KANSAS RURAL WATER
association

“Tumbleweed Tales: Change, Challenge and Champions”

Presentation developed by

Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development

Ron Wilson, Director

www.huckboydinstitute.org

DNAN BCT VF BIU SA

DNA NBC TV FBI USA

“Tumbleweed Tales: Change, Challenge and Champions”

Question:

Who the heck is Huck?

McDill “Huck” Boyd

Huck Boyd

Rural Journalist, State and National Leader

- Publisher of the weekly Phillips County Review
- Studied at Kansas State University
- Republican National Committeeman from Kansas

"Community service is the rent you pay for the privilege of living on this earth."

— McDill "Huck" Boyd

Huck Boyd Community Center Phillipsburg, Kansas

Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development

Huck Boyd Foundation

Kansas State University

Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development

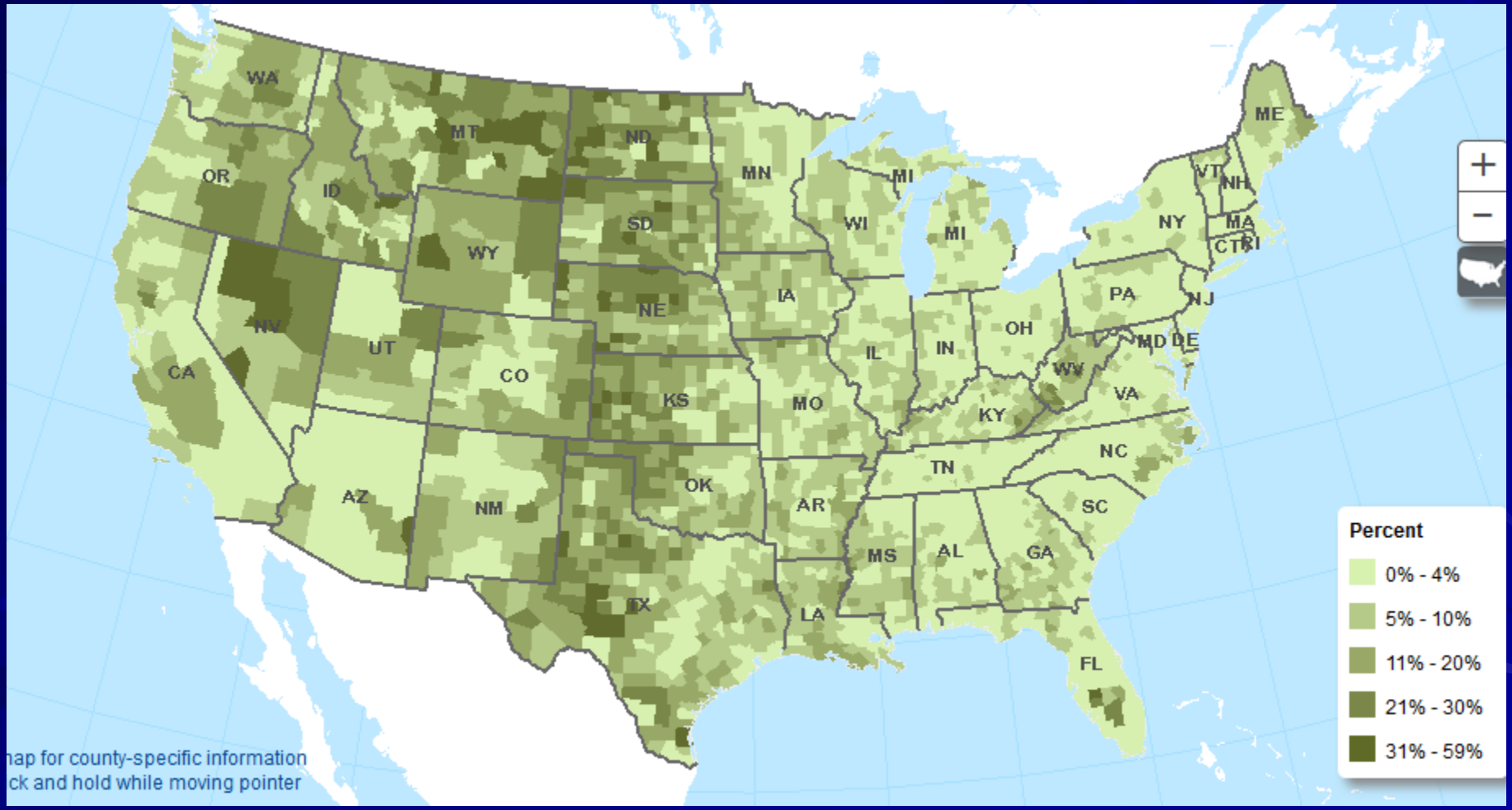
Mission: Rural Self-Help

Leadership Development
Rural Outreach
Community Vitality
Kansas Profile

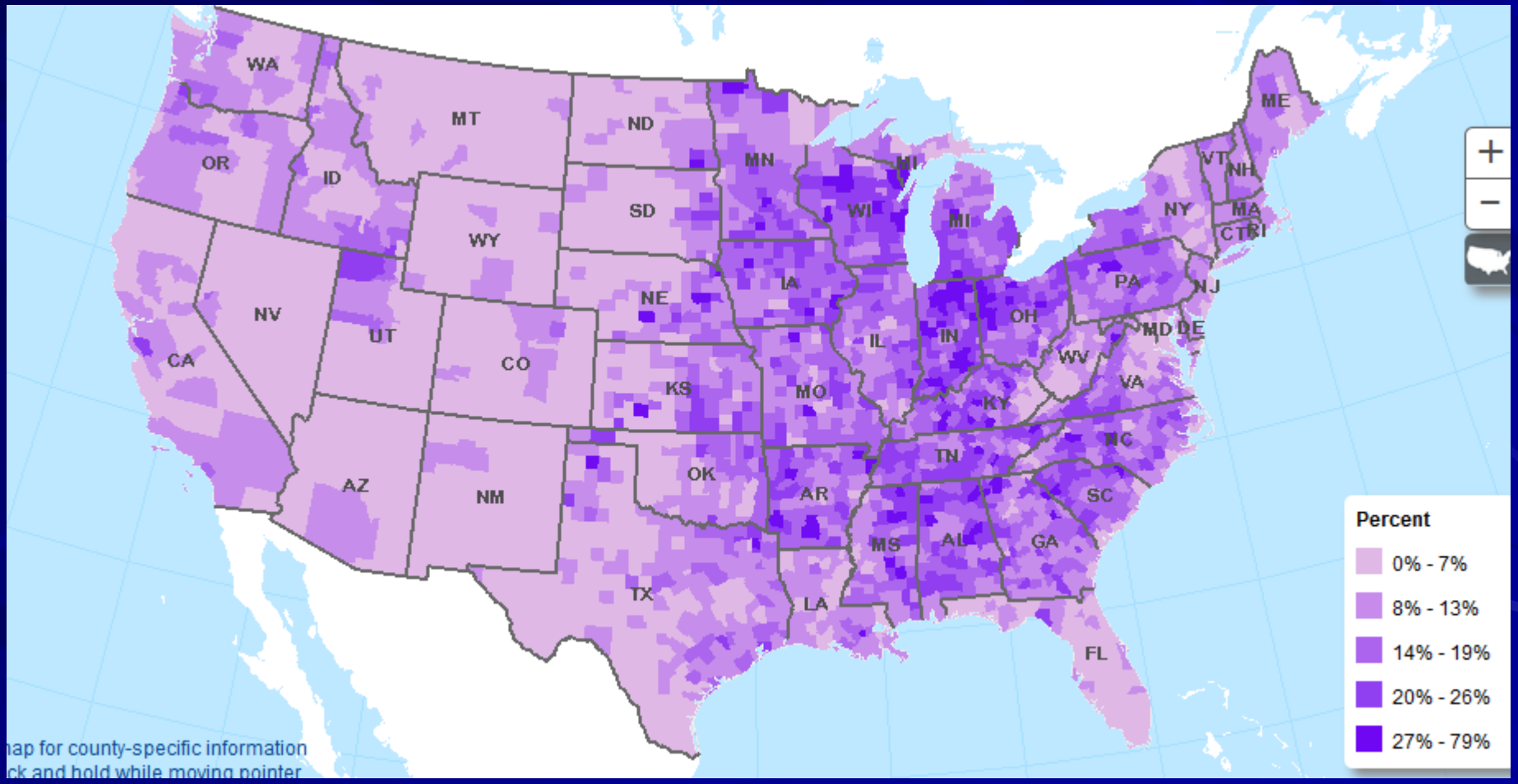
“Tumbleweed Tales: Change, Challenge and Champions”

Economic Base

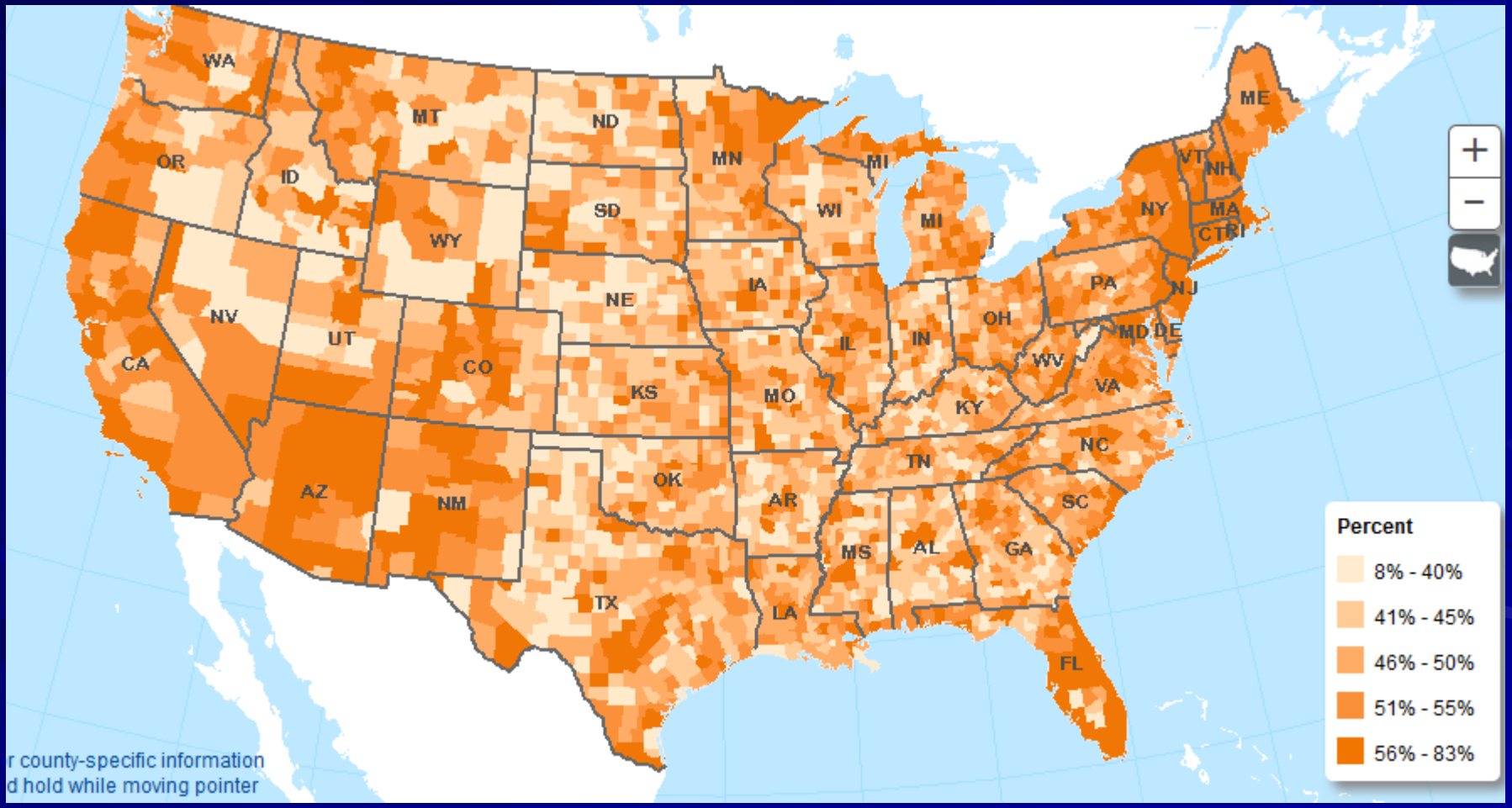
Percent employed in agriculture, 2008-2012



