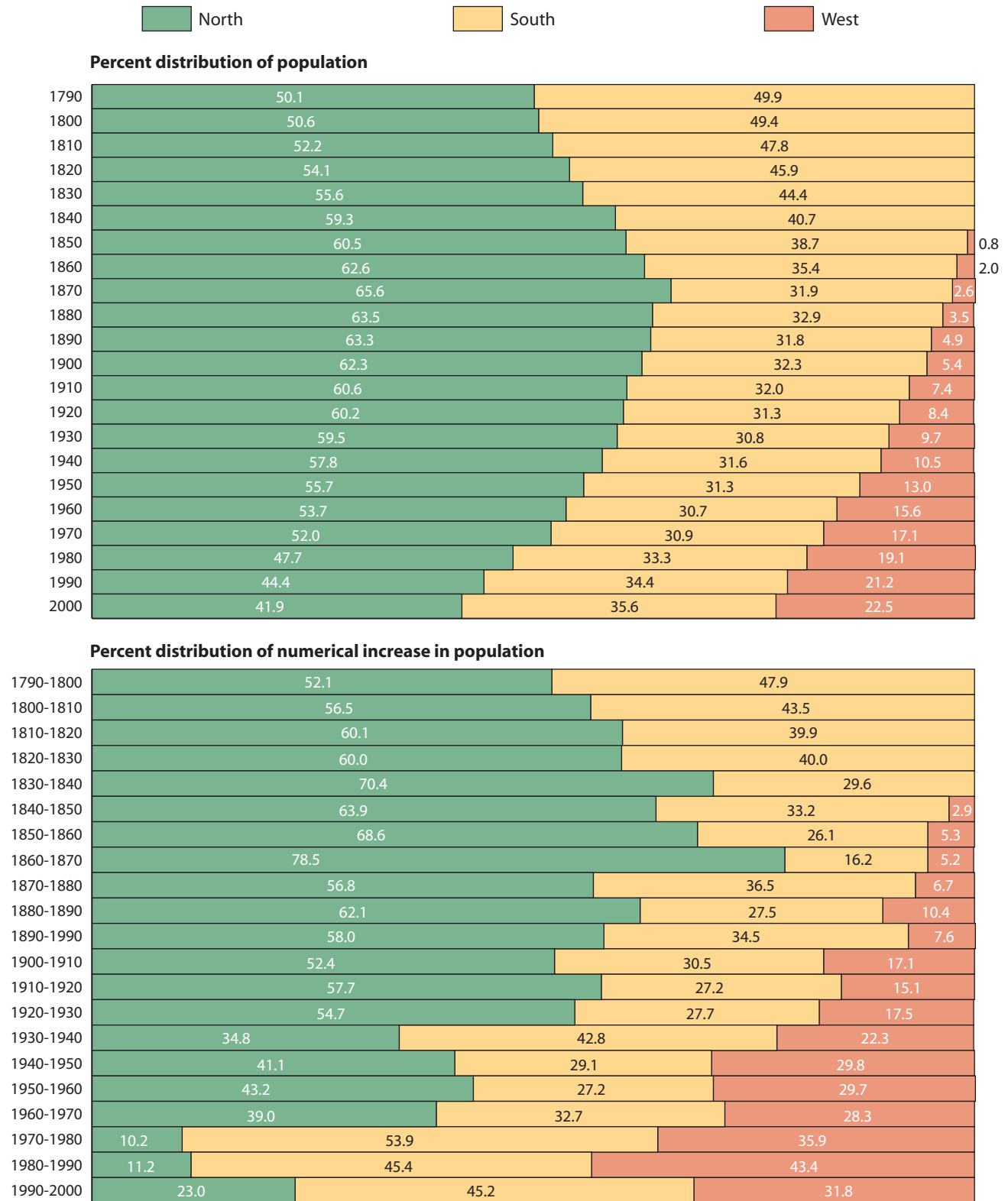
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Figure 1-4.

Percent Distribution of Population and of Numerical Increase in Population for the United States by Region: 1790 to 2000

(See Chapter 1 text regarding data for 1870, 1860-1870, and 1870-1880)



Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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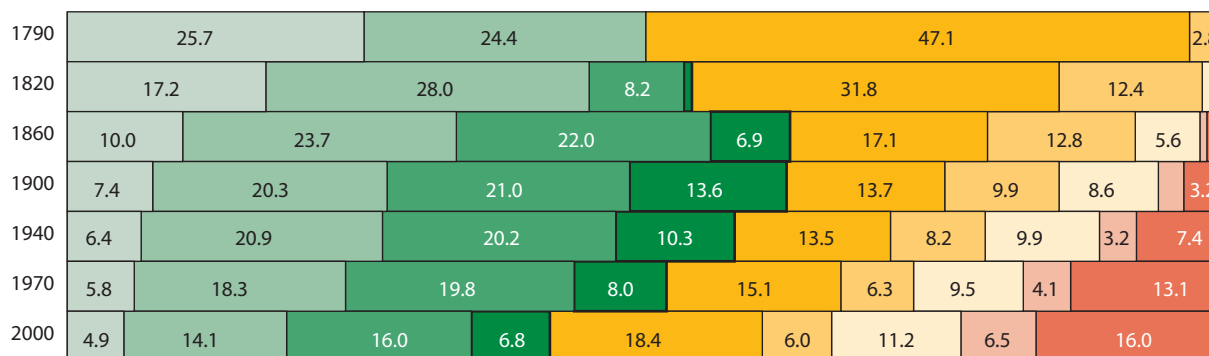
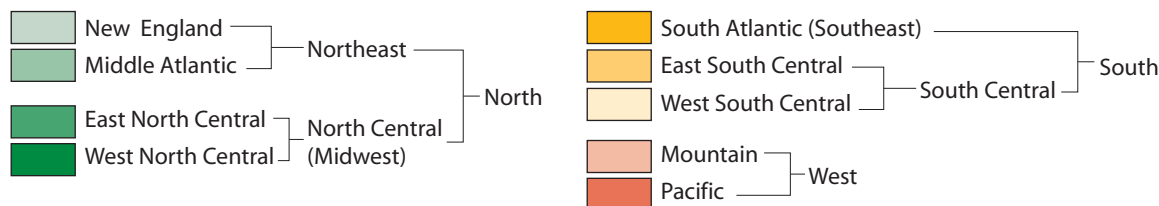
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Figure 1-5.

Percent Distribution of Population for the United States by Division and Other Selected Geographic Areas: 1790, 1820, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

(See Map 3 for boundaries of census divisions)

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION

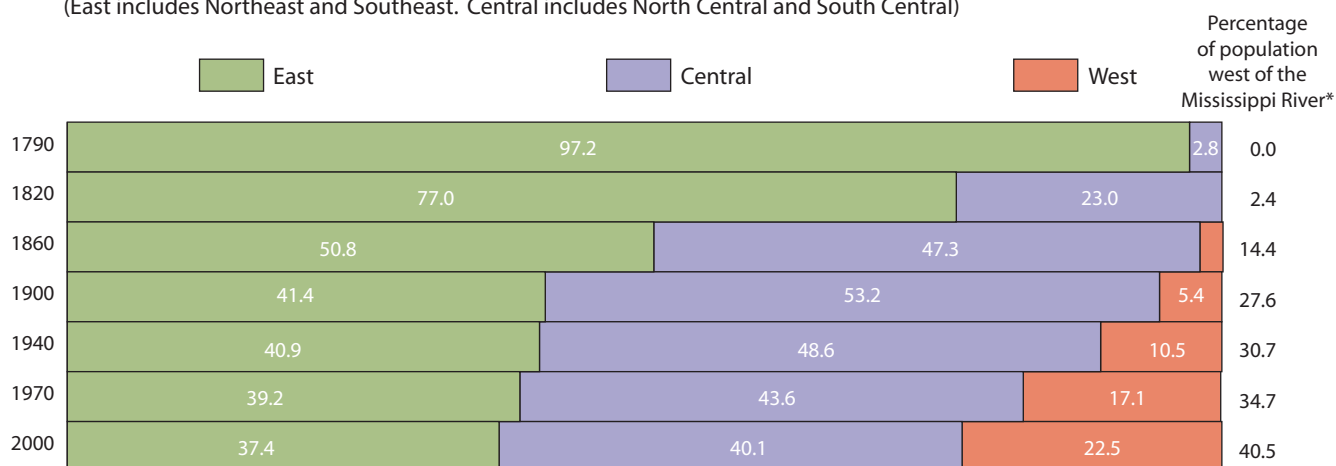


Percentages not shown on figure:

West North Central	West South Central	Mountain	Pacific
1820 0.7	1820 1.7	1860 0.6	1860 1.4
		1900 2.2	

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY SECTION

(East includes Northeast and Southeast. Central includes North Central and South Central)



Percentage not shown on figure:

West
1860 2.0

*Includes the West North Central and West South Central divisions and the West region.

Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 1-6.

Ten States with Largest Population for the United States: 1790 to 2000

(Populations in thousands)

North
South
West

1790				1800		1810		1820		1830		1840	
1.....	VA	<div></div>	748	VA	<div></div> 880	VA	<div></div> 975	NY	<div></div> 1,373	NY	<div></div> 1,919	NY	<div></div> 2,429
2.....	PA	<div></div>	434	PA	<div></div> 602	NY	<div></div> 959	VA	<div></div> 1,065	PA	<div></div> 1,348	PA	<div></div> 1,724
3.....	NC	<div></div>	394	NY	<div></div> 589	PA	<div></div> 810	PA	<div></div> 1,049	VA	<div></div> 1,211	OH	<div></div> 1,519
4.....	MA	<div></div>	379	NC	<div></div> 478	NC	<div></div> 556	NC	<div></div> 639	OH	<div></div> 938	VA	<div></div> 1,240
5.....	NY	<div></div>	340	MA	<div></div> 423	MA	<div></div> 472	OH	<div></div> 581	NC	<div></div> 738	TN	<div></div> 829
6.....	MD	<div></div>	320	SC	<div></div> 346	SC	<div></div> 415	KY	<div></div> 564	KY	<div></div> 688	KY	<div></div> 780
7.....	SC	<div></div>	249	MD	<div></div> 342	KY	<div></div> 407	MA	<div></div> 523	TN	<div></div> 682	NC	<div></div> 753
8.....	CT	<div></div>	238	CT	<div></div> 251	MD	<div></div> 381	SC	<div></div> 503	MA	<div></div> 610	MA	<div></div> 738
9.....	NJ	<div></div>	184	KY	<div></div> 221	CT	<div></div> 262	TN	<div></div> 423	SC	<div></div> 581	GA	<div></div> 691
10.....	NH	<div></div>	142	NJ	<div></div> 211	TN	<div></div> 262	MD	<div></div> 407	GA	<div></div> 517	IN	<div></div> 686
1850				1860		1870		1880		1890		1900	
1.....	NY	<div></div>	3,097	NY	<div></div> 3,881	NY	<div></div> 4,383	NY	<div></div> 5,083	NY	<div></div> 6,003	NY	<div></div> 7,269
2.....	PA	<div></div>	2,312	PA	<div></div> 2,906	PA	<div></div> 3,522	PA	<div></div> 4,283	PA	<div></div> 5,258	PA	<div></div> 6,302
3.....	OH	<div></div>	1,980	OH	<div></div> 2,340	OH	<div></div> 2,665	OH	<div></div> 3,198	IL	<div></div> 3,826	IL	<div></div> 4,822
4.....	VA	<div></div>	1,422	IL	<div></div> 1,712	IL	<div></div> 2,540	IL	<div></div> 3,078	OH	<div></div> 3,672	OH	<div></div> 4,158
5.....	TN	<div></div>	1,003	VA	<div></div> 1,596	MO	<div></div> 1,721	MO	<div></div> 2,168	MO	<div></div> 2,679	MO	<div></div> 3,107
6.....	MA	<div></div>	995	IN	<div></div> 1,350	IN	<div></div> 1,681	IN	<div></div> 1,978	MA	<div></div> 2,239	TX	<div></div> 3,049
7.....	IN	<div></div>	988	MA	<div></div> 1,231	MA	<div></div> 1,457	MA	<div></div> 1,783	TX	<div></div> 2,236	MA	<div></div> 2,805
8.....	KY	<div></div>	982	MO	<div></div> 1,182	KY	<div></div> 1,321	KY	<div></div> 1,649	IN	<div></div> 2,192	IN	<div></div> 2,516
9.....	GA	<div></div>	906	KY	<div></div> 1,156	TN	<div></div> 1,259	MI	<div></div> 1,637	MI	<div></div> 2,094	MI	<div></div> 2,421
10.....	NC	<div></div>	869	TN	<div></div> 1,110	VA	<div></div> 1,225	IA	<div></div> 1,625	IA	<div></div> 1,912	IA	<div></div> 2,232
1910				1920		1930		1940		1950		1960	
1.....	NY	<div></div>	9,114	NY	<div></div> 10,385	NY	<div></div> 12,588	NY	<div></div> 13,479	NY	<div></div> 14,830	NY	<div></div> 16,782
2.....	PA	<div></div>	7,665	PA	<div></div> 8,720	PA	<div></div> 9,631	PA	<div></div> 9,900	CA	<div></div> 10,586	CA	<div></div> 15,717
3.....	IL	<div></div>	5,639	IL	<div></div> 6,485	IL	<div></div> 7,631	IL	<div></div> 7,897	PA	<div></div> 10,498	PA	<div></div> 11,319
4.....	OH	<div></div>	4,767	OH	<div></div> 5,759	OH	<div></div> 6,647	OH	<div></div> 6,908	IL	<div></div> 8,712	IL	<div></div> 10,081
5.....	TX	<div></div>	3,897	TX	<div></div> 4,663	TX	<div></div> 5,825	CA	<div></div> 6,907	OH	<div></div> 7,947	OH	<div></div> 9,706
6.....	MA	<div></div>	3,366	MA	<div></div> 3,852	CA	<div></div> 5,677	TX	<div></div> 6,415	TX	<div></div> 7,711	TX	<div></div> 9,580
7.....	MO	<div></div>	3,293	MI	<div></div> 3,668	MI	<div></div> 4,842	MI	<div></div> 5,256	MI	<div></div> 6,372	MI	<div></div> 7,823
8.....	MI	<div></div>	2,810	CA	<div></div> 3,427	MA	<div></div> 4,250	MA	<div></div> 4,317	NJ	<div></div> 4,835	NJ	<div></div> 6,067
9.....	IN	<div></div>	2,701	MO	<div></div> 3,404	NJ	<div></div> 4,041	NJ	<div></div> 4,160	MA	<div></div> 4,691	MA	<div></div> 5,149
10.....	GA	<div></div>	2,609	NJ	<div></div> 3,156	MO	<div></div> 3,629	MO	<div></div> 3,785	NC	<div></div> 4,062	FL	<div></div> 4,952
1970				1980		1990		2000					
1.....	CA	<div></div>	19,953	CA	<div></div> 23,668	CA	<div></div> 29,760	CA	<div></div> 33,872				
2.....	NY	<div></div>	18,237	NY	<div></div> 17,558	NY	<div></div> 17,990	TX	<div></div> 20,852				
3.....	PA	<div></div>	11,794	TX	<div></div> 14,229	TX	<div></div> 16,987	NY	<div></div> 18,976				
4.....	TX	<div></div>	11,197	PA	<div></div> 11,864	FL	<div></div> 12,938	FL	<div></div> 15,982				
5.....	IL	<div></div>	11,114	IL	<div></div> 11,427	PA	<div></div> 11,882	IL	<div></div> 12,419				
6.....	OH	<div></div>	10,652	OH	<div></div> 10,798	IL	<div></div> 11,431	PA	<div></div> 12,281				
7.....	MI	<div></div>	8,875	FL	<div></div> 9,746	OH	<div></div> 10,847	OH	<div></div> 11,353				
8.....	NJ	<div></div>	7,168	MI	<div></div> 9,262	MI	<div></div> 9,295	MI	<div></div> 9,938				
9.....	FL	<div></div>	6,789	NJ	<div></div> 7,365	NJ	<div></div> 7,730	NJ	<div></div> 8,414				
10.....	MA	<div></div>	5,689	NC	<div></div> 5,882	NC	<div></div> 6,629	GA	<div></div> 8,186				

Summary of top ten ranks

CA (9) 1920–2000	MO (9) 1860–1940
CT (3) 1790–1810	NH (1) 1790
FI (5) 1960–2000	NJ (11) 1790–1800, 1920–2000
GA (5) 1830–1850, 1910, 2000	NY (22) 1790–2000
IL 15) 1860–2000	NC (10) 1790–1850, 1950, 1980–1990
IN (8) 1840–1910	OH (19) 1820–2000
IA (3) 1880–1900	PA (22) 1790–2000
KY (9) 1800–1880	SC (5) 1790–1830
MD (4) 1790–1820	TN (7) 1810–1870
MA (19) 1790–1970	TX (12) 1890–2000
MI (13) 1880–2000	VA (9) 1790–1870

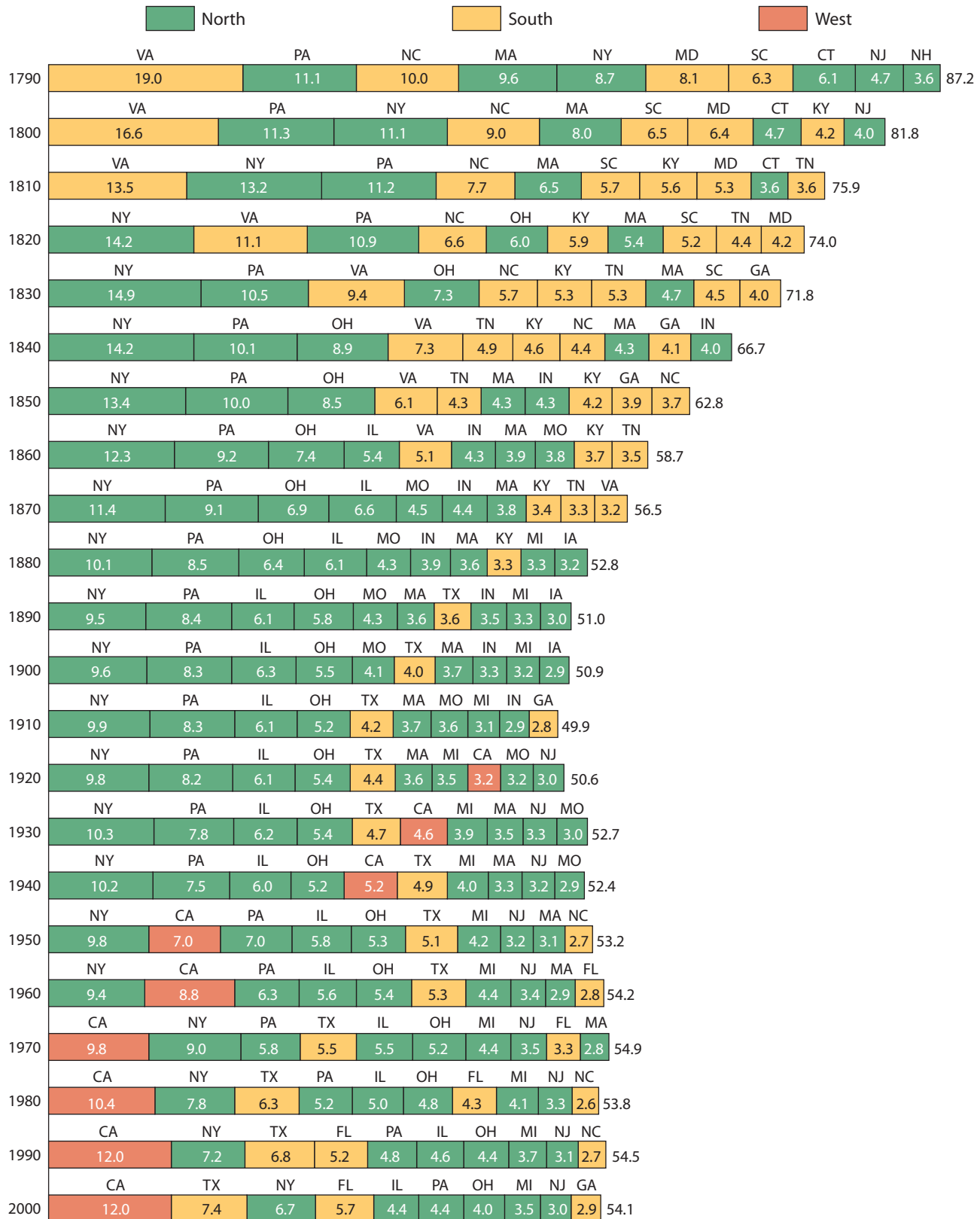
Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 1-7.

Percentage of the Population in Each of the Ten States with Largest Population for the United States: 1790 to 2000



Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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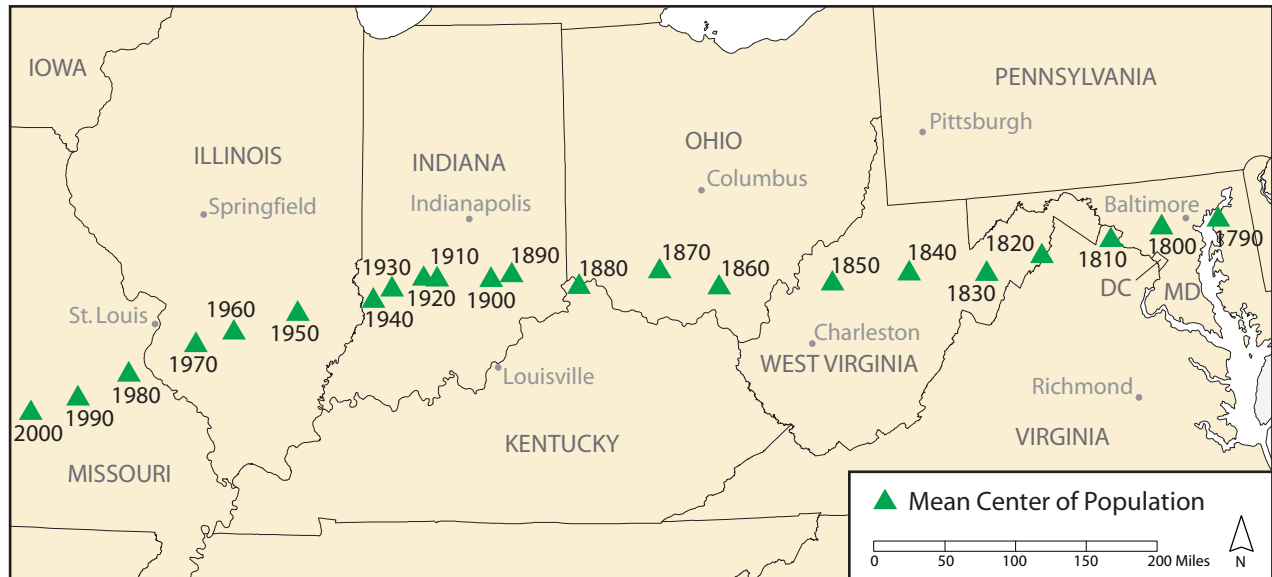
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Figure 1-8.

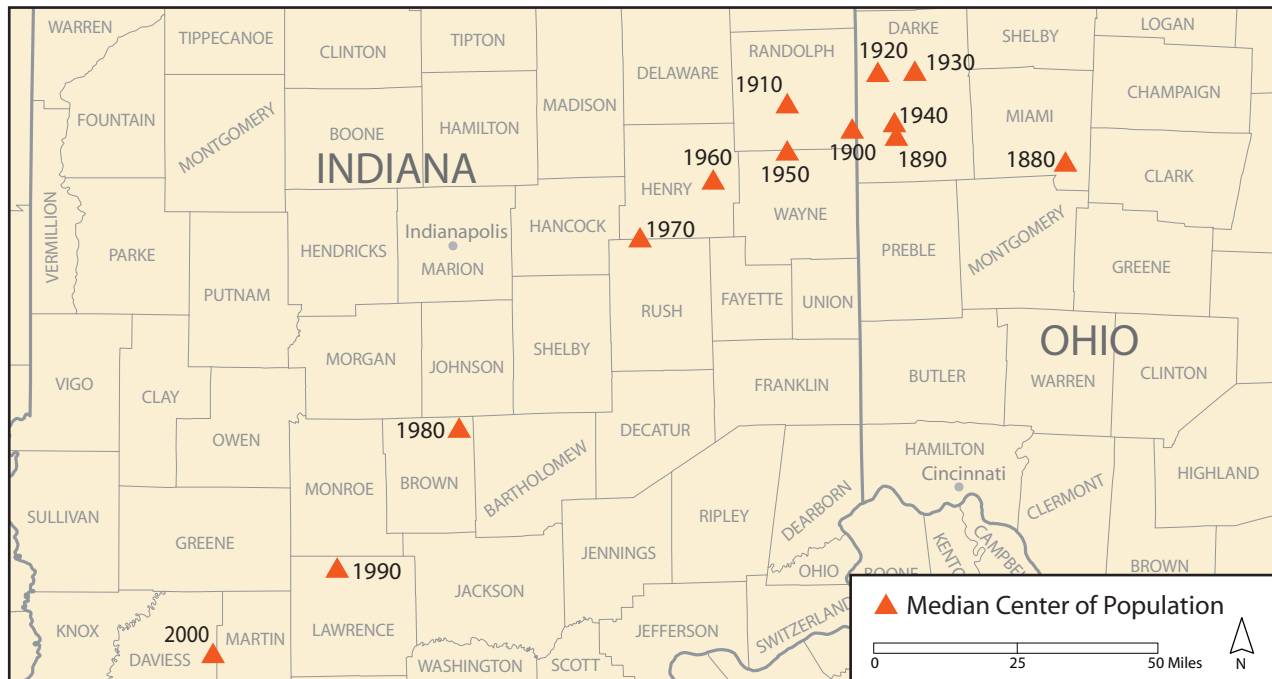
Center of Population for the United States: 1790 to 2000

(Mean center is the point at which an imaginary, flat, weightless, and rigid map would balance if each person in the population were assigned the same weight. Median center is the intersection point of two lines, each of which divides the population in half: a north-south line dividing the population east and west, and an east-west line dividing the population north and south)

Mean center of population, 1790 to 2000



Median center of population, 1880 to 2000

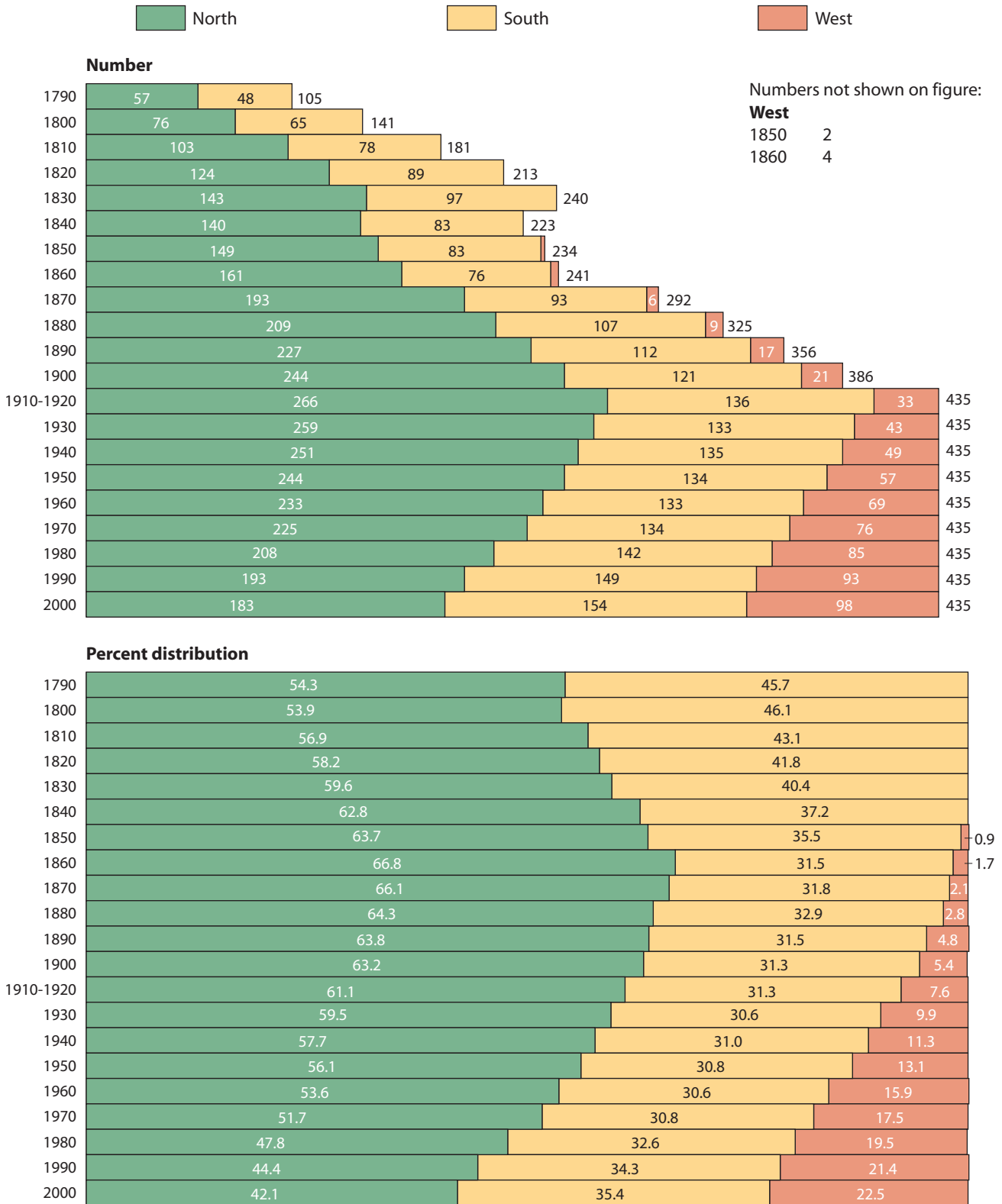


Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, especially 1990 census (1993a), CP-2-1, pp. IV-10 and IV-11, and 2000 census (2004), PHC-3-1, Part 1, p. III-2. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

Figure 1-9.

Congressional Apportionment for the United States by Region: 1790 to 2000

(Excludes representatives assigned by Congress to newly admitted states after the apportionment act for that census)



Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, especially 2000 census (2004), PHC-3-1, Part 1, Table 3, pp. 4-5. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

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Chapter 2. Urban, Rural, and Farm Population, and Large Cities

The first systematic attempt to define the urban population of the United States occurred after the 1870 census when the urban population was defined generally as the population in places (generally, incorporated cities and towns) of 8,000 or more population. The urban threshold was dropped to 4,000 for the 1880 census, and to 2,500 for the 1910 census. The remainder of the population was classified as rural. For a comprehensive description, see Leon E. Truesdell (1949), "*The Development of the Urban-Rural Classification in the United States: 1874 to 1949*," U. S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 1. During the 1930s, the Census Bureau developed an historical series on the population of all urban places (2,500 or more population) since 1790. This work underlies the tables on the urban population by size of place since 1790 that first appeared in 1940 census reports and that have been updated in each subsequent census. A major change in the definition of urban occurred in the 1950 census with the introduction of urbanized areas, defined generally as cities of 50,000 or more population and their surrounding densely settled urban fringe, whether or not in incorporated places. In addition, unincorporated places of 2,500 or more population outside of urbanized areas were also defined as urban, starting in 1950. In the 2000 census, urban clusters were introduced, which represented an extension of the urbanized area concept down to densely settled areas with 2,500 up to 50,000 population.

The farm population (population living on farms) was first defined in the 1920 census; however, estimates of the farm population were developed back to 1880, as shown in Leon E. Truesdell (1960), "*Farm Population: 1880 to 1950*," U.S. Bureau of the Census, Technical Paper No. 3. Formal criteria for defining a farm were introduced in the 1950 and 1960 censuses. In 2000, an occupied housing unit was defined as a farm residence if it was on a property of at least one acre with at least \$1,000 of agricultural products sold in 1999, and persons living on the farm property in multiunit buildings or in group quarters (e.g., dormitories) were not included in the farm population.

For information on the many changes over time in the definition of urban, urbanized areas, and the farm population, see [Data Sources](#).

Figures

- 2-1. Population by Urban-Rural and Farm Residence for the United States: 1790 to 2000
- 2-2. Percent Distribution of the Population by Urban-Rural and Farm Residence for the United States: 1790 to 2000
- 2-3. Number of Places of 2,500 or More Population by Size of Place for the United States: 1790 to 2000
- 2-4. Percent Urban in the Population by Size of Place for the United States: 1790 to 2000
- 2-5. Percent Distribution of the Population by Urban-Rural and Farm Residence for the United States by Region: 1790, 1820, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000
- 2-6. Number of Places of 2,500 or More Population by Size of Place for the United States by Region: 1790, 1820, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000
- 2-7. Percent Urban in the Population by Size of Place for the United States by Region: 1790, 1820, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000
- 2-8. Ten Largest Cities in the United States: 1790 to 2000

Population by Urban-Rural and Farm Residence for the United States: 1790 to 2000

Urban
Rural
Nonfarm
Farm

Rural (total)		Urban	
1880	36.0	1790	0.2
1890	40.8	1800	0.3
1900	45.8	1810	0.5
1910	50.0	1820	0.7
1920	51.6	1830	1.1
1930	53.8	1840	1.8
1940	57.2	1850	3.5
1950	61.8		

1950	54.2
1960	54.1
1970	53.9
1980	59.5
1990	61.7

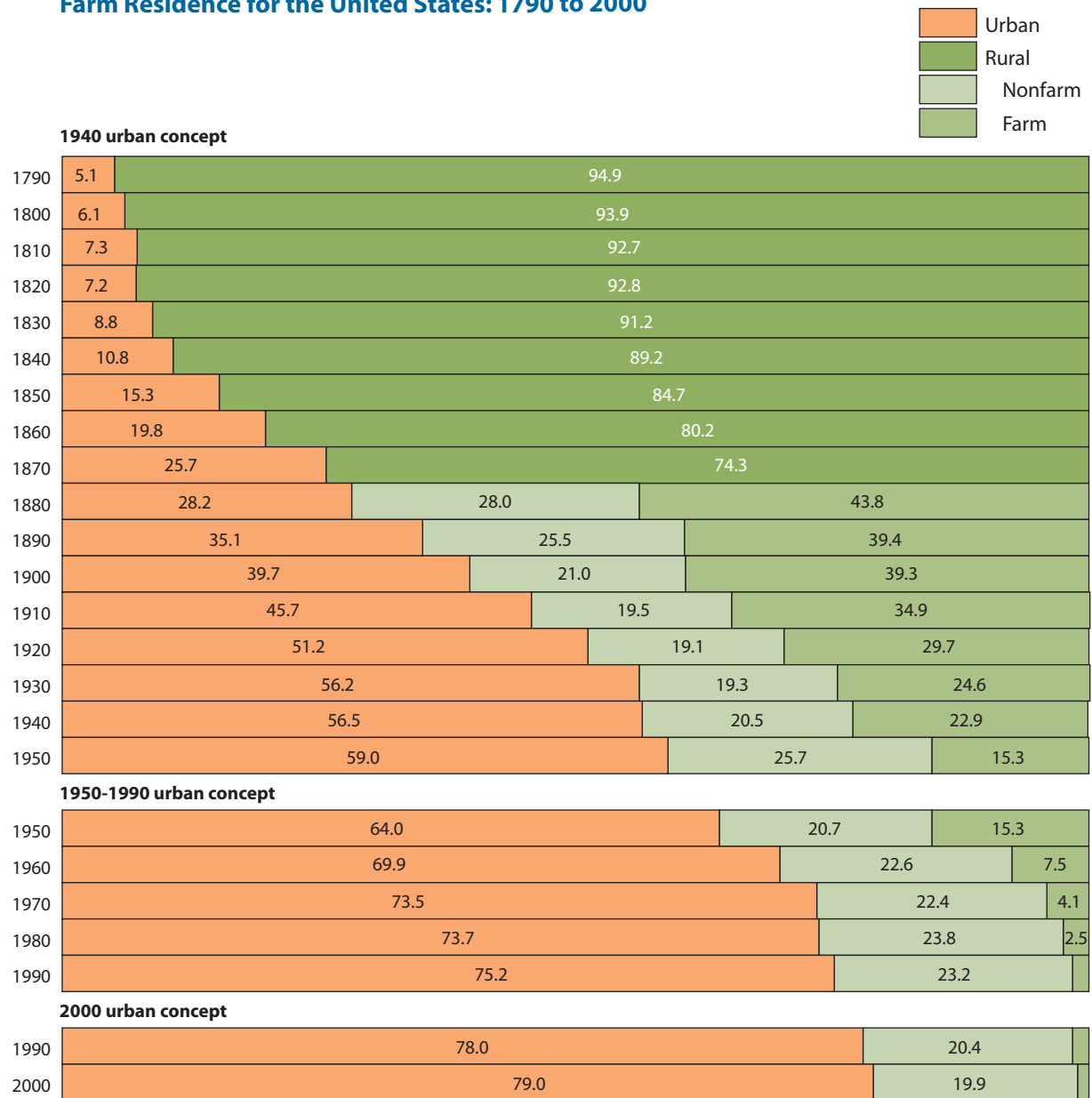
1990	54.6
2000	59.1



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Figure 2-2.

Percent Distribution of the Population by Urban-Rural and Farm Residence for the United States: 1790 to 2000



Percentages not shown on figure:

Rural farm

1990 1.6 (both concepts)

2000 1.1

Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Leon E. Truesdell (1960), "Farm Population: 1880 to 1950," U.S. Bureau of the Census, Technical Paper No. 3. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 2-3.

Number of Places of 2,500 or More Population by Size of Place for the United States: 1790 to 2000

Year	Total	1,000,000 or more	500,000- 999,999	250,000- 499,999	100,000- 249,999	50,000- 99,999	25,000- 49,999	10,000- 24,999	5,000- 9,999	2,500- 4,999
1940 place concept										
1790.....	24	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	7	12
1800.....	33	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	15	12
1810.....	46	-	-	-	-	2	2	7	17	18
1820.....	61	-	-	-	1	2	2	8	22	26
1830.....	90	-	-	-	1	3	3	16	33	34
1840.....	131	-	-	1	2	2	7	25	48	46
1850.....	236	-	1	-	5	4	16	36	85	89
1860.....	392	-	2	1	6	7	19	58	136	163
1870.....	663	-	2	5	7	11	27	116	186	309
1880.....	939	1	3	4	12	15	42	146	249	467
1890.....	1,348	3	1	7	17	30	66	230	340	654
1900.....	1,737	3	3	9	23	40	82	280	465	832
1910.....	2,262	3	5	11	31	59	119	369	605	1,060
1920.....	2,722	3	9	13	43	76	143	465	715	1,255
1930.....	3,165	5	8	24	56	98	185	606	851	1,332
1940.....	3,464	5	9	23	55	107	213	665	965	1,422
1950.....	4,023	5	13	23	66	128	271	814	1,133	1,570
1950–2000 place concept										
1950.....	4,284	5	13	23	65	126	252	778	1,176	1,846
1960.....	5,445	5	16	30	81	201	432	1,134	1,394	2,152
1970.....	6,435	6	20	30	100	240	520	1,385	1,839	2,295
1980.....	7,749	6	16	34	117	290	675	1,765	2,181	2,665
1990.....	8,510	8	15	41	136	355	741	1,852	2,336	3,026
2000.....	9,063	9	20	38	178	419	838	2,054	2,412	3,095
CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF PLACES IN SIZE CATEGORY AND LARGER										
1940 place concept										
1790.....	24	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	12	24
1800.....	33	-	-	-	-	1	3	6	21	33
1810.....	46	-	-	-	-	2	4	11	28	46
1820.....	61	-	-	-	1	3	5	13	35	61
1830.....	90	-	-	-	1	4	7	23	56	90
1840.....	131	-	-	1	3	5	12	37	85	131
1850.....	236	-	1	1	6	10	26	62	147	236
1860.....	392	-	2	3	9	16	35	93	229	392
1870.....	663	-	2	7	14	25	52	168	354	663
1880.....	939	1	4	8	20	35	77	223	472	939
1890.....	1,348	3	4	11	28	58	124	354	694	1,348
1900.....	1,737	3	6	15	38	78	160	440	905	1,737
1910.....	2,262	3	8	19	50	109	228	597	1,202	2,262
1920.....	2,722	3	12	25	68	144	287	752	1,467	2,722
1930.....	3,165	5	13	37	93	191	376	982	1,833	3,165
1940.....	3,464	5	14	37	92	199	412	1,077	2,042	3,464
1950.....	4,023	5	18	41	107	235	506	1,320	2,453	4,023
1950–2000 place concept										
1950.....	4,284	5	18	41	106	232	484	1,262	2,438	4,284
1960.....	5,445	5	21	51	132	333	765	1,899	3,293	5,445
1970.....	6,435	6	26	56	156	396	916	2,301	4,140	6,435
1980.....	7,749	6	22	56	173	463	1138	2,903	5,084	7,749
1990.....	8,510	8	23	64	200	555	1296	3,148	5,484	8,510
2000.....	9,063	9	29	67	245	664	1502	3,556	5,968	9,063

Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 2-4.

Percent Urban in the Population by Size of Place for the United States: 1790 to 2000

Year	Total	1,000,000 or more	500,000- 999,999	250,000- 499,999	100,000- 249,999	50,000- 99,999	25,000- 49,999	10,000- 24,999	5,000- 9,999	2,500- 4,999	Other
1940 urban concept											
1790.....	5.1	-	-	-	-	-	1.6	1.2	1.2	1.1	(x)
1800.....	6.1	-	-	-	-	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.8	0.9	(x)
1810.....	7.3	-	-	-	-	2.1	1.1	1.5	1.6	1.0	(x)
1820.....	7.2	-	-	-	1.3	1.3	0.7	1.3	1.6	1.0	(x)
1830.....	8.8	-	-	-	1.6	1.7	0.8	1.9	1.8	1.0	(x)
1840.....	10.8	-	-	1.8	1.2	1.1	1.4	2.4	1.9	1.0	(x)
1850.....	15.3	-	2.2	-	2.8	1.2	2.6	2.4	2.6	1.4	(x)
1860.....	19.8	-	4.4	0.8	3.2	1.4	2.1	2.8	3.1	1.9	(x)
1870.....	25.7	-	4.2	4.0	2.6	2.0	2.4	4.4	3.3	2.8	(x)
1880.....	28.2	2.4	3.8	2.6	3.6	1.9	2.9	4.4	3.4	3.2	(x)
1890.....	35.1	5.8	1.3	3.9	4.4	3.2	3.6	5.5	3.8	3.6	(x)
1900.....	39.7	8.5	2.2	3.8	4.3	3.6	3.7	5.7	4.2	3.8	(x)
1910.....	45.7	9.2	3.3	4.3	5.3	4.5	4.4	6.0	4.6	4.1	(x)
1920.....	51.2	9.6	5.9	4.3	6.2	5.0	4.8	6.7	4.7	4.1	(x)
1930.....	56.2	12.3	4.7	6.5	6.1	5.3	5.2	7.4	4.8	3.8	(x)
1940.....	56.5	12.1	4.9	5.9	5.9	5.6	5.6	7.6	5.1	3.8	(x)
1950.....	59.0	11.5	6.1	5.5	6.4	6.0	6.3	8.3	5.2	3.7	(x)
1950-1990 urban concept											
1950.....	64.0	11.5	6.1	5.5	6.3	5.9	5.8	7.9	5.4	4.3	5.3
1960.....	69.9	9.8	6.2	6.0	6.5	7.7	8.3	9.8	5.5	4.2	5.9
1970.....	73.5	9.2	6.4	5.1	7.0	8.2	8.8	10.5	6.4	4.0	7.8
1980.....	73.7	7.7	4.8	5.4	7.5	8.7	10.3	12.2	6.8	4.1	6.1
1990.....	75.2	8.0	4.1	5.9	7.9	9.7	10.3	11.7	6.7	4.3	6.7
2000 urban concept											
1990.....	78.0	8.0	4.0	5.8	7.9	9.6	10.2	11.5	6.4	3.8	10.8
2000.....	79.0	8.1	4.5	4.8	9.3	10.0	10.2	11.1	5.8	3.4	11.6
CUMULATIVE PERCENT IN SIZE CATEGORY AND LARGER											
1940 urban concept											
1790.....	5.1	-	-	-	-	-	1.6	2.8	4.0	5.1	(x)
1800.....	6.1	-	-	-	-	1.1	2.4	3.4	5.2	6.1	(x)
1810.....	7.3	-	-	-	-	2.1	3.2	4.7	6.3	7.3	(x)
1820.....	7.2	-	-	-	1.3	2.6	3.3	4.6	6.2	7.2	(x)
1830.....	8.8	-	-	-	1.6	3.3	4.1	6.0	7.8	8.8	(x)
1840.....	10.8	-	-	1.8	3.0	4.1	5.5	7.9	9.8	10.8	(x)
1850.....	15.3	-	2.2	2.2	5.1	6.3	8.9	11.3	13.9	15.3	(x)
1860.....	19.8	-	4.4	5.2	8.4	9.8	12.0	14.8	17.9	19.8	(x)
1870.....	25.7	-	4.2	8.1	10.7	12.7	15.1	19.5	22.9	25.7	(x)
1880.....	28.2	2.4	6.2	8.8	12.4	14.3	17.2	21.5	24.9	28.2	(x)
1890.....	35.1	5.8	7.1	11.0	15.4	18.6	22.2	27.7	31.5	35.1	(x)
1900.....	39.7	8.5	10.6	14.4	18.7	22.3	25.9	31.7	35.9	39.7	(x)
1910.....	45.7	9.2	12.5	16.8	22.1	26.6	31.0	37.0	41.6	45.7	(x)
1920.....	51.2	9.6	15.5	19.8	25.9	30.9	35.7	42.4	47.1	51.2	(x)
1930.....	56.2	12.3	17.0	23.4	29.6	34.9	40.1	47.5	52.3	56.2	(x)
1940.....	56.5	12.1	17.0	22.9	28.9	34.4	40.1	47.6	52.7	56.5	(x)
1950.....	59.0	11.5	17.6	23.1	29.5	35.5	41.8	50.1	55.3	59.0	(x)
1950-1990 urban concept											
1950.....	64.0	11.5	17.6	23.1	29.4	35.3	41.2	49.0	54.5	58.8	64.0
1960.....	69.9	9.8	15.9	21.9	28.4	36.2	44.5	54.3	59.8	64.0	69.9
1970.....	73.5	9.2	15.6	20.8	27.8	36.0	44.8	55.3	61.7	65.7	73.5
1980.....	73.7	7.7	12.5	17.9	25.4	34.1	44.5	56.7	63.5	67.6	73.7
1990.....	75.2	8.0	12.1	18.0	25.9	35.5	45.9	57.5	64.2	68.5	75.2
2000 urban concept											
1990.....	78.0	8.0	12.1	17.9	25.7	35.3	45.6	57.0	63.4	67.3	78.0
2000.....	79.0	8.1	12.7	17.5	26.9	36.9	47.1	58.2	64.0	67.4	79.0

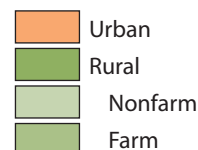
Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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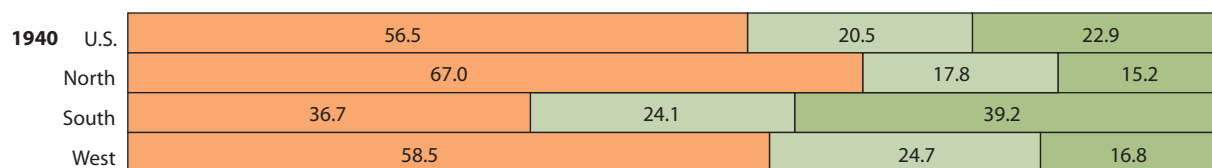
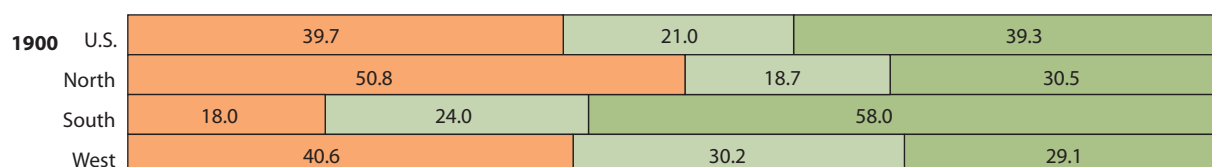
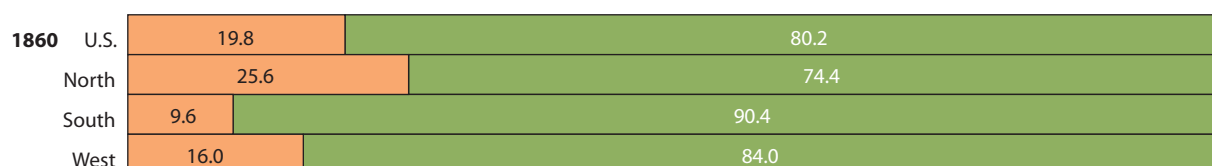
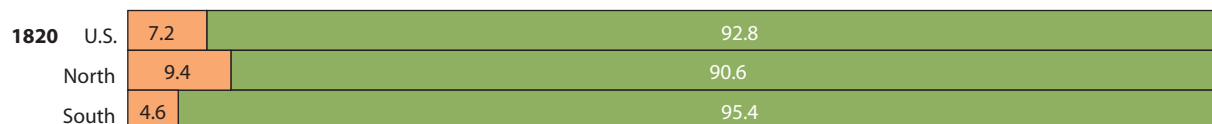
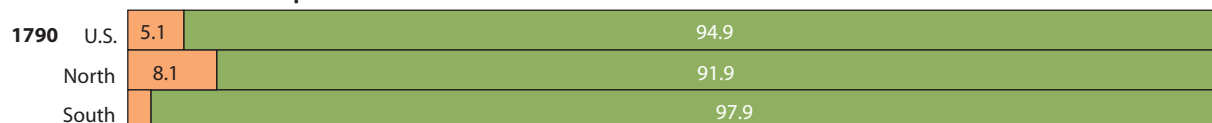
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Figure 2-5.

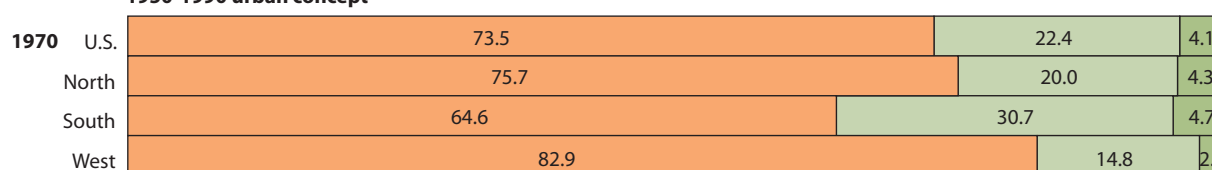
**Percent Distribution of the Population by Urban-Rural and Farm Residence for the United States by Region:
1790, 1820, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000**



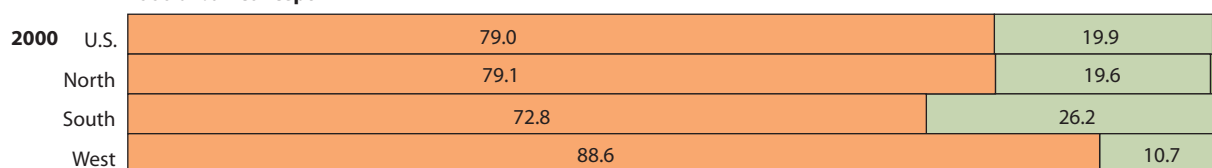
1940 urban concept



1950-1990 urban concept



2000 urban concept



Percentage not shown on figure:

Urban			Farm		
1790	South	2.1	2000	U.S.	1.1
				North	1.3
				South	1.0
				West	0.6

Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Leon E. Truesdell (1960), "Farm Population: 1880 to 1950," U.S. Bureau of the Census, Technical Paper No. 3. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 2-6.

