

## 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.

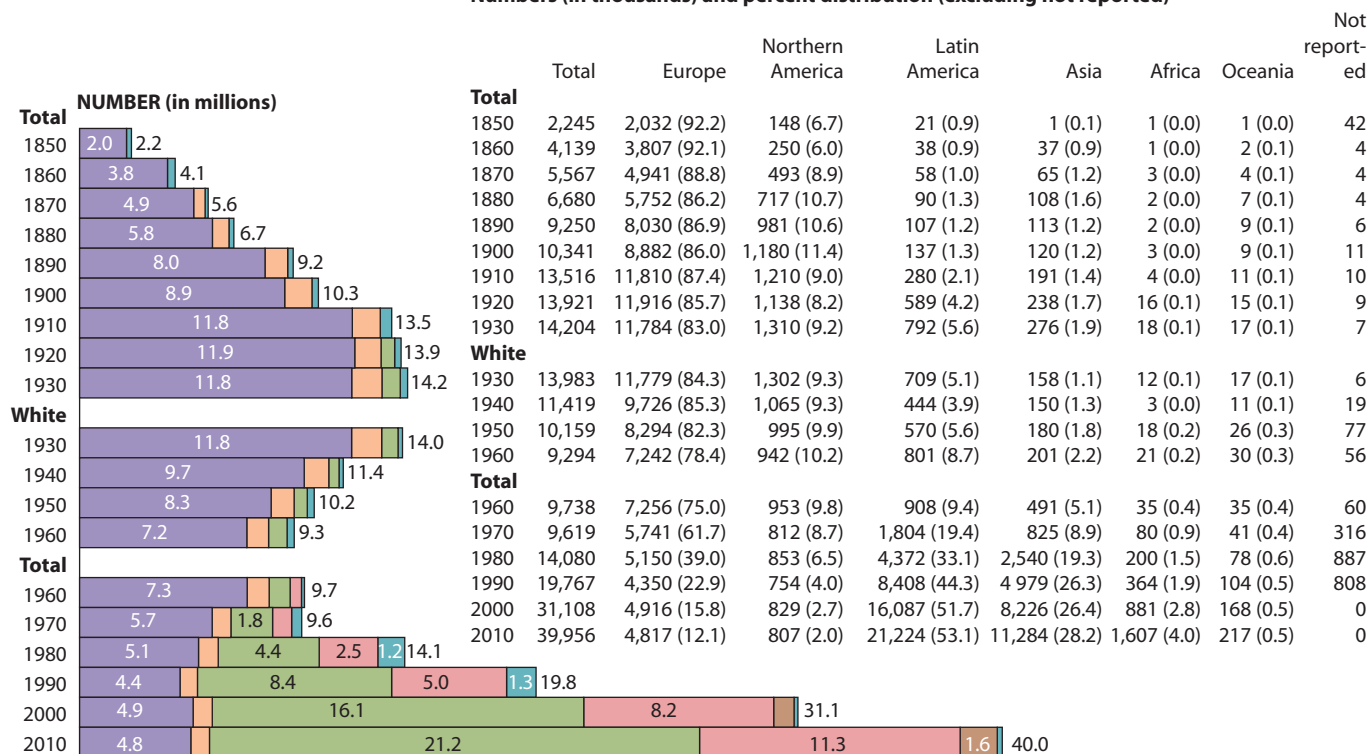
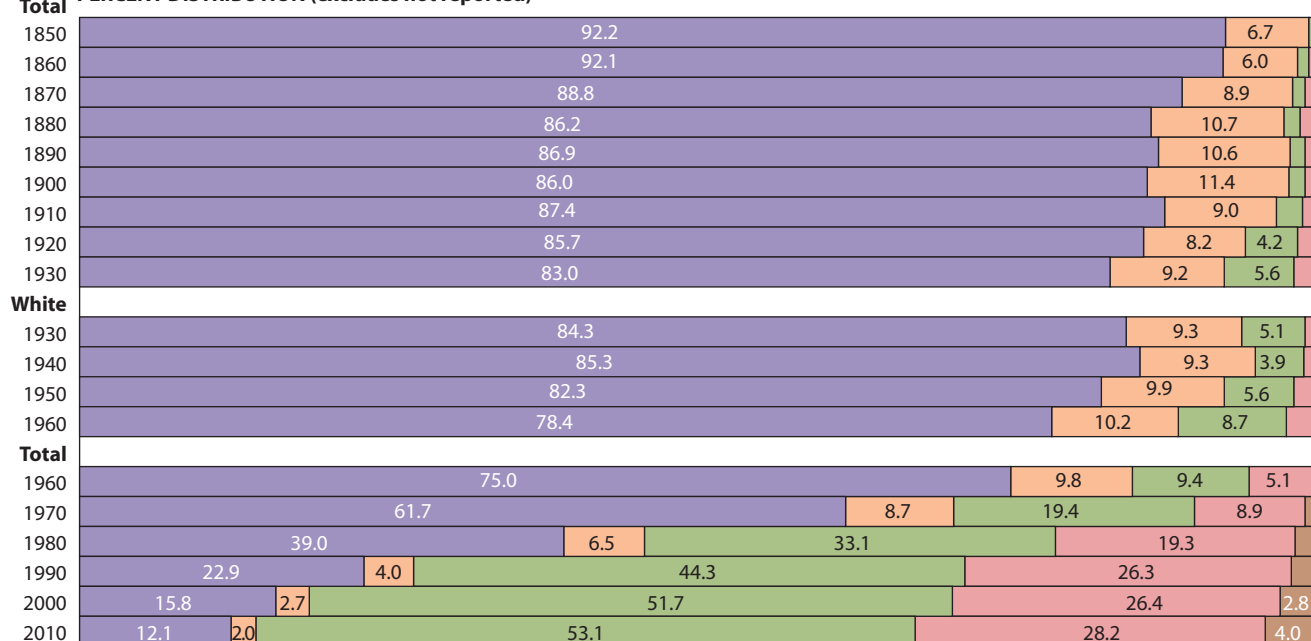
### Figures

