
The Changing Face of Rural America: Growing Ethnic Diversity

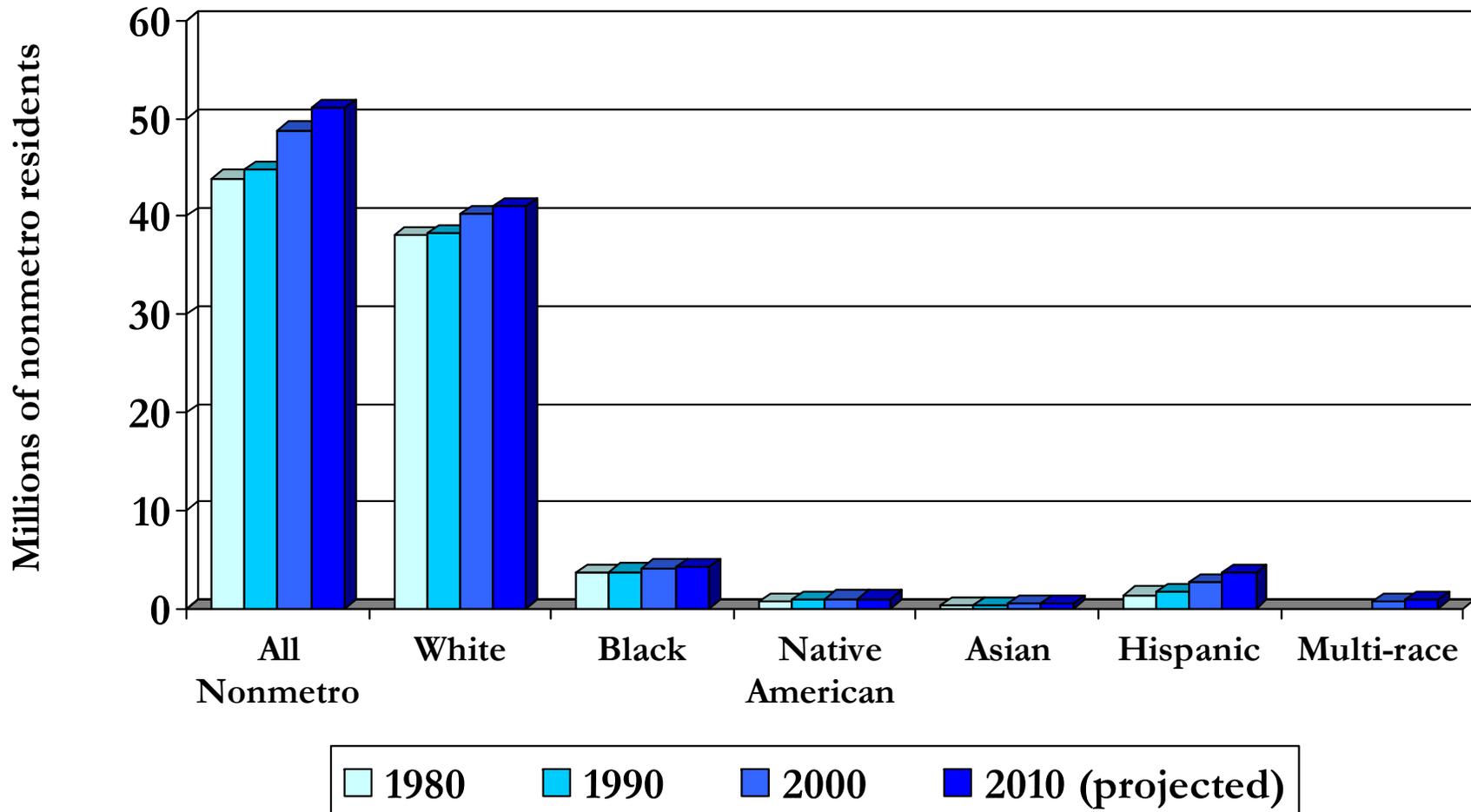
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Presentation Overview

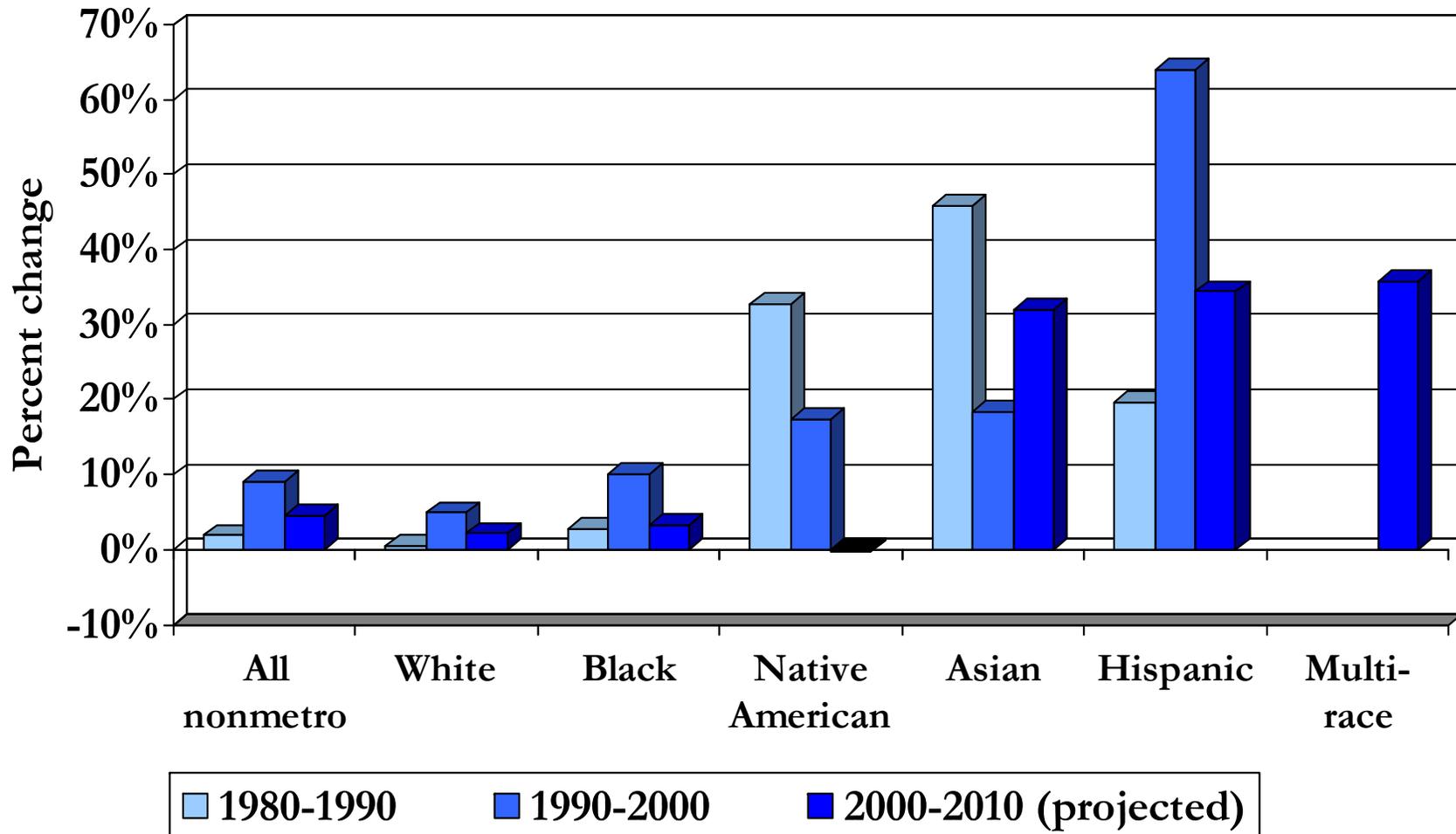
- Growing nonmetro diversity
 - Geography of nonmetro diversity
 - Causes of growing nonmetro diversity
 - Implications
-

