

Turn of the Century: Minnesota's Population in 1900 and 2000

Martha McMurry

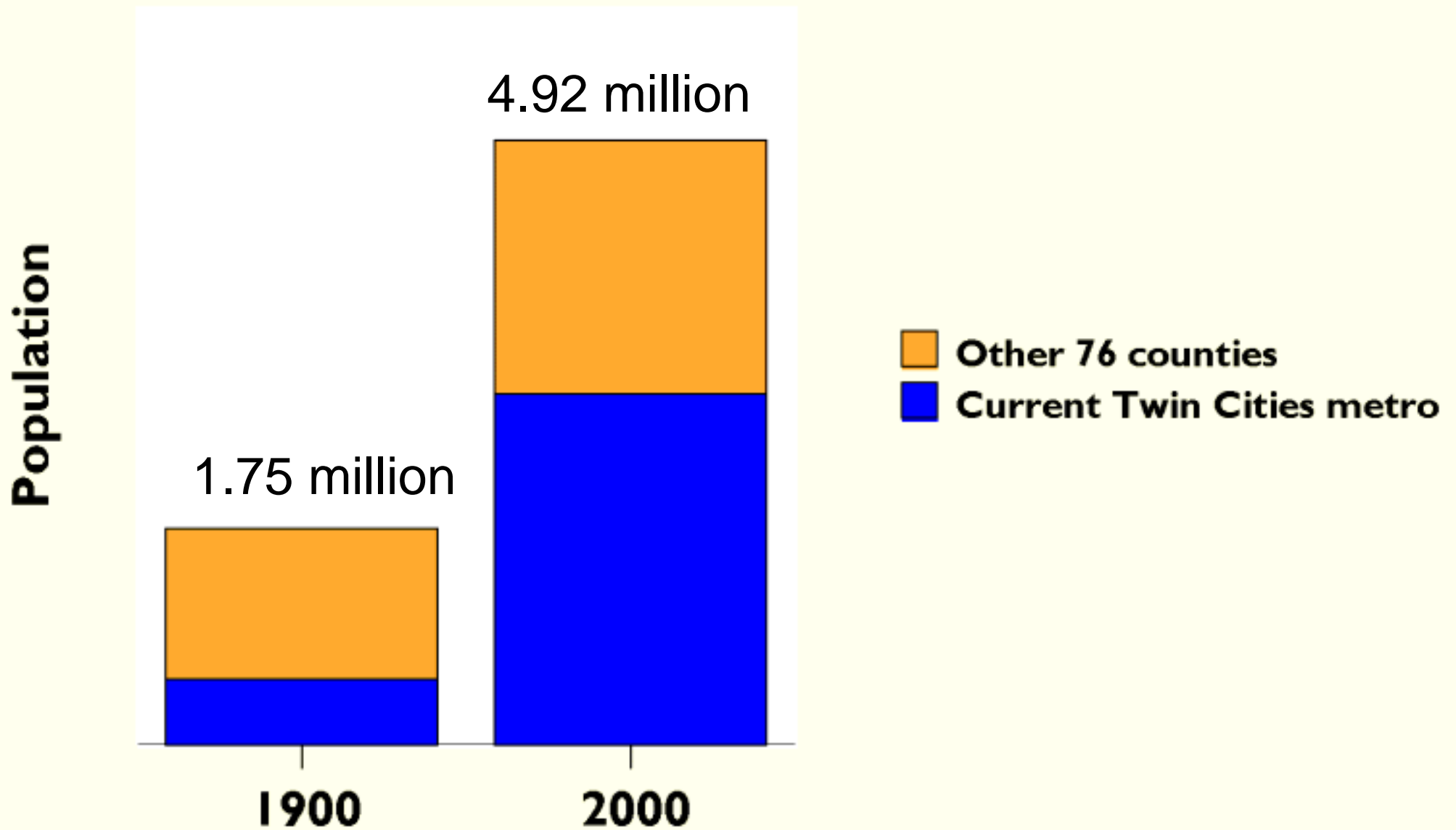
Minnesota State Demographic Center

June 11, 2000

The 1900 census....

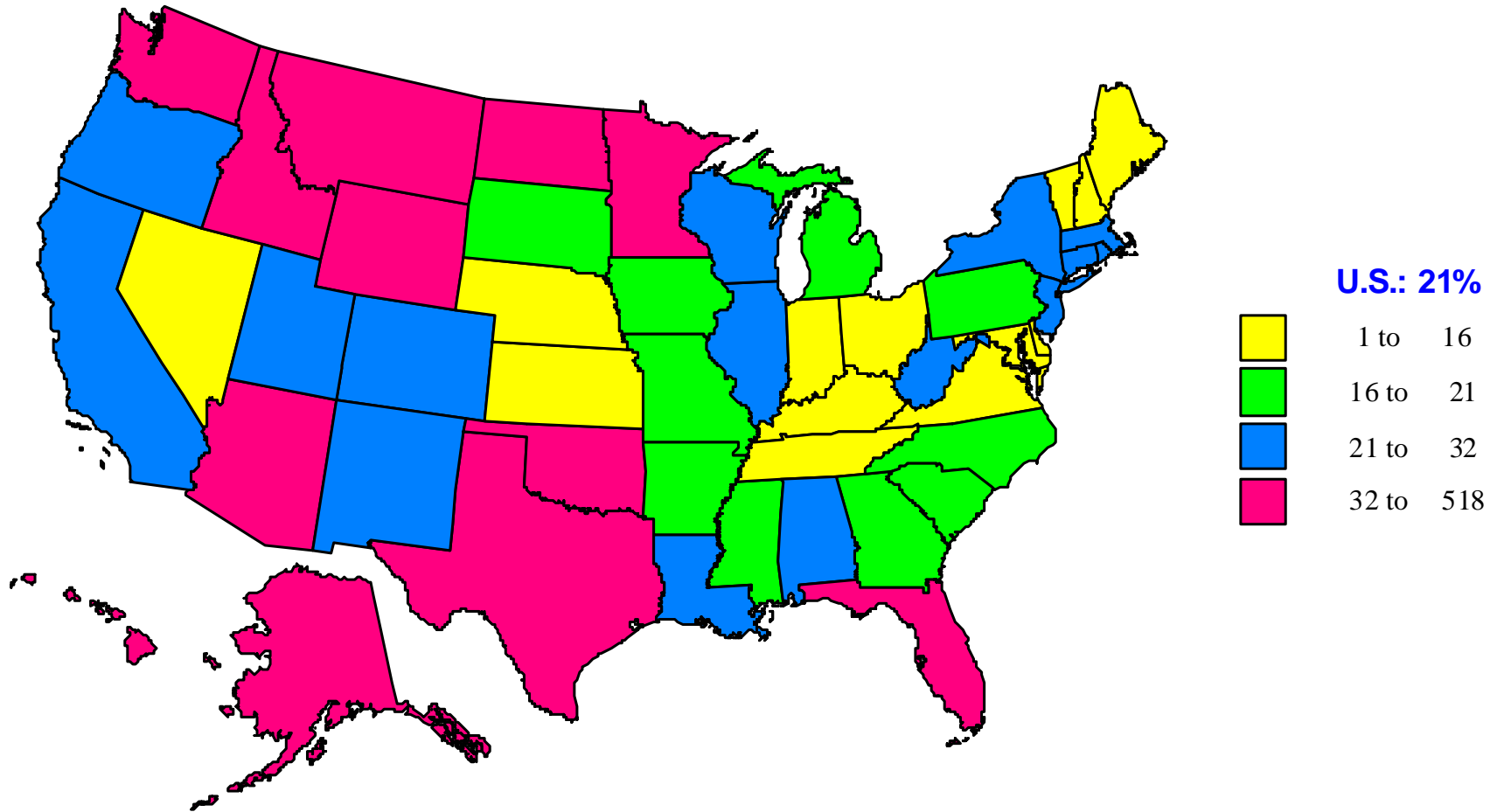
- was conducted by enumerators who went door to door.
- did not ask: Hispanic origin, Asian race (other than Chinese or Japanese), income and poverty, housing questions (except home ownership and mortgage status), vehicles, educational attainment and others.
- asked but did not tabulate: household relationships, children ever born, children still living.
- demonstrated great interest in immigration; asked about the birthplace of the parents of each person.
- asked whether each person over age 10 was literate.