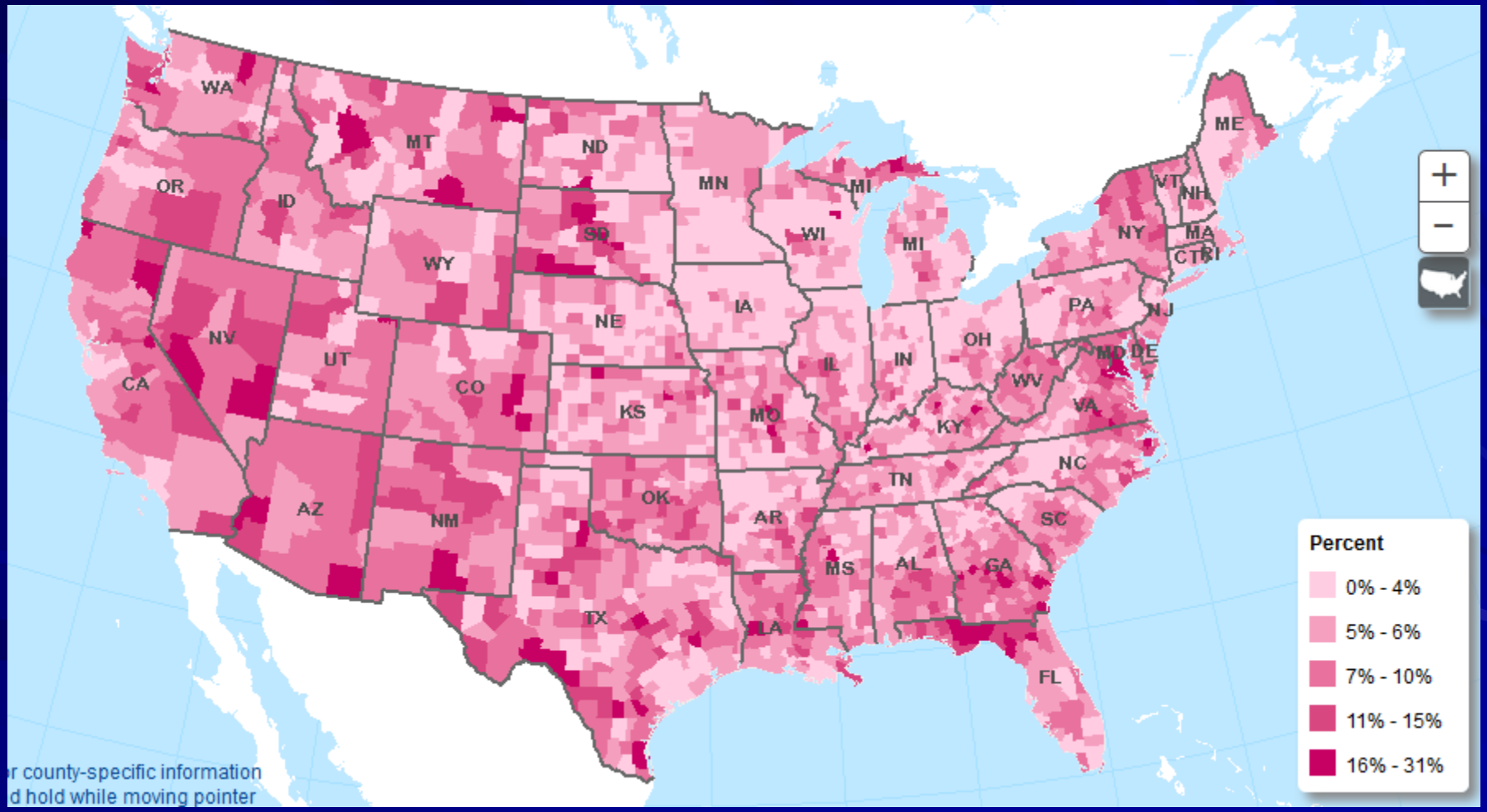
Percent employed in manufacturing, 2008-2012



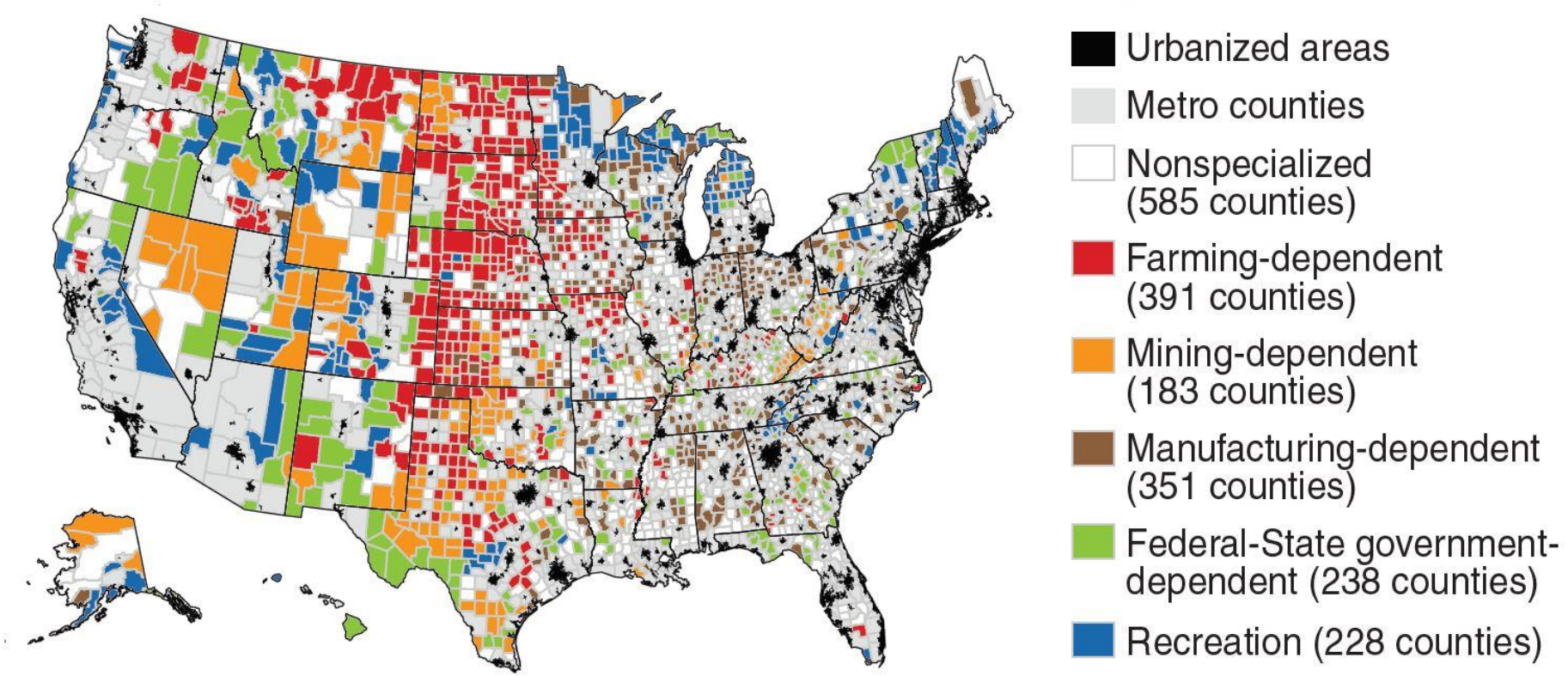
Percent employed in services, 2008-2012



Percent employed in government, 2008-2012



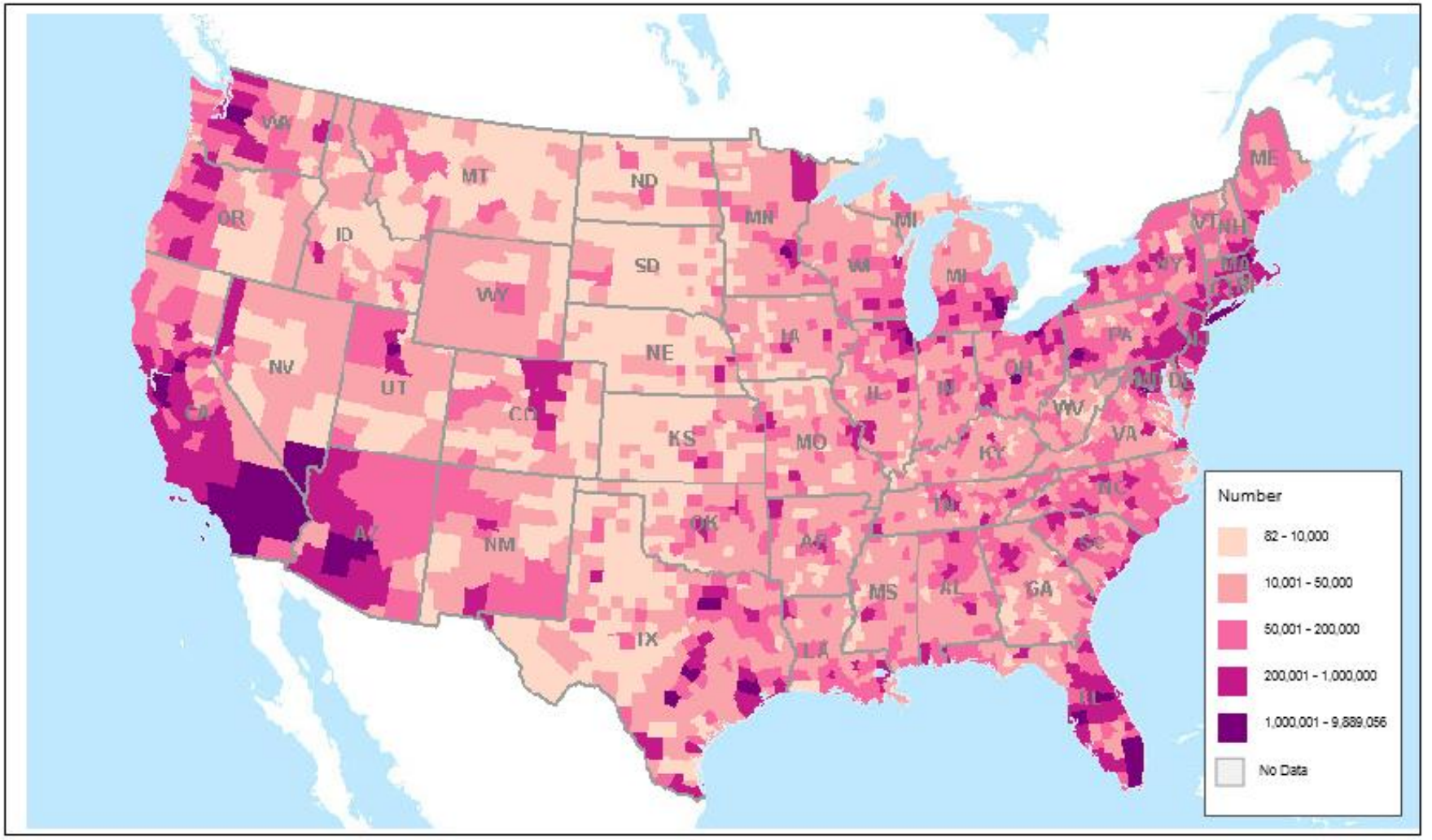
Rural counties vary in their economic structure with marked regional differences



Note: The 2015 county typologies use data from 2010-2012. See footnote 1.
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