Non-Hispanic Whites continue to far outnumber all other racial and ethnic groups in nonmetro counties



Source: ERS analysis of 1980 and 1990 Decennial Census and 2000 and 2006 County Estimates data; 2010 figures extrapolated using annualized rates of change between 2000 and 2006

Nonmetro minority populations are increasing at substantially higher rates than non-Hispanic Whites



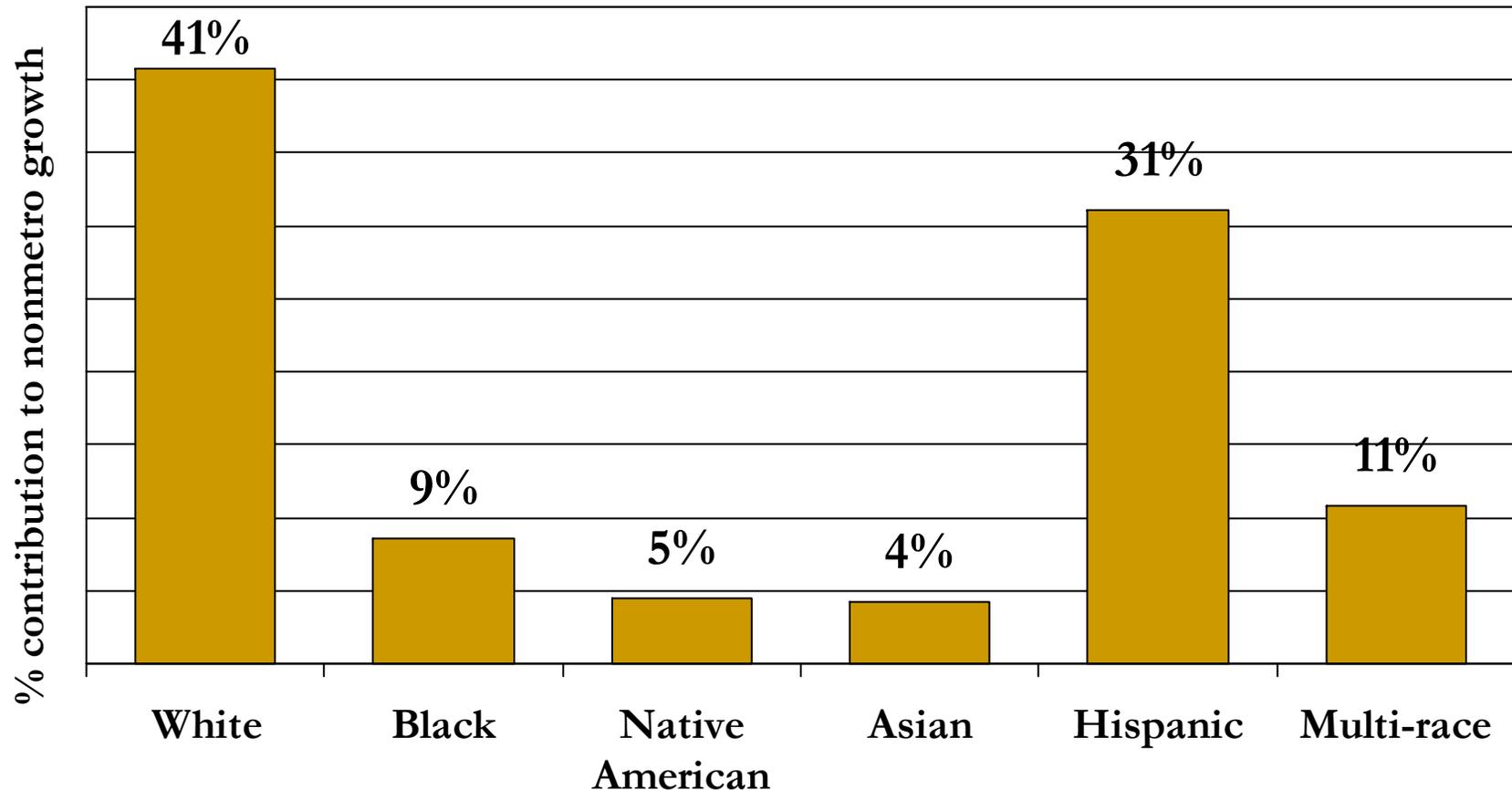
Source: ERS analysis of 1980 and 1990 Decennial Census and 2000 and 2006 County Estimates data; 2010 figures extrapolated using annualized rates of change between 2000 and 2006

Consequently, minorities encompass a growing share of the nonmetro population

	White	Black	Native American	Asian	Hispanic	Multi-race
1980	86.8	8.3	1.3	0.5	3.1	n/a
1990	85.5	8.3	1.7	0.8	3.6	n/a
2000	82.3	8.4	1.9	0.8	5.5	1.2
2010 (projected)	81.1	8.4	1.8	1.0	6.4	1.4

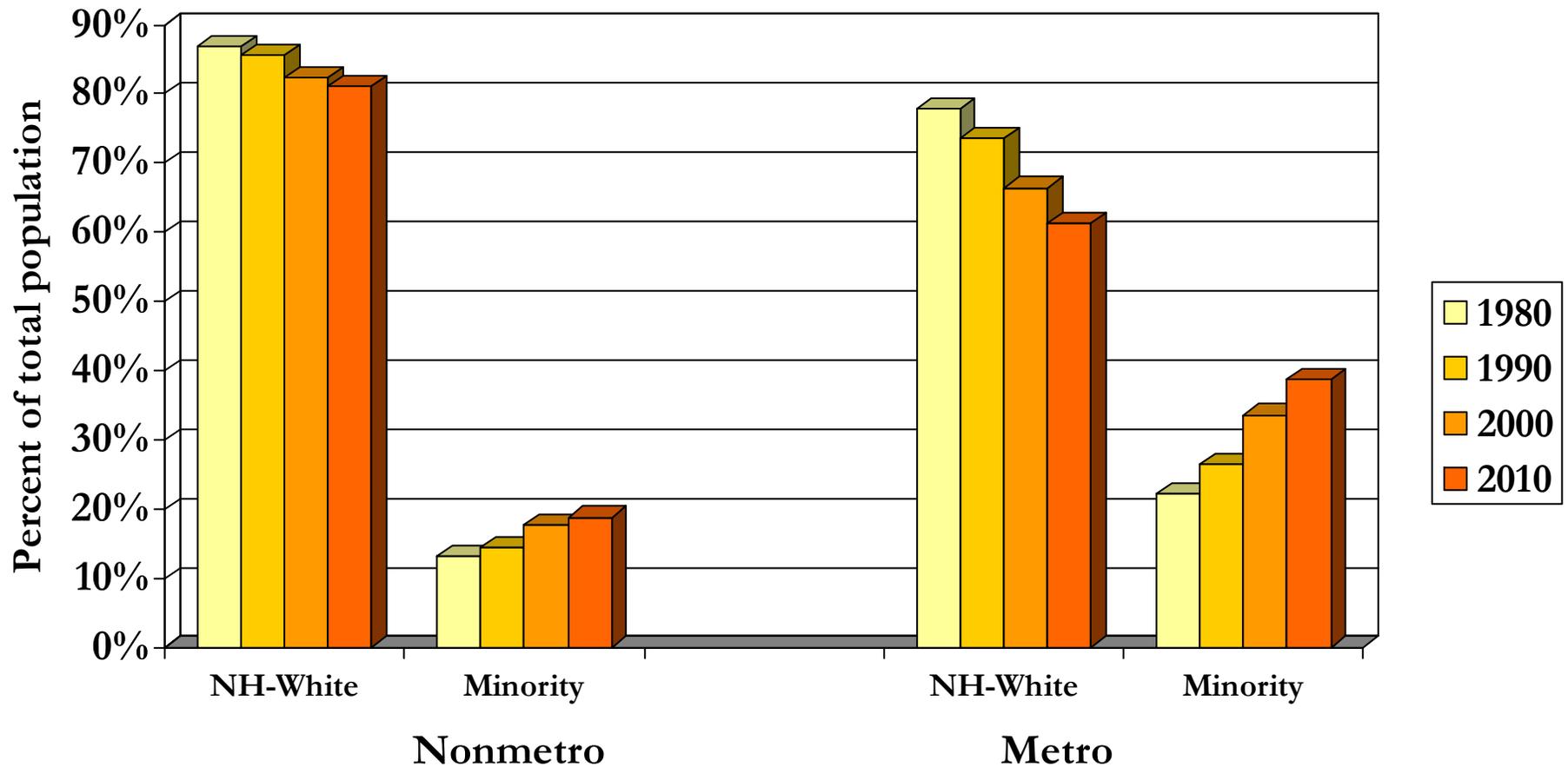
Source: ERS analysis of 1980 and 1990 Decennial Census and 2000 and 2006 County Estimates data; 2010 figures extrapolated using annualized rates of change between 2000 and 2006