Minnesota's population was almost 3 times as large in 2000 as in 1900

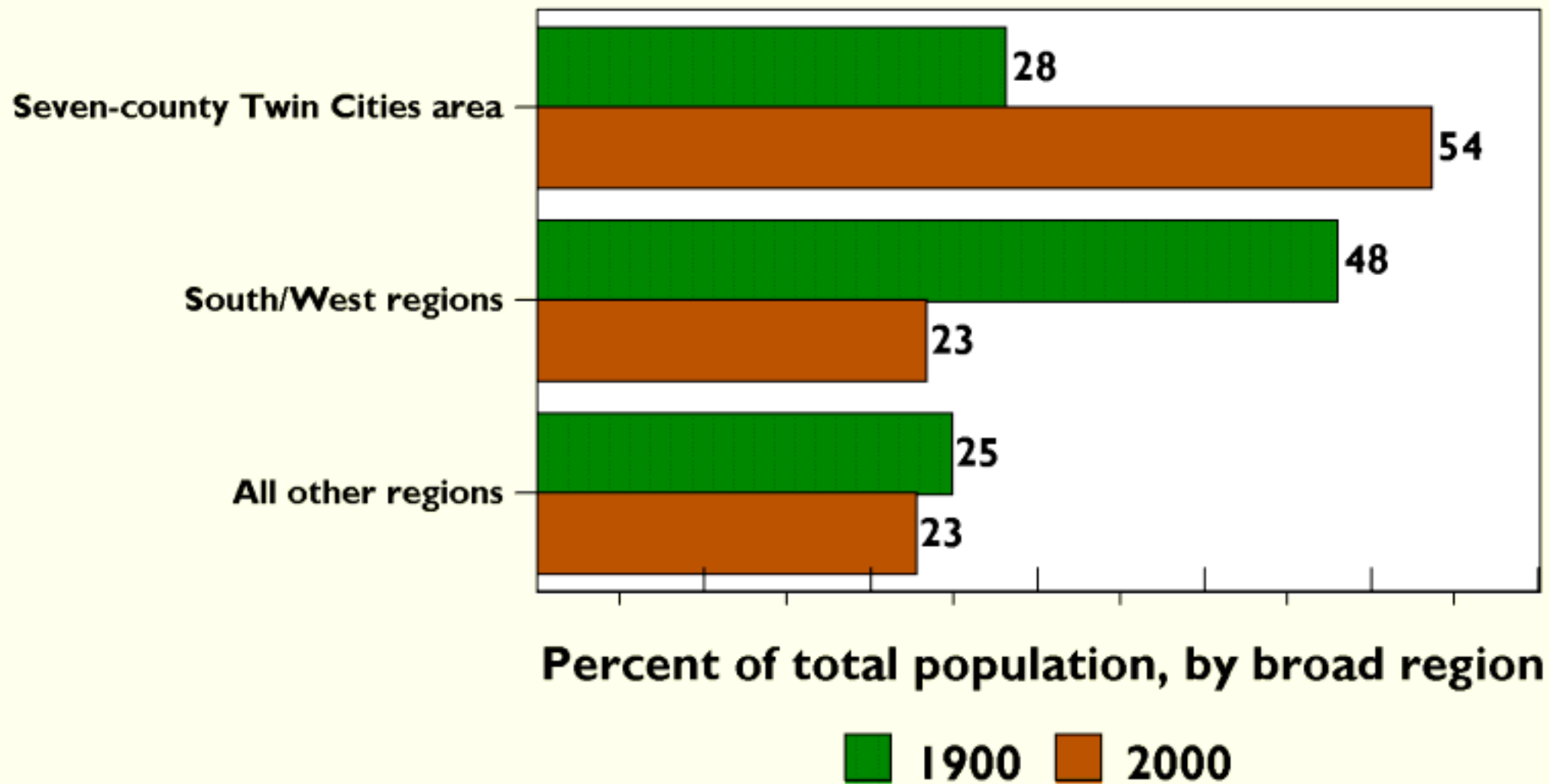


Sources: 1900 and 2000 Censuses

Population change from 1890 to 1900

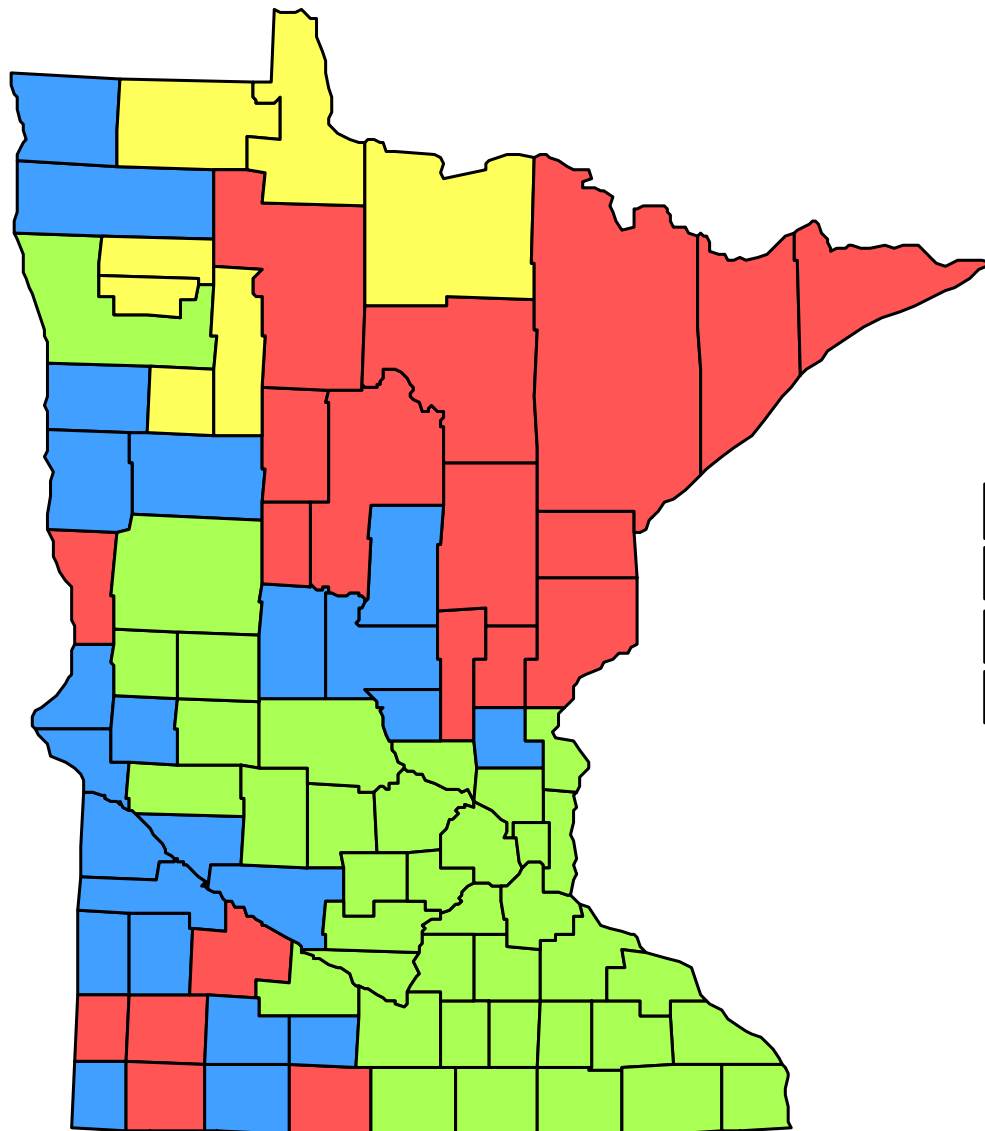


Twin Cities has larger share of Minnesota population today

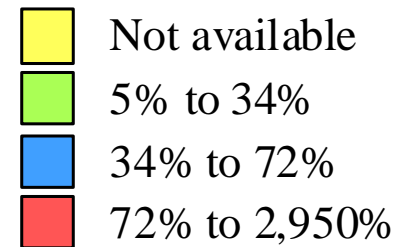


Sources: 1990 and 2000 censuses

Northeast and southwest Minnesota grew fastest between 1890 and 1900