- 13-1. Foreign-Born Population by World Region of Birth for the United States: 1850 to 2010
- 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, 2000, and 2010
- 13-3. Foreign-Born Population from Europe by Subregion of Birth for the United States: 1850 to 2010
- 13-4. Ten Leading Countries of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population for the United States: 1850 to 2010
- 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 2010 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 2010**

(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 for 2010, the American Community Survey (ACS), 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](http://www.demographicchartbook.com), References.

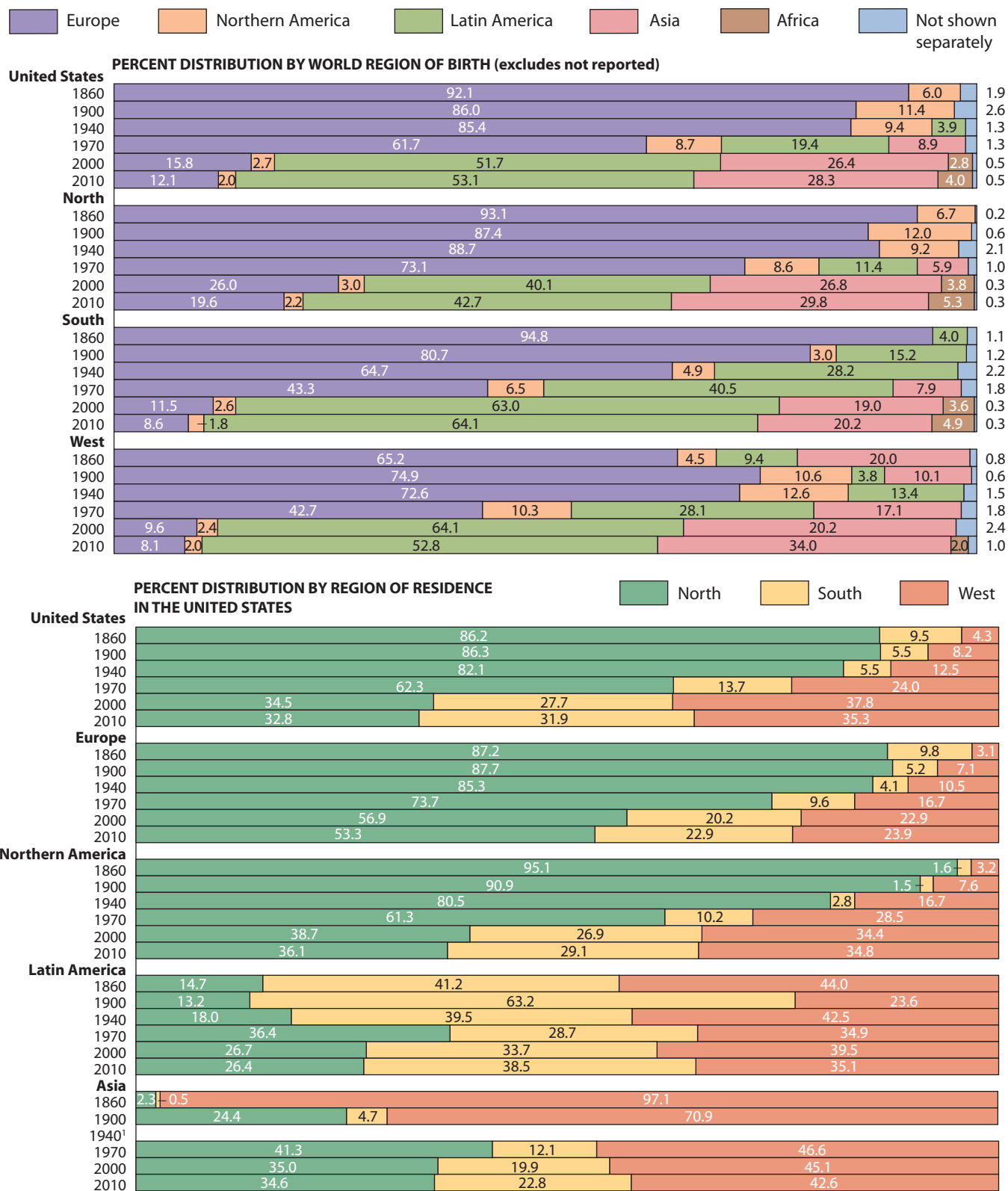
Copyright © 2013 by Campbell Gibson. Graphics may be copied for personal use or for educational purposes, but may not be sold.