Number of Places of 2,500 or More Population by Size of Place for the United States by Region: 1790, 1820, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

Year	Region	Total	1,000,000 or more	500,000- 999,999	250,000- 499,999	100,000- 249,999	50,000- 99,999	25,000- 49,999	10,000- 24,999	5,000- 9,999	2,500- 4,999
1790.....	U.S.	24	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	7	12
	North	18	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	7	8
	South	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	4
1820.....	U.S.	61	-	-	-	1	2	2	8	22	26
	North	44	-	-	-	1	1	1	5	16	20
	South	17	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	6	6
1860.....	U.S.	392	-	2	1	6	7	19	58	136	163
	North	314	-	2	1	4	4	16	46	116	125
	South	70	-	-	-	2	2	3	11	19	33
	West	8	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	5
1900.....	U.S.	1,737	3	3	9	23	40	82	280	465	832
	North	1,256	3	2	6	19	29	60	219	367	551
	South	355	-	1	2	2	7	17	47	74	205
	West	126	-	-	1	2	4	5	14	24	76
1940.....	U.S.	3,464	5	9	23	55	107	213	665	965	1,422
	North	2,062	4	6	11	36	68	146	438	588	765
	South	1,002	-	2	8	13	30	43	154	267	485
	West	400	1	1	4	6	9	24	73	110	172
1970.....	U.S.	6,435	6	20	30	100	240	520	1,385	1,839	2,295
	North	3,311	4	8	11	46	119	273	724	974	1,152
	South	2,046	1	7	12	34	56	130	414	592	800
	West	1,078	1	5	7	20	65	117	247	273	343
2000.....	U.S.	9,063	9	20	38	178	419	838	2,054	2,412	3,095
	North	4,118	3	5	12	49	160	369	932	1,109	1,479
	South	3,154	3	10	11	56	121	258	739	848	1,108
	West	1,791	3	5	15	73	138	211	383	455	508

CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF PLACES IN SIZE CATEGORY AND LARGER

1790.....	U.S.	24	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	12	24
	North	18	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	10	18
	South	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	6
1820.....	U.S.	61	-	-	-	1	3	5	13	35	61
	North	44	-	-	-	1	2	3	8	24	44
	South	17	-	-	-	-	1	2	5	11	17
1860.....	U.S.	392	-	2	3	9	16	35	93	229	392
	North	314	-	2	3	7	11	27	73	189	314
	South	70	-	-	-	2	4	7	18	37	70
	West	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1900.....	U.S.	1,737	3	6	15	38	78	160	440	905	1,737
	North	1,256	3	5	11	30	59	119	338	705	1,256
	South	355	-	1	3	5	12	29	76	150	355
	West	126	-	-	1	3	7	12	26	50	126
1940.....	U.S.	3,464	5	14	37	92	199	412	1,077	2,042	3,464
	North	2,062	4	10	21	57	125	271	709	1,297	2,062
	South	1,002	-	2	10	23	53	96	250	517	1,002
	West	400	1	2	6	12	21	45	118	228	400
1970.....	U.S.	6,435	6	26	56	156	396	916	2,301	4,140	6,435
	North	3,311	4	12	23	69	188	461	1,185	2,159	3,311
	South	2,046	1	8	20	54	110	240	654	1,246	2,046
	West	1,078	1	6	13	33	98	215	462	735	1,078
2000.....	U.S.	9,063	9	29	67	245	664	1,502	3,556	5,968	9,063
	North	4,118	3	8	20	69	229	598	1,530	2,639	4,118
	South	3,154	3	13	24	80	201	459	1,298	2,146	3,154
	West	1,791	3	8	23	96	234	445	828	1,283	1,791

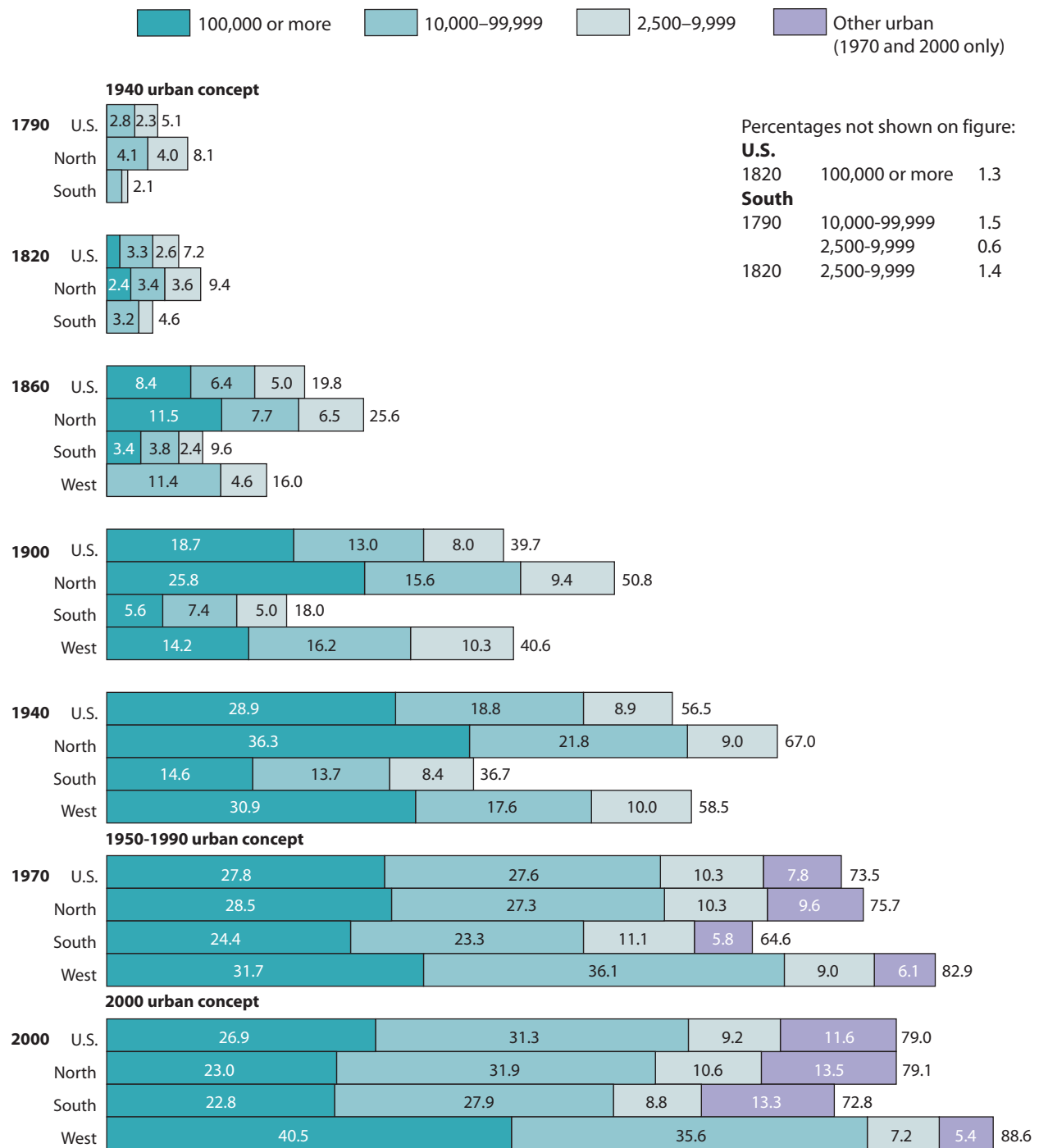
Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 2-7.

Percent Urban in the Population by Size of Place for the United States by Region: 1790, 1820, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000



Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, *References*.
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Figure 2-8.

Ten Largest Cities in the United States: 1790 to 2000

(Numbers in thousands. Includes towns and other urban places. See Chapter 2 text)



1790			1800			1810			1820		
1	New York, NY	33	New York, NY	61	New York, NY	96	New York, NY	124	New York, NY	124	
2	Philadelphia, PA	29	Philadelphia, PA	41	Philadelphia, PA	54	Philadelphia, PA	64	Philadelphia, PA	64	
3	Boston, MA	18	Baltimore, MD	27	Baltimore, MD	47	Baltimore, MD	63	Baltimore, MD	63	
4	Charleston, SC	16	Boston, MA	25	Boston, MA	34	Boston, MA	43	Boston, MA	43	
5	Baltimore, MD	14	Charleston, SC	19	Charleston, SC	25	Charleston, SC	27	New Orleans, LA	27	
6	N. Liberties, PA	10	N. Liberties, PA	11	N. Liberties, PA	20	N. Liberties, PA	25	Charleston, SC	25	
7	Salem, MA	8	Southwark, PA	10	New Orleans, LA	17	N. Liberties, PA	20	N. Liberties, PA	20	
8	Newport, RI	7	Salem, MA	9	Southwark, PA	14	Southwark, PA	15	Southwark, PA	15	
9	Providence, RI	6	Providence, RI	8	Salem, MA	13	Salem, MA	13	Washington, DC	13	
10	(two places) ¹	6	Norfolk, VA	7	Albany, NY	11	Albany, NY	13	Salem, MA	13	
1830			1840			1850			1860		
1	New York, NY	203	New York, NY	313	New York, NY	516	New York, NY	814	New York, NY	814	
2	Baltimore, MD	81	Baltimore, MD	102	Baltimore, MD	169	Philadelphia, PA	566	Philadelphia, PA	566	
3	Philadelphia, PA	80	New Orleans, LA	102	Boston, MA	137	Brooklyn, NY	267	Brooklyn, NY	267	
4	Boston, MA	61	Philadelphia, PA	94	Philadelphia, PA	121	Baltimore, MD	212	Baltimore, MD	212	
5	New Orleans, LA	46	Boston, MA	93	New Orleans, LA	116	Boston, MA	178	Boston, MA	178	
6	Charleston, SC	30	Cincinnati, OH	46	Cincinnati, OH	115	New Orleans, LA	169	New Orleans, LA	169	
7	N. Liberties, PA	29	Brooklyn, NY	36	Brooklyn, NY	97	Cincinnati, OH	161	Cincinnati, OH	161	
8	Cincinnati, OH	25	N. Liberties, PA	34	St. Louis, MO	78	St. Louis, MO	161	St. Louis, MO	161	
9	Albany, NY	24	Albany, NY	34	Spring Garden, PA	59	Chicago, IL	112	Chicago, IL	112	
10	Southwark, PA	21	Charleston, SC	29	Albany, NY	51	Buffalo, NY	81	Buffalo, NY	81	
1870			1880			1890			1900		
1	New York, NY	942	New York, NY	1,206	New York, NY	1,515	New York, NY	3,437	New York, NY	3,437	
2	Philadelphia, PA	674	Philadelphia, PA	847	Chicago, IL	1,100	Chicago, IL	1,699	Chicago, IL	1,699	
3	Brooklyn, NY	396	Brooklyn, NY	567	Philadelphia, PA	1,047	Philadelphia, PA	1,294	Philadelphia, PA	1,294	
4	St. Louis, MO	311	Chicago, IL	503	Brooklyn, NY	806	St. Louis, MO	575	St. Louis, MO	575	
5	Chicago, IL	299	Boston, MA	363	St. Louis, MO	452	Boston, MA	561	Boston, MA	561	
6	Baltimore, MD	267	St. Louis, MO	351	Boston, MA	448	Baltimore, MD	509	Baltimore, MD	509	
7	Boston, MA	251	Baltimore, MD	332	Baltimore, MD	434	Cleveland, OH	382	Cleveland, OH	382	
8	Cincinnati, OH	216	Cincinnati, OH	255	San Francisco, CA	299	Buffalo, NY	352	Buffalo, NY	352	
9	New Orleans, LA	191	San Francisco, CA	234	Cincinnati, OH	297	San Francisco, CA	343	San Francisco, CA	343	
10	San Francisco, CA	149	New Orleans, LA	216	Cleveland, OH	261	Cincinnati, OH	326	Cincinnati, OH	326	
1910			1920			1930			1940		
1	New York, NY	4,767	New York, NY	5,620	New York, NY	6,930	New York, NY	7,455	New York, NY	7,455	
2	Chicago, IL	2,185	Chicago, IL	2,702	Chicago, IL	3,376	Chicago, IL	3,397	Chicago, IL	3,397	
3	Philadelphia, PA	1,549	Philadelphia, PA	1,824	Philadelphia, PA	1,951	Philadelphia, PA	1,931	Philadelphia, PA	1,931	
4	St. Louis, MO	687	Detroit, MI	993	Detroit, MI	1,569	Detroit, MI	1,623	Detroit, MI	1,623	
5	Boston, MA	671	Cleveland, OH	797	Los Angeles, CA	1,238	Los Angeles, CA	1,504	Los Angeles, CA	1,504	
6	Cleveland, OH	561	St. Louis, MO	773	Cleveland, OH	900	Cleveland, OH	878	Cleveland, OH	878	
7	Baltimore, MD	558	Boston, MA	748	St. Louis, MO	822	Baltimore, MD	859	Baltimore, MD	859	
8	Pittsburgh, PA	534	Baltimore, MD	734	Baltimore, MD	805	St. Louis, MO	816	St. Louis, MO	816	
9	Detroit, MI	466	Pittsburgh, PA	588	Boston, MA	781	Boston, MA	771	Boston, MA	771	
10	Buffalo, NY	424	Los Angeles, CA	577	Pittsburgh, PA	670	Pittsburgh, PA	672	Pittsburgh, PA	672	
1950			1960			1970			1980		
1	New York, NY	7,892	New York, NY	7,782	New York, NY	7,895	New York, NY	7,072	New York, NY	7,072	
2	Chicago, IL	3,621	Chicago, IL	3,550	Chicago, IL	3,367	Chicago, IL	3,005	Chicago, IL	3,005	
3	Philadelphia, PA	2,072	Los Angeles, CA	2,479	Los Angeles, CA	2,816	Los Angeles, CA	2,967	Los Angeles, CA	2,967	
4	Los Angeles, CA	1,970	Philadelphia, PA	2,003	Philadelphia, PA	1,949	Philadelphia, PA	1,688	Philadelphia, PA	1,688	
5	Detroit, MI	1,850	Detroit, MI	1,670	Detroit, MI	1,511	Houston, TX	1,595	Houston, TX	1,595	
6	Baltimore, MD	950	Baltimore, MD	939	Houston, TX	1,233	Detroit, MI	1,203	Detroit, MI	1,203	
7	Cleveland, OH	915	Houston, TX	938	Baltimore, MD	906	Dallas, TX	904	Dallas, TX	904	
8	St. Louis, MO	857	Cleveland, OH	876	Dallas, TX	844	San Diego, CA	876	San Diego, CA	876	
9	Washington, DC	802	Washington, DC	764	Washington, DC	757	Phoenix, AZ	790	Phoenix, AZ	790	
10	Boston, MA	801	St. Louis, MO	750	Cleveland, OH	751	Baltimore, MD	787	Baltimore, MD	787	
1990			2000								
1	New York, NY	7,323	New York, NY	8,008							
2	Los Angeles, CA	3,485	Los Angeles, CA	3,695							
3	Chicago, IL	2,784	Chicago, IL	2,896							
4	Houston, TX	1,631	Houston, TX	1,954							
5	Philadelphia, PA	1,586	Philadelphia, PA	1,518							
6	San Diego, CA	1,111	Phoenix, AZ	1,321							
7	Detroit, MI	1,028	San Diego, CA	1,223							
8	Dallas, TX	1,007	Dallas, TX	1,189							
9	Phoenix, AZ	983	San Antonio, TX	1,145							
10	San Antonio, TX	936	Detroit, MI	951							

¹ Marblehead, MA and Southwark, PA (each with a population of 5,661)

Sources of data: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson (1998), "Population of the 100 Largest Cities and Other Urban Places in the United States, U.S. Bureau of the Census," Population Division Working Paper No. 56. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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February 1, 2010

Chapter 3. Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Population, and Large Metropolitan Areas

The general concept of a metropolitan area (MA) is a large population nucleus with surrounding territory that has a high degree of economic and social integration with that nucleus. The first systematic attempt to define MAs in the United States was in the 1910 census when metropolitan districts (MDs) were defined for central cities of 200,000 or more population and their densely settled surrounding area. By 1940, MDs were defined for central cities of 50,000 or more population. The historical data presented here on MDs are based (with one modification noted below) on the extensive research of Todd Kelly Gardner (1998, published in *The Metropolitan Fringe: Suburbanization in the United States Before World War II*), who used the 1940 criteria to delineate MDs for the 1790 to 1940 period. MDs, for which the primary building block was minor civil divisions, were replaced in the 1950 census with Standard Metropolitan Areas (SMAs), for which the primary building block was counties, except that minor civil divisions were used in the New England states. There have been many changes in the criteria for defining MAs (e.g., commuting data were first used after the 1960 census) and in the classification and titling of MAs. MAs were defined as Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSAs) in 1960, except that larger Standard Consolidated Areas (SCAs) were defined for New York and Chicago. After the 1970 census, Standard Consolidated Statistical Areas (SCSAs), which combined SMSAs, were defined for some MAs with over 1,000,000 population, and these SCSAs are used here for showing 1970 data. This two-tiered system has been continued. Census publications for 1990 and 2000 show data for Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), which are free-standing, and for Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Areas (CMSAs) and their component Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas (PMSAs). The data presented here are restricted to MAs with 100,000 or more population for all years, even though the sources include smaller MAs, generally with a central city of 50,000 or more population. The first two MAs to meet the 100,000 population threshold were Philadelphia (106,000) and New York (101,000), both in 1810. For further information on metropolitan areas, see [Data Sources](#).

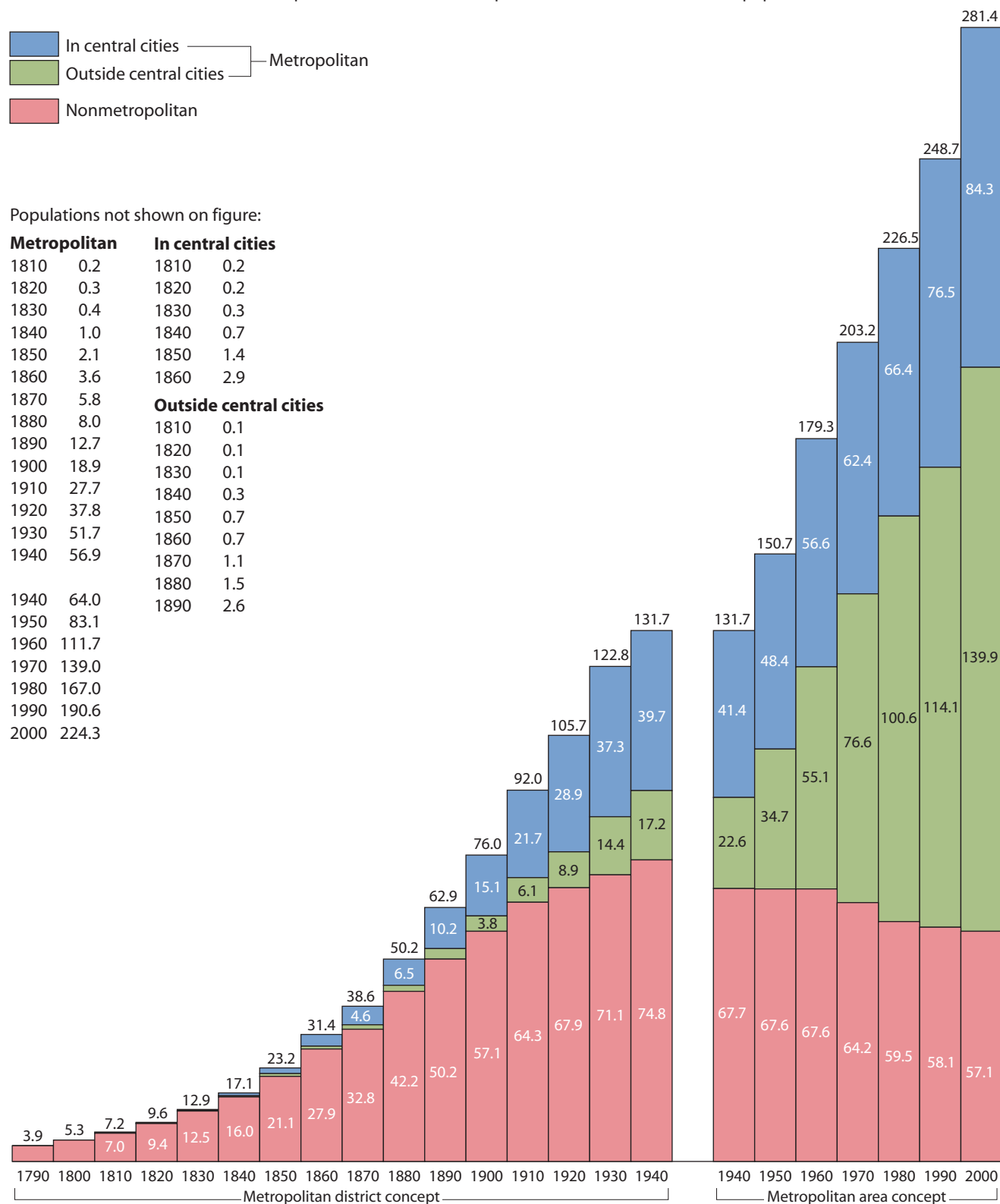
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Figure 3-1.

Population by Metropolitan-Nonmetropolitan Residence for the United States: 1790 to 2000

(Numbers in millions. Based on metropolitan districts and metropolitan areas of 100,000 or more population)



Sources of data: Todd Kelly Gardner (1998), *The Metropolitan Fringe: Suburbanization in the United States Before World War II*; U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications; U.S. Office of Management and Budget (1975), *Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas* (revised edition). See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

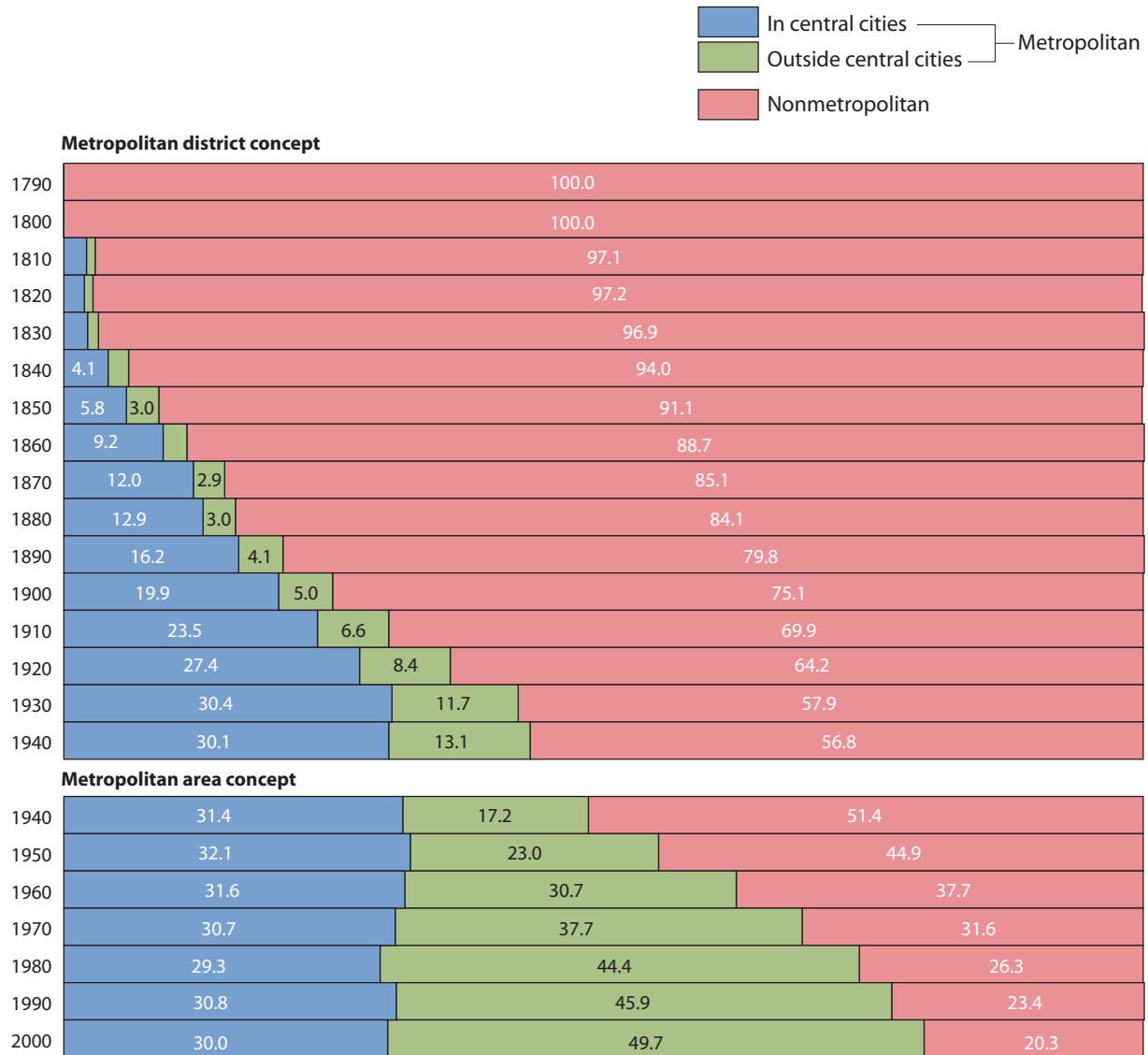
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Figure 3-2.

Percent Distribution of the Population by Metropolitan-Nonmetropolitan Residence for the United States: 1790 to 2000

(Based on metropolitan districts and metropolitan areas of 100,000 or more population)



Percentages not shown on figure:

In central cities		Outside central cities	
1810	2.1	1810	0.8
1820	1.9	1820	0.8
1830	2.2	1830	1.0
		1840	1.9
		1860	2.2

Sources of data: Todd Kelly Gardner (1998), *The Metropolitan Fringe: Suburbanization in the United States Before World War II*; U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications; U.S. Office of Management and Budget (1975), *Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas* (revised edition). See www.demographicchartbook.com, References. Copyright © 2010 by Campbell Gibson. Graphics may be copied for personal use or for educational purposes, but may not be sold.

Figure 3-3.

Number of Metropolitan Districts and Metropolitan Areas by Population Size for the United States: 1810 to 2000

(Based on metropolitan districts and metropolitan areas of 100,000 or more population)

Year	Total	5,000,000- or more	2,500,000- 4,999,999	1,000,000- 2,499,999	500,000- 999,999	250,000- 499,999	100,000- 249,999
Metropolitan district concept							
1810.....	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
1820.....	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
1830.....	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
1840.....	5	-	-	-	-	2	3
1850.....	7	-	-	-	1	2	4
1860.....	10	-	-	1	1	1	7
1870.....	16	-	-	1	2	4	9
1880.....	18	-	-	2	2	5	9
1890.....	27	-	1	2	2	8	14
1900.....	42	-	1	3	3	10	25
1910.....	58	1	-	4	7	10	36
1920.....	77	1	1	4	10	18	43
1930.....	98	1	2	7	8	24	56
1940.....	106	1	3	7	9	24	62

Metropolitan area concept

1940.....	129	1	3	7	10	34	74
1950.....	151	2	3	9	19	44	74
1960.....	186	3	4	15	27	48	89
1970.....	193	4	5	19	28	55	82
1980.....	258	5	7	22	32	62	130
1990.....	259	5	9	25	34	61	125
2000.....	256	9	10	30	32	63	112

CUMULATIVE NUMBER IN SIZE CATEGORY AND LARGER

Metropolitan district concept

1810.....	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
1820.....	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
1830.....	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
1840.....	5	-	-	-	-	2	5
1850.....	7	-	-	-	1	3	7
1860.....	10	-	-	1	2	3	10
1870.....	16	-	-	1	3	7	16
1880.....	18	-	-	2	4	9	18
1890.....	27	-	1	3	5	13	27
1900.....	42	-	1	4	7	17	42
1910.....	58	1	1	5	12	22	58
1920.....	77	1	2	6	16	34	77
1930.....	98	1	3	10	18	42	98
1940.....	106	1	4	11	20	44	106

Metropolitan area concept

1940.....	129	1	4	11	21	55	129
1950.....	151	2	5	14	33	77	151
1960.....	186	3	7	22	49	97	186
1970.....	193	4	9	28	56	111	193
1980.....	258	5	12	34	66	128	258
1990.....	259	5	14	39	73	134	259
2000.....	256	9	19	49	81	144	256

Sources of data: Todd Kelly Gardner (1998), *The Metropolitan Fringe: Suburbanization in the United States Before World War II*; U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications; U.S. Office of Management and Budget (1975), *Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas* (revised edition). See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

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Figure 3-4.

Percent Metropolitan in the Population by Size of Metropolitan District or Metropolitan Area for the United States: 1810 to 2000

(Based on metropolitan districts and metropolitan areas of 100,000 or more population)

Year	Total	5,000,000- or more	2,500,000- 4,999,999	1,000,000- 2,499,999	500,000- 999,999	250,000- 499,999	100,000- 249,999
Metropolitan district concept							
1810.....	2.9	-	-	-	-	-	2.9
1820.....	2.8	-	-	-	-	-	2.8
1830.....	3.1	-	-	-	-	-	3.1
1840.....	6.0	-	-	-	-	3.9	2.1
1850.....	8.9	-	-	-	3.3	3.1	2.4
1860.....	11.3	-	-	4.4	2.0	1.3	3.7
1870.....	14.9	-	-	4.9	3.3	3.1	3.6
1880.....	15.9	-	-	7.0	2.4	3.4	3.1
1890.....	20.2	-	5.4	3.9	2.4	4.6	3.9
1900.....	24.9	-	6.3	6.2	2.6	4.9	4.8
1910.....	30.1	7.4	-	7.7	4.8	4.0	6.2
1920.....	35.8	7.8	3.1	6.3	7.0	5.4	6.2
1930.....	42.1	8.6	5.9	9.5	4.6	6.5	6.9
1940.....	43.2	8.6	7.8	8.2	4.8	6.3	7.4

Metropolitan area concept

1940.....	48.6	8.9	8.0	8.5	5.3	8.8	9.1
1950.....	55.1	12.2	7.3	9.9	8.2	9.7	7.7
1960.....	62.3	15.8	7.5	12.0	10.1	8.8	8.1
1970.....	68.4	19.8	9.1	14.8	9.5	8.8	6.4
1980.....	73.7	20.4	10.0	15.2	9.8	9.5	8.8
1990.....	76.6	21.2	12.7	16.2	10.0	8.7	7.8
2000.....	79.7	29.9	11.9	15.7	7.9	8.2	6.3

CUMULATIVE PERCENT IN SIZE CATEGORY AND LARGER

Metropolitan district concept

1810.....	2.9	-	-	-	-	-	2.9
1820.....	2.8	-	-	-	-	-	2.8
1830.....	3.1	-	-	-	-	-	3.1
1840.....	6.0	-	-	-	-	3.9	6.0
1850.....	8.9	-	-	-	3.3	6.4	8.9
1860.....	11.3	-	-	4.4	6.3	7.6	11.3
1870.....	14.9	-	-	4.9	8.2	11.3	14.9
1880.....	15.9	-	-	7.0	9.4	12.8	15.9
1890.....	20.2	-	5.4	9.3	11.7	16.3	20.2
1900.....	24.9	-	6.3	12.6	15.2	20.1	24.9
1910.....	30.1	7.4	7.4	15.2	20.0	24.0	30.1
1920.....	35.8	7.8	10.9	17.2	24.2	29.6	35.8
1930.....	42.1	8.6	14.5	24.0	28.6	35.1	42.1
1940.....	43.2	8.6	16.5	24.7	29.5	35.8	43.2

Metropolitan area concept

1940.....	48.6	8.9	16.9	25.4	30.8	39.5	48.6
1950.....	55.1	12.2	19.6	29.5	37.7	47.4	55.1
1960.....	62.3	15.8	23.3	35.3	45.4	54.2	62.3
1970.....	68.4	19.8	28.9	43.7	53.2	62.0	68.4
1980.....	73.7	20.4	30.4	45.6	55.4	65.0	73.7
1990.....	76.6	21.2	34.0	50.2	60.2	68.8	76.6
2000.....	79.7	29.9	41.7	57.4	65.3	73.4	79.7

Sources of data: Todd Kelly Gardner (1998), *The Metropolitan Fringe: Suburbanization in the United States Before World War II*; U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications; U.S. Office of Management and Budget (1975), *Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas* (revised edition). See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

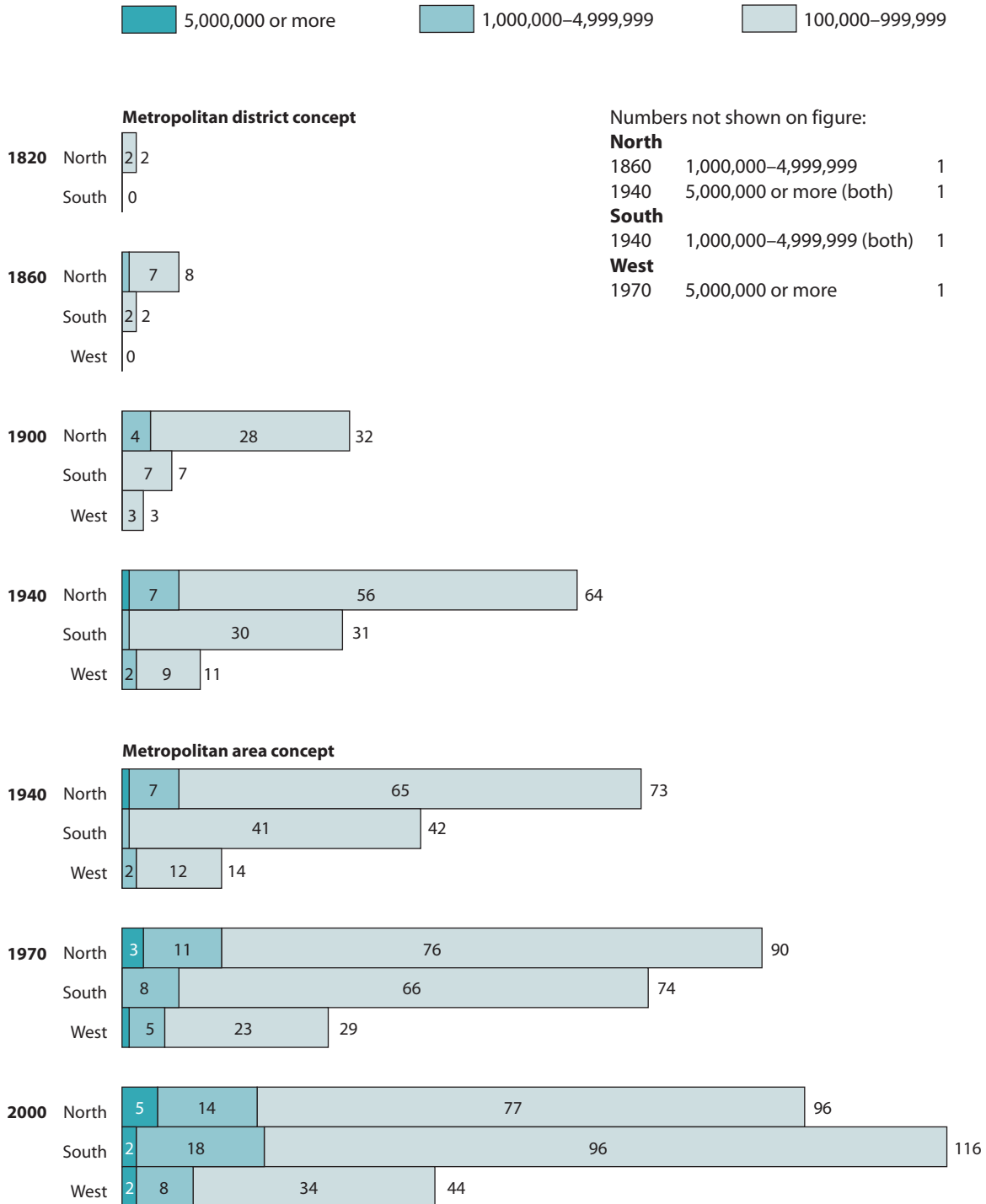
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Figure 3-5.

Number of Metropolitan Districts and Metropolitan Areas by Population Size for the United States by Region: 1820, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

(Based on metropolitan districts and metropolitan areas of 100,000 or more population)

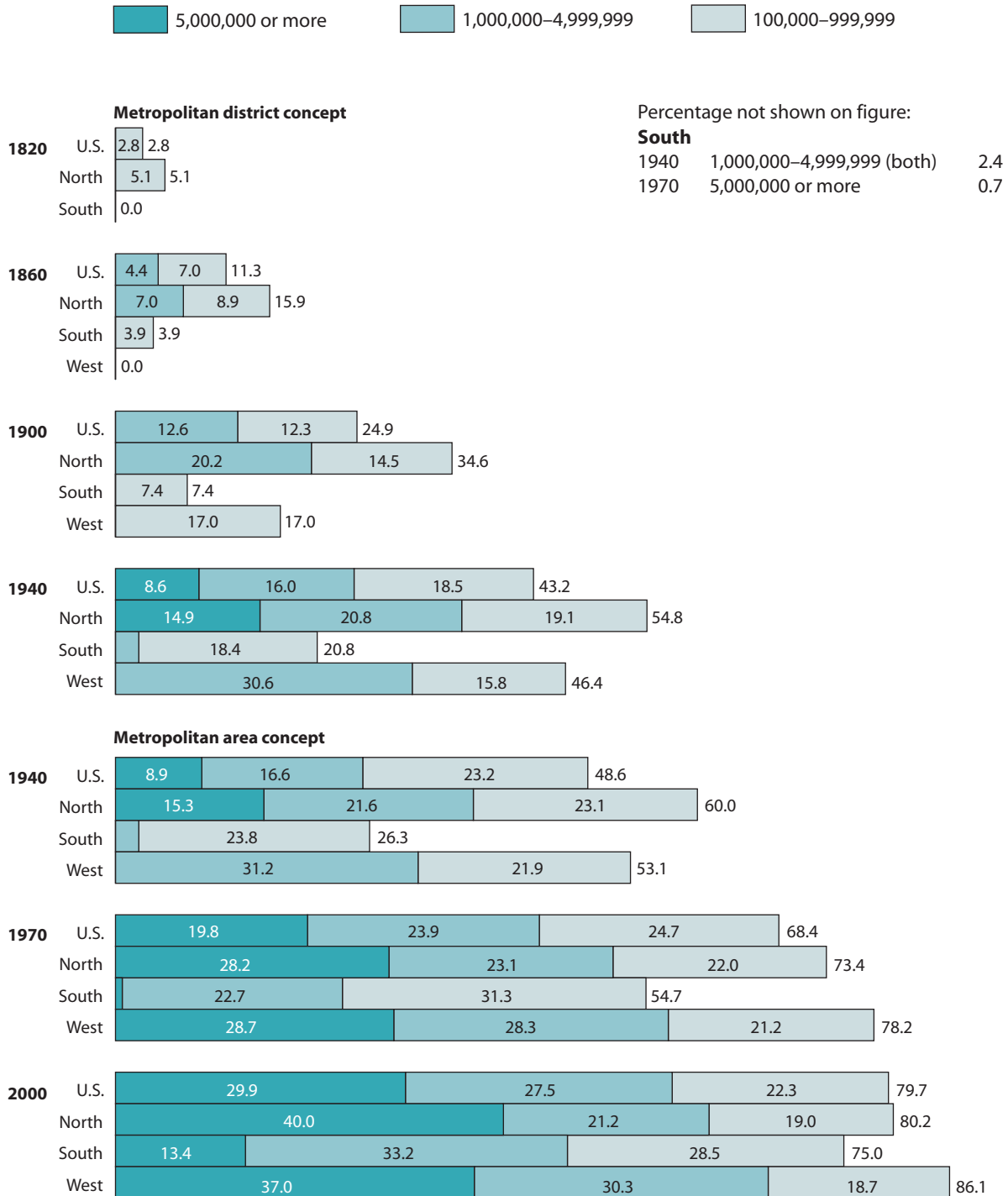


Sources of data: Todd Kelly Gardner (1998), *The Metropolitan Fringe: Suburbanization in the United States Before World War II*; U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications; U.S. Office of Management and Budget (1975), *Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas* (revised edition). See www.demographicchartbook.com, References. Copyright © 2010 by Campbell Gibson. Graphics may be copied for personal use or for educational purposes, but may not be sold.

Figure 3-6.

Percent Metropolitan in the Population by Size of Metropolitan District or Metropolitan Area for the United States by Region: 1820, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

(Based on metropolitan districts and metropolitan areas of 100,000 or more population)



Sources of data: Todd Kelly Gardner (1998), *The Metropolitan Fringe: Suburbanization in the United States Before World War II*; U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications; U.S. Office of Management and Budget (1975), *Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas* (revised edition). See www.demographicchartbook.com/References. Copyright © 2010 by Campbell Gibson. Graphics may be copied for personal use or for educational purposes, but may not be sold.

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Figure 3-7.

Ten Largest Metropolitan Districts and Metropolitan Areas in the United States: 1810 to 2000

(Population in thousands. Based on metropolitan districts and metropolitan areas of 100,000 or more population.

See Chapter 3 text regarding the acronyms used from 1950 to 2000: SMA, SCA, SMSA, SCSCA, CMSA, and MSA)

North
South
West

1790		1800		1810		1820	
1	None	None		Philadelphia	106	Philadelphia	135
2				New York	101	New York	133
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
1830		1840		1850		1860	
1	New York 216	New York 411		New York 773		New York 1,381	
2	Philadelphia 186	Philadelphia 260		Philadelphia 441		Philadelphia 615	
3		Boston 151		Boston 274		Boston 398	
4		New Orleans 105		Baltimore 184		Baltimore 231	
5		Baltimore 102		Cincinnati 144		Cincinnati 211	
6				New Orleans 135		New Orleans 181	
7				Albany-Troy 105		St. Louis 165	
8						Pittsburgh 138	
9						Albany-Troy 136	
10						Chicago 111	
1870		1880		1890		1900	
1	New York 1,893	New York 2,490		New York 3,417		New York 4,825	
2	Philadelphia 772	Philadelphia 1,003		Philadelphia 1,284		Chicago 1,860	
3	Boston 509	Boston 648		Chicago 1,167		Philadelphia 1,602	
4	St. Louis 326	Chicago 567		Boston 978		Boston 1,271	
5	Chicago 307	Baltimore 378		Pittsburgh 549		Pittsburgh 798	
6	Baltimore 289	St. Louis 360		Baltimore 478		St. Louis 636	
7	Cincinnati 272	Cincinnati 356		St. Louis 470		Baltimore 572	
8	Pittsburgh 218	Pittsburgh 331		Cincinnati 437		Cincinnati 499	
9	New Orleans 198	San Fran-Oak 280		San Fran-Oak 371		San Fran-Oak 450	
10	Albany-Troy 175	New Orleans 223		Minn-St. Paul 302		Cleveland 420	
1910		1920		1930		1940 (MDs)	
1	New York 6,830	New York 8,265		New York 10,590		New York 11,378	
2	Chicago 2,486	Chicago 3,255		Chicago 4,377		Chicago 4,501	
3	Philadelphia 1,963	Philadelphia 2,392		Philadelphia 2,848		Los Angeles 2,909	
4	Boston 1,552	Boston 1,800		Los Angeles 2,321		Philadelphia 2,889	
5	Pittsburgh 1,116	Pittsburgh 1,323		Boston 2,106		Detroit 2,186	
6	St. Louis 860	Detroit 1,182		Detroit 1,989		Boston 2,140	
7	San Fran-Oak 687	St. Louis 974		Pittsburgh 1,569		Pittsburgh 1,612	
8	Baltimore 660	Cleveland 930		San Fran-Oak 1,240		San Fran-Oak 1,333	
9	Cleveland 613	San Fran-Oak 904		St. Louis 1,220		St. Louis 1,302	
10	Cincinnati 568	Los Angeles 899		Cleveland 1,201		Cleveland 1,217	
1940 (MAs)		1950		1960		1970	
1	New York 11,661	New York SMA 12,912		New York SCA 14,759		New York SCSCA 17,029	
2	Chicago 4,581	Chicago SMA 5,495		Chicago SCA 6,794		Los Angeles SCSCA 9,972	
3	Philadelphia 3,064	Los Angeles SMA 4,368		Los Angeles SMSA 6,743		Chicago SCSCA 7,612	
4	Los Angeles 2,916	Philadelphia SMA 3,671		Philadelphia SMSA 4,343		Philadelphia SCSCA 5,621	
5	Boston 2,140	Detroit SMA 3,016		Detroit SMSA 3,762		Detroit SCSCA 4,665	
6	Detroit 2,123	Boston SMA 2,370		San Fran-Oak SMSA 2,783		SF-Oak-SJ SCSCA 4,423	
7	Pittsburgh 1,872	San Fran-Oak SMA 2,241		Boston SMSA 2,589		Boston SCSCA 3,526	
8	San Fran-Oak 1,413	Pittsburgh SMA 2,213		Pittsburgh SMSA 2,405		Cleveland SCSCA 3,000	
9	St. Louis 1,407	St. Louis SMA 1,681		St. Louis SMSA 2,060		Washington SMSA 2,861	
10	Cleveland 1,267	Cleveland SMA 1,466		Washington SMSA 2,002		Pittsburgh SMSA 2,401	
1980		1990		2000			
1	New York SCSCA 16,121	New York CMSA 18,087		New York CMSA 21,200			
2	Los Angeles SCSCA 11,498	Los Angeles CMSA 14,532		Los Angeles CMSA 16,374			
3	Chicago SCSCA 7,870	Chicago CMSA 8,066		Chicago CMSA 9,158			
4	Philadelphia SCSCA 5,548	SF-Oak-SJ CMSA 6,253		Wash-Balt CMSA 7,608			
5	SF-Oak-SJ SCSCA 5,180	Philadelphia CMSA 5,899		SF-Oak-SJ CMSA 7,039			
6	Detroit SCSCA 4,618	Detroit CMSA 4,665		Philadelphia CMSA 6,188			
7	Boston SCSCA 3,448	Boston CMSA 4,172		Boston CMSA 5,819			
8	Houston SCSCA 3,101	Washington MSA 3,924		Detroit CMSA 5,456			
9	Washington SMSA 3,061	Dal-Ft. Worth CMSA 3,885		Dal-Ft. Worth CMSA 5,222			
10	Dal-Ft. Worth SCSCA 2,975	Houston CMSA 3,711		Houston CMSA 4,670			

Sources of data: Todd Kelly Gardner (1998), *The Metropolitan Fringe: Suburbanization in the United States Before World War II*; U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications; U.S. Office of Management and Budget (1975), *Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas* (revised edition). See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.
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April 9, 2010

Chapter 4. Race and Hispanic Origin

Information on race has been collected in every decennial census beginning in 1790, although the categories were limited to White and Black through the 1850 census, with free Blacks and slaves being classified through 1860. The racial categories included on the census questionnaires have changed over time reflecting changes in social attitudes and political considerations; however, in general, these categories have reflected social usage and not an attempt to define race biologically or genetically. The population of Hispanic origin (of any race), which is referred to here also as the Hispanic population, was first identified comprehensively in the 1970 census. Previously, data on other topics, such as country of birth, country of birth of parents, and mother tongue, were used to identify portions of the Hispanic population. Historical estimates of the Hispanic population back to 1850 have been developed by Gratton and Gutmann (see citation below) using sample data in the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS) data base. (See Minnesota Population Center, no date, “IPUMS-USA, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ),” <http://usa.ipums.org/usa-action/faq.do>) Information on race was obtained primarily by enumerator observation through 1950, by a combination of direct interview and self-identification in 1960 and 1970, and by self-identification since 1980. With enumerator observation, a person of mixed White and other race was usually classified with the other race. Historically, the large majority of Hispanics were classified by race as White; however, starting in 1980, a substantial proportion of Hispanics reported as “other” (the questionnaire wording has varied: Other in 1980, Other race in 1990, or Some other race in 2000). The limitations to comparability between 1990 and 2000 data on race are substantial because in 2000, respondents could, for the first time, report more than one race.

The history of census data on race and Hispanic origin is extremely complex with many issues of comparability, and the user of these data is strongly encouraged to consult more detailed sources. In addition to References, Decennial Census Publications, see, Claudette Bennett (2000), “Racial Categories Used in the Decennial Census, 1790 to Present,” *Government Information Quarterly*, Vol. 17, No. 2, pp. 161-180; in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition* (2006), Charles Hirschman et al, “Race and Ethnicity: Definitions and Measurement,” Vol. 1, pp. 1-4 to 1-9, and Brian Gratton and Myron P. Guttman, “Hispanic Population,” Vol. 1, pp. 1-177 to 1-179; Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2002), “Historical Census Statistics on Population Totals by Race, 1790 to 1990, and by Hispanic Origin, 1970 to 1990, for the United States, Regions Divisions, and States,” U. S. Census Bureau, Population Division Working Paper No. 56; and U.S. Office of Management and Budget (1997), “Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity,” *Federal Register*, Vol. 62, No. 210 (October 30), pp. 58782-58790.

Figures

- 4-1. Population by Race for the United States: 1790 to 2000
- 4-2. Black Population by Free and Slave, 1790 to 1860, and Other Races Population by Race, 1860 to 2000, for the United States
- 4-3. Percent Distribution of the Population by Race for the United States: 1790 to 2000
- 4-4. White Non-Hispanic Population and Hispanic Population for the United States: 1850, 1880, 1900 to 1920, and 1940 to 2000
- 4-5. Population by Race and Hispanic Origin for the United States: 1990 and 2000
- 4-6. Races Other Than White as a Percentage of Total Population for the United States by Region: 1790, 1820, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

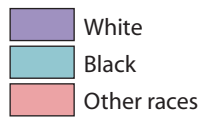
4-7. Percent Free of the Black Population, 1790 to 1860, Percent Hispanic, 1850, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000, and Percent White Non-Hispanic, 1970 and 2000, in the Total Population, for the United States by Region

4-8. Percent Distribution of the Population by Race and Hispanic Origin for the United States by Region: 1790, 1820, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

Figure 4-1.

Population by Race for the United States: 1790 to 2000

(Numbers in millions. For 2000, data for White and Black are for single-race populations)



Populations not shown on figure:

White

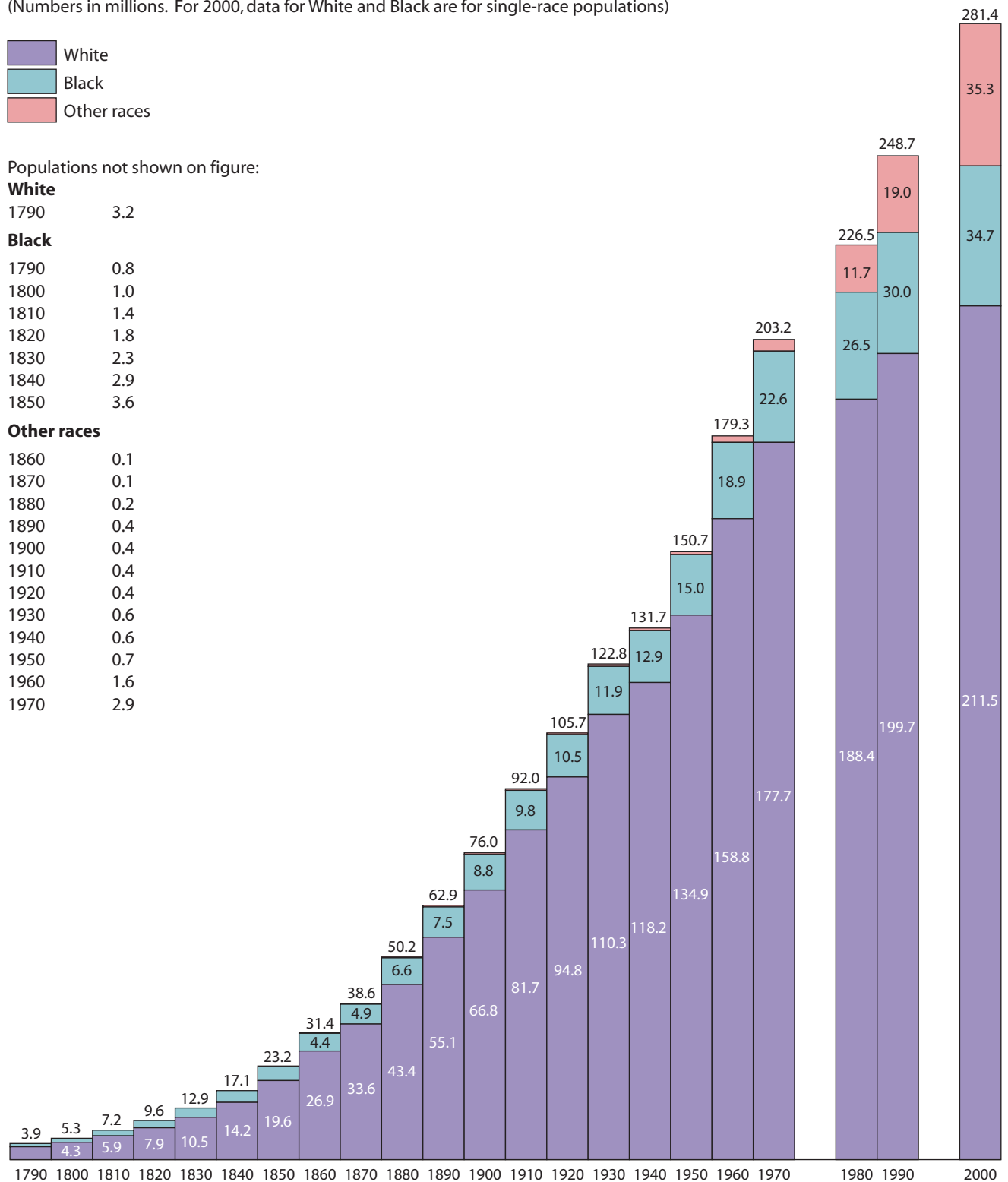
1790 3.2

Black

1790 0.8
1800 1.0
1810 1.4
1820 1.8
1830 2.3
1840 2.9
1850 3.6

Other races

1860 0.1
1870 0.1
1880 0.2
1890 0.4
1900 0.4
1910 0.4
1920 0.4
1930 0.6
1940 0.6
1950 0.7
1960 1.6
1970 2.9



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2002), "Historical Census Statistics on Population Totals by Race, 1790 to 1990, and by Hispanic Origin, 1970 to 1990, for the United States, Regions, Divisions, and States," U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division Working Paper No. 56. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 4-2.