Hispanics' contribution to nonmetro population growth between 1980 and 2010 will rival that of non-Hispanic Whites



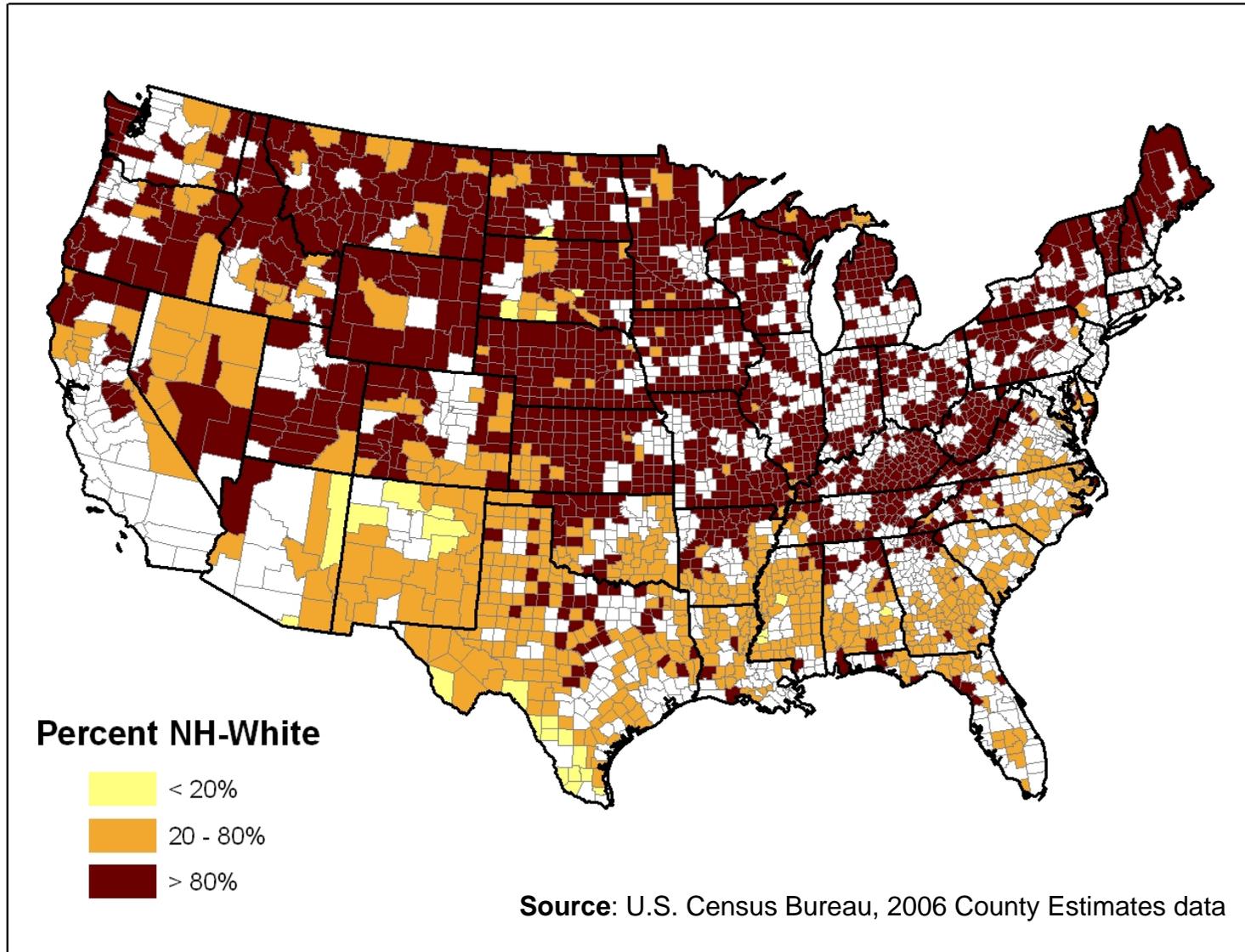
Source: ERS analysis of 1980 Decennial Census and 2006 County Estimates data; 2010 figures extrapolated using annualized rates of change between 2000 and 2006

Nonmetro population diversification has occurred more gradually than in metro counties

