

# Nebraska's Changing Demographics

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## Three Major Trends in Population

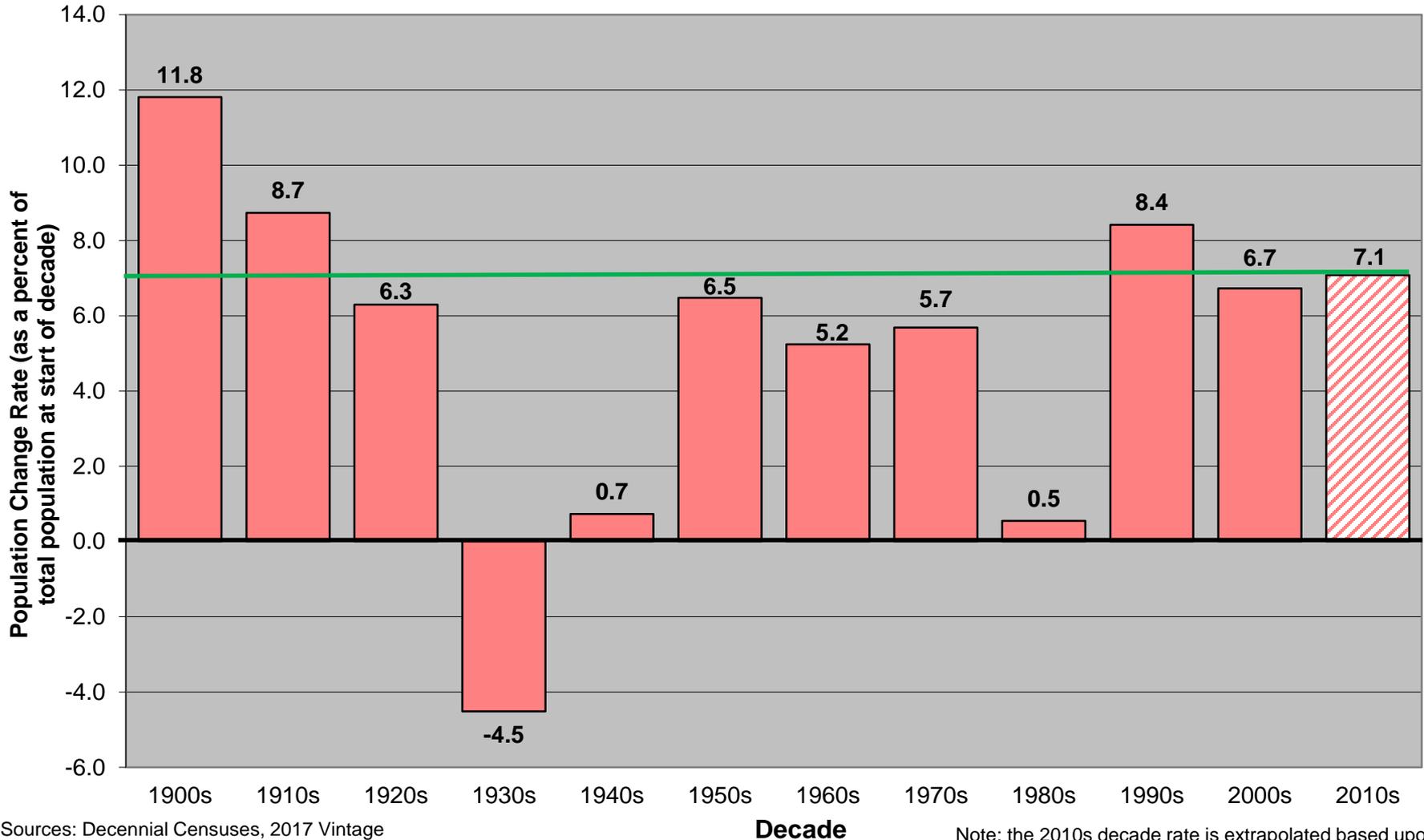
1. The state's population is getting older and will continue to age.
2. The state's population is becoming more racially and ethnically diverse
3. Nebraska's population is becoming more and more concentrated in its most populous counties.





Besides the 1990s, Nebraska's current population change is the highest since the 1910s

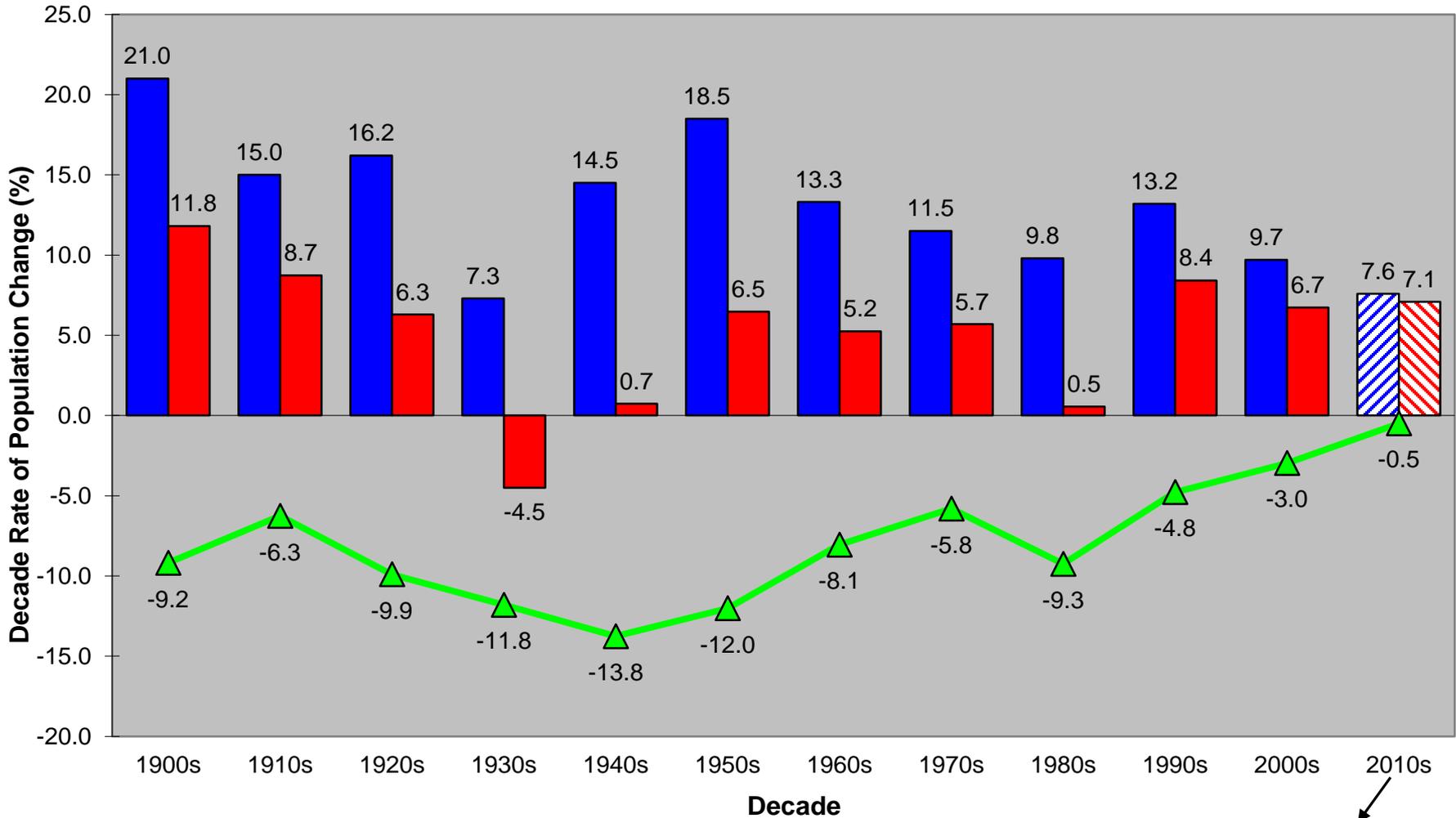
### Nebraska Population Change Rate by Decade: 1900s to 2000s with 2010s Extrapolated from the 2017 Estimate



Sources: Decennial Censuses, 2017 Vintage Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

Note: the 2010s decade rate is extrapolated based upon what is estimated to have occurred between 2010 and 2017.

### Comparison of Population Change Rates in Nebraska and the U.S.: 1900s to 2010s decades



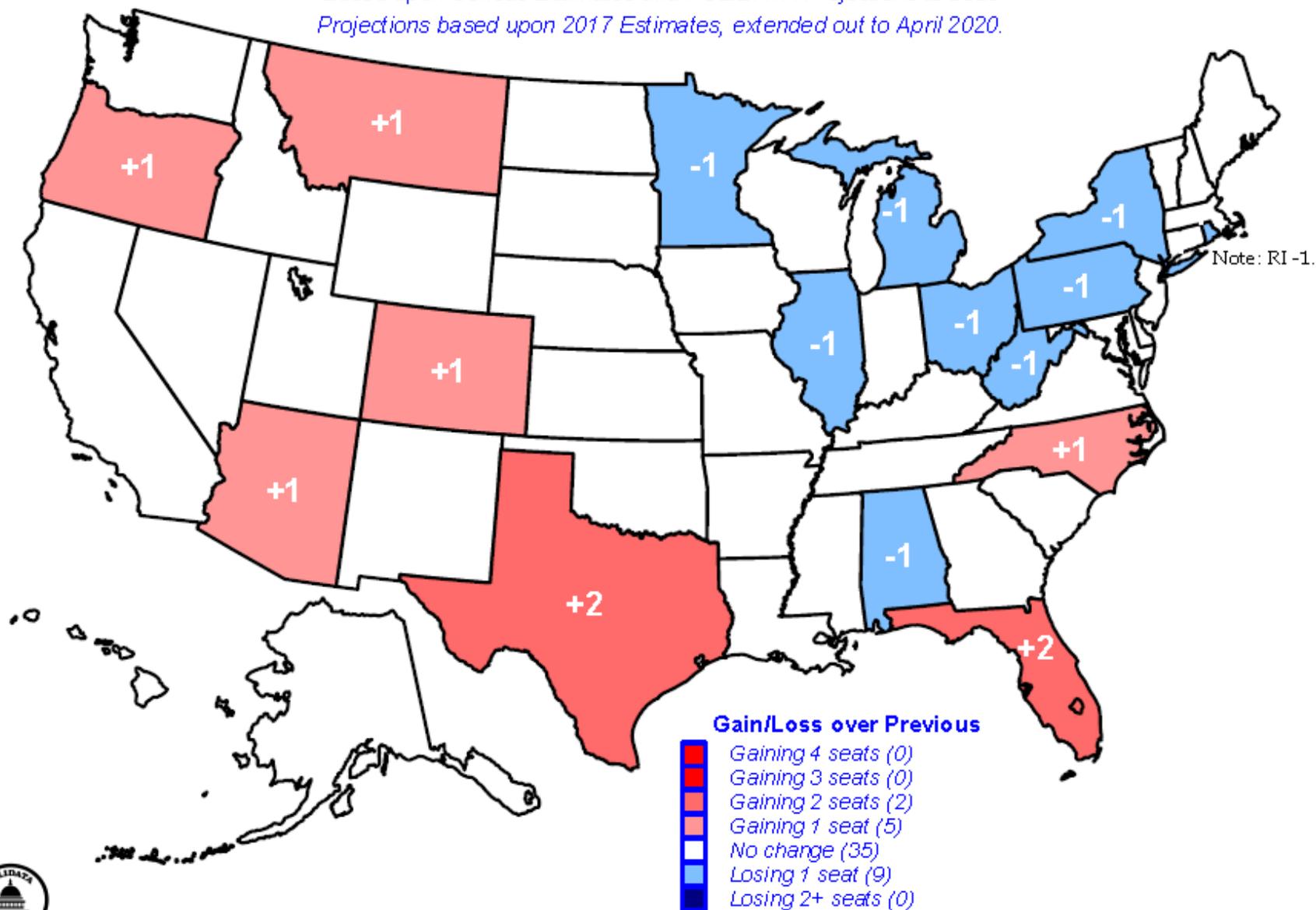
Sources: Decennial Censuses and 2017 Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

■ U.S. ■ Nebraska ▲ Difference

Decade rates as extrapolated from 2017 estimates

# States Gaining/Losing Seats based upon 2020 Projections

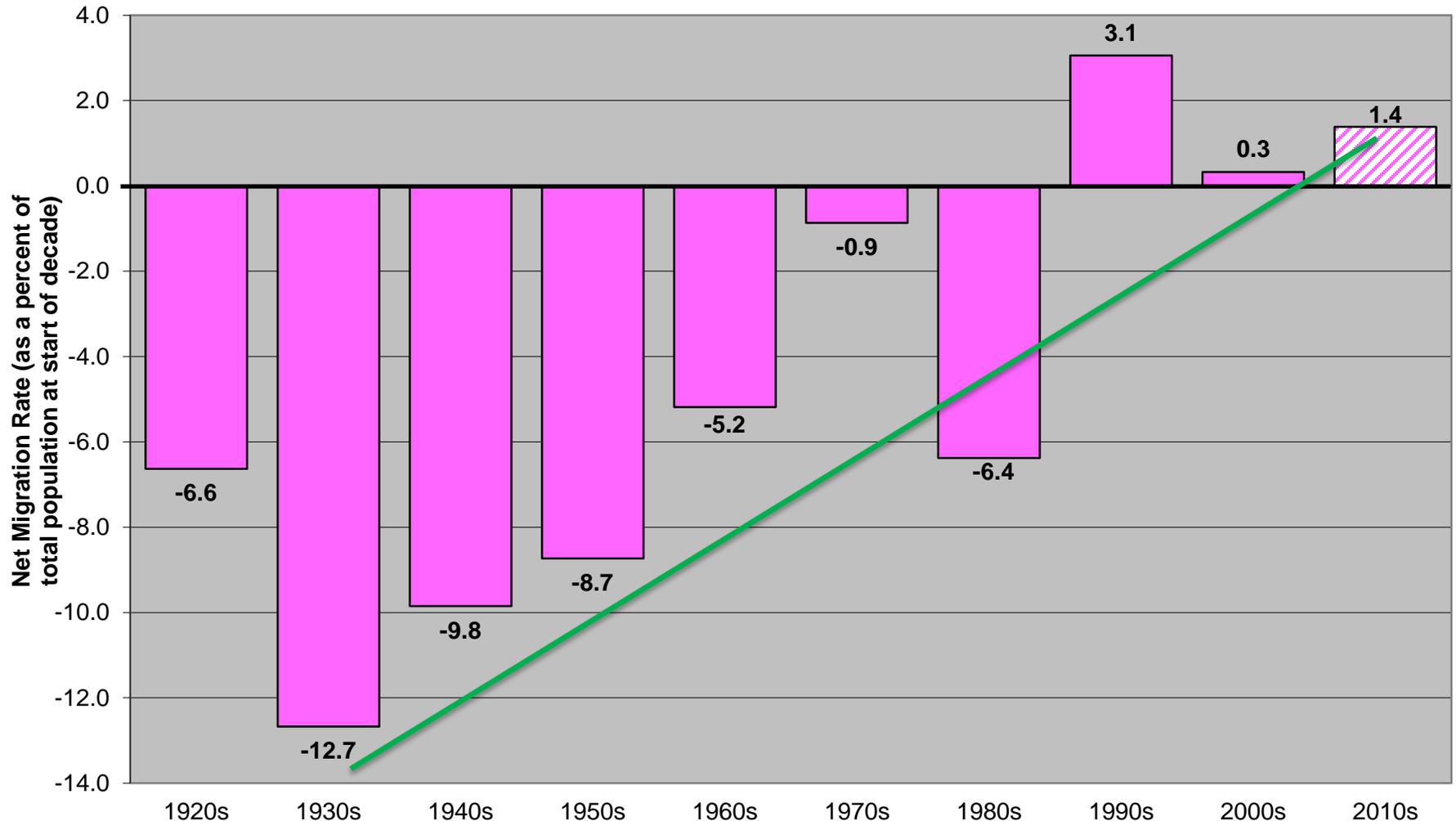
Based upon Census Estimates and POLIDATA Projections to 2020  
Projections based upon 2017 Estimates, extended out to April 2020.





# Nebraska has traditionally suffered from outmigration, until recent decades; domestic outmigration still occurring but exceeded by international immigration

### Nebraska Net Migration Rate by Decade: 1920s to 2000s with 2010s Extrapolated from the 2017 Estimate



Sources: Decennial Censuses, 2017 Vintage Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau; Vital Statistics Reports, Nebraska Dept of Health and Human Services

**Decade**

Note: the 2010s decade rate is extrapolated based upon what is estimated to have occurred between 2010 and 2017.

# DEMOGRAPHIC TREND #1: AGING

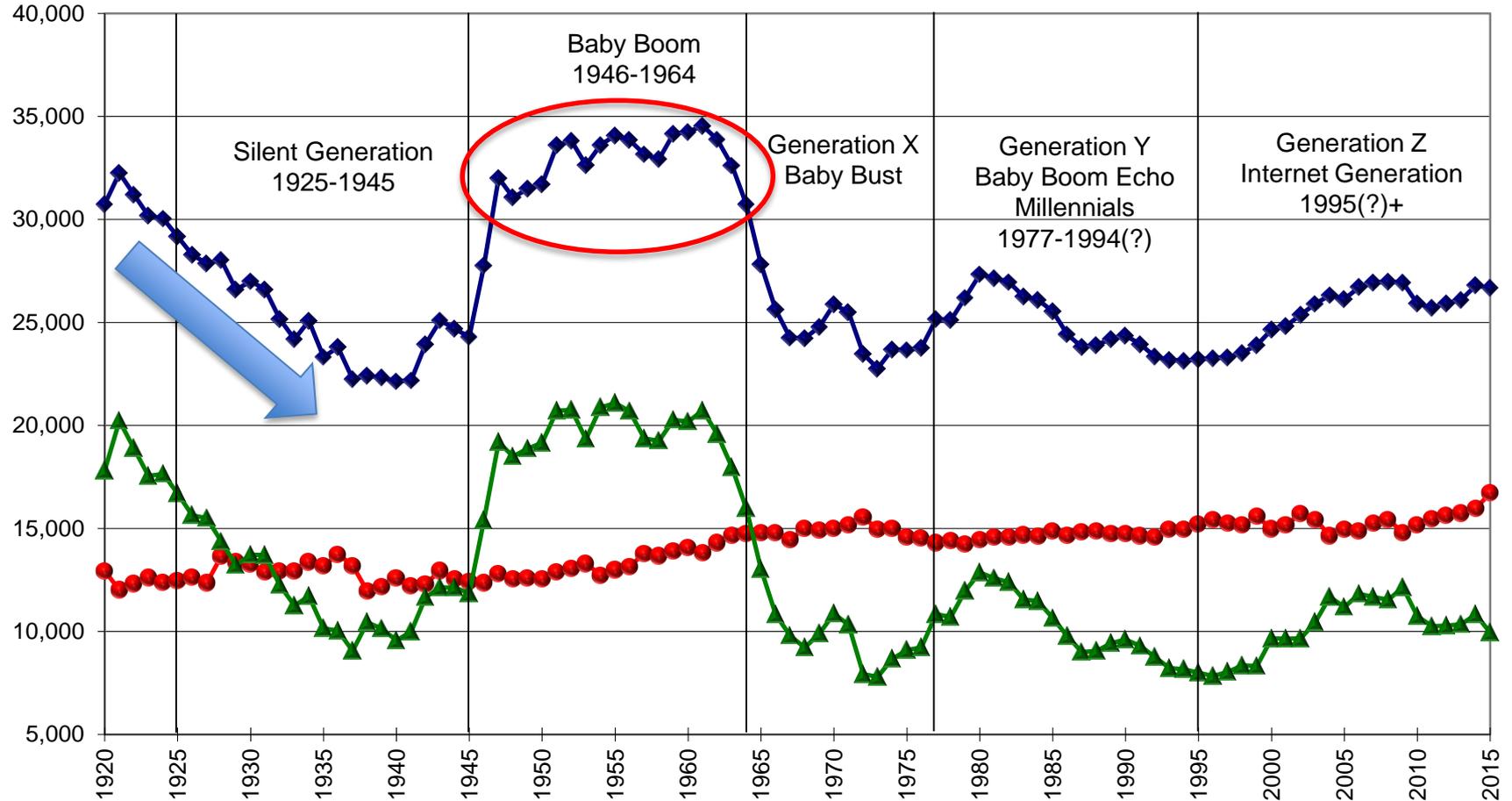




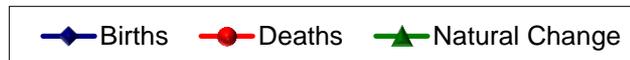
The baby boom in the 1950s has had a ripple effect every 30 years (1980, 2010); likewise low births in the late 1930s have led to lows every 30 years (late 60s, mid 90s)