February 25, 2013

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, 2000, and 2010

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



<sup>1</sup> Not shown because data limited to White population are not comparable with data for other years.

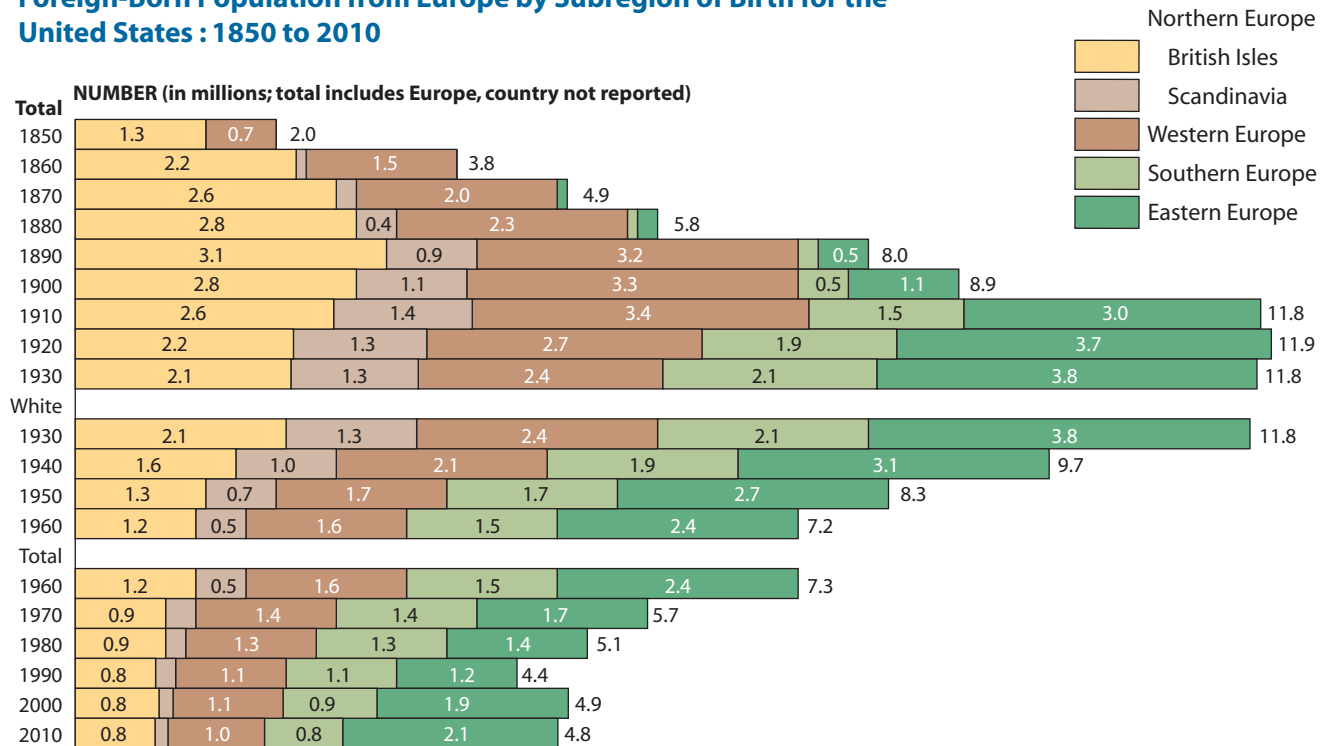
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications and for 2010, the American Community Survey (ACS), and Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung (2006), "Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 2000," Population Division Working Paper No. 81. See [www.demographicchartbook.com](http://www.demographicchartbook.com), References.

Copyright © 2013 by Campbell Gibson. Graphics may be copied for personal use or for educational purposes, but may not be sold.

March 6, 2013

Figure 13-3.