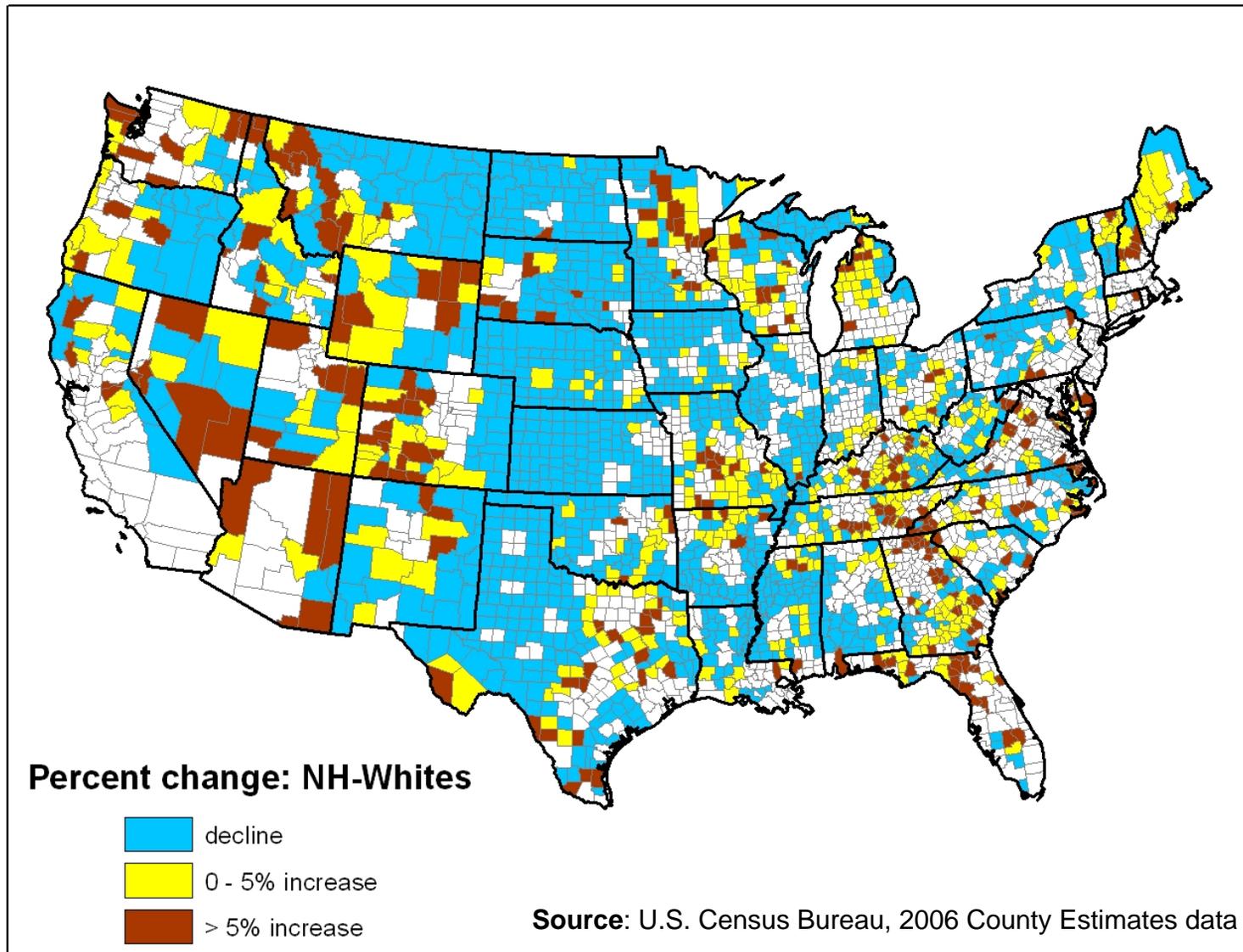


Source: ERS analysis of 1980 and 1990 Decennial Census and 2000 and 2006 County Estimates data; 2010 figures extrapolated using annualized rates of change between 2000 and 2006

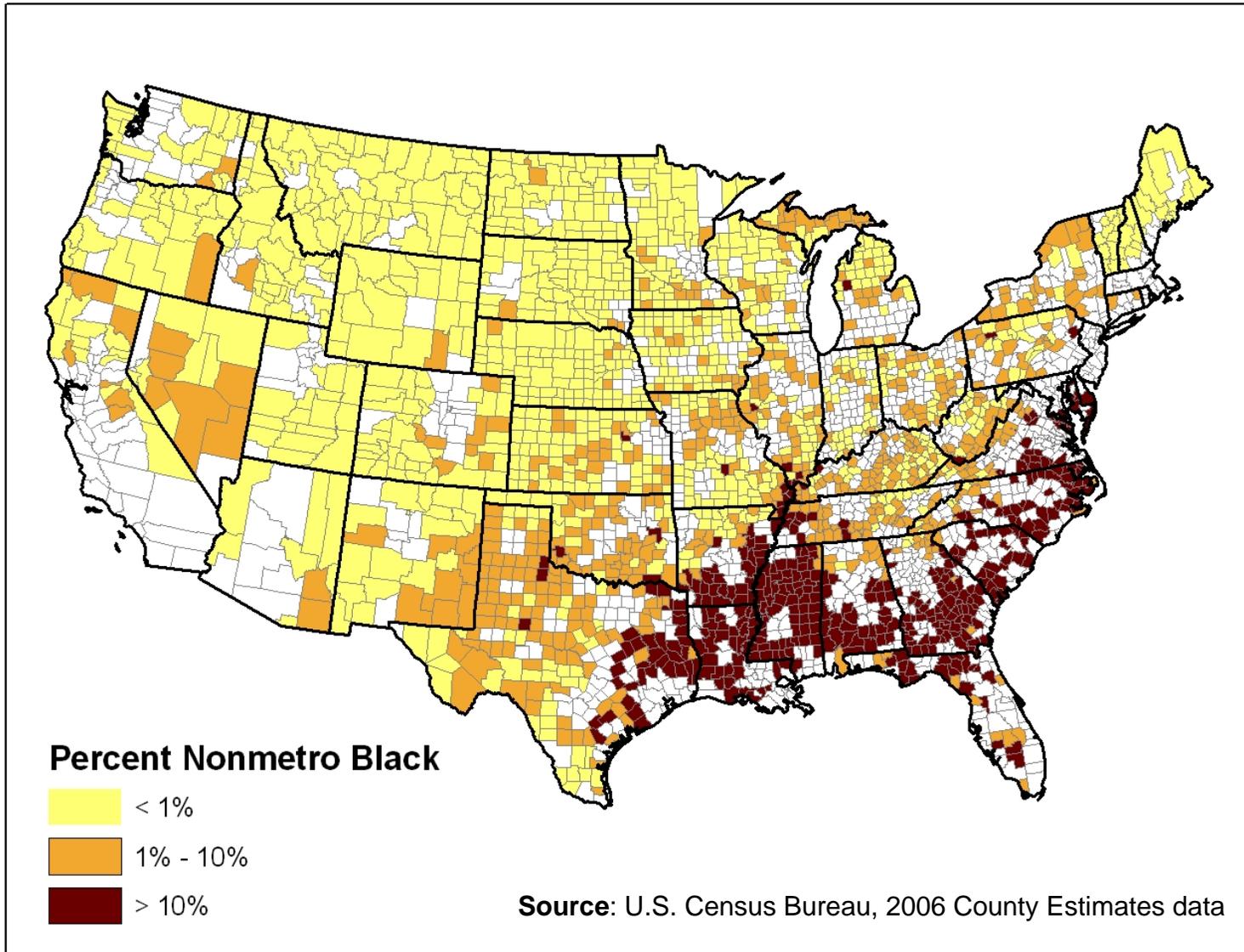
The non-Hispanic White population is less concentrated in the South and Southwest ...