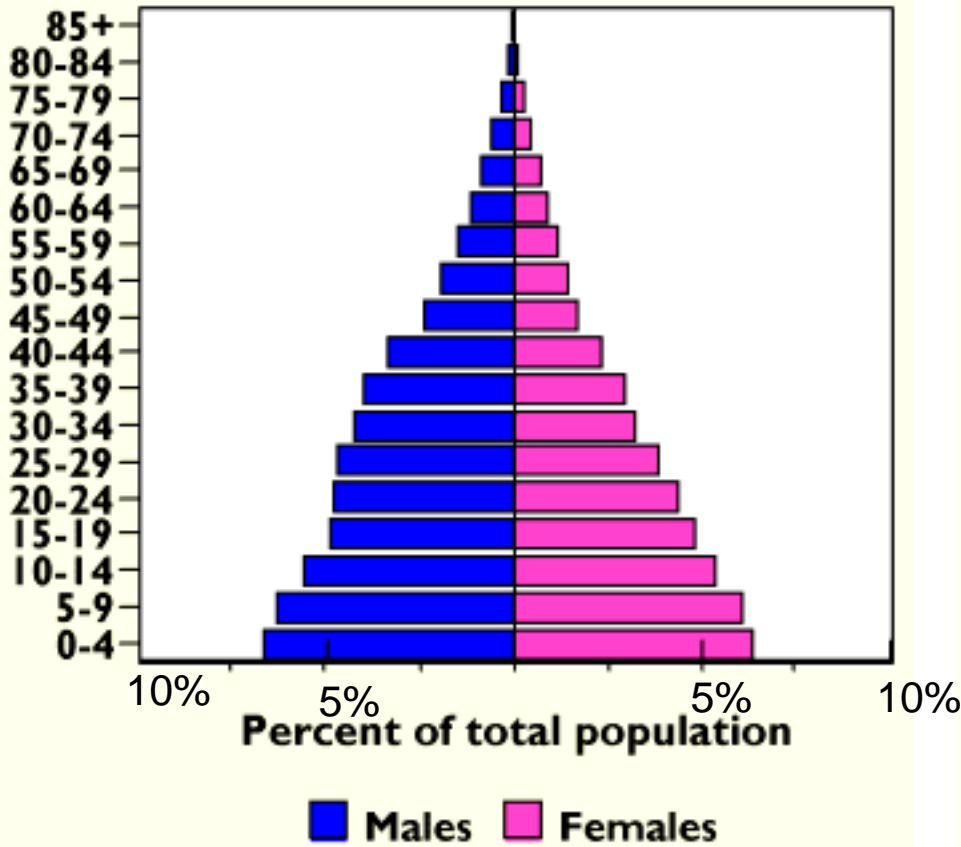


State: 34%



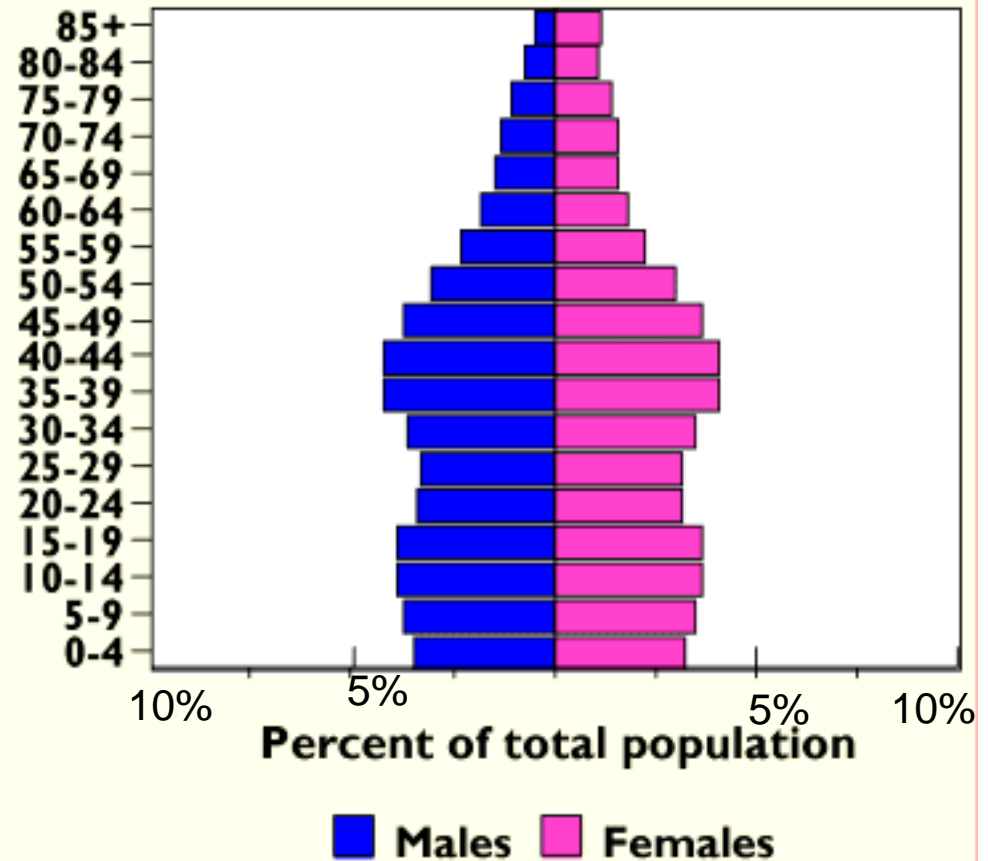
Minnesota population is much older today

1900



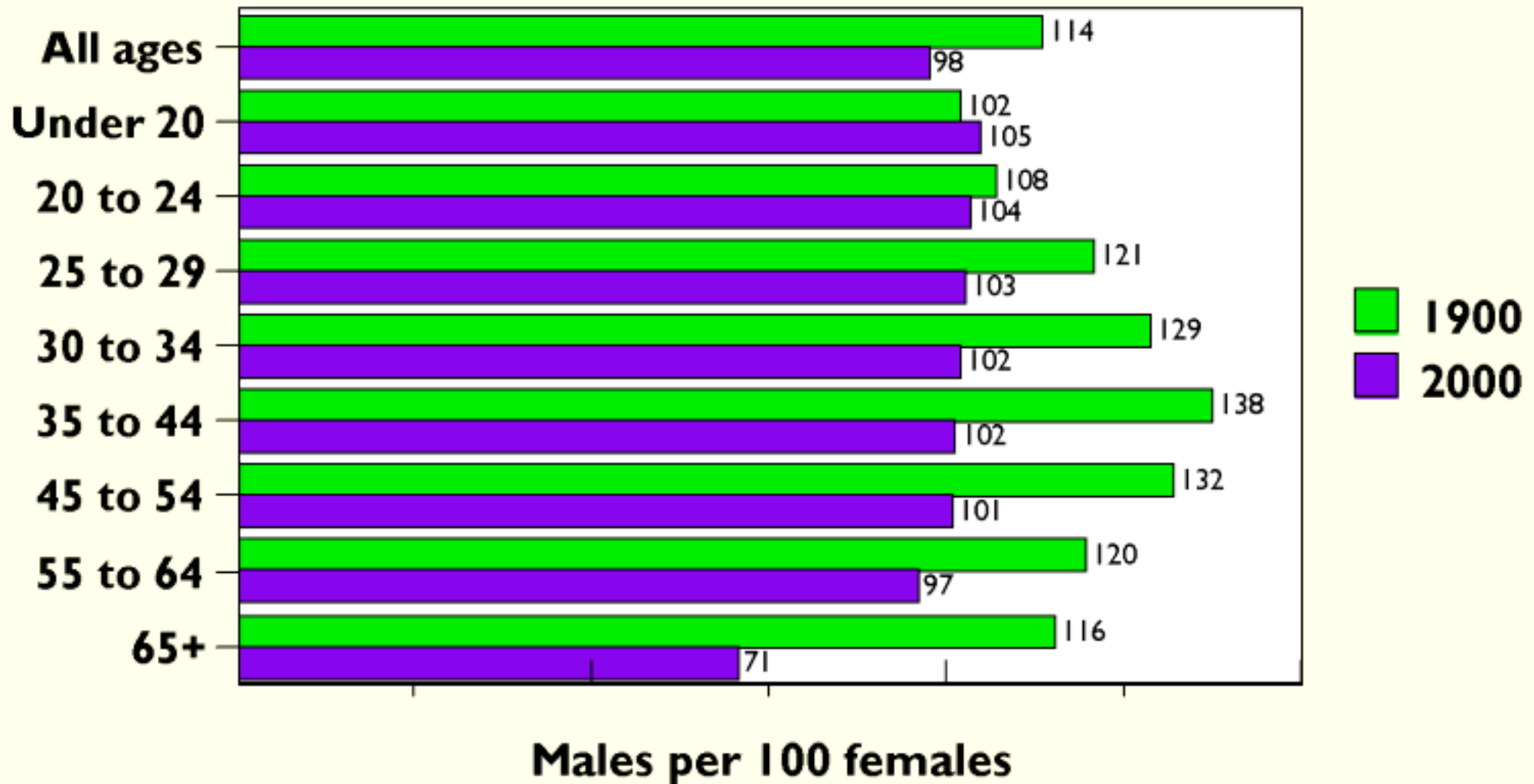
Source: 1900 Census Reports

2000



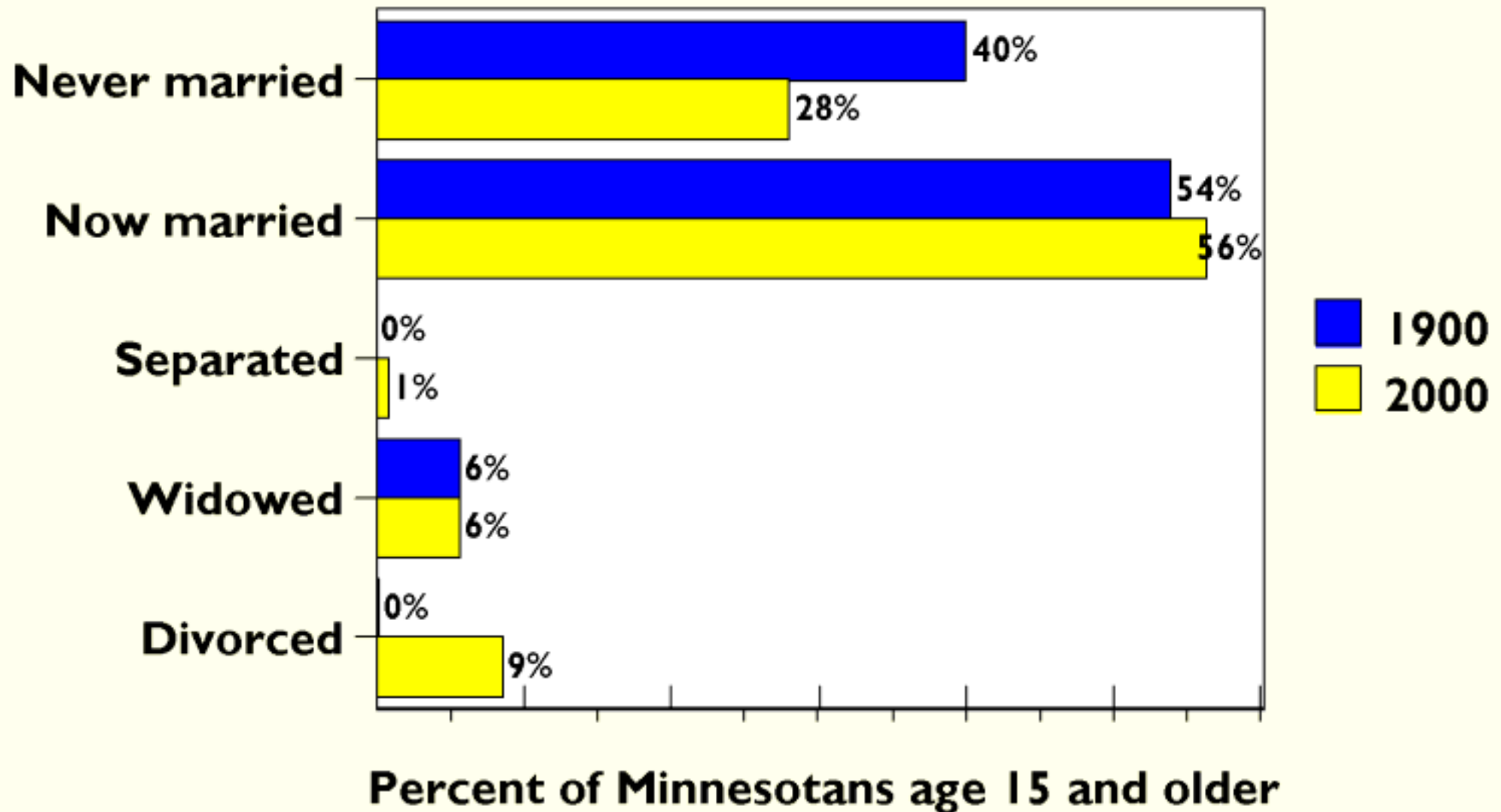
Source: 2000 Census data

In 1900, adult men substantially outnumbered women in Minnesota



Sources: 1900 and 2000 Census data.