### Foreign-Born Population from Europe by Subregion of Birth for the United States : 1850 to 2010

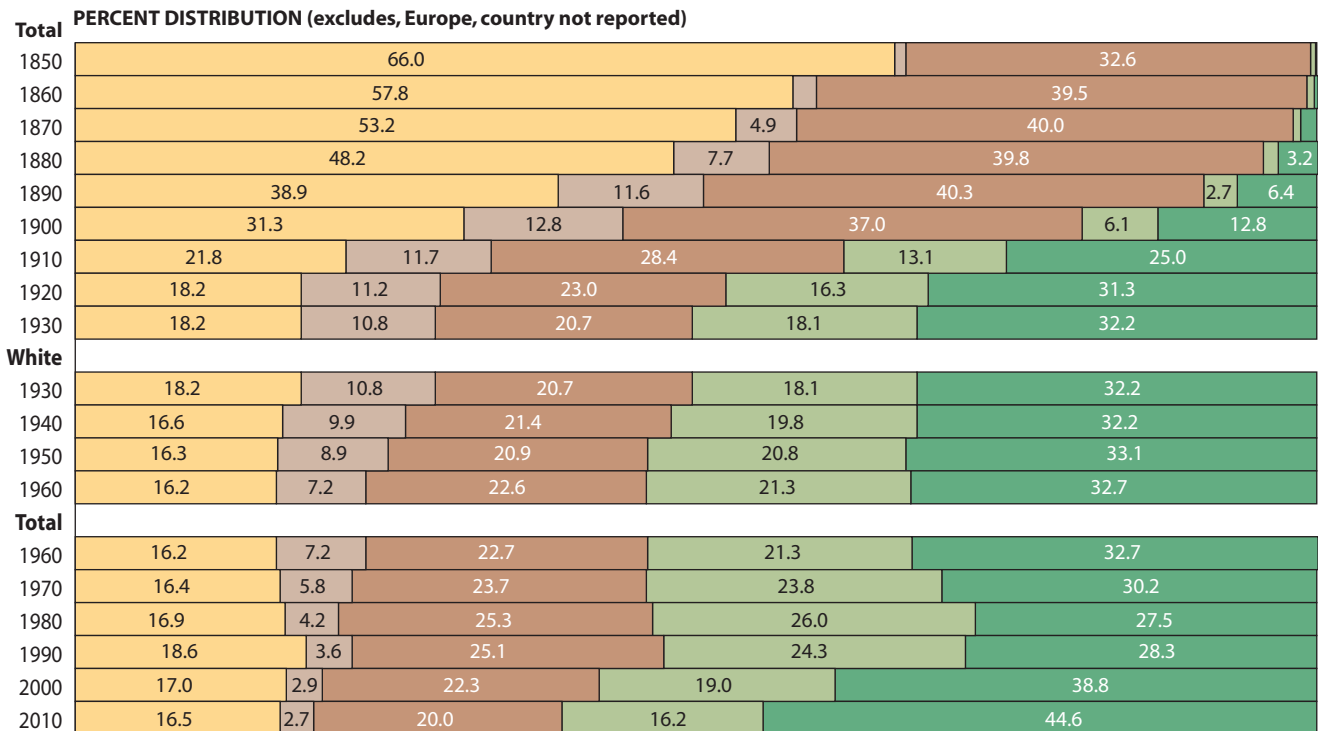


Numbers not shown on figure:

**Scandinavia:** 1860, 0.1; 1870, 0.2; 1970, 0.3; 1980, 0.2; 1990, 0.2; 2000, 0.1; 2010, 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, 1.3

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications and for 2010, the American Community Survey (ACS), 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](http://www.demographicchartbook.com/References).