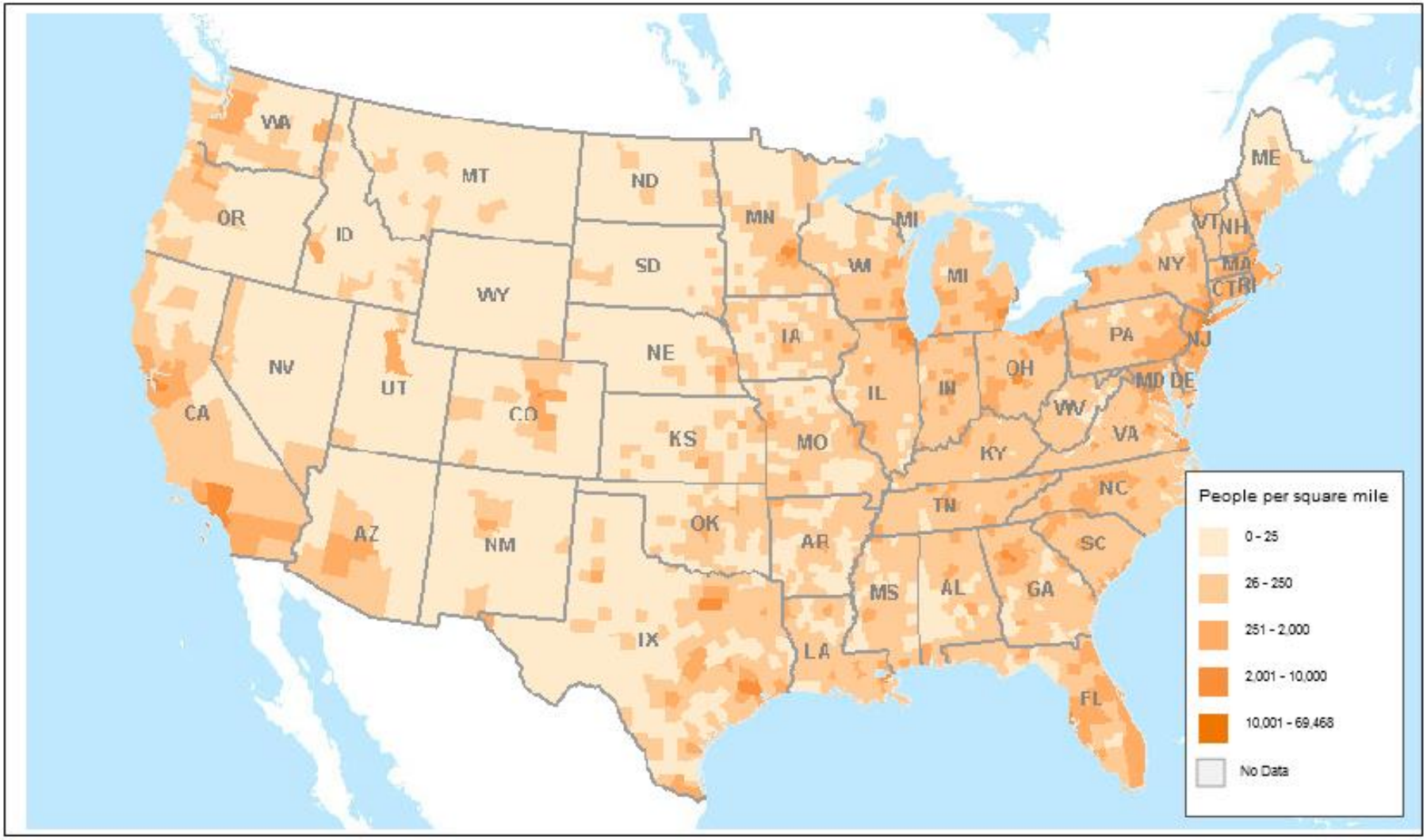
Population

Population Size



Population size, 2011

Population Density



Population density, 2010

Population Shifts

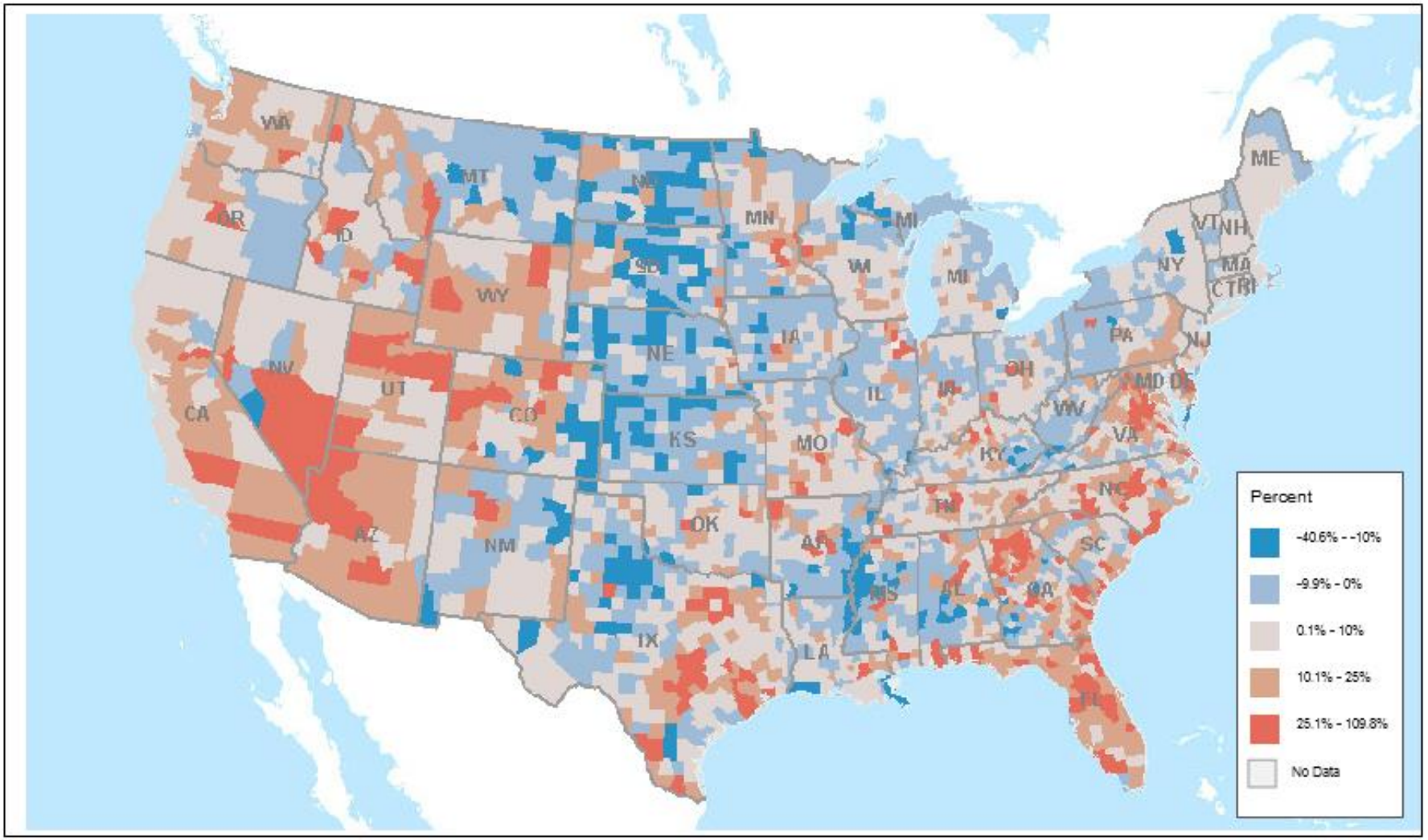
What is the pattern of population change?

MacArthur Foundation

funded a study
by Carr and Kefalas
on rural population

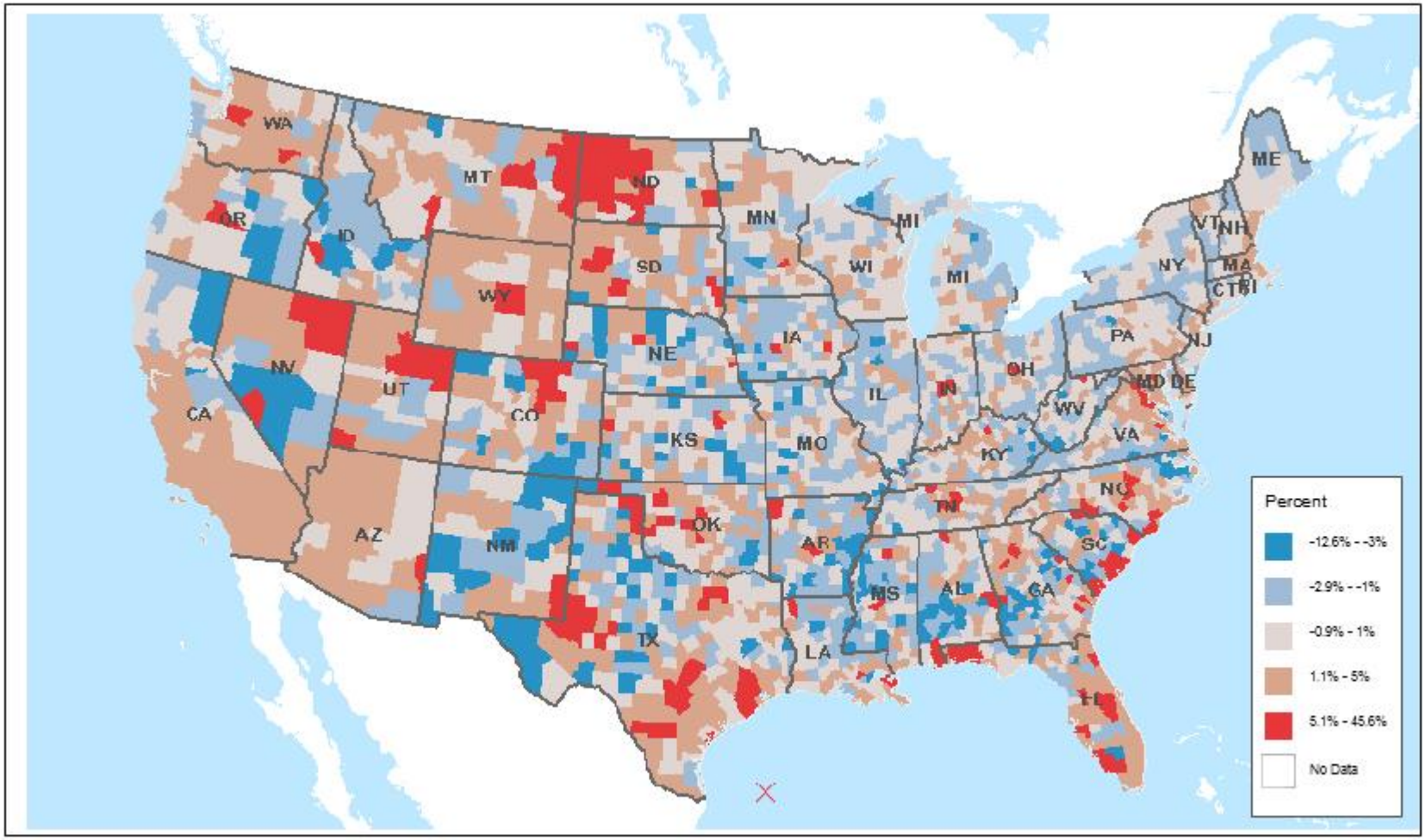
“Hollowing Out the Middle”