## Nebraska Births, Deaths, and Natural Change: 1920-2015

Number



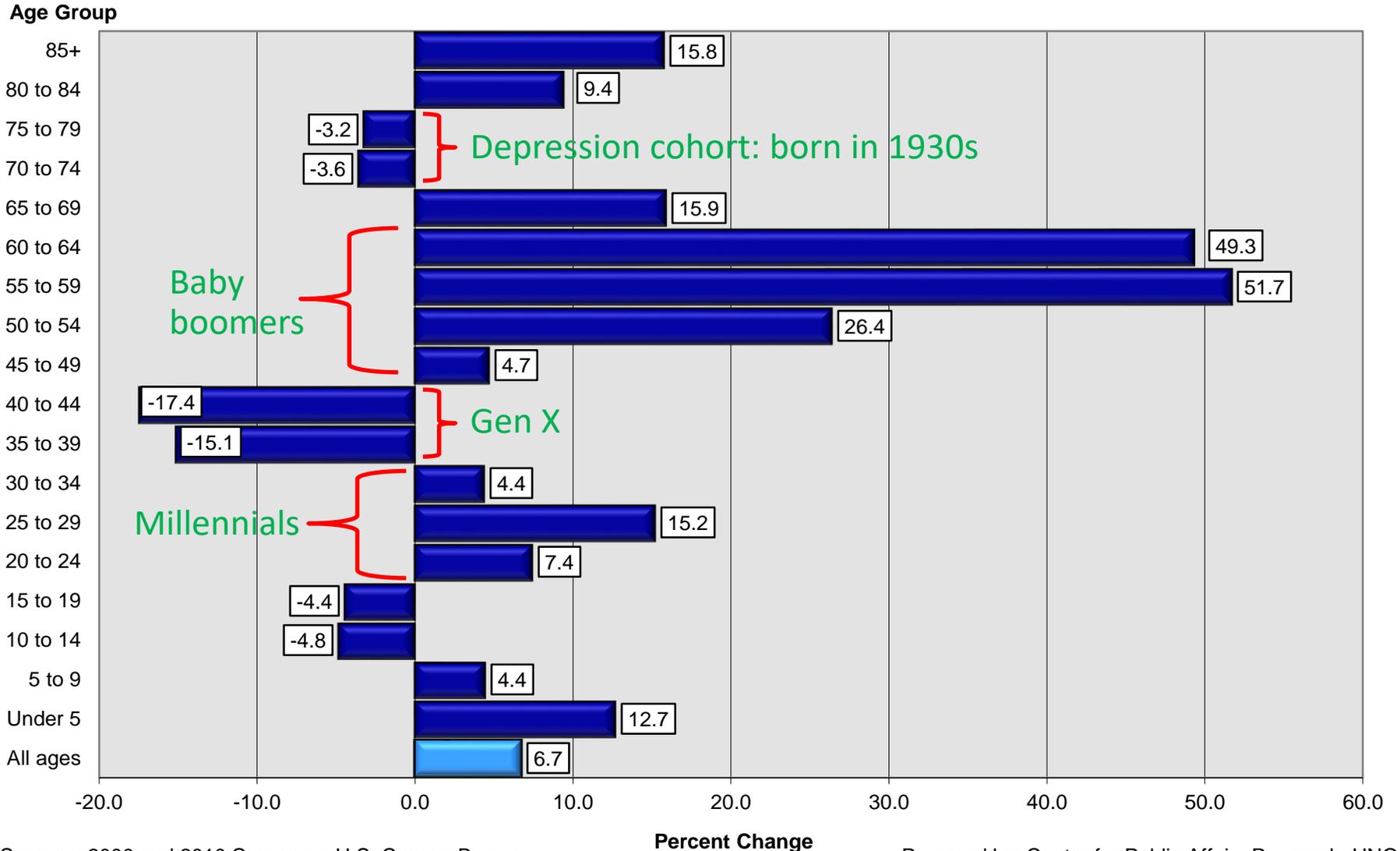
Source: Vital Statistics Reports, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services  
Prepared by Center for Public Affairs Research, UNO





# Population growth has been centered on the baby boom waves; there are fewer people in their upper 70s and early 40s today than 10 years ago

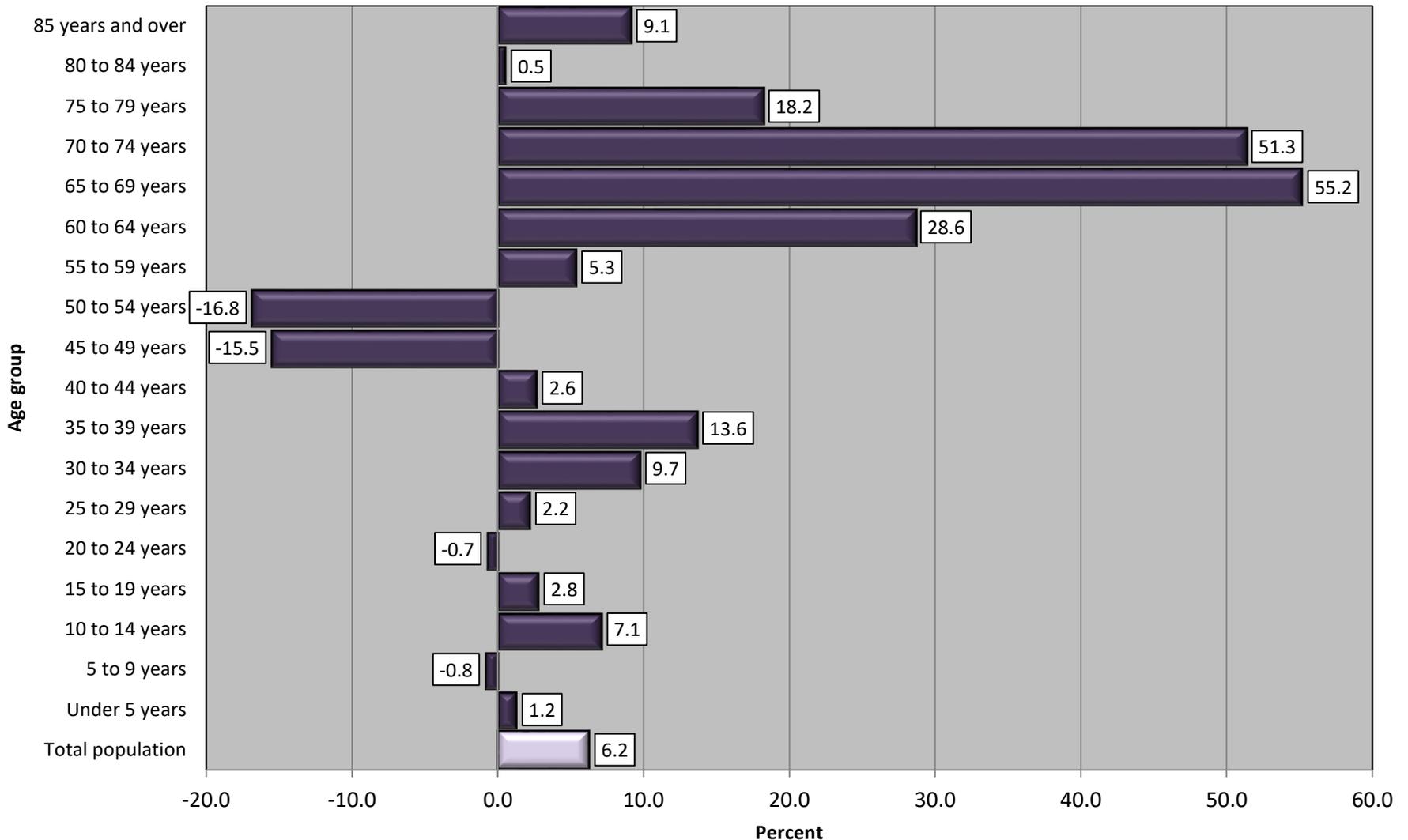
### Percentage Change for 5-Year Age Groups in Nebraska: 2000 to 2010





# Population change by age projected for this 2010s decade

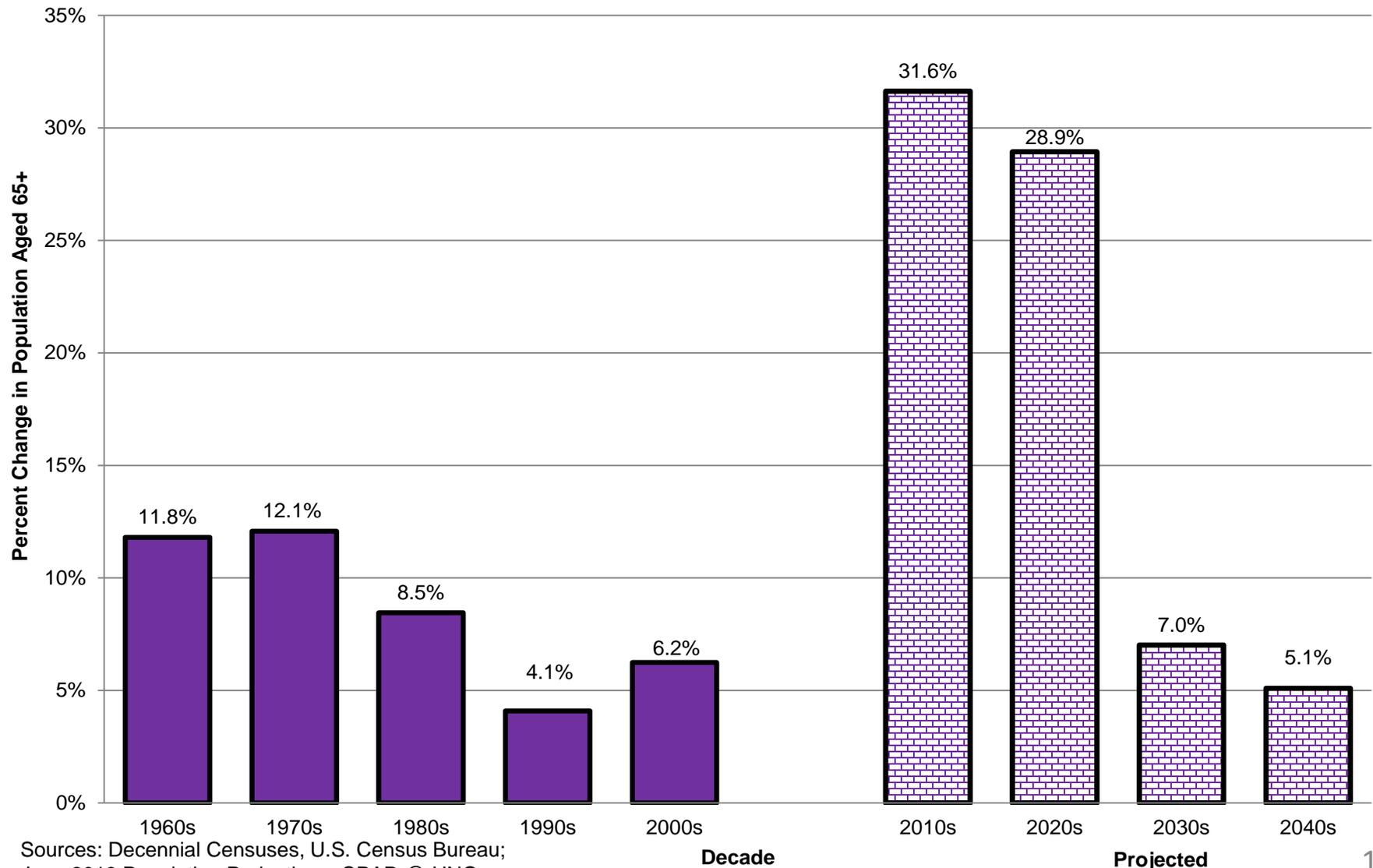
## Percentage Change in Nebraska Population by 5-year Age Group: 2010-20





## The jump in age 65+ we've all been waiting for...

### Decade Percent Change in Nebraska Population Aged 65 and Older: 1960s to 2000s and 2010s to 2040s Projection

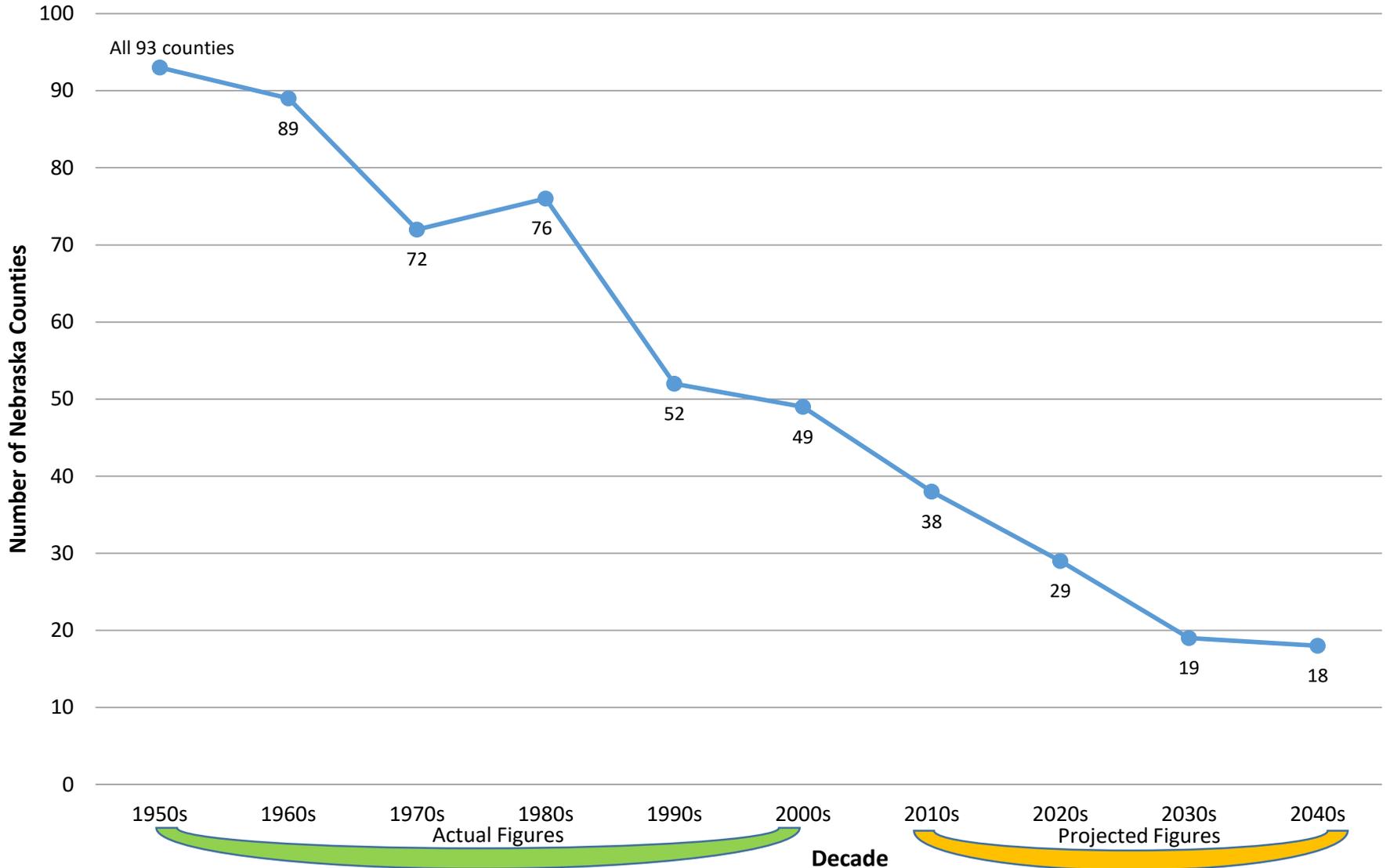


Sources: Decennial Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau;  
June 2013 Population Projections, CPAR @ UNO



# The number of counties experiencing natural increase will be going down

**Number of Nebraska's 93 Counties Having Natural Increase (Births > Deaths) by Decade:  
1950s to 2000s actuals and 2010s to 2040s projected**

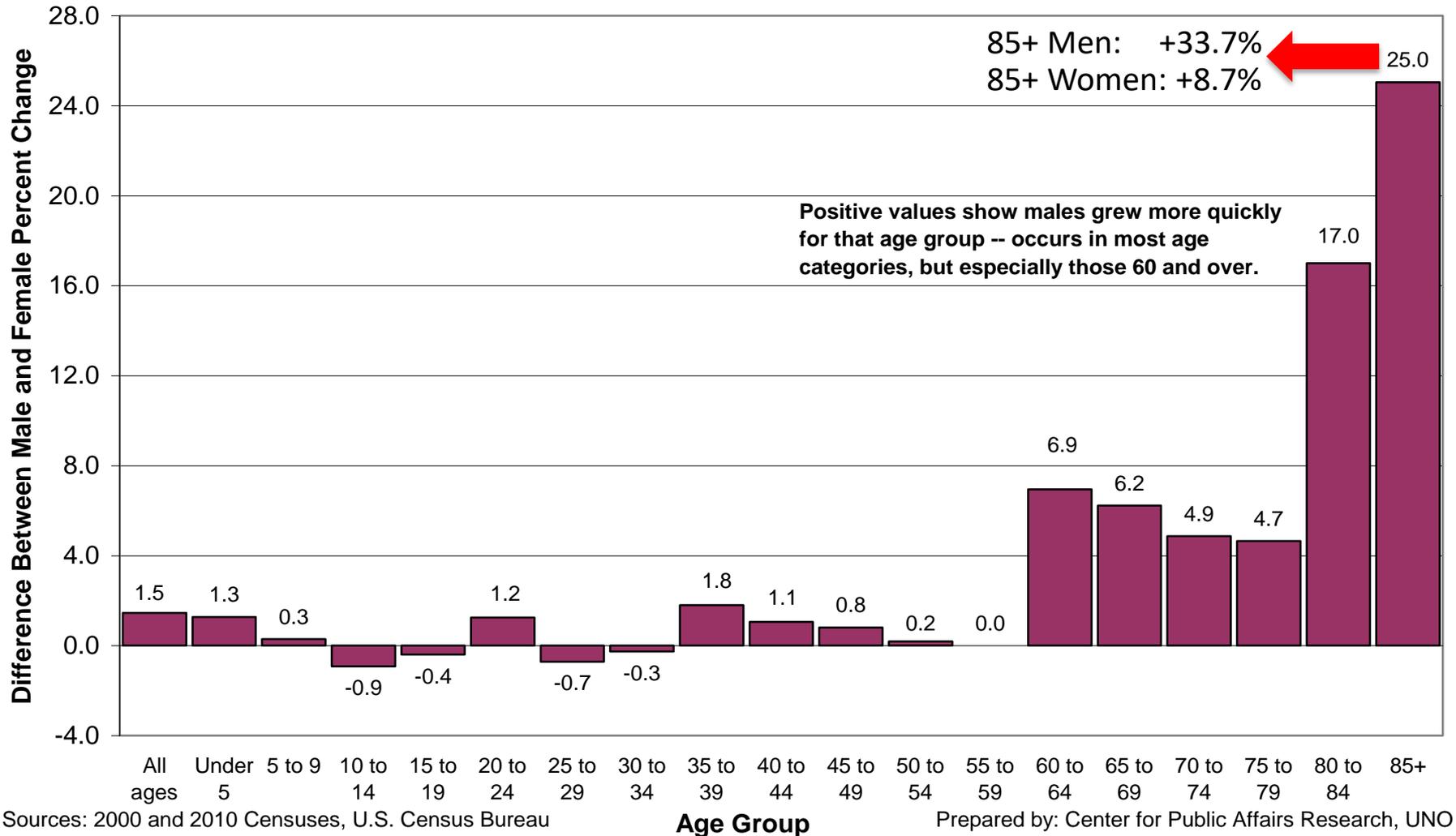


Sources: Vital Statistics Reports, Nebraska Dept of Health/Human Services; December 2015 Nebraska County Projections, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research