Black Population by Free and Slave, 1790 to 1860, and Other Races Population by Race, 1860 to 2000, for the United States

(For 2000 and except for Two or More Races, data are for single-race populations)

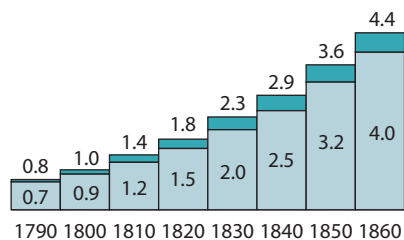
Black population

(Numbers in thousands)

	Total	Free	Slave
1790	757	60	698
1800	1,002	108	894
1810	1,378	186	1,191
1820	1,772	234	1,538
1830	2,329	320	2,009
1840	2,874	386	2,487
1850	3,639	434	3,204
1860	4,442	488	3,954



(Numbers in millions)



Other races population (excludes White and Black)

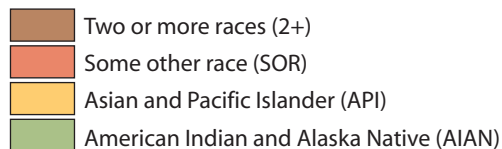
(Numbers in thousands)

	Total	AIAN	API	SOR	2+
1860	79	44	35	(x)	(x)
1870	89	26	63	(x)	(x)
1880	172	66	106	(x)	(x)
1890 ¹	358	248	110	(x)	(x)
1900	351	237	114	(x)	(x)
1910	413	266	147	(x)	(x)
1920	427	244	182	(x)	(x)
1930	597	332	265	(x)	(x)
1940	589	334	255	(x)	(x)
1950	713	343	321	49	(x)
1960 ²	1,620	552	980	88	(x)
1970	2,883	827	1,539	517	(x)
1980	11,679	1,420	3,500	6,758	(x)
1990	19,038	1,959	7,274	9,805	(x)
2000 ³	35,303	2,476	10,642	15,359	6,826

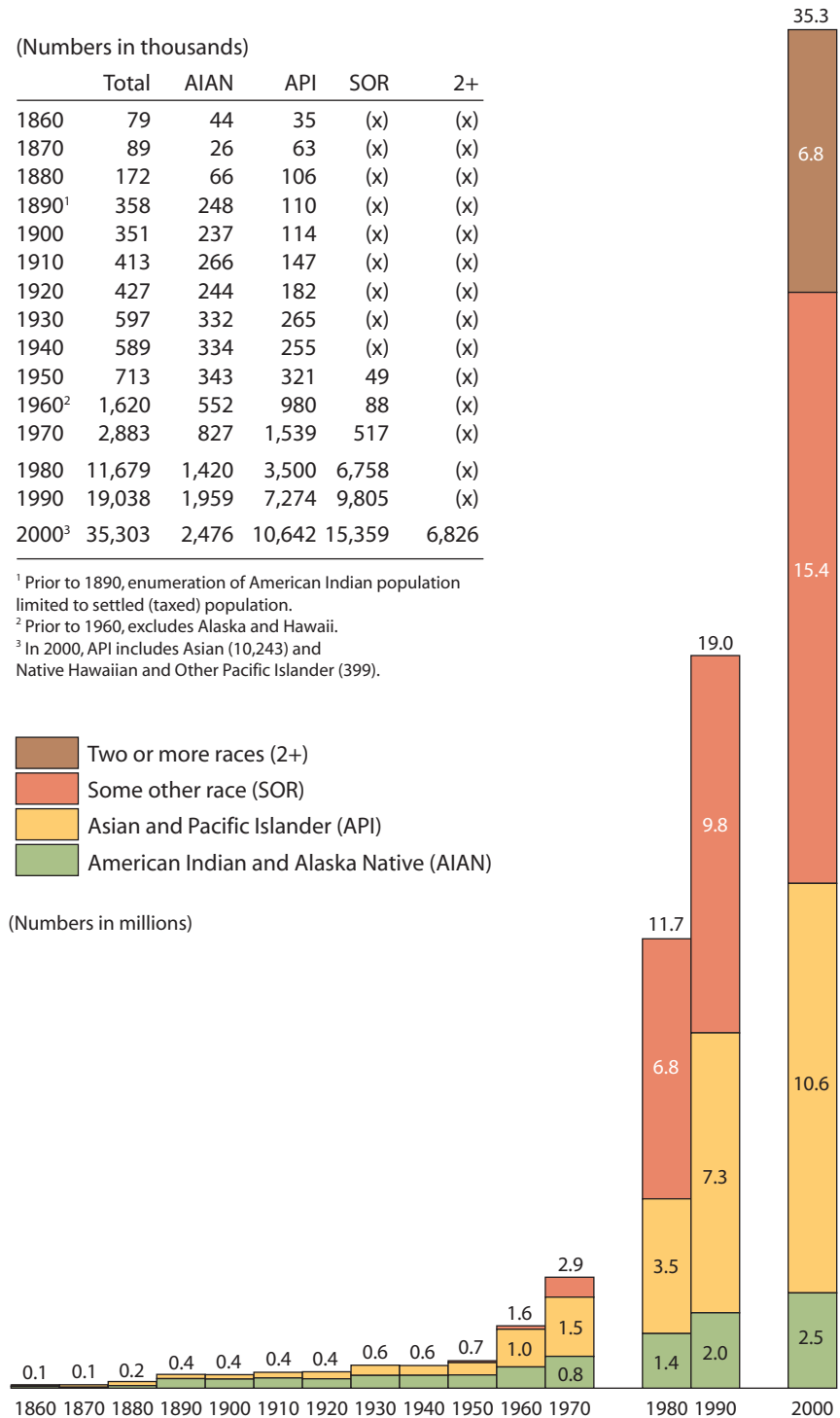
¹ Prior to 1890, enumeration of American Indian population limited to settled (taxed) population.

² Prior to 1960, excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

³ In 2000, API includes Asian (10,243) and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (399).



(Numbers in millions)



(X) Not applicable.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2002), "Historical Census Statistics on Population Totals by Race, 1790 to 1990, and by Hispanic Origin, 1970 to 1990, for the United States, Regions, Divisions, and States," U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division Working Paper No. 56. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

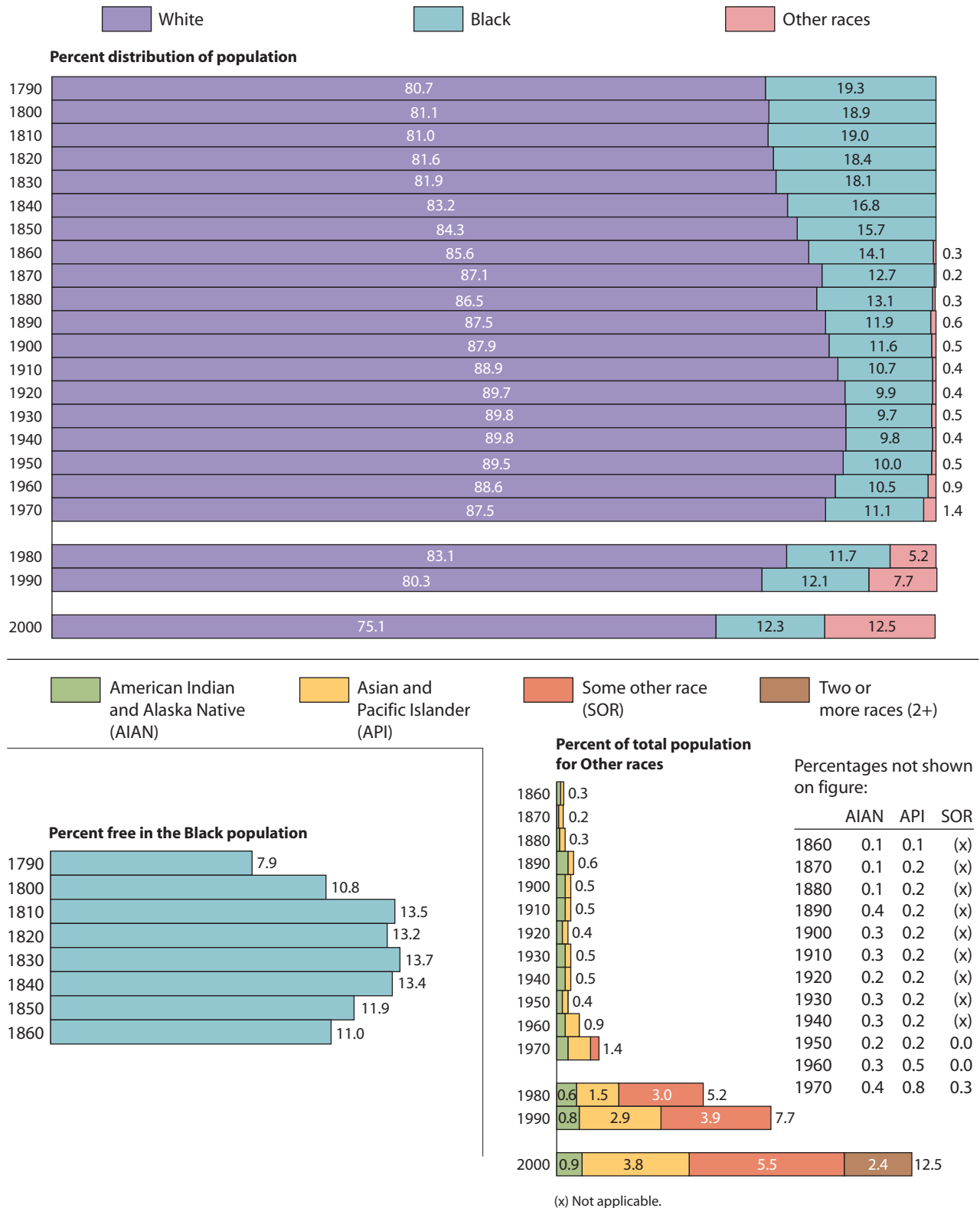
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Figure 4-3.

Percent Distribution of the Population by Race for the United States: 1790 to 2000

(For 2000, data for White, Black, AIAN, API, and SOR are for single-race populations)



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2002), "Historical Census Statistics on Population Totals by Race, 1790 to 1990, and by Hispanic Origin, 1970 to 1990, for the United States, Regions, Divisions, and States," U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division Working Paper No. 56. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

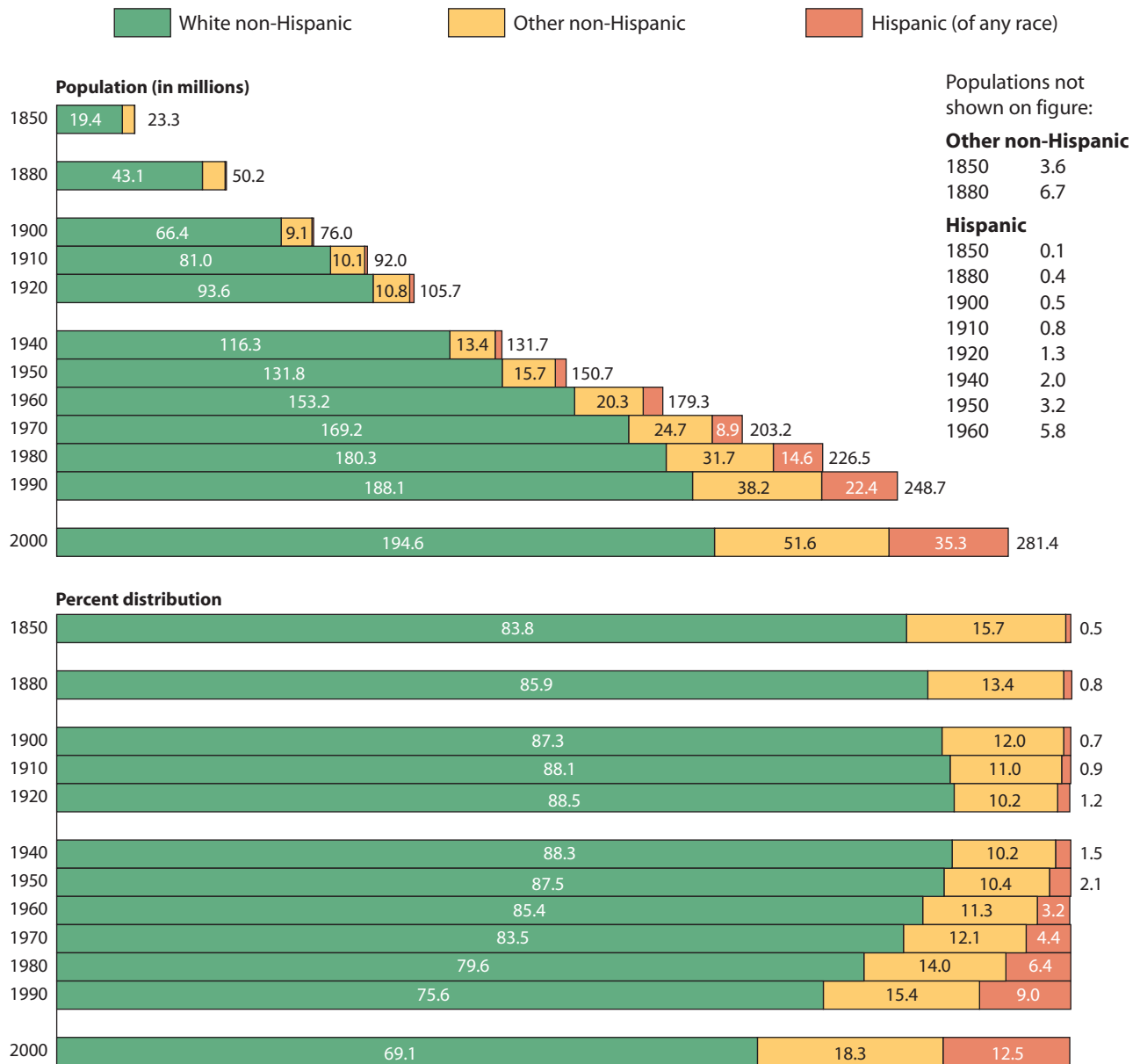
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Figure 4-4.

White Non-Hispanic Population and Hispanic Population for the United States: 1850, 1880, 1900 to 1920, and 1940 to 2000

(For 2000, data for White non-Hispanic are for the single-race population)



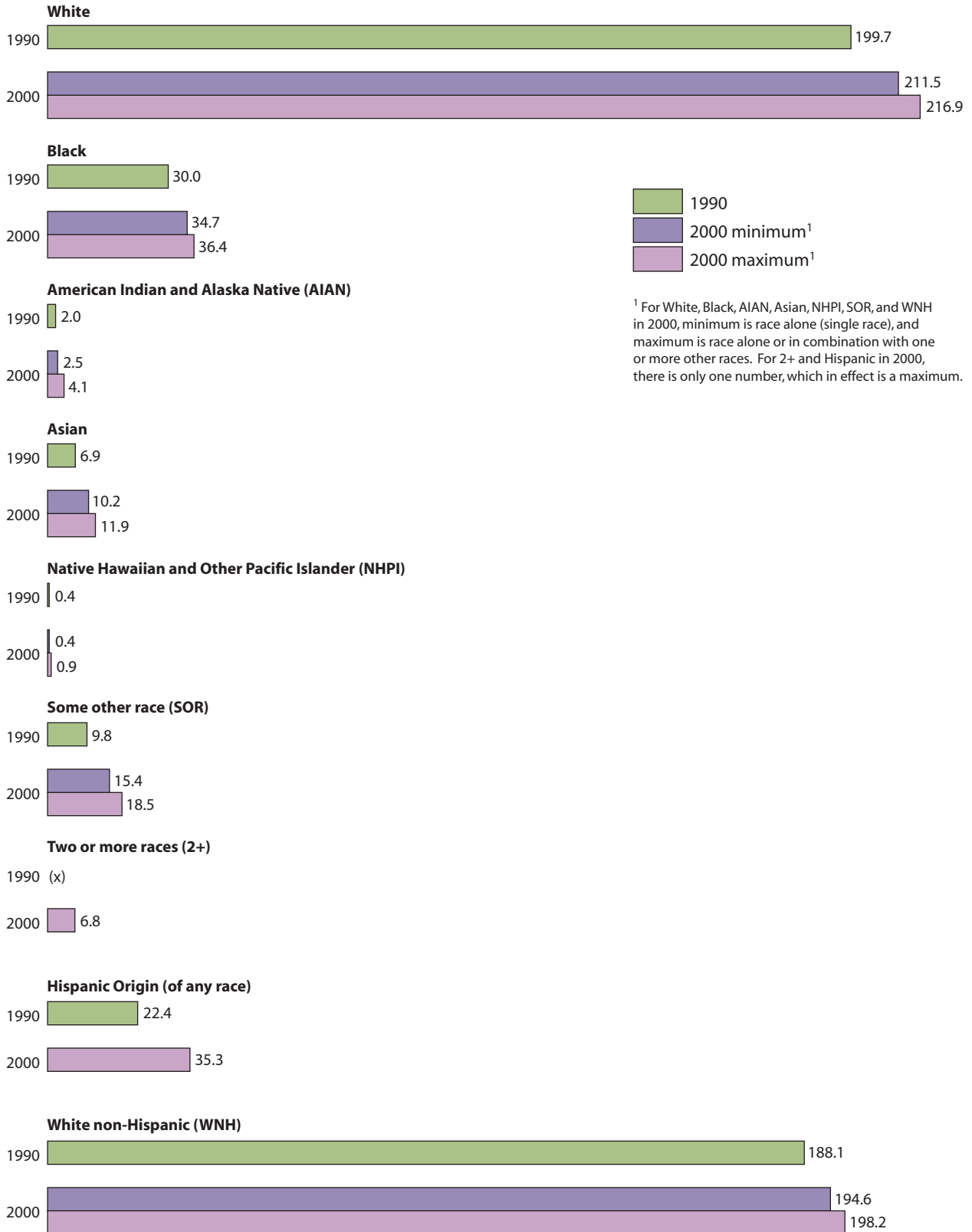
Sources: For 1850-1970 for the Hispanic population: Brian Gratton and Myron P. Guttmann (2006), "Hispanic Population," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-177 to 1-179. Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2002), "Historical Census Statistics on Population Totals by Race, 1790 to 1990, and by Hispanic Origin, 1970 to 1990, for the United States, Regions, Division and States," U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division Working Paper No. 56. U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References. Copyright © 2010 by Campbell Gibson. Graphics may be copied for personal use or for educational purposes, but may not be sold.

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Figure 4-5.

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin for the United States: 1990 and 2000

(Numbers in millions)



(x) Not applicable.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

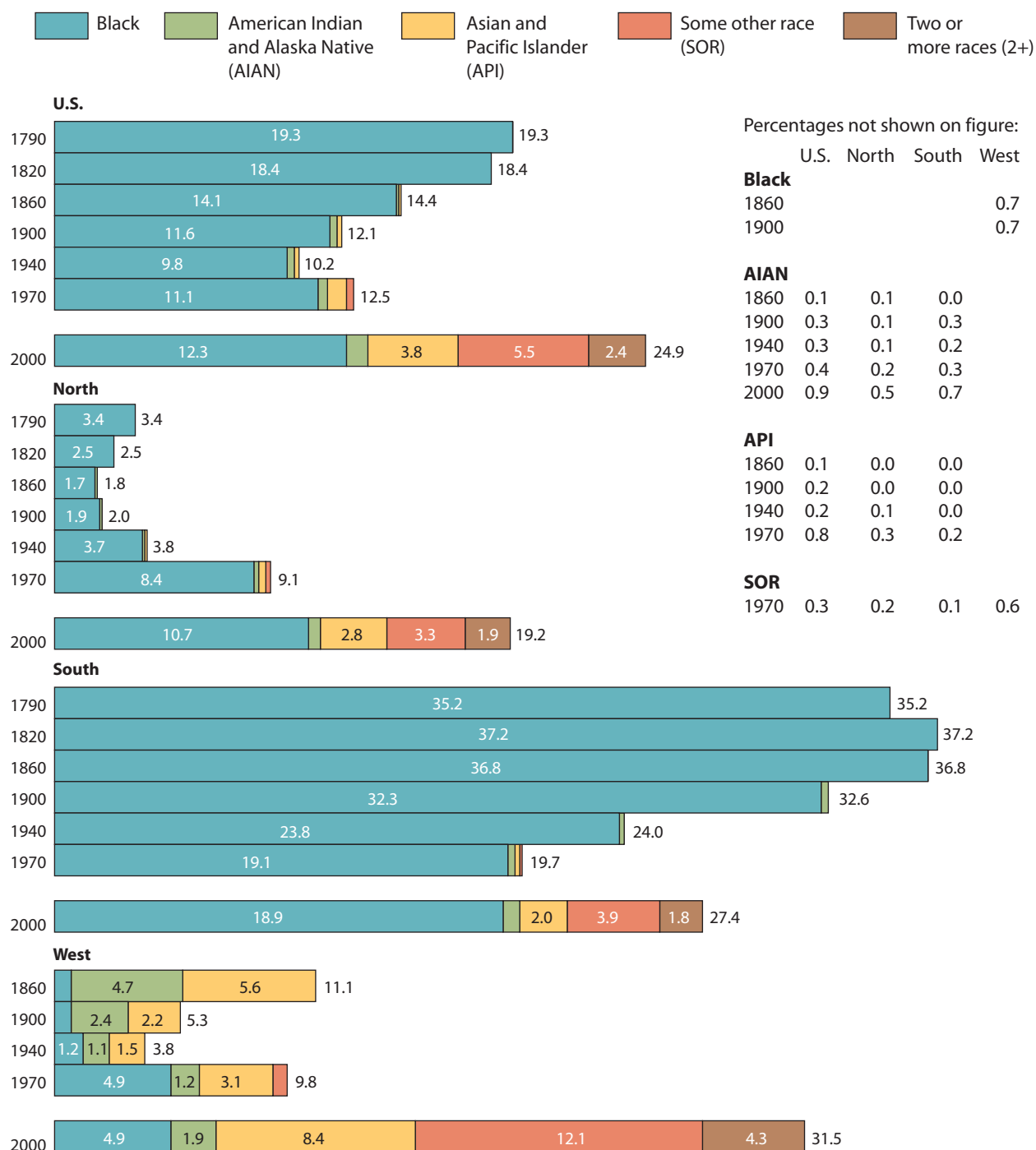
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Figure 4-6.

Races Other Than White as a Percentage of Total Population for the United States by Region: 1790, 1820, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

(For 2000, data for Black, AIAN, API, and SOR are for single-race populations)



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2002), "Historical Census Statistics on Population Totals by Race, 1790 to 1990, and by Hispanic Origin, 1970 to 1990, for the United States, Regions, Divisions, and States," U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division Working Paper No. 56. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

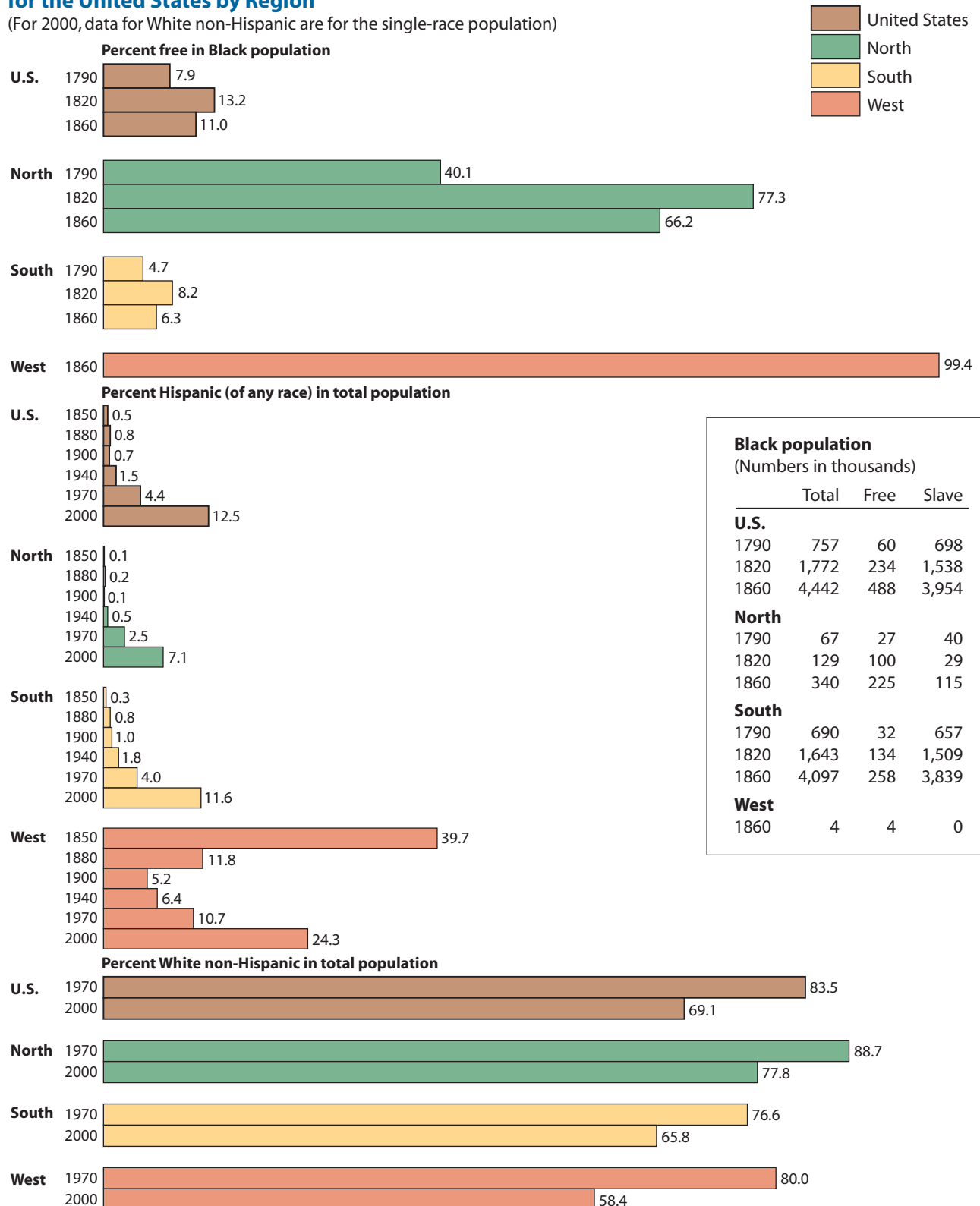
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Figure 4-7.

Percent Free of the Black Population, 1790 to 1860, Percent Hispanic, 1850, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000, and Percent White Non-Hispanic, 1970 and 2000, in the Total Population, for the United States by Region

(For 2000, data for White non-Hispanic are for the single-race population)



Sources: For 1850-1970 for the Hispanic population: Brian Gratton and Myron P. Guttmann (2006), "Hispanic Population," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-177 to 1-179. Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2002), "Historical Census Statistics on Population Totals by Race, 1790 to 1990, and by Hispanic Origin, 1970 to 1990, for the United States, Regions, Division and States," U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division Working Paper No. 56. U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

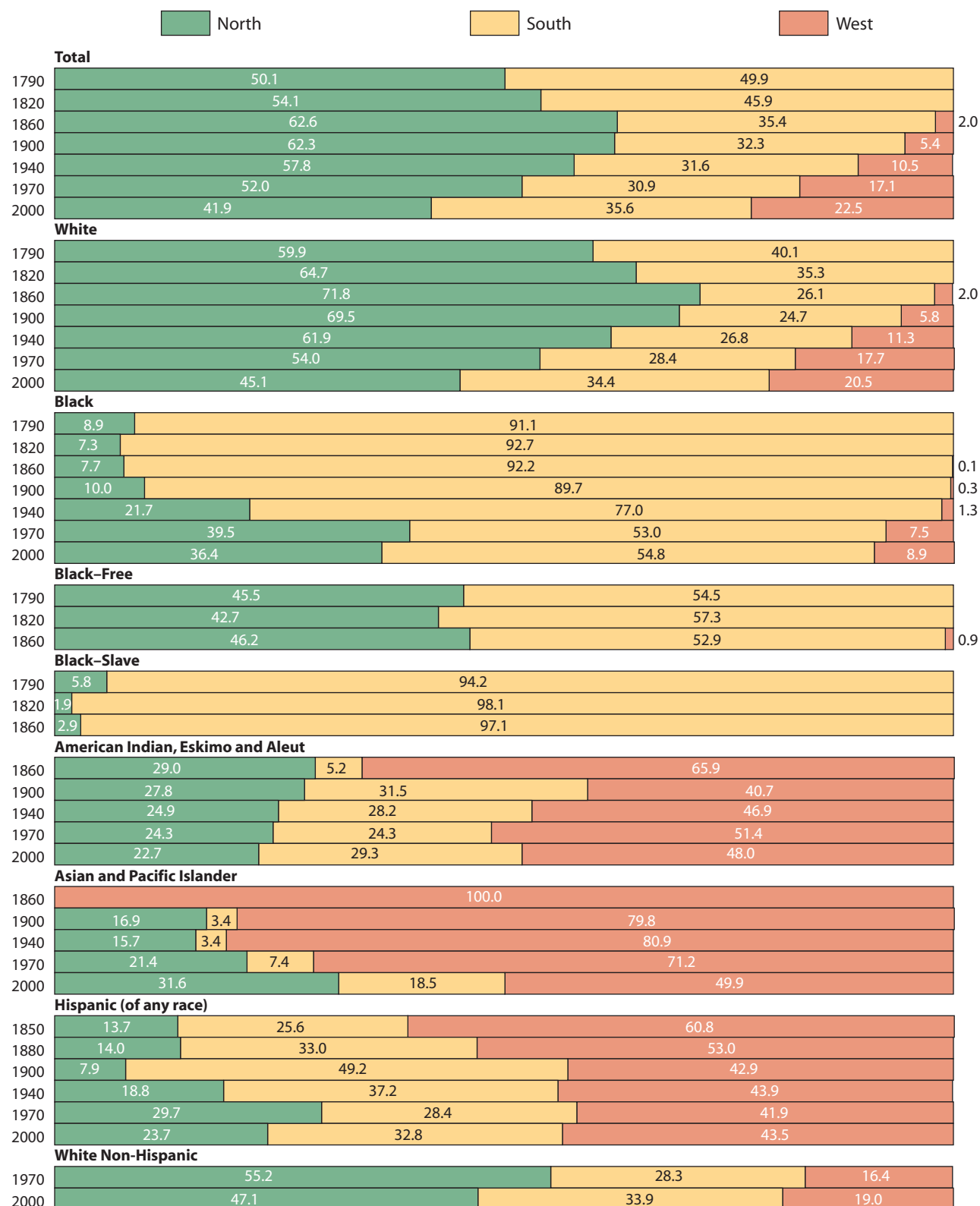
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Figure 4-8.

Percent Distribution of the Population by Race and Hispanic Origin for the United States by Region: 1790, 1820, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

(For 2000, data by race are for single-race populations)



Sources: For 1850-1970 for the Hispanic population: Brian Gratton and Myron P. Guttmann (2006), "Hispanic Population," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-177 to 1-179. Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2002), "Historical Census Statistics on Population Totals by Race, 1790 to 1990, and by Hispanic Origin, 1970 to 1990, for the United States, Regions, Division and States," U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division Working Paper No. 56. U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

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Chapter 5. Age and Sex Structure

Information published in the decennial census on the population by age and sex expanded from very little in 1790, when the White population was classified by sex and White males were classified as under 16 or 16 and over, to full detail in 1870, when data were published by sex by single year of age for the total population. For the White population from 1800 to 1820, the population was classified by sex and five age groups: under 10, 10-15, 16-25, 26-44, and 45+. This was expanded from 1830 to 1860 to a combination of five-year age groups (under 5 to 15-19) and ten-year age groups (20-29 to 90-99), and 100+. The Black population was not classified by age and sex (just by free and slave) until 1820 when the age groups were under 14, 14-25, 26-44, and 45+. The age detail was expanded in 1830 and 1840 to under 10, 10-23, 24-35, 36-54, 55-99, and 100+, after which the same detail was collected for the White and Black populations. Census data on the population by age and sex are subject to various errors, including differences in net census undercount (traditionally higher for males, for young children, and for young adult males than for the remainder of the population) and to misstatement of age, including rounding to ages ending in 0 or 5. For further information, see Frank Hobbs (2004), "Age and Sex Composition," Chapter 7 in *The Methods and Materials of Demography*. The median age, which is that age which divides the population into two equal groups (half younger and half older), has been calculated by linear interpolation based on the age data available. This assumption may introduce more error when the median is toward the middle of a large age span. In order to provide consistent time series of age data as far back as possible, some of the age data shown for years prior to 1870 have been estimated where this could be done with confidence that no significant error was being introduced. For 1830 to 1860, census data for ten-year age groups have been divided into five-year groups using osculatory interpolation. See Henry S. Shryock et al (1971), *The Methods and Materials of Demography*, Chapter 22 and Appendix C. For 1800 to 1820 for the White population, the population age 15 and age 25 was estimated in order to show data for the 15-24 and 25-44 age groups.

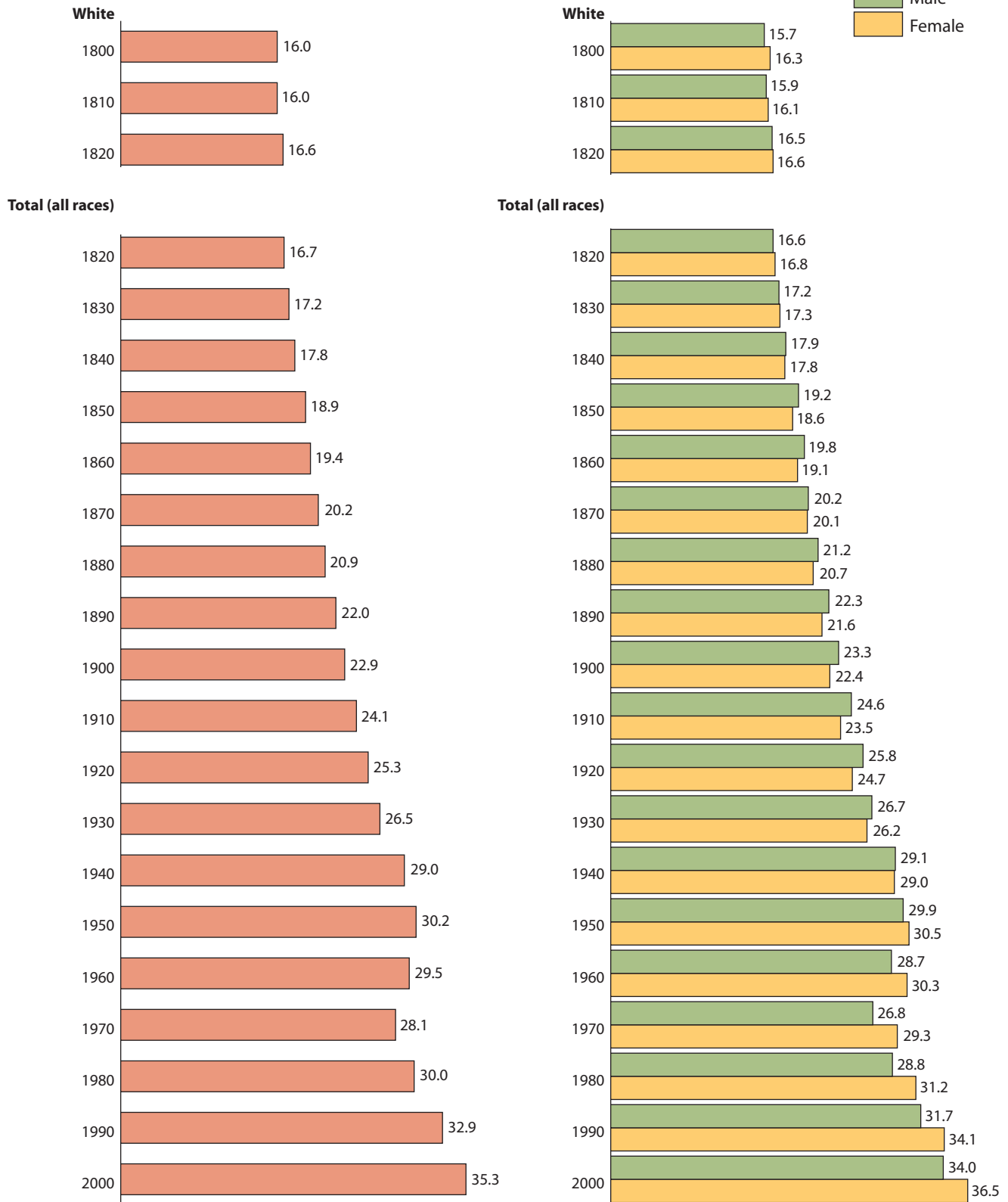
Figures

- 5-1. Median Age of the Population by Sex for the United States: 1800 to 2000
- 5-2. Percent Distribution of the Population by Broad Age Group for the United States: 1800 to 2000
- 5-3. Sex Ratio of the Population by Broad Age Group for the United States: 1800 to 2000
- 5-4. Population Pyramids of the Population by Sex and 5-Year Age Group for the United States: 1830, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000
- 5-5. Median Age and Sex Ratio of the Population for the United States by Region: 1800, 1830, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000
- 5-6. Percentage of the Population Under 15 Years and Elderly (60+ or 65+) for the United States by Region: 1830, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

Figure 5-1.

Median Age of the Population by Sex for the United States: 1800 to 2000

Both sexes
Male
Female



Sources: Michael R. Haines (2006c), "Sex, Age, Race, and Marital Status," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-40 to 1-101, especially, p. 1-71; and U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

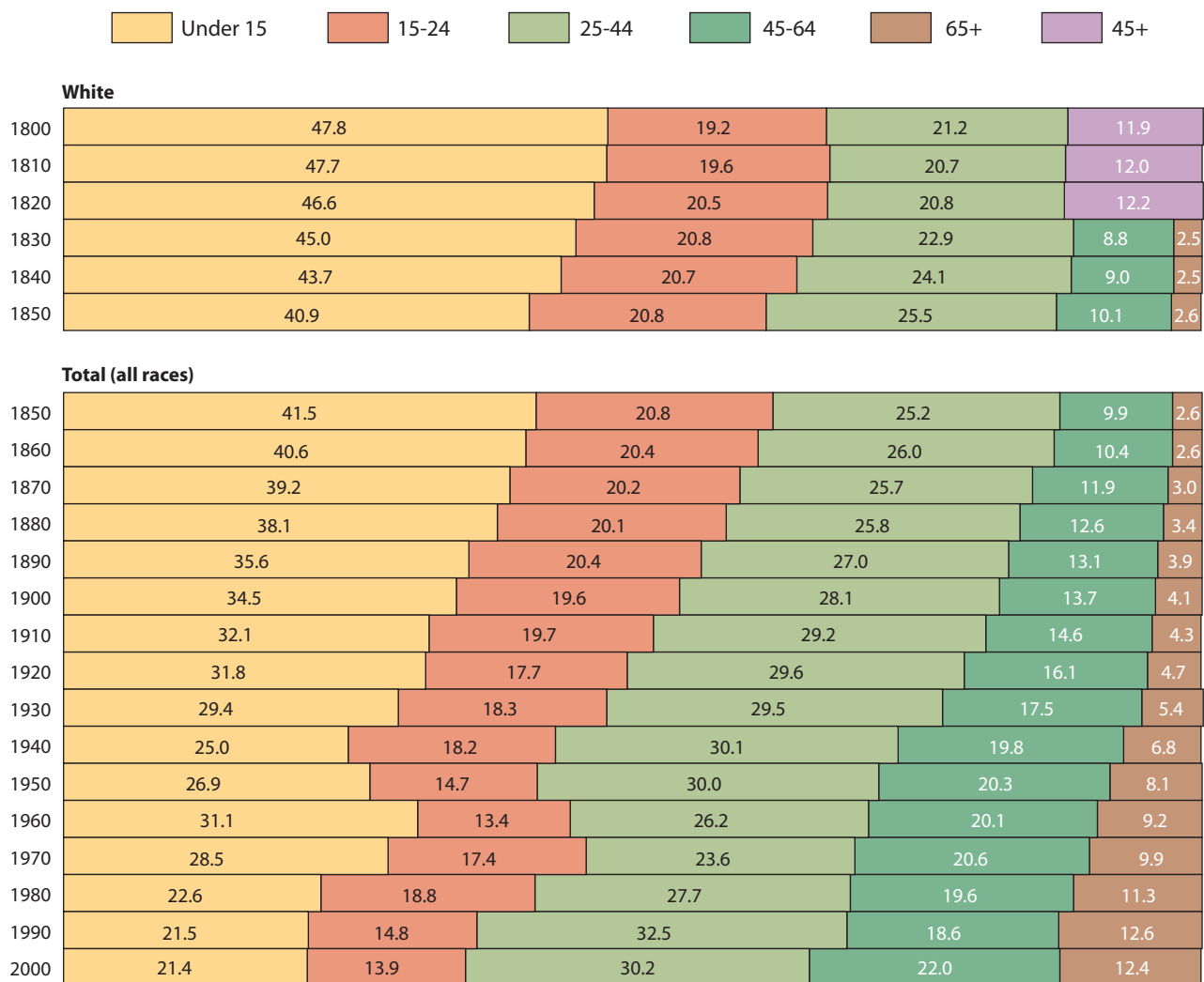
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Figure 5-2.

Percent Distribution of the Population by Broad Age Group for the United States: 1800 to 2000

(Data by age partly estimated for 1800 to 1860. See text for Chapter 5)



Sources: Michael R. Haines (2006c), "Sex, Age, Race, and Marital Status," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-40 to 1-101; and U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, *References*.

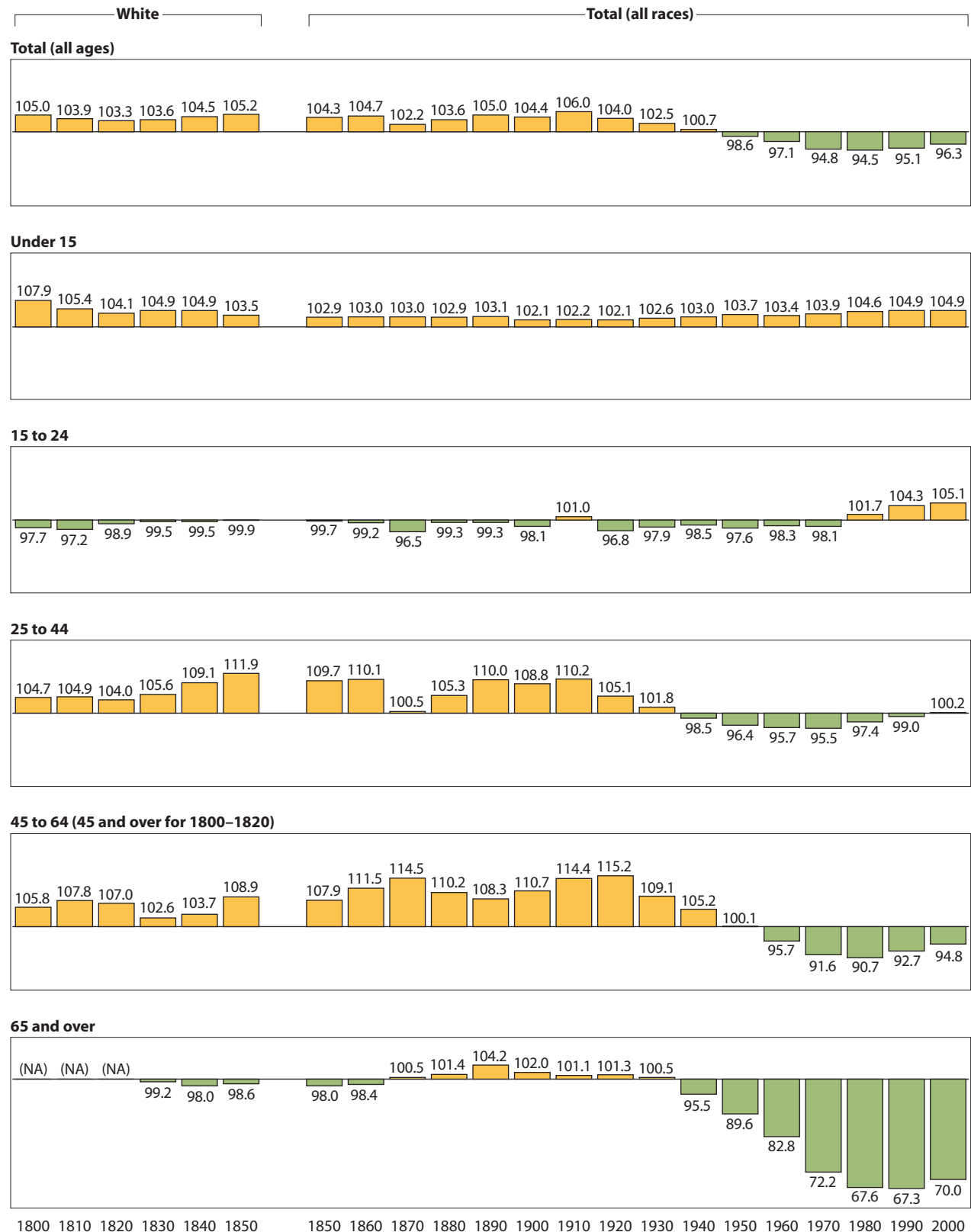
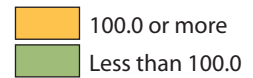
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April 15, 2010

Figure 5-3.

Sex Ratio of the Population by Broad Age Group for the United States: 1800 to 2000

(Males per 100 females. Data by age and sex partly estimated for 1800 to 1860. See text for Chapter 5)



(NA) Not available.

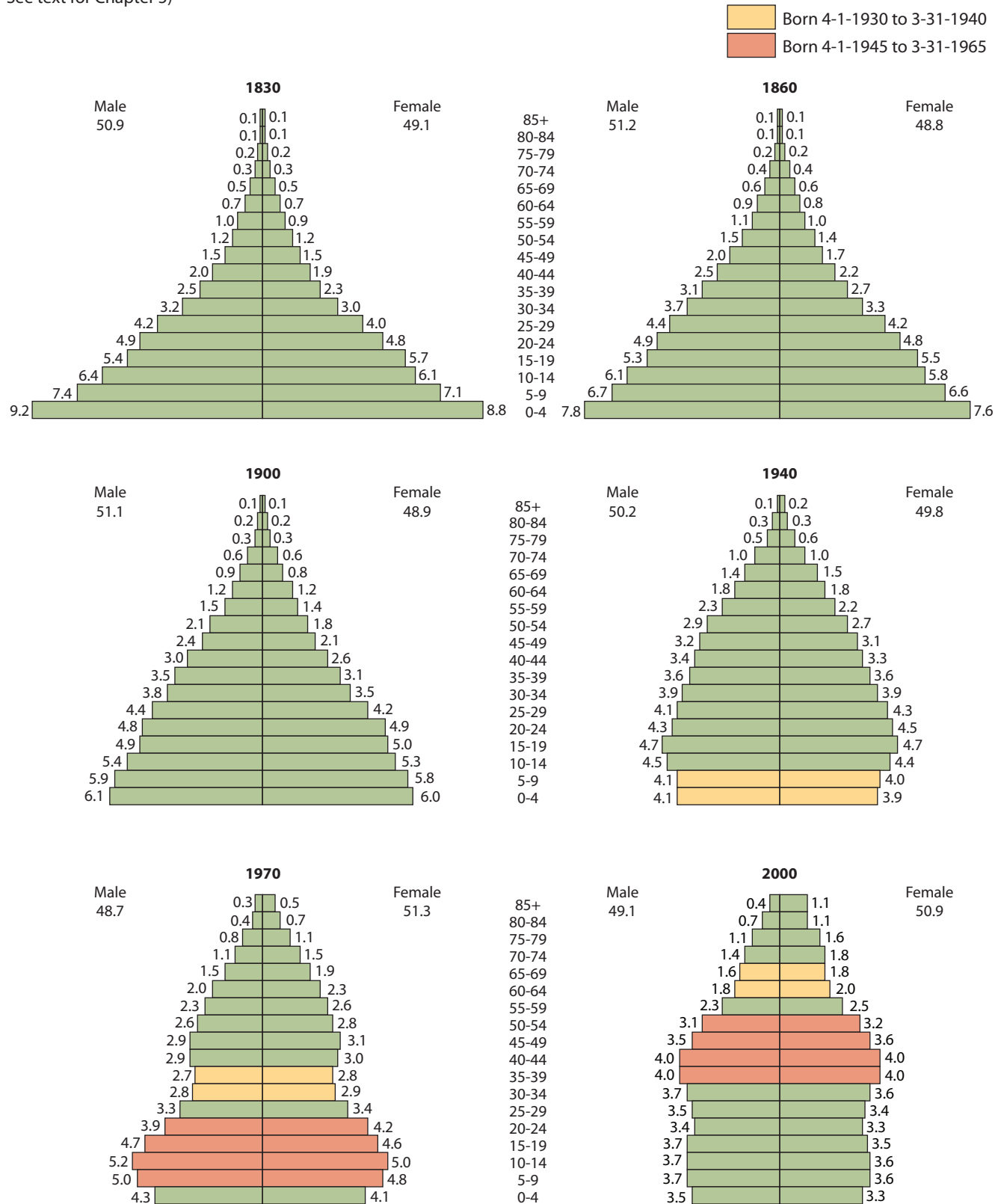
Sources: Michael R. Haines (2006c), "Sex, Age, Race, and Marital Status," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-40 to 1-101; and U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, *References*.

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Figure 5-4.

Population Pyramids of the Population by Sex and 5-Year Age Group for the United States: 1830, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

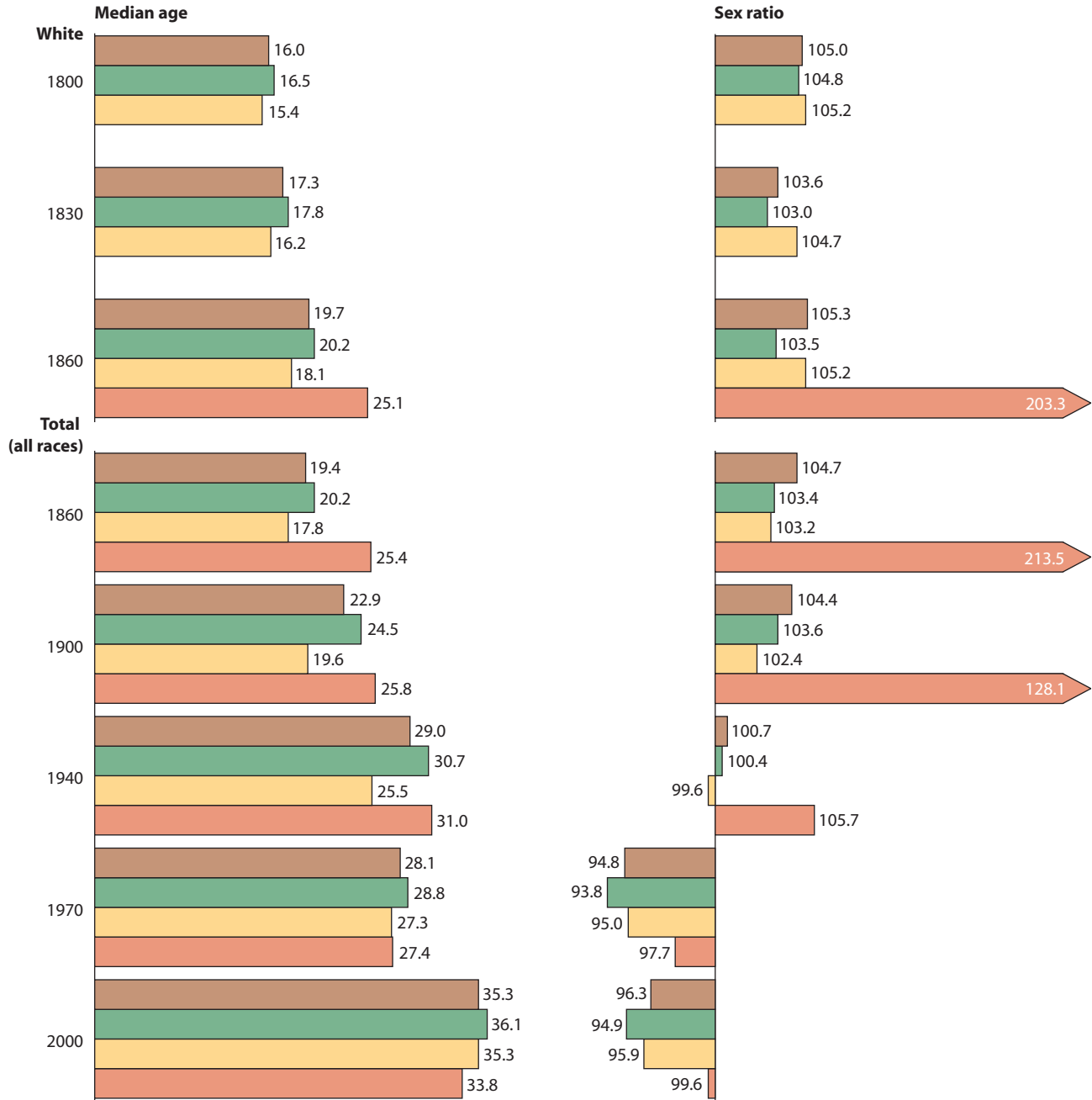
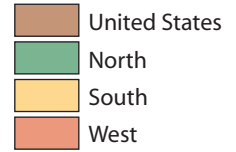
(Percent of total population. Data for 1830 are for the White population. Data by age and sex partly estimated for 1830 and 1860. See text for Chapter 5)



Sources: Michael R. Haines (2006c), "Sex, Age, Race, and Marital Status," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-40 to 1-101; and U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References. Copyright © 2010 by Campbell Gibson. Graphics may be copied for personal use or for educational purposes, but may not be sold.

Figure 5-5.

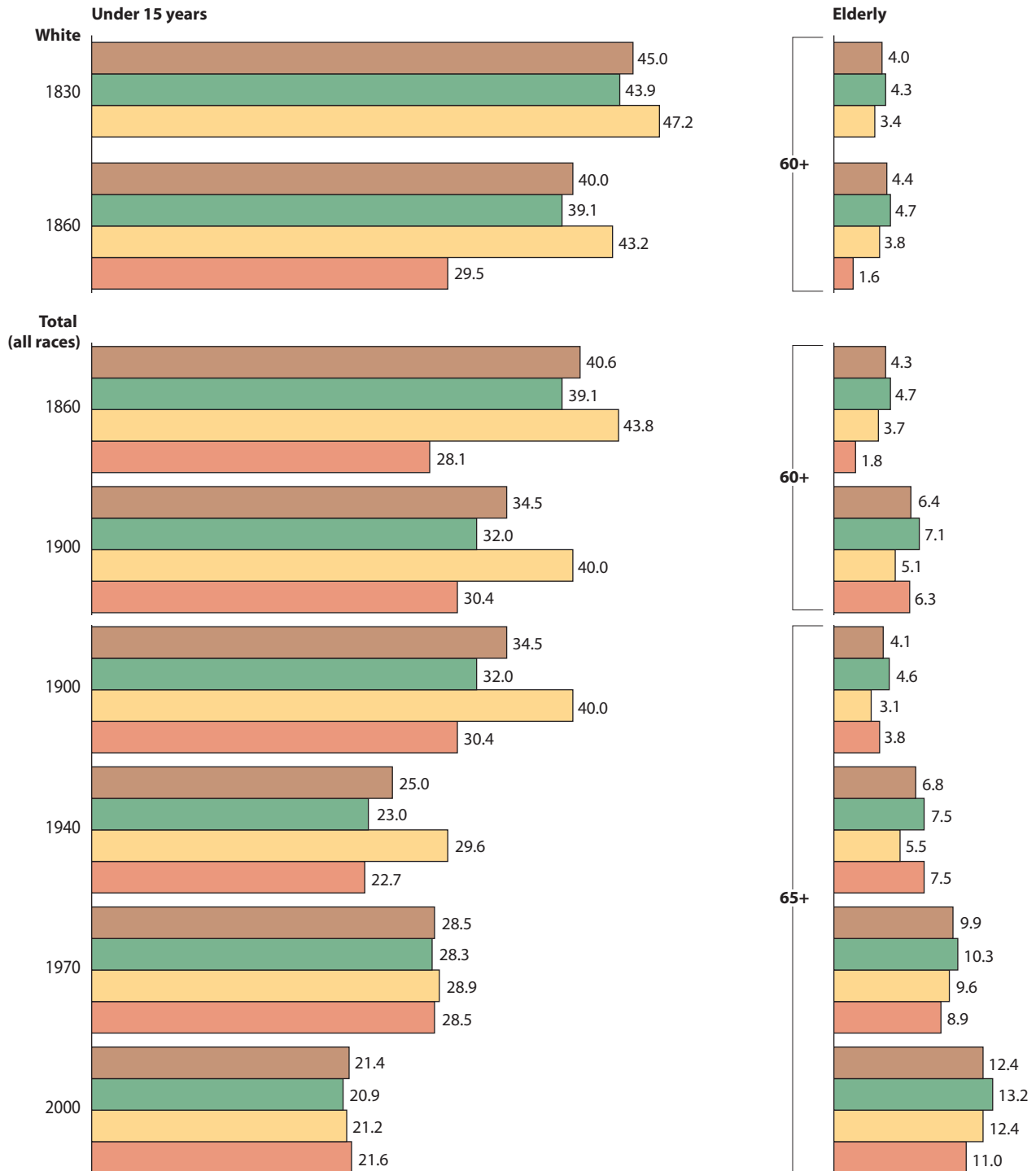
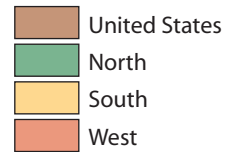
**Median Age and Sex Ratio of the Population for the United States by Region:
1800, 1830, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000**



Sources: Michael R. Haines (2006c), "Sex, Age, Race, and Marital Status," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-40 to 1-101; and U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.
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Figure 5-6.