Population Change Rate



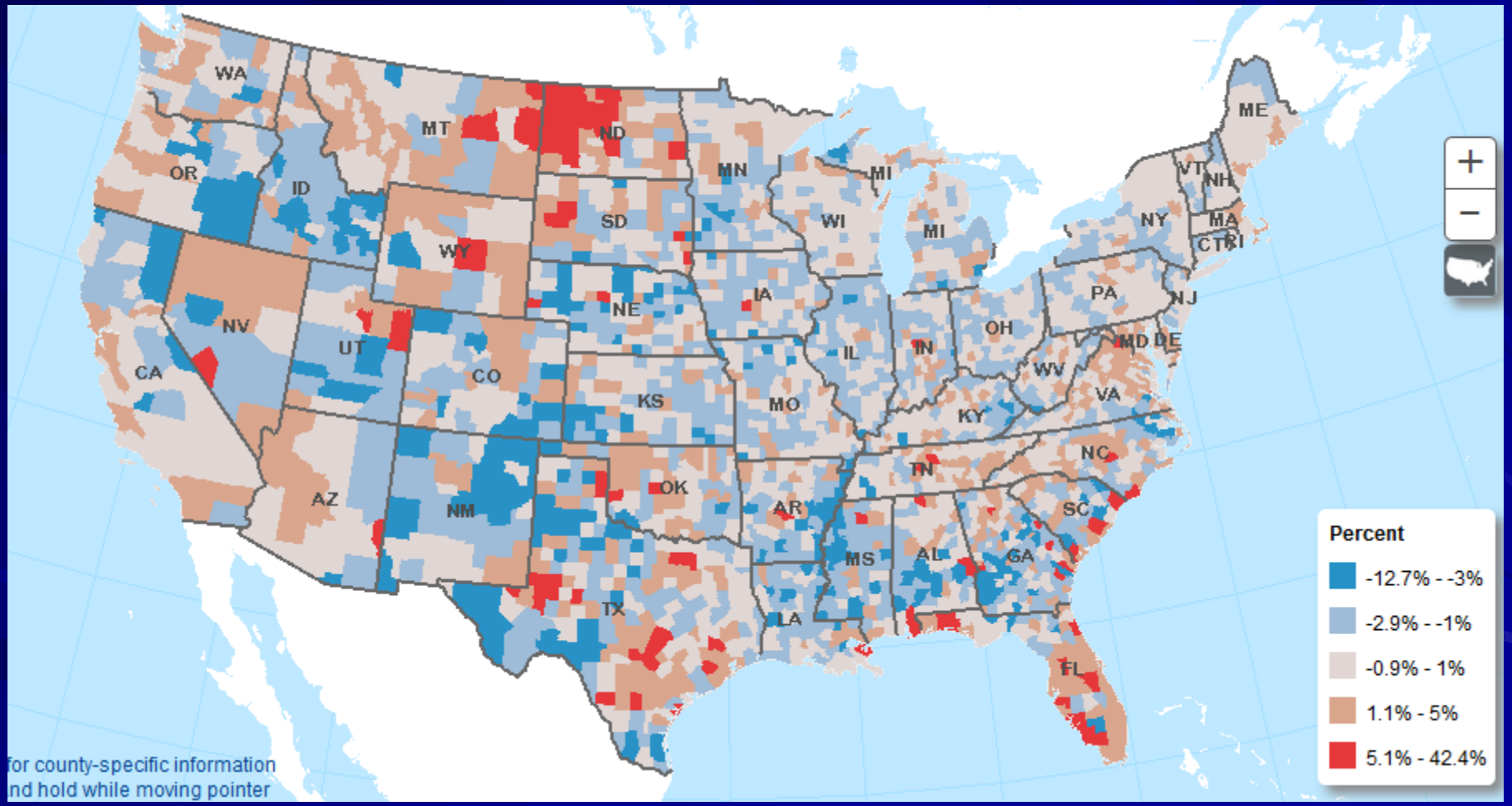
Population change rate, 2000-2010

Population Change Rate

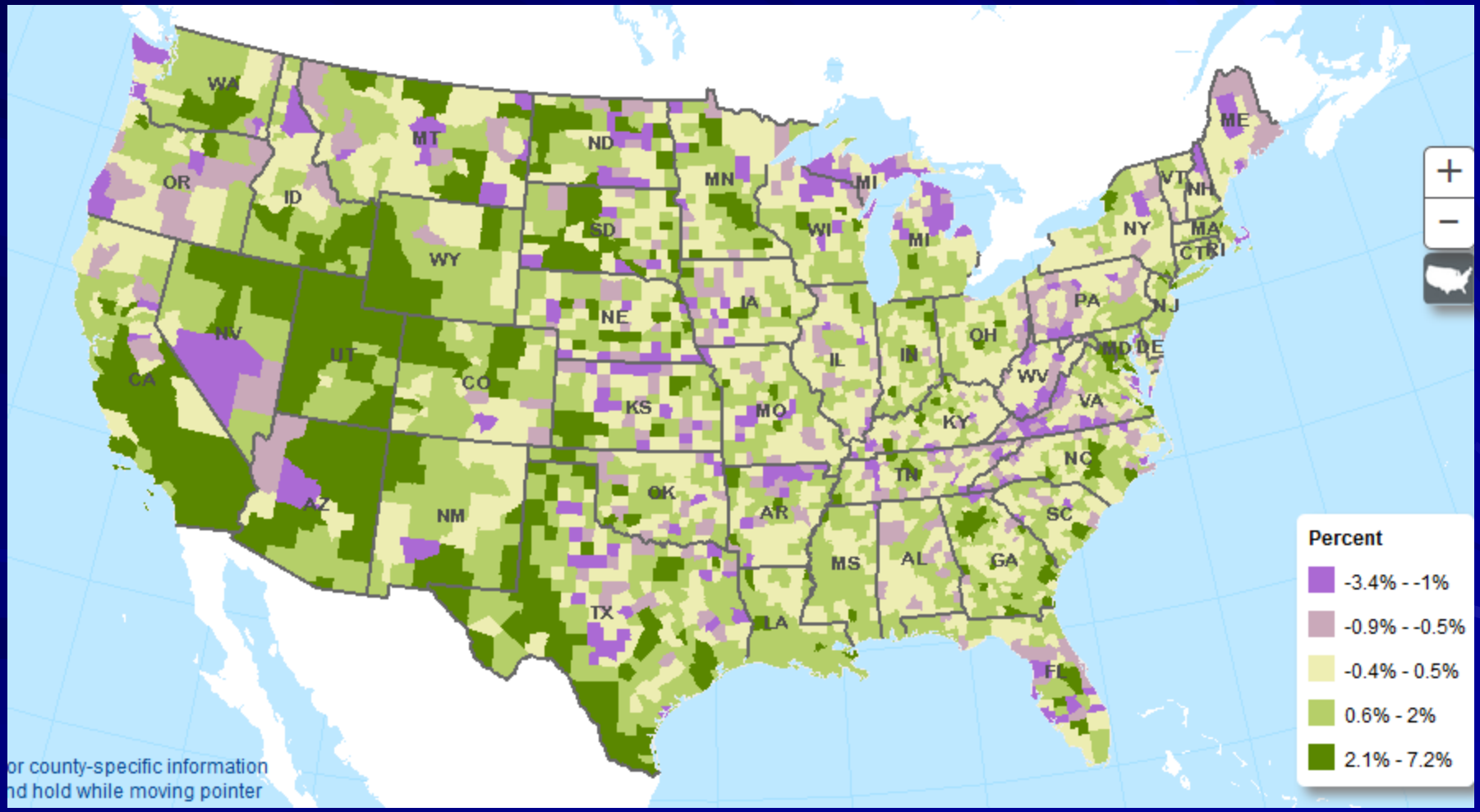


Population change rate, 2010-2013

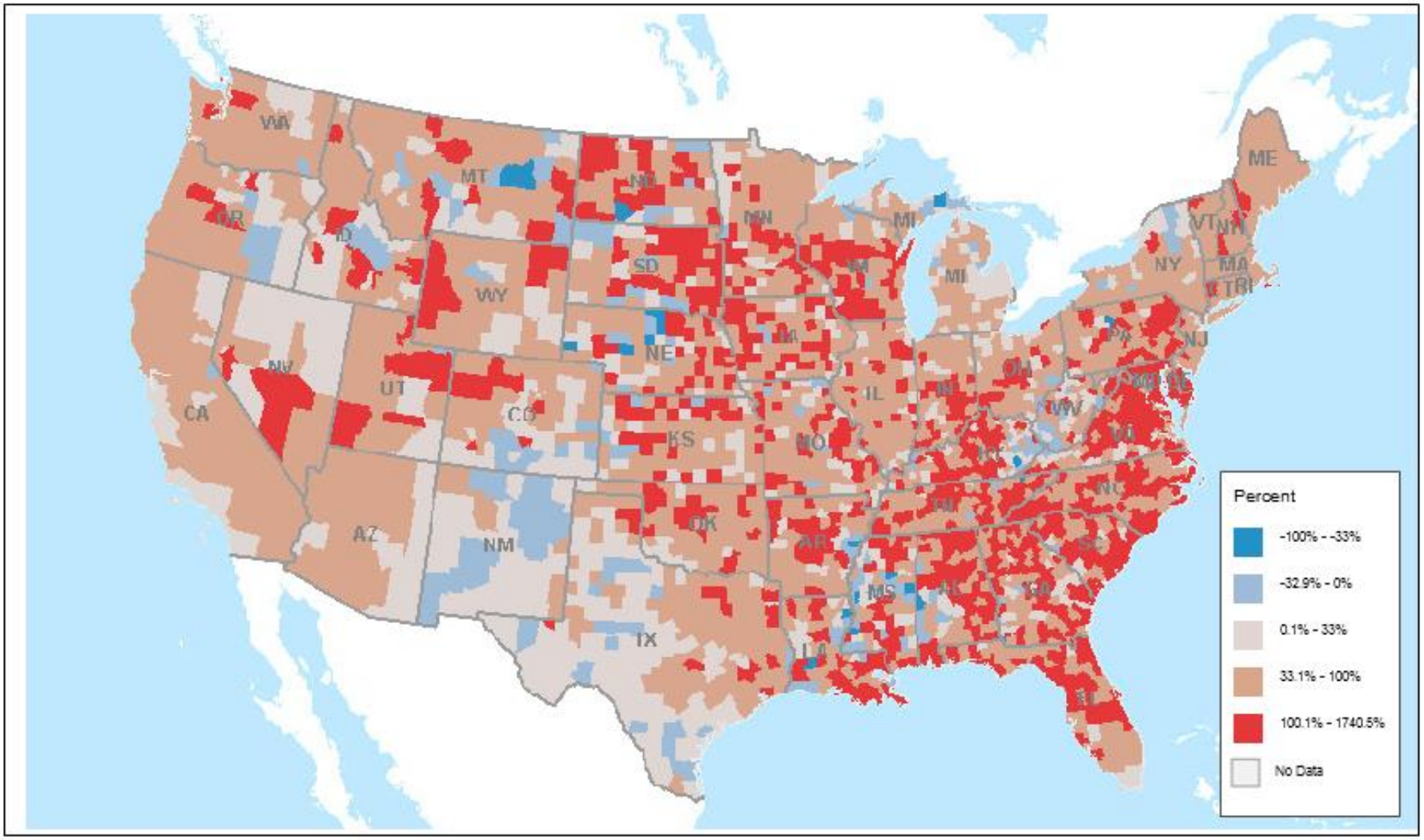
Net Migration Rate, 2010-2013



Natural population change rate, 2010-2013

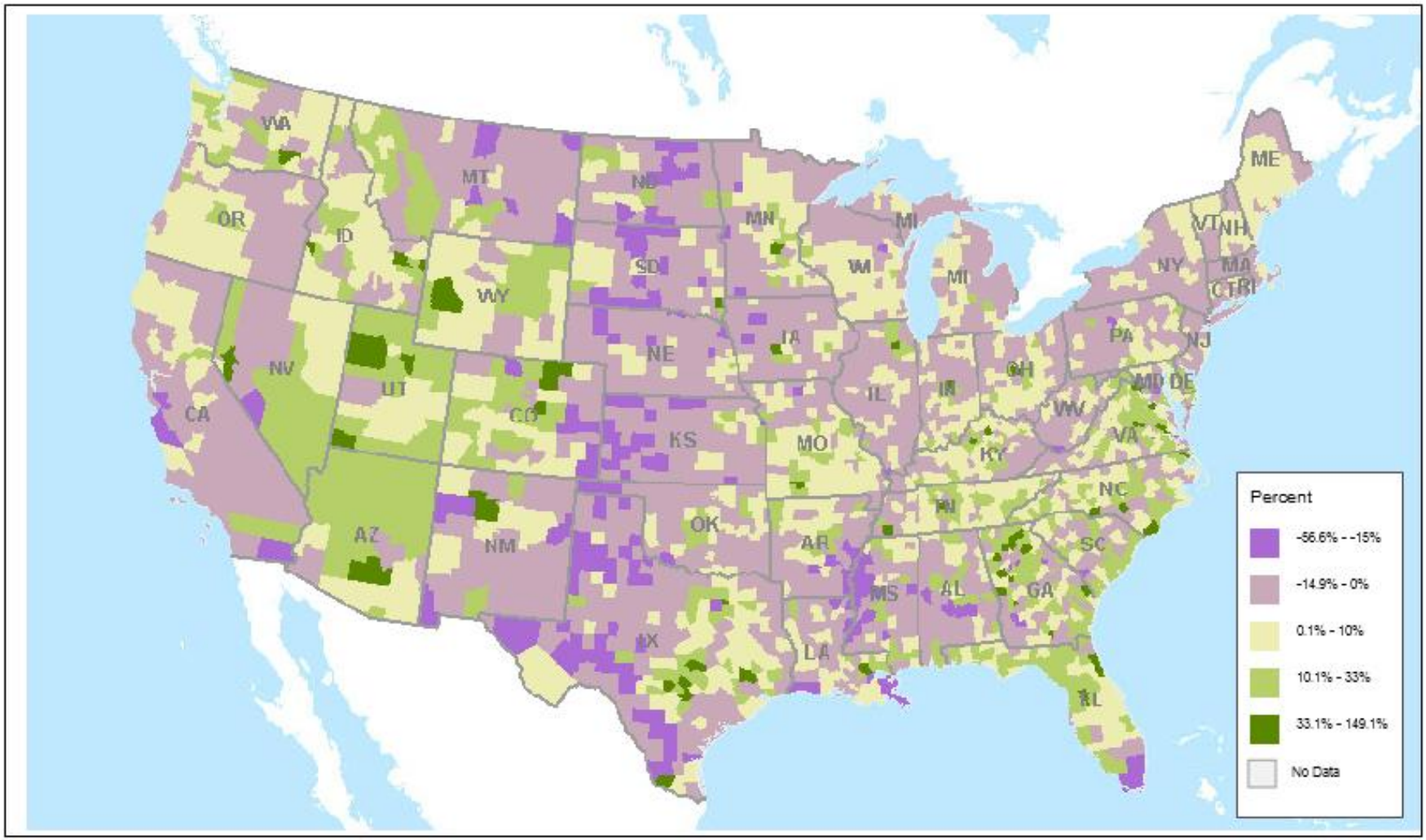


Population Change Rate, Hispanic



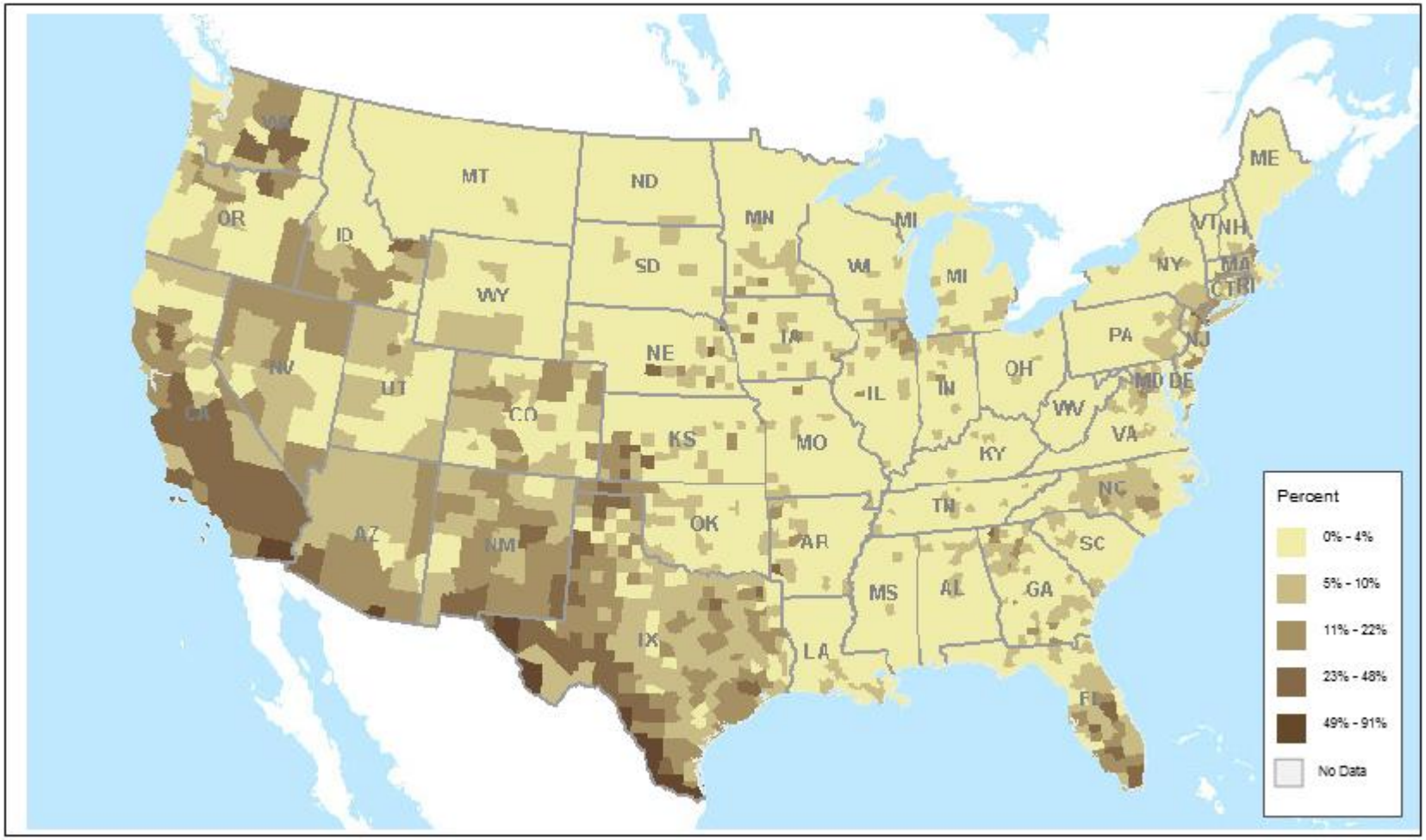
Population change rate Hispanic, 2000-2010