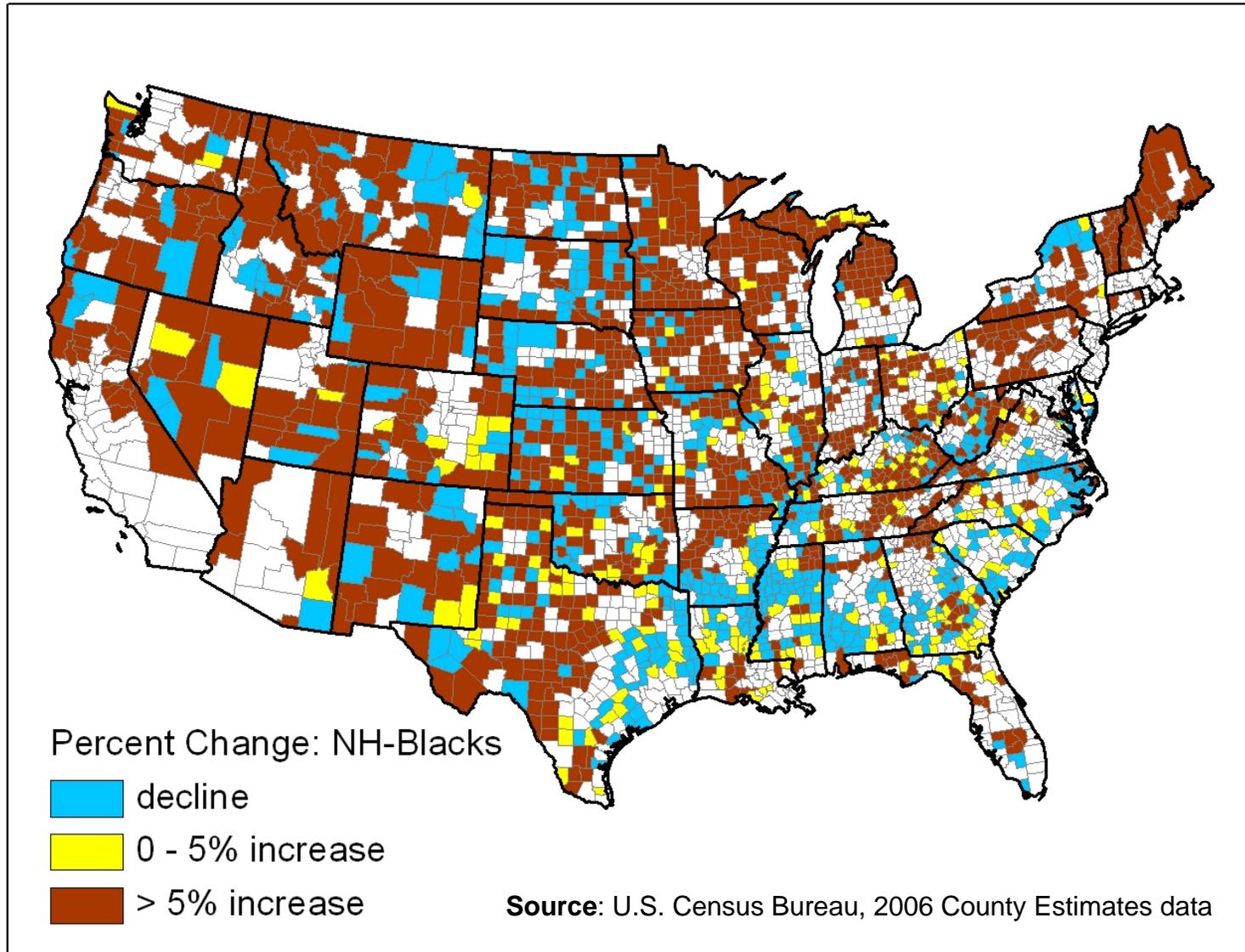
... although population decline among nonmetro Whites was widespread between 2000-2006



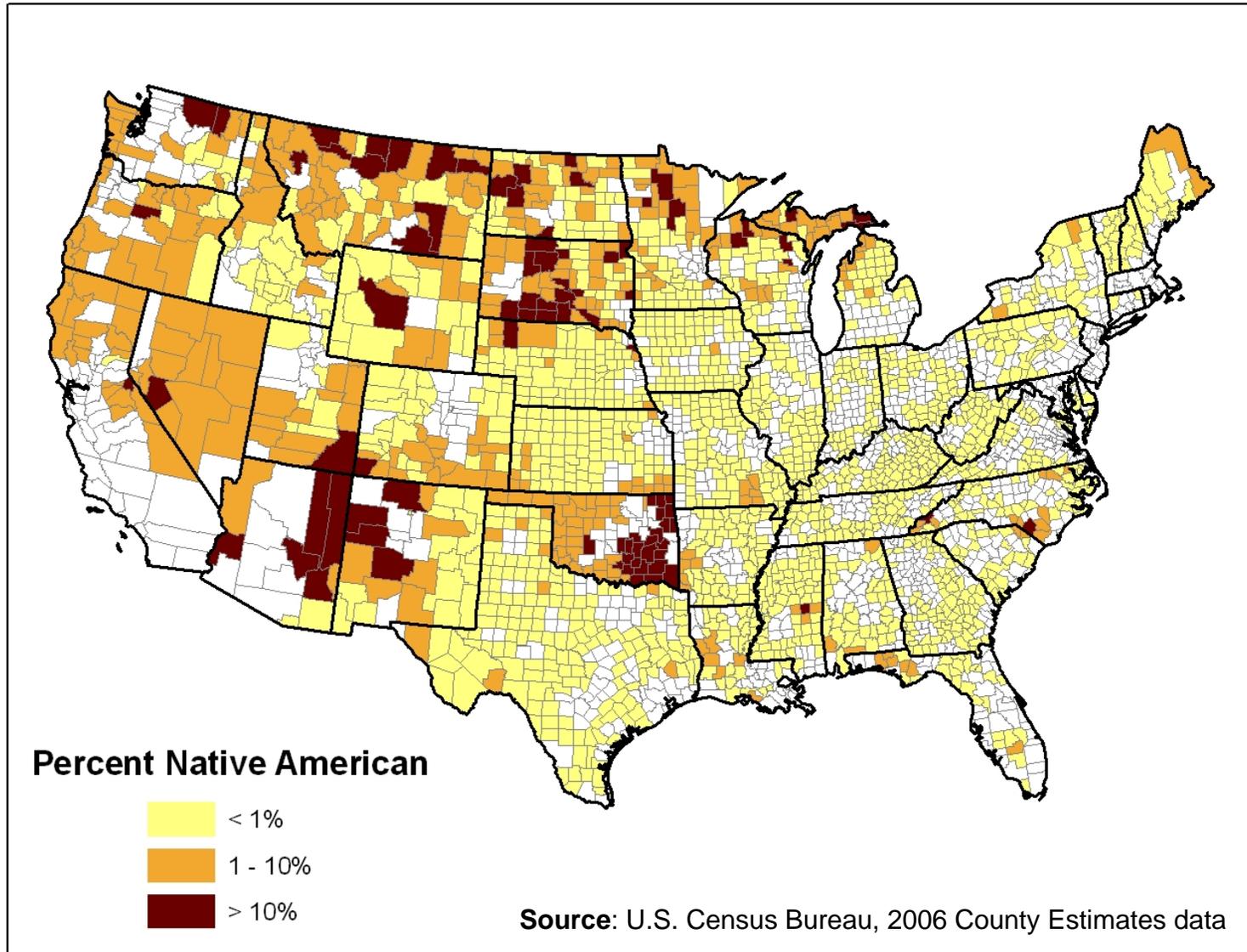
The nonmetro Black population continues to be concentrated in the deep South ...