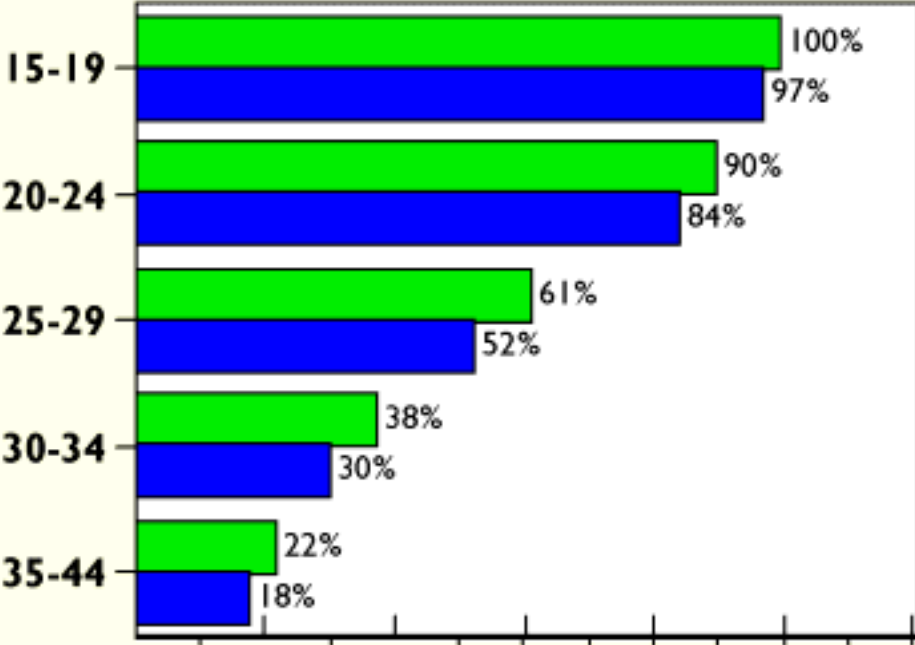
Marital status of Minnesotans age 15 and older shows both similarities and differences over time



Data on separated persons not collected in 1900.
Sources: 1900 and 2000 census data.

More Minnesota men remained single in 1900

Males

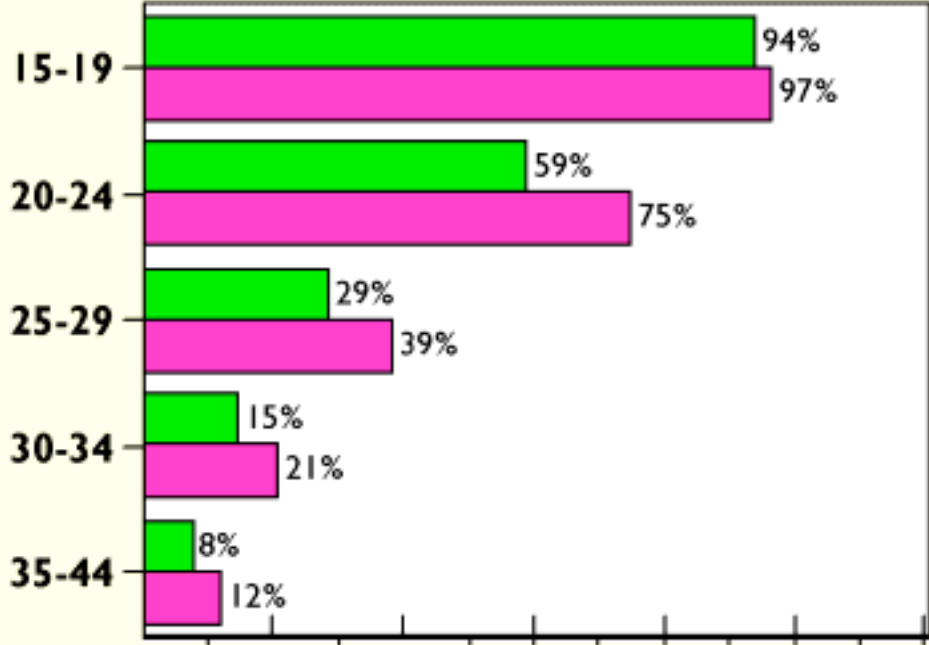


Percent never married

■ 1900 ■ 2000

Source: 1900 and 2000 census reports.

Females



Percent never married

■ 1900 ■ 2000

Source: 1900 and 2000 census reports.

Households and Group Quarters population

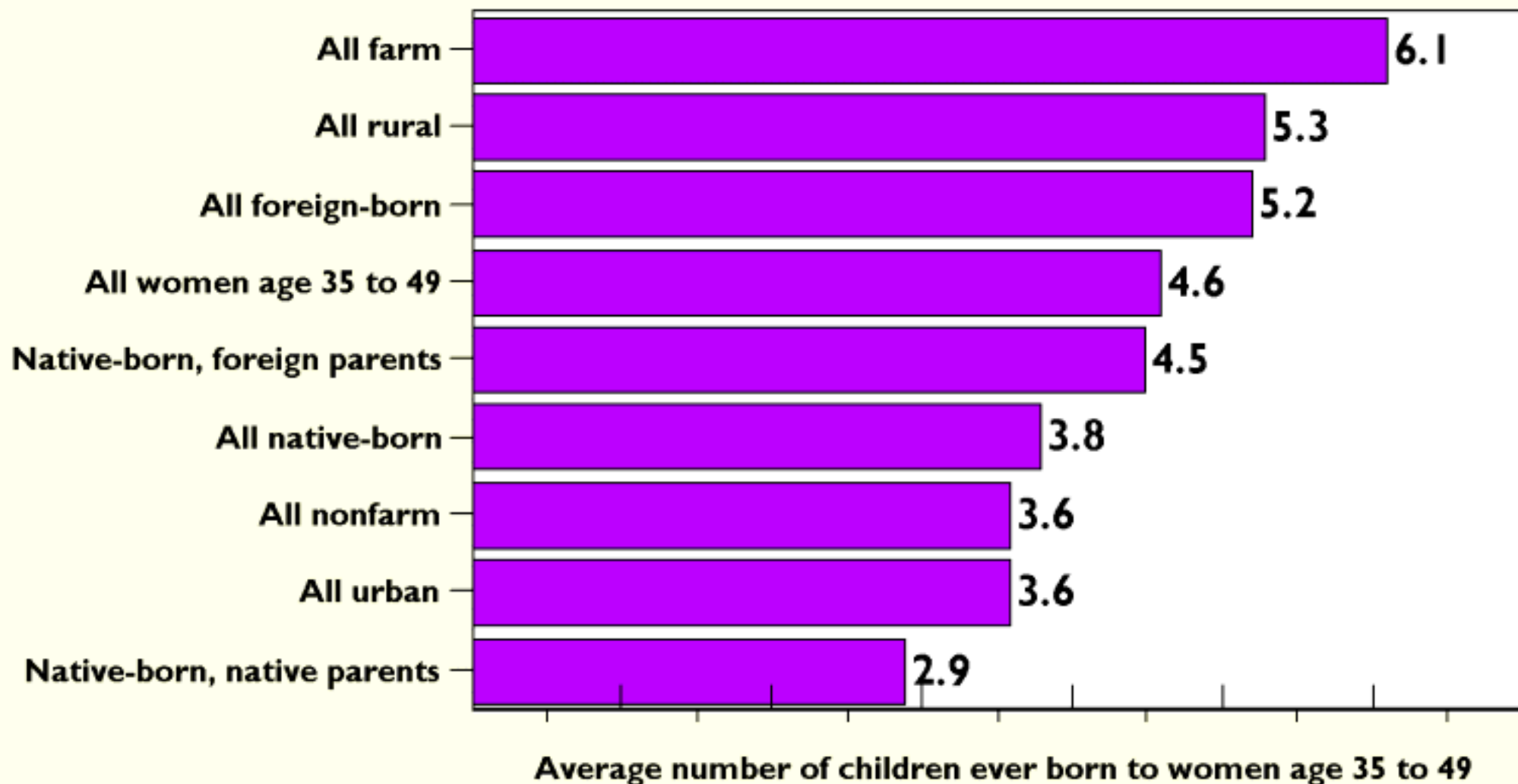
■ 1900:

- Average household size was 4.9.
- Six percent of households were one-person households.
- One percent of Minnesotans lived alone.
- 6 percent of Minnesotans were roomers, boarders or lodgers.
- The majority of lodgers were males ages 20 to 39.

■ 2000:

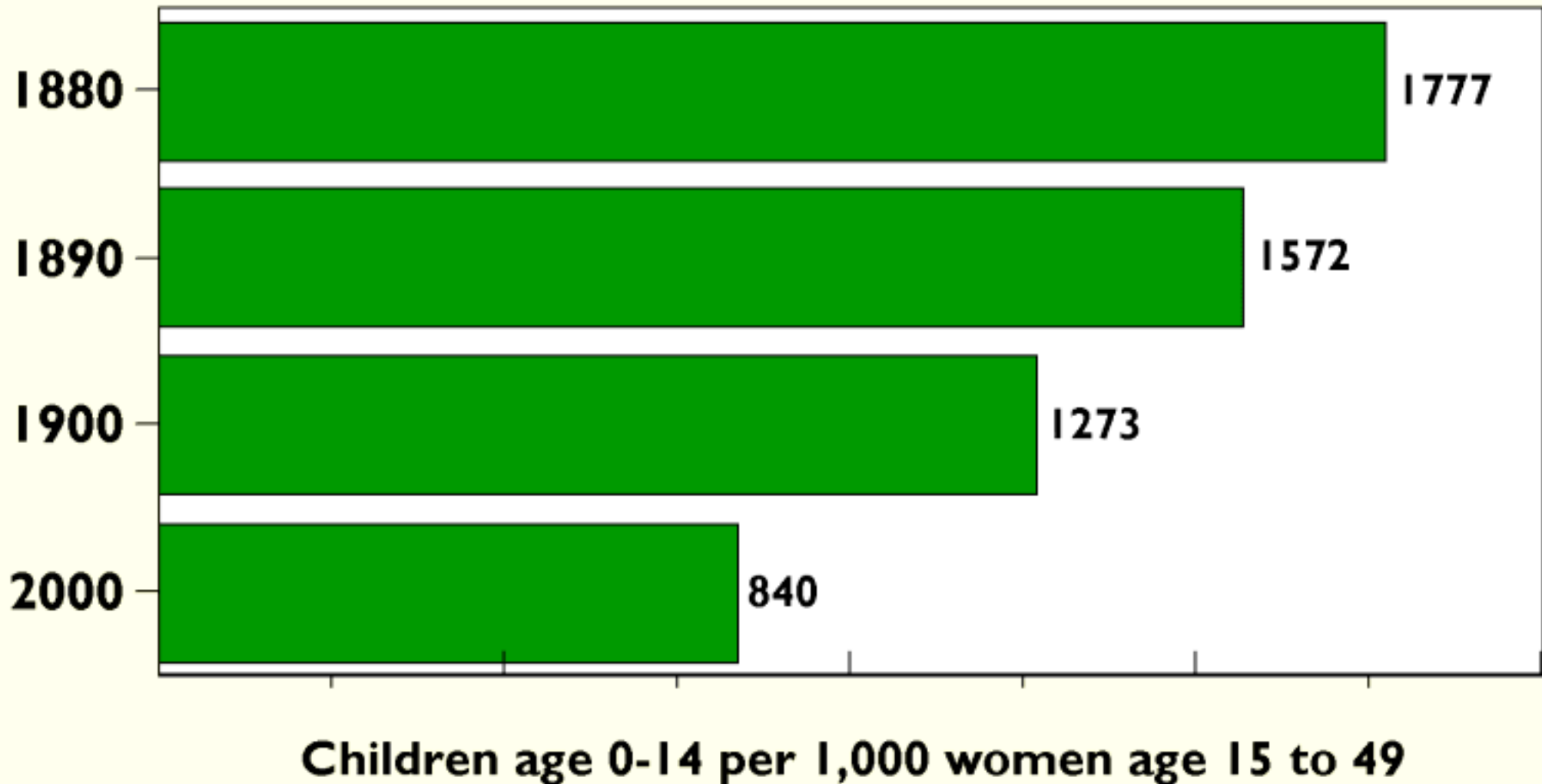
- Average household size in 2000 was 2.52.
- 27 percent of 2000 households had only one person.
- 10 percent of Minnesotans lived alone in 2000.
- Very few live in boarding houses.
- About 3 percent live in group quarters, mostly in nursing homes, dorms and prisons.

Urban and native-born women had smallest families in 1900



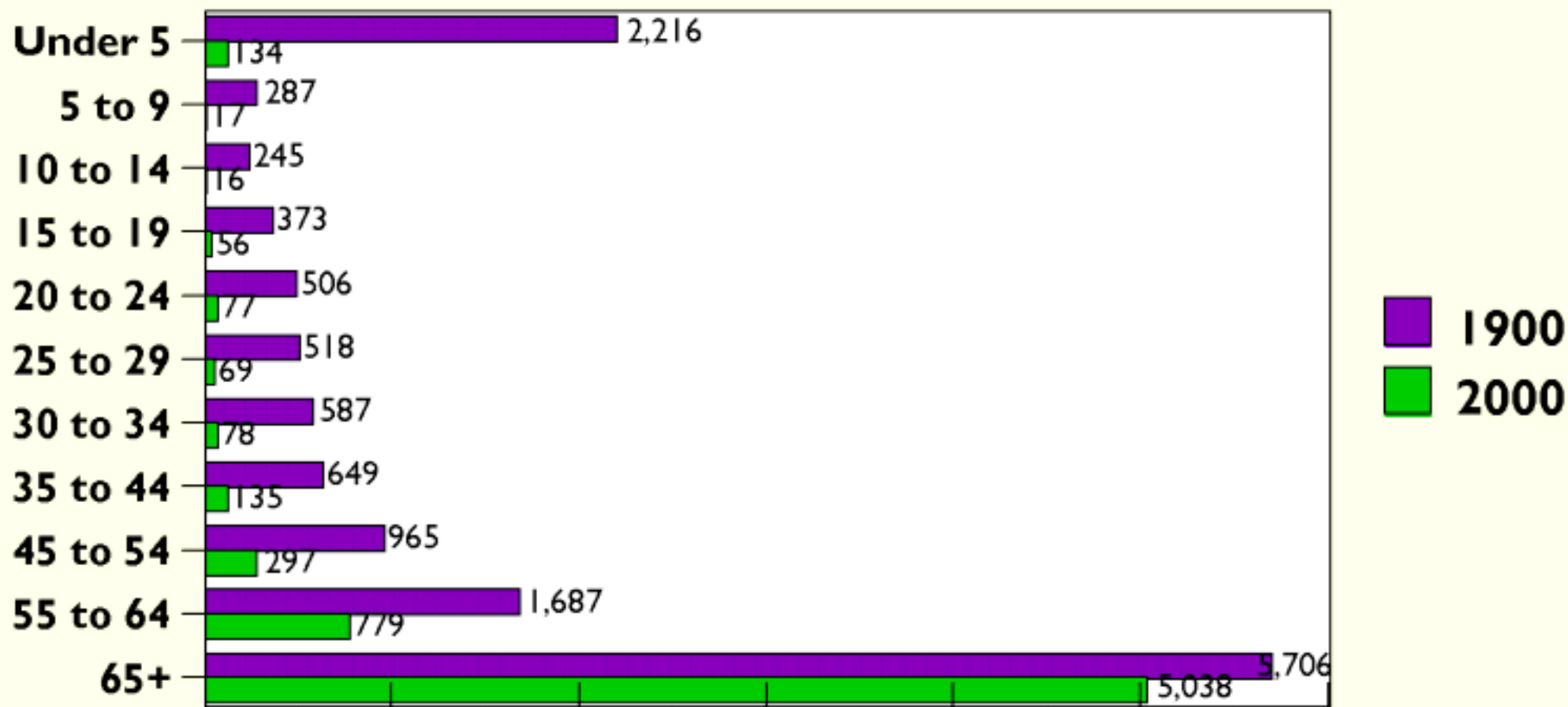
Source: Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample

Child- woman ratio in Minnesota fell in the late 1800's



Sources: 1880, 1890, 1900 and 2000 census data.

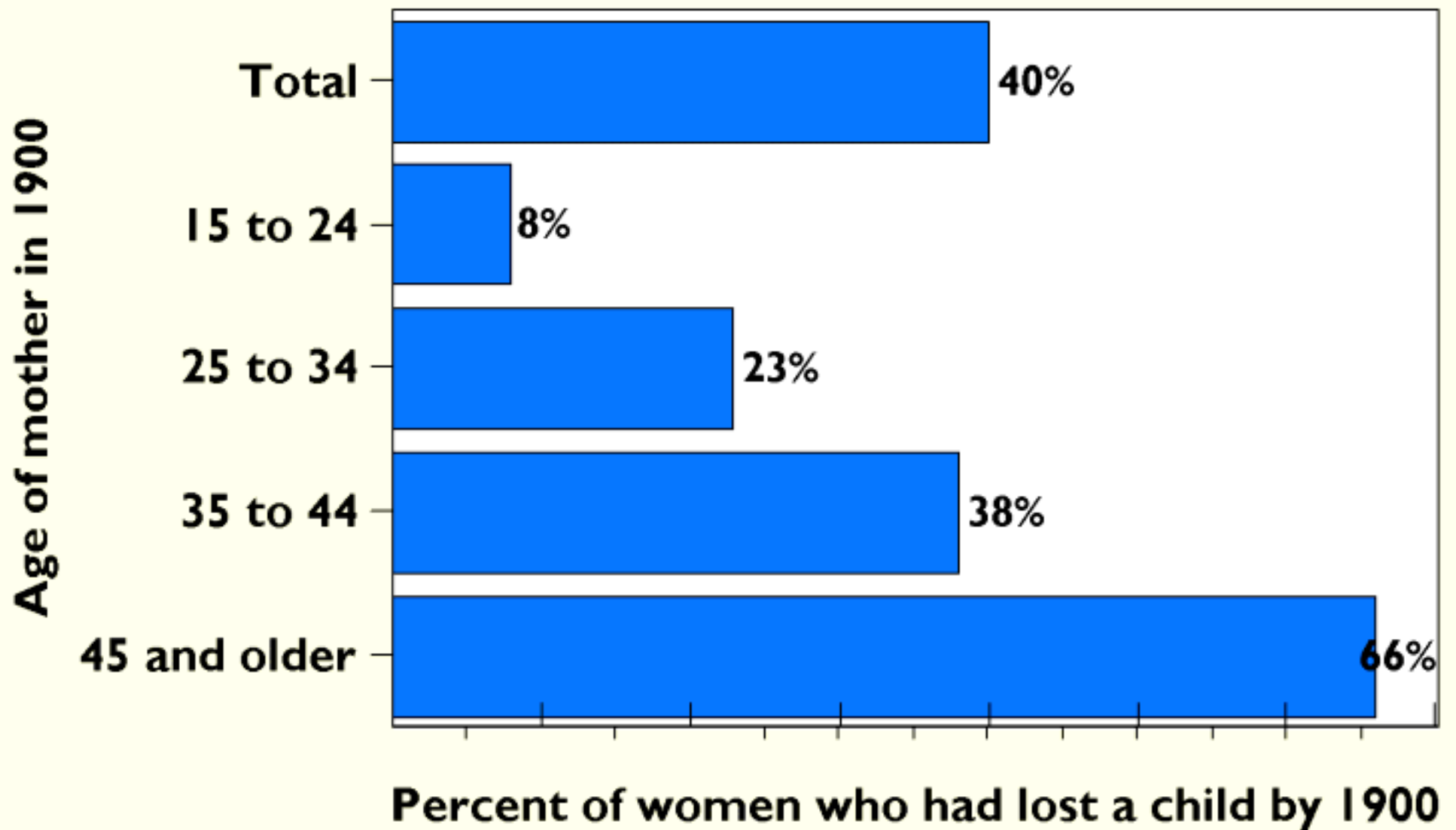
Minnesota death rates were much higher in 1900