Population Change Rate, non-Hispanic white



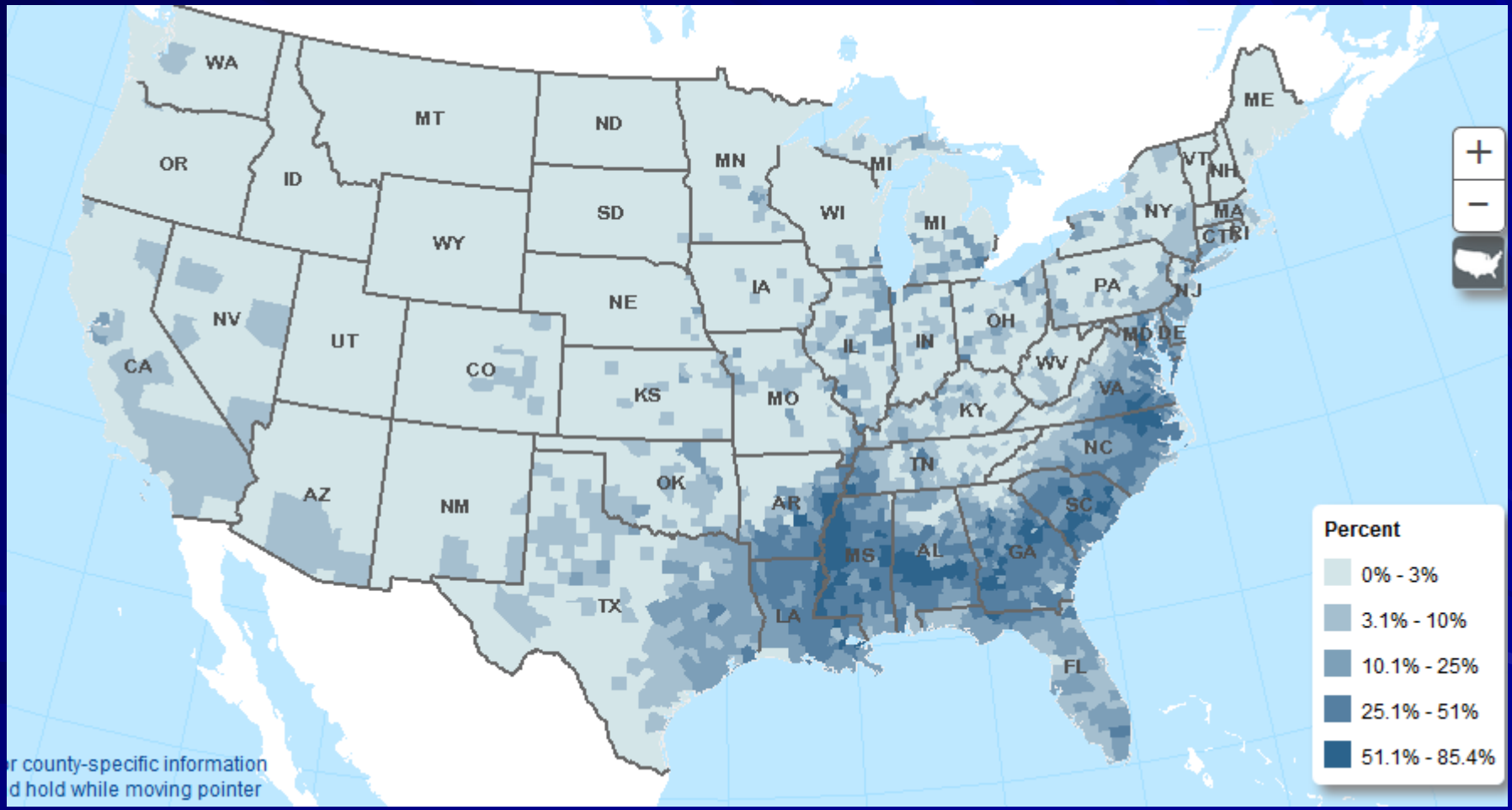
Population change rate Non-Hispanic White, 2000-2010