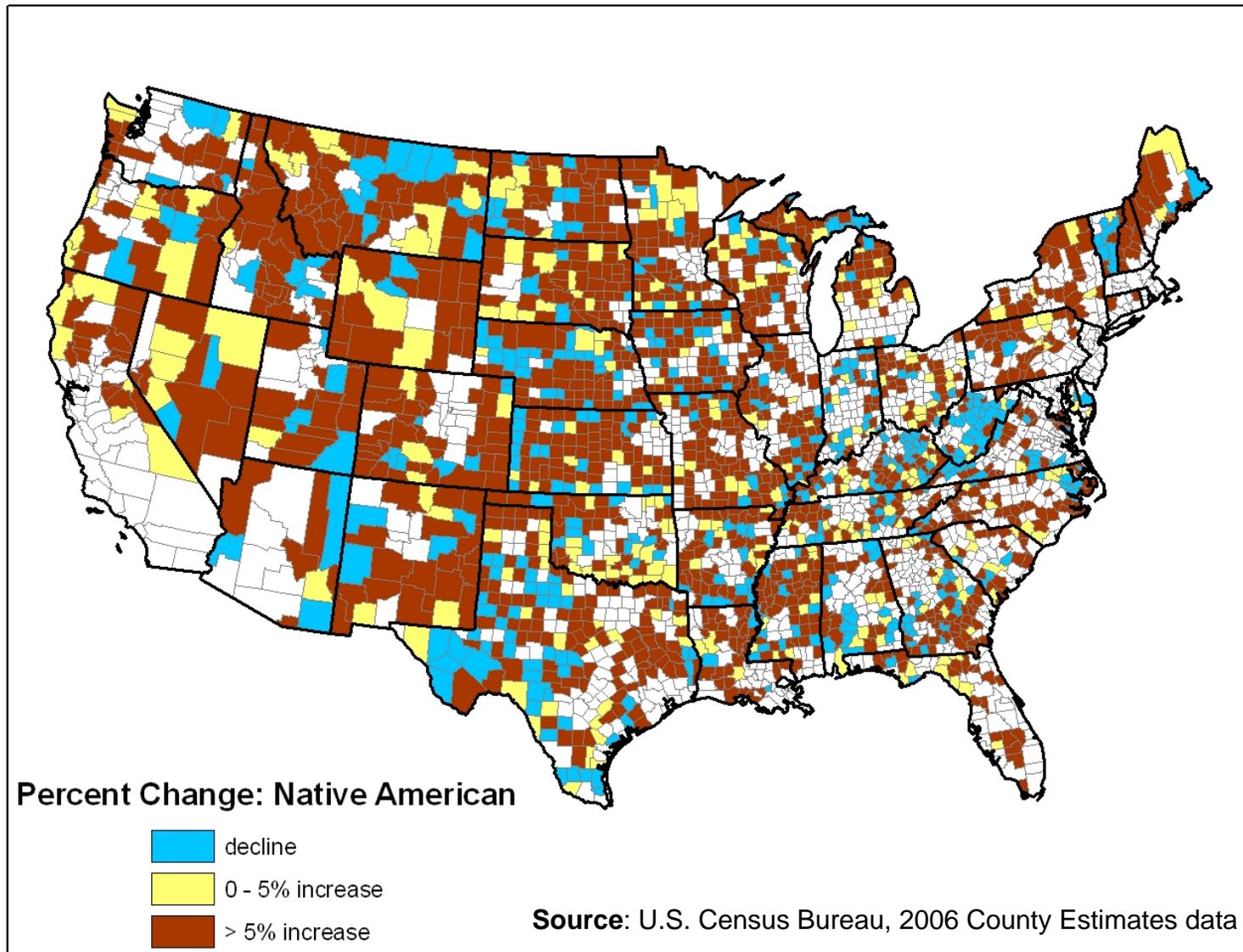
... yet Black population change between 2000-2006 included widespread growth and deep South decline



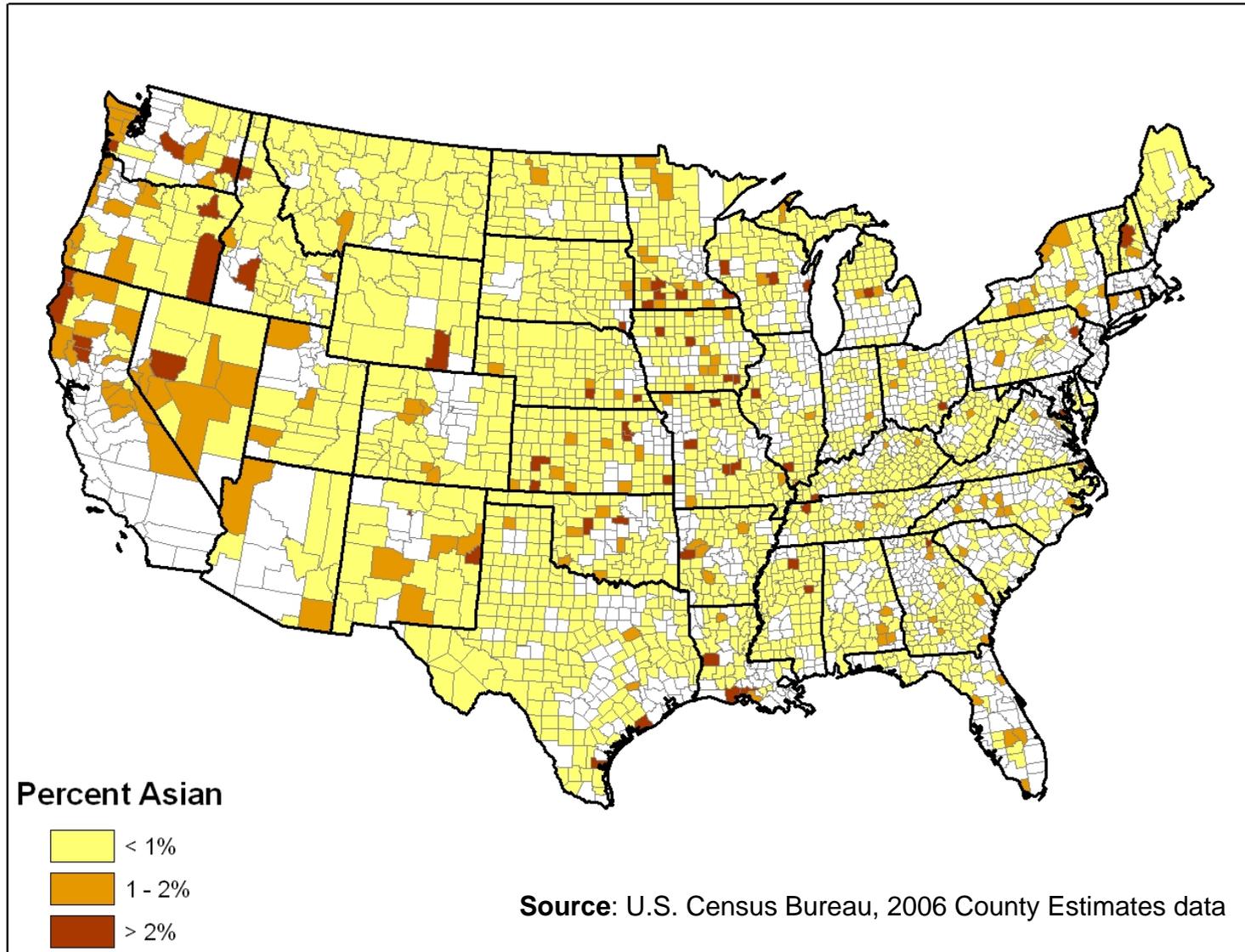
Native Americans reside in the West and the Northern Great Plains ...