# The rise of the Older Man: Older men are increasing at a faster pace than older women

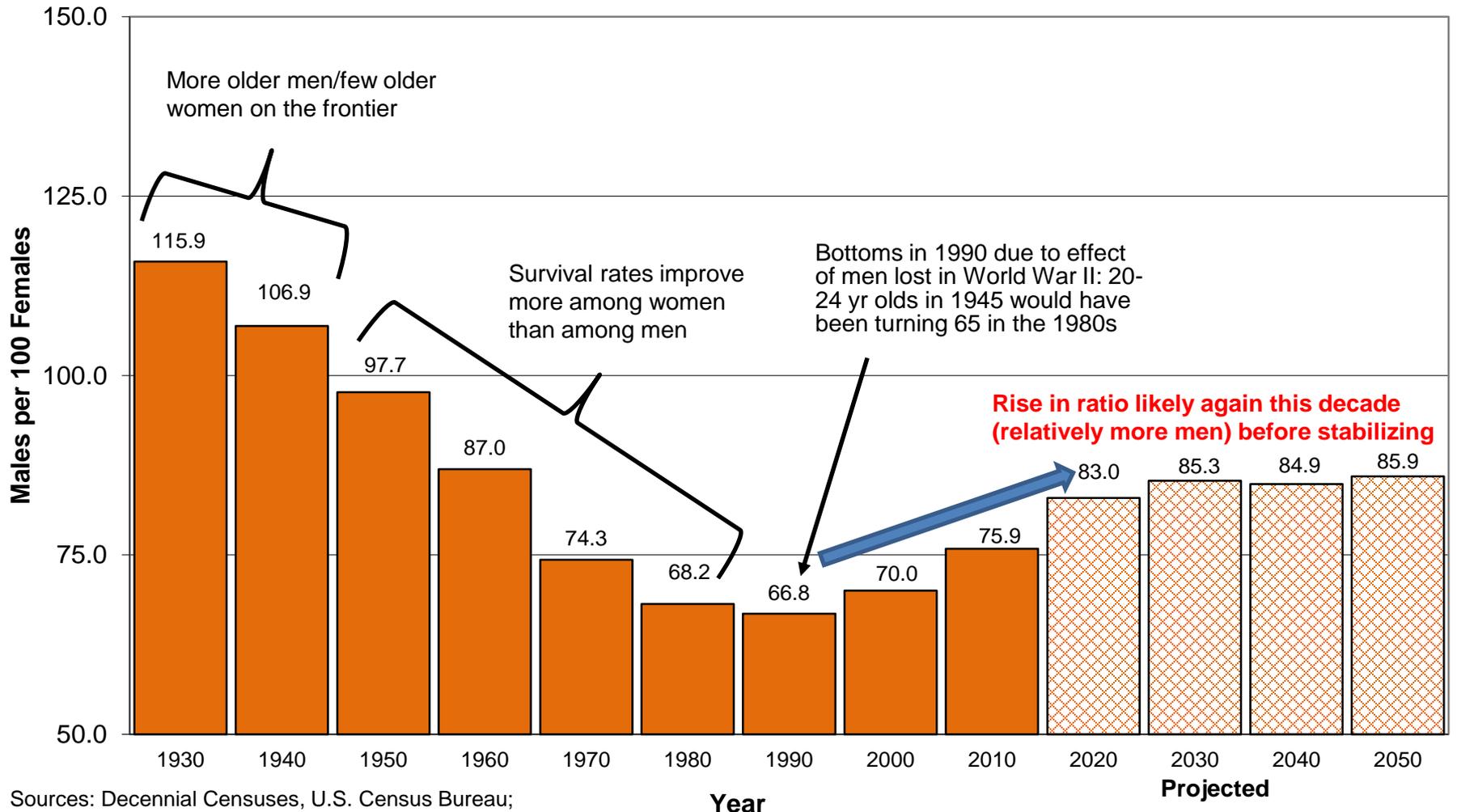
## Differential in Percentage Changes of 5-Year Age Groups for Men vs. Women in Nebraska: 2000 to 2010





Relatively more older men reverses a long-standing downtrend;  
will soon be around 85 older men per 100 older women (rather than 67)

## Age 65+ Ratio of Males per 100 Females in Nebraska: 1930 to 2010 with Projection to 2050



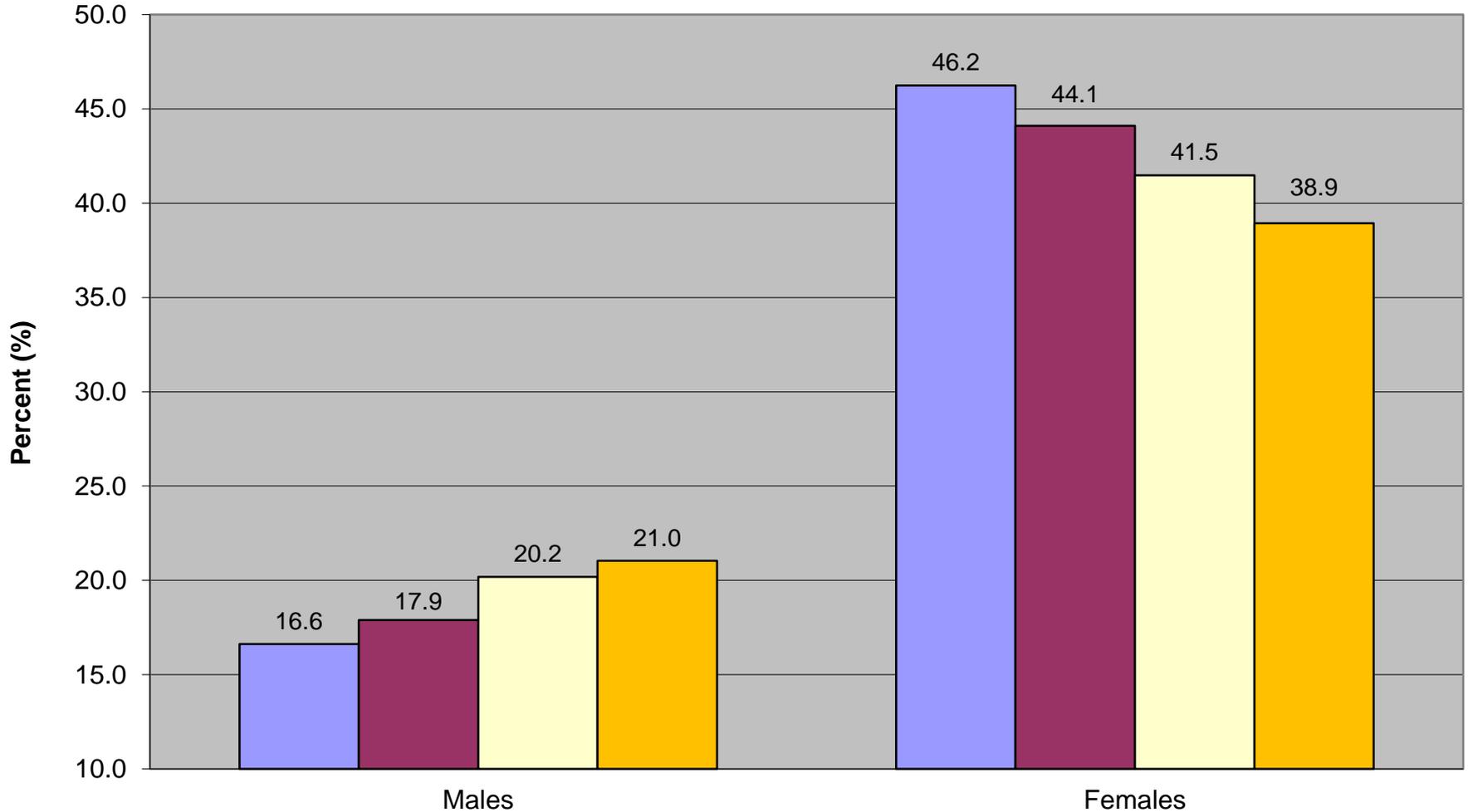
Sources: Decennial Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau;  
June 2013 Population Projections by CPAR at UNO

Prepared by: Center for Public Affairs Research, UNO



# Given more older men/men living longer: fewer older women live alone, but a higher portion of older men are living alone

Percentage of Nebraskans Aged 65 and Older Living in Households who are Living Alone by Gender: 1990 to 2015



Sources: 1990, 2000, 2010 Decennial Censuses, 2015 ACS, U.S. Census Bureau

■ 1990 ■ 2000 ■ 2010 ■ 2015

Compiled and Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research



- Top 3 labor force participation: <https://tinyurl.com/ycbushuf>
- 2016 #2 in both husband/wife in LF: <https://tinyurl.com/yah2su3l>
- #1 in both husband/wife working full-time and year round (2012-16)

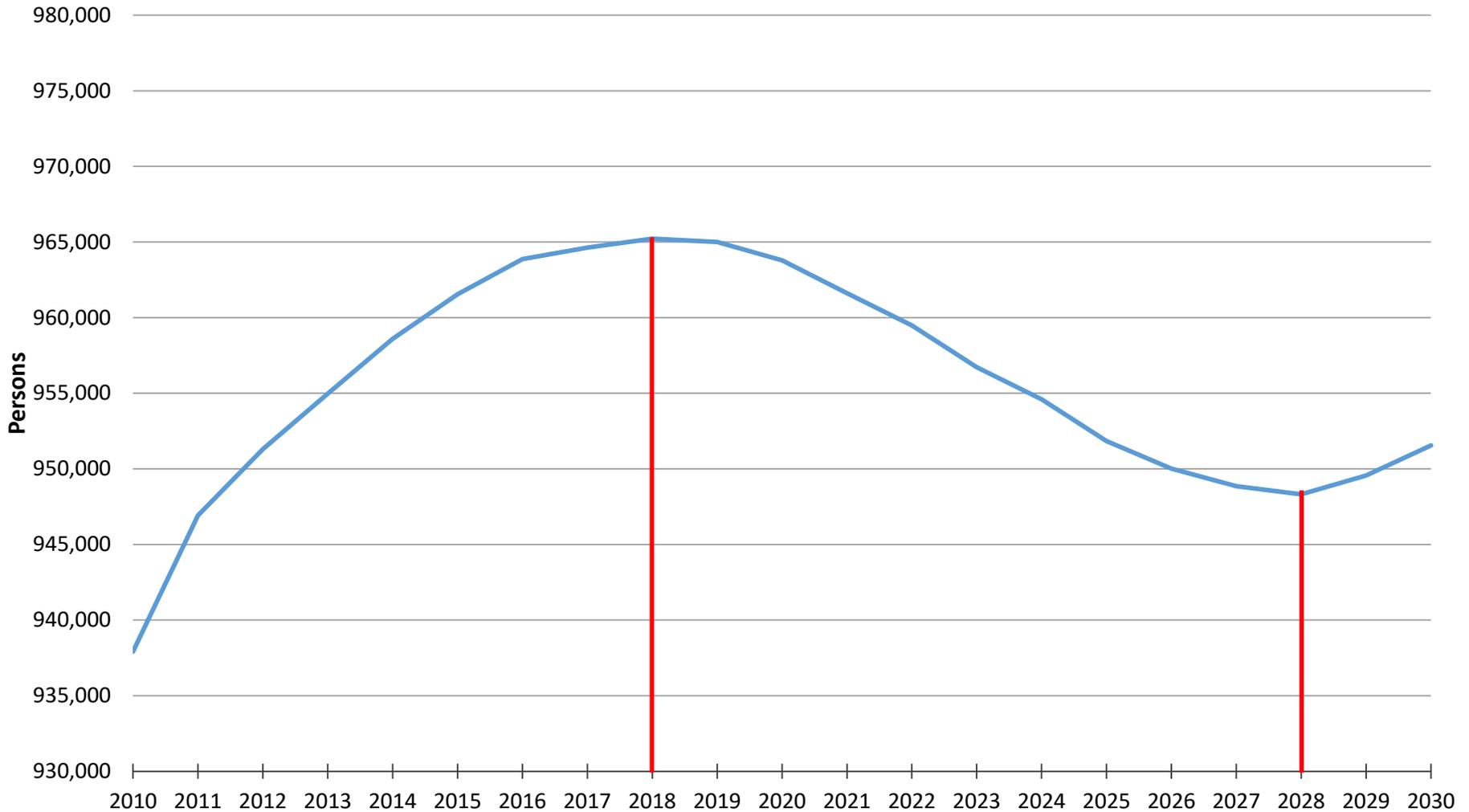
## Percentage of Persons in the Labor Force

<u>Area</u>	<u>Age 55-64</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Age 65+</u>
1. North Dakota	74.5	1. Alaska	24.3
<b>2. Nebraska</b>	<b>74.4</b>	2. Wash, DC	23.2
3. New Hampshire	73.7	3. Vermont	22.2
4. Connecticut	73.5	4. South Dakota	22.0
5. South Dakota	73.1	<b>5. Nebraska</b>	<b>21.8</b>
9. Iowa	71.6	13. Kansas	20.3
12. Kansas	70.1	21. Iowa	18.4



# Population “Flow” Does Not Bode Well for a Rising Labor Pool

## Projected Population Aged 25-64 for Nebraska: 2010 to 2030

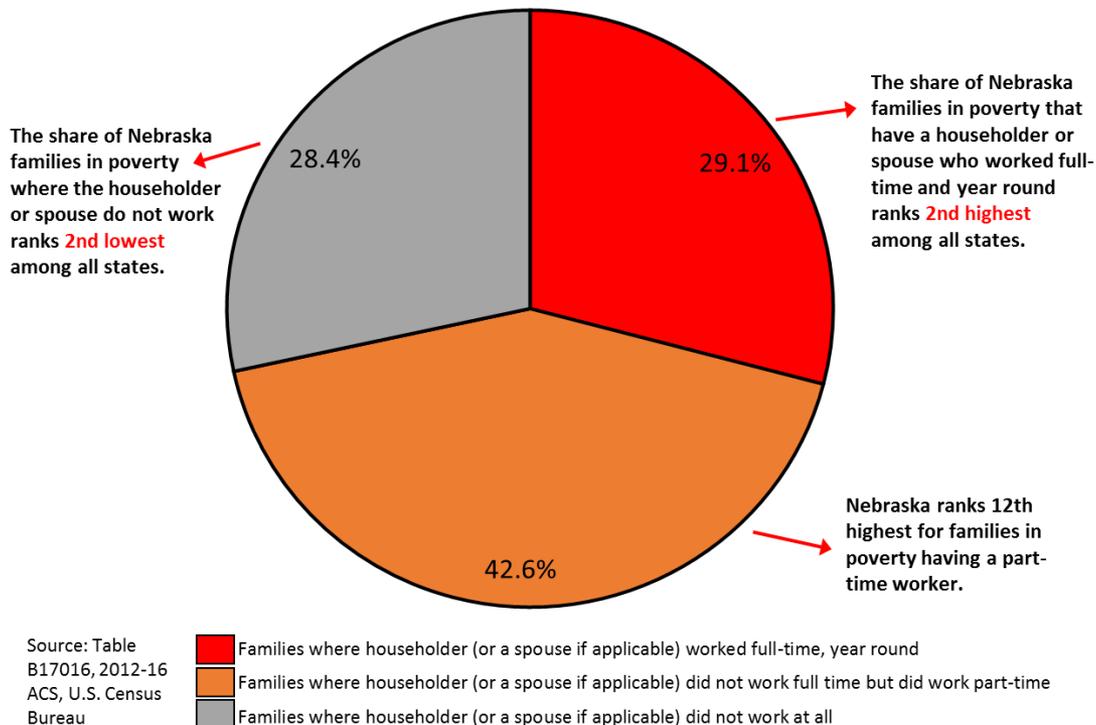


Sources: 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau; December 2015  
Nebraska County Population Projections, CPAR @ UNO



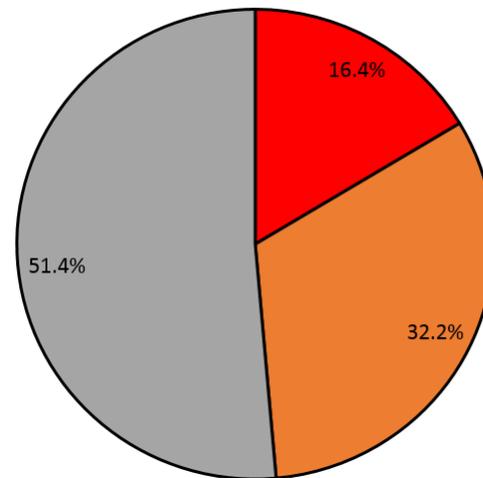
# Of Families in Poverty, Nebraska has a High Percentage that have a Full-Time and Year Round Worker

Distribution of Nebraska Families in Poverty by Work Status



Geography	Families in poverty where householder or a spouse worked full time year round	Total Families in Poverty	Percentage of Families in Poverty with householder or spouse working full time year round	Rank
United States	1,907,780	8,543,087	22.3	n/a
Texas	261,495	835,775	31.3	1
Nebraska	11,734	40,356	29.1	2
Utah	16,100	58,320	27.6	3
Wyoming	3,085	11,299	27.3	4
Kansas	17,296	64,329	26.9	5
Idaho	11,118	43,506	25.6	6
Oklahoma	29,892	117,816	25.4	7
Arizona	52,045	206,752	25.2	8
Georgia	82,924	332,803	24.9	9
South Dakota	4,705	19,039	24.7	10

Distribution of West Virginia Families in Poverty by Work Status



**Nearly 12,000 Nebraska families have at least one person working full-time and year round and are still in poverty.**

# DEMOGRAPHIC TREND #2: INCREASING DIVERSITY

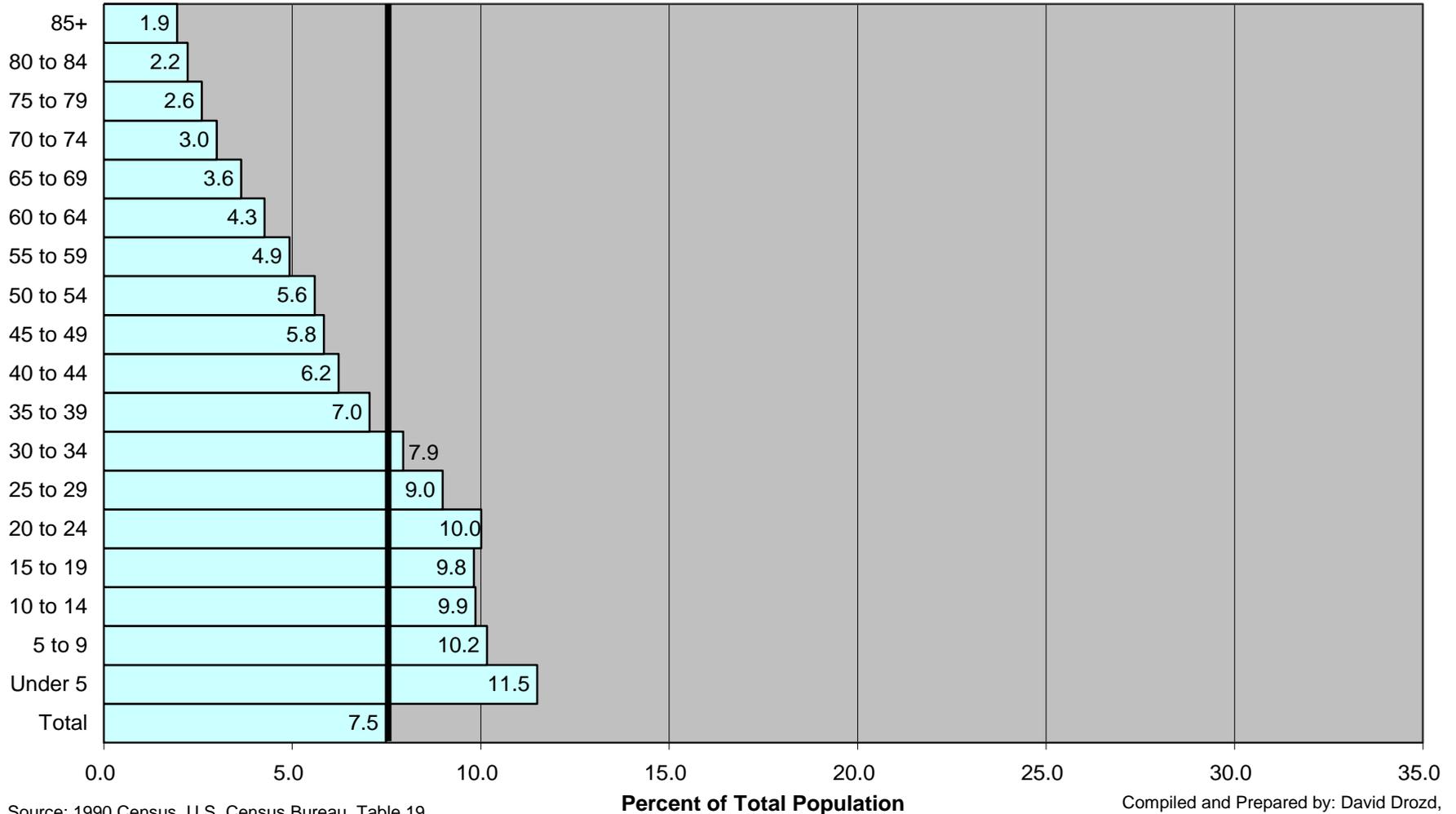




# Minorities had low percentages in 1990 before the immigration wave started

## 1990 Nebraska Population by Five-Year Age Group: Non-White or Hispanic/Latino (Minority Population) as a Percent of State Total