Deaths per 100,000 population, male and female data combined

Sources: 1900 Census reports; 2000 census data; Minnesota Center for Health Statistics,

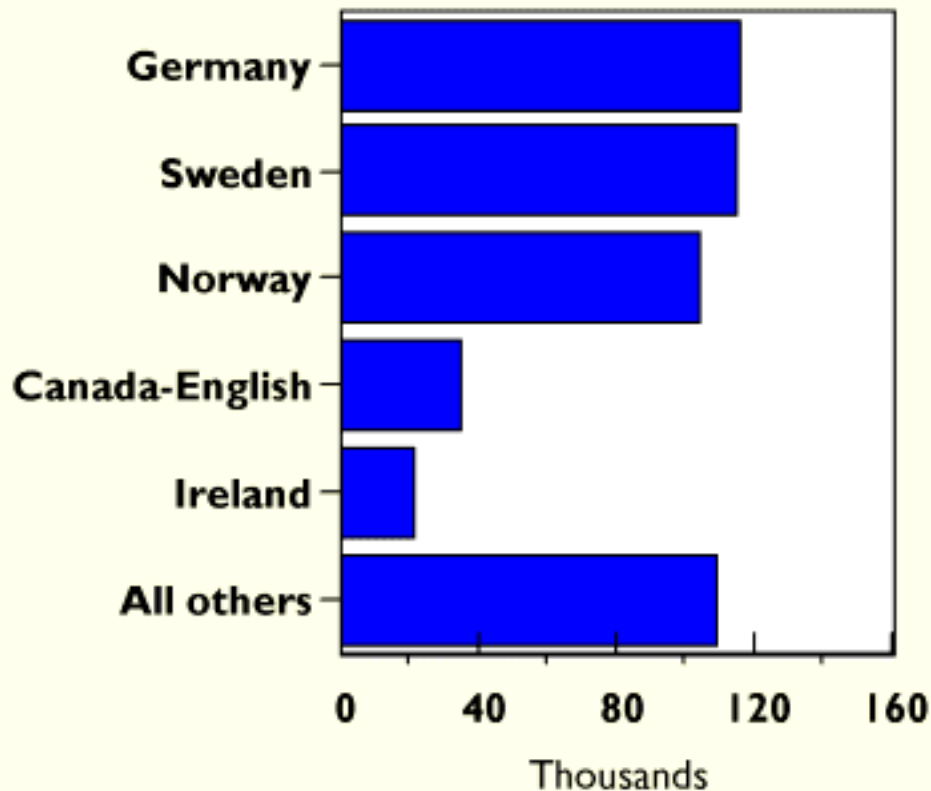
Four of 10 Minnesota mothers in 1900 had experienced the death of a child



Source: Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample

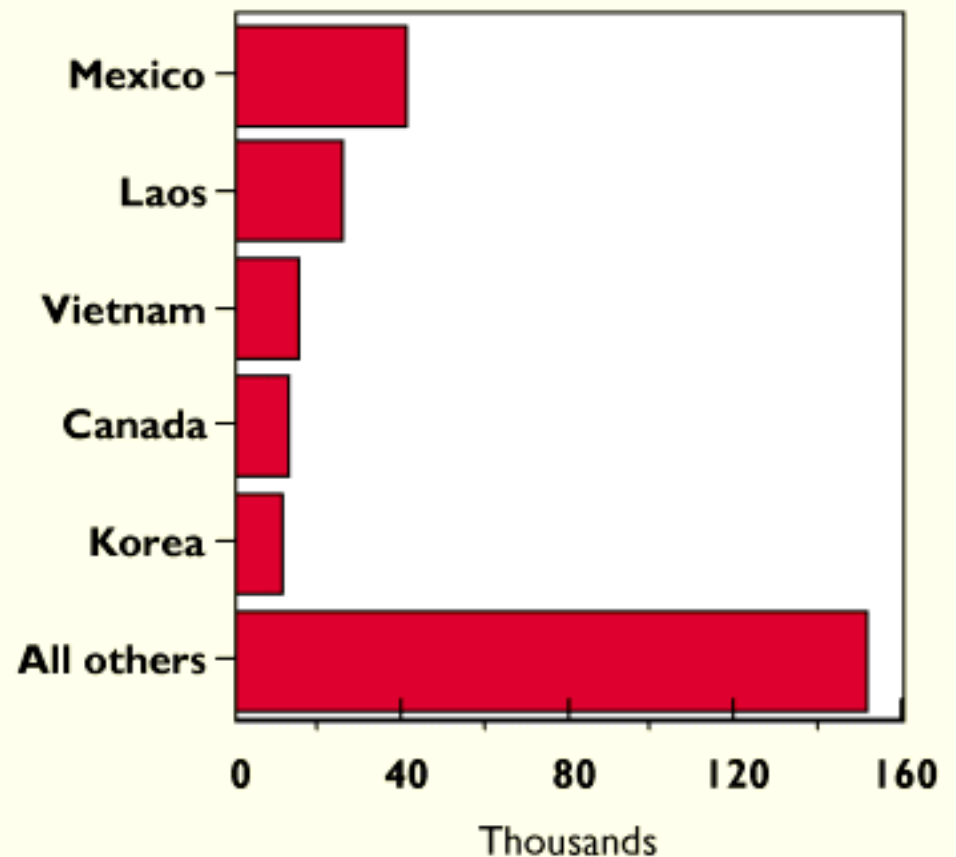
Number of Minnesota foreign-born was much larger in 1900, but the origins of foreign-born were more diverse in 2000

1900: Total foreign-born 515,318



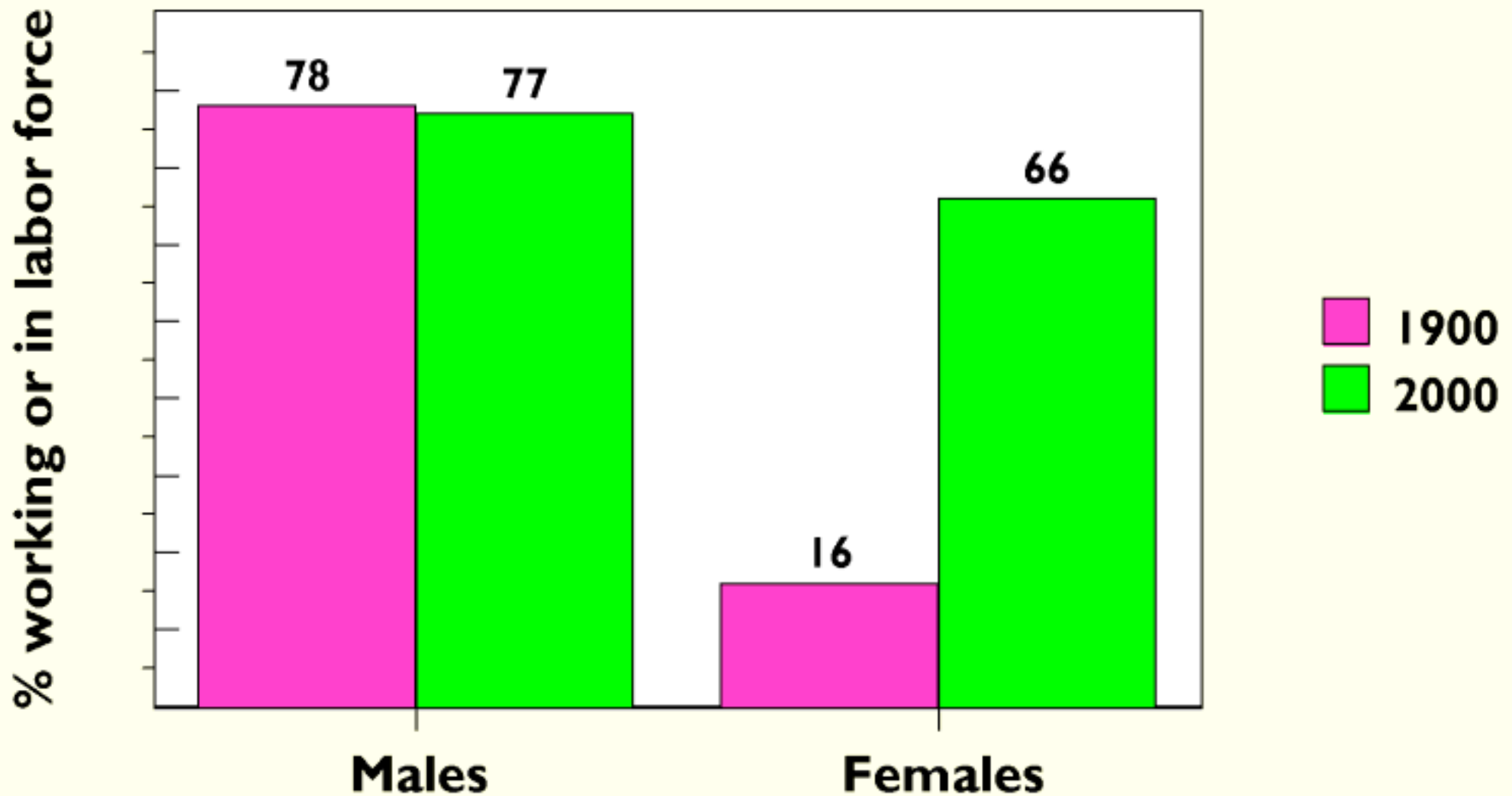
Source: 1900 census reports.

2000: Total foreign-born 260,463



Source: 2000 census data.

Minnesota women are much more likely to be in the paid work force today than in 1900



Sources: 1900 and 2000 census data..

1900 data are % of persons age 10+ employed for pay.

2000 data are labor force participation rates for persons 16+.