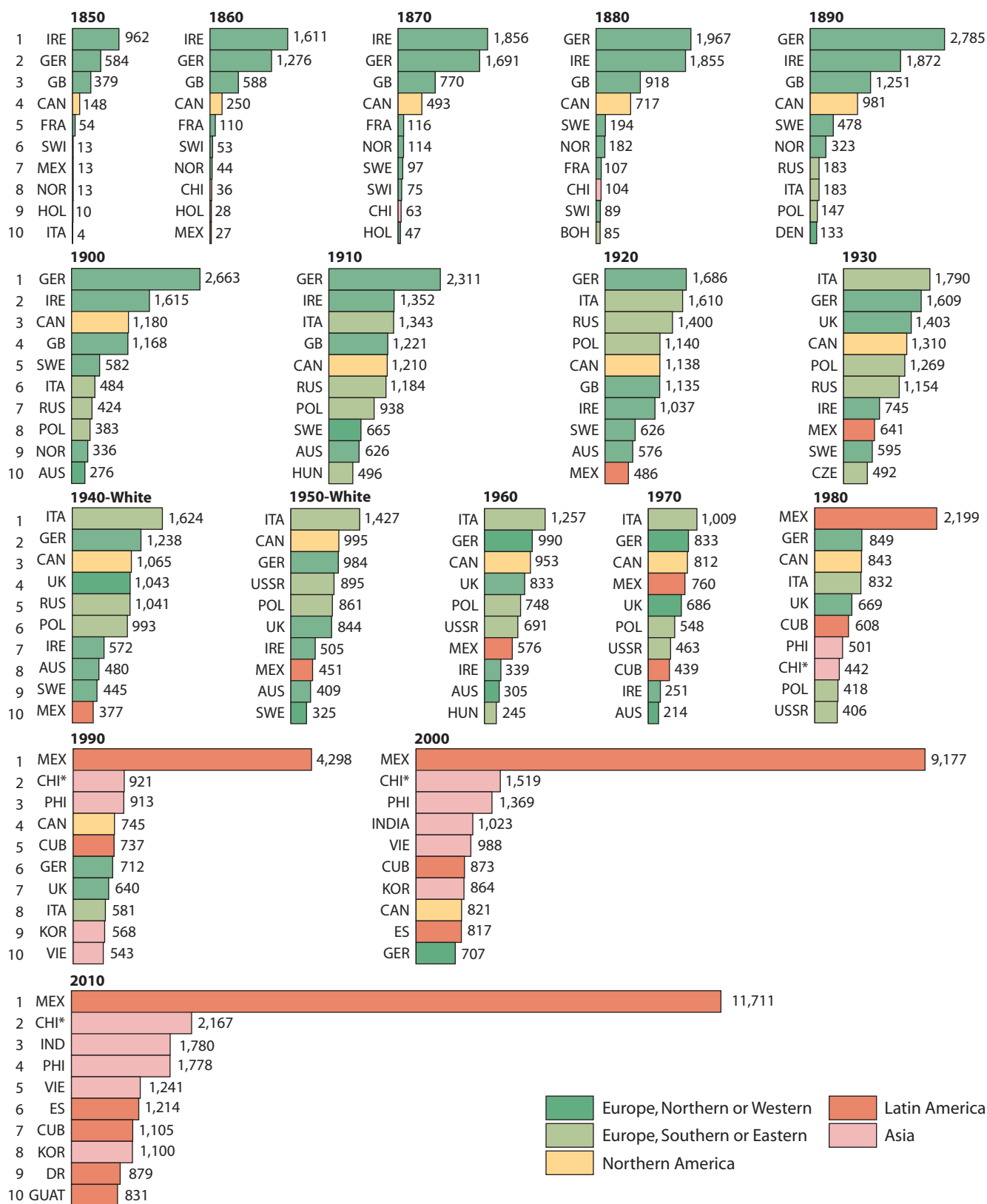
Copyright © 2013 by Campbell Gibson. Graphics may be copied for personal use or for educational purposes, but may not be sold.

March 6, 2013

Figure 13-4.

# **Ten Leading Countries of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population for the United States: 1850 to 2010**

(Numbers in thousands. 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 1980–2010 include Hong Kong and Taiwan, which were also reported separately in those years.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications and for 2010, the American Community Survey (ACS), 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](http://www.demographicchartbook.com), References.