Age Group



Source: 1990 Census, U.S. Census Bureau, Table 19  
in Nebraska Publication 1990 CP-1-29

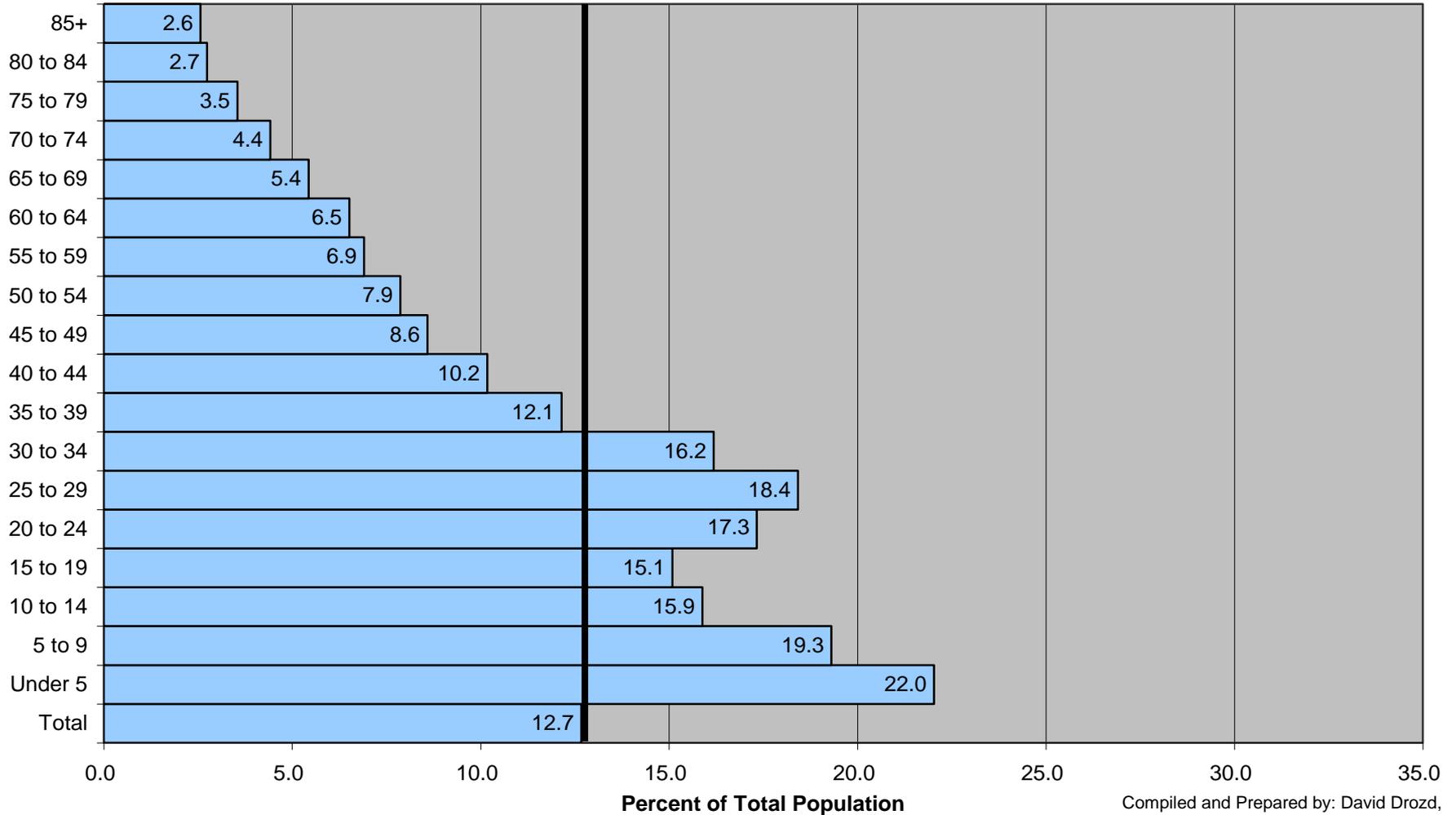
Compiled and Prepared by: David Drozd,  
Center for Public Affairs Research, UNO



# The immigration of workers and their kids plus births are apparent in 2000

## 2000 Nebraska Population by Five-Year Age Group: Non-White or Hispanic/Latino (Minority Population) as a Percent of State Total

Age Group



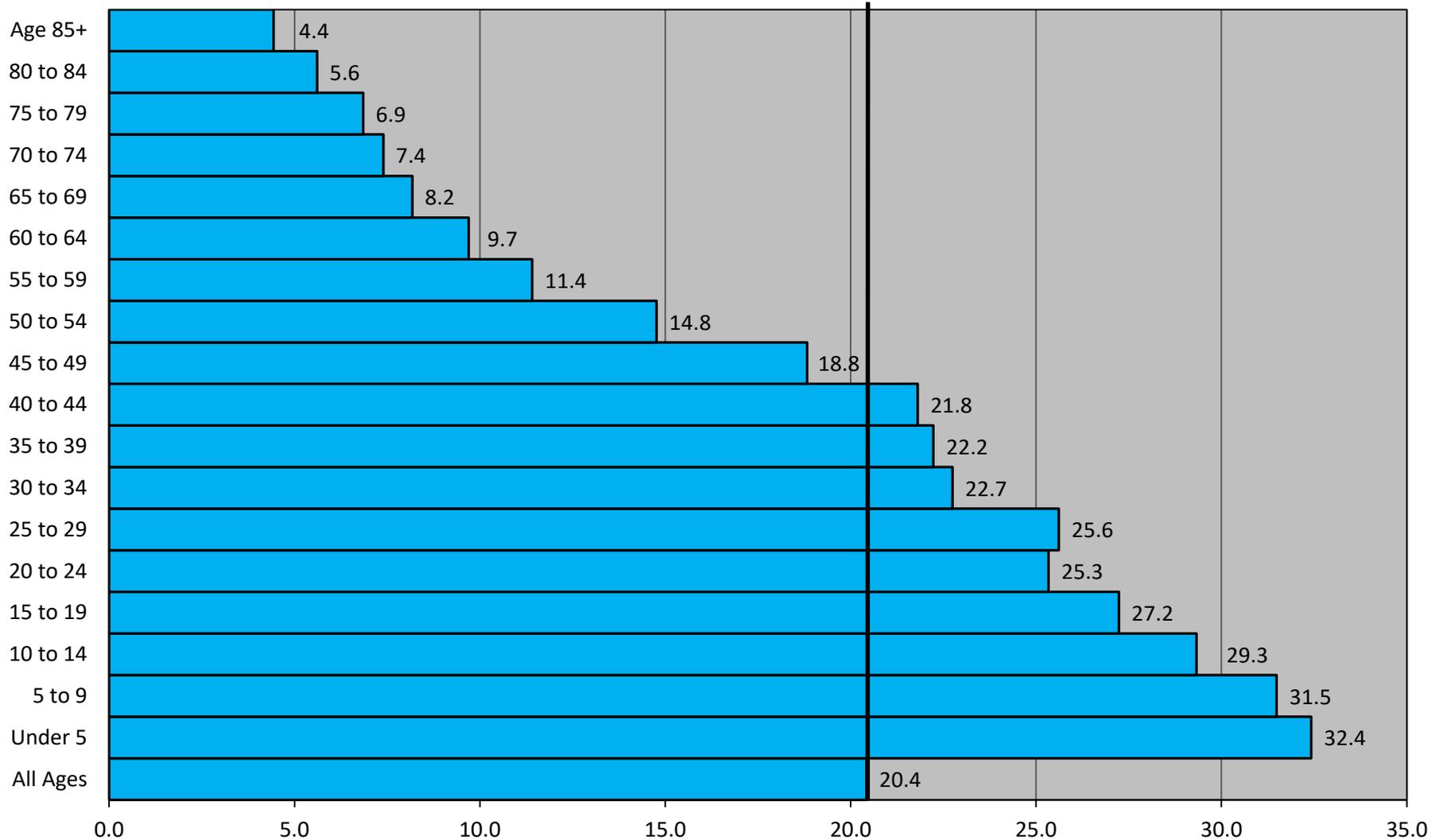
Source: 2000 Census, U.S. Census Bureau, AFF tables P12 and P12I

Compiled and Prepared by: David Drozd,  
Center for Public Affairs Research, UNO



# The minority percentage steadily increases each year, especially among children

## July 1, 2016 Nebraska Population by Five-Year Age Group: Non-White or Hispanic/Latino (Minority Population) as a Percent of State Total

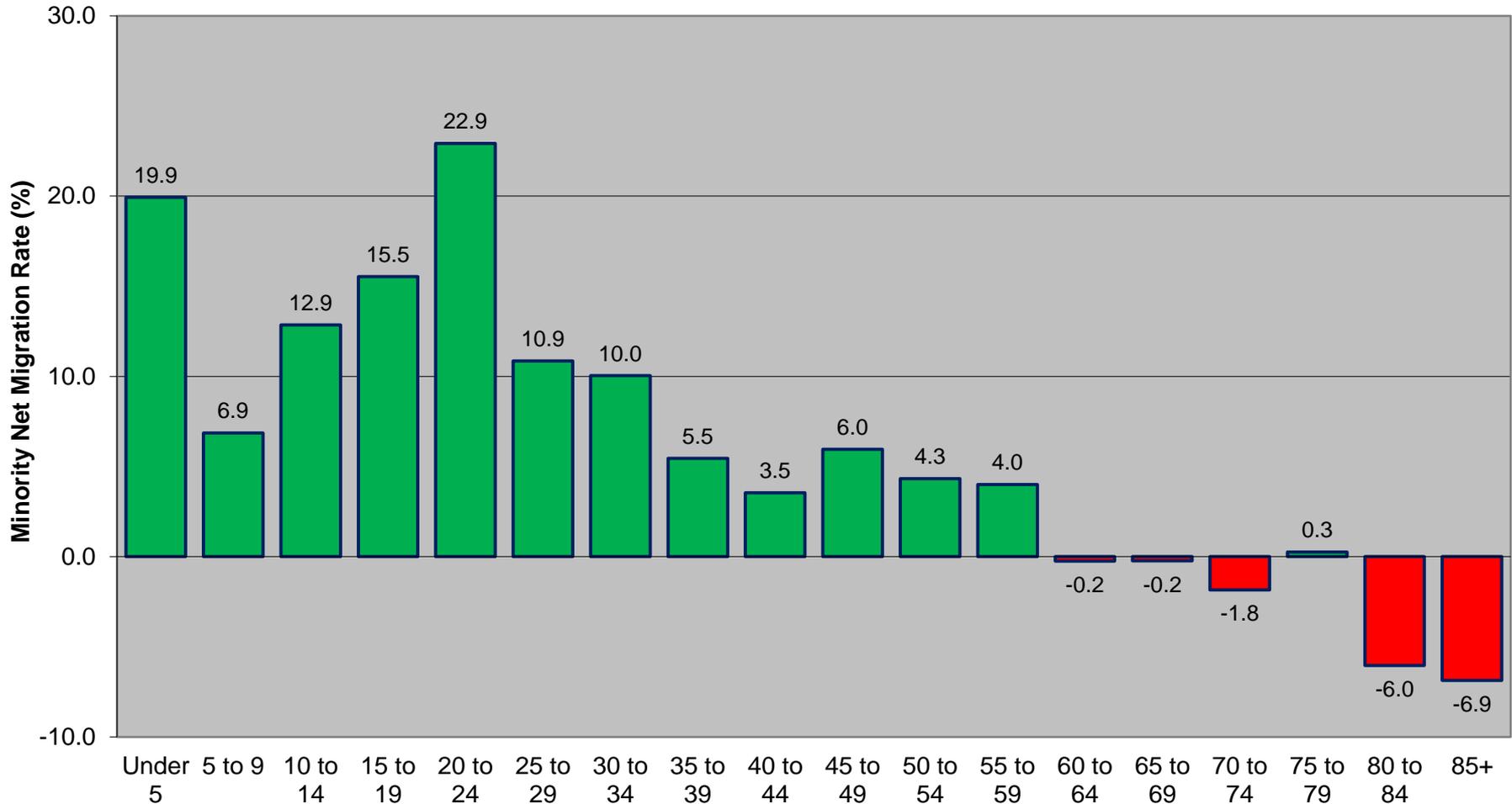




# Minority populations had net immigration for almost all ages in the 2000s

## 5-Year Nebraska Net Migration Rates for Minority Population Groups by Age for 2000-2010 using Two 5-Year Periods

Overall 5-Year Net Migration Rate = 11.6%



Sources: 2000 and 2010 Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau; Annual Births and Deaths by Single Year of Age, NE Dept of HHS

Age Group

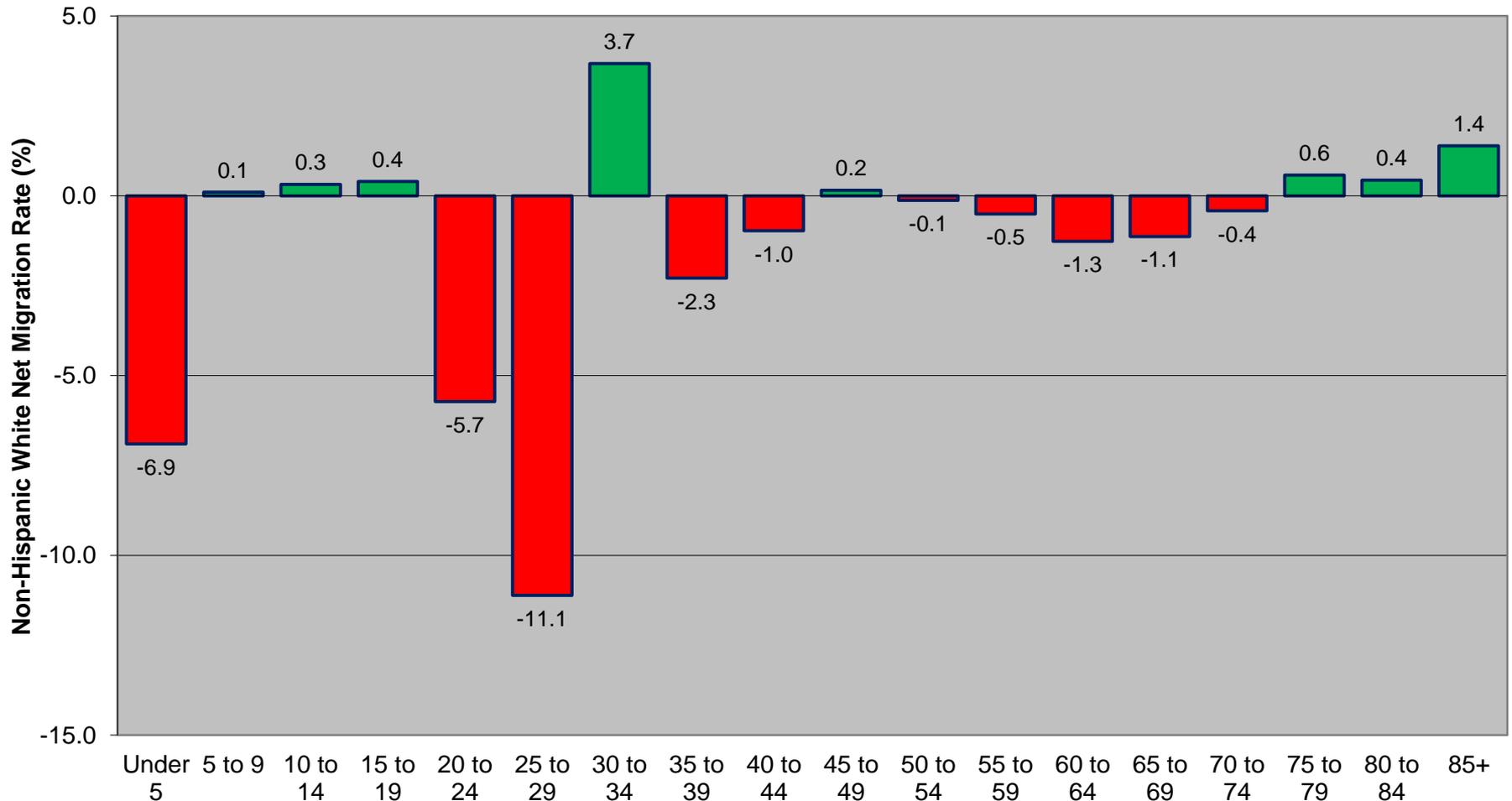
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# Migration pattern for Non-Hispanic Whites and the state overall: outmigration for most ages in the 2000s

## 5-Year Nebraska Net Migration Rates for Non-Hispanic Whites by Age for 2000-2010 using Two 5-Year Periods

Overall 5-Year Net Migration Rate = - 1.7%



Sources: 2000 and 2010 Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau; Annual Births and Deaths by Single Year of Age, NE Dept of HHS

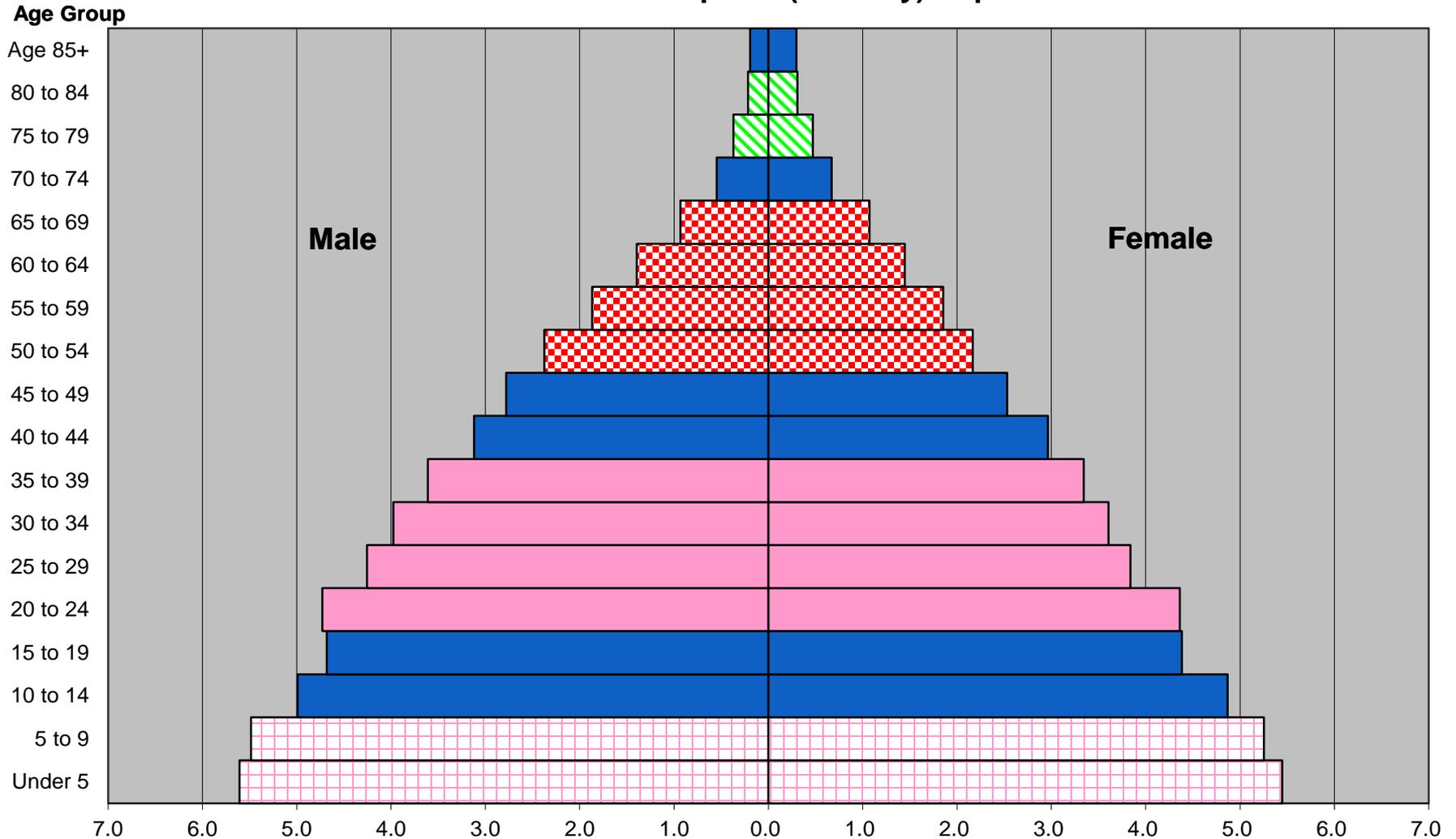
Age Group

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The Nebraska minority population has a “pyramid” age structure, which will likely lead to relatively high births and continued growth through “natural increase”