Leading occupations for Minnesota men in 1900:

- Farmers, planters and overseers: 152,094
- Farm laborers: 92,889
- General laborers: 54,111
- Steam railroad employees: 17,014
- Merchants and dealers: 15,656
- Draymen, expressman and teamsters: 10,856
- Clerks; carpenters; lumbermen; miners

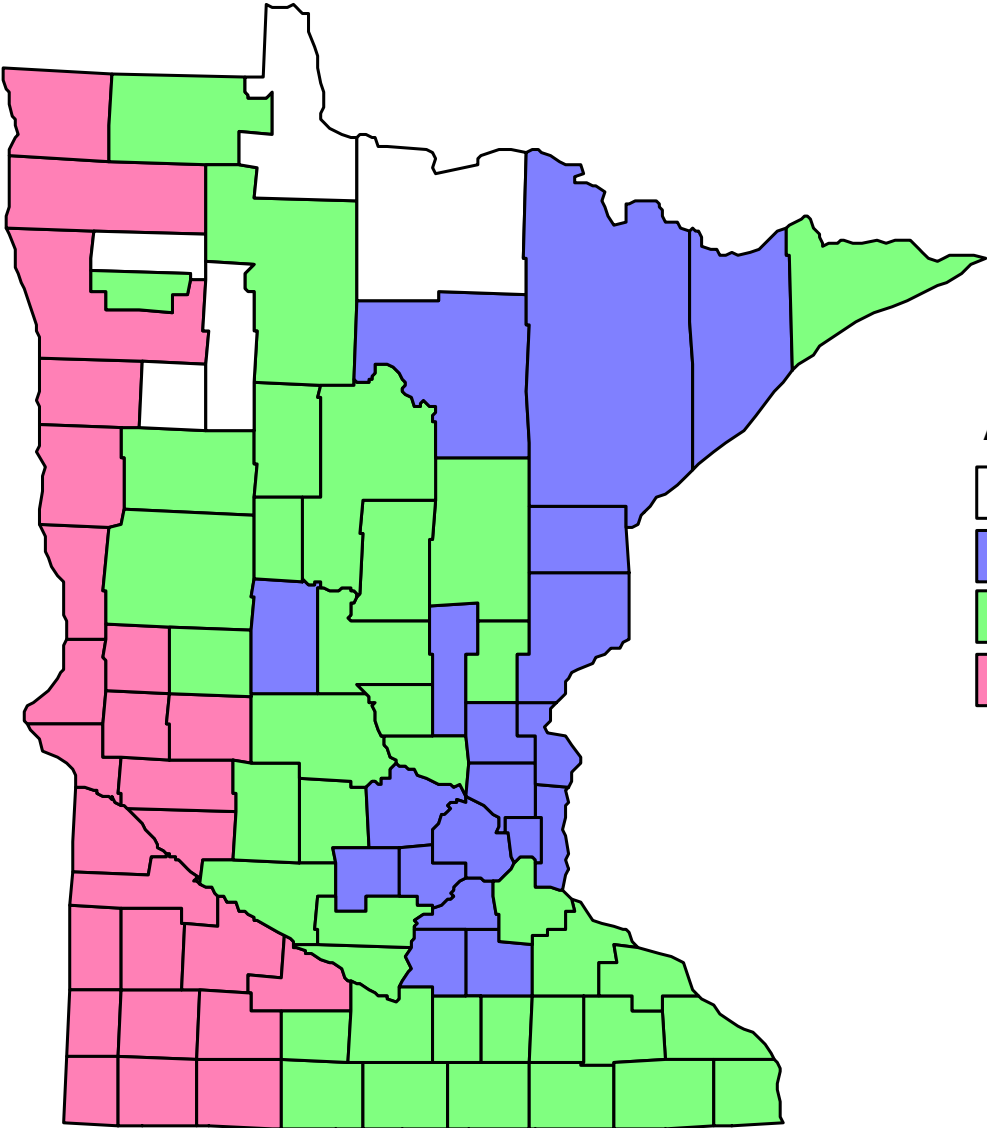
Leading occupations for Minnesota women in 1900

- Servants: 34,598
- School teachers: 10,818
- Dressmakers: 8,582
- Farmers, planters and overseers: 5,402
- Housekeepers: 4,211
- Others including laundresses, seamstresses, saleswomen, clerks, milliners

Minnesota agriculture in 1900

- The number of farms (155,000) was more than twice as high as today.
- Average farm size (170 acres) was less than half of today's average.
- Development of southwestern Minnesota contributed to a 32 percent growth in the number of farms between 1890 and 1900.
- Average farm size was greatest in western Minnesota and lowest near the Twin Cities.
- The proportion of workers employed in agriculture fell from 52% in 1880 to 40% in 1900.
- 82% of farms were owner-operated.

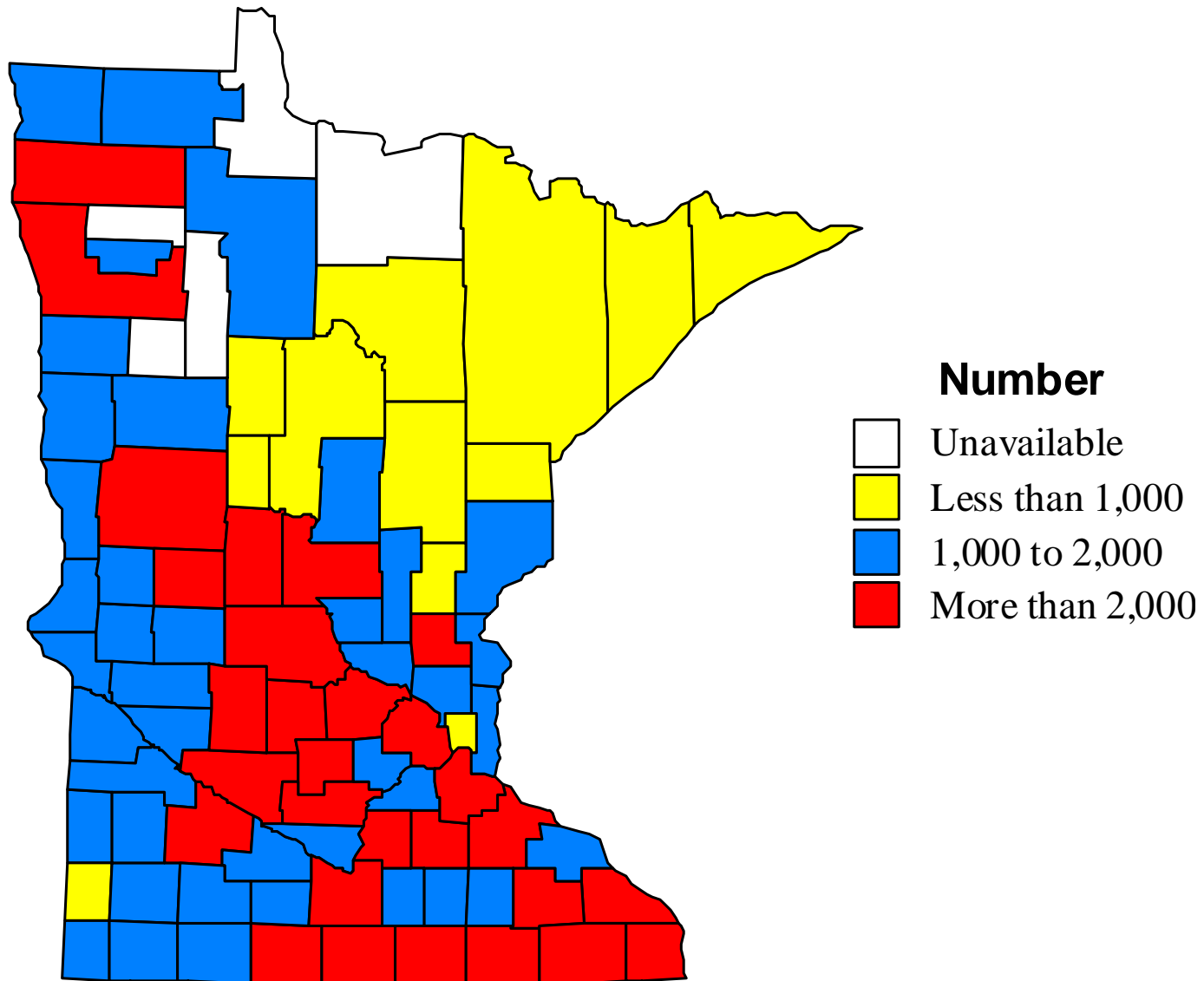
Largest farms in western Minnesota in 1900



Average: 170 acres

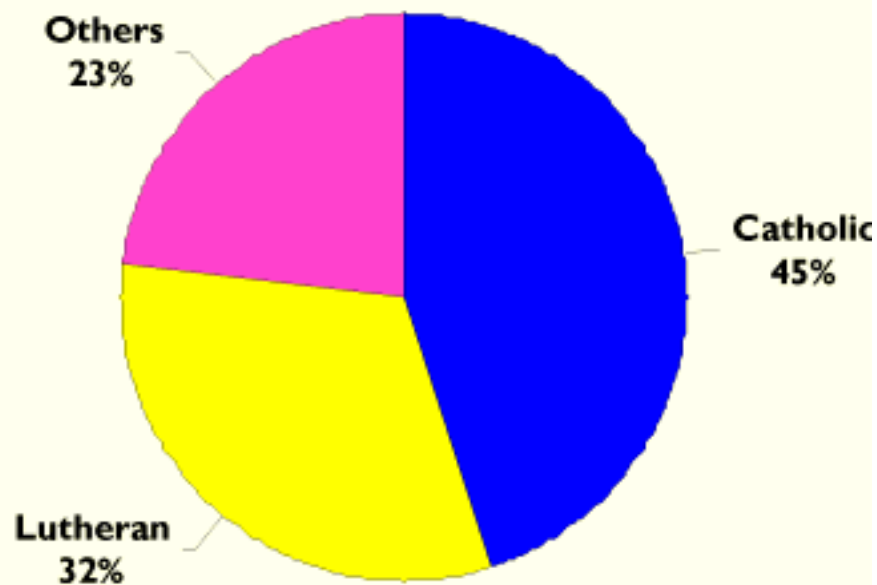
- Unavailable
- Under 135 acres
- 135 to 200 acres
- 200+ acres