Percentage of the Population Under 15 Years and Elderly (60+ or 65+) for the United States by Region: 1830, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000



Sources: Michael R. Haines (2006c), "Sex, Age, Race, and Marital Status," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-40 to 1-101; and U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, *References*.
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Chapter 6. Households, Relationship to Householder, and Home Ownership

Before discussing the history of census data on households and related characteristics, it is helpful to provide some general concepts used currently. A housing unit is a physical structure (e.g., a house or an apartment) intended for occupancy as separate living quarters by one or more persons (e.g., a family or unrelated persons or a person living alone). Housing units are either occupied or vacant, and occupied housing units are either owned (with or without a mortgage) or rented. Persons living in a housing unit constitute a household, and the person or one of the persons in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented is defined as the householder. Households are defined as family households or nonfamily households. Family households are those households with one or more persons related to the householder by blood, marriage, or adoption. All other households, including one-person households, are nonfamily households. A small proportion of the population lives in group quarters (including institutionalized group quarters such as correctional institutions and nursing homes and noninstitutionalized group quarters such as college dormitories and military barracks. The group quarters population, which represented 2.8 percent of the total U.S. population in 2000, is not covered in this chapter.

While information in the decennial census of population has been collected primarily by household since 1790, little information on households was published in census volumes until 1940, and a question on relationship to householder was first asked in the 1880 census. Data on the number of households by size for 1790 are available from an analysis of census schedules published in U.S. Bureau of the Census (1909), *A Century of Population Growth from the First Census of the United States to the Twelfth: 1790 to 1900*. Starting with 1850, when census schedules first listed each person in a household by name, estimates of data on households and relationship to householder are available based on the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS), as shown in Steven Ruggles (2006), “Family and Household Composition,” *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-660 to 1-689. (See Minnesota Population Center, no date, “IPUMS-USA, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ),” <http://usa.ipums.org/usa-action/faq.do>)

There have been many changes over time in definitions of households and related characteristics. In addition to the sources cited above, see Frank Hobbs, and Nicole Stoops (2002), “Demographic Trends in the 20th Century,” U.S. Census Bureau, *Census 2000 Special Reports*, CENSR-4, and [Data Sources](#).

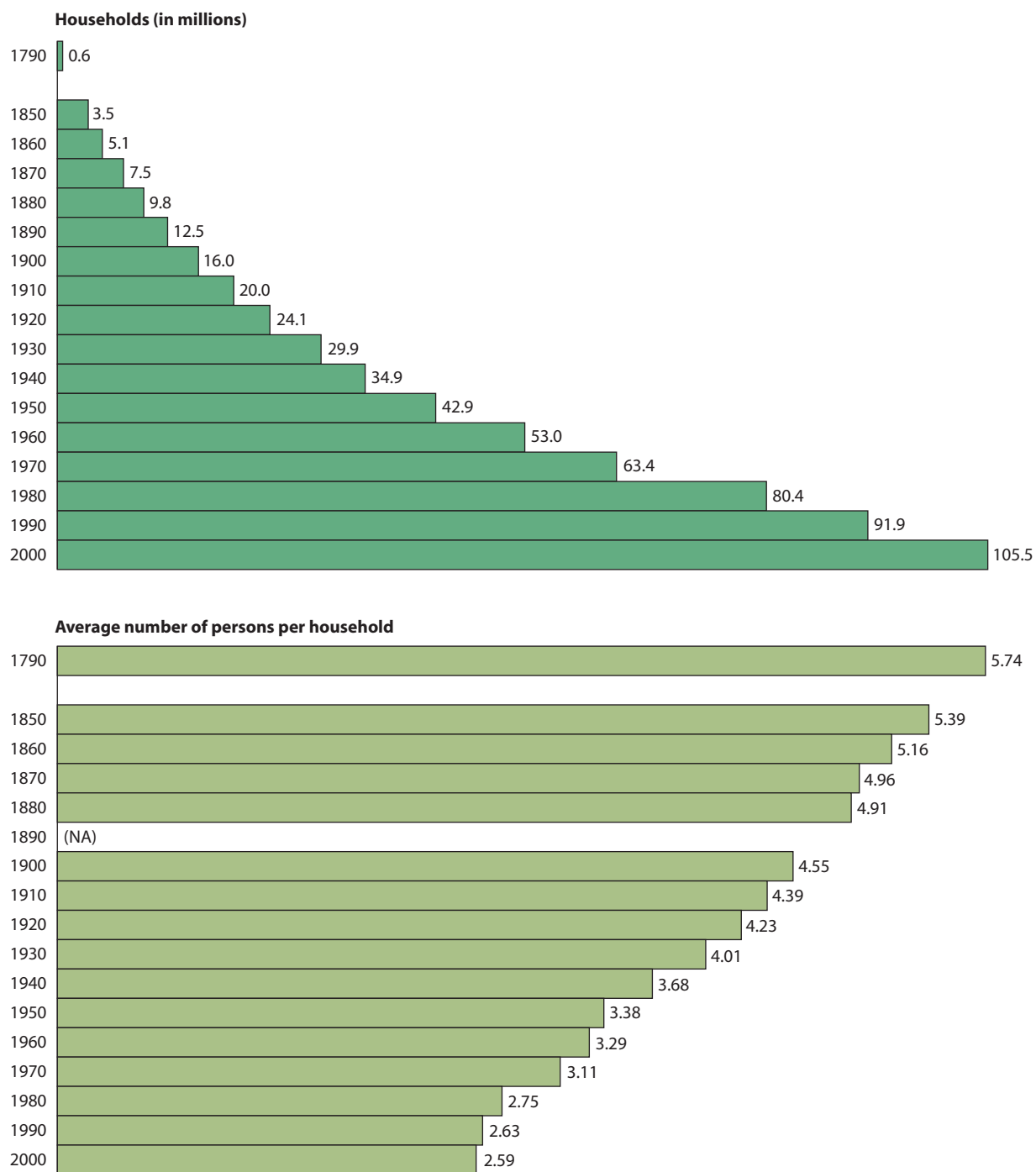
Figures

- 6-1. Households and Average Household Size for the United States: 1790 and 1850 to 2000
- 6-2. Percent Distribution of Households and Household Population by Size of Household for the United States: 1790 and 1850 to 2000
- 6-3. Household Type, Relationship to Householder, and Home Ownership Rate, for the United States: 1850 to 2000
- 6-4. Average Household Size and Home Ownership Rate for the United States by Region: 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

Figure 6-1.

Households and Average Household Size for the United States: 1790 and 1850 to 2000

(Data for 1790 to 1860 exclude slave population)



(NA) Not available.

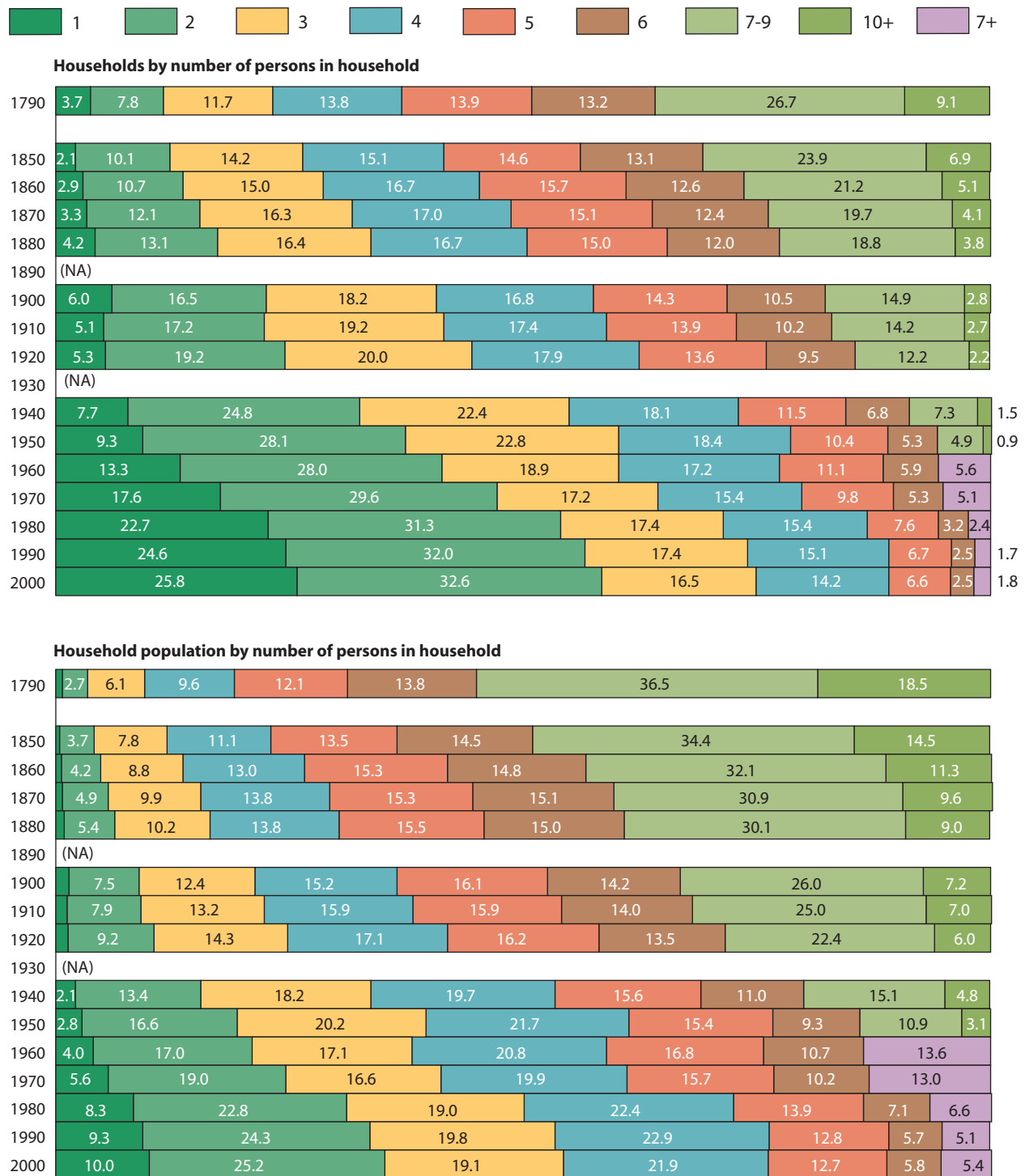
Sources: Steven Ruggles (2006), "Family and Household Composition," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-660 to 1-689. U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Frank Hobbs and Nicole Stoops (2002), "Demographic Trends in the 20th Century," *Census 2000 Special Reports*, CENSR-4. See www.demographicchartbook.com, *References*.

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Figure 6-2.

Percent Distribution of Households and Household Population by Size of Household for the United States: 1790 and 1850 to 2000

(Data for 1790 to 1860 exclude slave population. Assumes that households with 11+ persons had an average of 13 persons per household)



Percentages not shown on figure for 1 person:

1790 0.7 1850 0.4 1860 0.6 1870 0.7 1880 0.9 1900 1.4 1910 1.2 1920 1.3

(NA) Not available.

Sources: Steven Ruggles (2006), "Family and Household Composition," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-660 to 1-689.

U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Frank Hobbs and Nicole Stoops (2002), "Demographic Trends in the 20th Century," Census 2000

Special Reports, CENSR-4. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

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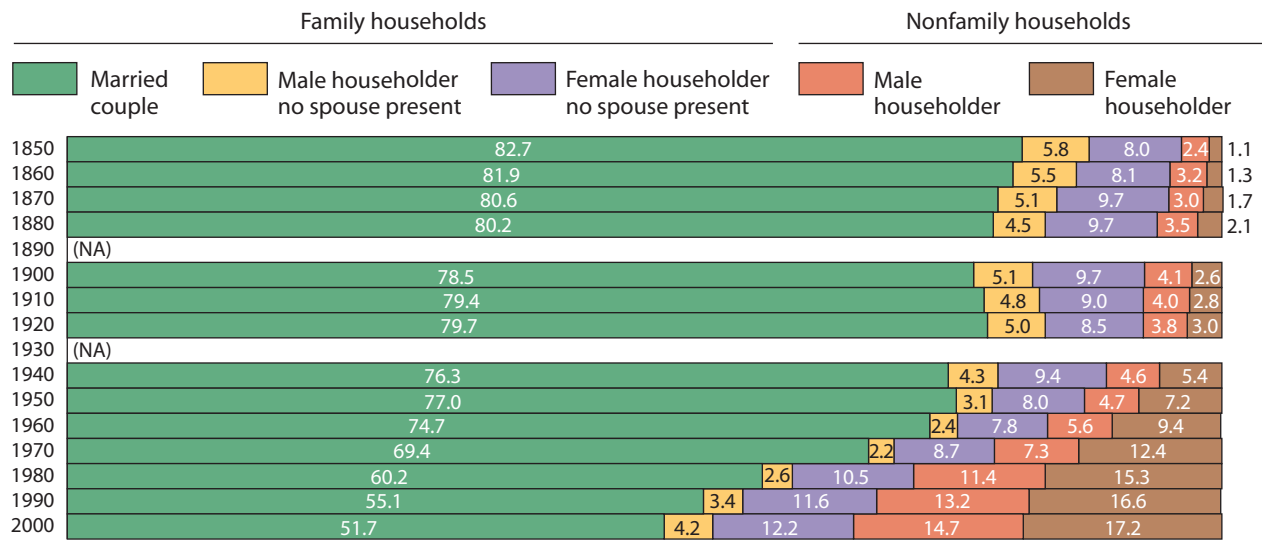
April 27, 2010

Figure 6-3.

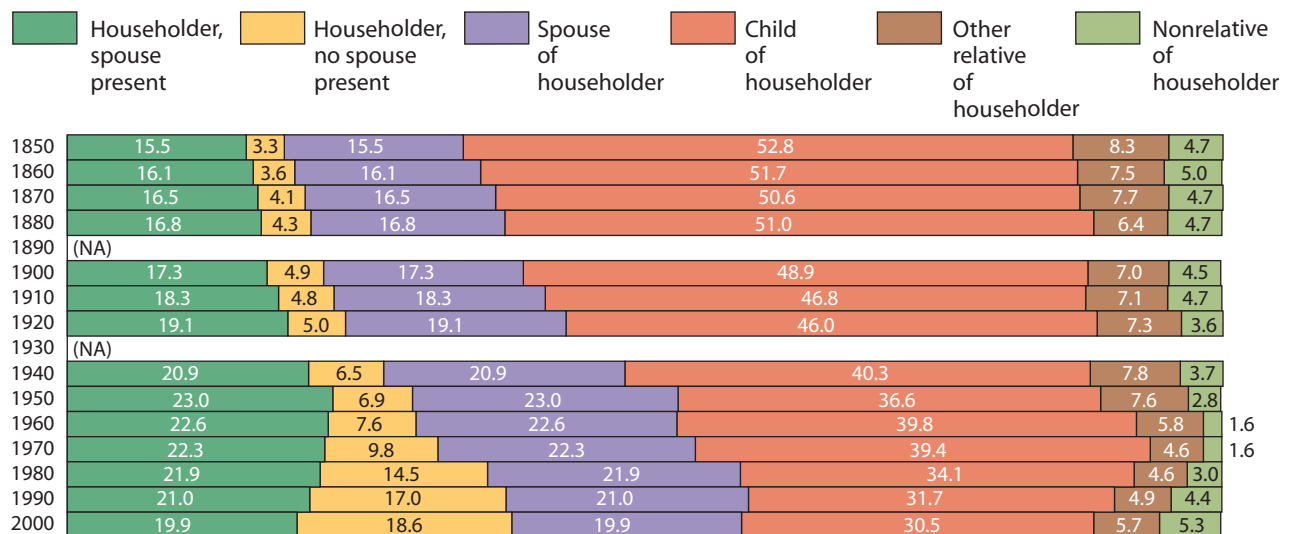
Household Type, Relationship to Householder, and Home Ownership Rate, for the United States: 1850 to 2000

(Data for 1850 and 1860 exclude slave population)

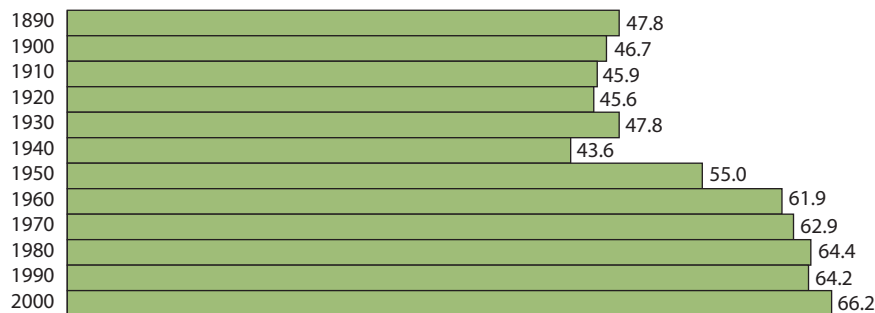
HOUSEHOLD TYPE (percent distribution)



RELATIONSHIP TO HOUSEHOLDER FOR HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (percent distribution)



HOMEOWNERSHIP RATE FOR HOUSEHOLDS (in percent)



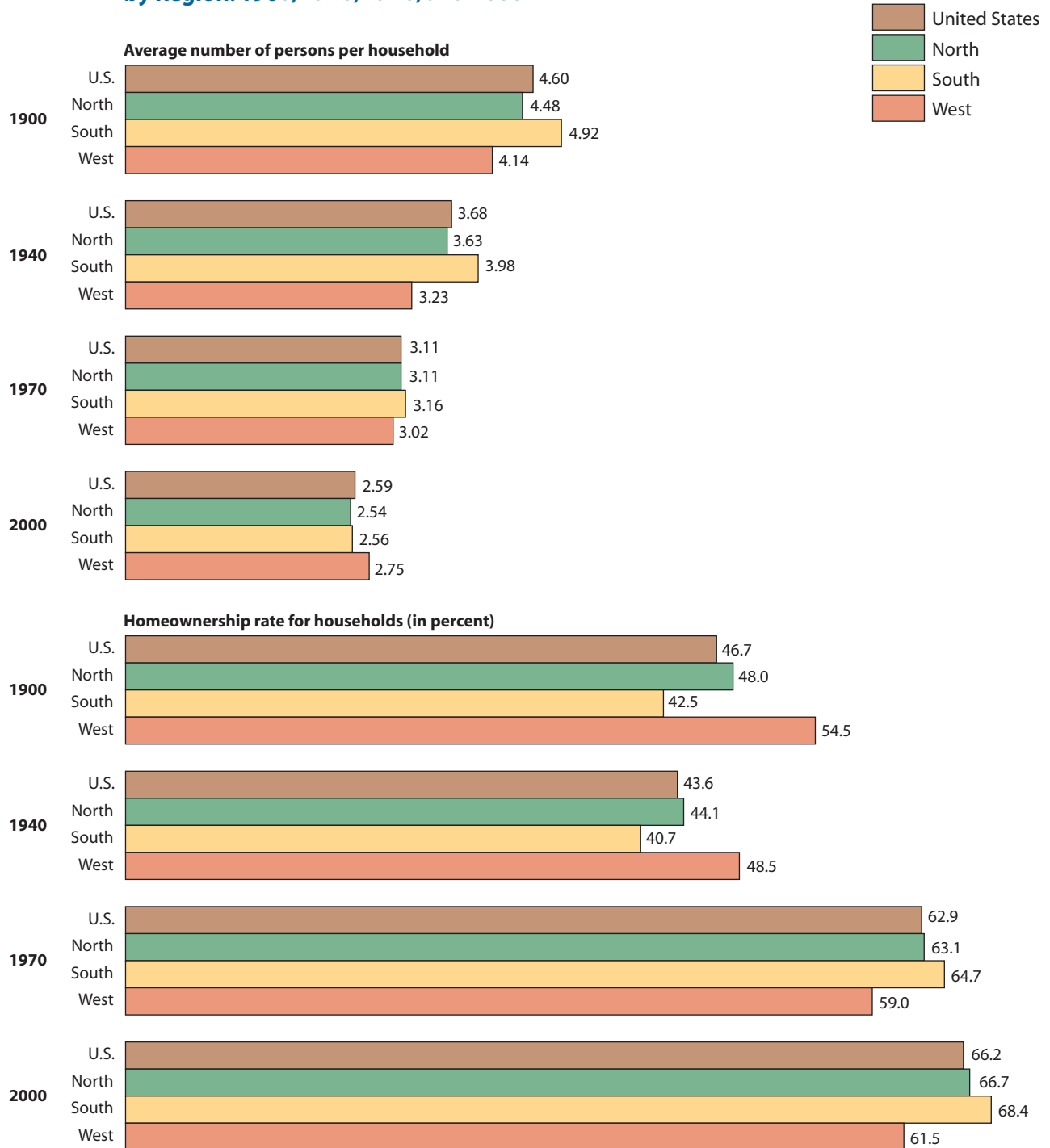
(NA) Not available.

Sources: Steven Ruggles (2006), "Family and Household Composition," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-660 to 1-689. U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Frank Hobbs and Nicole Stoops (2002), "Demographic Trends in the 20th Century," Census 2000 Special Reports, CENSR-4. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 6-4.

Average Household Size and Home Ownership Rate for the United States by Region: 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000



Sources: Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Frank Hobbs and Nicole Stoops (2002), "Demographic Trends in the 20th Century," Census 2000 special reports, CENSR-4. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.
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Chapter 7. Marital Status

The data presented on marital status in this chapter cover the 1880 to 2000 period. Data for the 1880 to 1990 period are from Michael R. Haines (2006c and 2006d), “Sex, Age, Race, and Marital Status,” and “Singulate Mean Age at First Marriage,” *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-40 to 1-101, and p. 1-687, respectively. Census data on marital status were published in Census Bureau publications starting with the 1890 census. The estimates for 1880, the first year that a question on marital status was included in the census, are based the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS). (See Minnesota Population Center, no date, “IPUMS-USA, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ),” <http://usa.ipums.org/usa-action/faq.do>)

Four categories of marital status are shown: never married, married, divorced, and widowed. Persons who were separated (for reasons of marital discord), which was introduced as a separate response category in 1950, are included here in the married category. Like all information collected in the census, information on marital status is subject to misreporting. In particular, it seems possible that the percentage of persons whose marital status is divorced is underreported, especially prior to World War II when divorce was less prevalent and less socially acceptable.

Data on the average age at first marriage are for the singulate mean age at first marriage, and are based on a procedure developed by John Hajnal (1953), “Age at Marriage and Proportions Marrying,” *Population Studies*, Vol. 7, No. 2, pp. 111-136, and described in Henry J. Shryock, Jacob S. Siegel, and Associates (1971), *Methods and Materials of Demography*, Vol. 1, pp. 294-295. The procedure yields an estimate of the average number of years lived as never married among persons who ever marry by age 50.

Figures

- 7-1. Average Age at First Marriage by Sex and Percent Ever Married by Sex and Age for the United States: 1880 to 2000
- 7-2. Percent Distribution of the Male and Female Populations 15 Years and Over by Age and Marital Status for the United States: 1880 to 2000

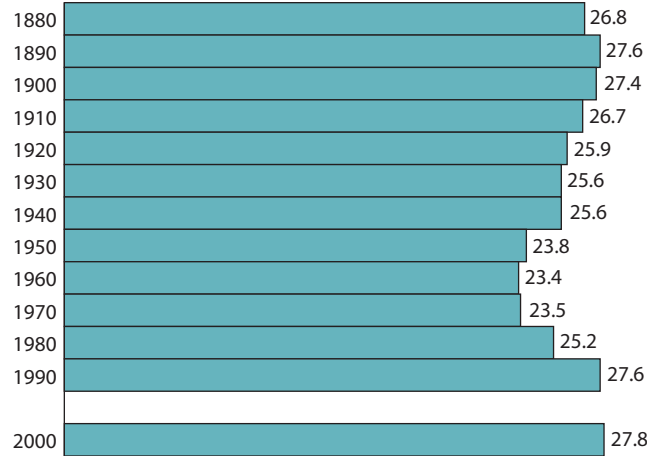
Figure 7-1.

Average Age at First Marriage by Sex and Percent Ever Married by Sex and Age for the United States: 1880 to 2000

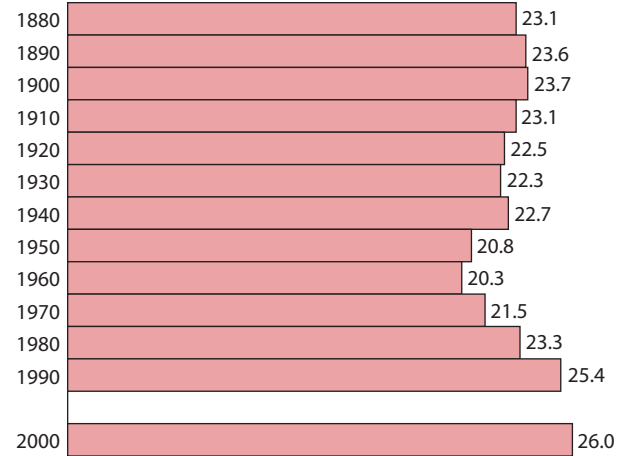
Male
Female

Average Age at First Marriage by Sex

Male

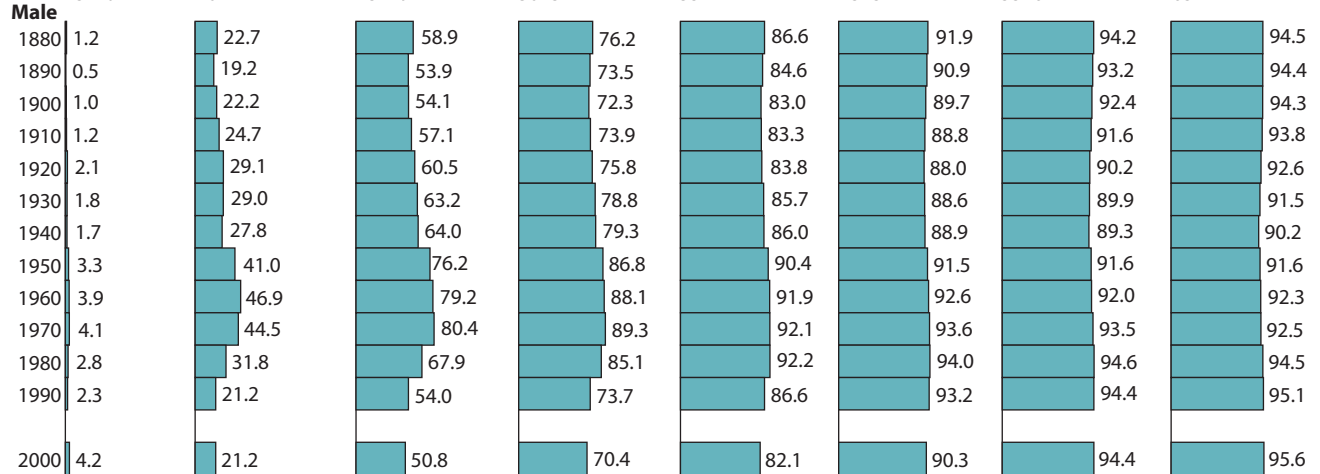


Female



Percent Ever Married by Sex and Age

Male



Female



Sources: Michael R. Haines (2006c), "Sex, Age, Race, and Marital Status," and (2006d), "Singulate Mean Age at First Marriage," Vol. 1, pp. 1-40 to 1-101, and p. 1-687, respectively, in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*. U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

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Figure 7-2.

Percent Distribution of the Male and Female Populations 15 Years and Over by Age and Marital Status for the United States: 1880 to 2000

Never married Married Divorced Widowed



Percentages not shown on figure:

	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
15+													
Male, divorced.....	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.6	1.1	1.3	2.0	2.2	2.8			
Male, widowed.....	3.8	3.9	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.6	4.3	4.2	3.5	3.1	2.5	2.5	2.5
Female, divorced.....	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.8	1.3	1.7	2.4	2.9	4.0			
20-24													
Male, divorced.....	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.9	1.0	1.4	2.2	1.5	1.2
Male, widowed.....	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
Female, divorced.....	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.6	1.1	0.9	1.7	1.8	2.5	4.2	3.1	2.2
Female, widowed.....	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.2

Sources: Michael R. Haines (2006), "Sex, Age, Race, and Marital Status," in Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition, Vol. 1, pp. 1-40 to 1-101.

U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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April 27, 2010

Figure 7-2.

Percent Distribution of the Male and Female Populations 15 Years and Over by Age and Marital Status for the United States: 1880 to 2000—Con.



Percentages not shown on figure:

	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
25-29													
Male, divorced.....	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	1.0	0.9	1.7	1.8	3.0			4.6
Male, widowed.....	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
Female, divorced.....	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.8	1.8	2.5	2.6	4.3			
Female widowed.....	3.1	2.8	2.9	2.4	2.6	2.1	1.3	0.9	0.7	1.1	0.5	0.4	0.3
30-34													
Male, divorced.....	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.4	1.4	2.1	2.2	3.3			
Male, widowed.....	2.1	1.8	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.3	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
Female, divorced.....	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.9	2.4	3.0	3.1				
Female, widowed.....		4.5	4.6	3.9	3.9	3.3	2.5	1.6	1.2	1.5	0.9	0.7	0.6

Sources: Michael R. Haines (2006), "Sex, Age, Race, and Marital Status," in Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition, Vol. 1, pp. 1-40 to 1-101. U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

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Figure 7-2.

Percent Distribution of the Male and Female Populations 15 Years and Over by Age and Marital Status for the United States: 1880 to 2000—Con.



Percentages not shown on figure:

	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
35-44													
Male, divorced.....	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.6	1.9	2.5	2.6	3.6			
Male, widowed.....	3.3	3.3	3.6	3.2	3.0	2.5	1.7	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.5
Female, divorced.....	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.9	2.7	3.6	3.8				
Female, widowed.....								3.8	3.0	3.0	2.1	1.6	1.3
45-54													
Male, divorced.....	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.6	2.0	3.0	3.1	3.8			
Male, widowed.....							4.1	2.8	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.1	1.0
Female, never married..											4.7		
Female, divorced.....	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.6	2.2	3.5	4.3				
Female, widowed.....													3.7

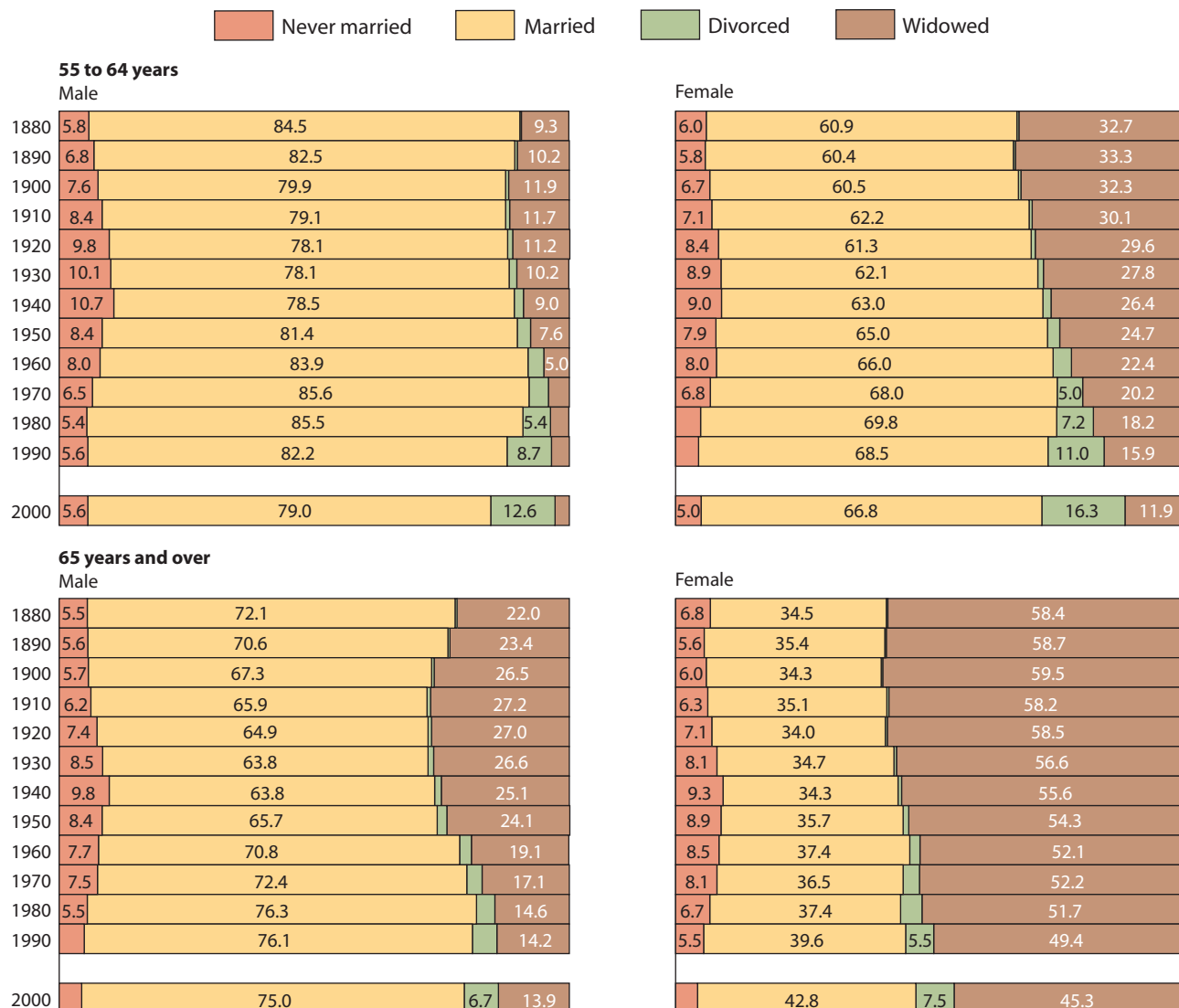
Sources: Michael R. Haines (2006), "Sex, Age, Race, and Marital Status," in Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition, Vol. 1, pp. 1-40 to 1-101.

U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 7-2.

Percent Distribution of the Male and Female Populations 15 Years and Over by Age and Marital Status for the United States: 1880 to 2000—Con.



Percentages not shown on figure:

	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
55-64													
Male, divorced.....	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.5	1.8	2.6	3.1	3.8			
Male, widowed.....										4.1	3.6	3.5	2.8
Female, never married..											4.9	4.5	
Female, divorced	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.6	2.4	3.6				
65+													
Male, never married.....												4.9	4.4
Male, divorced.....	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.7	1.1	1.3	1.9	2.3	3.0	3.6	4.8	
Female, never married..													4.3
Female, divorced	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.1	2.0	3.2	4.2		

Sources: Michael R. Haines (2006), "Sex, Age, Race, and Marital Status," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, pp. 1-40 to 1-101. U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, *References*.

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May 19, 2010

Chapter 8. Fertility: Children Ever Born and Child-Woman Ratios

The first two graphics in this chapter present data on children ever born. The question was first asked on the decennial census in 1890 and again in 1900 and 1910; however, the data were not tabulated for presentation in census reports for those years. The question was introduced again in the 1940 census, and 1910 and 1940 census data on children ever born were tabulated and published in 1940 census reports. The question was then asked from 1950 through 1990, but was dropped for the 2000 census. Starting in 1970, the question was asked of all women rather than being limited to ever-married women; however, since the data presented here are for women who have completed (or nearly completed) the childbearing years, the effect of this change on historical trends in childbearing is negligible. Information collected on children ever born was supposed to have been limited to live births (i.e., excluding stillbirths); however, information collected in the 1910 census may have inadvertently included some stillbirths, resulting in an overstatement of children ever born. (This possibility is suggested by a comparison of childbearing data for the 1865-1869 birth cohort of women at ages 40-44 in 1910 and at ages 70-74 in 1940 in Figure 8-1.) While there may be some underreporting of fertility by elderly women (such as of children who died in infancy), census data for subsequent censuses do not indicate that this is a significant factor. For simplicity, birth cohorts of women are shown in calendar years. For example, women ages 45-49 in 1940 are shown as the 1890-1894 birth cohort rather than as the 4/1/1890-3/31/1895 birth cohort, which would be more precise given the 4/1/1940 data for the 1940 census.

The third graphic in this chapter presents data on the child-woman ratio. In the absence of census data on children ever born through much the 19th century, the child-women ratio, defined here as the ratio of the population under age 5 to the female population 20-44, provides a surrogate measure of childbearing. Calculation of the ratio requires only data on the population by age and sex; however, the accuracy of the ratio depends on the relative accuracy of census data for the two groups, suggesting that the calculated ratio may be low if the number of children under age 5 is not reported as completely as the number of females ages 20-44. In addition, the child-woman ratio can be affected by the age composition of women in the 20-44 age span since age-specific birth rates vary by age (e.g., typically higher for women ages 20-34 than for women ages 35-44).

Figures

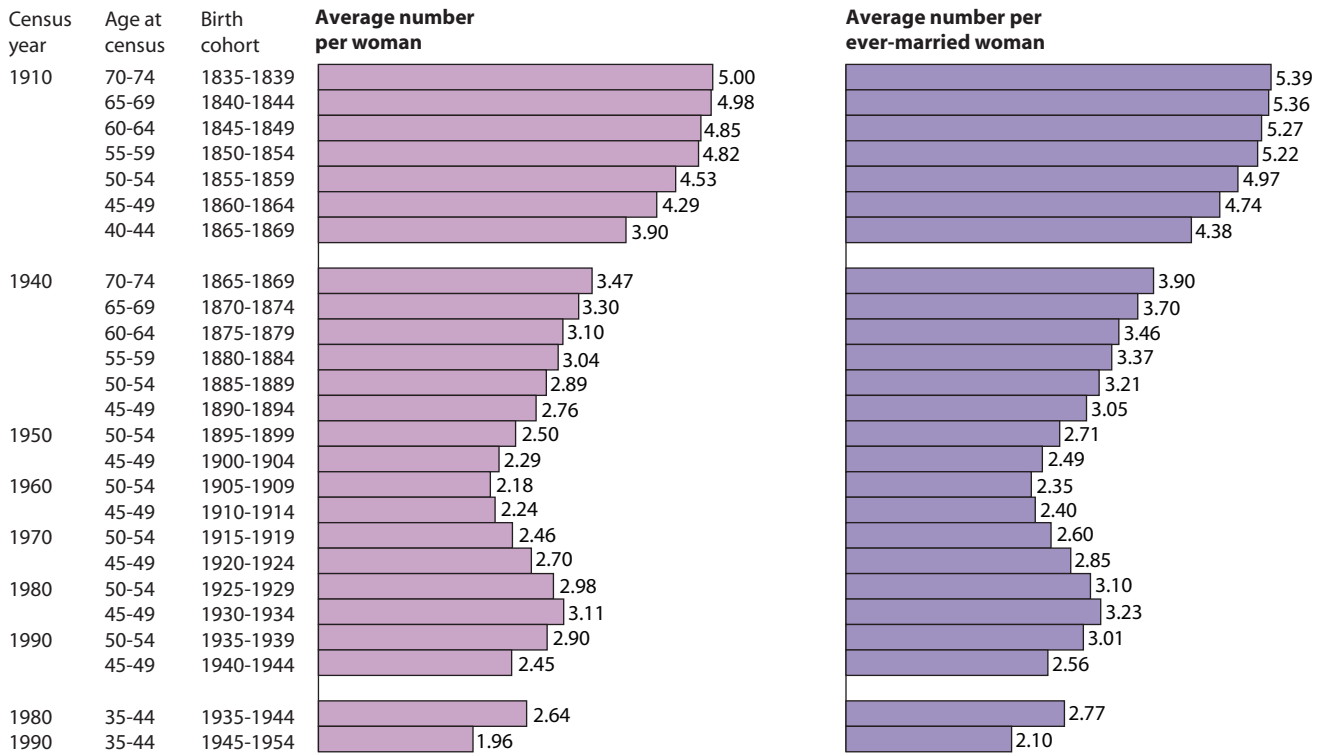
- 8-1. Lifetime Childbearing of Women by Birth Cohort and Age for the United States: Selected Birth Cohorts, 1835-1839 to 1945-1954
- 8-2. Lifetime Childbearing of Women by Birth Cohort and Age for the United States by Region: Selected Birth Cohorts, 1835-1859 to 1945-1954
- 8-3. Child-Woman Ratio for the United States, 1830 to 2000, and by Region, 1830, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

Figure 8-1.

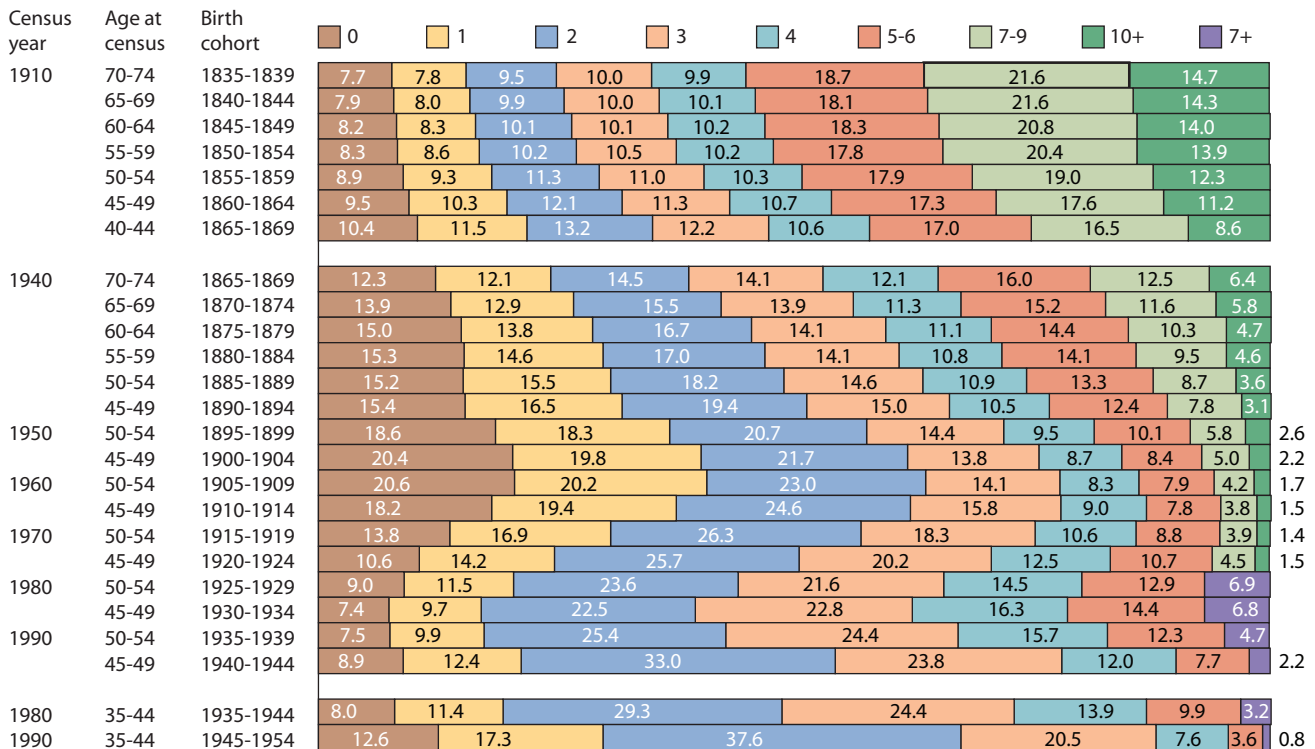
Lifetime Childbearing of Women by Birth Cohort and Age for the United States: Selected Birth Cohorts, 1835–1839 to 1945–1954

(See text)

CHILDREN EVER BORN



DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN BY NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN

Sources: Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 8-2.

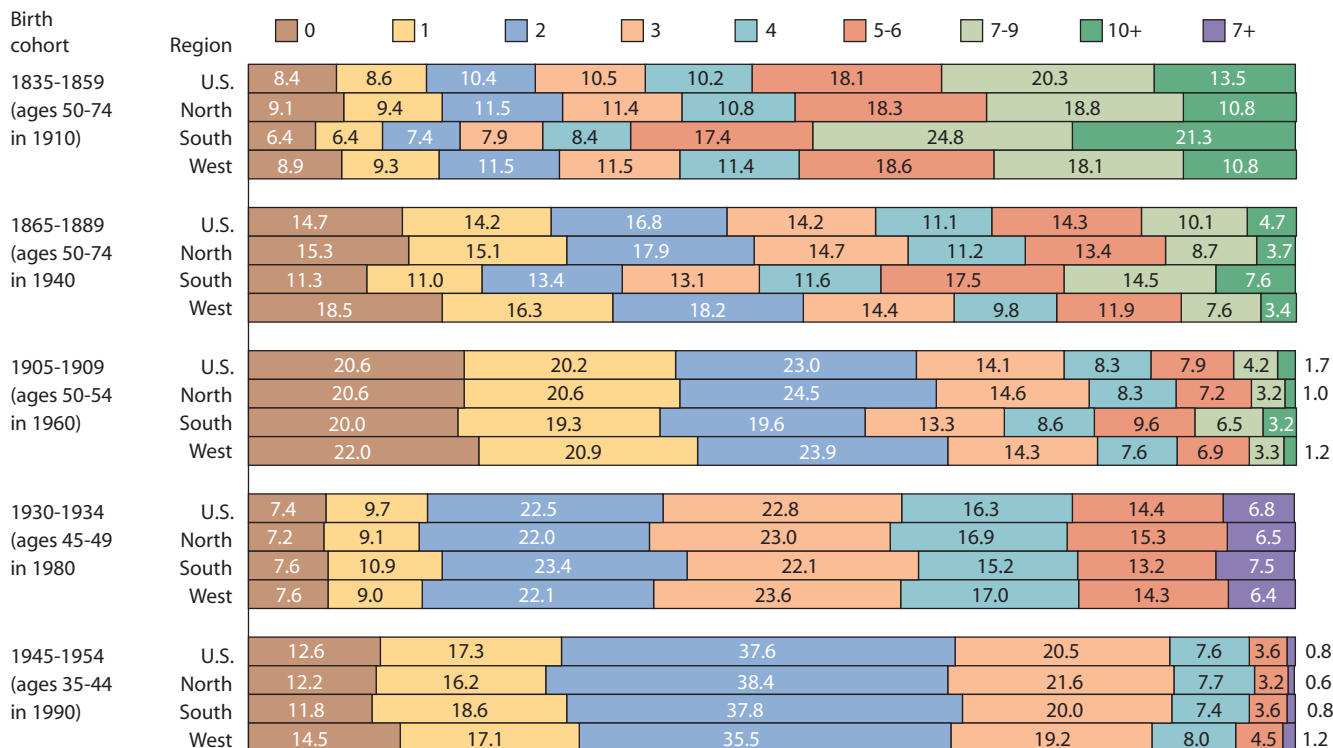
Lifetime Childbearing of Women by Birth Cohort and Age for the United States by Region: Selected Birth Cohorts, 1835–1859 to 1945–1954

(See text)

CHILDREN EVER BORN



DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN BY NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN

Sources: Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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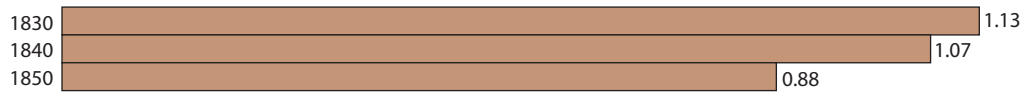
Figure 8-3.

Child-Woman Ratio for the United States, 1830 to 2000, and by Region, 1830, 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

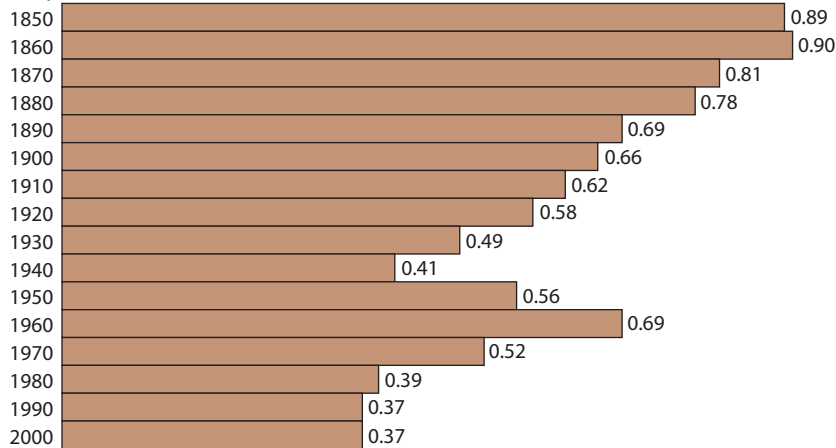
(Ratio of population under age 5 to female population ages 20-44)

UNITED STATES

White

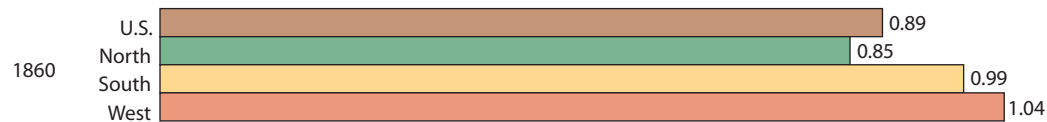
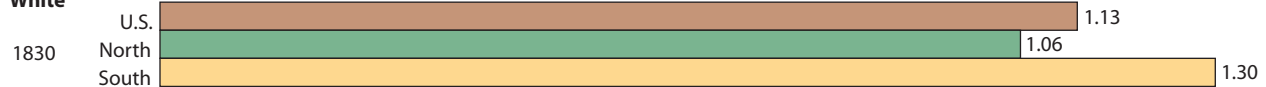


Total (all races)

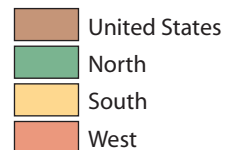
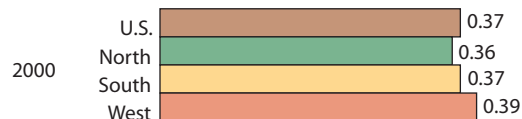
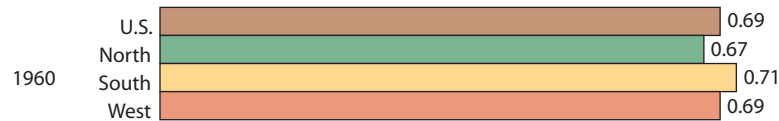
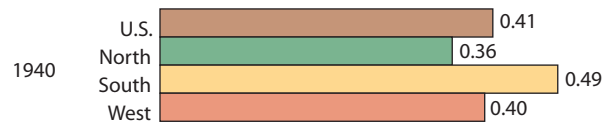
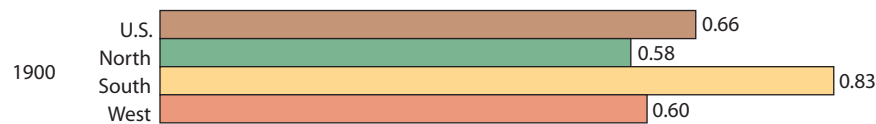
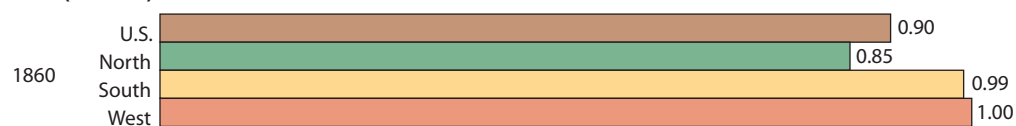


REGION

White



Total (all races)



Sources: Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Chapter 9. School Attendance

A question on school attendance has been asked on every census since 1850. In 1850 and 1860, the question was limited to the free population, and it is assumed here in showing data for the total population that there was no school attendance for the slave population. Data published on school attendance for 1850 to 1880 were classified by sex but not by age, and for the purposes of calculating percentages attending school, it is assumed that they apply to the population ages 5-19. In Figures 9-1 and 9-2, percentages attending school are shown for various age groups, reflecting the data published from each census.

The census question on school attendance has been made more restrictive over time. In general, the question referred to attendance at any time during the preceding year for 1850-1900, and since the preceding September 1 for 1910-1930. Starting in 1940, the question was limited to attendance in “regular” schools, leading, for example, to an elementary or high school diploma or to a college degree. In the 1940-2000 period, the reference day for the census was April 1. The question on school attendance was limited to attendance since the preceding March 1 in 1940 and since the preceding February 1 in the 1950-2000 period. As a result of all these changes and considering that school attendance may frequently have been sporadic in some areas, especially in the late 19th century, the data are not totally comparable over time. In addition, data for 1990 do not appear to be strictly comparable to data for 1980 and 2000 due to differences in the questions asked on the census. For this reason, data for 1990 in Figure 1 are shown with a space after data for 1980 and before data for 2000.