### July 1, 2016 Nebraska Estimated Population by Sex and Five-Year Age Group: Non-White or Hispanic (Minority) Population



Source: 2016 Vintage Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

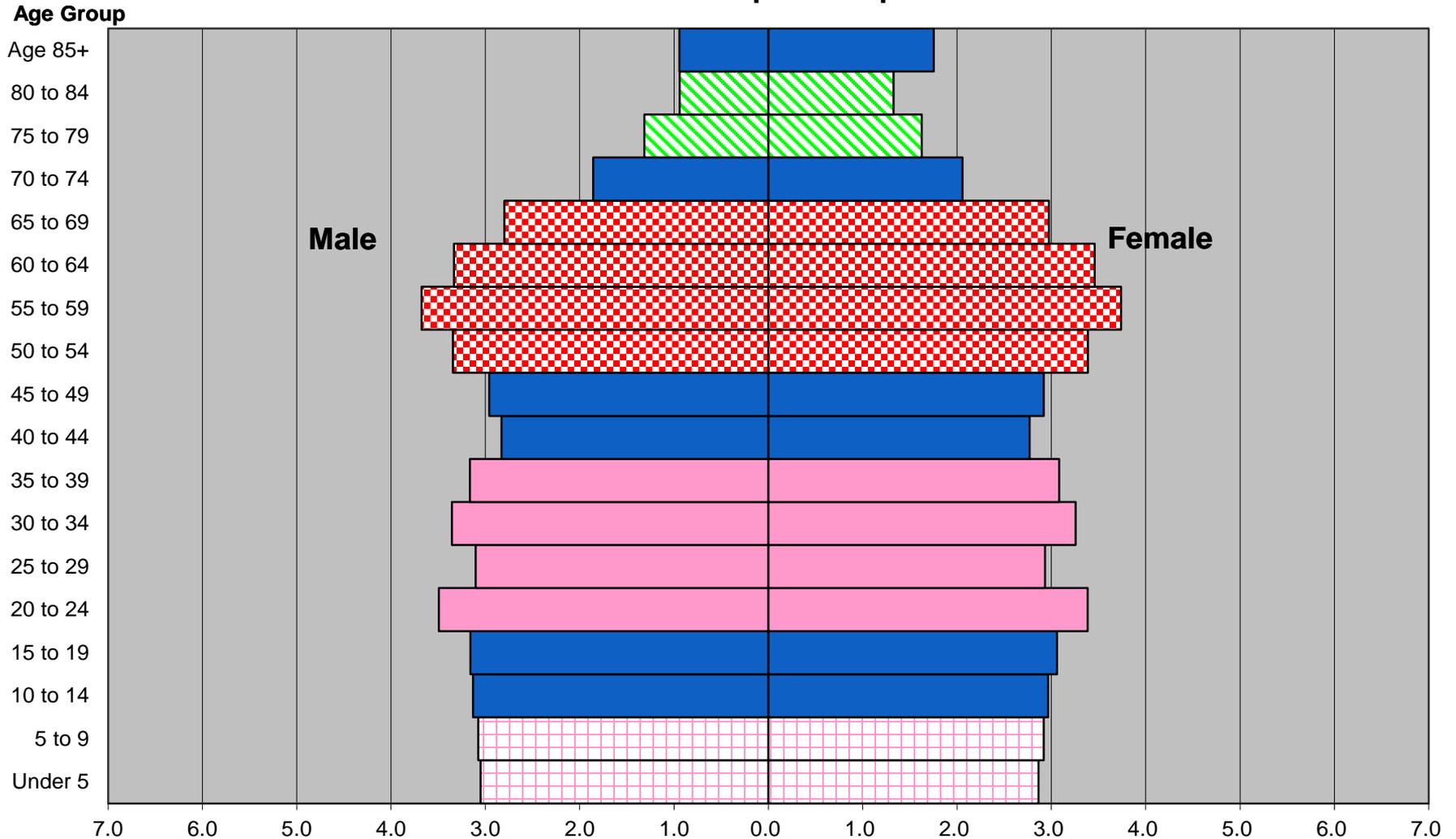
Percent of Total Population

Green lines depict the depression cohort; red checker shows the "baby boom"; pink represents the "baby boom echo"; pink crosshatch shows the "3rd wave"



The Nebraska majority population has an “hourglass” shape, with a large number of baby boomers, which will likely lead to relatively high deaths and “natural loss”

### July 1, 2016 Nebraska Estimated Population by Sex and Five-Year Age Group: White non-Hispanic Population



Source: 2016 Vintage Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

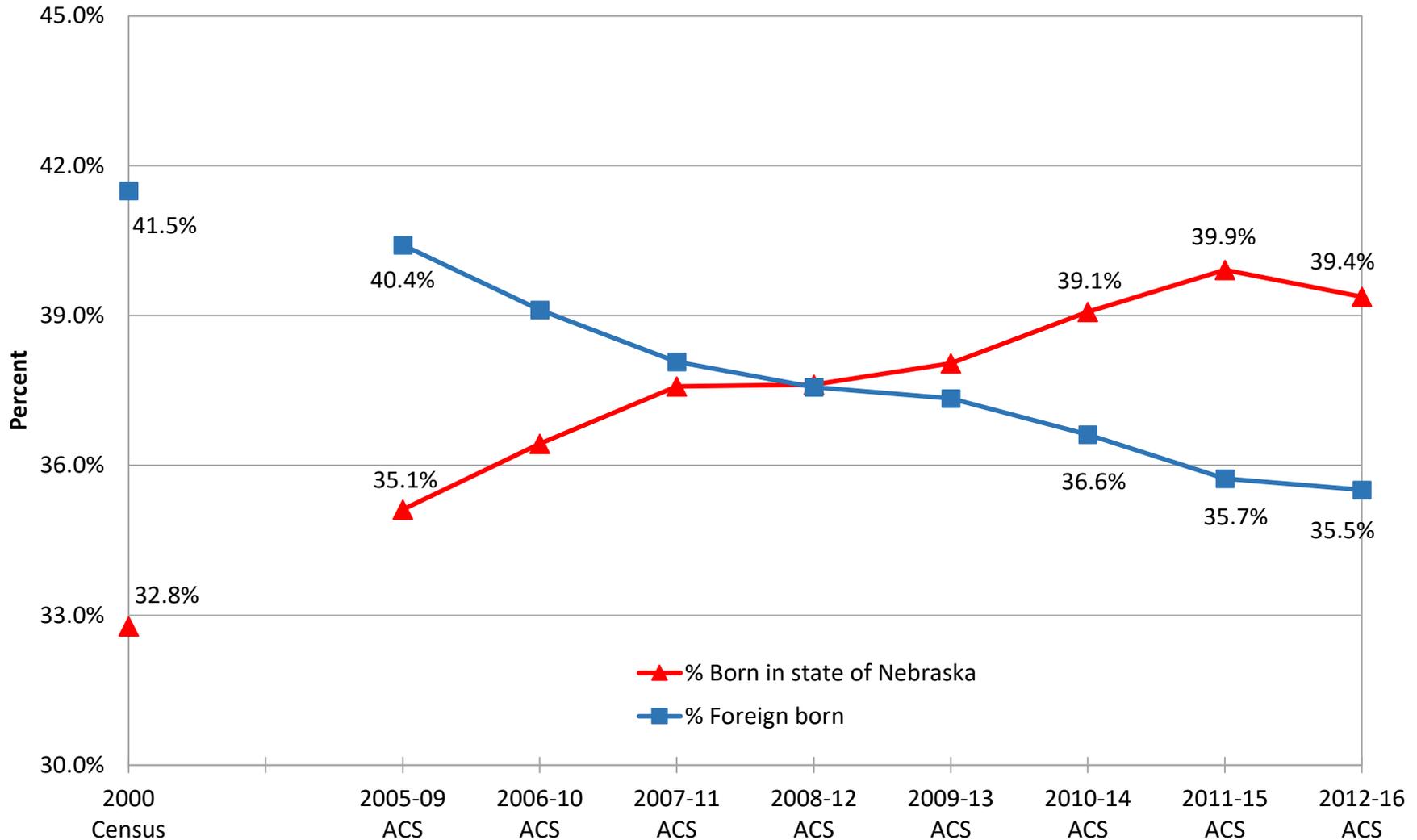
Percent of Total Population

Green lines depict the depression cohort; red checker shows the "baby boom"; pink represents the "baby boom echo"; pink crosshatch shows the "3rd wave"



# More Nebraska Hispanic residents are now born in the state than foreign born

## Place of Birth for Nebraska Hispanic/Latino Residents: 2000 Census and 5-year timeframes from 2005-09 to 2012-16



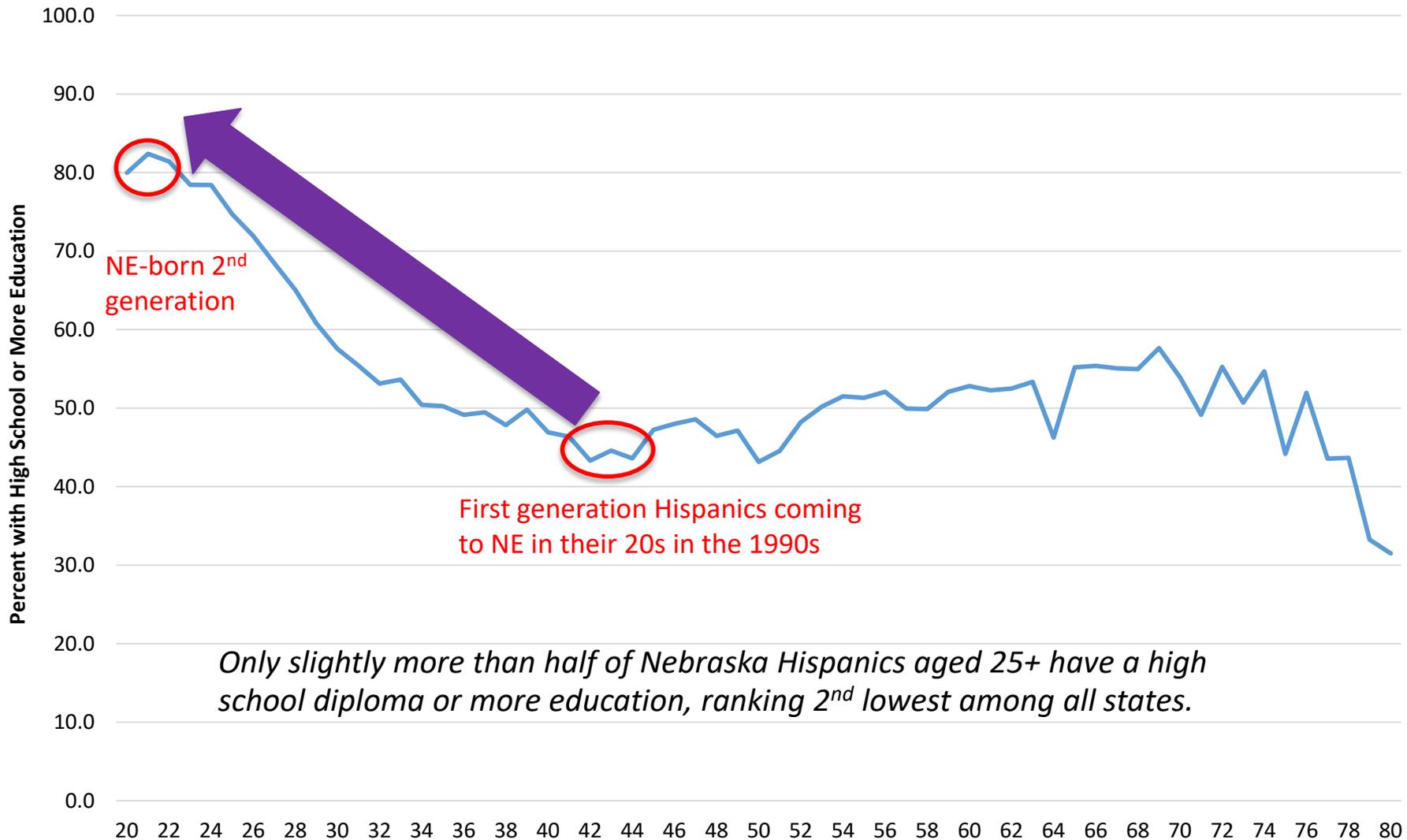
Sources: Table PCT063H, 2000 Census; Table B06004I, Various American Community Surveys, U.S. Census Bureau

Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research

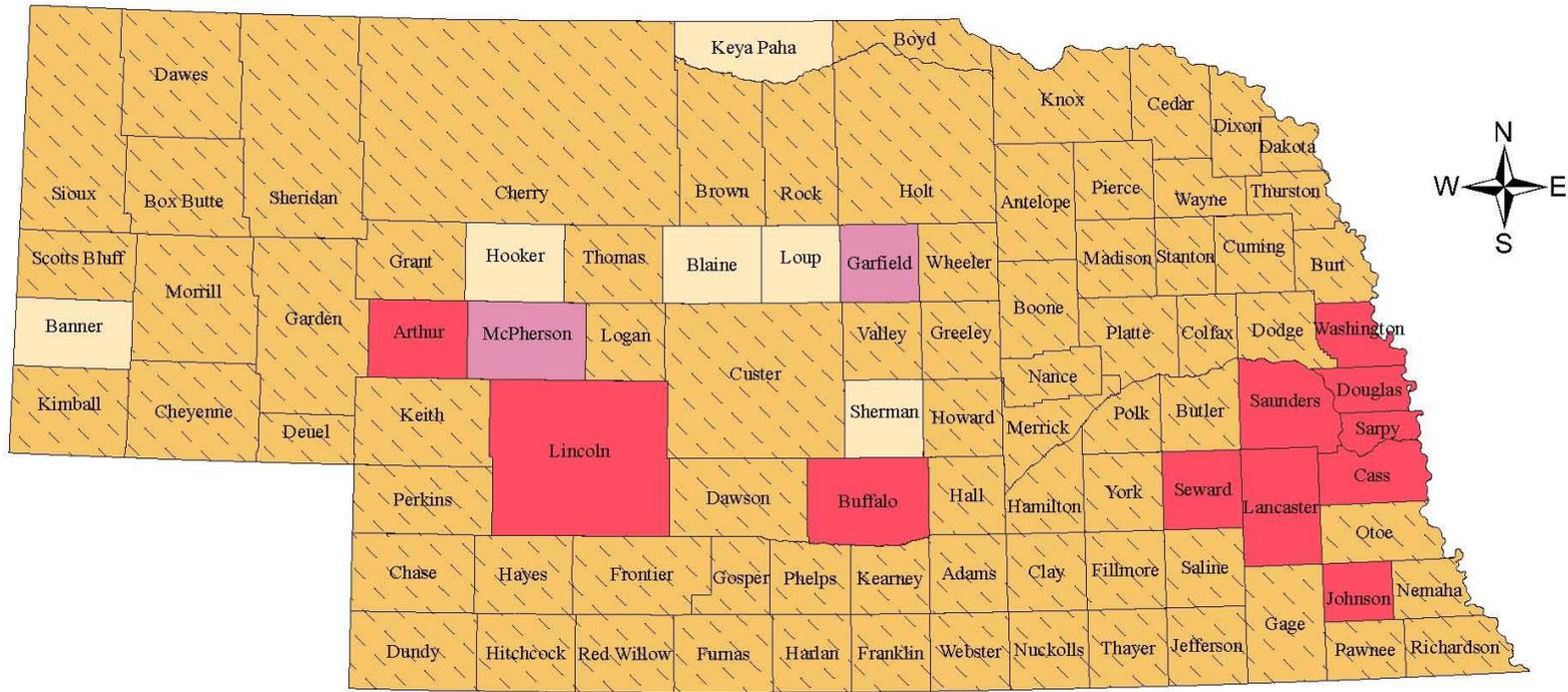


# Generational differences: young Hispanics have more education than their parents, which bodes well for college enrollment and future job prospects

**Nebraska Hispanic High School or More Education Percentage by Single Year of Age:  
Smoothed Using 2 Years Above/Below Specific Age, 2012-2016 Survey Timeframe**



# Majority and Minority Population Change in Nebraska Counties: 2000-2010



**Majority (White non Hispanic) and Minority (non White or Hispanic) Population Change: 2000-2010**  
**Note: State of Nebraska had Population Increase in Both Population Groups during 2000-2010**

- Majority Population Increased and Minority Population Increased (11 counties)
- Majority Population Increased and Minority Population Decreased (2 counties)
- Majority Population Decreased and Minority Population Increased (74 counties)
- Majority Population Decreased and Minority Population Decreased (6 counties)

Sources: 2000 and 2010 Decennial Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau

Prepared by: David Drozd, Center for Public Affairs Research, University of Nebraska at Omaha - April 21, 2011

# Population Change by Race and Ethnicity for the 24 Nebraska Counties that Gained Population during the 2000s

Sources: 2000 and 2010 Censuses (DP-1), U.S. Census Bureau

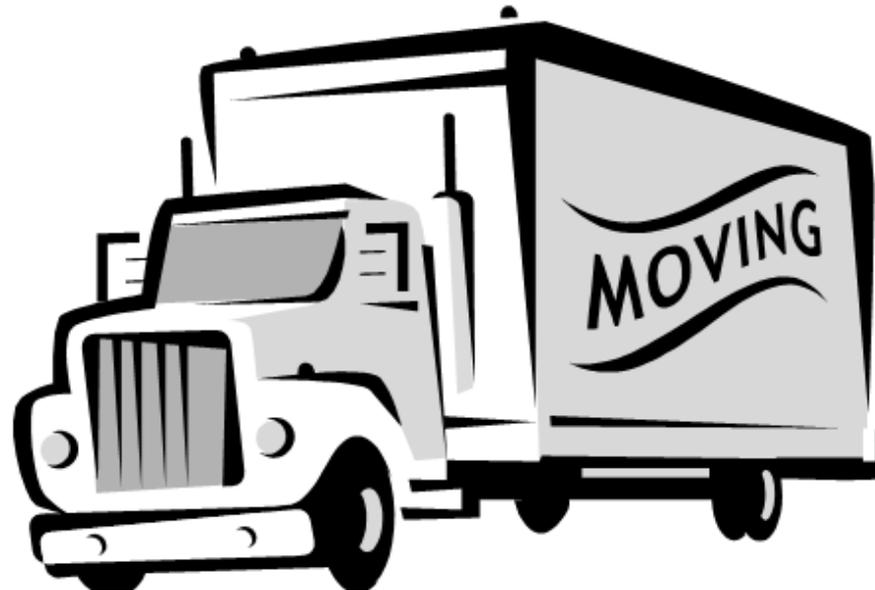
Note: sorted by the minority share of population growth

County's Major City	Area	2000 to 2010 Population Change			Minority Share of Total Population Growth
		Total Population	Non- Hispanic Whites	All Minority Groups	
<b>Nebraska</b>		<b>115,078</b>	<b>5,259</b>	<b>109,819</b>	<b>95.4%</b>
Grand Island	Hall County	5,073	-2,281	7,354	100.0%
South Sioux City	Dakota County	753	-2,772	3,525	100.0%
Columbus	Platte County	575	-1,959	2,534	100.0%
Fremont	Dodge County	531	-1,990	2,521	100.0%
Crete	Saline County	357	-1,679	2,036	100.0%
Schuyler	Colfax County	74	-1,586	1,660	100.0%
Scottsbluff	Scotts Bluff County	19	-1,526	1,545	100.0%
Hastings	Adams County	213	-988	1,201	100.0%
Nebraska City	Otoe County	344	-323	667	100.0%
Chadron	Dawes County	122	-314	436	100.0%
Sidney	Cheyenne County	168	-156	324	100.0%
	Douglas County	53,525	9,501	44,024	82.2%
	Johnson County	729	188	541	74.2%
	Seward County	254	75	179	70.5%
	Lincoln County	1,656	669	987	59.6%
	Buffalo County	3,843	1,815	2,028	52.8%
	Lancaster County	35,116	18,635	16,481	46.9%
	Cass County	907	512	395	43.6%
	Saunders County	950	582	368	38.7%
	Arthur County	16	10	6	37.5%
	Sarpy County	36,245	26,309	9,936	27.4%
	Washington County	1,454	1,092	362	24.9%
	McPherson County	6	10	-4	0.0%
	Garfield County	147	155	-8	0.0%

Minority groups were solely responsible for population growth in 11 Nebraska counties, with population change differences between Whites and minorities often being roughly “equal but opposite”.