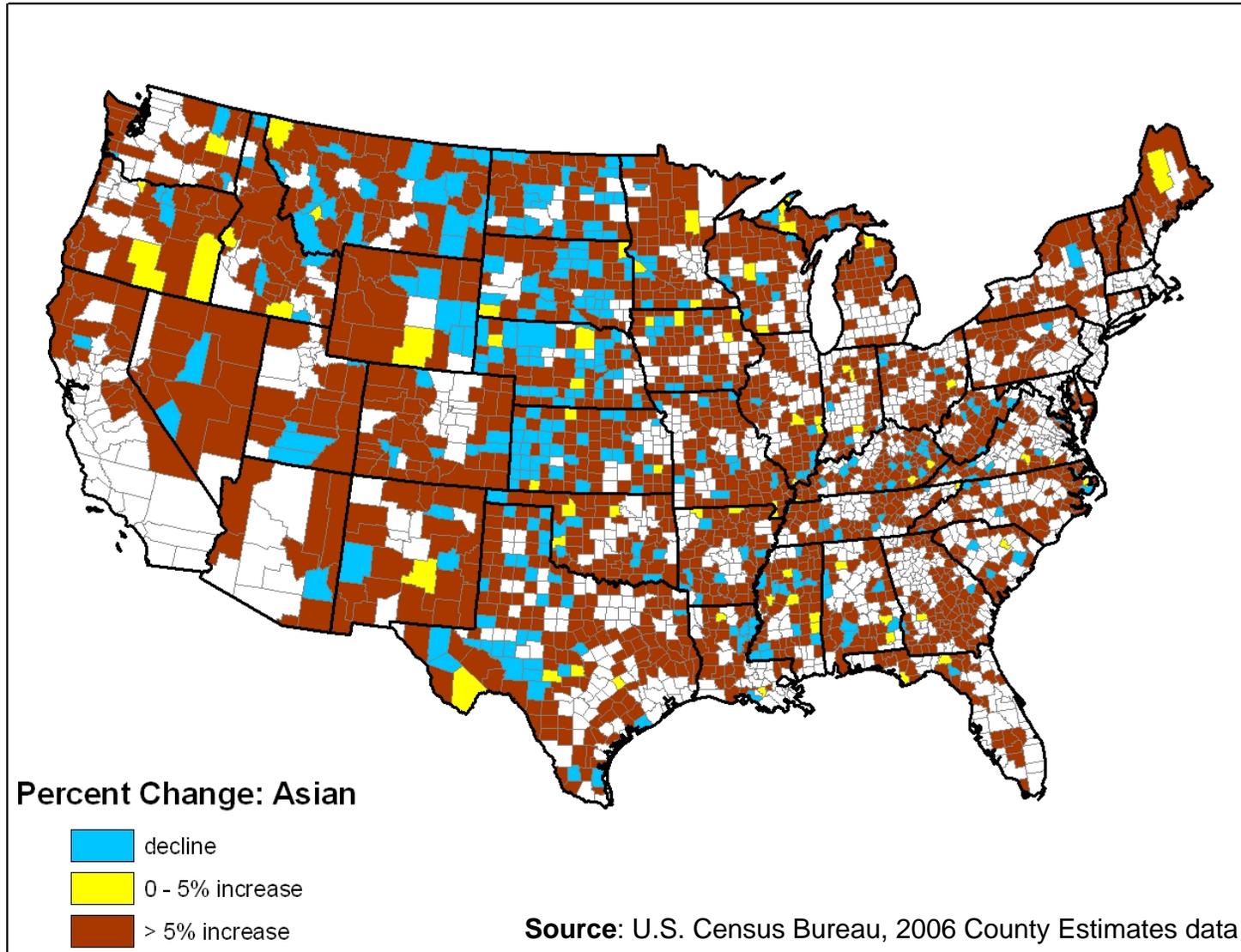
... but Native American population increase and decrease were each geographically dispersed



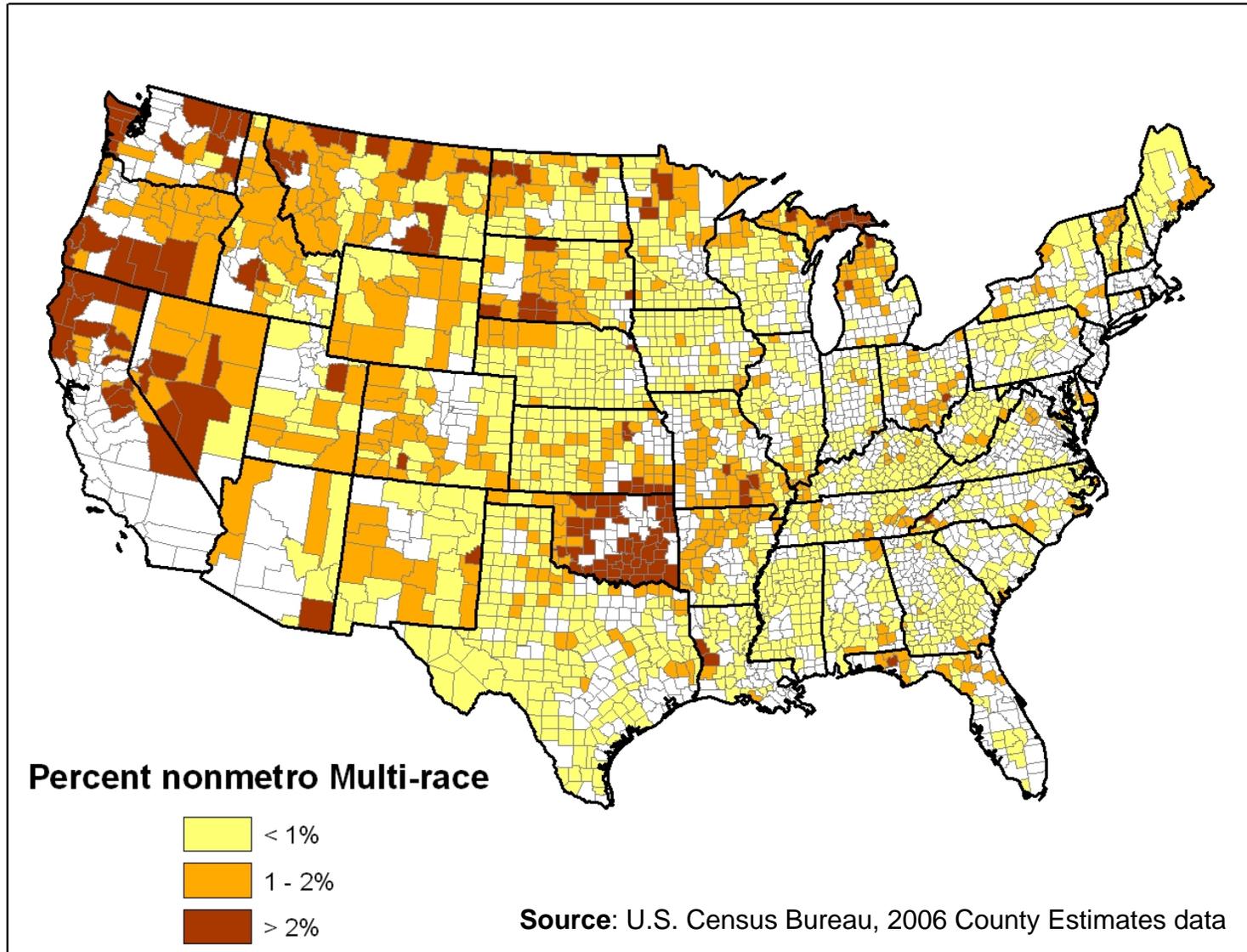
Asians have concentrated broadly in Midwestern and Western states ...