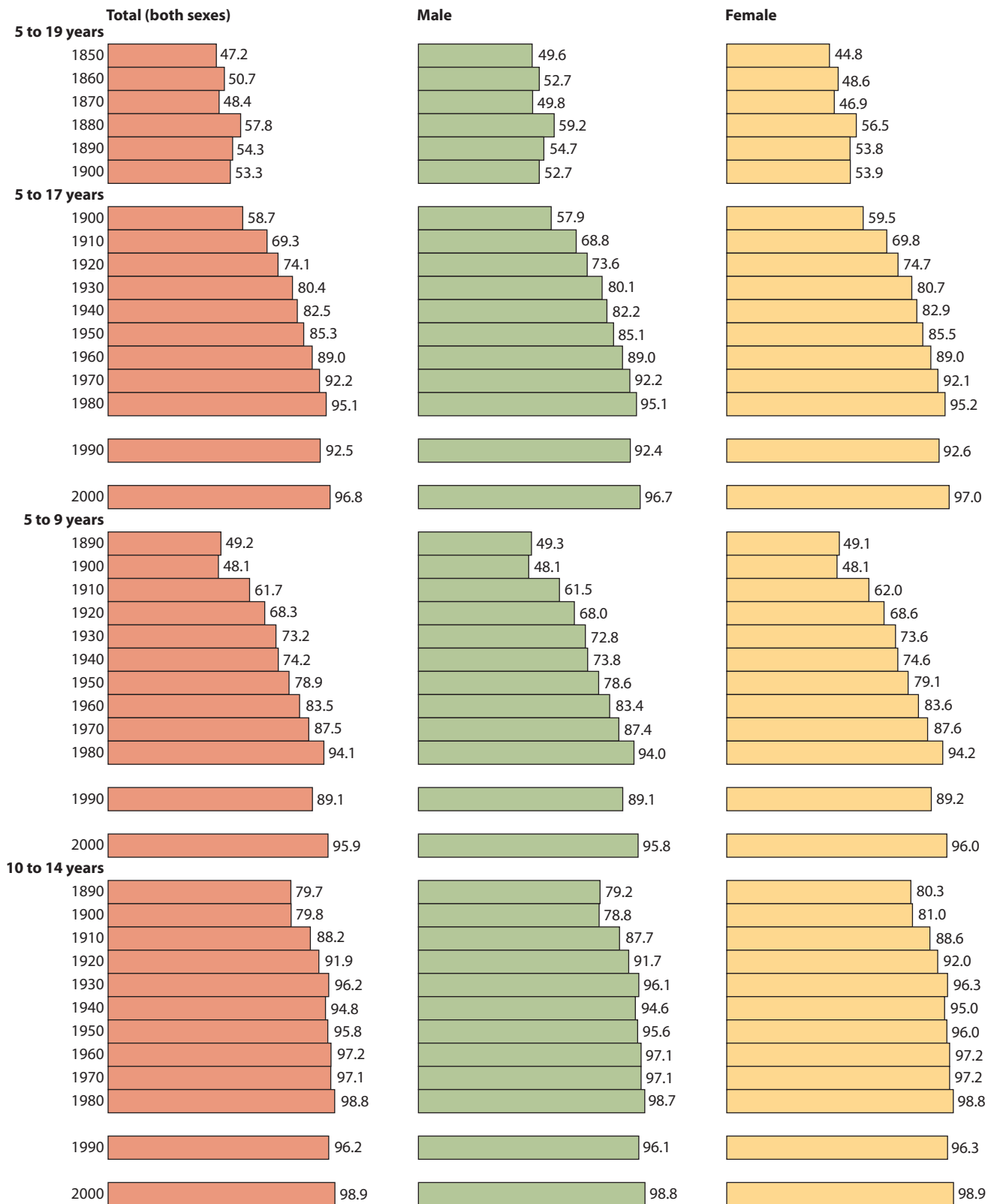
Figures

- 9-1. Percent Attending School by Sex and Age of the Population for the United States: 1850 to 2000
- 9-2. Percent Attending School by Sex and Age of the Population in Selected Broad Age Groups for the United States by Region: 1860, 1900, 1920, 1940, 1970, and 2000

Figure 9-1.

Percent Attending School by Sex and Age of the Population for the United States: 1850 to 2000

(Data for 1850 and 1860 assume no school attendance for the slave population)



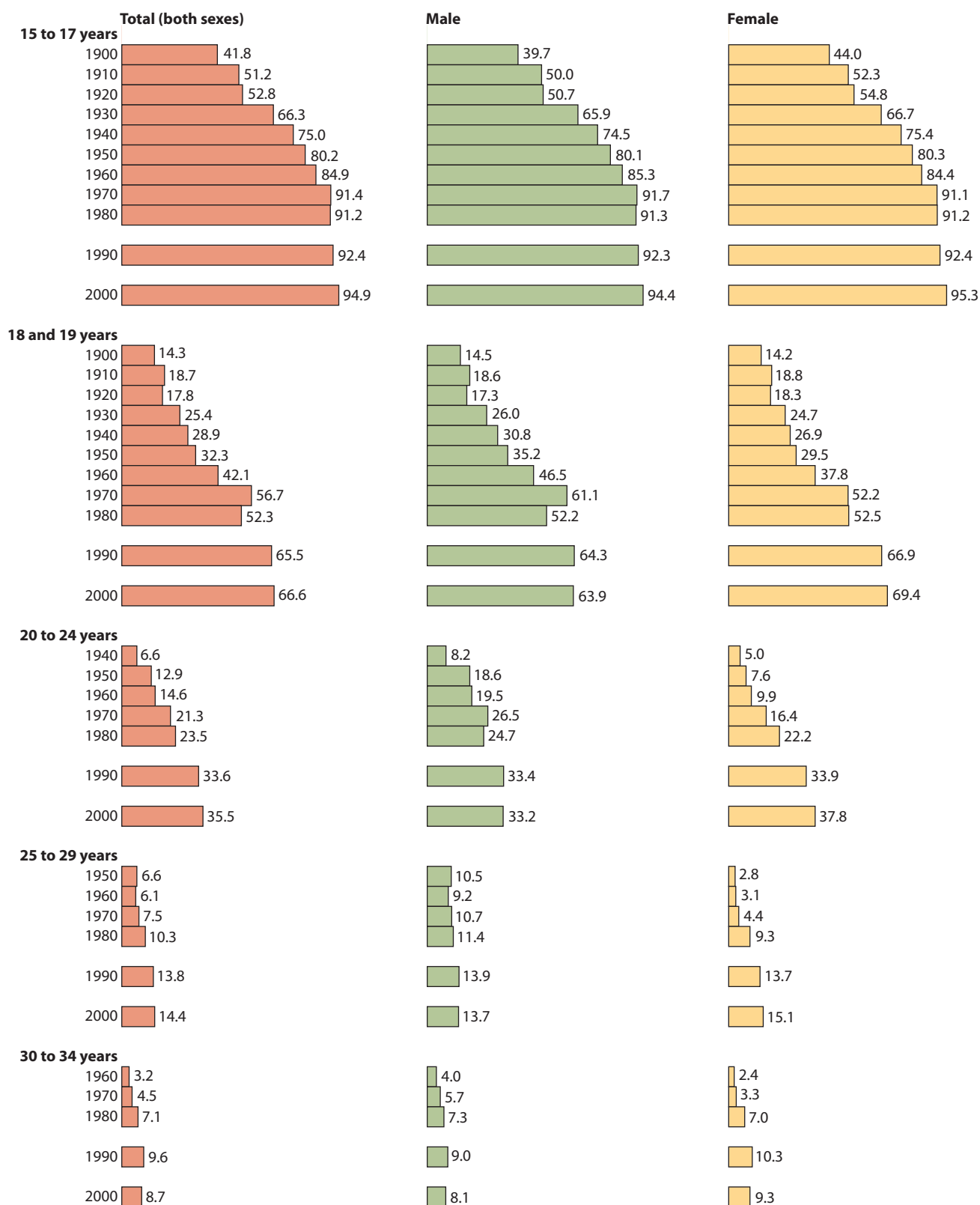
Sources: Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 9-1.

Percent Attending School by Sex and Age of the Population for the United States: 1850 to 2000—Con.



Sources: Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

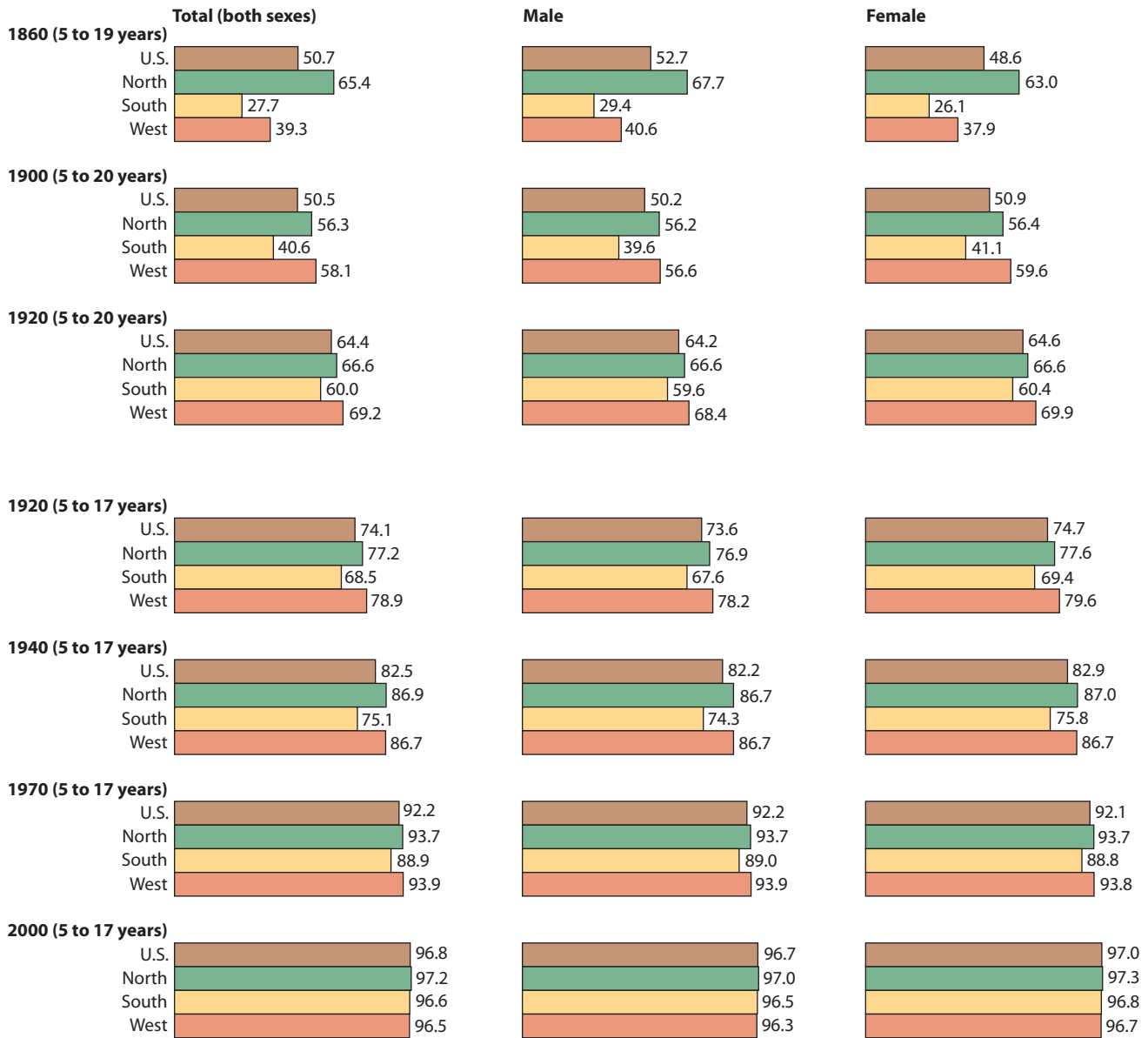
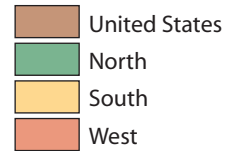
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Figure 9-2.

Percent Attending School by Sex and Age of the Population in Selected Broad Age Groups for the United States by Region: 1860, 1900, 1920, 1940, 1970, and 2000

(Data for 1860 assume no school attendance for the slave population)



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Chapter 10. Education: Illiteracy and Educational Attainment

The census did not include a question on educational attainment (e.g., in the form of years of school completed, or diplomas and degrees) until 1940. Prior to that, the only questions on education from 1840 to 1930 were on the ability to read and/or write (in any language), and these questions were limited to the free population prior to 1870. Based on the data collected, information on illiteracy can be presented in the form of the percent illiterate (i.e., the percent of persons who were not able to both read and write). Data for 1840 are not shown here because the form of data collection (tallies of the number of household members rather than data for each individual) raises issues of comparability and because the data are not available by sex. In addition, information collected on illiteracy in 1850 and 1860 is not totally comparable with data collected in subsequent censuses; however, data for 1850 and 1860 are included here with the assumption that all slaves were illiterate.

Data on educational attainment were collected in the census starting in 1940. From 1940 to 1980, the data were collected in the form of years of school completed. In 1990 and 2000, data on the highest level of school completed were collected in the form of diploma (e.g., high school) or degree (e.g., college), with highest grade completed for those without a high school diploma. Thus data on educational attainment for 1980 and 1990 are not totally comparable. The summary measures of educational attainment shown are the percentages with a high school diploma (or years of high school completed) and with a bachelor's degree (or 4 or more years of college completed). It is unfortunate that data on educational attainment were not collected in the census until 1940; however, the educational attainment of the population 25 years and over in previous censuses can be estimated based on 1940 data for the population 35+ in 1930, 45+ in 1920, and 55+ in 1910, although the estimates are subject to some error for various reasons, including the potential effects of immigration and mortality on population composition. The following estimates were developed by John K. Folger and Charles B. Nam (1967), *Education of the American Population*. Their estimates of the percentages with less than 5 years of school, 4 years of high school or more education, and 4 or more years of college, respectively, are as follows: for 1910 -- 23.8, 13.5, and 2.7; 1920 -- 22.0, 16.4, and 3.3; and 1930 -- 17.5, 19.1, and 3.9. The corresponding percentages for 1940, as shown in Figure 10-3, are 13.7, 24.5, and 4.6.

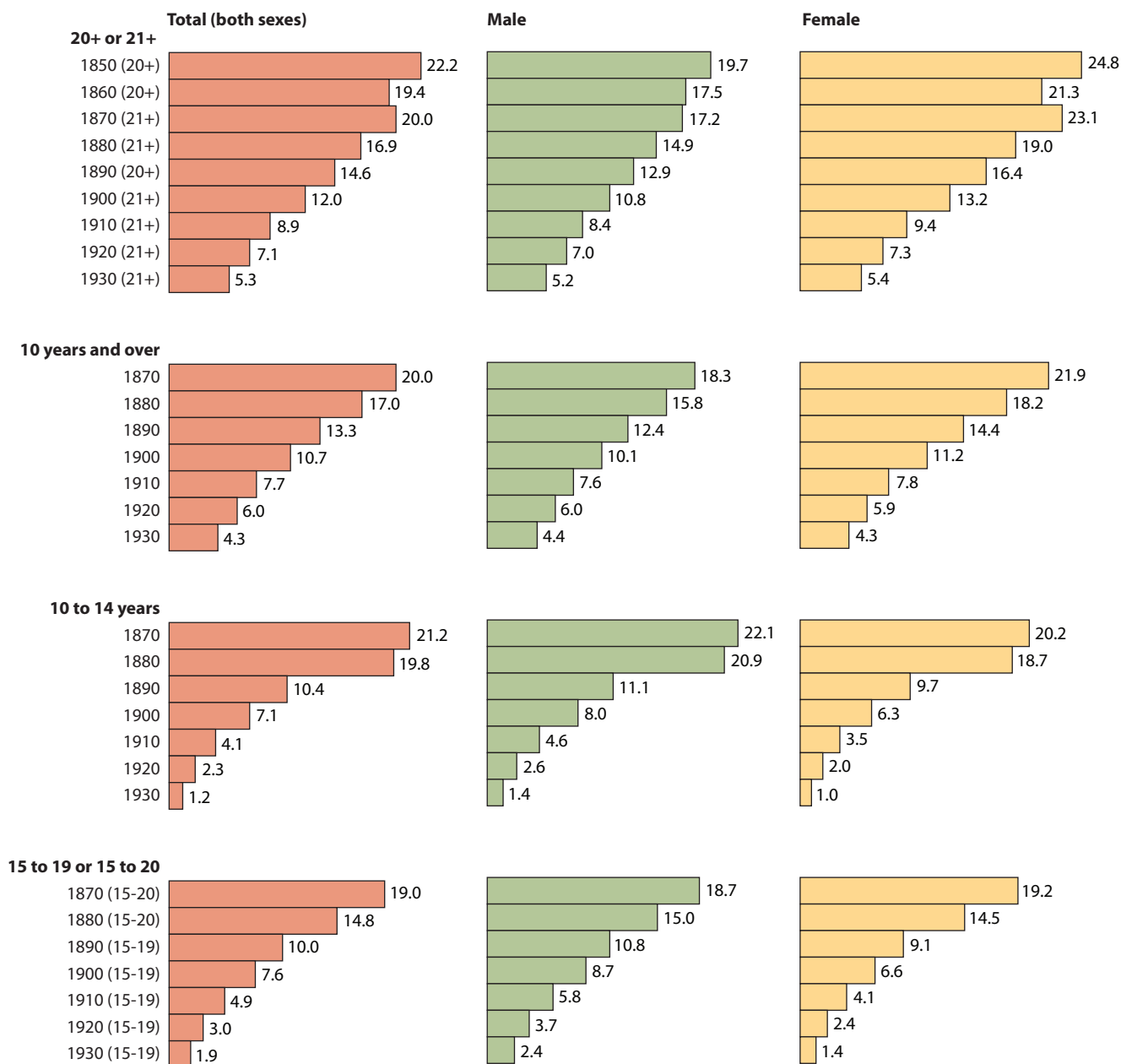
Figures

- 10-1. Percent Illiterate by Sex and Age of the Population for the United States: 1850 to 1930
- 10-2. Percent Illiterate by Sex and Broad Age Group of the Population for the United States by Region: 1860, 1880, 1900, and 1930
- 10-3. Detailed Educational Attainment of the Population 25 Years and Over by Sex for the United States: 1940 to 2000
- 10-4. Educational Attainment of the Population 25 Years and Over by Sex and Age for the United States: 1940 to 2000
- 10-5. Detailed Educational Attainment of the Population 25 Years and Over by Sex for the United States by Region: 1940, 1970, 2000

Figure 10-1.

Percent Illiterate by Sex and Age of the Population for the United States: 1850 to 1930

(Data for 1850 and 1860 assume 100 percent illiteracy for the slave population)



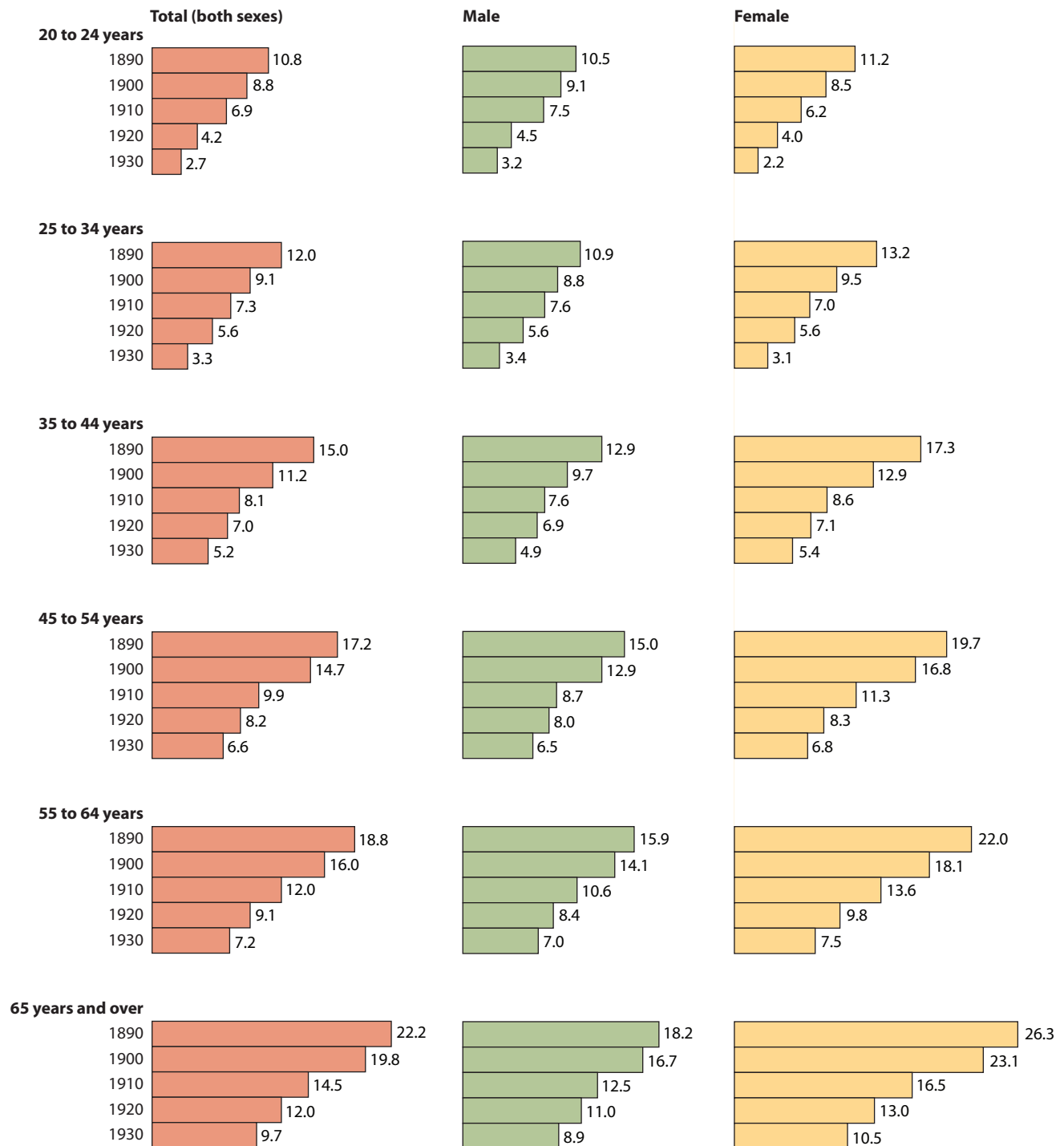
Sources: Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 10-1.

Percent Illiterate by Sex and Age of the Population for the United States: 1850 to 1930—Con.



Sources: Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, *References*.

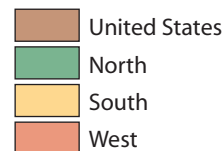
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Figure 10-2.

Percent Illiterate by Sex and Broad Age Group of the Population for the United States by Region: 1860, 1880, 1900, and 1930

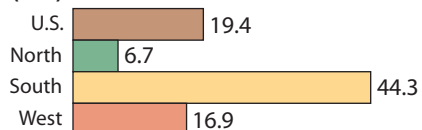
(Data for 1860 assume 100 percent illiteracy for the slave population)



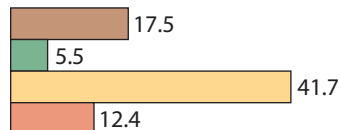
20 OR 21 YEARS AND OVER

Total (both sexes)

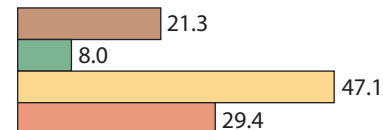
1860 (20+)



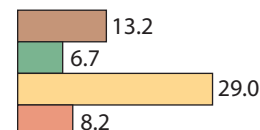
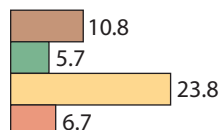
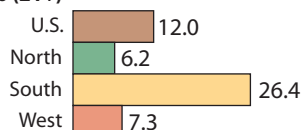
Male



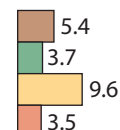
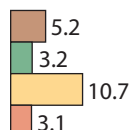
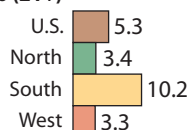
Female



1900 (21+)

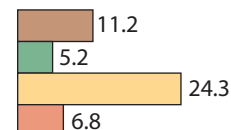
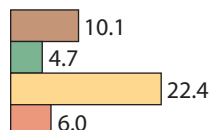
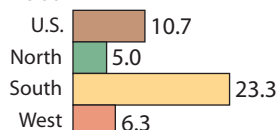


1930 (21+)

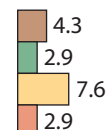
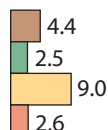
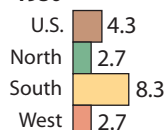


10 YEARS AND OVER

1900



1930



Sources: Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

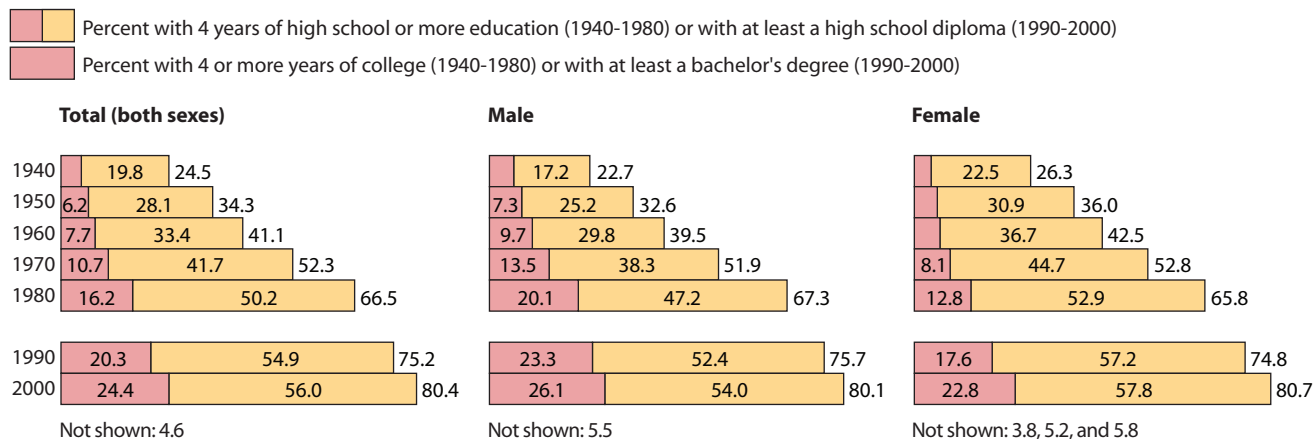
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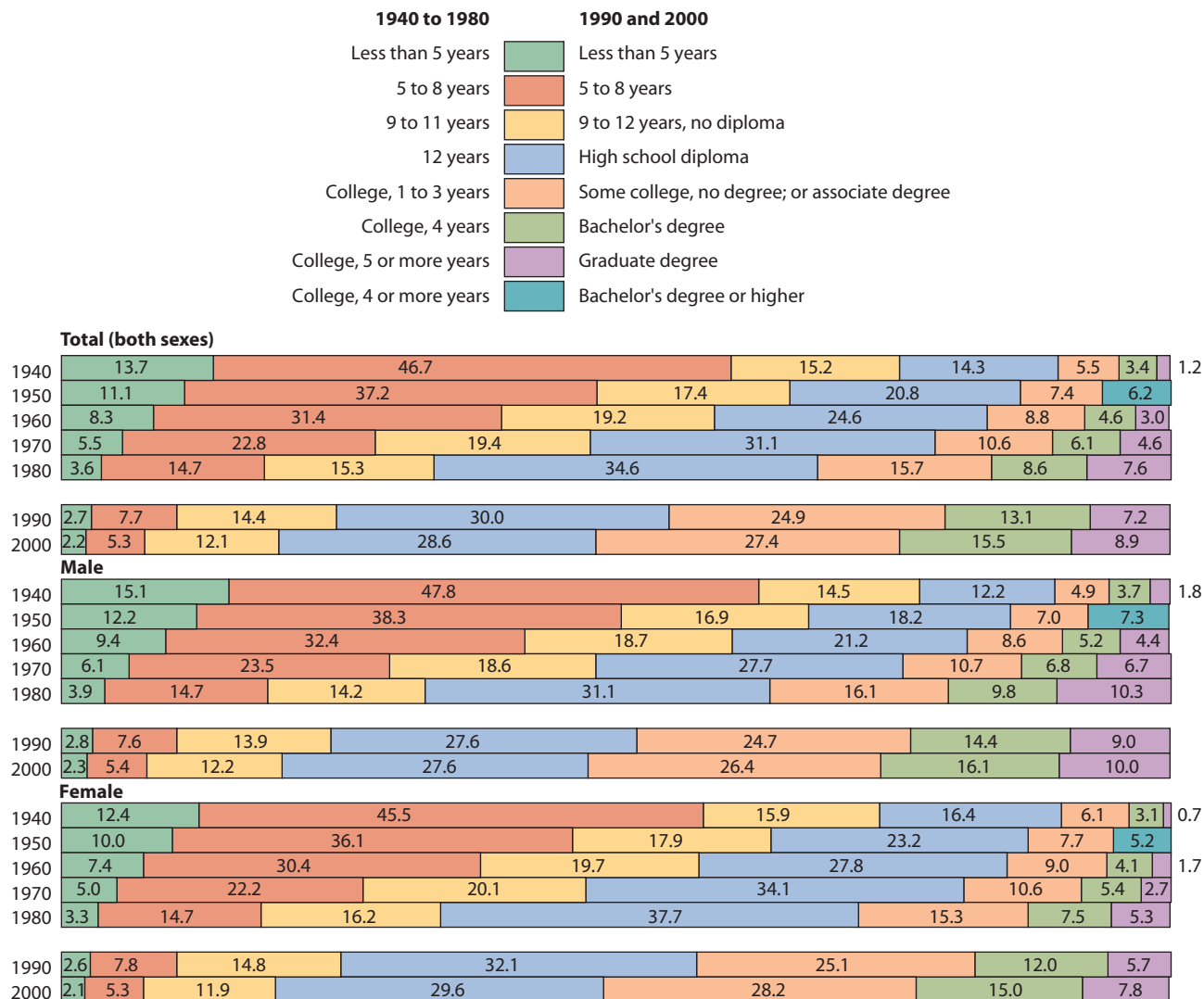
Figure 10-3.

Detailed Educational Attainment of the Population 25 Years and Over by Sex for the United States: 1940 to 2000

HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE EDUCATION



PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



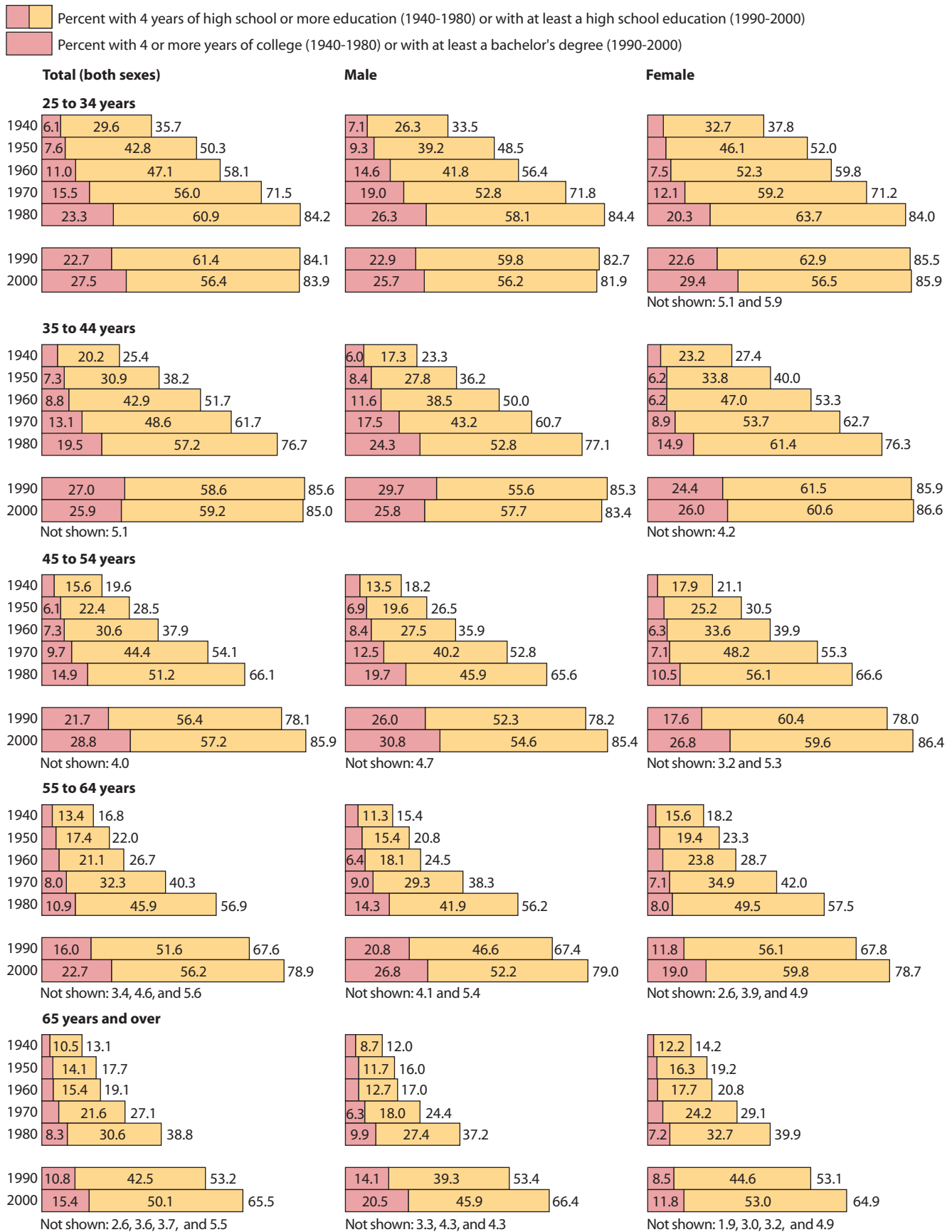
Sources: Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 10-4.

Educational Attainment of the Population 25 Years and Over by Sex and Age for the United States: 1940 to 2000

Sources: Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

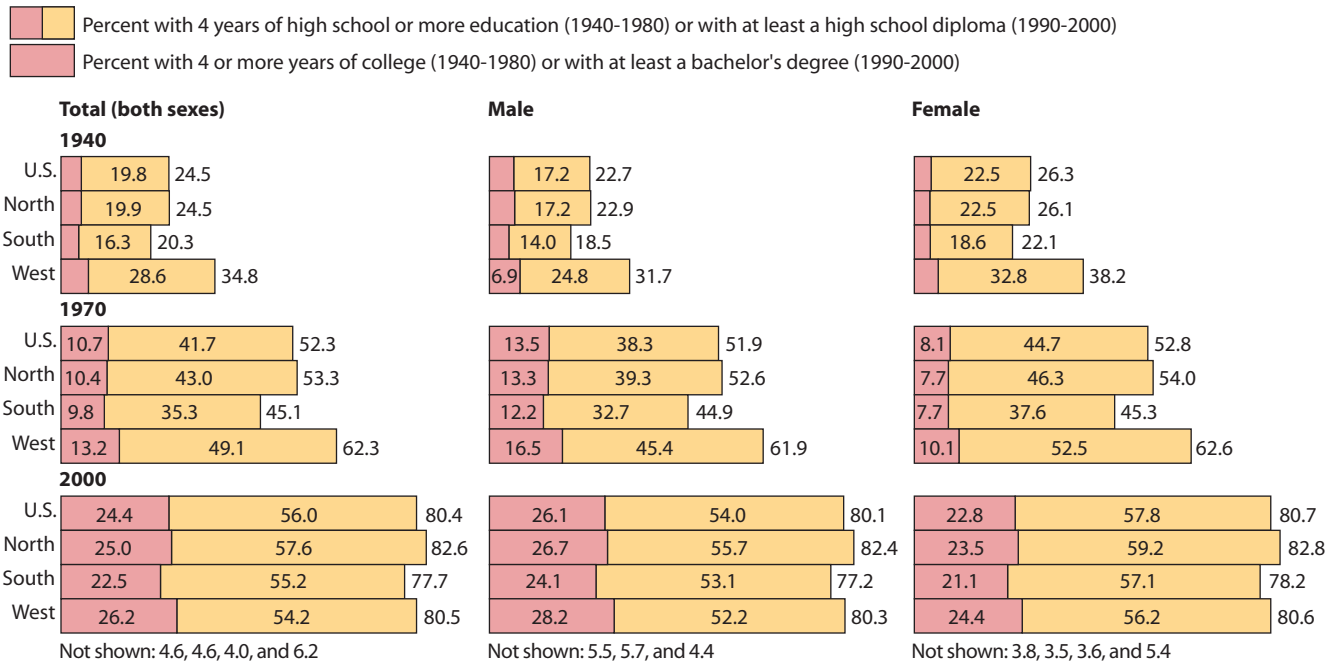
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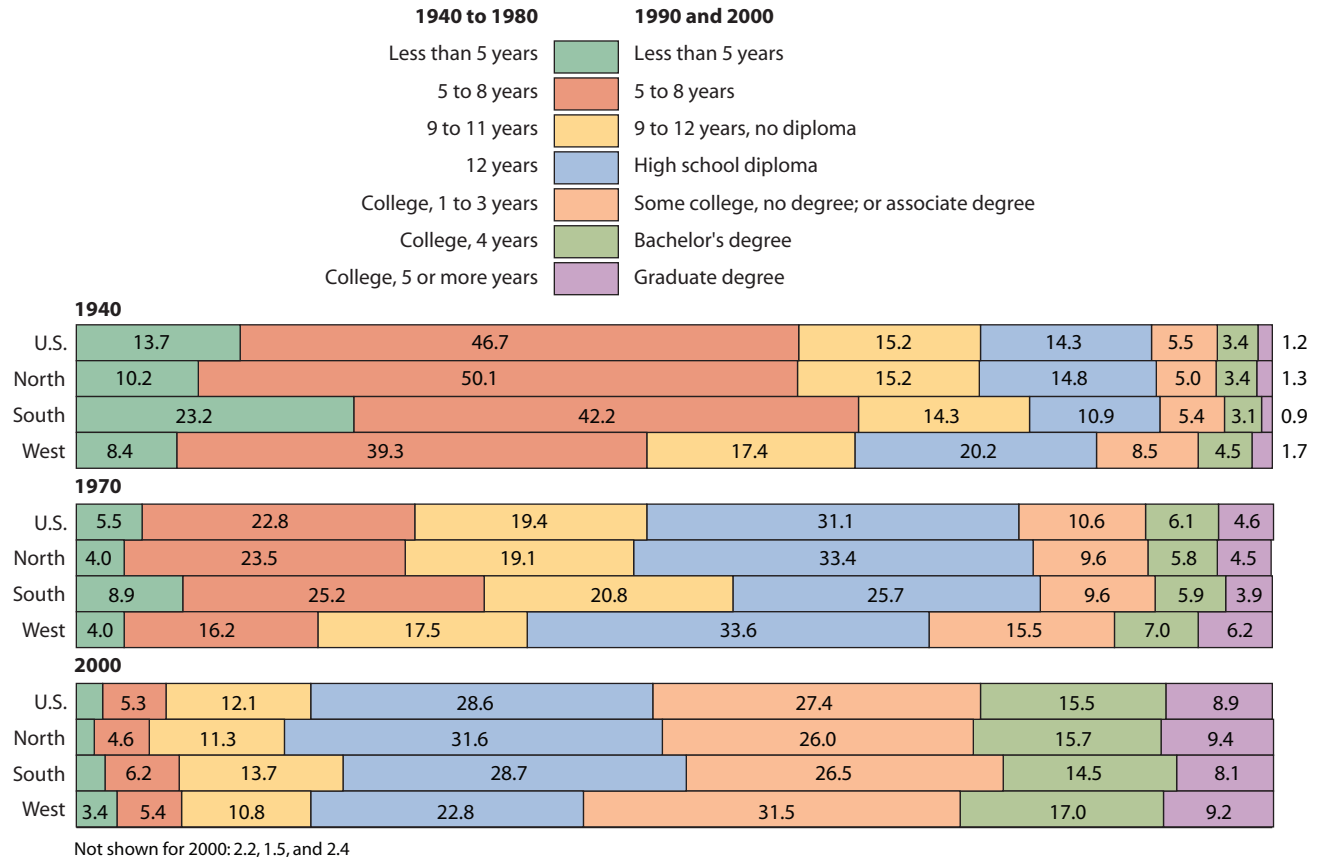
Figure 10-5.

Detailed Educational Attainment of the Population 25 Years and Over by Sex for the United States by Region: 1940, 1970, 2000

HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE EDUCATION



PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (BOTH SEXES)



Sources: Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Chapter 11. Nativity, Place of Birth, and Internal Migration

A question on place of birth has been included in the decennial census since 1850. Information collected on this item has been used to identify the state in the United States or outlying area of the United States (e.g., Puerto Rico) or foreign country in which each individual was born. Data on the native and foreign-born population are generally consistent over time, although the definition of the native population has been refined. Since 1890, the individuals who were born in a foreign country, but who had at least one parent who was a U.S. citizen, have been defined as native rather than as foreign born. Since 1890, the native population has been defined to include all individuals who were born in the United States, born in an outlying area of the United States, or born in a foreign country with one or both parents U.S. citizens. The native population is thus the population with U.S. citizenship at birth, regardless of place of birth.

For the native population born in the United States, information on state of residence and state of birth together provides a rough measure of lifetime migration among states which can be cumulated to show interregional migration. The information does not specify when the migration occurred or anything about intermediate moves, but it does provide a general indication of lifetime migration over the preceding generation or two for the enumerated population. One weakness in these data is due to the increasing proportion of births occurring in hospitals in the 20th century because a person's state of birth may differ from his or her original state of residence. For example, in Figure 11-5, some of the 490,000 persons born in Washington, DC and living in Maryland in 2000 were born to mothers living in Maryland suburbs in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. The interpretation of trends in net lifetime interregional migration can be illustrated with reference to Figure 11-3. With no interregional migration after a certain date, the net figure will eventually become zero with the attrition by death of persons who migrated. An increase in a net in-migration (e.g., in the West until 1980) indicates continued net immigration to the region in each decade. Similarly, a net out-migration that becomes more negative (e.g., the North from 1930 to 2000) indicates continued net out-migration each decade. The data indicate a major change for the South from 1960 to 2000, from a sizable net out-migration to a sizable net immigration.

Figures

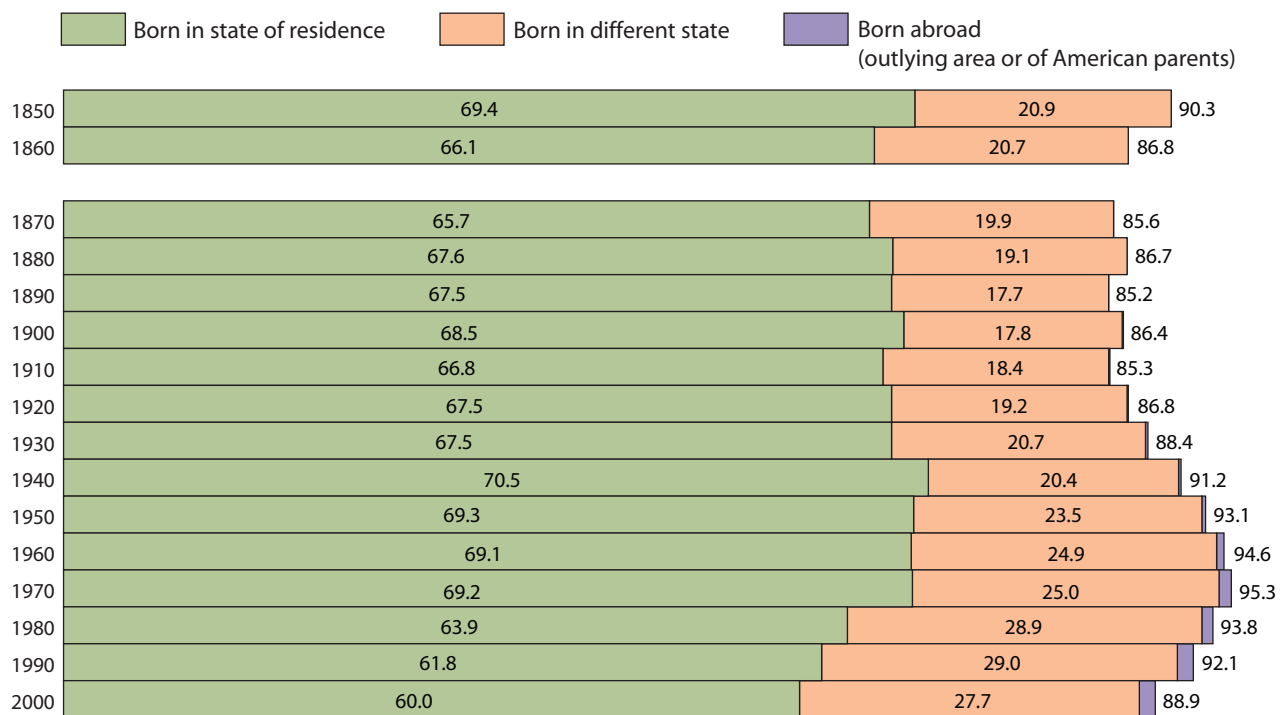
- 11-1. Nativity and Place of Birth of the Population for the United States: 1850 to 2000
- 11-2. Percent Distribution by Nativity and Place of Birth of the Population for the United States by Region: 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000
- 11-3. Net Lifetime Migration of the Population Born and Living in the United States for Regions: 1850 to 2000
- 11-4. Lifetime Migration Between Pairs of Regions for the Population Born and Living in the United States: 1850 to 2000
- 11-5. Ten Largest State-to-State Lifetime Migration Flows and Their Reverse Flows for the Population Born and Living in the United States: 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

Figure 11-1.

Nativity and Place of Birth of the Population for the United States: 1850 to 2000

(Data for 1850 and 1860 assume that the entire slave population was born in the United States)

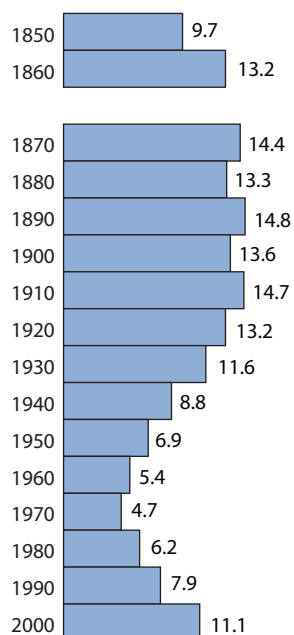
PERCENT NATIVE BY PLACE OF BIRTH



Percentages born abroad not shown on figure above:

1900	0.1	1930	0.2	1960	0.6	1990	1.3
1910	0.1	1940	0.2	1970	1.0	2000	1.3
1920	0.1	1950	0.3	1980	0.9		

PERCENT FOREIGN BORN



Sources: Joseph P. Ferrie (2006), "Internal Migration," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, Vol. 1, pp. 1-489 to 1-504. U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

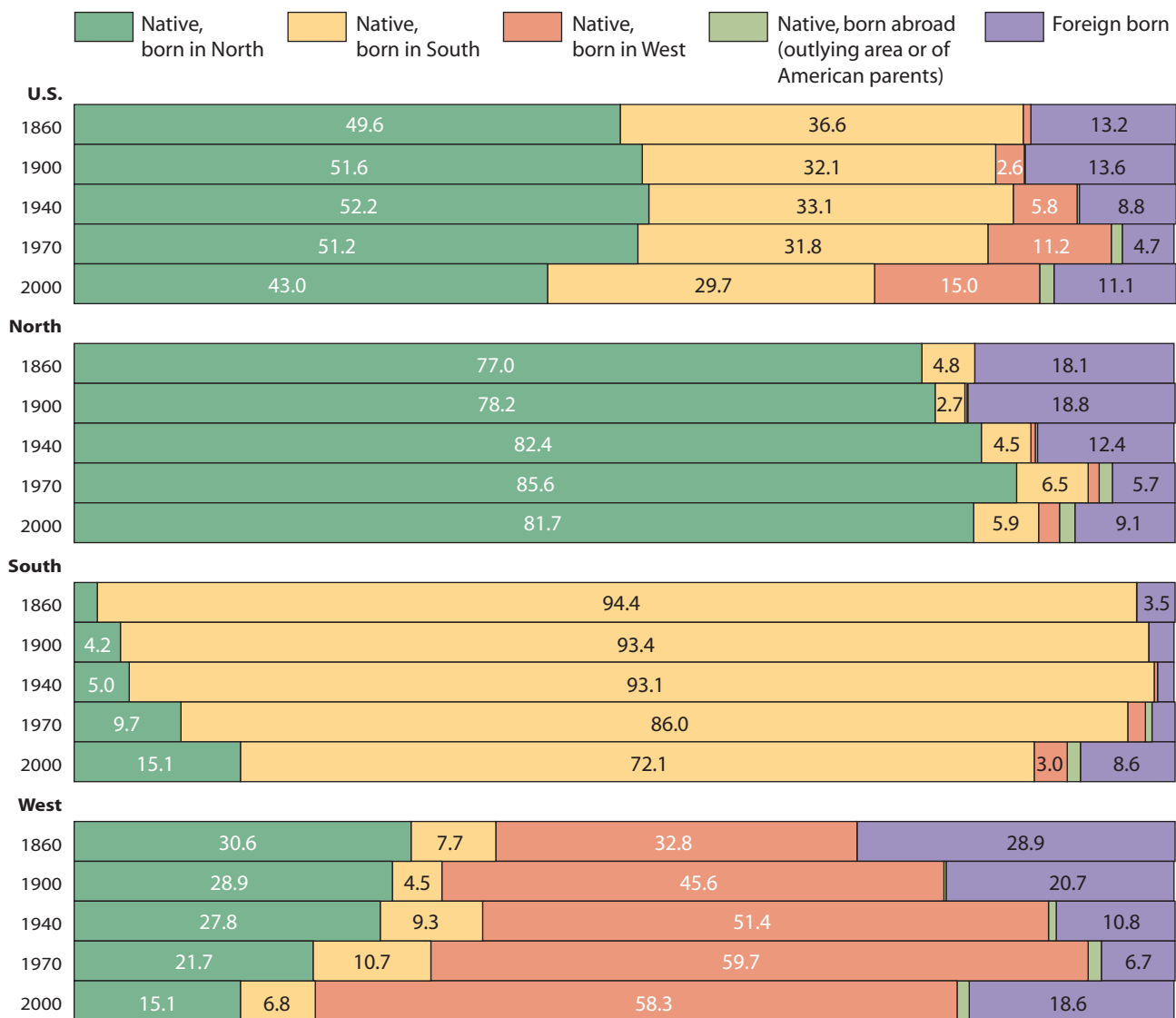
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Figure 11-2.

Percent Distribution by Nativity and Place of Birth of the Population for the United States: 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

(Data for 1860 assume that the entire slave population was born in the United States)



Percentages not shown on figure:

Born in West			Born in North			Born in West			Born abroad			Foreign born		
U.S.	1860	0.7	South	1860	2.1									
	1900			1900			0.1						2.3	
	1940	0.2		1940			0.3						1.5	
	1970	1.0		1970			1.6		0.6				2.1	
	2000	1.3		2000					1.2					
North	1860	0.0	West	1860										
	1900	0.2		1900					0.2					
	1940	0.4		1940					0.7					
	1970	1.0		1970					1.2					
	2000	1.9		2000					1.1					

Sources: Joseph P. Ferrie (2006), "Internal Migration," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, Vol. 1, pp. 1-489 to 1-504. U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

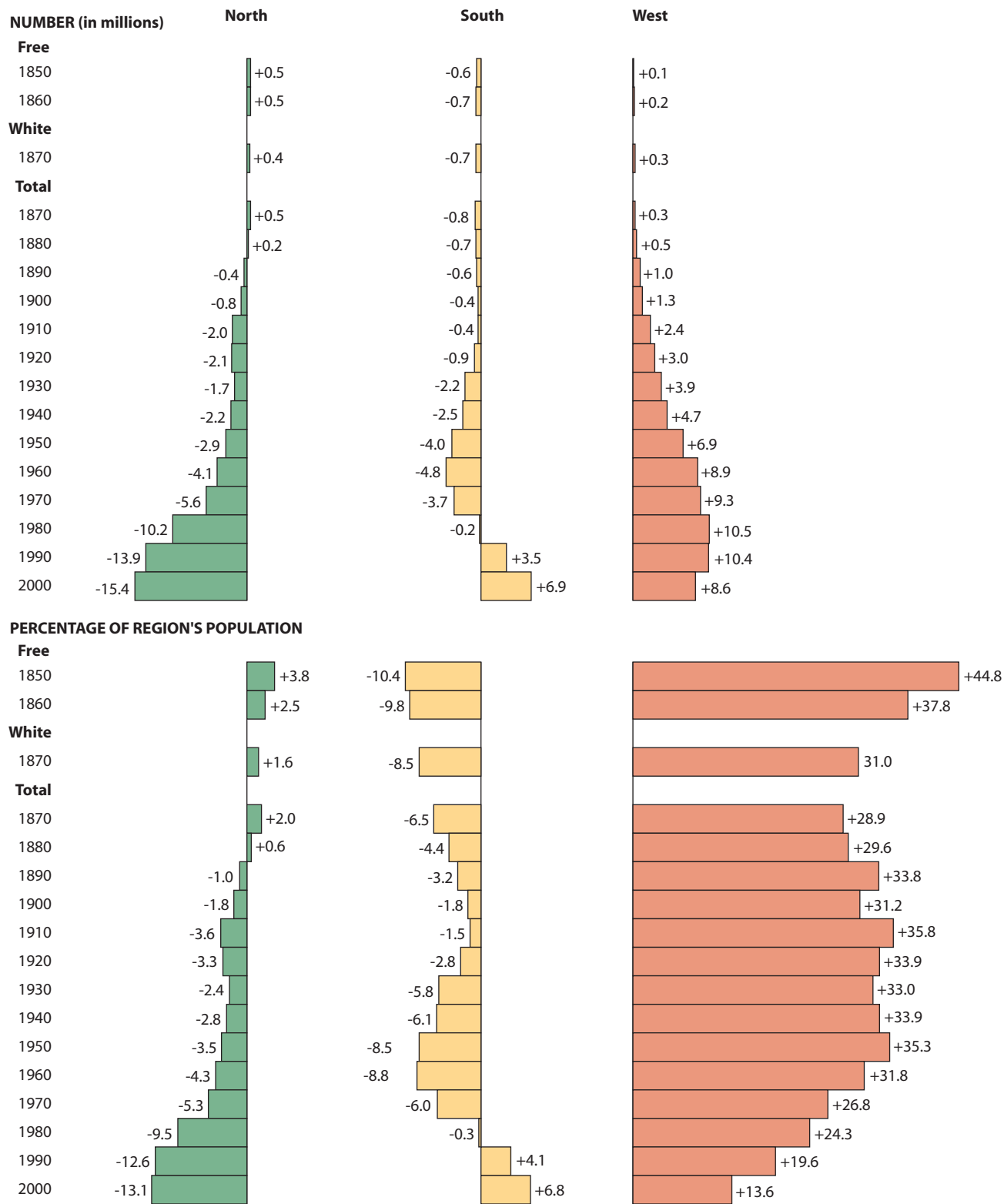
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Figure 11-3.