Minority groups contributed more than 50% of the population growth in 16 counties, or two-thirds of all Nebraska counties with population gains.

# DEMOGRAPHIC TREND #3: MIGRATION AND ITS INFLUENCE ON URBANIZATION

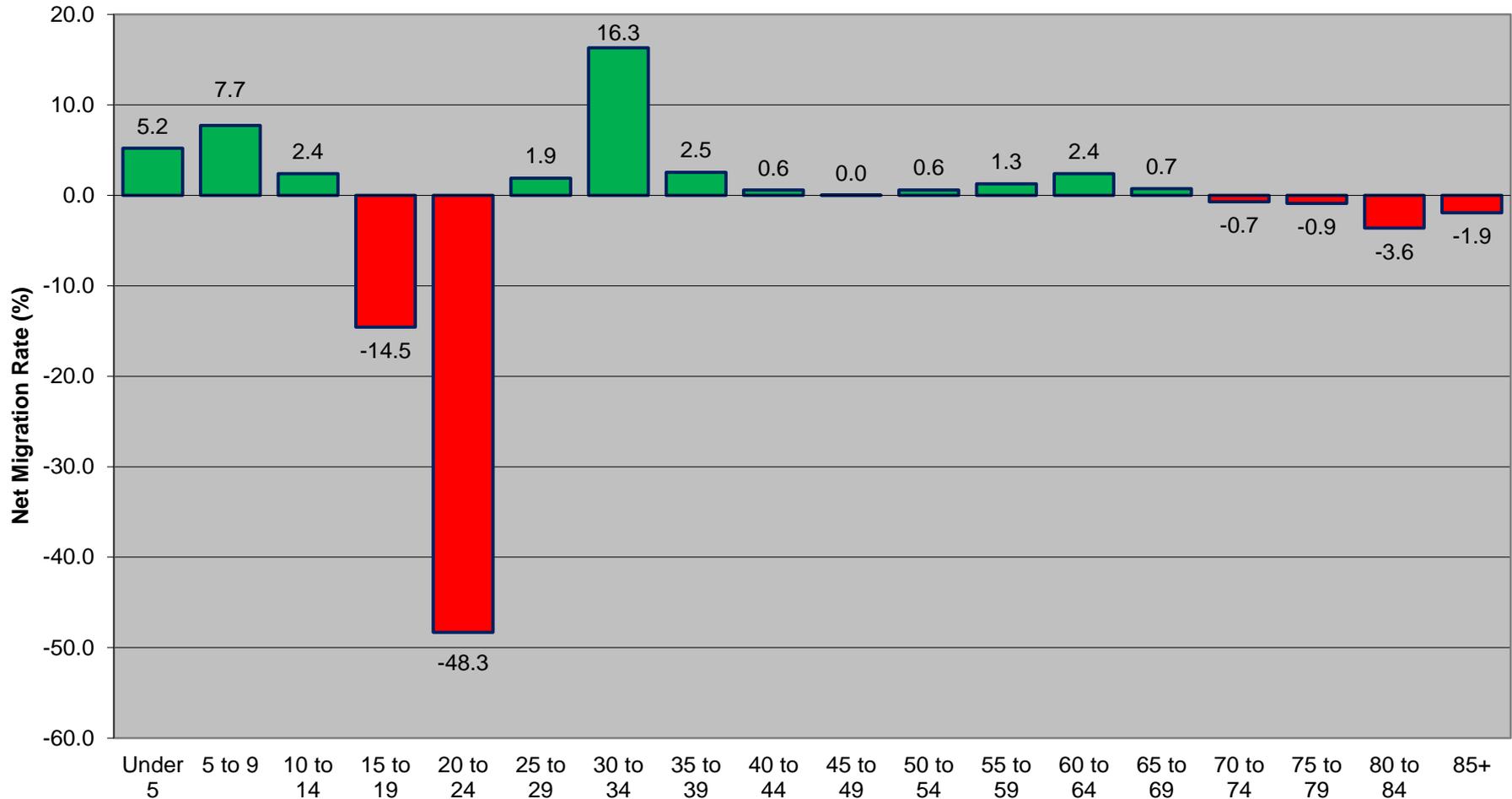




# Rural areas lose college students, but some return at middle age; also lose elders

## 5-Year Net Migration Rates of 53 "Rural" Nebraska Counties that had No Town of 2,500 Persons in 2010 by Age during 2000-2010 using Two 5-Year Periods

Overall 5-Year Net Migration Rate = - 3.1%



Sources: 2000 and 2010 Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Births and Deaths by Single Year of Age, NE Dept of HHS

Age Group

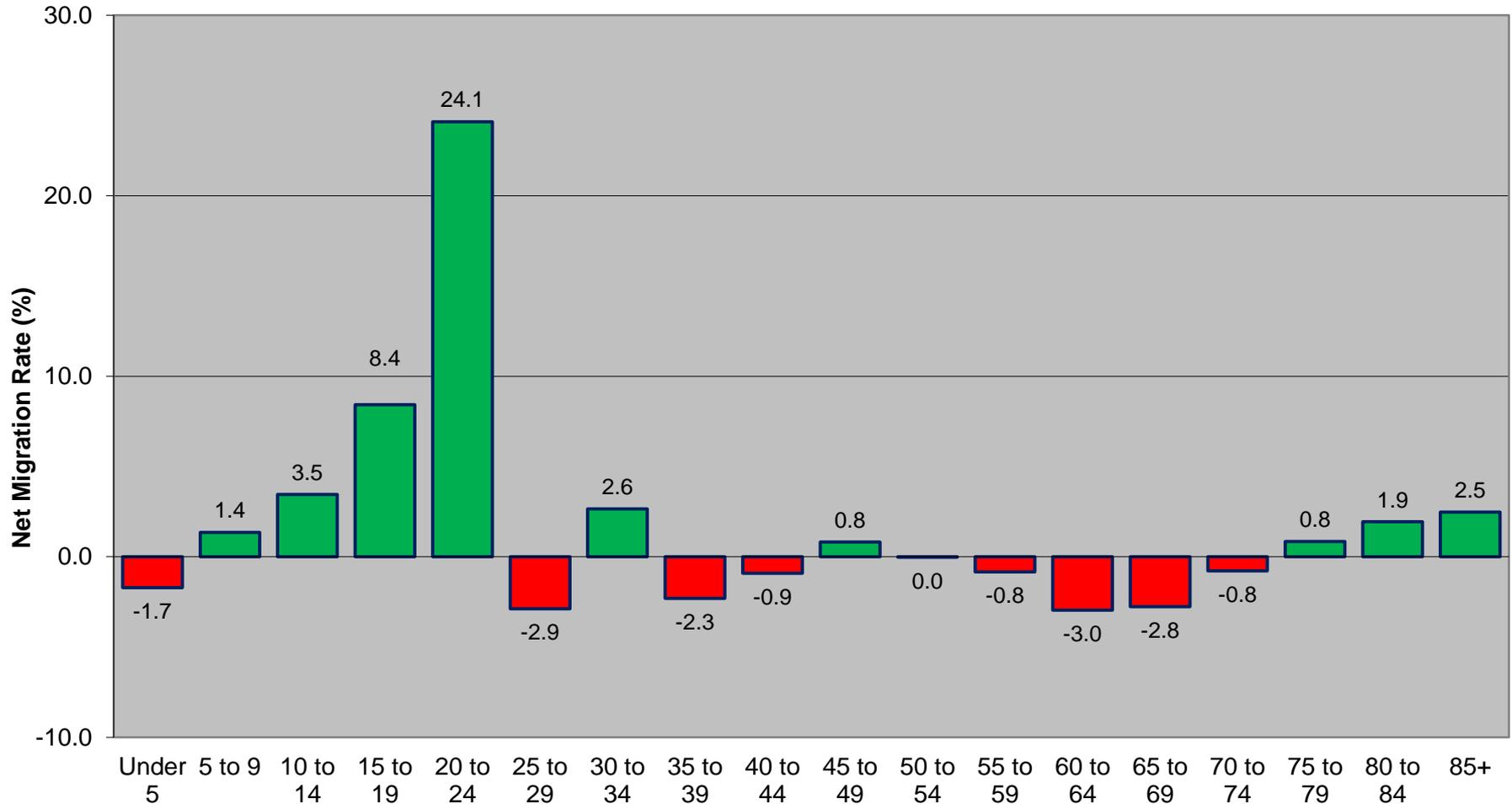
Compiled and Prepared by: David Drozd,  
UNO Center for Public Affairs Research



# Pulling in college students is a key driver of population growth in highly-populated counties

## 5-Year Net Migration Rates of "Big 3" Counties (Douglas, Lancaster, Sarpy) by Age for 2000-2010 using Two 5-Year Periods

Overall 5-Year Net Migration Rate = 2.2%



Sources: 2000 and 2010 Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Births and Deaths by Single Year of Age, NE Dept of HHS

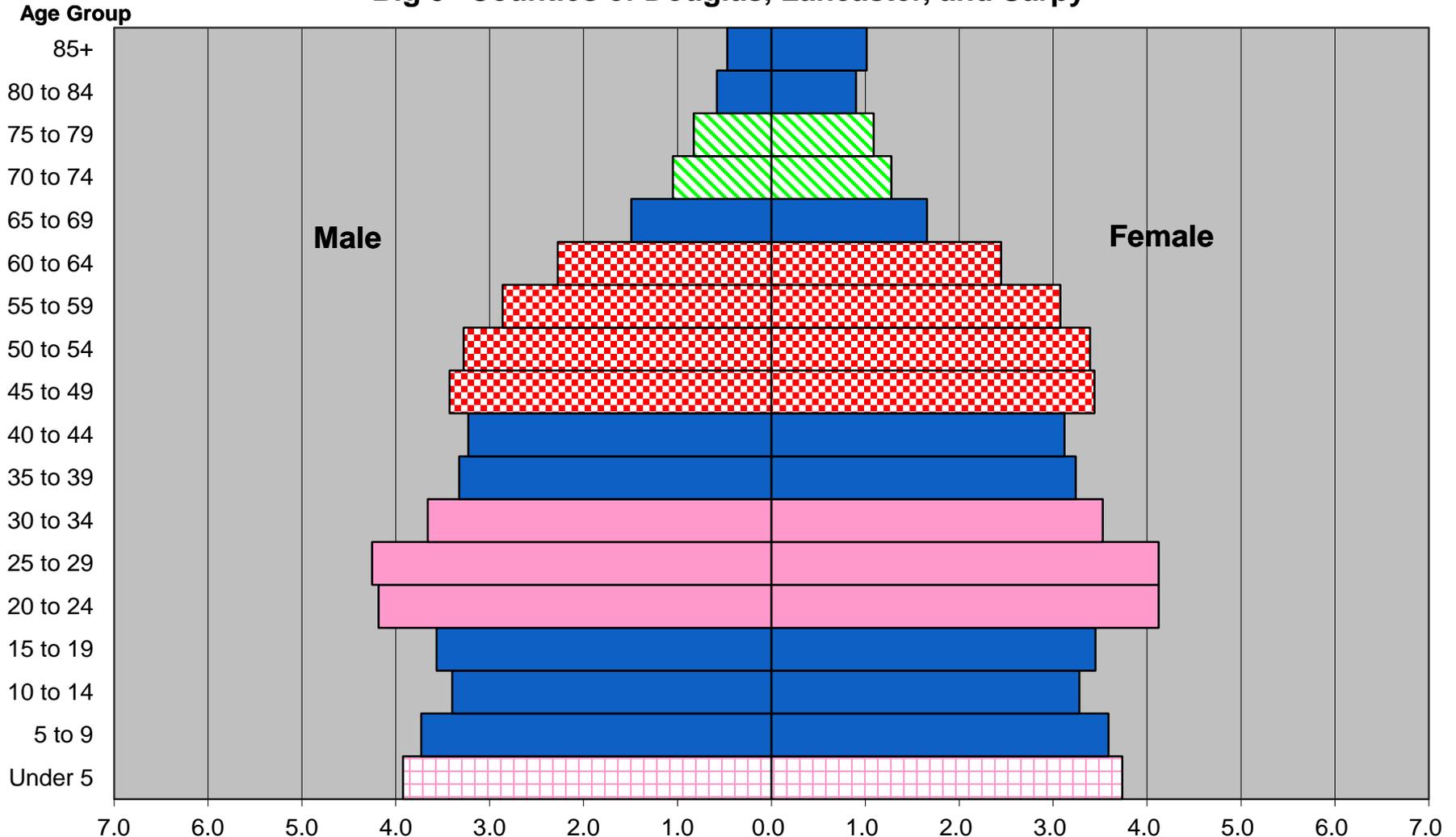
Age Group

Compiled and Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research



# Immigration leads to urban areas having more millennials than baby boomers

## 2010 Nebraska Population by Sex and Five-Year Age Group: "Big 3" Counties of Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy



Sources: 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau; 2013 Metro Definitions, OMB

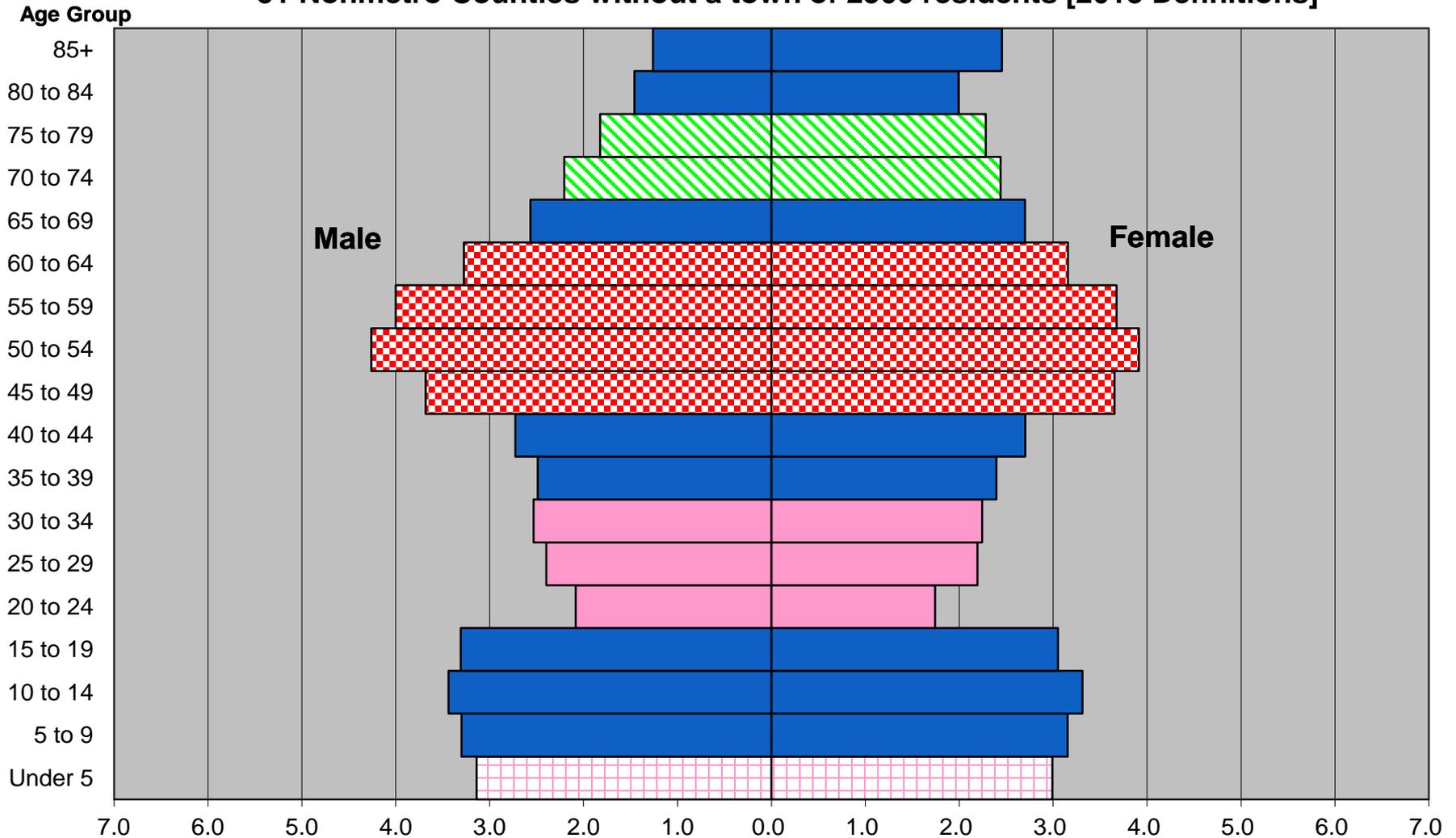
**Percent of Total Population**

Green lines depict the depression cohort; red checker shows the "baby boom"; pink represents the "baby boom echo"; pink crosshatch shows the "3rd wave"



# Outmigration leads to rural counties having few millennials; boomers dominate

## 2010 Nebraska Population by Sex and Five-Year Age Group: 51 Nonmetro Counties without a town of 2500 residents [2013 Definitions]



Sources: 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau; 2013 Metro Definitions, OMB

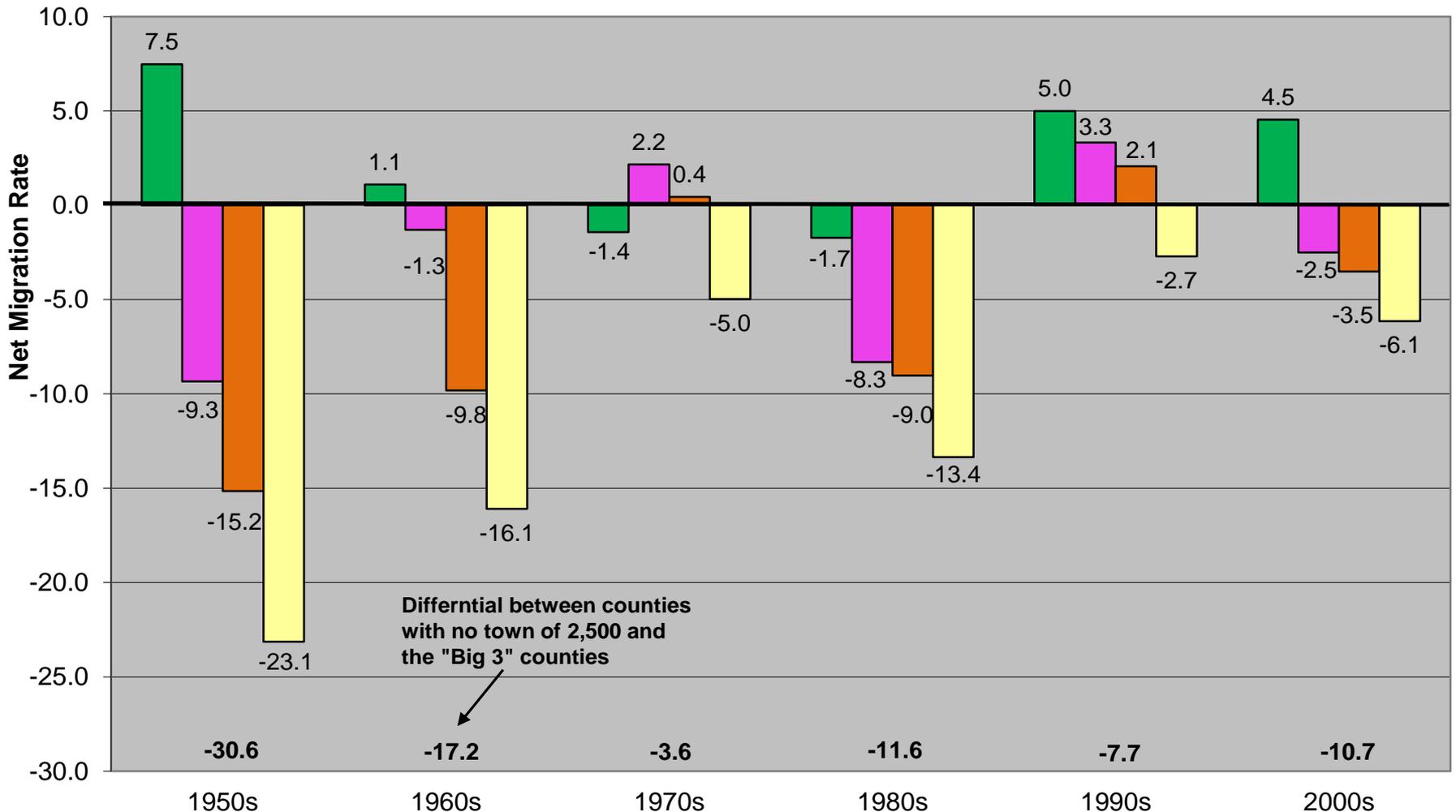
Percent of Total Population

Green lines depict the depression cohort; red checker shows the "baby boom"; pink represents the "baby boom echo"; pink crosshatch shows the "3rd wave"