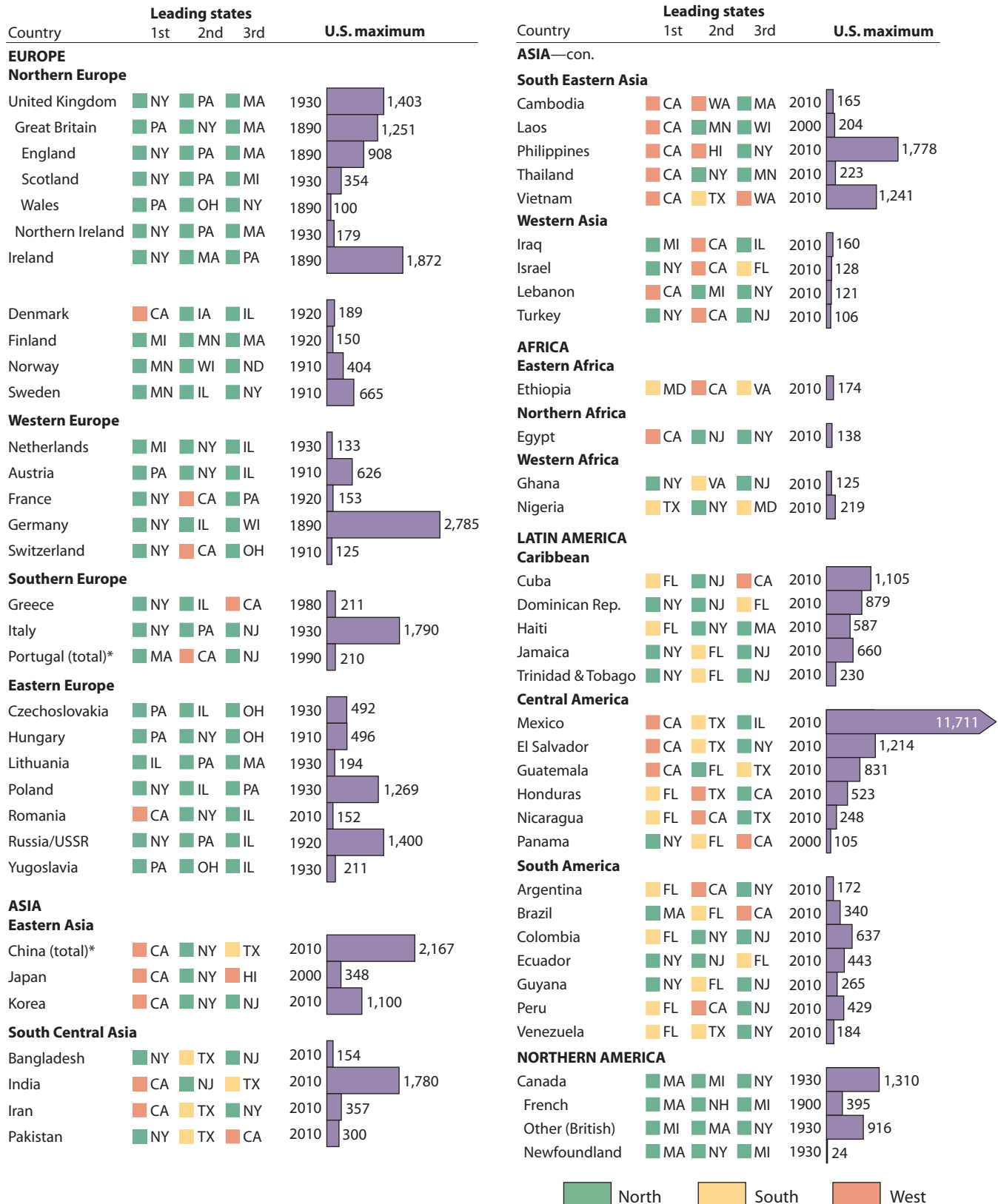
Copyright © 2013 by Campbell Gibson. Graphics may be copied for personal use or for educational purposes, but may not be sold.

March 6, 2013

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 2010 Period

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



\* Portugal includes Azores. China includes Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census publications and for 2010, the American Community Survey (ACS), 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](http://www.demographicchartbook.com/References).

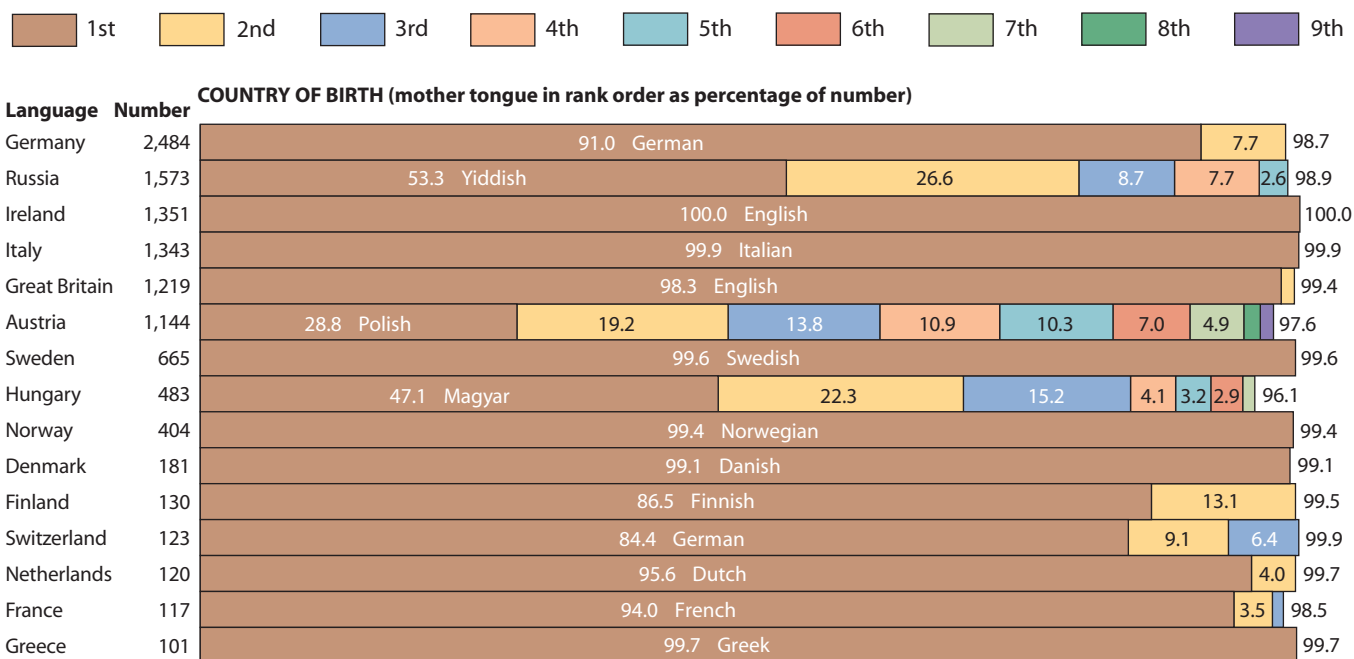
Copyright © 2013 by Campbell Gibson. Graphics may be copied for personal use or for educational purposes, but may not be sold.