Percent non-English speaking households

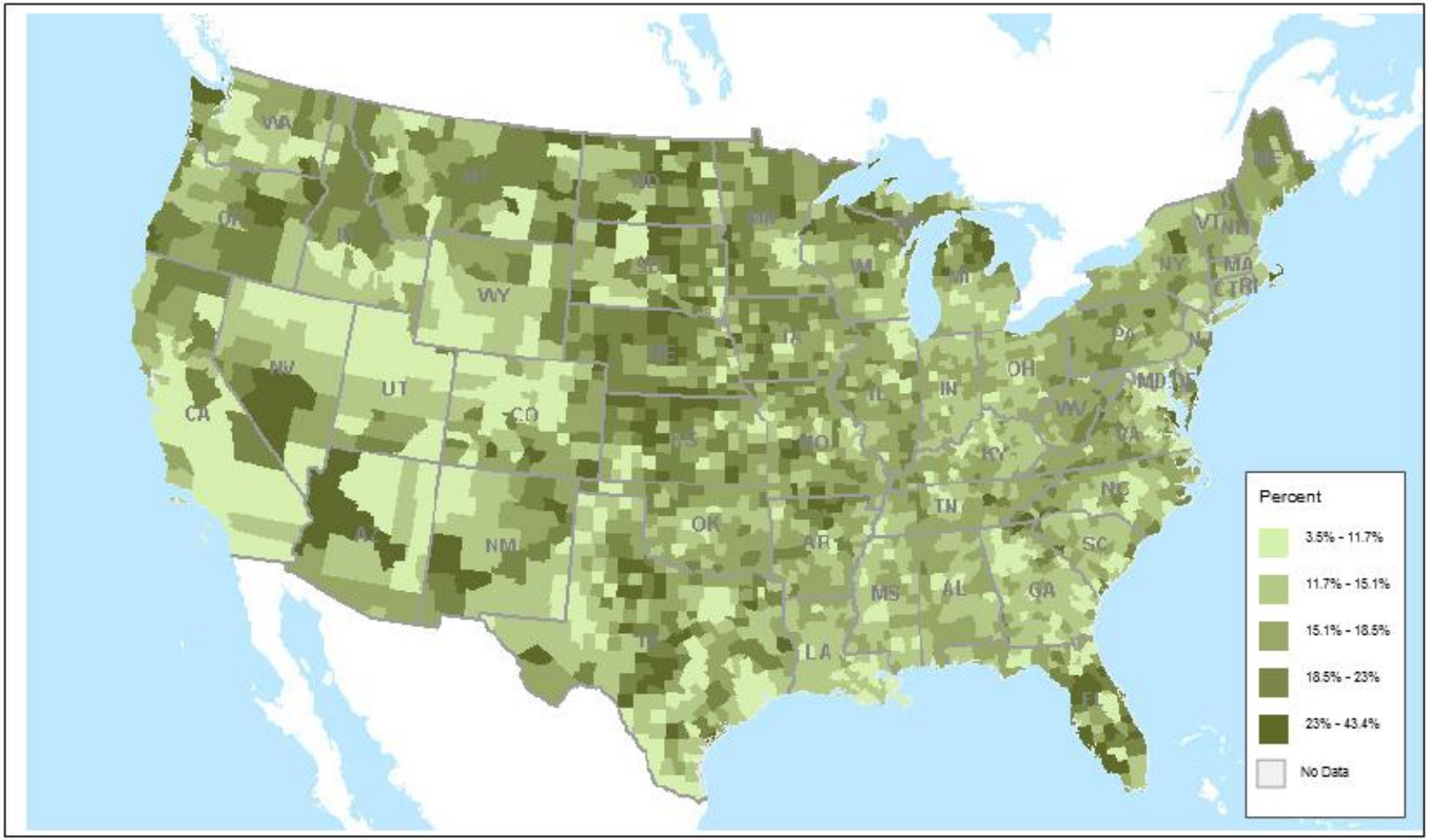


Percent of non-English speaking households of total households, 2007-2011

Percent non-Hispanic African-American, 2010



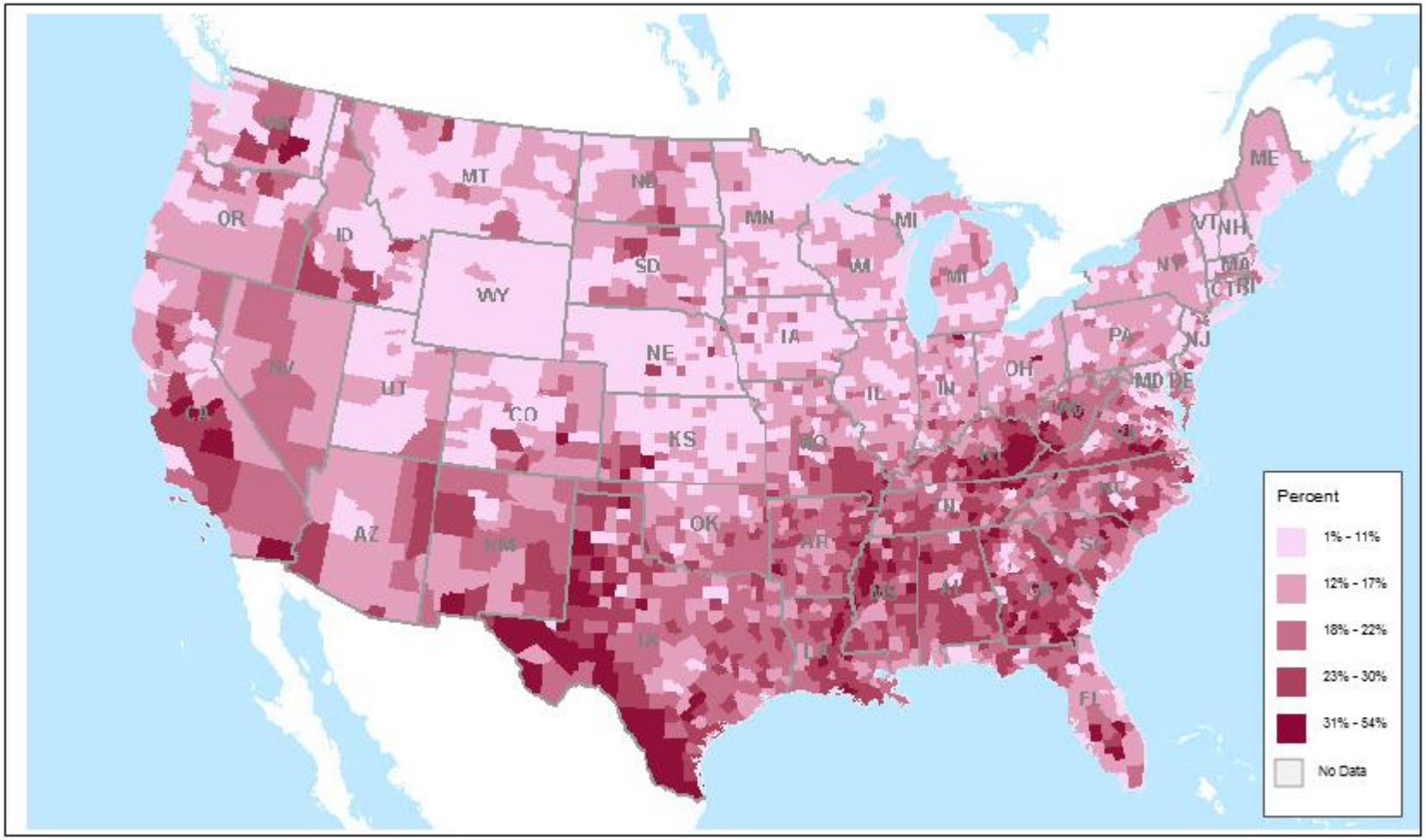
Percent population 65 and older



Percent of population 65 or older, 2010

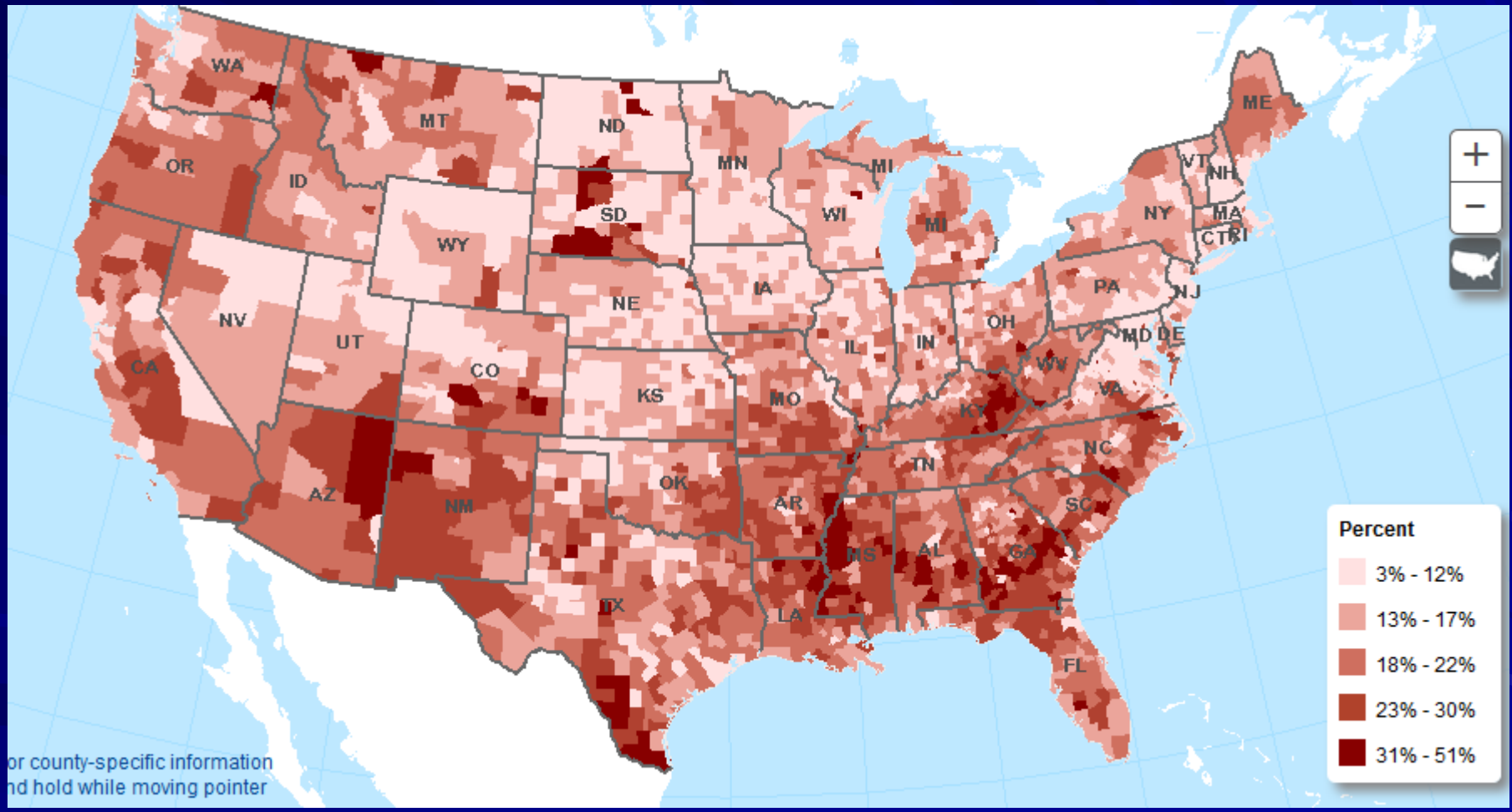
Other factors

Percent persons with no high school

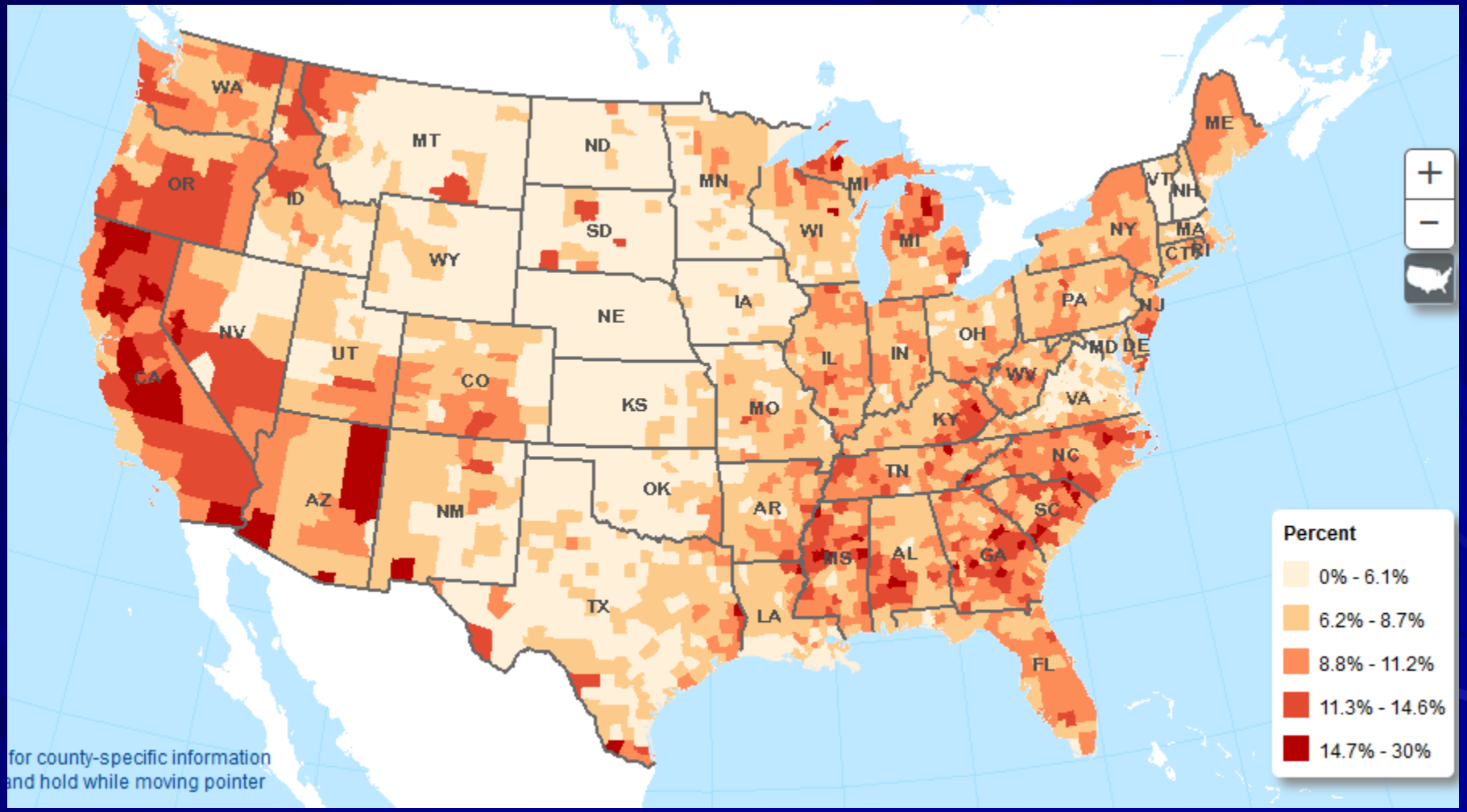


Percent of persons with no high school, adults 25 and over, 2007-2011

Poverty Rate, 2012

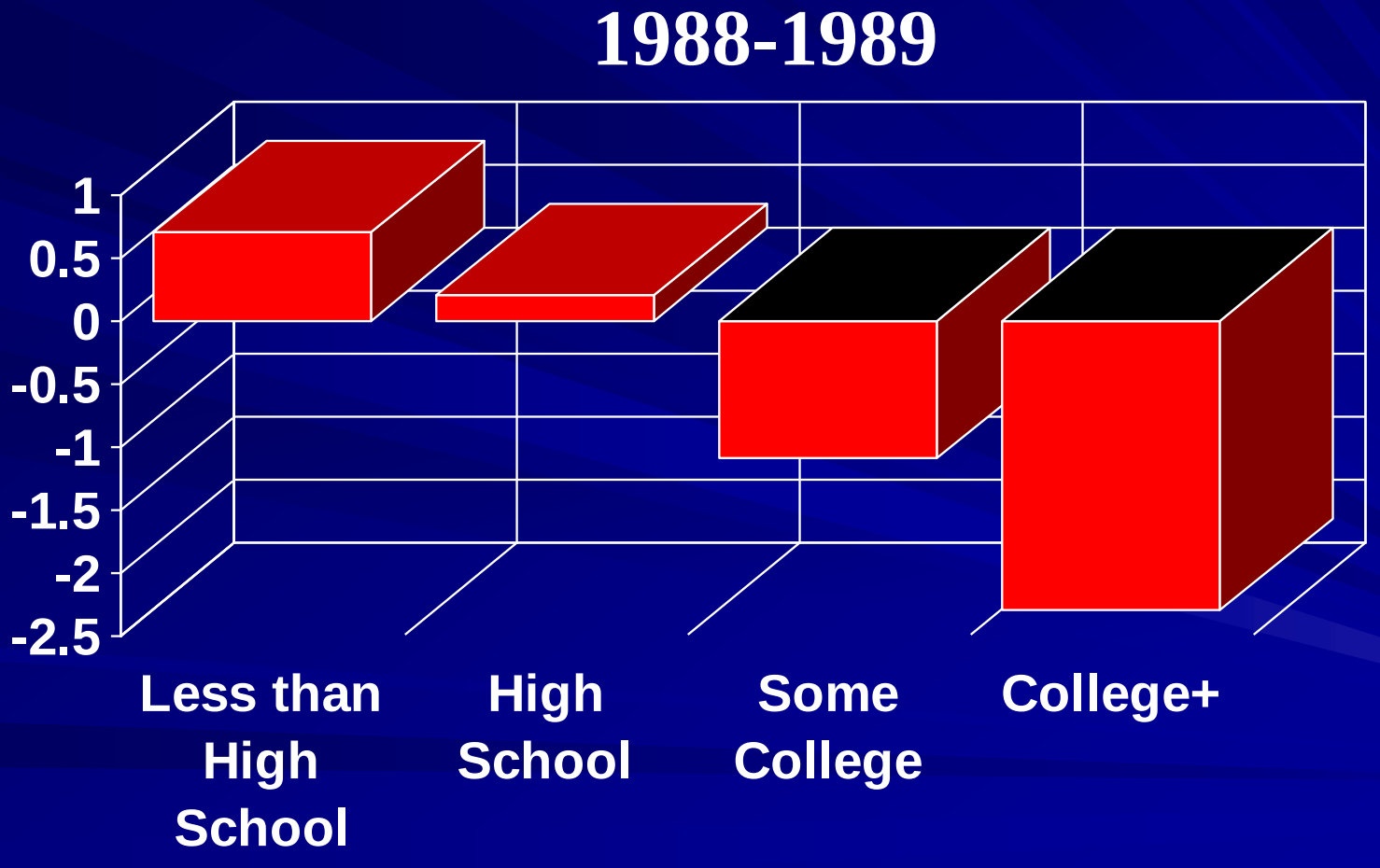


Unemployment Rate, 2012



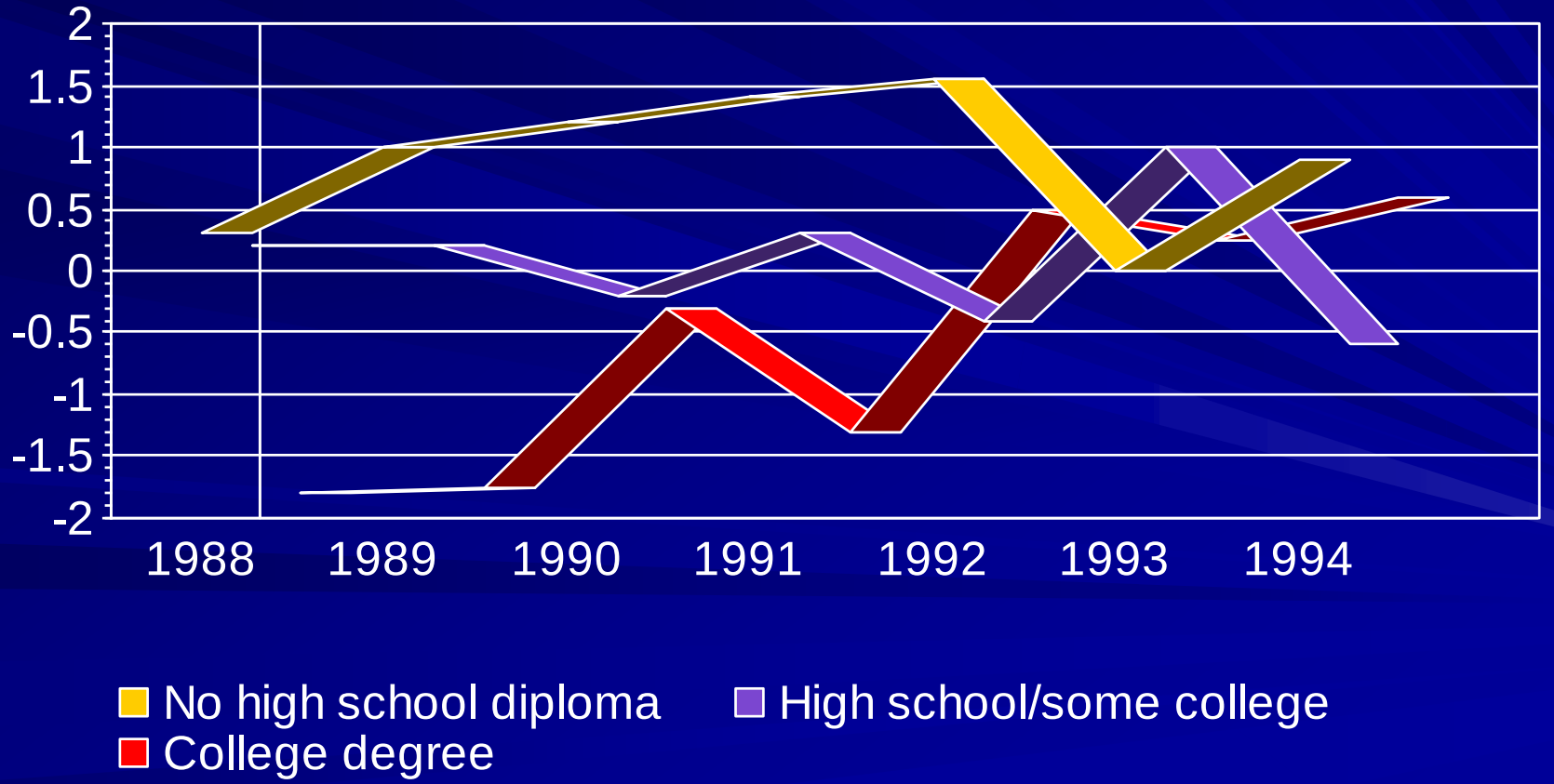
Brain Drain

Nonmetro Net Migration Rates Compared to Education

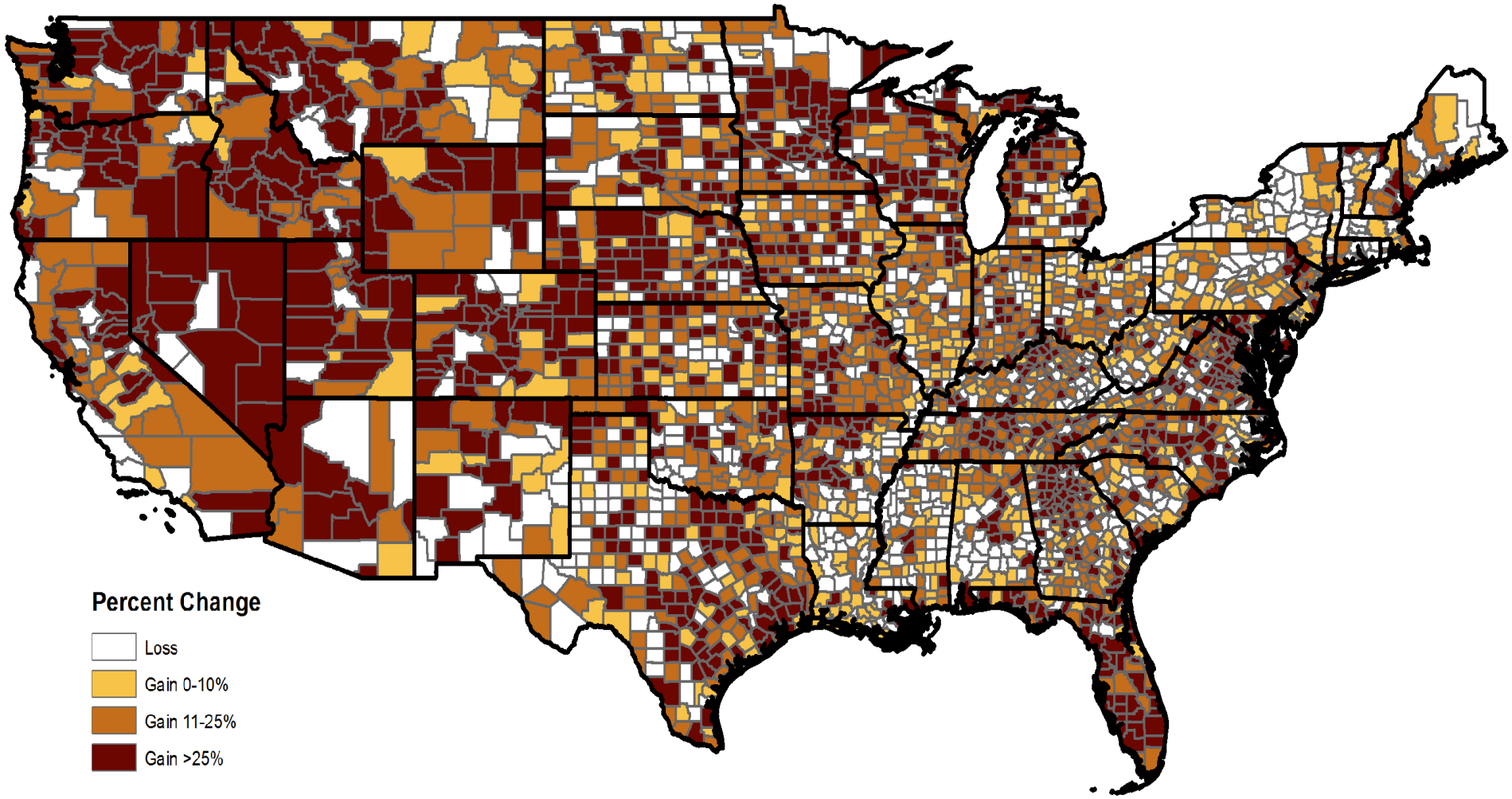


Nonmetro net migration by education completed 1988-1994

Slightly more college educated have moved into nonmetro areas



Cohort Age 30-34, Percent Change 1990-2000

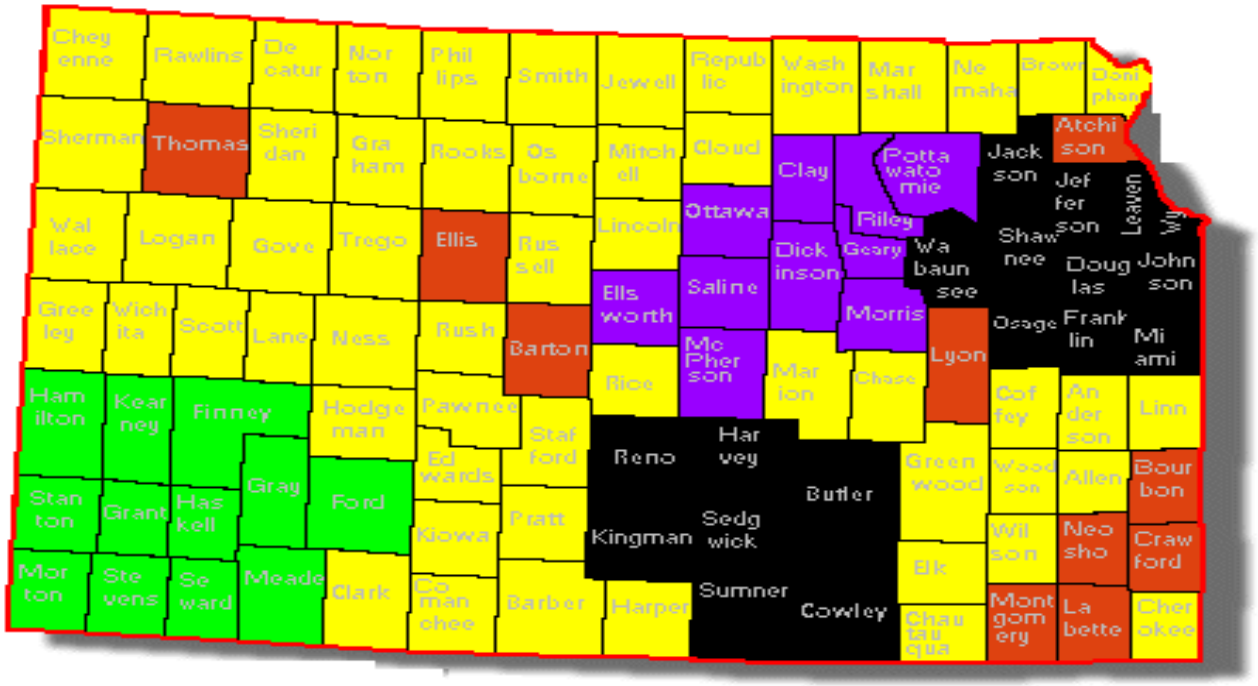


KANSAS

Of the 627 cities in Kansas:

5 (.7%) are >100,000 population