“Stair Step” pattern exists as more populated area’s migration is better; counties without a town of 2500 have had outmigration each decade

### Nebraska Decade Net Migration Rates by County Type: 1950s to 2000s



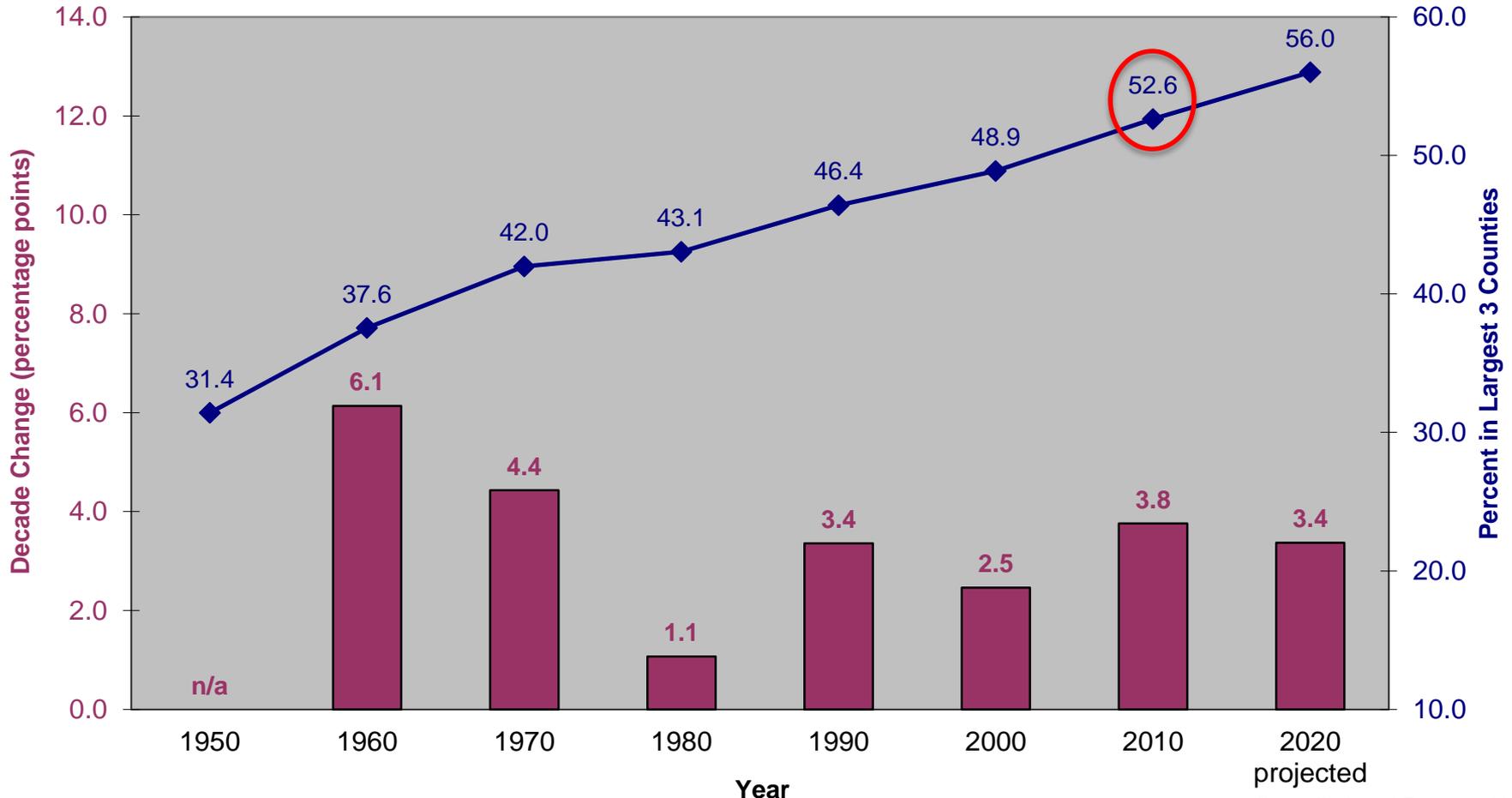
Sources: Decennial Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau; Vital Statistics Reports, Nebraska DHHS

Largest town 50,000+ / "Big 3" (3)	Largest town 10,000-49,999 (11)
Largest town 2,500-9,999 (26)	No town of 2,500 (53)



# Nebraska's "big 3" counties had less than a third of the state's population in 1950, but that figure crossed 50% by 2010 (impacting Unicameral representation)

## Percentage of the Nebraska Population located in its Largest 3 Counties of Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy: 1950 to 2020 with Change during the Decade



Source: Decennial Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau; December 2015 Nebraska County Population Projections, CPAR @ UNO



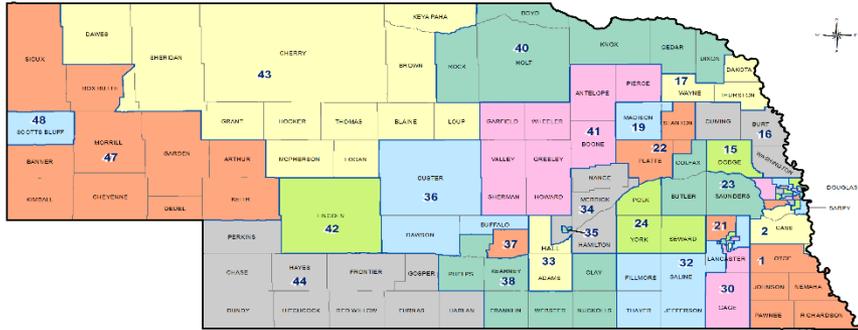
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David Drozd, Center for Public  
Affairs Research, UNO



In 2010 the “big 3” counties had 52.6% of NE’s population and 25 of the 49 Unicameral seats; District 49 moved from western NE to Sarpy County; 27 seats likely in 2020

### Nebraska Legislative Districts - LB 703 (2011)

(Districts took effect May 27, 2011)



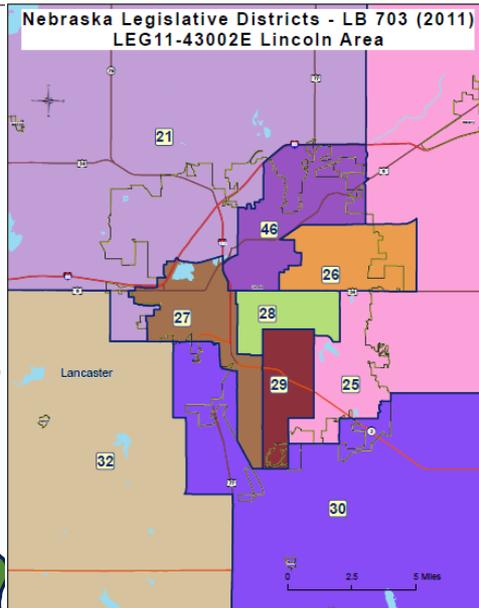
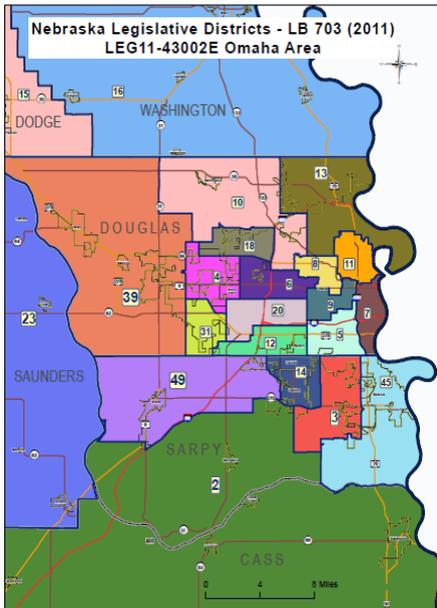
**GIS**  
LEGISLATIVE SYSTEMS  
Geographic Information Systems  
Map Created by: Trisha Schlake, GIS Specialist  
Source: US Census Bureau  
Date Created: 6/27/2011

## Unicameral after the 2000 Census:

- Douglas: 11 districts fully within its borders, 4 partially in
- Lancaster: 6 fully in, 2 partially in
- Sarpy: 3 fully in, 4 partially in

## Unicameral after 2010:

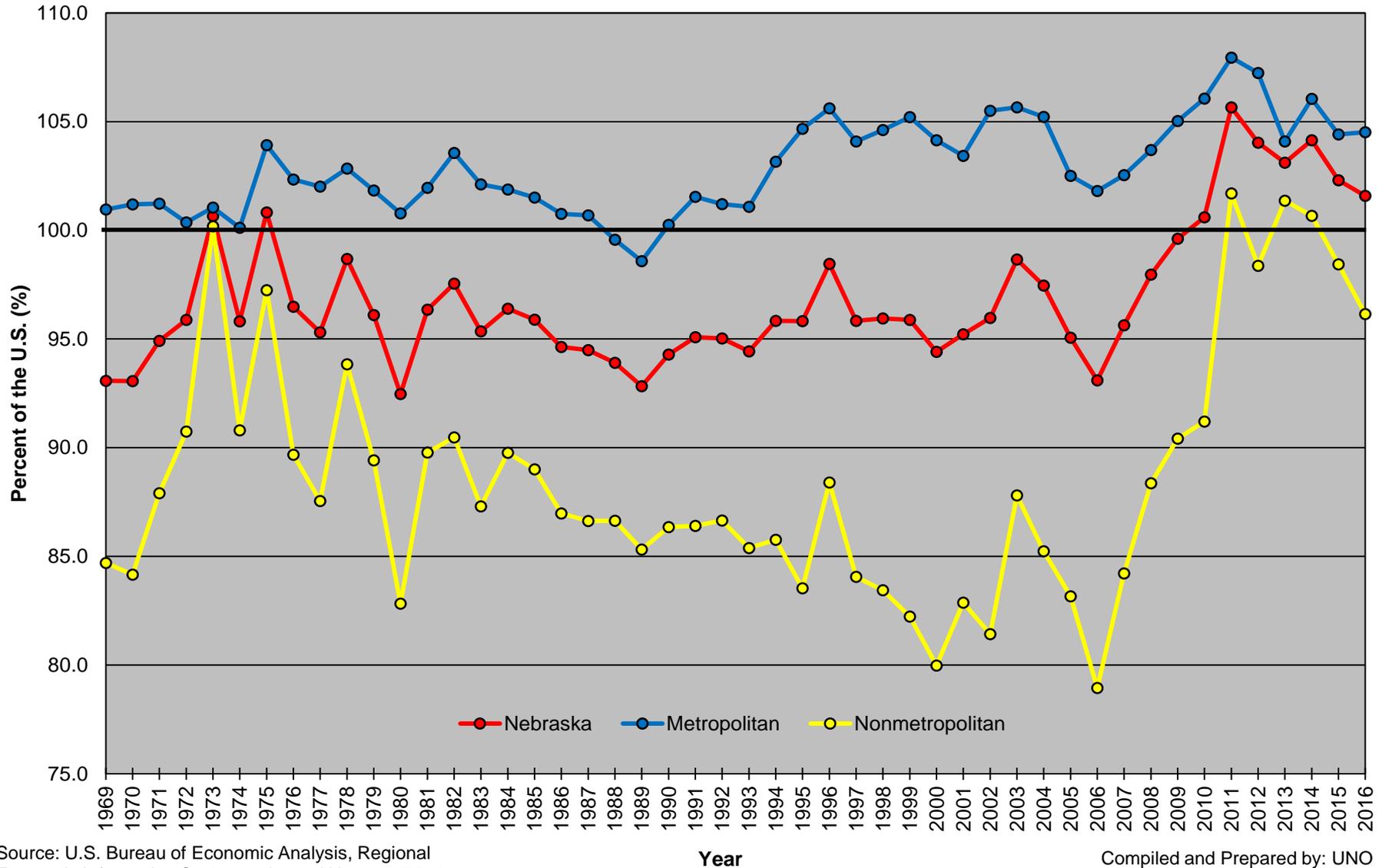
- Douglas: 14 districts fully within its borders
- Lancaster: 7 fully in, 2 partially in
- Sarpy: 4 fully in, 1 partially in





# Why do people move from nonmetro to metro areas? There is an economic reason to do so!!

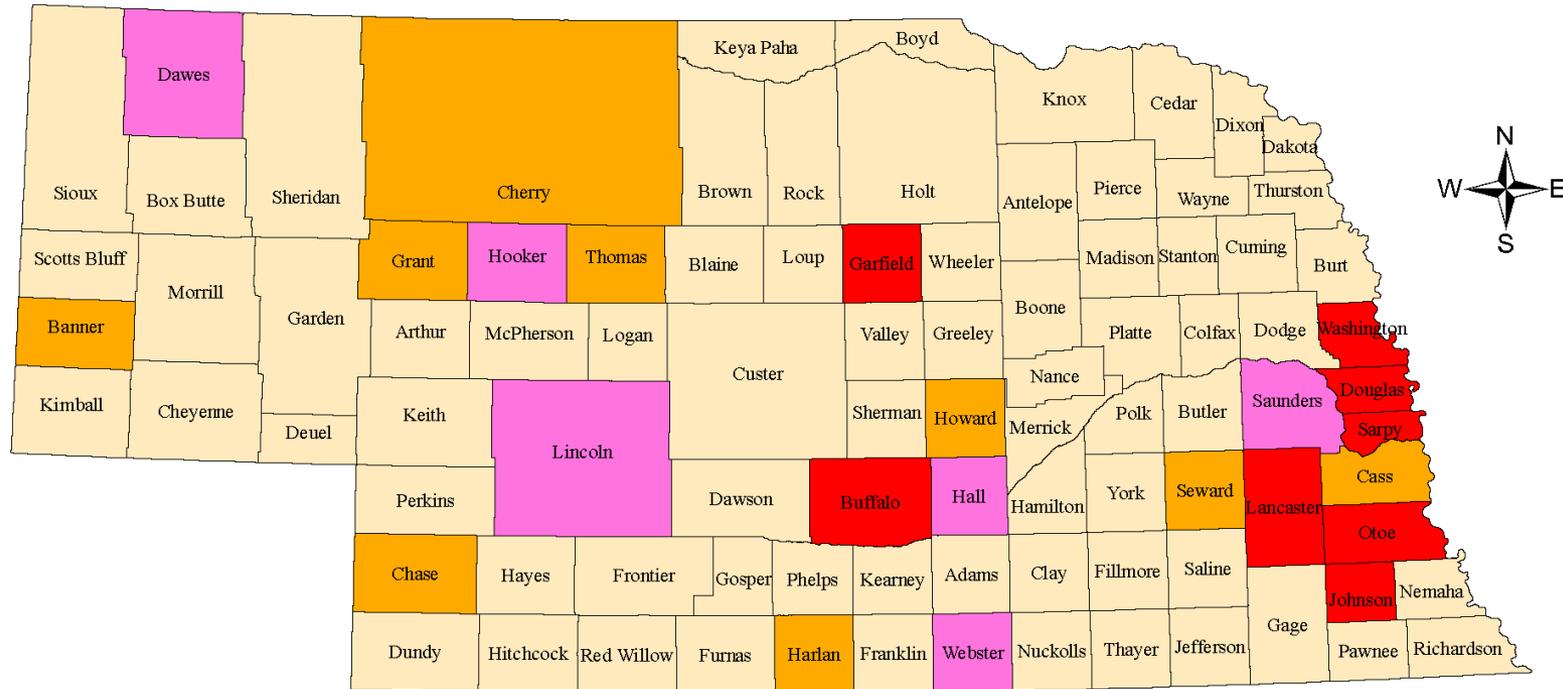
## Per Capita Personal Income for Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Nebraska and the State as a Percentage of the U.S.: 1969-2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System, released Nov. 16, 2017

Compiled and Prepared by: UNO Center for Public Affairs Research

# Net Migration in Nebraska Counties: 2000-2010 and 2010-2017



**Net Migration (Inmovers - Outmovers) between 2000-2010 and 2010-2017**  
**Note: Nebraska had net immigration in both timeframes - the red shaded category**

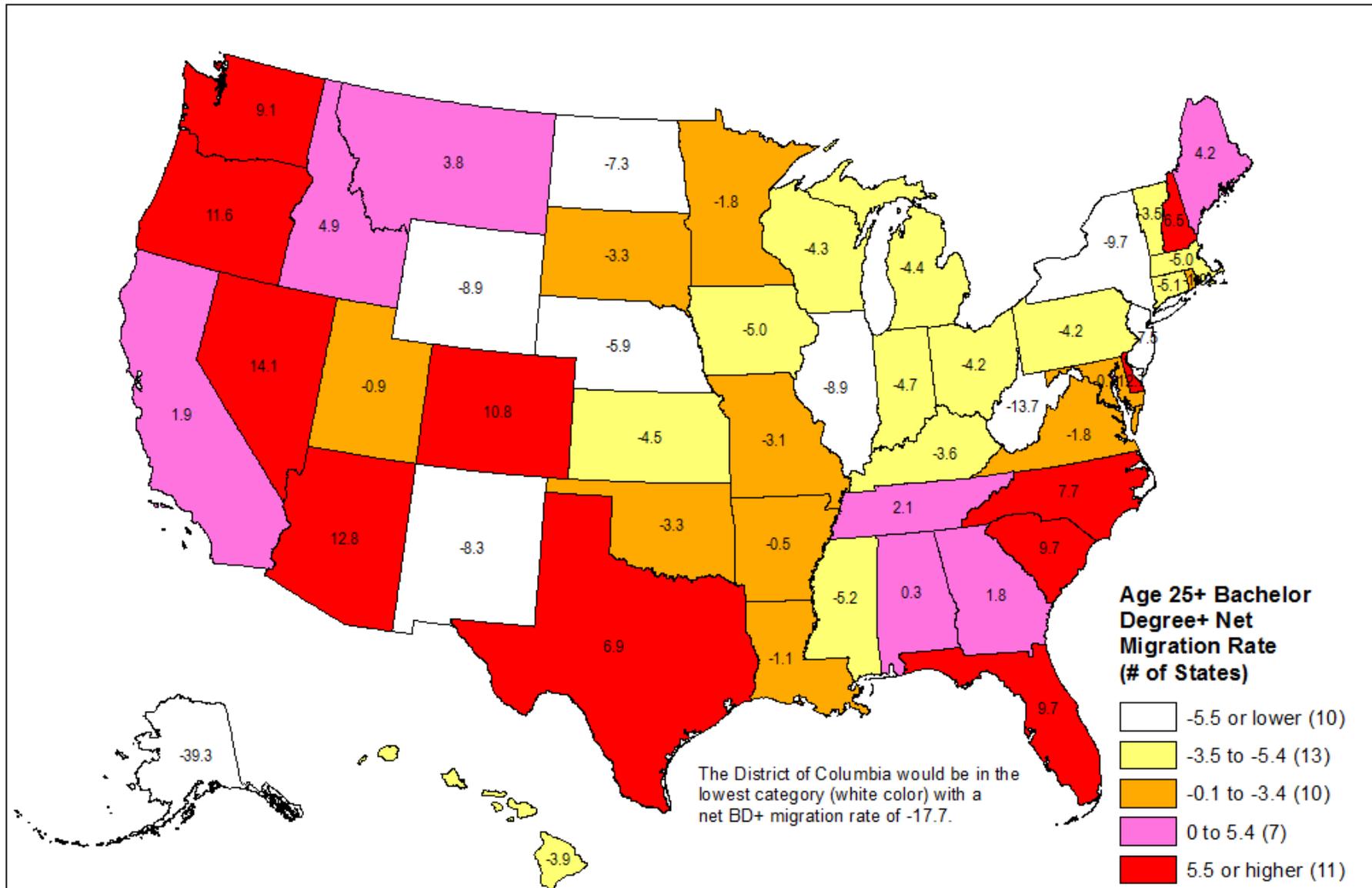
- Net Immigration in both 2000-2010 and 2010-2017 (8 counties)
- Net Immigration in 2000-2010, but Net Outmigration in 2010-2017 (6 counties)
- Net Outmigration in 2000-2010, but Net Immigration in 2010-2017 (9 counties)
- Net Outmigration in both 2000-2010 and 2010-2017 (70 counties)

Sources: Vital Statistics Reports, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services; 2000 and 2010 Censuses, 2017 Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

Prepared by: David Drozd, Center for Public Affairs Research, University of Nebraska at Omaha - March 21, 2018

Note: The Dana College closure is not fully reflected for Washington County, with students in dorms still being included, inflating its estimated population.