Net Lifetime Migration of the Population Born and Living in the United States for Regions: 1850 to 2000

(Data for 1850 and 1860 exclude the slave population)



Sources: Joseph P. Ferrie (2006), "Internal Migration," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, Vol. 1, pp. 1-489 to 1-504. U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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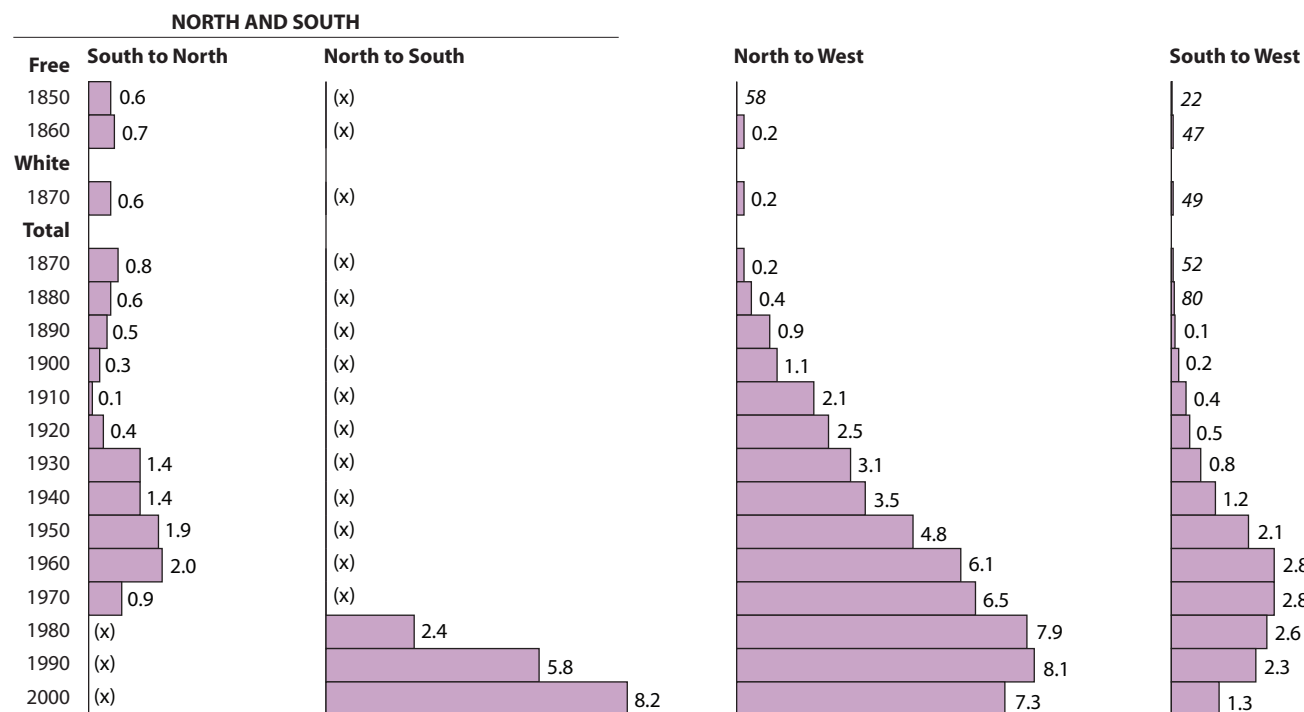
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Figure 11-4.

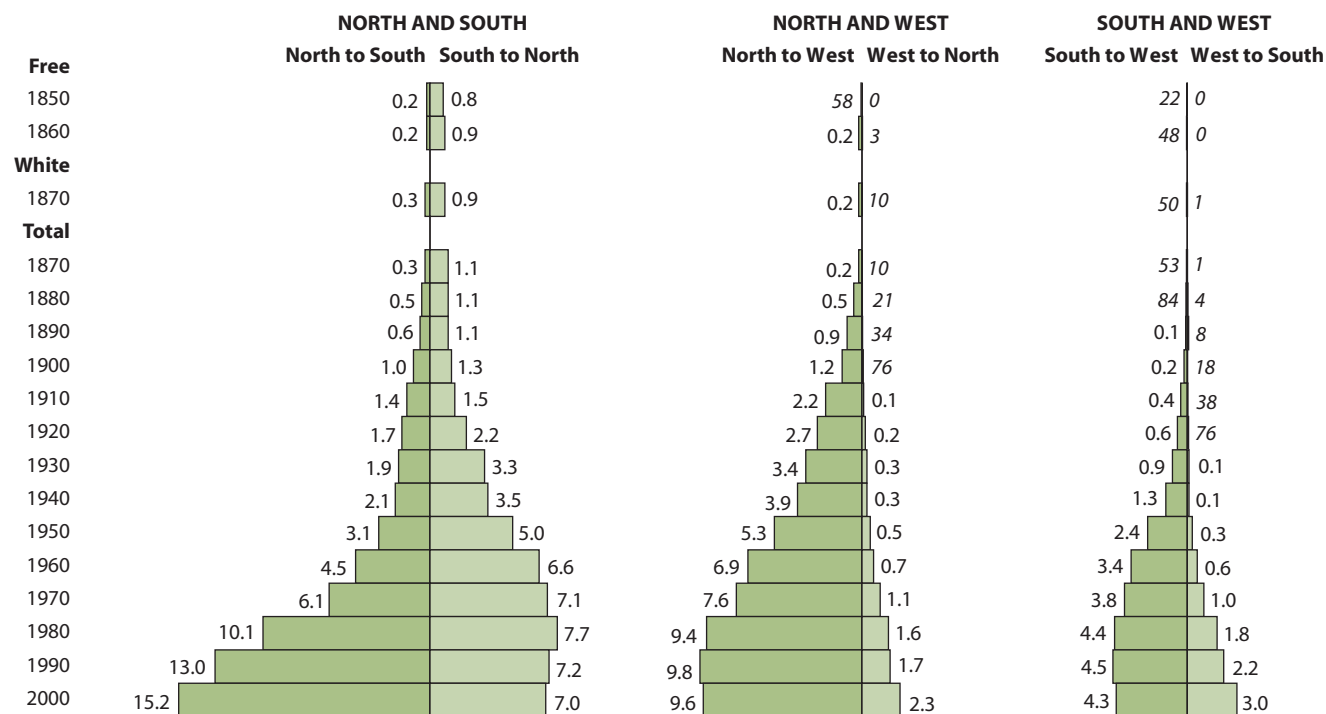
Lifetime Migration Between Pairs of Regions for the Population Born and Living in the United States: 1850 to 2000

(Numbers in millions except that numbers under 100,000 are shown in thousands in italics. Data for 1850 and 1860 exclude the slave population)

NET MIGRATION BETWEEN PAIRS OF REGIONS



GROSS MIGRATION BETWEEN PAIRS OF REGIONS



(x) Not applicable.

Sources: Joseph P. Ferrie (2006), "Internal Migration," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 1, Vol. 1, pp. 1-489 to 1-504. U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

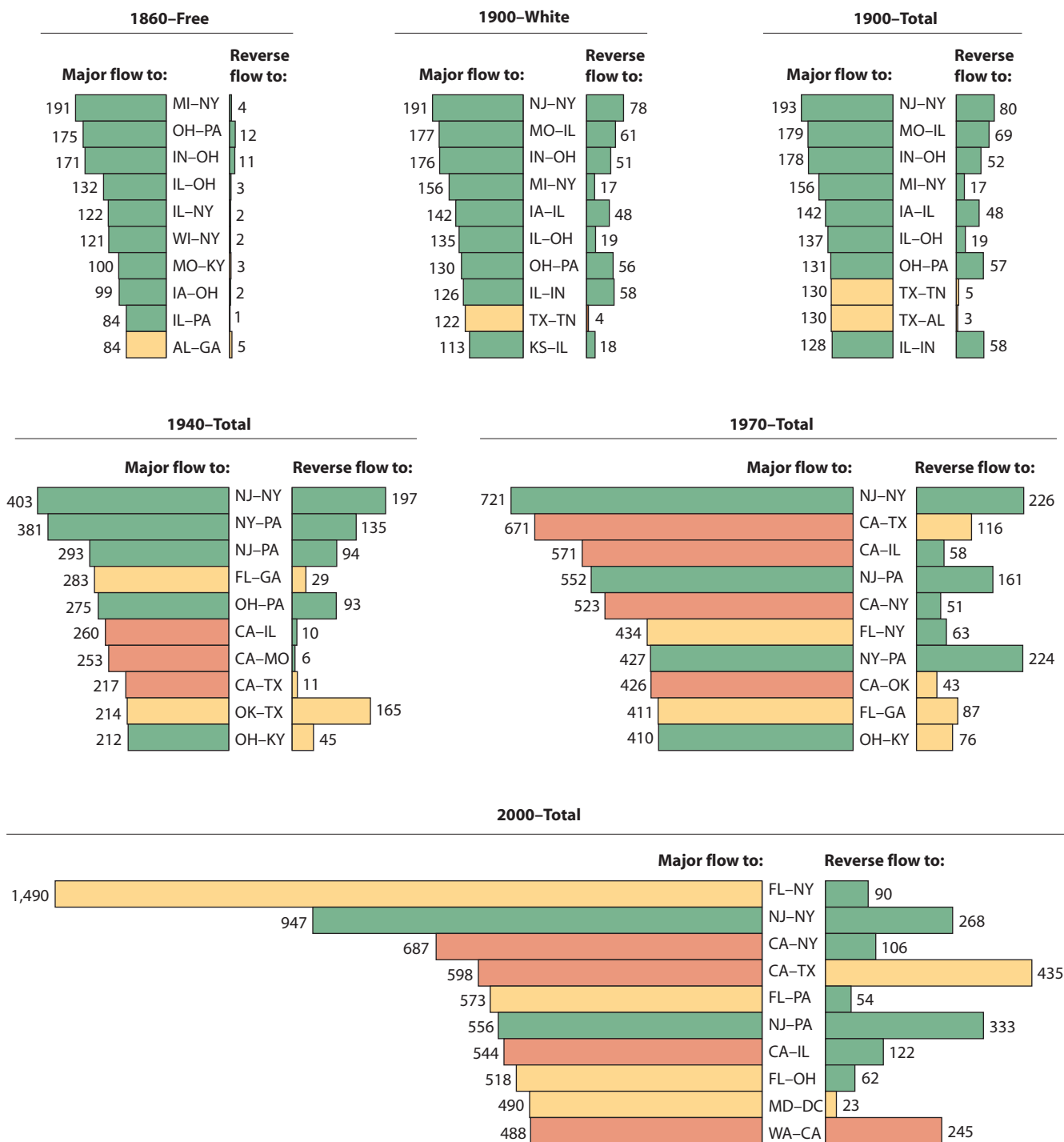
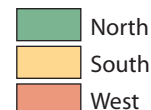
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Figure 11-5.

Ten Largest State-to-State Lifetime Migration Flows and Their Reverse Flows for the Population Born and Living in the United States: 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

(Numbers in thousands. Data for 1860 exclude the slave population)



U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Chapter 12. Foreign-Born Population

The graphics in this chapter show data on various characteristics of the foreign-born population, excluding country of birth which is covered in Chapter 13. Data shown on language reflect two different concepts, which are not comparable. Data 1910 to 1970 are for mother tongue, which is the language spoken in the person's home when he or she was a child. Data for 1980 to 2000 are for language spoken at home, which is not necessarily the same language as the person's mother tongue. While the data in the graphics in this chapter are from decennial census publications, the data are shown in time series format in Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division Working Paper No. 81, which includes also historical background on data on the foreign-born population. See [Data Sources](#).

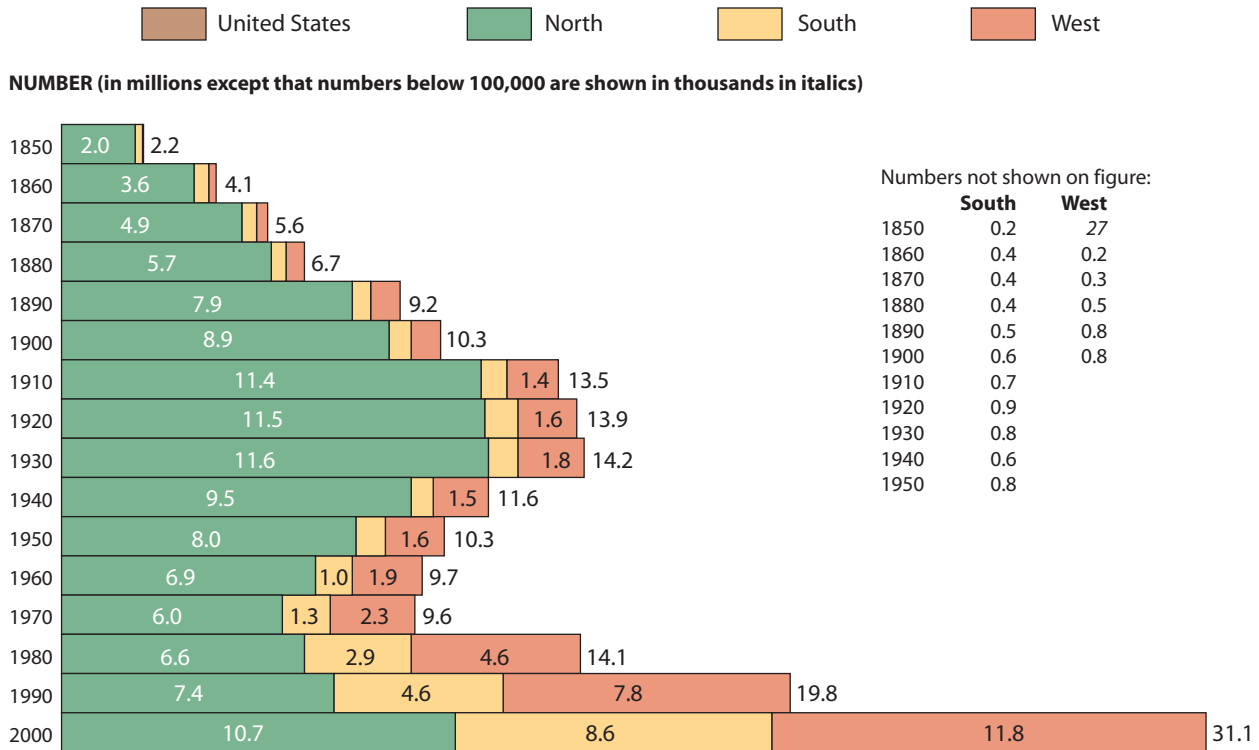
Figures

- 12-1. Foreign-Born Population for the United States by Region: 1850 to 2000
- 12-2. Ten States with the Largest Foreign-Born Population for the United States: 1850 to 2000
- 12-3. Ten States with the Highest Percentage of Population Foreign Born for the United States: 1850 to 2000
- 12-4. Percent Foreign Born in the Population of the Ten Largest Cities in the United States: 1850 to 2000
- 12-5. Age and Sex Structure of the Foreign-Born Population for the United States: 1870 to 2000
- 12-6. Length of Residence and Citizenship Status the Foreign-Born Population for the United States: 1890 to 2000
- 12-7. Ten Leading Languages of the Foreign-Born Population for the United States: 1910 to 2000

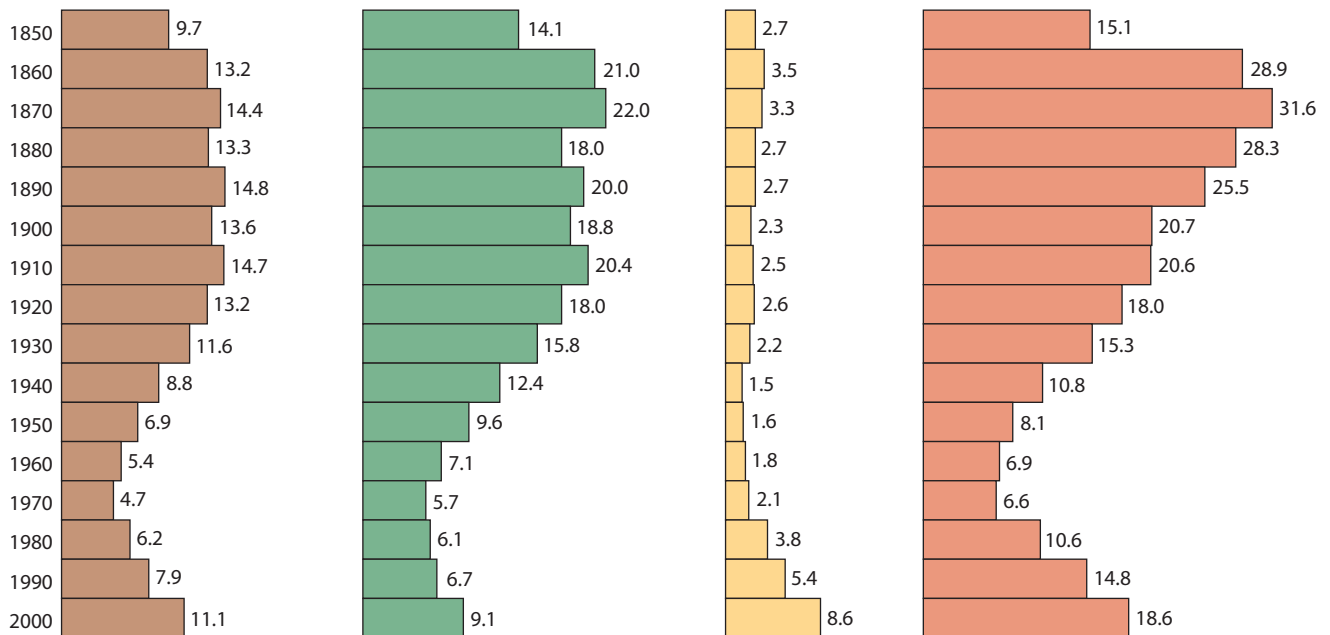
Figure 12-1.

Foreign-Born Population for the United States by Region: 1850 to 2000

(Data for 1850 and 1860 assume that the entire slave population was born in the United States)



PERCENT FOREIGN BORN IN POPULATION



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

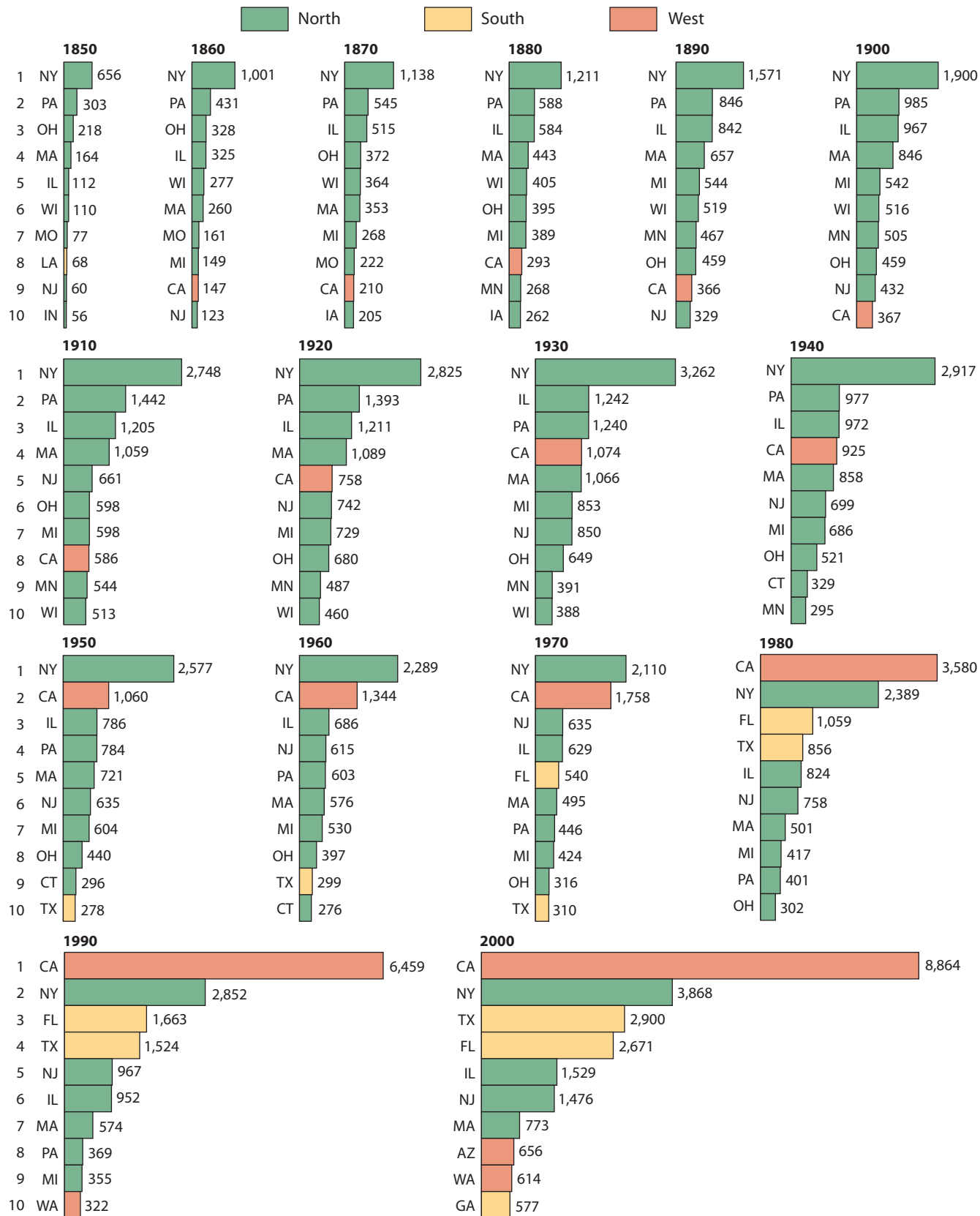
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Figure 12-2.

Ten States with the Largest Foreign-Born Population for the United States: 1850 to 2000

(Numbers in thousands. Data for 1850 and 1860 assume that the entire slave population was born in the United States)



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

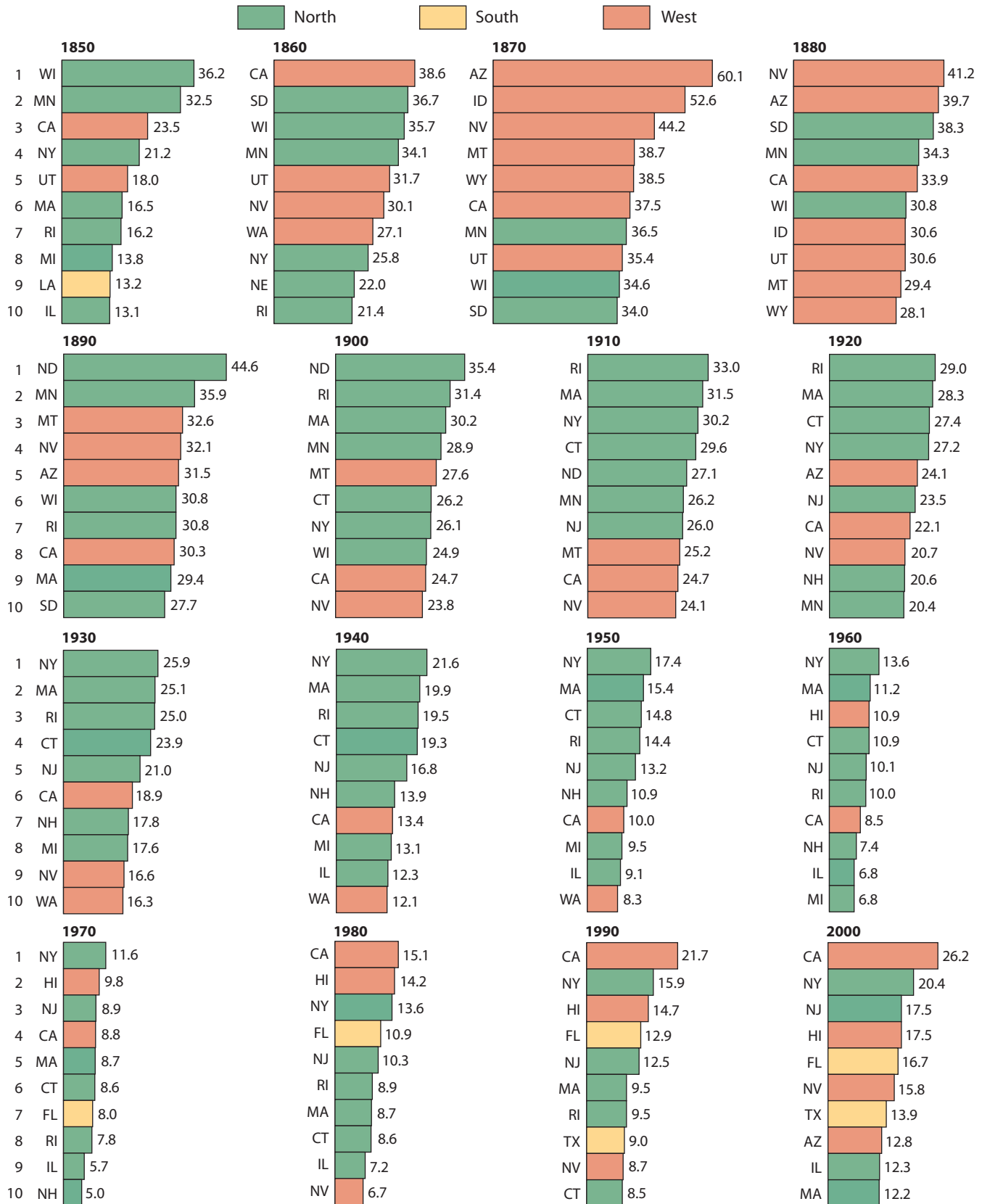
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Figure 12-3.

Ten States with the Highest Percentage of Population Foreign Born for the United States: 1850 to 2000

(Data for 1850 and 1860 assume that the entire slave population was born in the United States)



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

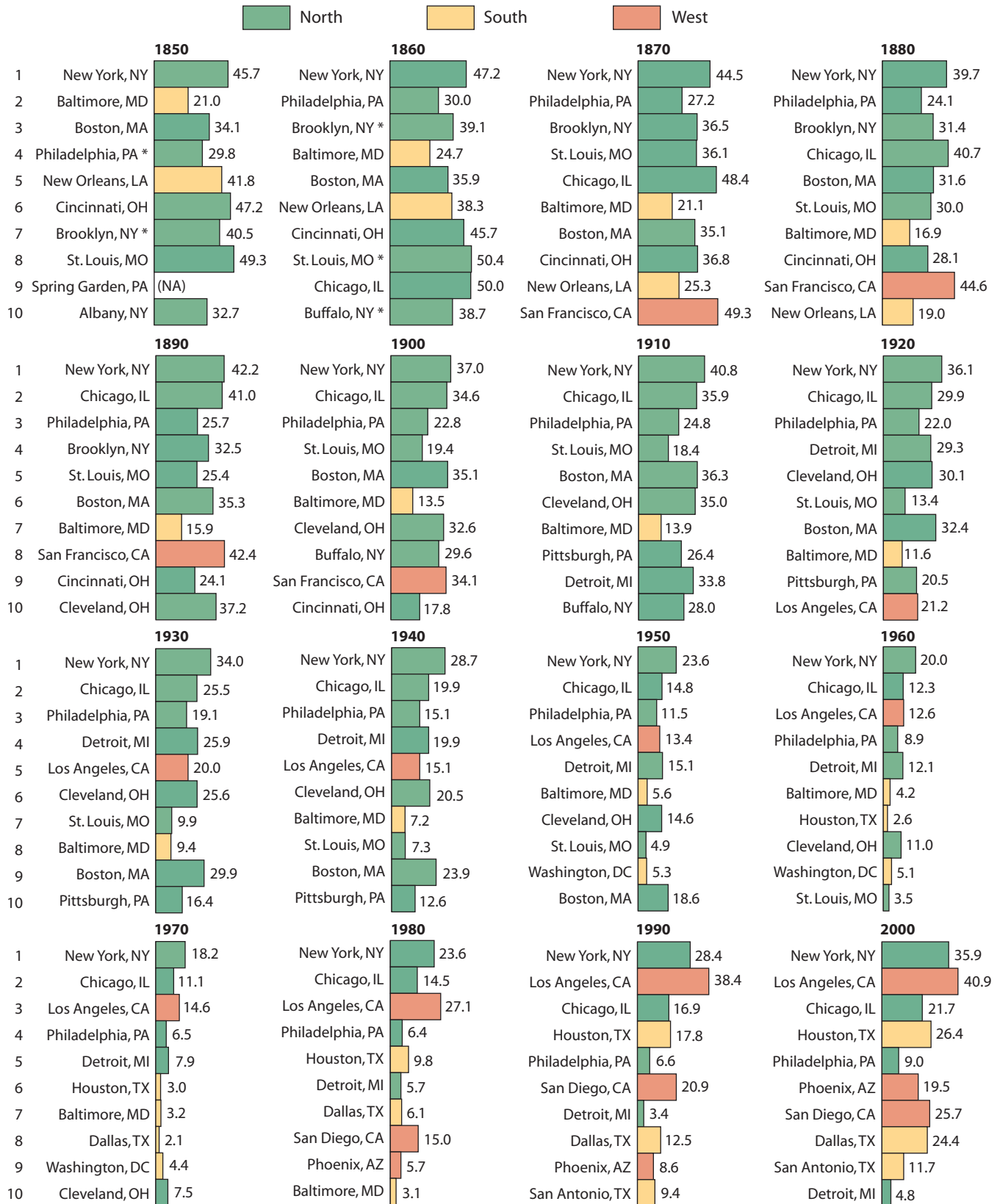
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Figure 12-4.

Percent Foreign Born in the Population of the Ten Largest Cities in the United States: 1850 to 2000

(Data for 1850 and 1860 assume that the entire slave population was born in the United States)



(NA) Not available.

*Percentage is for city's entire county because data for the city alone are not available. Percentage not shown in 1850 for Spring Garden, a suburb of Philadelphia.

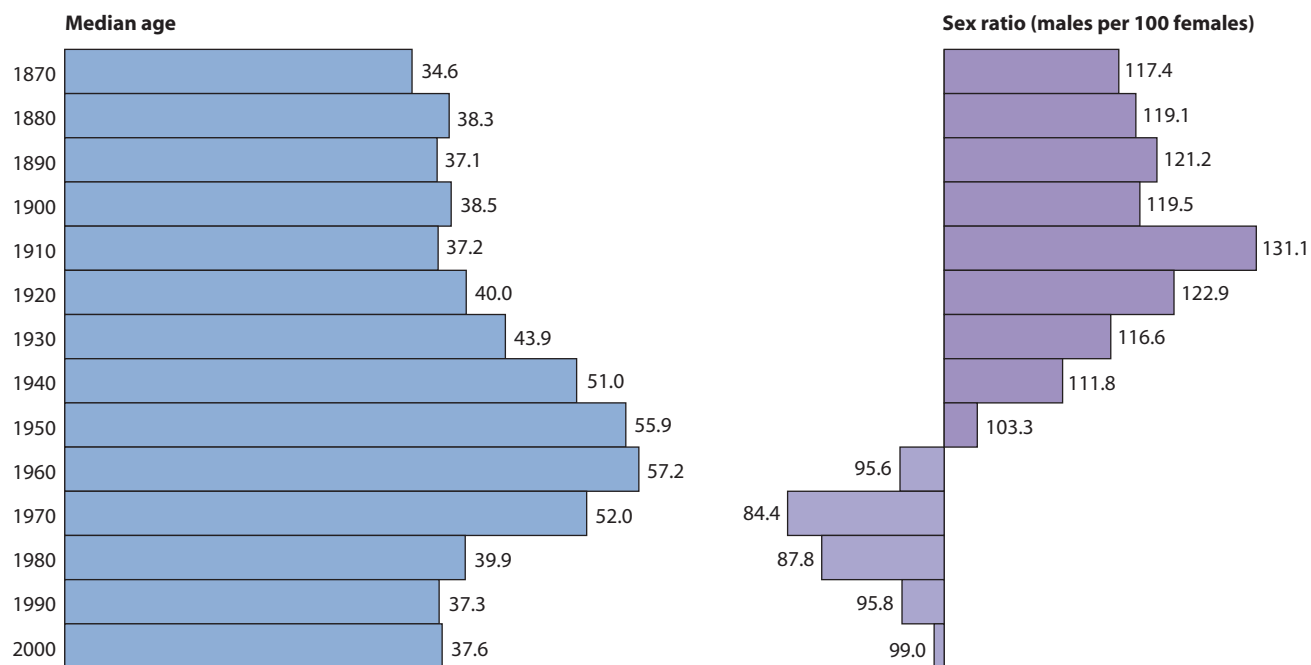
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

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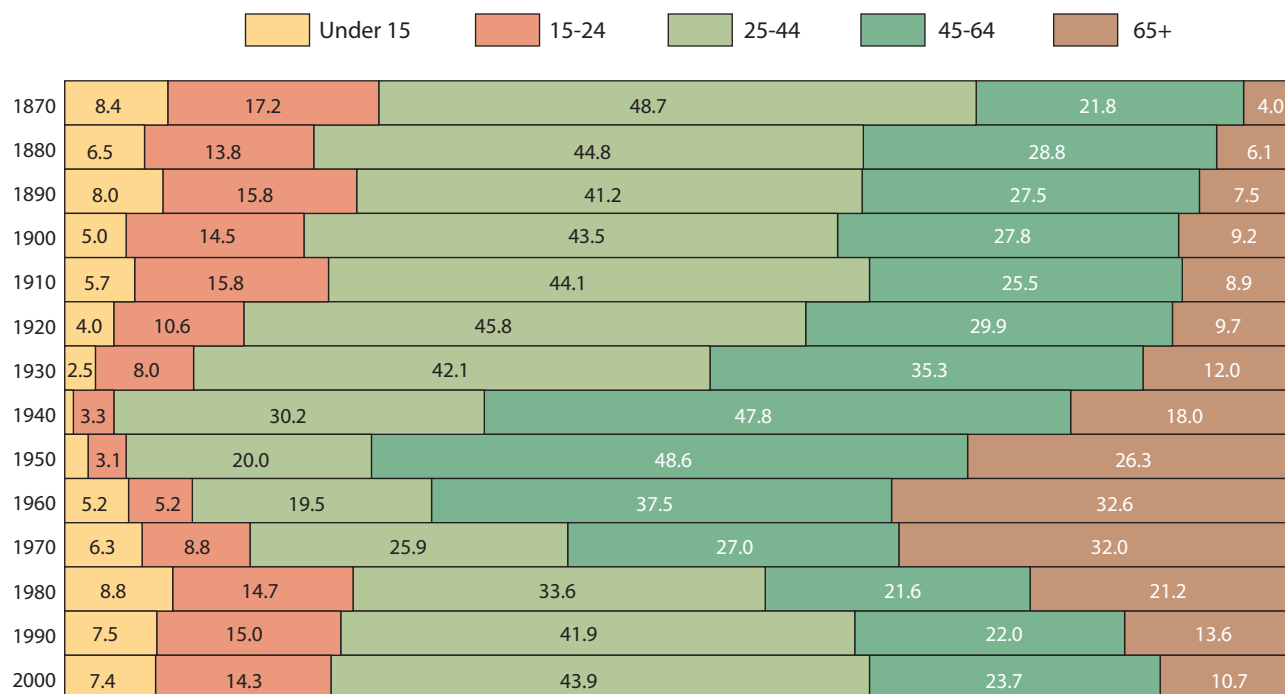
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Figure 12-5.

Age and Sex Structure of the Foreign-Born Population for the United States: 1870 to 2000



Percent distribution by broad age group



Percentages not shown on figure:

Under 15

1940	0.7
1950	1.9

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

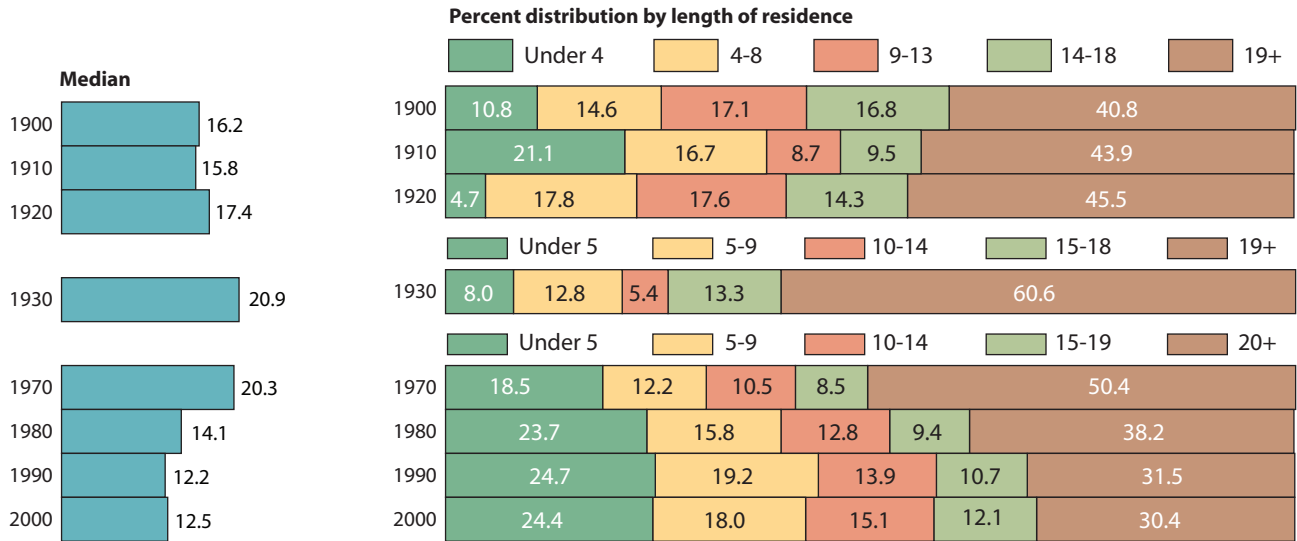
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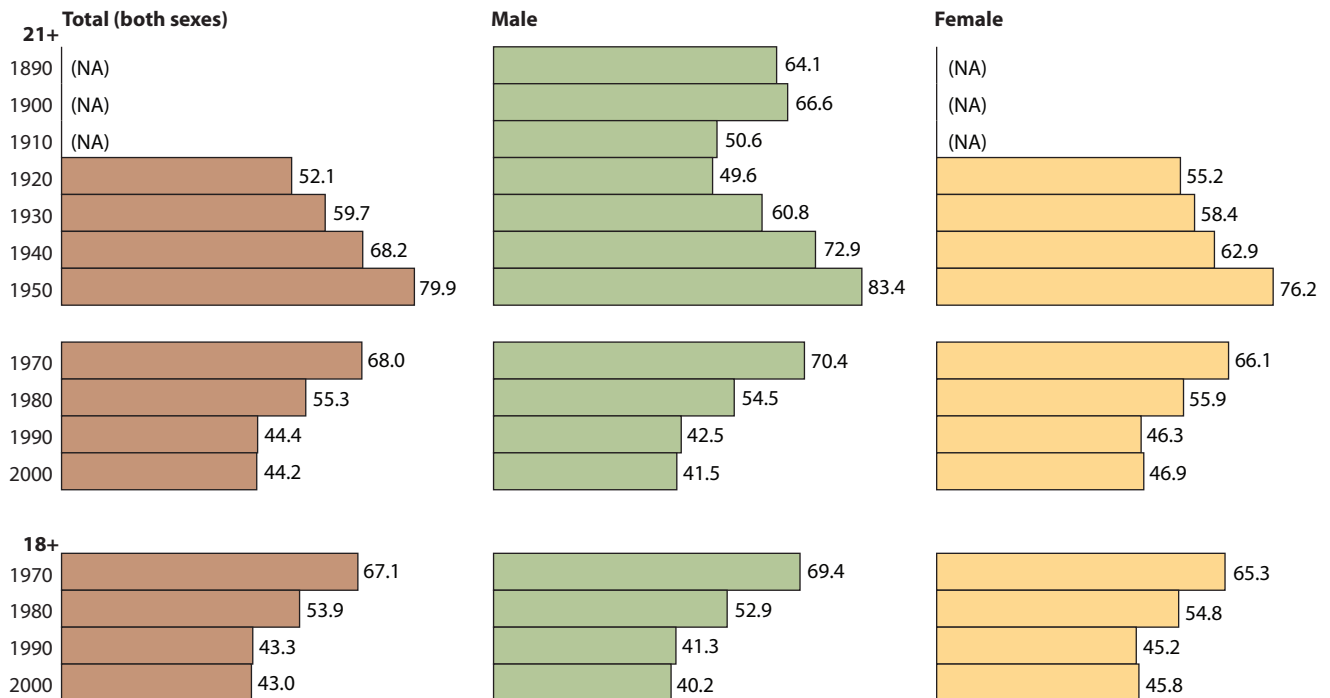
Figure 12-6.

Length of Residence and Citizenship Status of the Foreign-Born Population for the United States: 1890 to 2000

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE IN THE UNITED STATES (years)



CITIZENSHIP STATUS BY AGE (percent naturalized citizens)



(NA) Not available.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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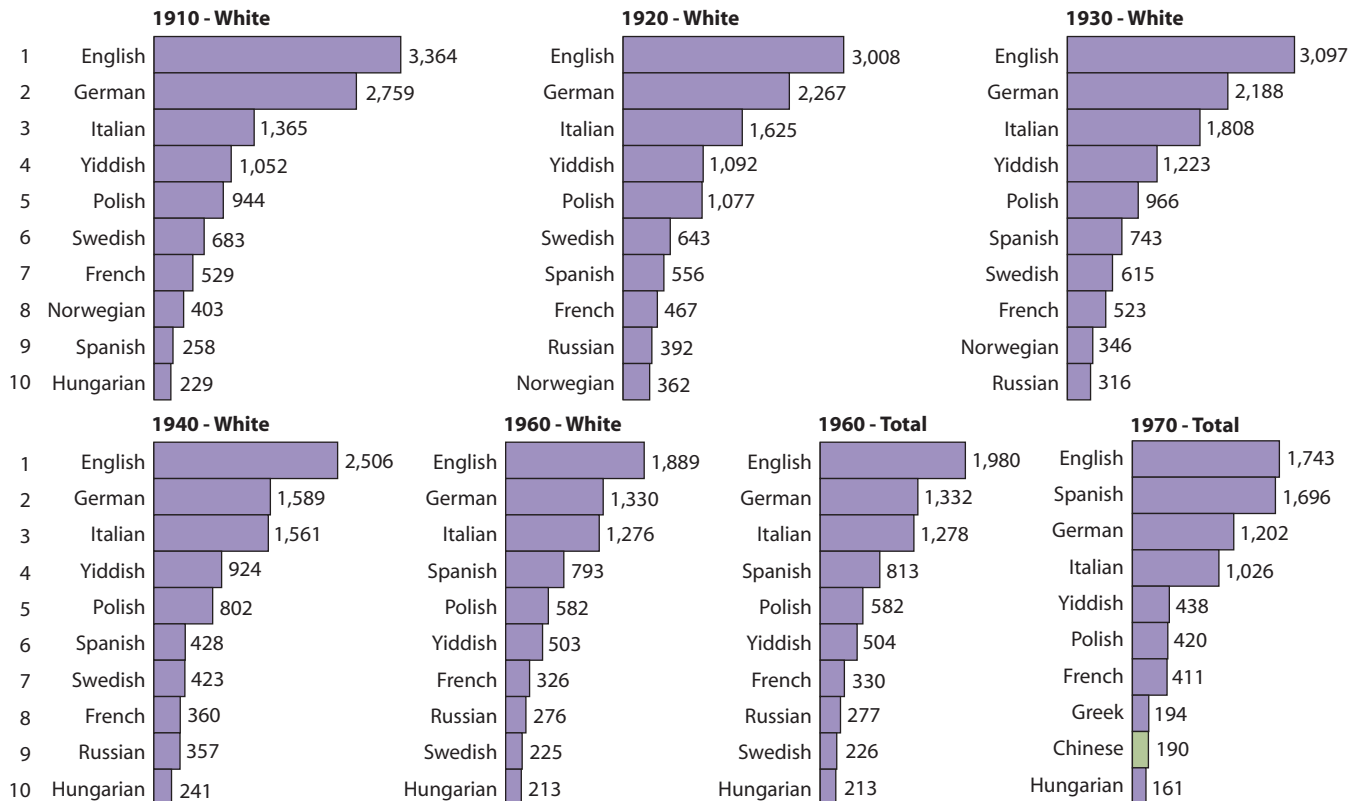
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Figure 12-7.

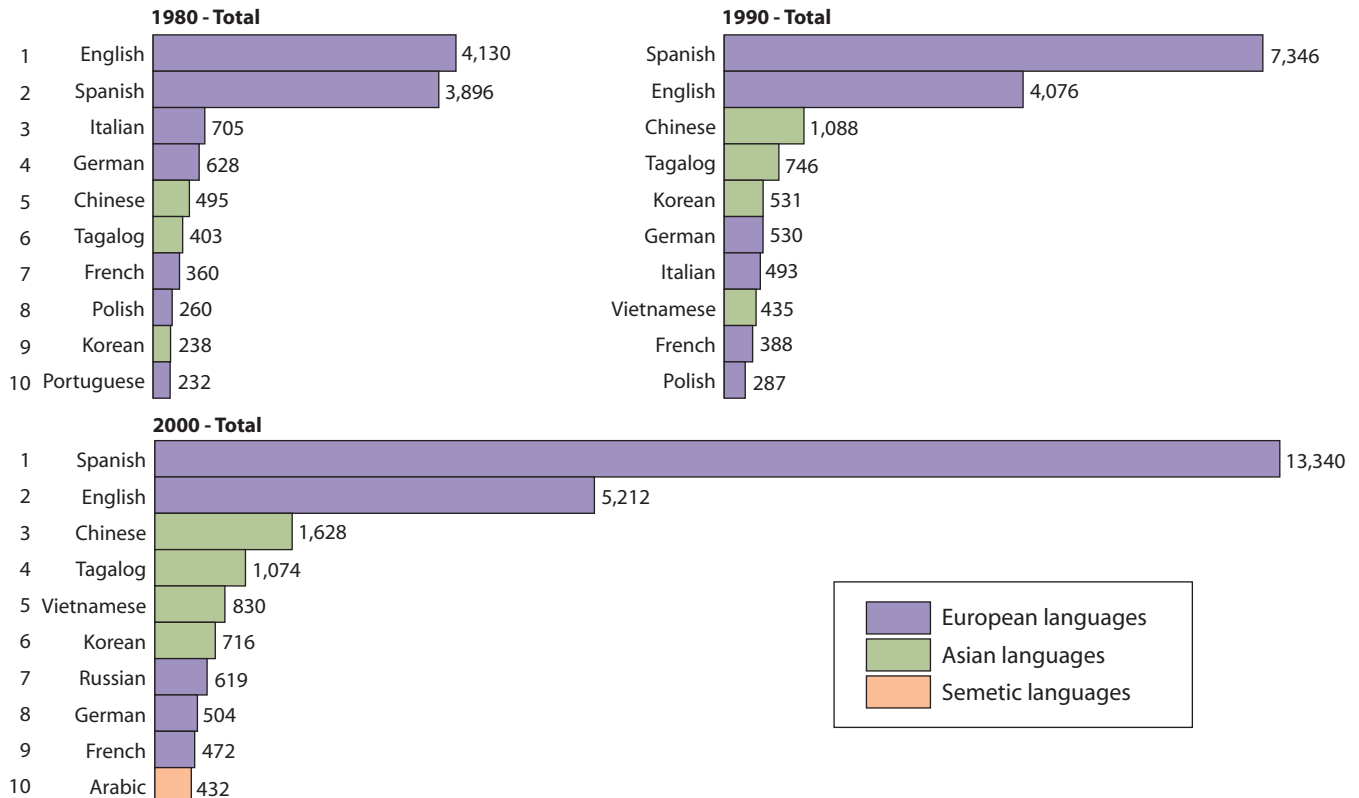
Ten Leading Languages for the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1910 to 2000

(Data on mother tongue available for the White population only, 1910 to 1940)

MOTHER TONGUE (all ages)



LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME (population 5 years and over)



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

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Chapter 13. Country of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population

With a few exceptions, data on the foreign-born population by country of birth refer to foreign countries as defined at each census. Thus, for example, data for Austria and Hungary to 1910 are not comparable to data for 1920 forward because of changes in the map of Europe following World War I. Even though Poland ceased to exist as an independent country in 1795, Poland was identified as a country of birth in U.S. censuses from 1850 to 1900. Poland was not so identified in 1910, but was again in 1920 following World War I. The 1910 foreign-born population with Polish mother tongue provides an estimate of the 1910 foreign-born population from Poland. The world regions of birth used here to classify the foreign-born population are Europe, Northern America (about 99 percent of which was from Canada in 2000), Latin America, Asia, Africa, and Oceania. For more information on time-series data on the foreign-born population by country of birth and world region of birth, see Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division Working Paper No. 81.

Census reports for 1910 to 1930 showed data on the foreign-born White population for country of birth by mother tongue and for mother tongue by country of birth. These data shown in Figures 13-6 and 13-7 for 1910 and 1930, respectively. For many countries the data are not comparable for the two years due to boundary changes after World War I. In some cases, the countries and mother tongues of the foreign-born White population identify nearly the same population (e.g., Italy and Italian, or Norway and Norwegian). In other cases, there are major differences. For example, in 1910, the White foreign-born population from Austria was very diverse by mother tongue, with five different mother tongues each accounting for 10 percent or more of the total.

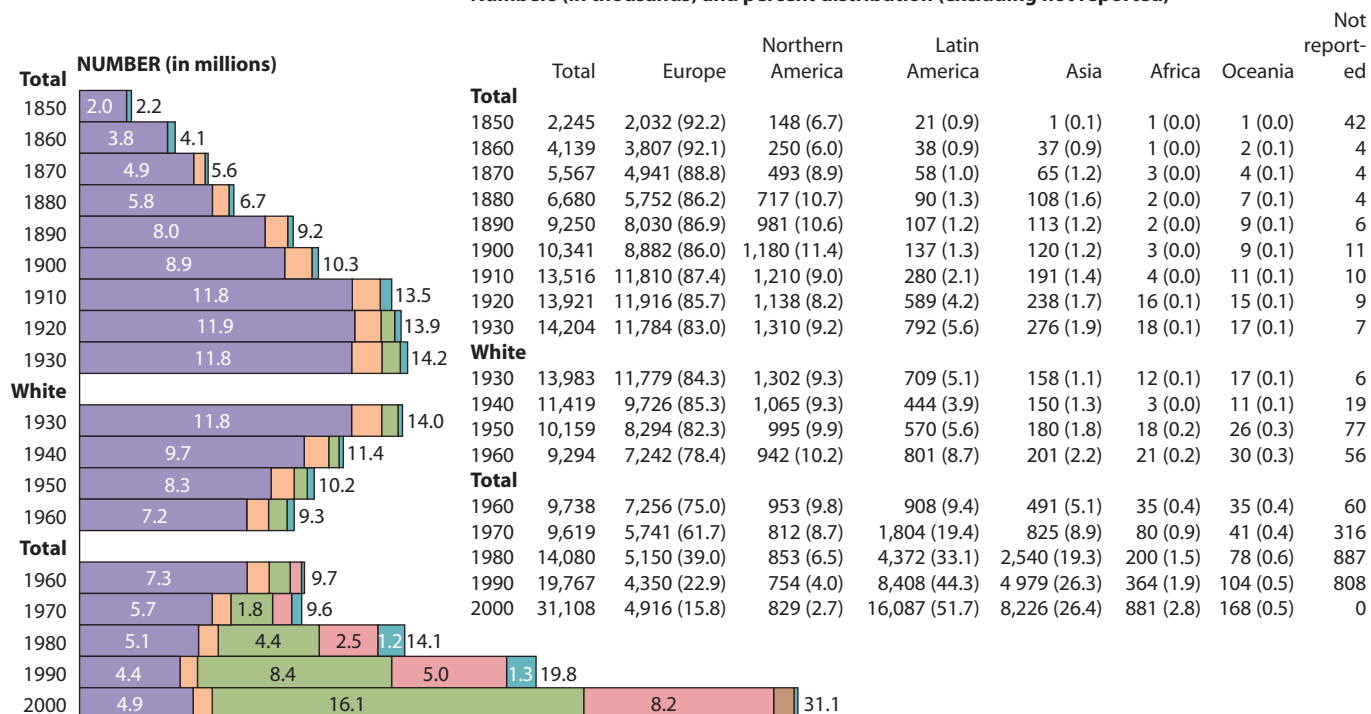
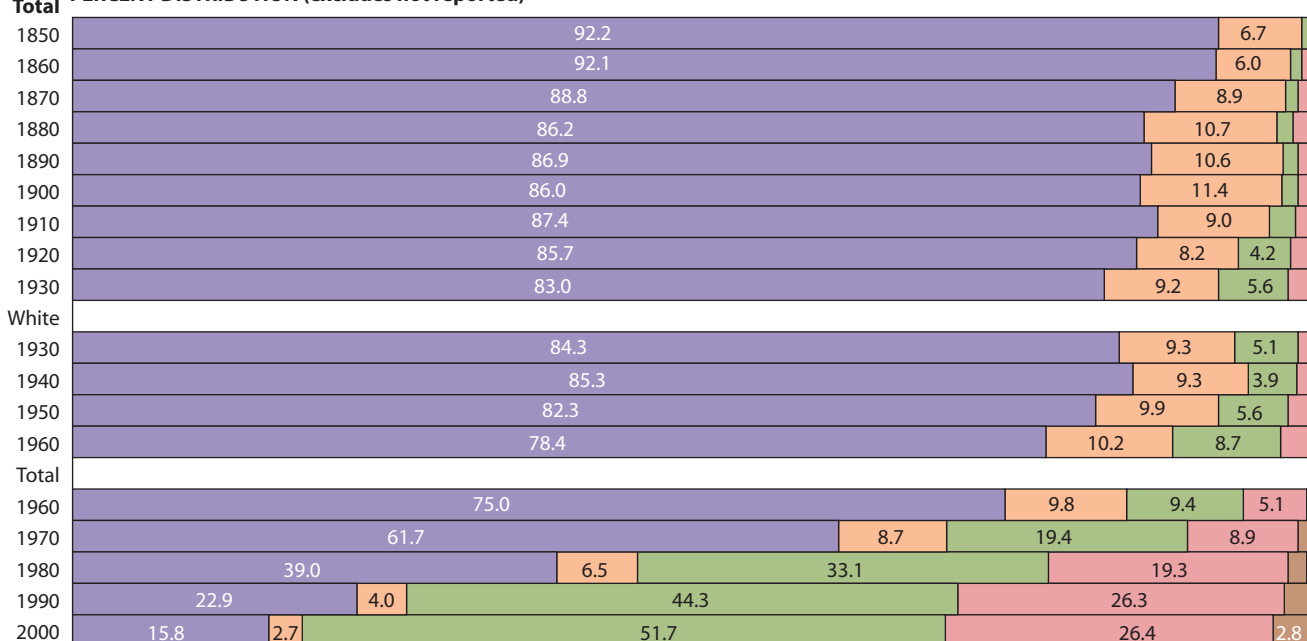
Figures

- 13-1. Foreign-Born Population by World Region of Birth for the United States: 1850 to 2000
- 13-2. Percent Distribution of the Foreign-Born Population by World Region of Birth by Region of Residence in the United States: 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000
- 13-3. Foreign-Born Population from Europe by Subregion of Birth for the United States: 1850 to 2000
- 13-4. Ten Leading Countries of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population for the United States: 1850 to 2000
- 13-5. Largest Foreign-Born Population by Country of Birth with the Three Leading States of Residence for the United States: Year with Maximum in the 1850 to 2000 Period
- 13-6. Country of Birth by Mother Tongue and Mother Tongue by Country of Birth for the White Foreign-Born Population from Europe, for the United States: 1910
- 13-7. Country of Birth by Mother Tongue and Mother Tongue by Country of Birth for the White Foreign-Born Population from Europe, for the United States: 1930

Figure 13-1.