April 25, 2013

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)



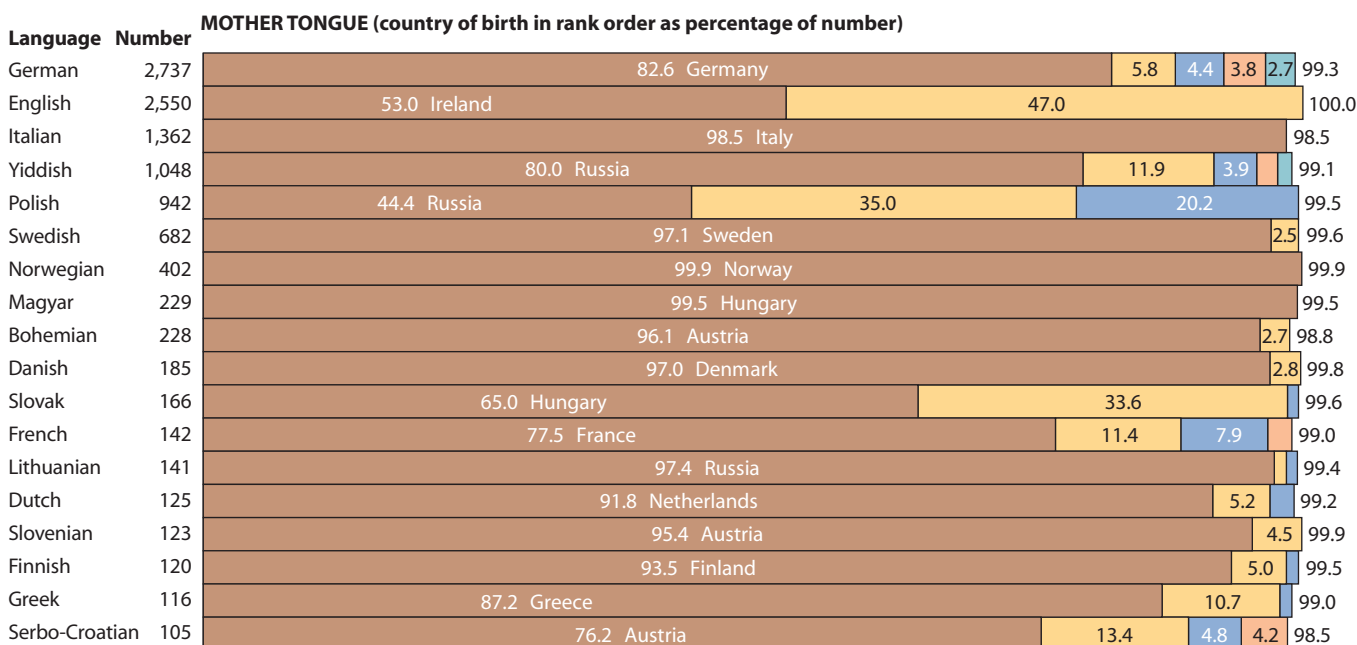
Percentages for languages not labeled on figure (includes languages representing 1.0 percent or more of total):