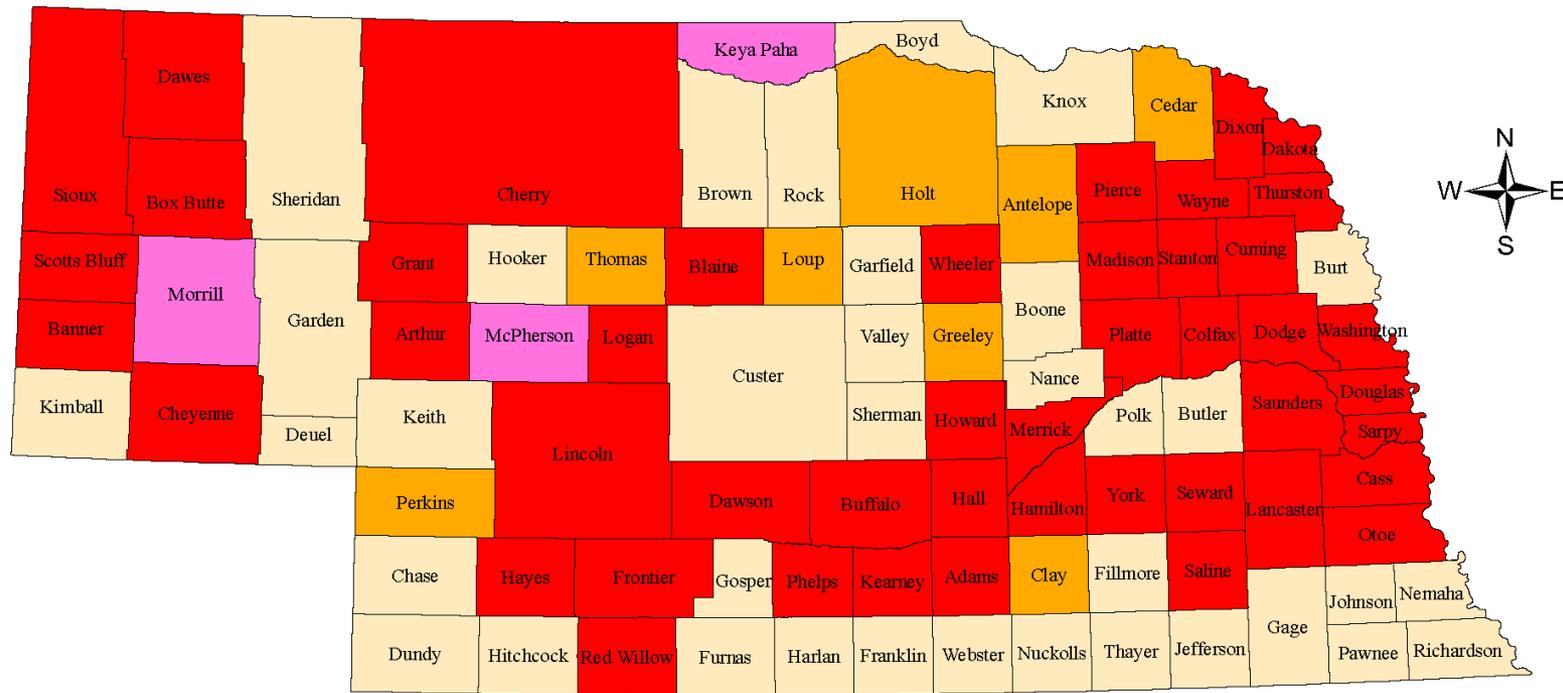
# Age 25+ Bachelor's Degree or more Net Migration Rate per 1,000 People Age 25+ with a Bachelor's Degree or more: 2012 to 2016 timeframe



Sources: Tables B07009 and B07409, 2012 to 2016 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau; Author Calculations

Prepared by: David Drozd, Center for Public Affairs Research, University of Nebraska Omaha - January 29, 2018

# Natural Change in Nebraska Counties: 2000-2009 and 2010-2016



## Natural Change (Births - Deaths) between 2000-2009 (the 2000s decade) and 2010-2016

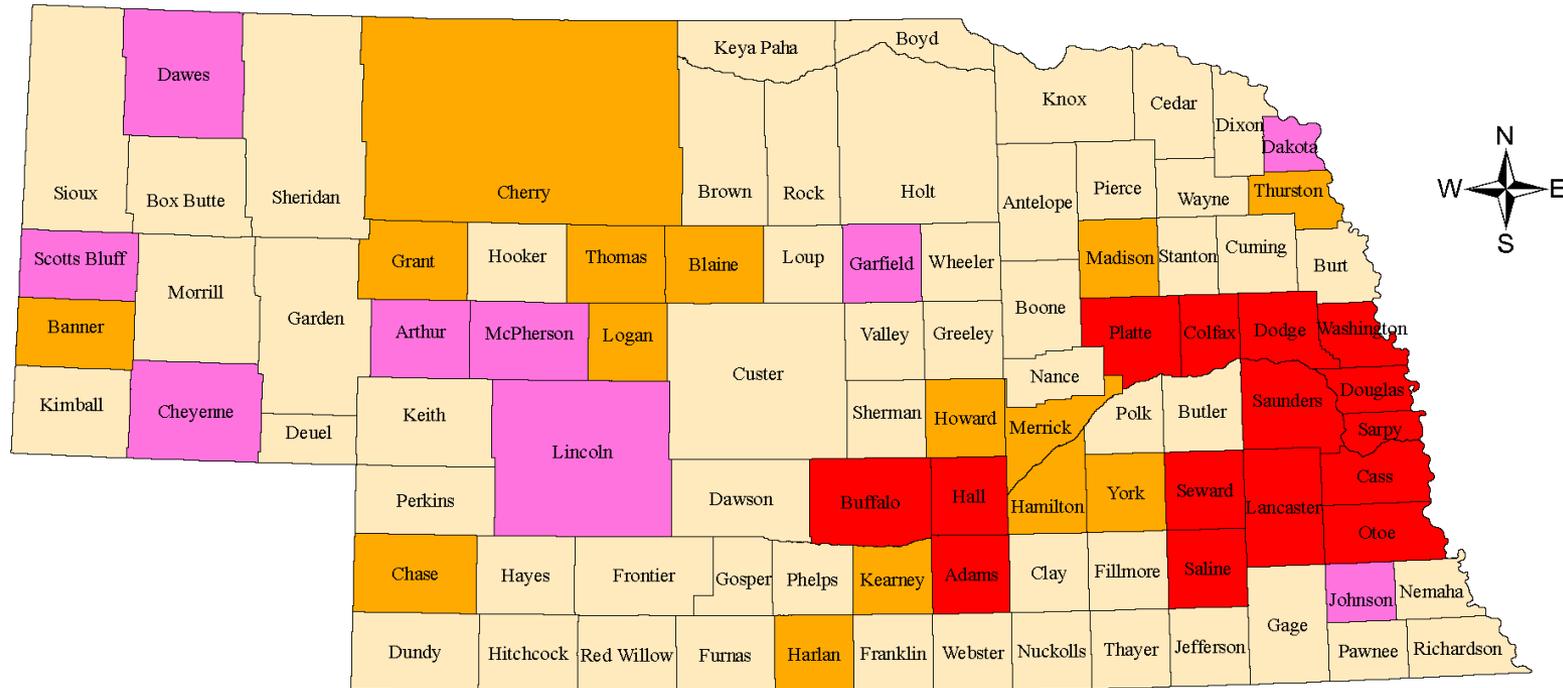
**Note: Nebraska had natural increase in both timeframes - the red shaded category**

- Natural Increase in both 2000-2009 and 2010-2016 (46 counties)
- Natural Increase in 2000-2009, but Natural Decrease in 2010-2016 (3 counties)
- Natural Decrease in 2000-2009, but Natural Increase in 2010-2016 (8 counties)
- Natural Decrease in both 2000-2009 and 2010-2016 (36 counties)

Source: Vital Statistics Reports, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

Prepared by: David Drozd, Center for Public Affairs Research, University of Nebraska at Omaha - March 21, 2018

# Population Change in Nebraska Counties: 2000-2010 and 2010-2017



## Population Change between 2000-2010 and 2010-2017

**Note: Nebraska increased in both timeframes - the red shaded category**

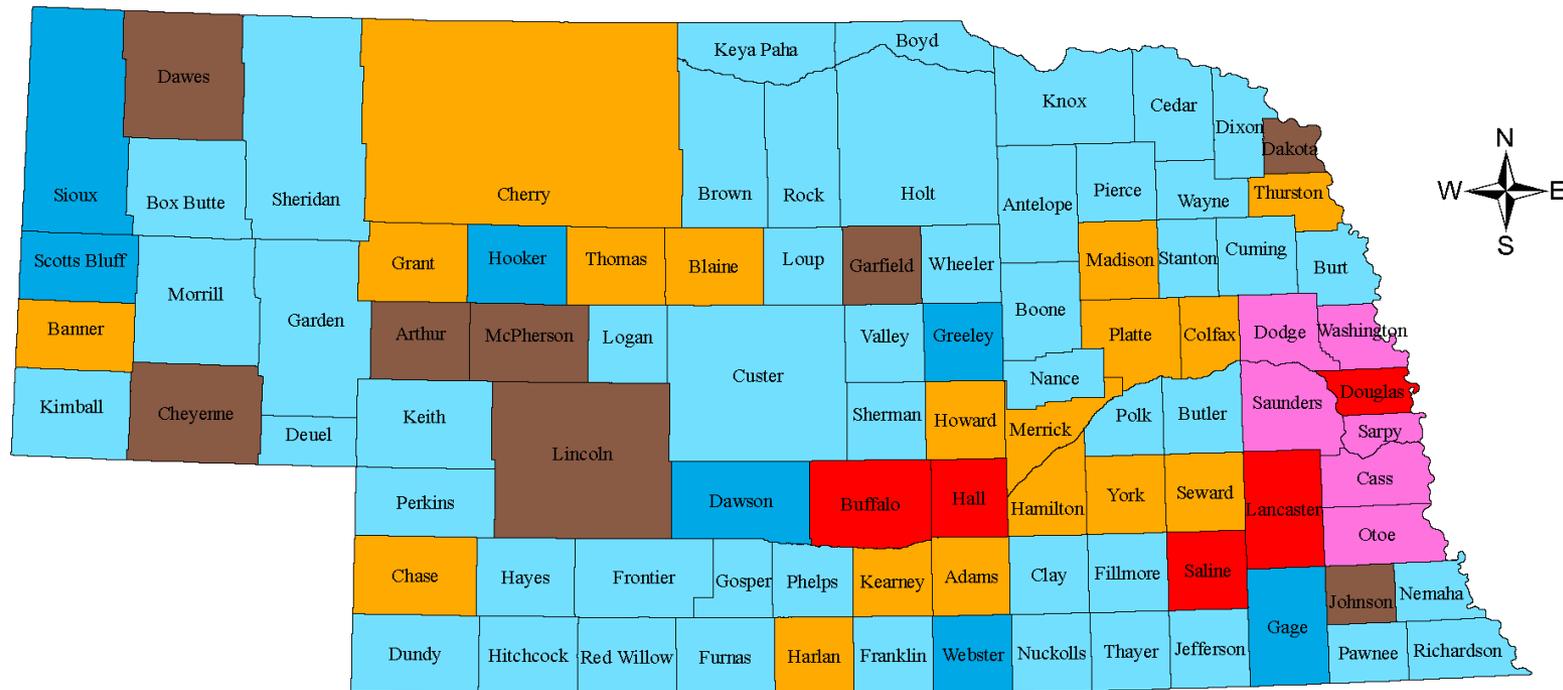
- Population Increased in both 2000-2010 and 2010-2017 (15 counties)
- Population Increased in 2000-2010, but Population Decreased 2010-2017 (9 counties)
- Population Decreased in 2000-2010, but Population Increased 2010-2017 (15 counties)
- Population Decreased in both 2000-2010 and 2010-2017 (54 counties)

Sources: 2000 and 2010 Decennial Censuses, 2017 Vintage Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

Prepared by: David Drozd, Center for Public Affairs Research, University of Nebraska at Omaha - March 21, 2018

Note: The Dana College closure is not fully reflected for Washington County, with students in dorms still being included, inflating its estimated population.

# Comparison of Population Growth Rates: 2000-2007 versus 2010-2017



## Comparison of Population Growth Rates in the Early 2000s vs. Early 2010s: Nebraska gained in both timeframes and moreso in 2010-2017 - the red shaded category

- Gained population in both 2000-07 and 2010-17, with larger growth in 2010-17 (5 counties)
- Gained population in both 2000-07 and 2010-17, with smaller growth in 2010-17 (6 counties)
- Gained population in 2000-07, but lost population in 2010-17 (8 counties)
- Lost population in 2000-07, but gained population in 2010-17 (18 counties)
- Lost population in both 2000-07 and 2010-17, with smaller loss in 2010-17 (49 counties)
- Lost population in both 2000-07 and 2010-17, with larger loss in 2010-17 (7 counties)

Sources: Post 2010 Census Population Estimates, 2017 Vintage Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

Prepared by: David Drozd, Center for Public Affairs Research, University of Nebraska at Omaha - March 21, 2018

Note: The Dana College closure is not fully reflected for Washington County, with students in dorms still being included, inflating its estimated population.

# Nebraska's Changing Demographics

OpenSky Policy Institute  
Candidate Education Sessions  
May 23-24, 2018



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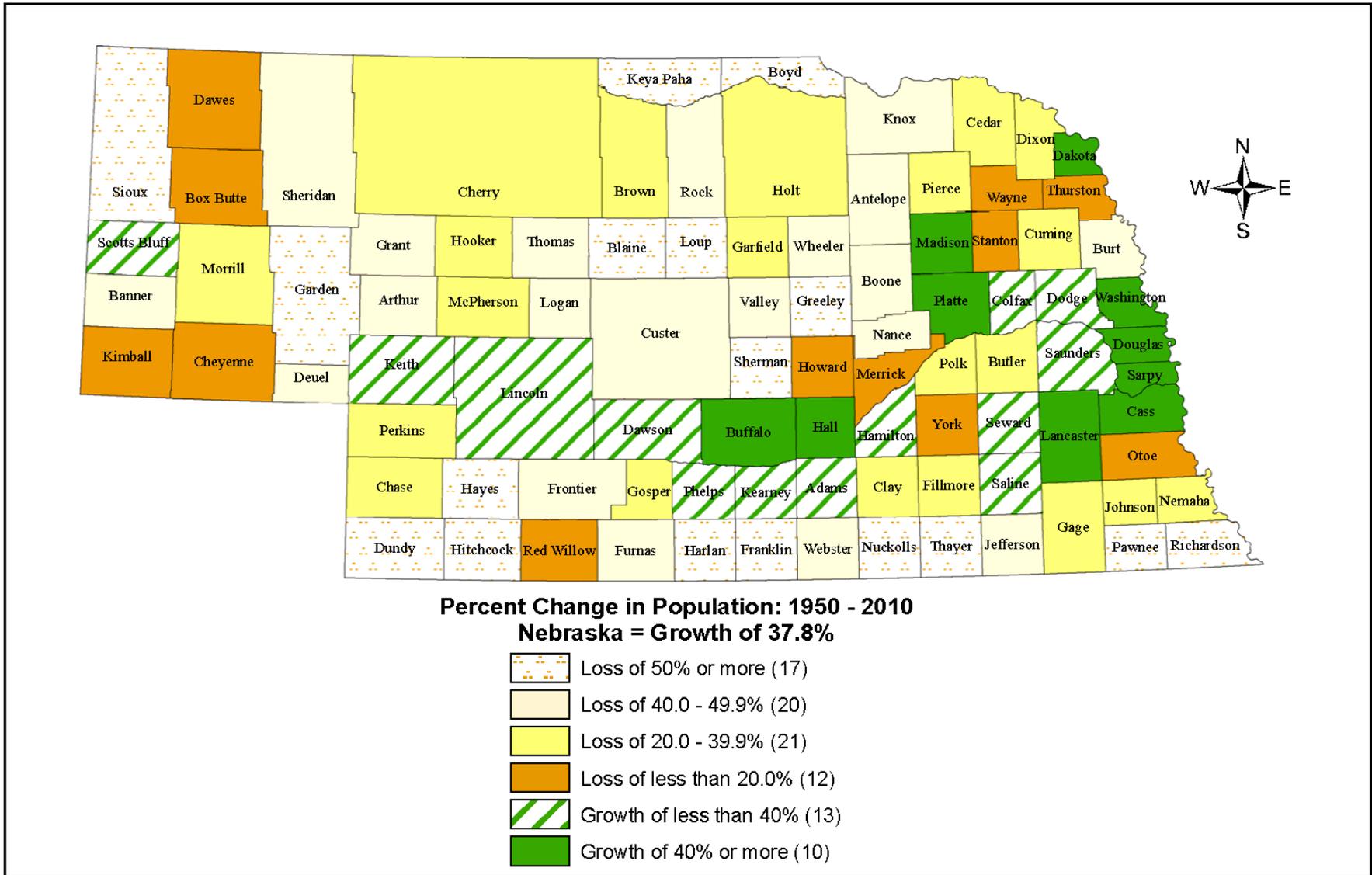
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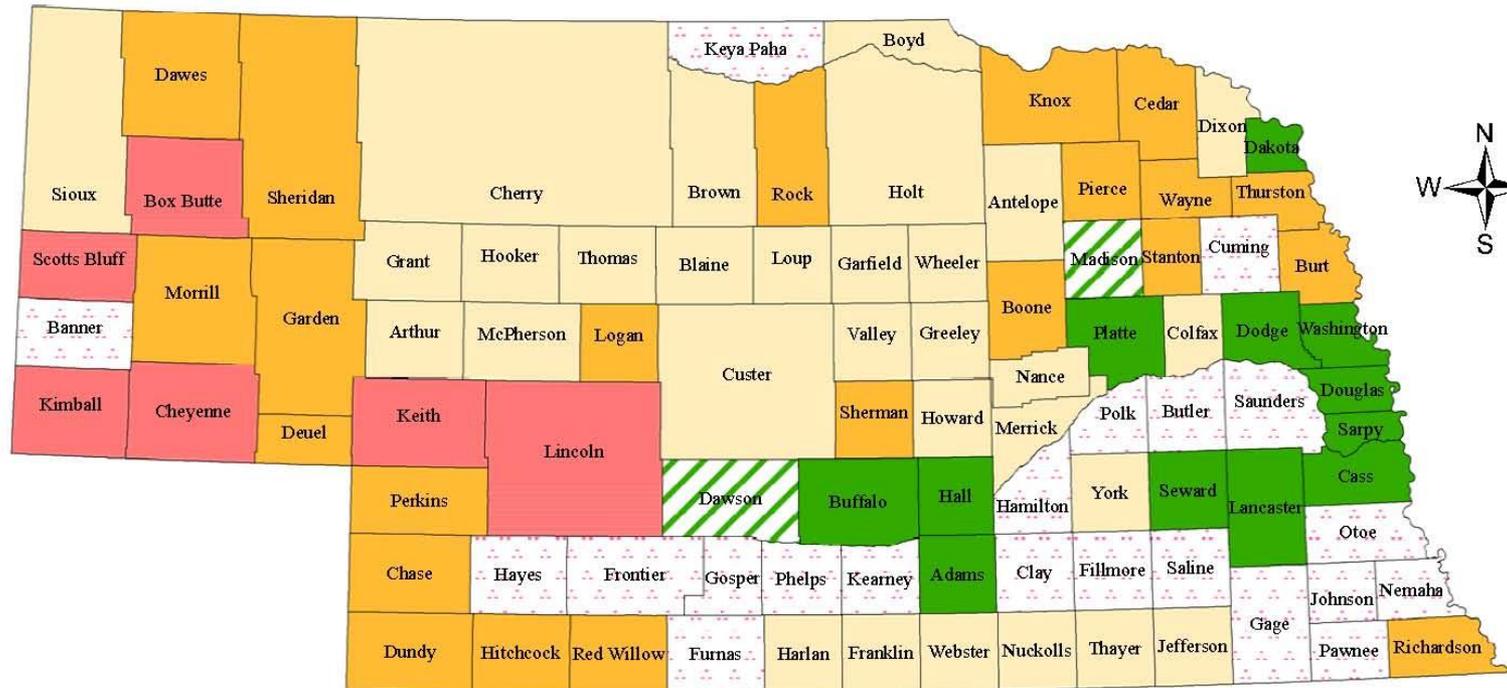
# 1950 - 2010 Percent Change in Population for Nebraska Counties



Sources: 1950 and 2010 Decennial Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau

Prepared by: David Drozd, Center for Public Affairs Research, University of Nebraska at Omaha - October 25, 2013

# Year of Highest Census Population for Nebraska Counties



## Year of Highest Census Population



Sources: Decennial Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau

Prepared by: David Drozd, Center for Public Affairs Research, University of Nebraska at Omaha - April 21, 2011