56 (8.9%) are > 5,000
571 (91%) are <5,000
429 (68%) are <1,000

Types of KS Counties



Per Capita Income estimated in 2006.
Population Change is measured between 1971 and 2007.
Source: Kansas Statistical Abstract (Institute for Social and Policy Research, University of Kansas: Lawrence, KS, 2008).

Figure 1.1: Classification of Counties

Metropolitan

Metro KS Counties (5)
Population Change: 48.7%
Per Capita Income: $40,240

Adjacent rural counties (13)
Population Change: 25.4%
Per Capita Income: $30,011

Micropolitan

Micro KS Counties (Saline & Riley)
Population Change: 19.2%
Per Capita Income: $31,465

Adjacent Rural counties (8)
Population Change: -1.4%
Per Capita Income: $31,509

Trade Center

Trade Center Counties in KS (10)
Population Change: -4.2%
Per Capita Income: $28,100

Rural

Rural Counties in KS (55)
Population Change: -19.4%
Per Capita Income: $27,812

Value-Added Ag

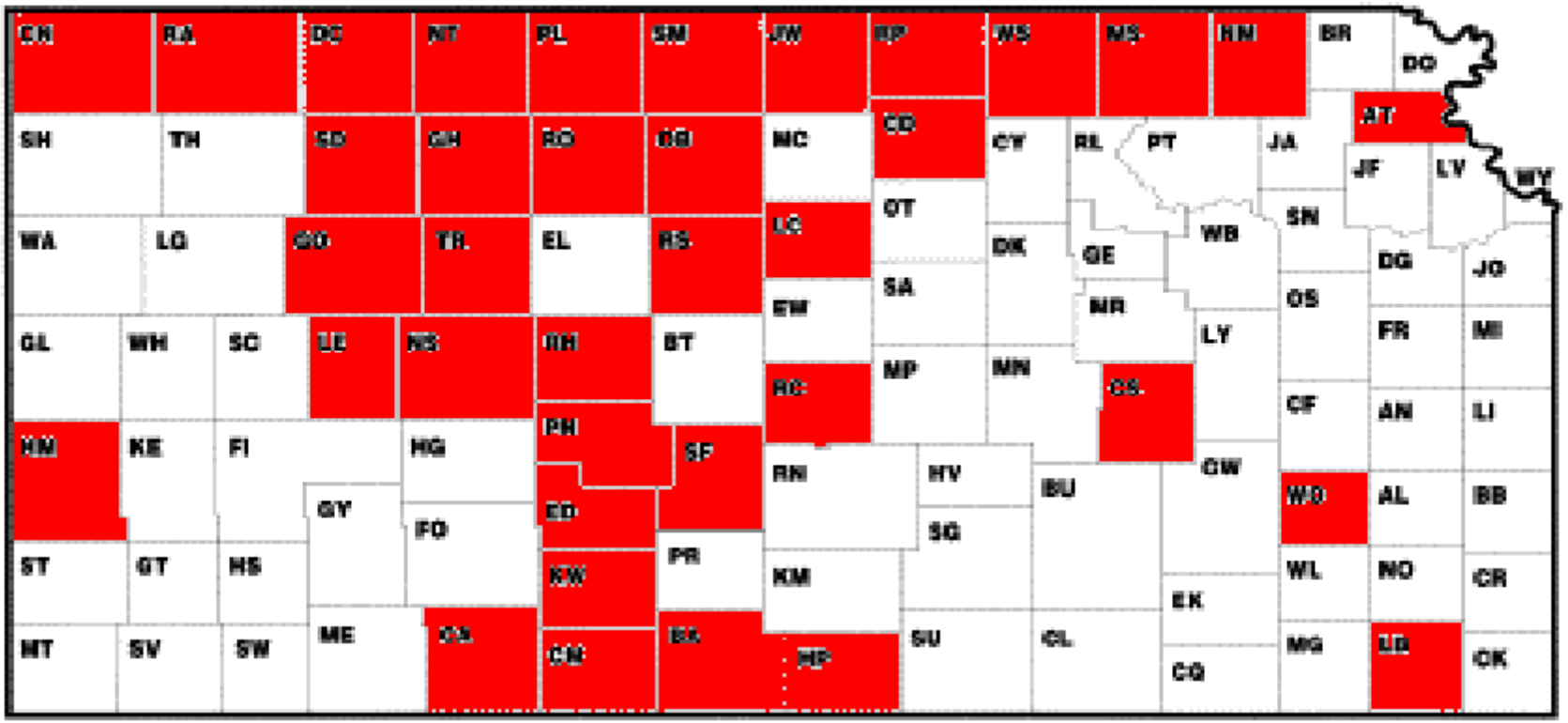
Value-Added KS Counties (Ford, Finney, & Seward)
Population Change: 64.9%
Per Capita Income: $25,605