Foreign-Born Population by World Region of Birth for the United States: 1850 to 2000

(Data by world region of birth not available for the total foreign-born population for 1940 and 1950)

**Numbers (in thousands) and percent distribution (excluding not reported)****PERCENT DISTRIBUTION (excludes not reported)**

* Number includes world regions with number below 400,000 and not reported. Percent distribution includes world regions with percentage less than 0.8 percent.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

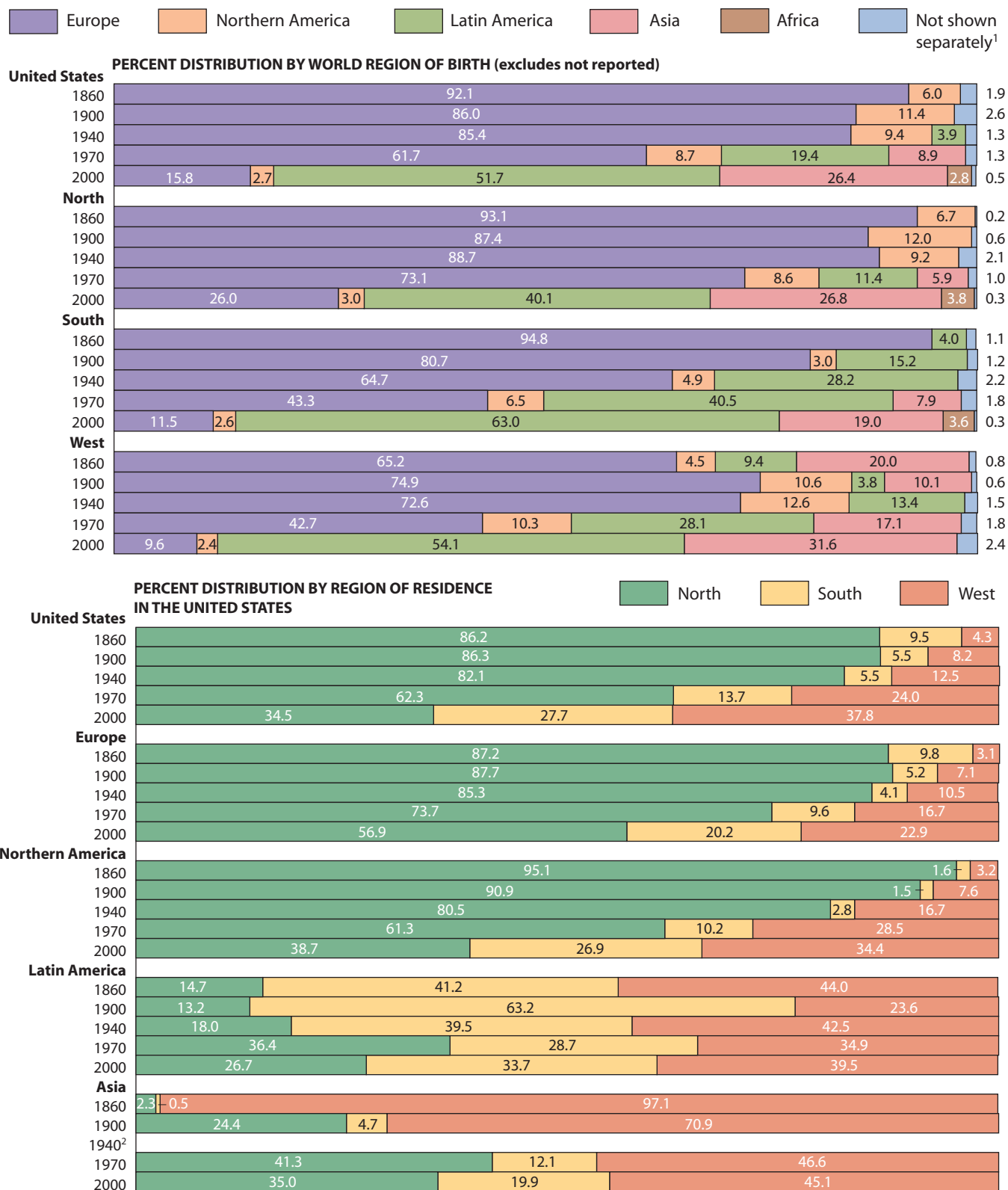
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Figure 13-2.

Percent Distribution of the Foreign-Born Population by World Region of Birth by Region of Residence for the United States: 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 2000

(Excludes not reported. Data for 1940 are for the White foreign-born population)



¹ Includes world regions with percentage below 2.4 percent.

² Not shown because data limited to White population are not comparable with data for other years.

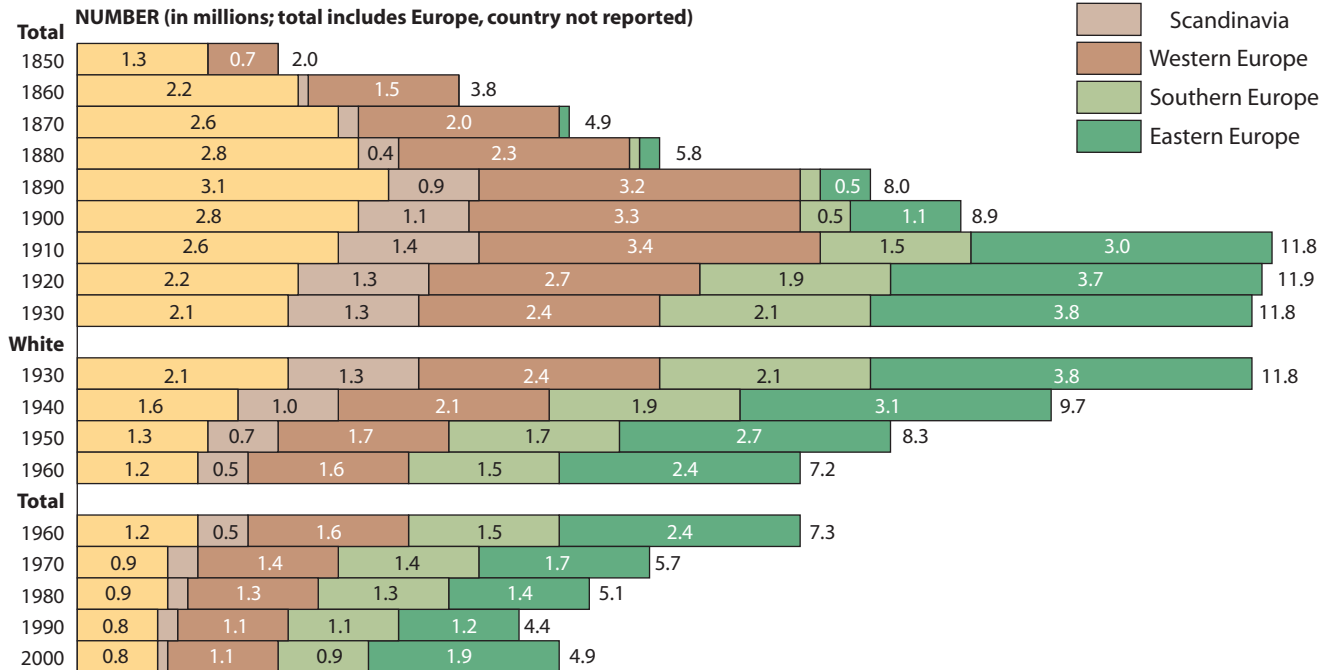
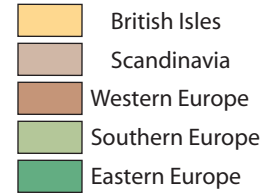
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

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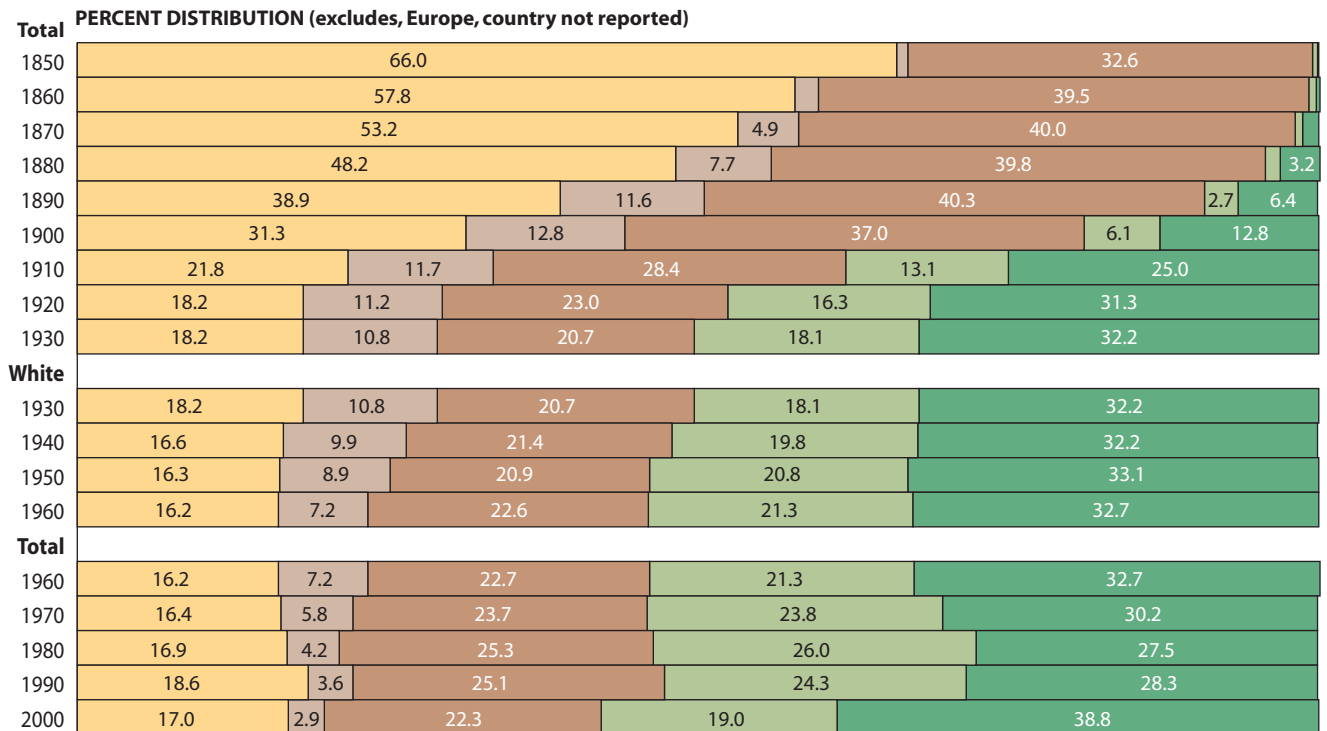
Figure 13-3.

Foreign-Born Population from Europe by Subregion of Birth for the United States : 1850 to 2000

Northern Europe



Numbers not shown on figure:

Scandinavia: 1860, 0.1; 1870, 0.2; 1970, 0.3; 1980, 0.2, 1990, 0.2, 2000, 0.1**Southern Europe:** 1880, 0.1; 1890, 0.2**Eastern Europe:** 1870, 0.1; 1880, 0.2

Percentages not shown on figure:

Scandinavia: 1850, 0.9; 1860, 1.9**Southern Europe:** 1850, 0.4; 1860, 0.6; 1870, 0.6; 1880, 1.2**Eastern Europe:** 1850, 0.1; 1860, 0.3; 1870, 1.3Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

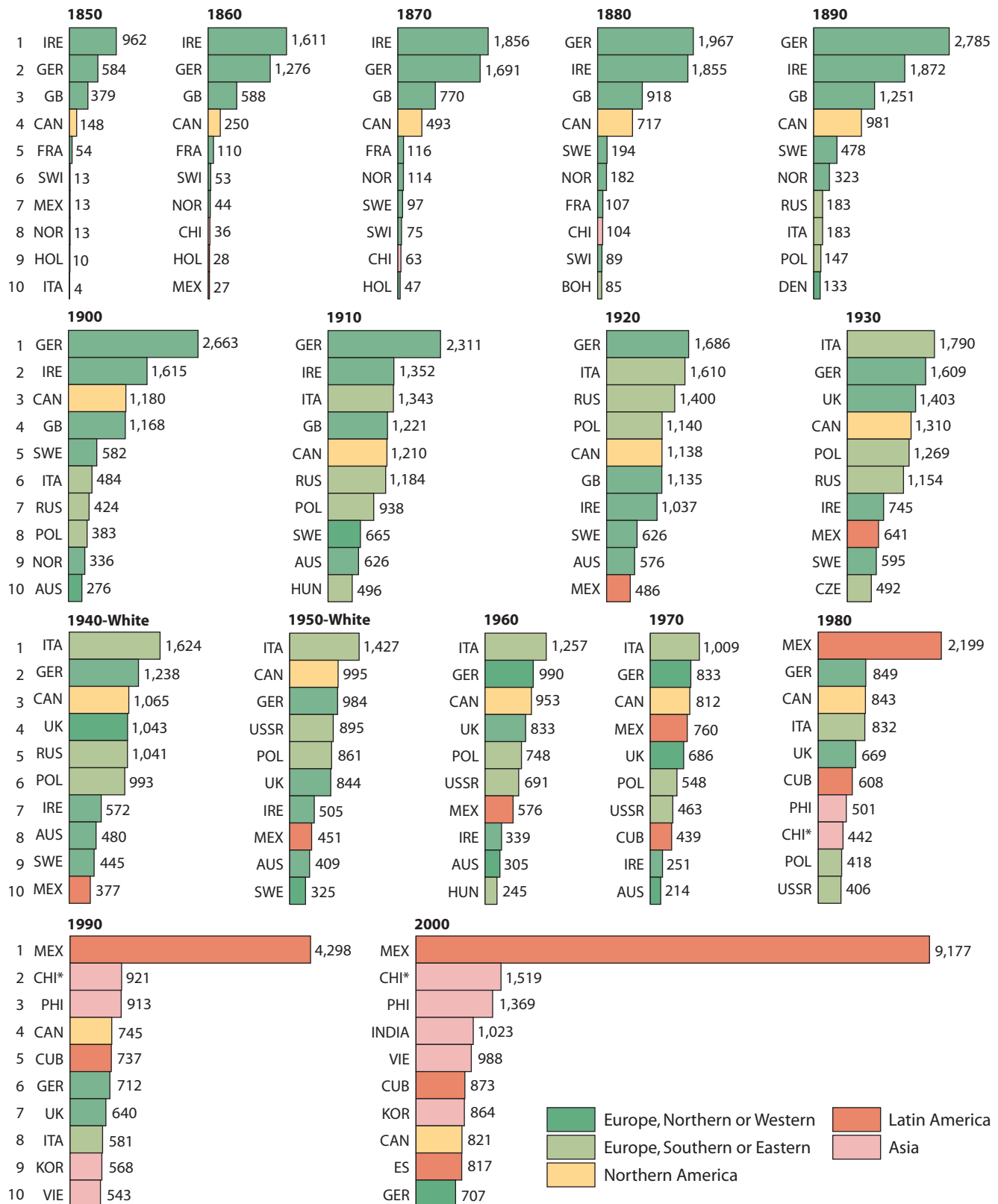
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Figure 13-4.

Ten Leading Countries of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population for the United States: 1850 to 2000

(Data by country of birth not available for the total foreign-born population for 1940 and 1950. For a list of countries by region, see Figure 13-5)



*Data for China for 1980, 1990, and 2000 include Hong Kong and Taiwan, which were also reported separately in those years.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

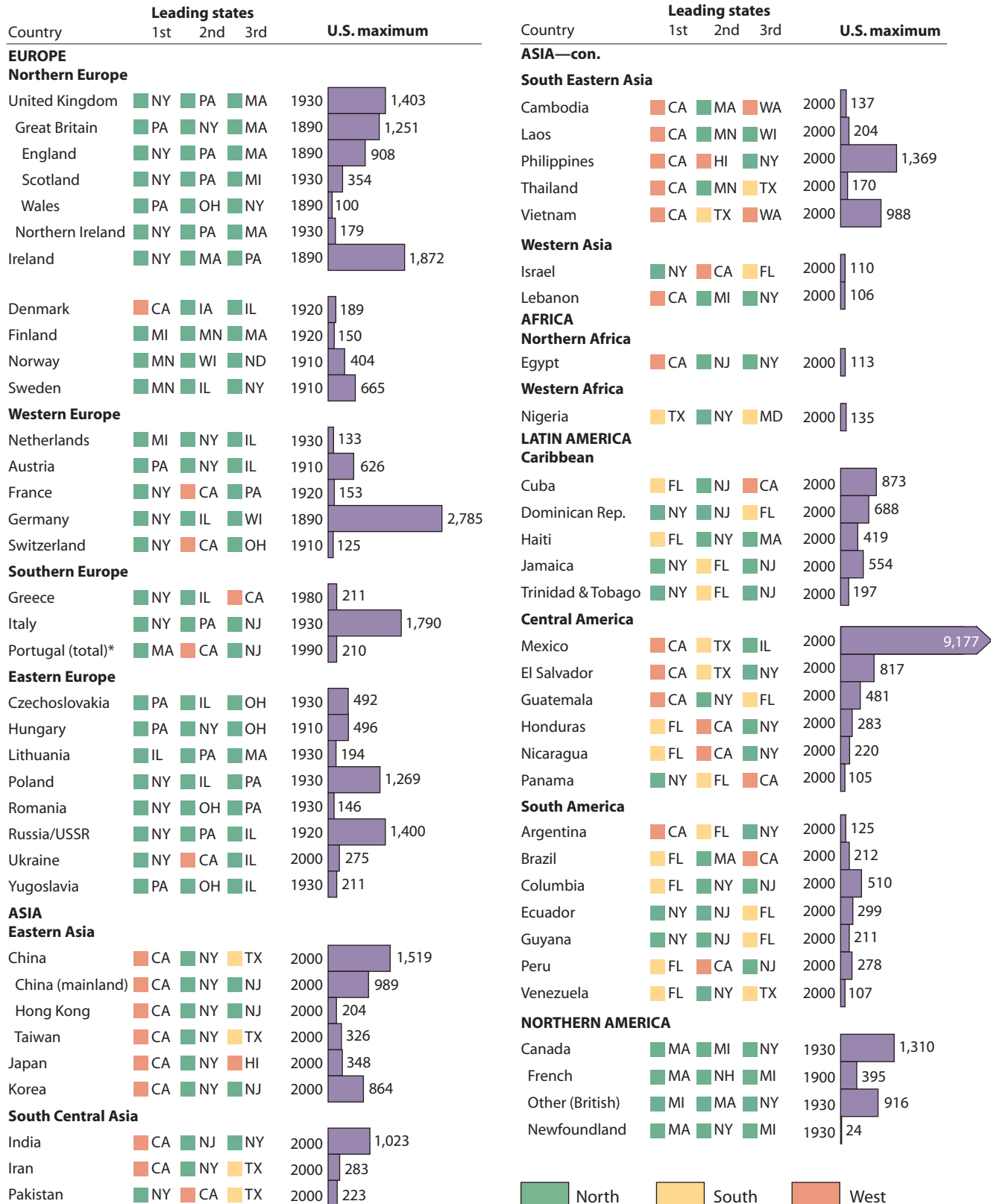
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Figure 13-5.

Largest Foreign-Born Population by Country of Birth with the Three Leading States of Residence for the United States: Year with Maximum in the 1850 to 2000 Period

(Numbers in thousands. Countries with a maximum of 100,000 or more)



* Includes Azores.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications, and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

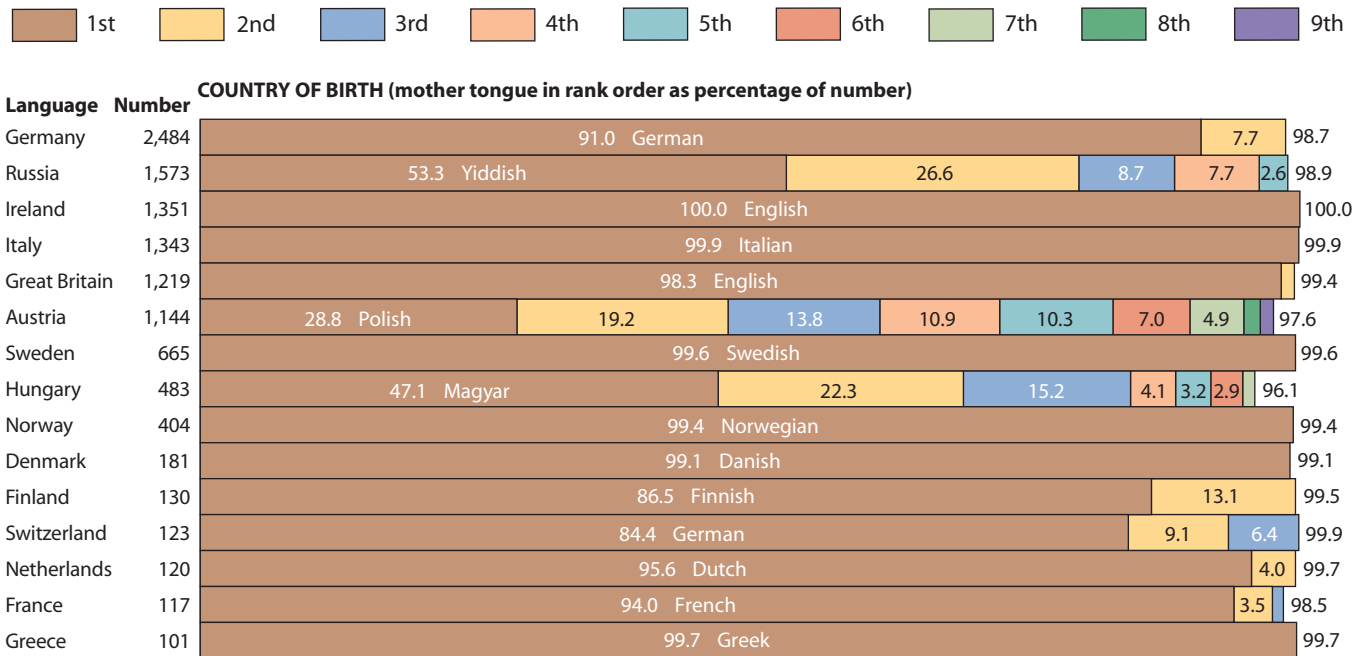
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Figure 13-6.

Country of Birth by Mother Tongue and Mother Tongue by Country of Birth for the White Foreign-Born Population from Europe, for the United States: 1910

(Numbers in thousands for countries and languages with 100,000 or more with both country of birth and mother tongue reported)



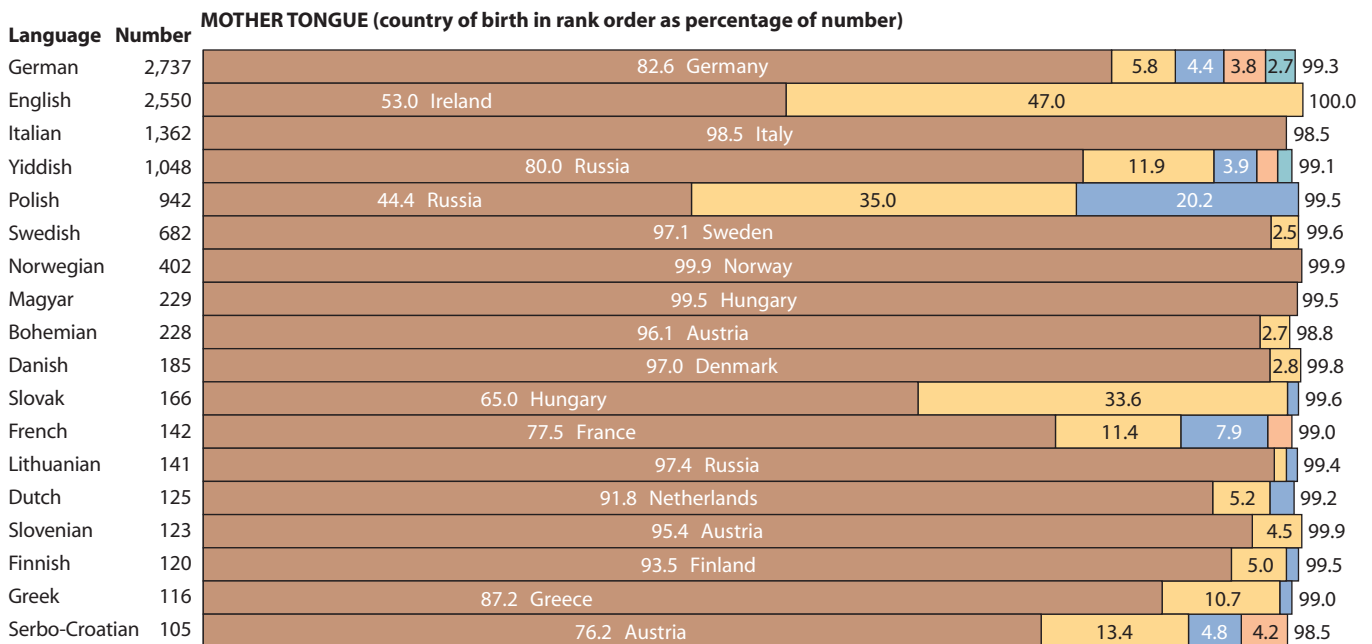
Percentages for languages not labeled on figure (includes languages representing 1.0 percent or more of total):

Germany: Polish (7.7). **Russia:** Polish (26.6), Lithuanian (8.7), German (7.7), Russian (2.6). **Great Britain:** Yiddish (1.2).

Austria: Bohemian (19.2), German (13.8), Yiddish (10.9), Slovenian (10.3), Serbo-Croatian (7.0), Slovak (4.9), Ruthenian (1.5), Russian (1.2).

Hungary: Slovak (22.3), German (15.2), Yiddish (4.1), Roumanian (3.2), Serbo-Croatian (2.9), Slovenian (1.1).

Finland: Swedish (13.1). **Switzerland:** French (9.1), Italian (6.4). **Netherlands:** German (4.0). **France:** German (3.5), Italian (1.0).



Percentages for countries not labeled on figure (includes countries representing 1.0 percent or more of total):

German: Austria (5.8), Russia (4.4), Switzerland (3.8), Hungary (2.7). **English:** Great Britain (47.0).

Yiddish: Austria (11.9), Romania (3.9), Hungary (1.9), Great Britain (1.3). **Polish:** Austria (35.0), Germany (20.2). **Swedish:** Finnish (2.5).

Bohemian: Germany (2.7). **Danish:** Germany (2.8). **Slovak:** Austria (33.6), Russia (1.0). **French:** Belgium (11.4), Switzerland (7.9), Germany (2.2).

Lithuanian: Germany (1.1), Austria (1.0). **Dutch:** Germany (5.2), Belgium (2.2). **Slovenian:** Hungary (4.5). **Finnish:** Russia (5.0), Sweden (1.1).

Greek: Turkey (10.7), Russia (1.1). **Serbo-Croatian:** Hungary (13.4), Montenegro (4.8), Serbia (4.2).

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

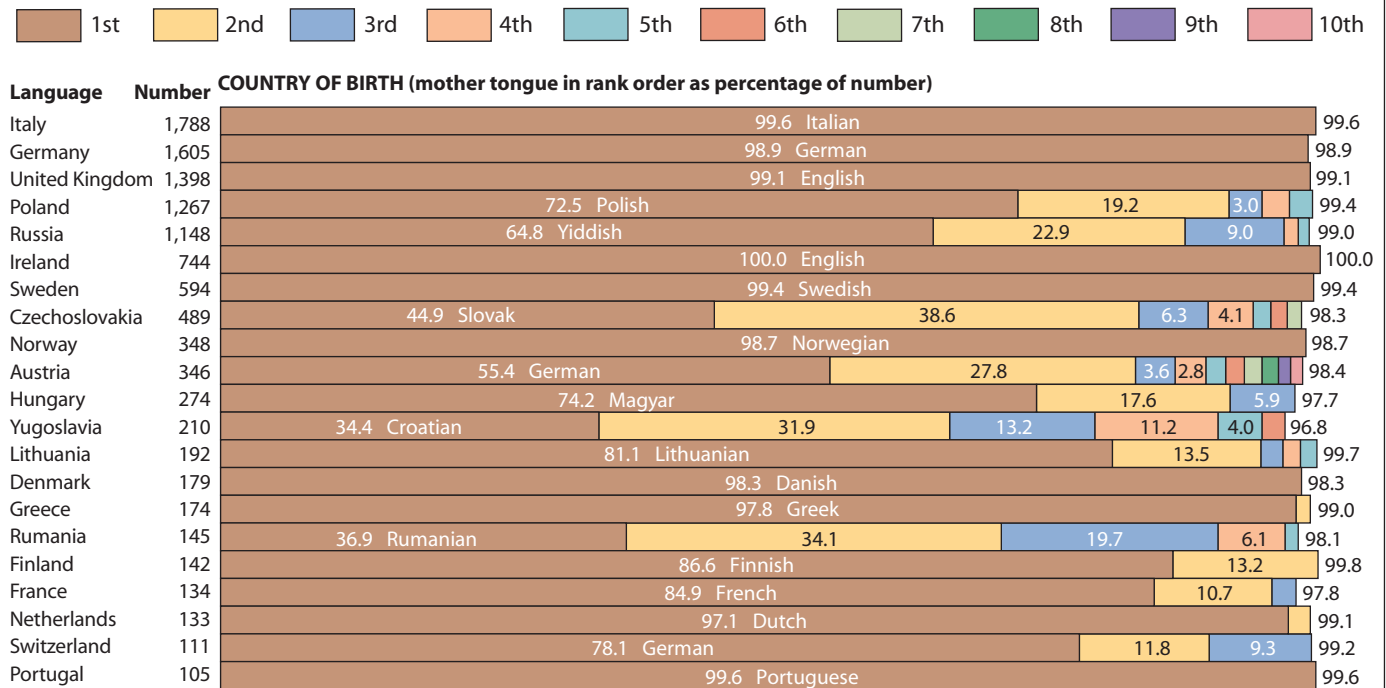
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Figure 13-7.

Country of Birth by Mother Tongue and Mother Tongue by Country of Birth for the White Foreign-Born Population From Europe, for the United States: 1930

(Numbers in thousands for countries and languages with 100,000 or more with both country of birth and mother tongue reported)



Percentages for languages not labeled on figure (includes languages representing 1.0 percent or more of total):

Poland: Yiddish (19.2), Ukrainian (3.0), German (2.5), Russian (2.1). **Russia:** Russian (22.9), German (9.0), Polish (1.3), Ukrainian (1.0).

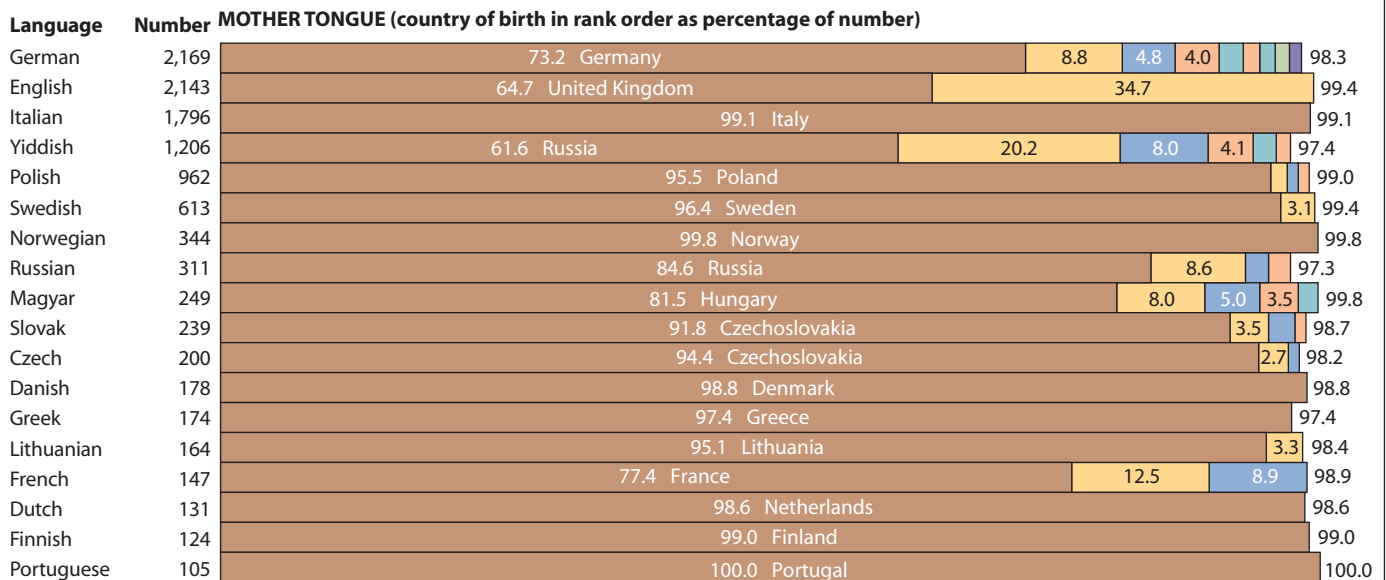
Czechoslovakia: Czech (38.6), German (6.3), Magyar (4.1), Yiddish (1.6), Ruthenian (1.5), Russian (1.3).

Austria: Yiddish (27.8), Magyar (3.6), Polish (2.8), Russian (1.8), Slovak (1.7), Czech (1.6), Ukrainian (1.5), Slovenian (1.1), Croatian (1.1).

Hungary: German (17.6), Yiddish (5.9) Yugoslavia: Slovenian (31.9), Serbian (13.2), German (11.2), Slovak (4.0), Magyar (2.1).

Lithuania: Yiddish (13.5), Polish (2.0), German (1.6), Russian (1.5). **Greece:** Bulgarian (1.3) **Rumania:** Yiddish (34.1), German (19.7), Magyar (6.1), Russian (1.2).

Finland: Swedish (13.2). **France:** German (10.7), Italian (2.2). **Netherlands:** German (2.0). **Switzerland:** French (11.8), Italian (9.3).



Percentages for countries not labeled on figure (includes countries representing 1.0 percent or more of total):

German: Austria (8.8), Russia (4.8), Switzerland (4.0), Hungary (2.2), Poland (1.5), Czechoslovakia (1.4), Rumania (1.3), Yugoslavia (1.1).

English: Ireland (34.7). **Yiddish:** Poland (20.2), Austria (8.0), Rumania (4.1), Lithuania (2.1), Hungary (1.3).

Polish: Russia (1.5), Austria (1.0), Germany (1.0). **Swedish:** Finland (3.1). **Russian:** Poland (8.6), Czechoslovakia (2.1), Austria (2.0).

Magyar: Czechoslovakia (8.0), Austria (5.0), Rumania (3.5), Yugoslavia (1.8). **Slovak:** Yugoslavia (3.5), Austria (2.4), Hungary (1.0).

Czech: Austria (2.7), Poland (1.0). **Lithuanian:** Russia (3.3). **French:** Belgium (12.5), Switzerland (8.9).

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Chapter 14. Nativity and Parentage

As used by the Census Bureau, the term nativity refers to whether a person is native or foreign born, as defined in the introductory text for Chapter 11. The term parentage refers to the places of birth of a native person's parents and has three basic categories: native parentage (both parents native), mixed parentage (one parent native and one parent foreign born), and foreign parentage (both parents foreign born). A question on birthplace of parents was included on the census from 1870 to 1970. Starting in 1910, census reports used the term "foreign stock" to refer to the combined population in three categories: foreign born, native of foreign parentage, and native of mixed parentage. The population not of foreign stock is native of native parentage.

The data published on the foreign-stock population were for the White population only from 1910 to 1950, reflecting the fact that the vast majority of the foreign-born population was from Europe. In addition, the census reports showed extensive data on the foreign-stock population by country of origin (country of birth of the foreign-born population and country or countries of birth of parents). For consistency, the data on the foreign-stock population from 1870 to 1970 in this chapter, which do not include data on country of origin, are limited to the White population.

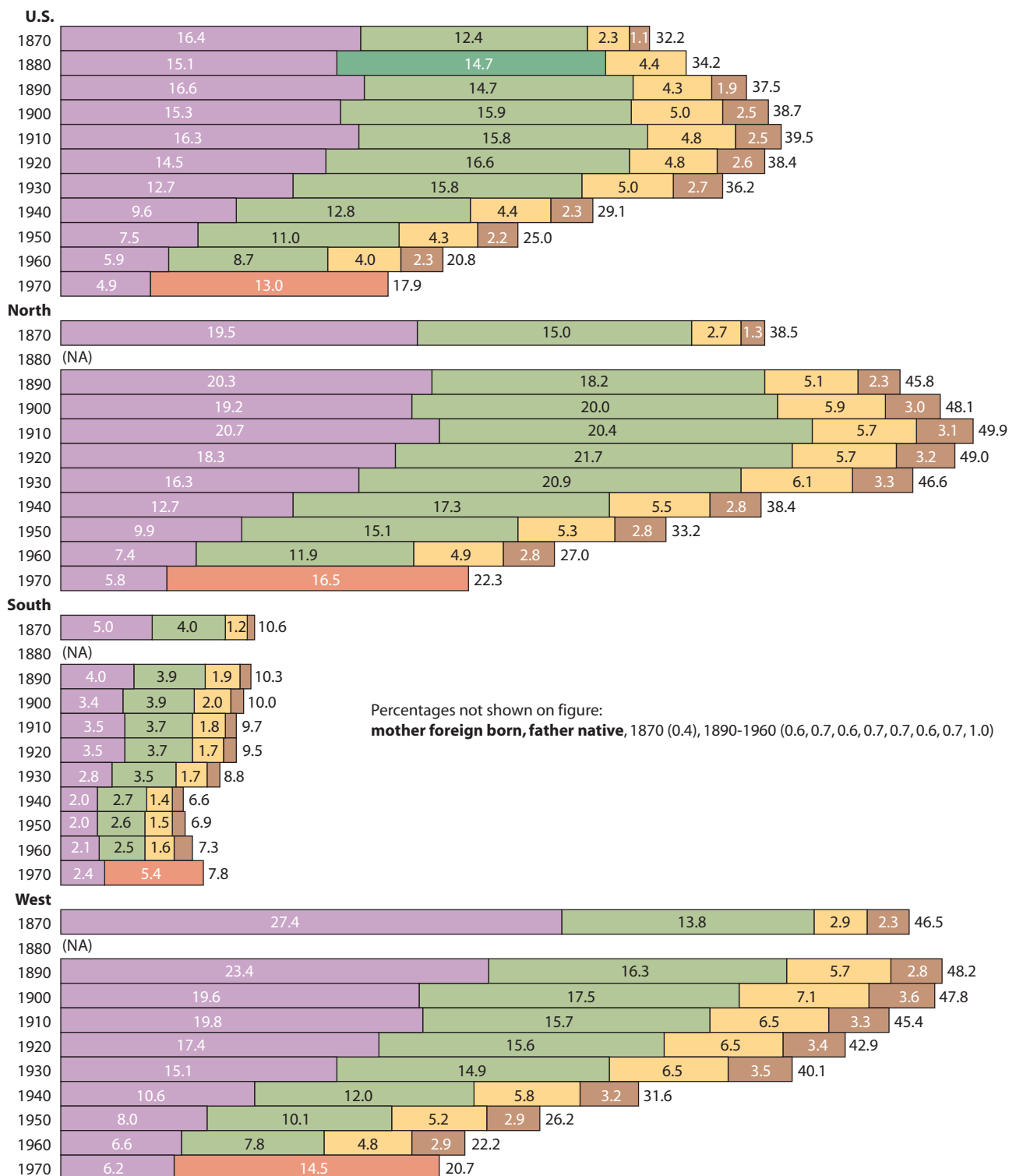
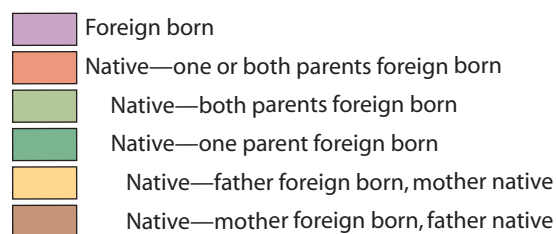
Figures

- 14-1. Foreign-Stock White Population by Nativity and Parentage for the United States by Region: 1870 to 1970
- 14-2. Ten States with the Highest Percentage of White Population of Foreign Stock for the United States: 1870 and 1890 to 1970
- 14-3. Percent Foreign Stock in the White Population of the Ten Largest Cities in the United States: 1890 to 1970

Figure 14-1.

Foreign-Stock White Population by Nativity and Parentage for the United States by Region: 1870 to 1970

(Percent of White population)



Percentages not shown on figure:

mother foreign born, father native, 1870 (0.4), 1890-1960 (0.6, 0.7, 0.6, 0.7, 0.7, 0.6, 0.7, 1.0)

(NA) Not available.

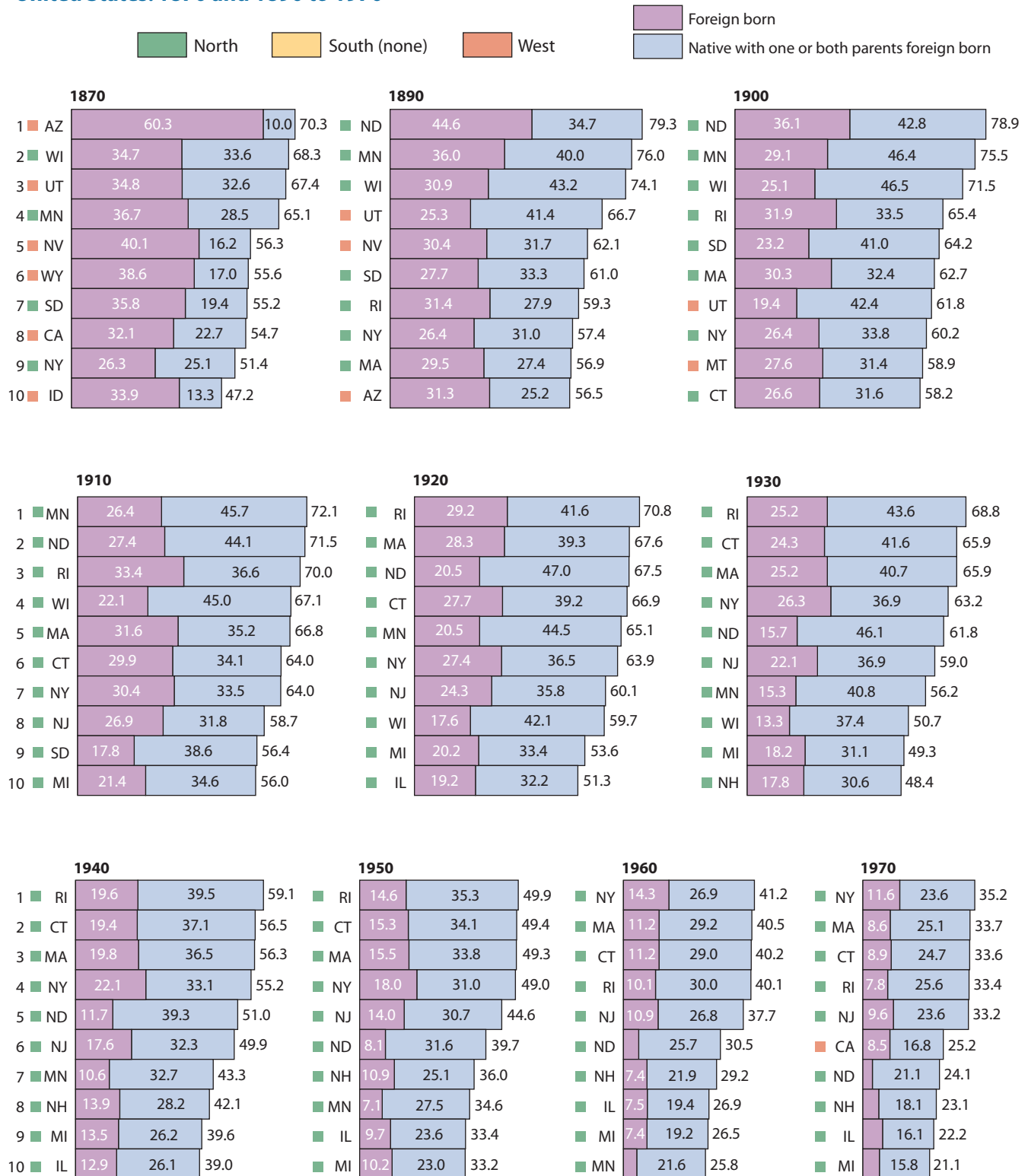
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 14-2.

Ten States with the Highest Percentage of White Population of Foreign Stock for the United States: 1870 and 1890 to 1970



Percentages not shown on figure:

Foreign born

1960, ND (4.8), MN (4.2)

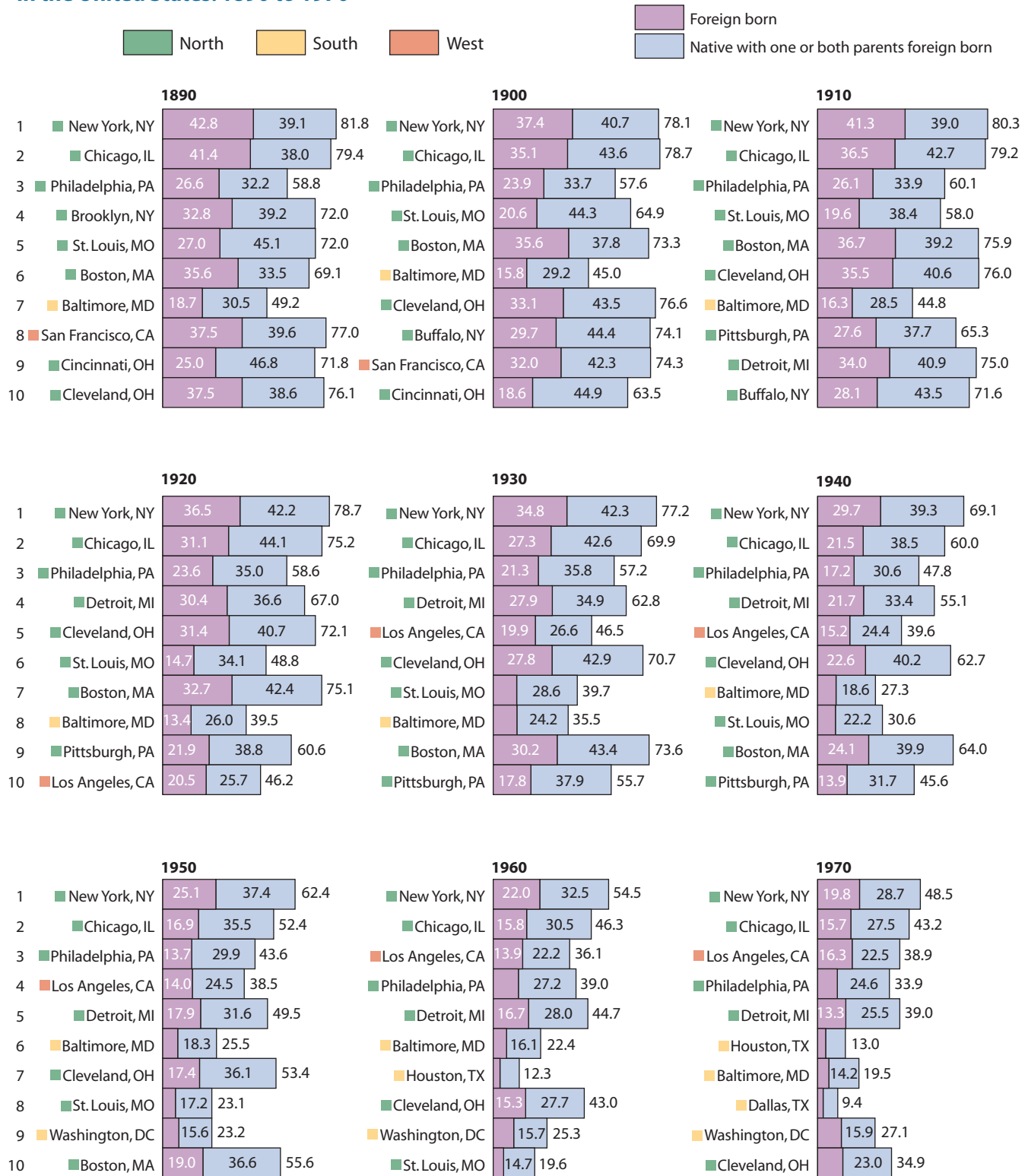
1970, ND (3.0), NH (5.0), IL (6.2), MI (5.2)

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Figure 14-3.

Percent Foreign Stock in the White Population of the Ten Largest Cities in the United States: 1890 to 1970



Percentages not shown on figure:

Foreign born

1940; Baltimore (8.7), St. Louis (8.4)
 1950; Baltimore (7.1), St. Louis (6.0), Washington (7.6)
 1960; Baltimore (6.3), Houston (3.2), Washington (9.7), St. Louis (4.9)
 1970; Philadelphia (9.3), Houston (3.8), Baltimore (5.3), Dallas (2.6)

Native with one or both parents foreign born

1960; Houston (9.1)
 1970; Houston (9.3), Dallas (6.9)

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Chapter 15. Labor Force

The labor force concept used in recent censuses of population dates from the 1930s and includes both persons who are employed (full time or part time) and persons who are unemployed (defined as persons who are not employed but who are actively looking for employment). In censuses prior to 1940, terms like “gainful workers” or “persons with gainful employment” were used with regard to persons who reported an occupation or industry. (See chapters 16 and 17 concerning data on occupation and industry.) Data on unemployment were collected from 1880 to 1910 and in 1930, but these data are not comparable to data on unemployment collected subsequently. For a detailed discussion of the labor force concept and historical labor force trends in the United States, see Susan B. Carter (2006), “Labor Force,” in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 2, pp. 2-13 to 2-35.

Estimates of the workforce of the United States for the 1800 to 1900 period are shown in Figure 15-1. These estimates are from Thomas Weiss (2006), “Workforce,” in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 2, pp. 2-63 to 2-66. The term workforce corresponds to gainful workers who reported an occupation (1850 to 1900) or industry (1820 and 1840), regardless of their employment status (employed or not employed). For years with no occupation or industry data (1800, 1810, and 1830), workforce data were estimated using estimated participation rates in the workforce.

Labor force estimates up to 1990, shown in Figures 15-2 through 15-5, are from Matthew Sobek (2006b), tables on labor force, in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 2, pp. 2-77 to 2-82, and are based on the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS). (See Minnesota Population Center, no date, “IPUMS-USA, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ),” <http://usa.ipums.org/usa-action/faq.do>) Census data for 2000 are not totally comparable with data for 1990 due to changes in editing procedures which led to slightly lower labor force participation rates in 2000 than the 1990 editing procedures would have yielded. See Sandra Luckett Clark et al (2003), “Comparing Employment, Income, and Poverty: Census 2000 and the Current Population Survey,” U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Auxiliary Report.

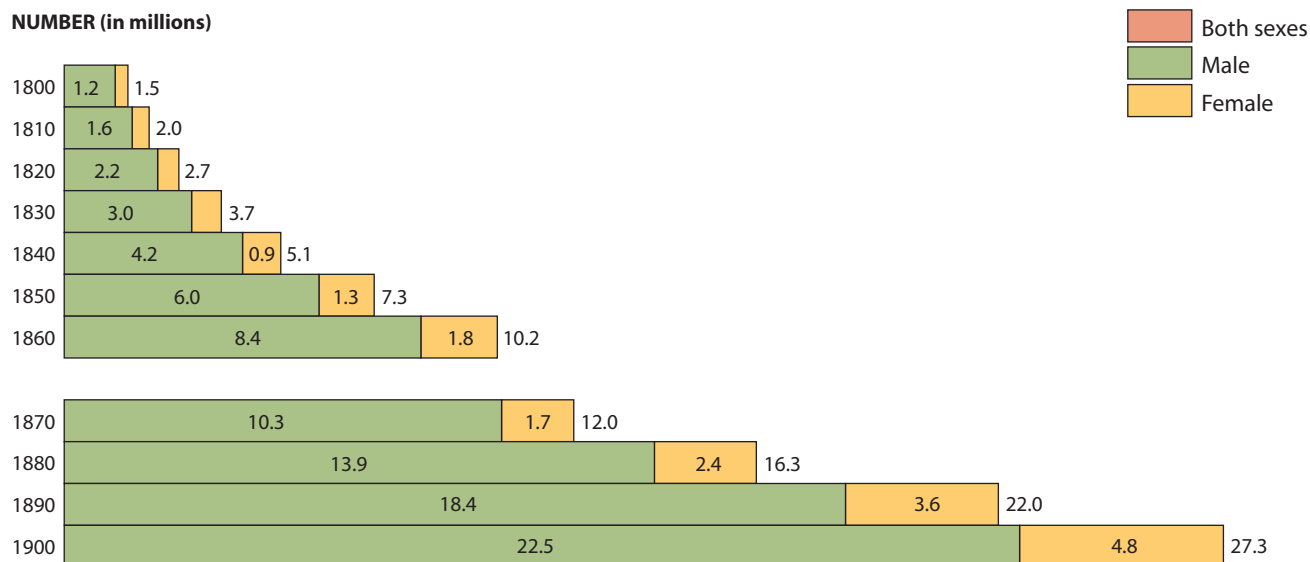
Figures

- 15-1. Workforce for the Population 16 Years and Over by Sex for the United States:
1800 to 1900
- 15-2. Labor Force for the Population 16 Years and Over by Sex for the United States:
1860 to 2000
- 15-3. Males – Labor Force Participation rates of the Population 16 Years and Over by
Age for the United States: 1870 to 2000
- 15-4. Females – Labor Force Participation rates of the Population 16 Years and Over by
Age for the United States: 1870 to 2000
- 15-5. Labor Force Participation Rates of Ever-Married Women with One or More Own
Children Under Age 18, by Marital Status of Woman and Age of Children,
for the United States: 1880 to 2000

Figure 15-1.