South and Central regions had greatest number of farms in 1900



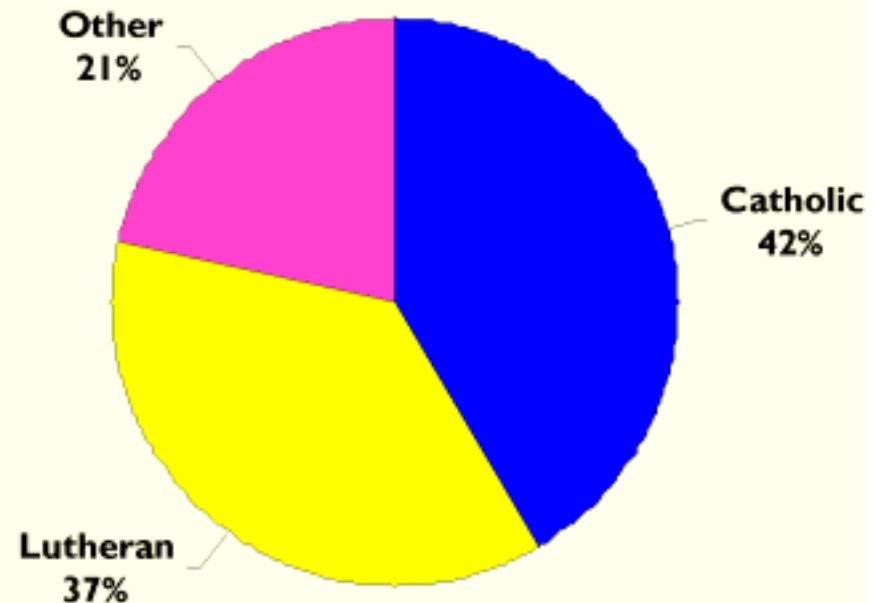
Most religiously affiliated Minnesotans were...and still are... Catholic or Lutheran

1906 (% of religiously affiliated)



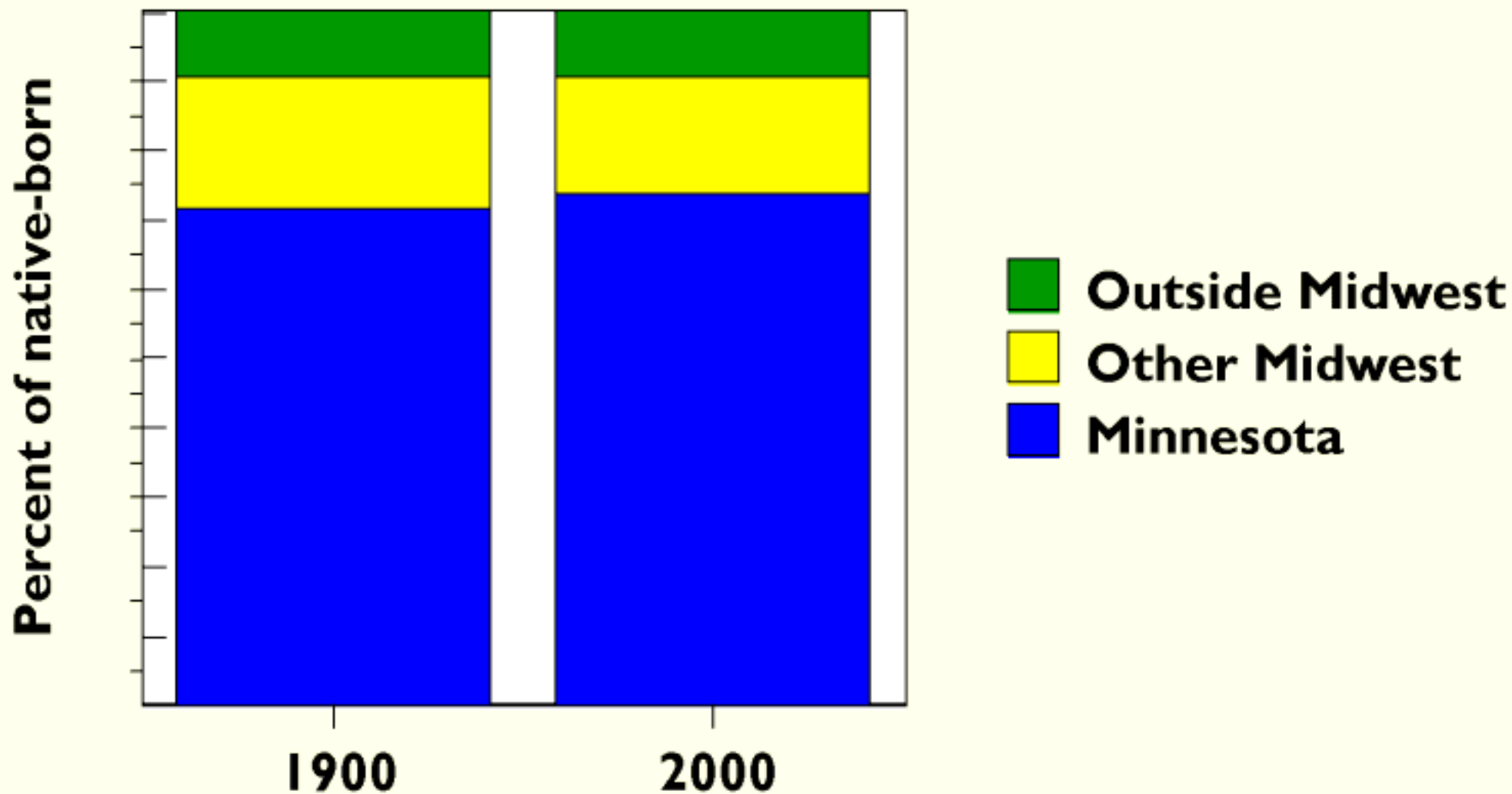
Bureau of the Census, Religious Bodies: 1906

2000 (% of religiously affiliated)



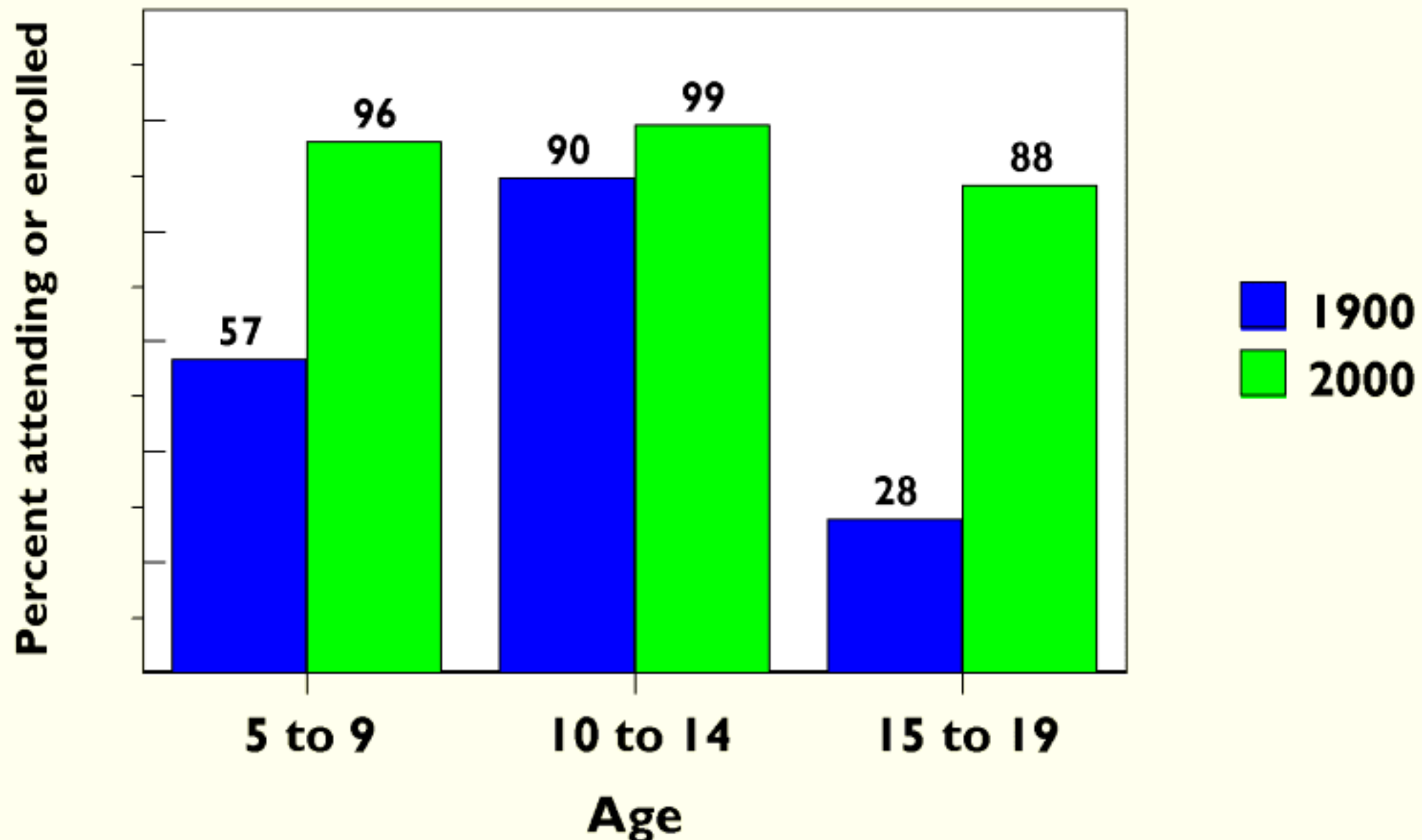
Glenmary Research Center

In both 1900 and 2000, most native-born Minnesotans were born in Minnesota or another Midwestern state



Sources: 1900 and 2000 census data..

School attendance rates for children higher in 2000, but most children in Minnesota went to school in 1900



Source: 1900 and 2000 Census reports.