Adjacent Value-Added Rural counties (9)
Population Change: 11.1%
Per Capita Income: $28,960

Most rural, low density counties in Kansas are experiencing long-term population loss and brain drain, while value-added ag counties, suburban and metropolitan areas grow

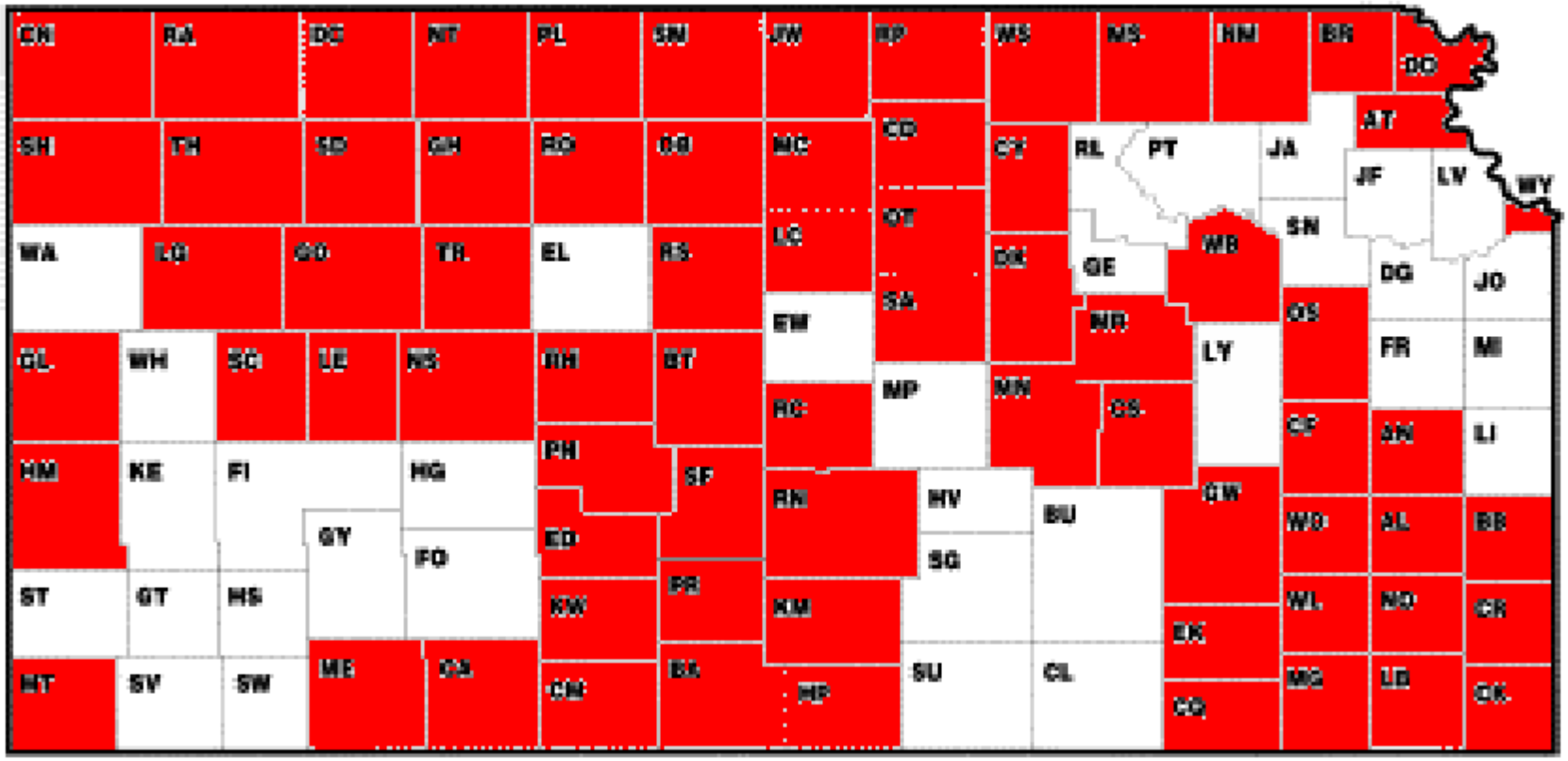
Kansas Counties with Consecutive Years of Population Decline

From 1950 Census forward

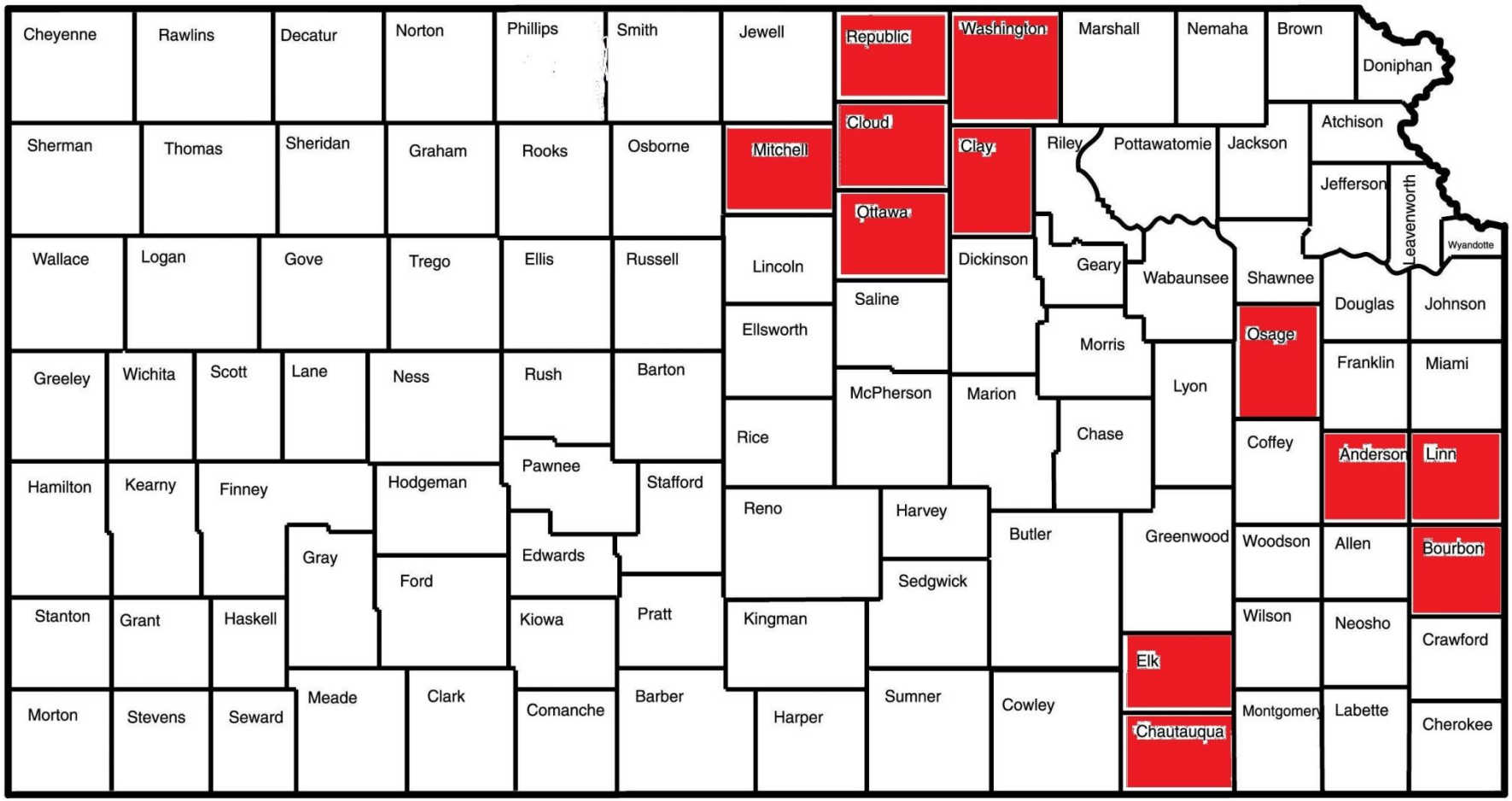


Kansas Counties Projected to have Population Decline

1990-2030



Twelve Kansas Counties peaked in population in 1890 Census



From 2000 to 2010 in Kansas –

- 9 metropolitan counties added population in an amount equivalent to another Overland Park
- 96 non-metro counties lost the equivalent of another Salina.

Societal Factors

Average life expectancy is up to 74.4 years

The number of marriages and divorces is down slightly

Sedgwick County: 3,904 marriages

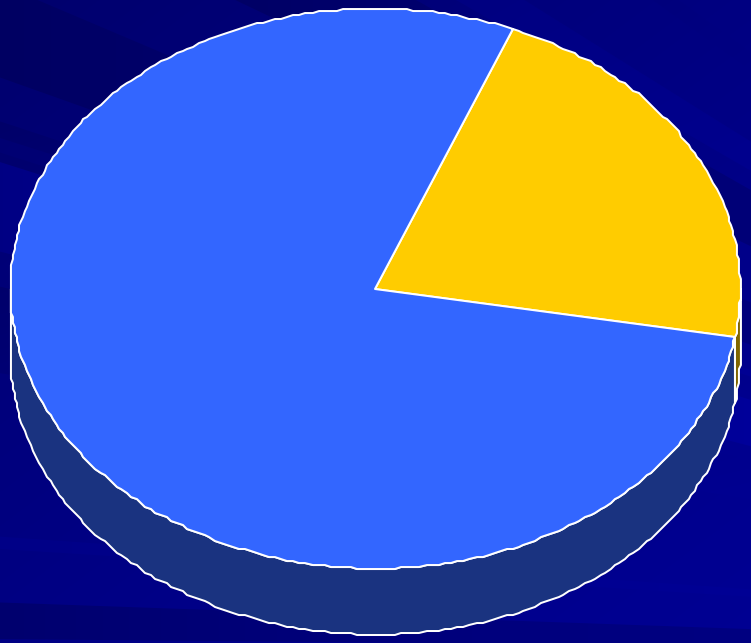
Wallace County: seven

Teen pregnancy and abortion rates continue to fall

There were 12,345 out-of-wedlock births, a new record high – representing 31.4 percent of all Kansas resident births

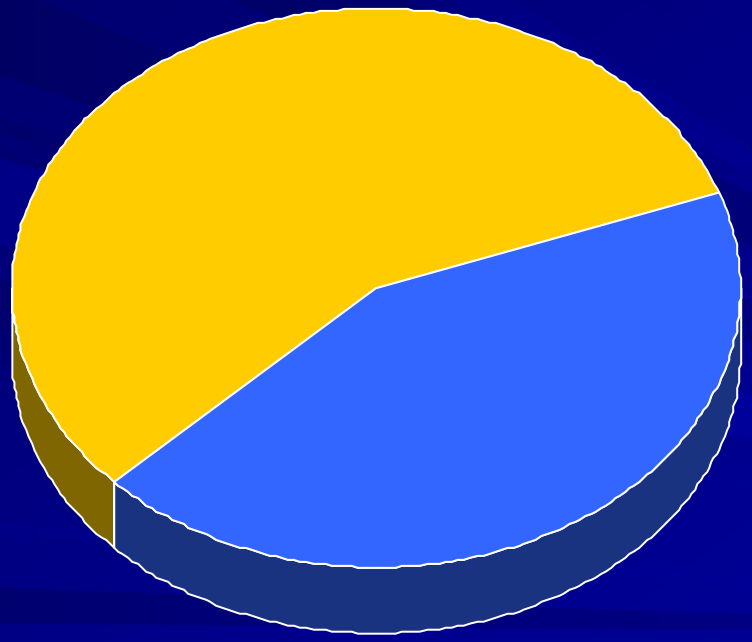
Urban-Rural Population of Kansas, 1900

The 9 Metropolitan Counties as of 2000



Urban-Rural Population of Kansas, 2000

The 9 Metropolitan Counties as of 2000



“Tumbleweed Tales: Change, Challenge and Champions”

“Quantity is not the same as *quality*”

Rewriting the Rural Narrative: Rural America is *Changing*, not Dying

- Ben Winchester, University of Minnesota Extension

“*Champions* for Rural America”

“Tumbleweed Tales: Change, Challenge and Champions”