Workforce for the Population 16 Years and Over by Sex for the United States: 1800 to 1900

NUMBER (in millions)



Numbers not shown on figure:

Female

1800	0.3
1810	0.4
1820	0.5
1830	0.7

PARTICIPATION RATE (percentage of population 16 years and over)



Source: Thomas Weiss (2006), "Workforce," in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 2, pp. 2-63 to 2-66.
See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

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Figure 15-2.

Labor Force for the Population 16 Years and Over by Sex for the United States: 1860 to 2000

(Data are for the civilian noninstitutionalized population)

NUMBER (in millions)

White

1860 7.0 8.0

1870 9.0 10.2

Total

1870 10.2 12.0

1880 14.0 16.5

1900 22.4 5.2 27.6

1910 28.7 7.5 36.2

1920 32.0 8.2 40.2

1940 39.7 12.9 52.7

1950 42.8 16.5 59.3

1960 45.2 22.2 67.3

1970 49.2 30.6 79.8

1980 59.6 44.5 104.1

1990 66.4 56.5 122.8

2000 73.3 64.3 137.6

Numbers not shown on figure:

White Female Total Female

1860 1.0 1870 1.8

1870 1.2 1880 2.5

Both sexes
Male
Female

PARTICIPATION RATE (percentage of population 16 years and over)

Total (both sexes)

White

1860 51.8

1870 51.8

Total

1870 53.6

1880 55.2

1900 57.7

1910 60.2

1920 57.8

1940 55.6

1950 56.0

1960 57.6

1970 56.7

1980 60.9

1990 64.2

2000 64.9

Male

1860 88.1

1870 91.1

1870 91.5

1880 92.1

91.7

1900 91.7

1910 92.1

1920 90.4

1940 84.7

1950 83.2

1960 81.4

1970 77.0

1980 75.8

1990 75.3

2000 72.2

Female

13.1

12.4

15.8

16.9

22.1

26.0

24.1

27.1

30.3

36.1

42.0

50.5

57.5

58.2

Sources: Matthew Sobek (2006b), tables on labor force, in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 2, pp. 2-77 to 2-82; and U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

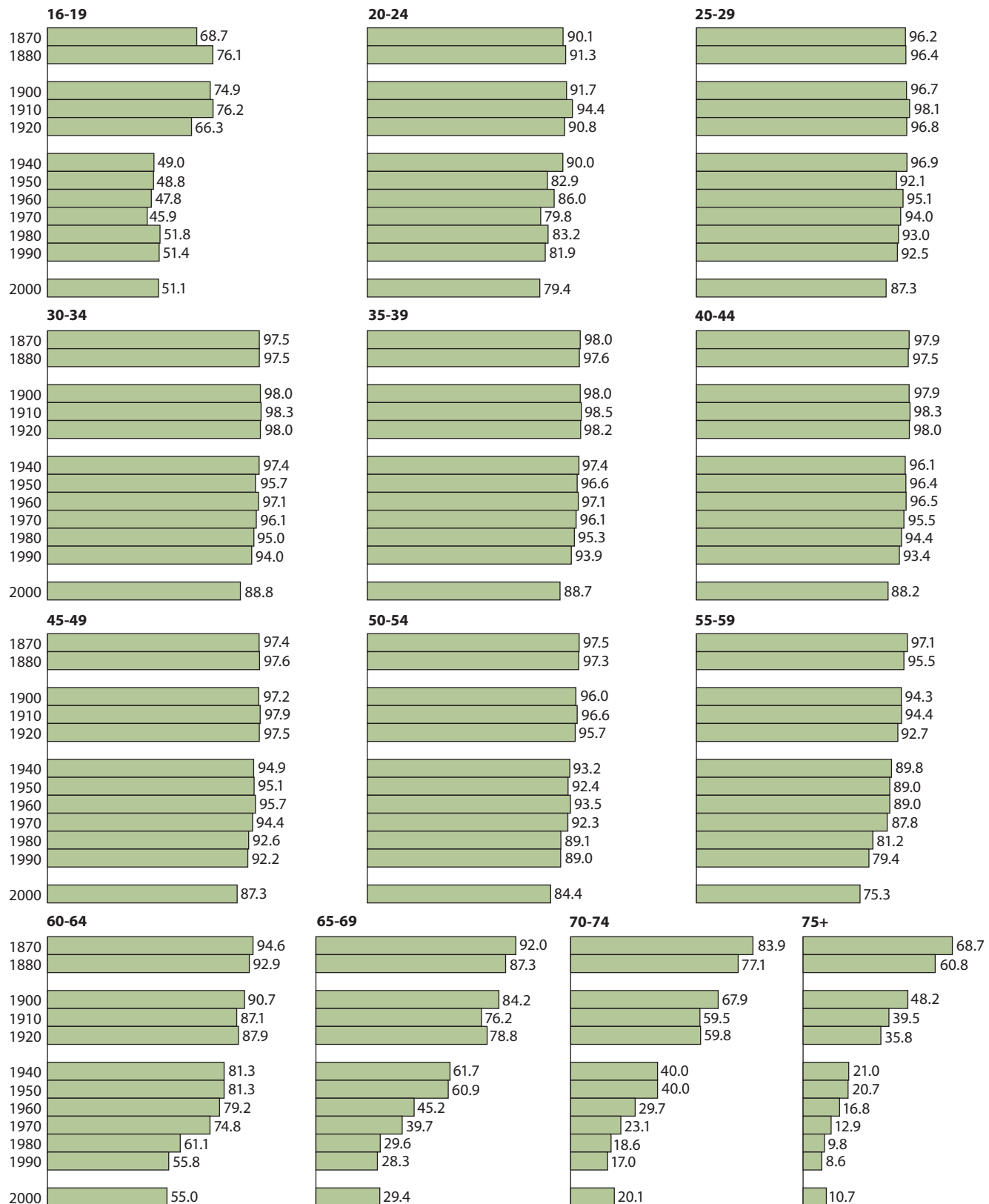
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Figure 15-3.

Males—Labor Force Participation Rates of the Population 16 Years and Over by Age for the United States: 1870 to 2000

(Percentage of male civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and over)



Sources: Matthew Sobek (2006b), tables on labor force, in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 2, pp. 2-77 to 2-82; and U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

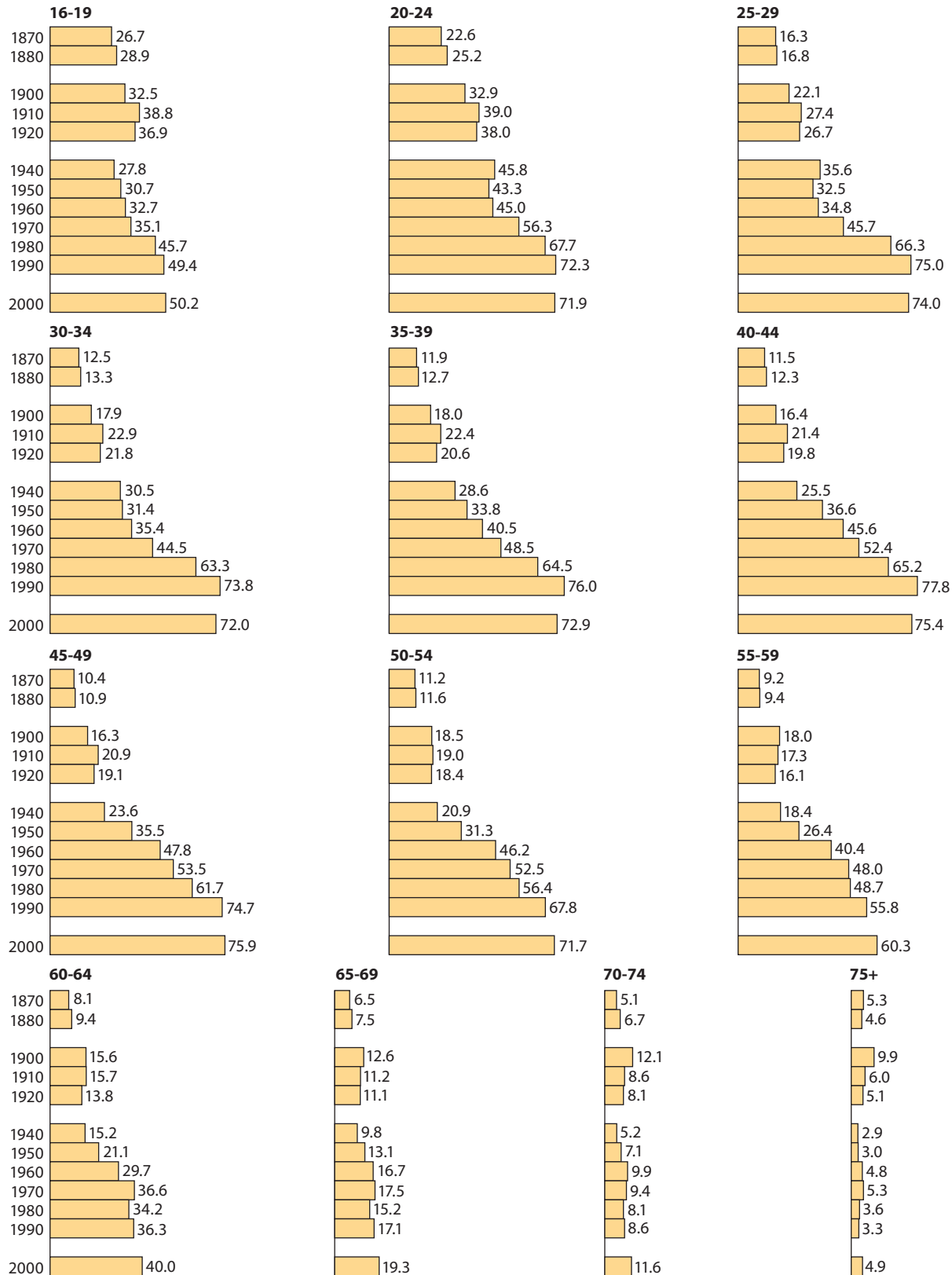
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Figure 15-4.

Females—Labor Force Participation Rates of the Population 16 Years and Over by Age for the United States: 1870 to 2000

(Percentage of female civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and over)



Sources: Matthew Sobek (2006b), tables on labor force, in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 2, pp. 2-77 to 2-82; and U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

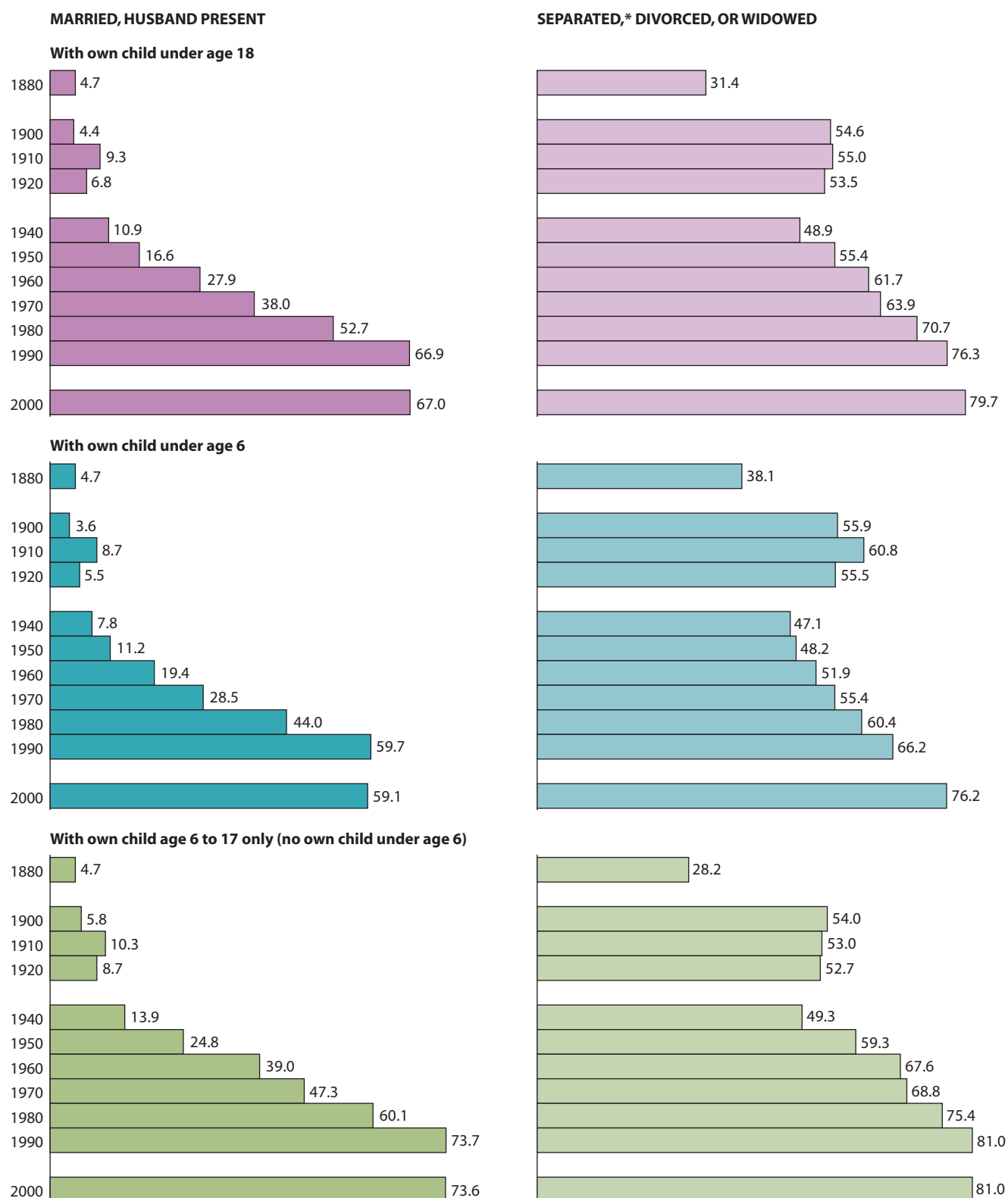
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Figure 15-5.

Labor Force Participation Rates of Ever-Married Women With One or More Own Children Under Age 18, by Marital Status of Woman and Age of Children, for the United States: 1880 to 2000

(Percentage in labor force among ever-married women in marital-status and own-children category)



*Separated includes husband absent, whether or not due to marital discord.

Sources: Matthew Sobek (2006b), tables on labor force, in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 2, pp. 2-77 to 2-82; and U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Chapter 16. Occupation

A question on occupation was included in every decennial census from 1850 to 2000, although information on occupation was not collected for the slave population in 1850 and 1860. In general, a person's occupation is the type of work that he or she does for pay, or in some cases as an unpaid family worker. Accurately describing someone's occupation in a single word or in a few words is not always easy, and as a result, classifying reports of occupation accurately and systematically can be extremely difficult. Census data on occupation have been extremely inconsistent over time. For example, the number of detailed occupations shown in census reports was 323 in 1850, 584 in 1860, 338 in 1870, 265 in 1880, 218 in 1890, and 303 in 1900, as shown in U.S. Census Office (1904), *Occupations*. Starting in 1870, data on occupations were grouped into four or five major groups, which corresponded roughly to industrial sectors of the economy. In 1900, these were agricultural pursuits, professional service, domestic and personal service, trade and transportation, and manufacturing and mechanical pursuits. The 1910 census was the first to collect data on both occupation and industry, where industry refers generally to the primary business of the person's employer. The classification of occupations became more systematic with more hierarchy during the 20th century. In the 2000 census, for example, the classification system included 509 detailed occupational categories, which could be collapsed into as few as 6 major occupational groups: management and professional; service; sales and office; farming, fishing and forestry; construction, extraction, and maintenance; and production, transportation, and material moving.

Figures 16-1 and 16-2 present consistent estimates of the occupational distribution for the United States from 1860 to 1990, as developed by Matthew Sobek (2006), "Occupations" in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 2, pp. 2-35 to 2-40 and pp. 2-133 to 2-139. These estimates are for 12 occupational groups, reflect the 1950 census classification system, and are based on the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS). (See Minnesota Population Center, no date, "IPUMS-USA, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)," <http://usa.ipums.org/usa-action/faq.do>) Figure 16-3 and Figure 16-4 present occupational data as published in census volumes. Figure 16-3 shows data for the United States for 1990 and 2000, which are not totally comparable due to changes occupational classification. Figure 16-4 shows data for the United States by region for 1940, 1970, and 2000, which are not totally comparable over time, but which permit a comparison of occupational distributions by region in each year.

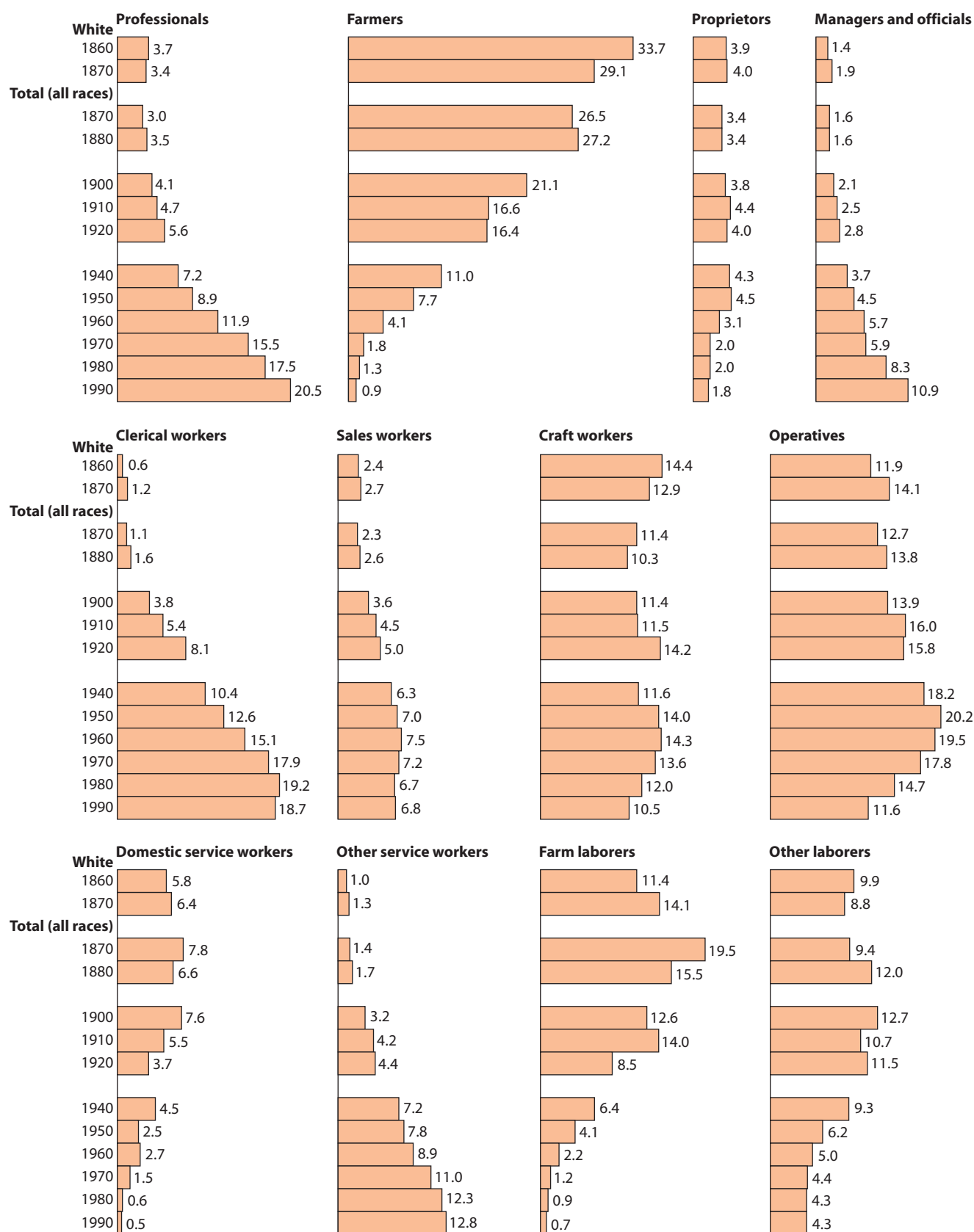
Figures

- 16-1. Occupational Groups of the Population 16 Years and Over for the United States: 1860 to 1990
- 16-2. Occupational Groups of Males and Females 16 Years and Over for the United States: 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 1990
- 16-3. Occupational Groups of the Population 16 Years and Over by Sex for the United States: 1990 and 2000
- 16-4. Percent Distribution by Occupational Group of the Population for the United States by Region: 1940, 1970, and 2000

Figure 16-1.

Occupational Groups of the Population 16 Years and Over for the United States: 1860 to 1990

(Percentage of noninstitutionalized civilians 16 years and over with occupation reported; employed population only, 1940 to 1990)



Source: Matthew Sobek (2006a), tables on occupation, in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 2, pp. 2-133 to 2-139.

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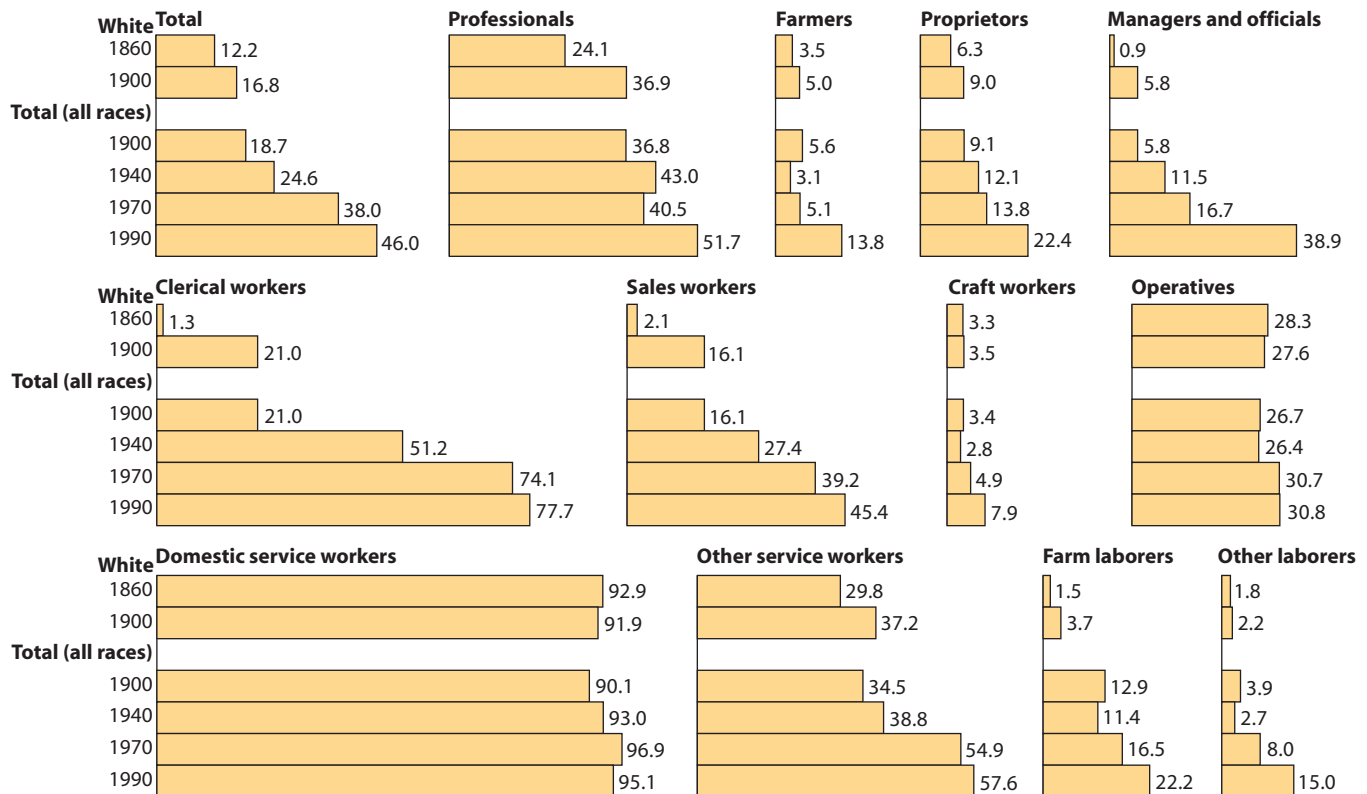
Figure 16-2.

Occupational Groups of Males and Females 16 Years and Over for the United States: 1860, 1900, 1940, 1970, and 1990

(Data are for noninstitutionalized civilians 16 years and over with occupation reported; employed population only, 1940 to 1990)

	Total	Professionals	Farmers	Proprietors	Managers and officials	Clerical workers	Sales workers	Craft workers	Operatives	Domestic service workers	Other service workers	Farm laborers	Other laborers
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION FOR MALES													
White													
1860	100.0	3.2	37.1	4.2	1.6	0.6	2.7	15.8	9.7	0.5	0.8	12.8	11.0
1900	100.0	3.4	24.1	4.6	2.8	4.1	4.2	14.8	13.2	0.6	2.3	12.1	13.8
Total (all races)													
1900	100.0	3.2	24.6	4.2	2.5	3.7	3.8	13.5	12.5	0.9	2.6	13.5	15.0
1940	100.0	5.4	14.2	5.0	4.3	6.7	6.0	14.9	17.7	0.4	5.8	7.5	11.9
1970	100.0	14.9	2.8	2.8	7.9	7.5	7.1	20.8	19.9	0.1	8.0	1.7	6.5
1990	100.0	18.3	1.4	2.7	12.3	7.7	6.9	17.9	14.9	0.0	10.0	1.0	6.7
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION FOR FEMALES													
White													
1860	100.0	7.2	9.7	2.0	0.1	0.1	0.4	3.9	27.4	43.9	2.5	1.4	1.4
1900	100.0	9.9	6.3	2.3	0.8	5.4	4.0	2.7	24.9	33.0	6.8	2.3	1.5
Total (all races)													
1900	100.0	8.0	6.3	1.8	0.7	4.3	3.1	2.1	19.8	36.7	5.9	8.7	2.6
1940	100.0	12.7	1.4	2.1	1.7	21.8	7.0	1.3	19.6	17.0	11.3	3.0	1.0
1970	100.0	16.6	0.2	0.7	2.6	35.0	7.5	1.7	14.4	3.9	15.9	0.5	0.9
1990	100.0	23.0	0.3	0.9	9.2	31.6	6.8	1.8	7.8	0.9	16.0	0.3	1.4

PERCENT FEMALE IN OCCUPATIONAL GROUP



Source: Matthew Sobek (2006a), tables on occupation, in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 2, pp. 2-133 to 2-139.

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Figure 16-3.

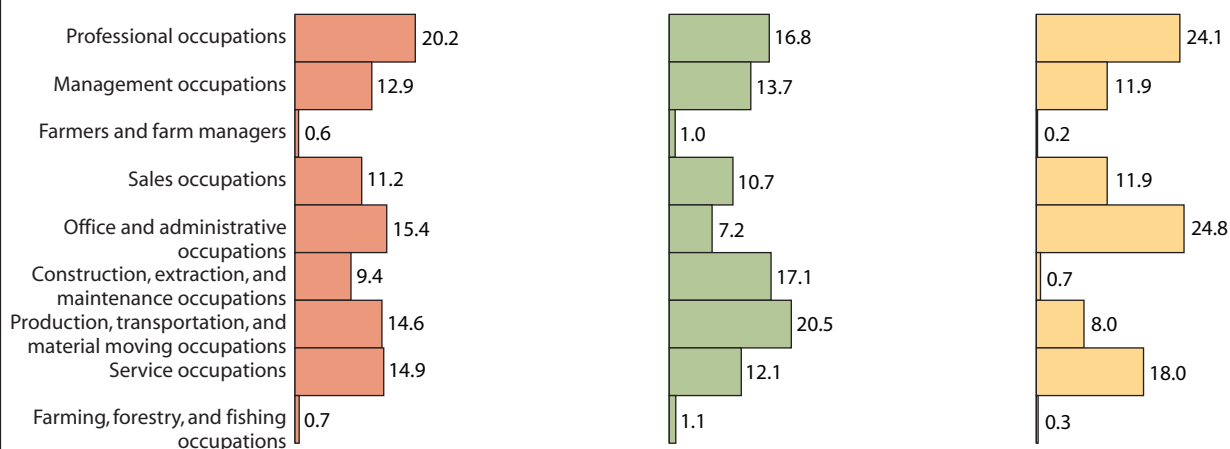
Occupational Groups of the Population 16 Years and Over by Sex for the United States: 1990 and 2000

(Data are for the employed civilian noninstitutionalized population)

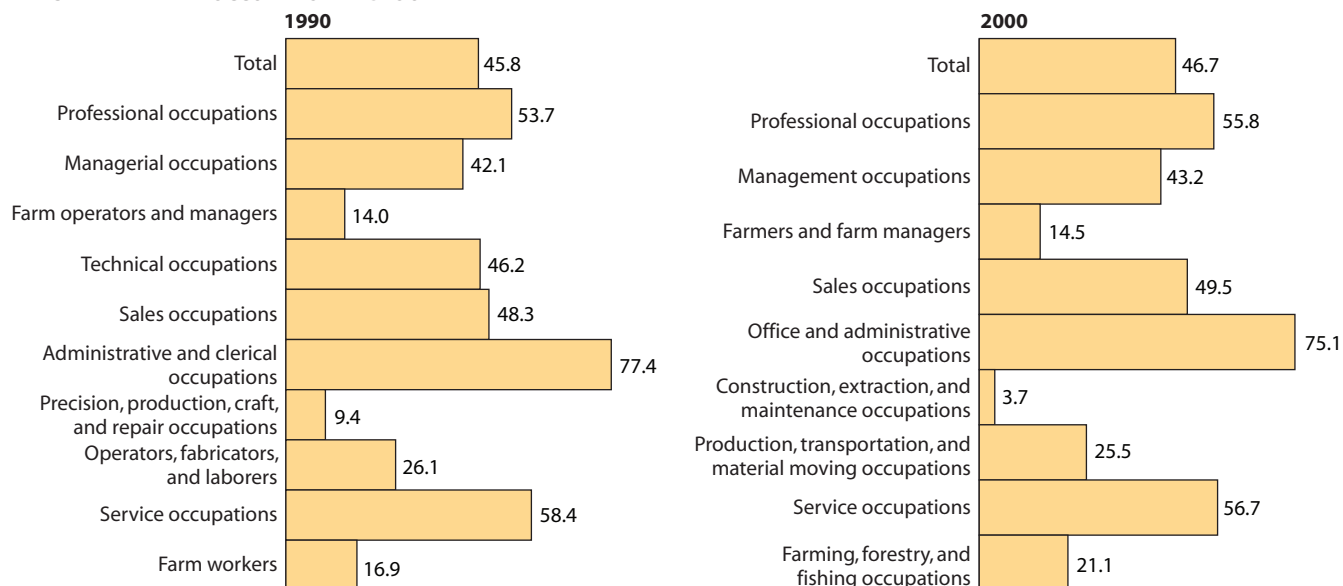
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY OCCUPATIONAL GROUP—1990



PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY OCCUPATIONAL GROUP—2000



PERCENT FEMALE IN OCCUPATIONAL GROUP



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

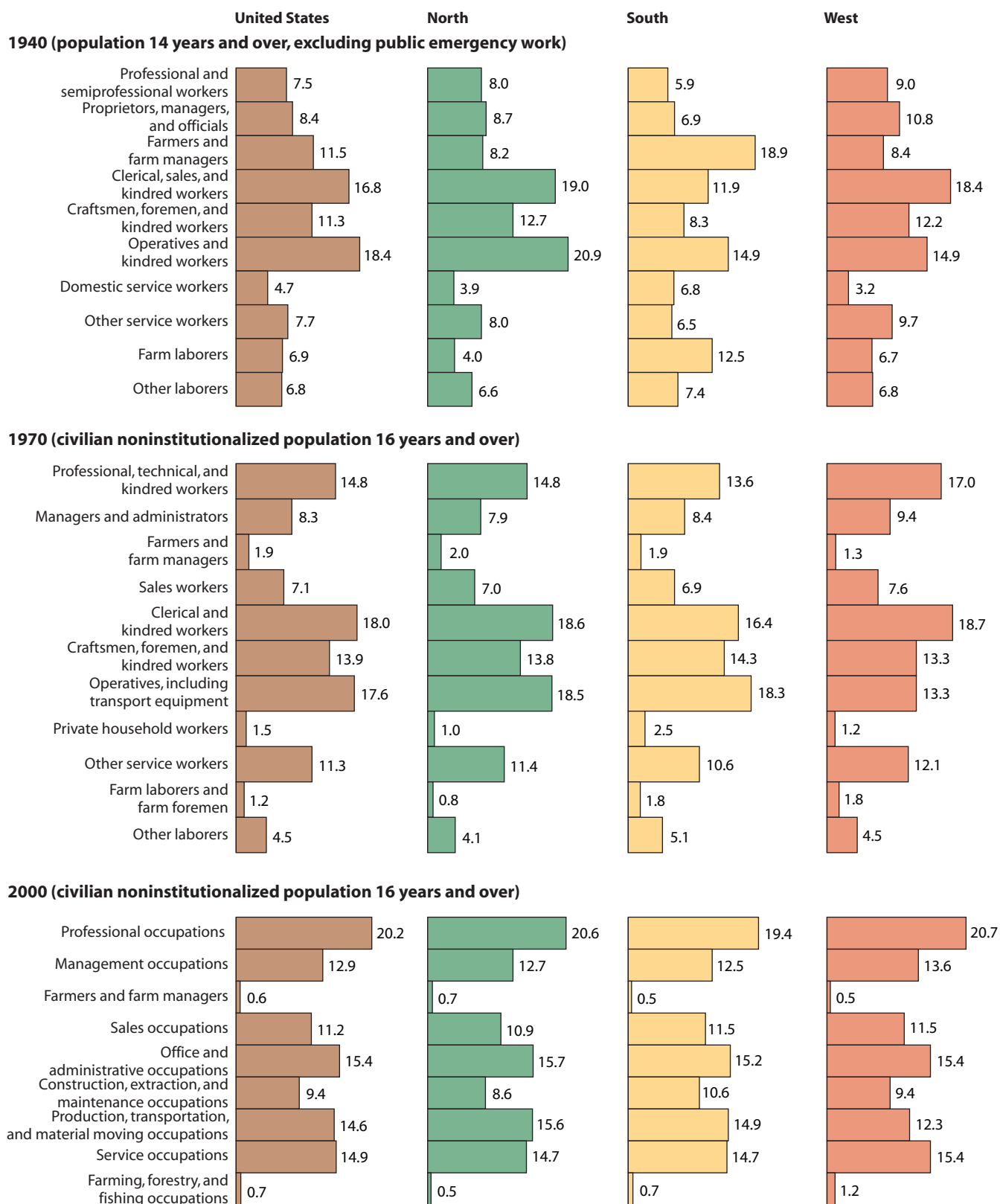
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Figure 16-4.

Percent Distribution by Occupational Group of the Population for the United States by Region: 1940, 1970, and 2000

(Data are for the employed population)



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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Chapter 17. Industry

Industry in decennial census data refers generally to the primary business (i.e., the kinds of goods or services provided) of the person's employer, or of the person in case of those who are self-employed. Thus, for example, a mining company (whose employees would be classified in the mining industry, or a larger industry grouping including mining) might include employees with a variety of occupations, such as miners, engineers, clerks, managers, etc.

The 1820 census included a tally by household of the number of persons (including slaves) "engaged" in three categories (agriculture, commerce and manufactures); and the 1840 census included a similar tally of persons "employed" in seven categories (mining; agriculture; commerce; manufactures and trades; navigation of the ocean, navigation of canals, lakes and rivers; and learned professions and engineers). While these categories were not comprehensive or precisely defined, the information collected represents the first data on industry (or industrial groups) in the decennial census. A question on industry was included in every census from 1910 to 2000, along with a question on occupation. The classification of industries became more systematic with more hierarchy during the 20th century. In the 2000 census, for example, the classification system included 265 detailed industry categories, which were collapsed to as few as 13 major industrial categories in data products from the 2000 census.

Figure 17-1 presents consistent estimates of major industrial groups for the United States from 1910 to 1990, as developed by Matthew Sobek (2006), tables on industry, in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 2, pp. 2-101 to 2-107. These estimates are for 14 major industrial groups, reflect the 1950 census classification system, and are based on the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS). (See Minnesota Population Center, no date, "IPUMS-USA, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ),"

<http://usa.ipums.org/usa-action/faq.do>) Figure 17-1 presents also industrial group data as published in the 1990 and 2000 censuses. Figure 17-2 presents data published in census volumes for the United States by region for industrial groups for 1820 and 1840 (as described above, but with the two navigation categories combined for 1840), and for 1880 and 1900 for five industrial sectors based on detailed occupational data. Figure 17-3 presents data for the United States by region for 1940, 1970, and 2000, collapsed down to six major industrial categories to lessen issues of comparability over time.

Figures

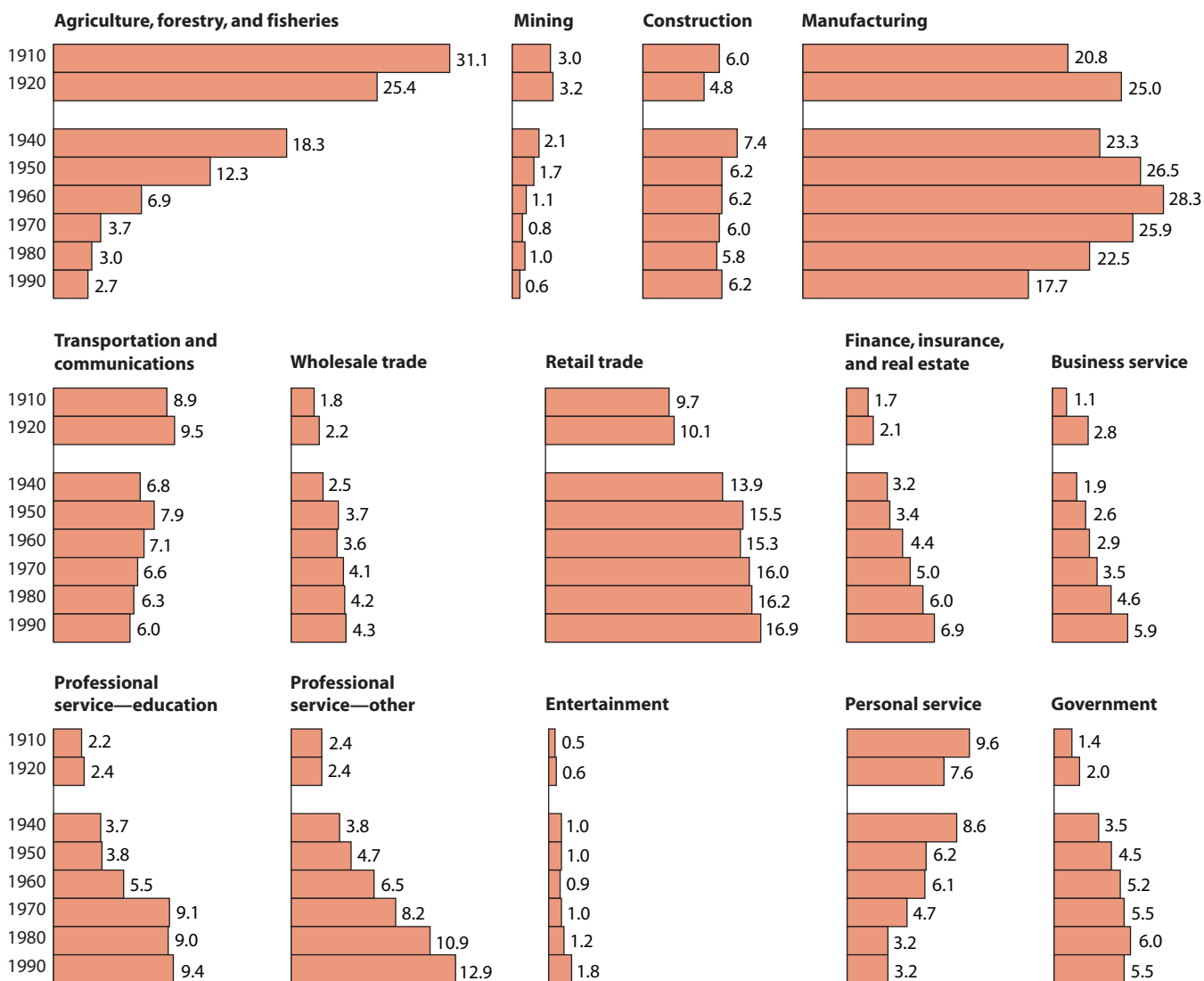
- 17-1. Industrial Groups of the Population 16 Years and Over for the United States: 1910 to 2000
- 17-2. Percent Distribution by Industrial Group of the Population for the United States by Region: 1820, 1840, 1880, and 1900
- 17-3. Percent Distribution by Industrial Group of the Population for the United States by Region: 1940, 1970, and 2000

Figure 17-1.

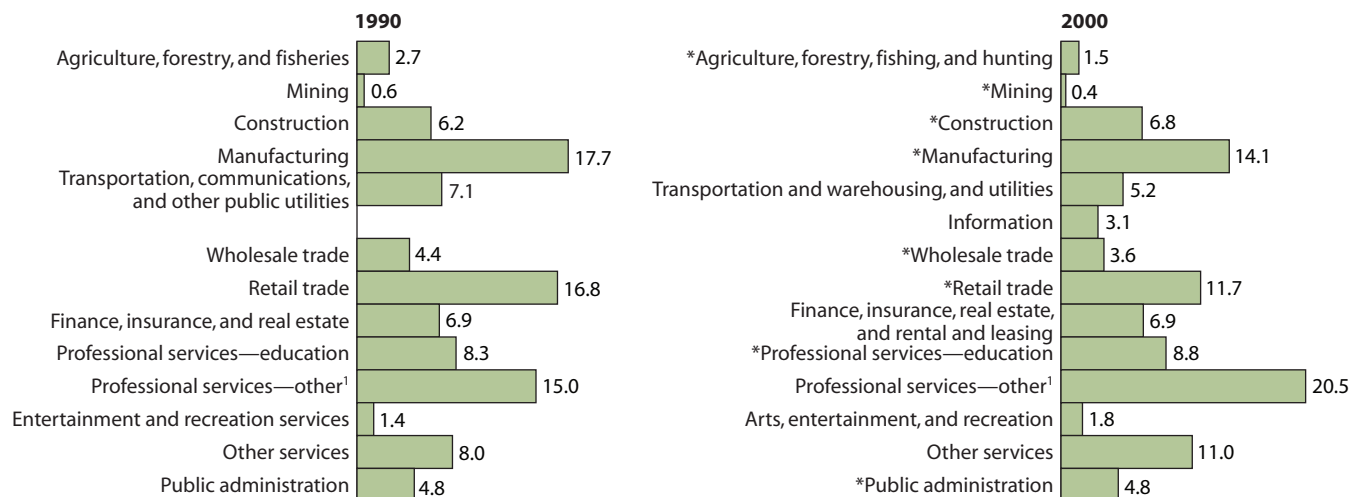
Industrial Groups of the Population 16 Years and Over for the United States: 1910 to 2000

(Percentage of noninstitutionalized civilians 16 years and over with industry reported; employed population only, 1940 to 1990)

1910 TO 1990



1990 AND 2000 (categories generally comparable between 1990 and 2000 indicated with an asterisk for 2000)



¹ Includes health care and social assistance.

Sources: Matthew Sobek (2006c), tables on industry, in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Millennial Edition*, Vol. 2, pp. 2-101 to 2-107; and U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com/References.

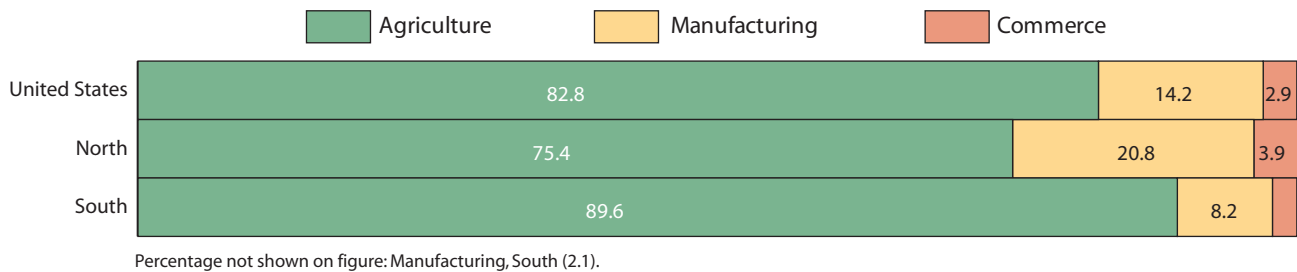
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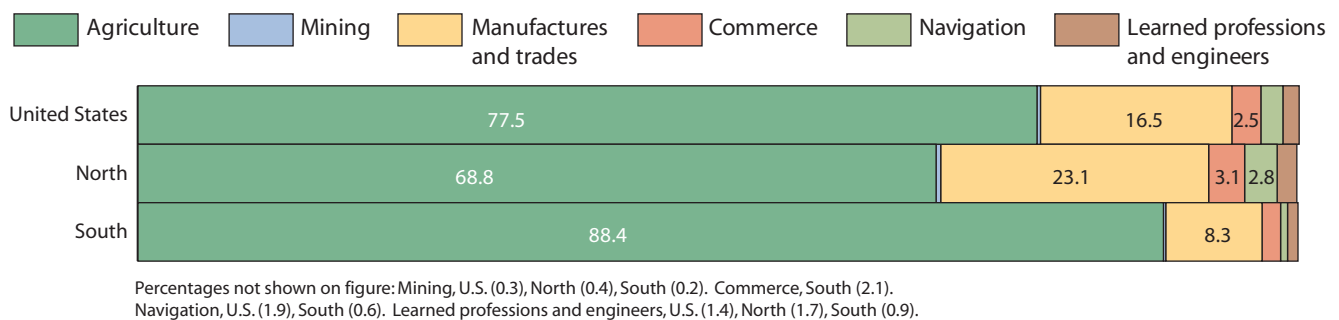
Figure 17-2.

Percent Distribution by Industrial Group of the Population for the United States by Region: 1820, 1840, 1880, and 1900

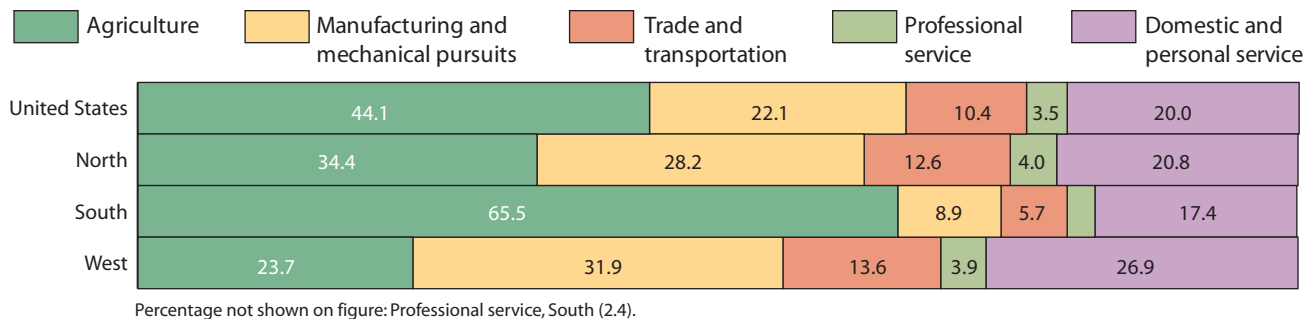
1820 (based on categories included on the census questionnaire)



1840 (based on categories included on the census questionnaire)



1880 (based on detailed occupational data for the population 10 years and over)



1900 (based on detailed occupational data for the population 10 years and over)

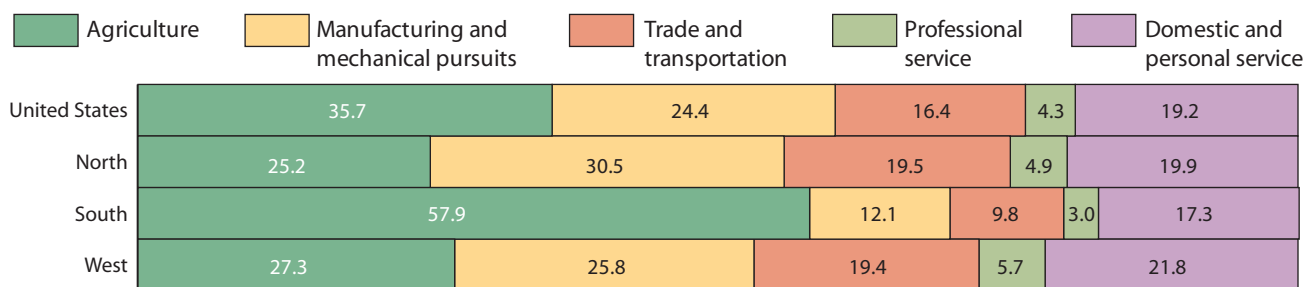
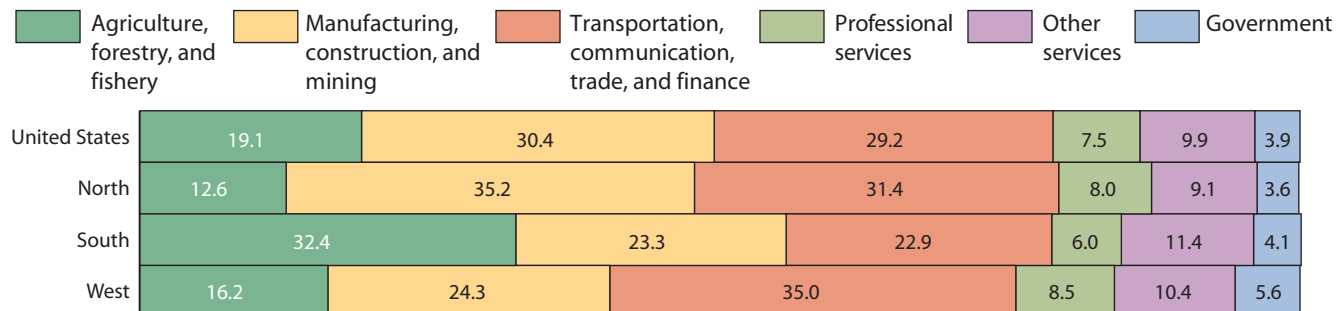


Figure 17-3.

Percent Distribution by Industrial Group of the Population for the United States by Region: 1940, 1970, and 2000

(Data are for the employed population)

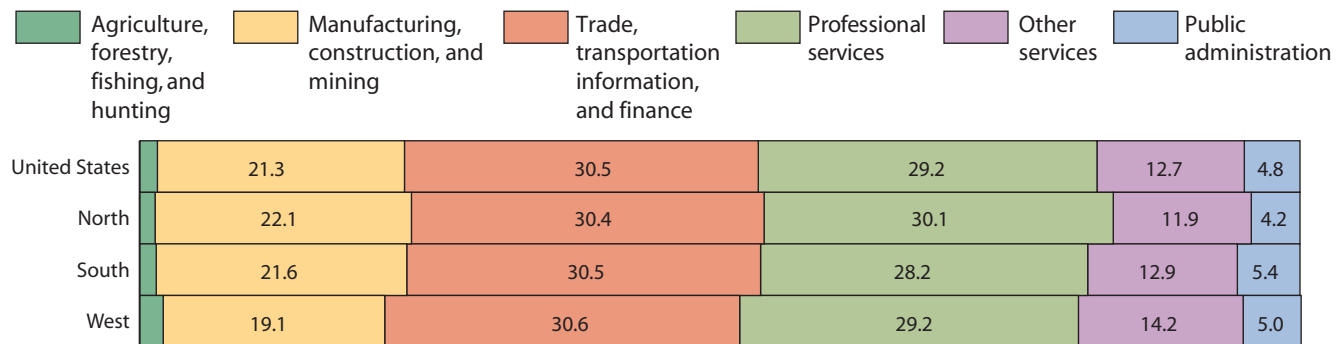
1940 (population 14 years and over, excluding public emergency work)



1970 (civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and over)



2000 (civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and over)



Percentages not shown on figure: Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, U.S. (1.5), North (1.3), South (1.4), West (2.0).

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications. See www.demographicchartbook.com, References.

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(References are listed chronologically, starting with publications from the U.S. Census Office followed by publications from the U.S. Bureau of the Census (starting in 1906) and the U.S. Census Bureau (starting in 2001). Most of these publications are available in PDF on the Census Bureau Internet site (www.census.gov, Publications, Census of Population and Housing). In the case of census publications published through 1945, Dubester numbers are included, which are from Henry J. Dubester, Catalog of United States Census Publications: 1790-1945. Lengthy titles are shortened for references cited in Dubester, which includes full titles and annotations.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Background

Campbell Gibson retired from the U.S. Census Bureau in 2006 after a 35-year career, most recently as Senior Demographer in Population Division. In addition to earlier positions in the Fertility Statistics Branch and in the Population Projections Branch, where he served as Chief, he served as Demographic Statistics Advisor to the Saudi-American Joint Economic Commission in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 1978-1981 and 1993-1995. His publications include numerous Census Bureau reports and journal articles, including several publications on historical demographic trends and reference works on historical demographic statistics for the United States. In addition, he designed the statistical content of several publications from the 1990 and 2000 censuses and several 2000 census data sets on the Census Bureau's Internet site. Dr. Gibson received a bachelor's degree in history from Stanford University and a Ph.D. in demography from the University of California at Berkeley.

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