**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](http://www.demographicchartbook.com), References.

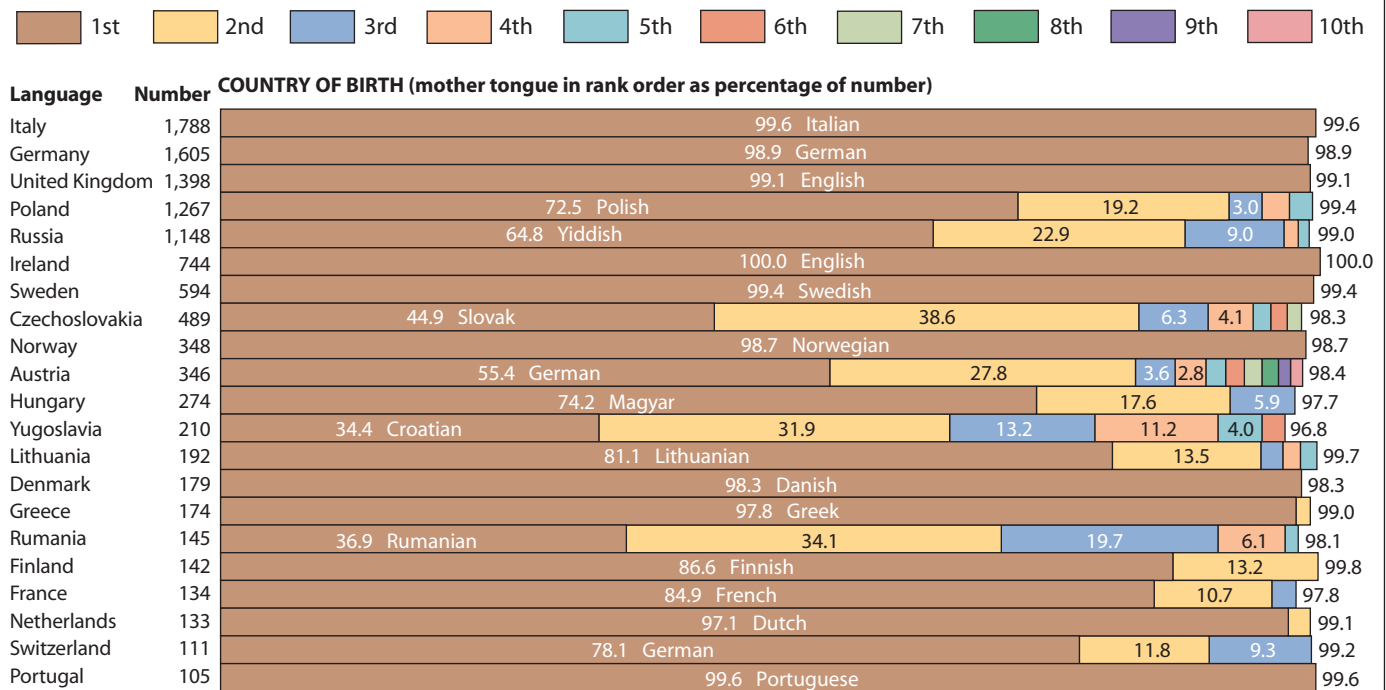
Copyright © 2010 by Campbell Gibson. Graphics may be copied for personal use or for educational purposes, but may not be sold.

June 2, 2010

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).

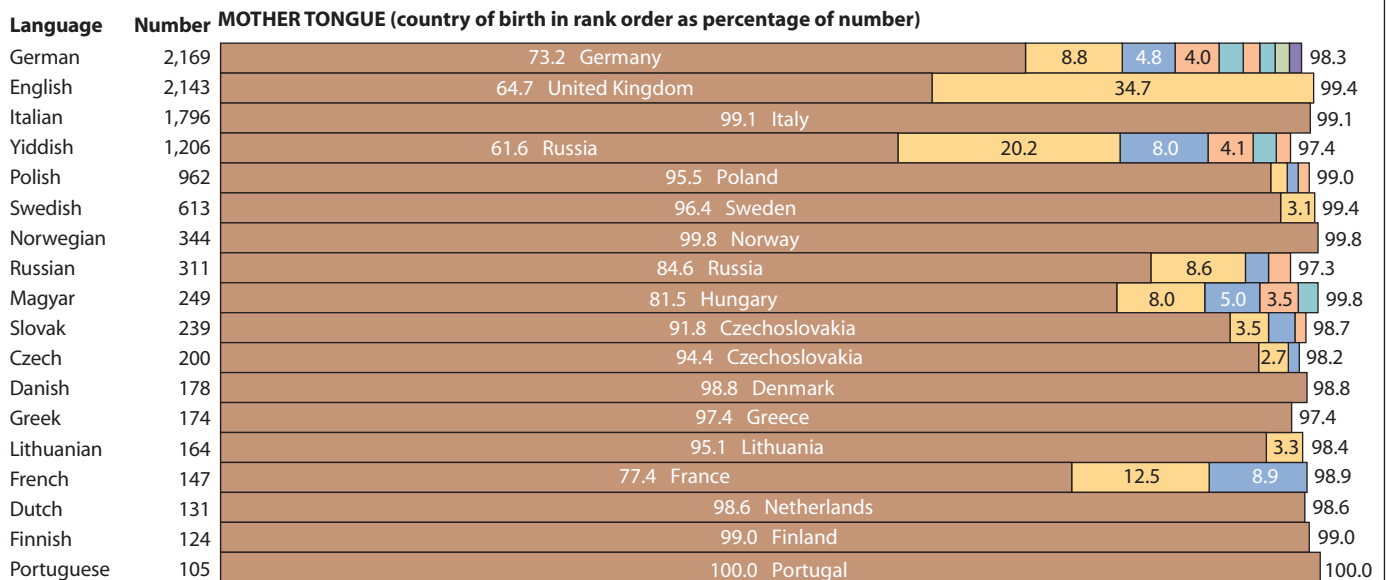
**Czechoslovakia:** Czech (38.6), German (6.3), Magyar (4.1), Yiddish (1.6), Ruthenian (1.5), Russian (1.3).

**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](http://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.

June 2, 2010