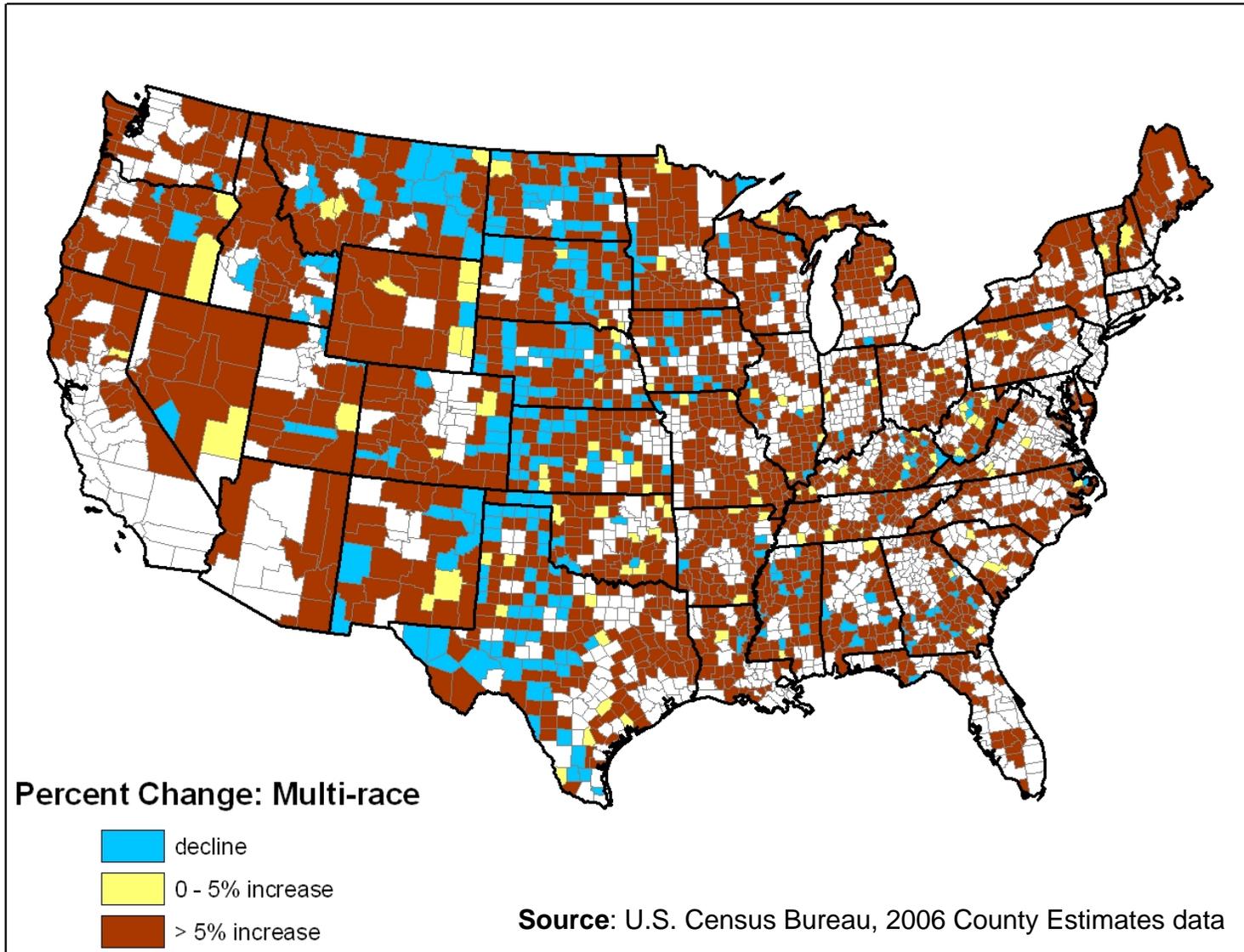
... and Asian population growth from 2000-2006 was widely dispersed except portions of the Great Plains



The Multi-race population includes many with Native American and Asian ancestry ...



... and grew everywhere in nonmetro America from 2000-2006 except portions of the Great Plains



Causes of growing nonmetro population diversity

- Aging and low fertility of non-Hispanic Whites
 - Higher Black fertility and institutional concentration
 - Increased propensity to record Native American heritage for government surveys
 - Asian refugee settlement and higher Asian fertility
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Causes of nonmetro Hispanic population growth

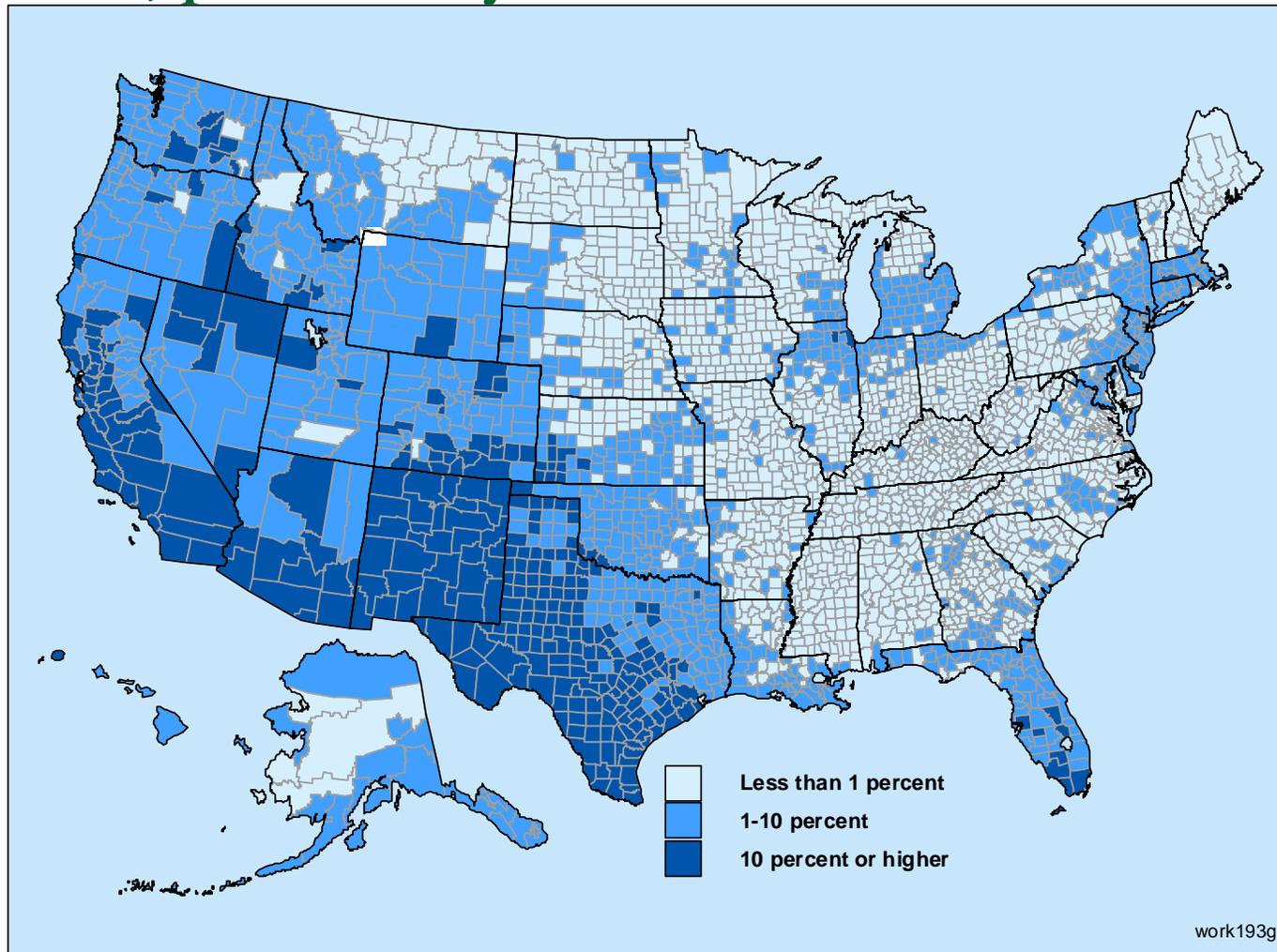
■ PUSH FACTORS

- ❑ Immigration Reform and Control Act (1986-89)
- ❑ Economic, political climate of California, 1985-95

■ PULL FACTORS

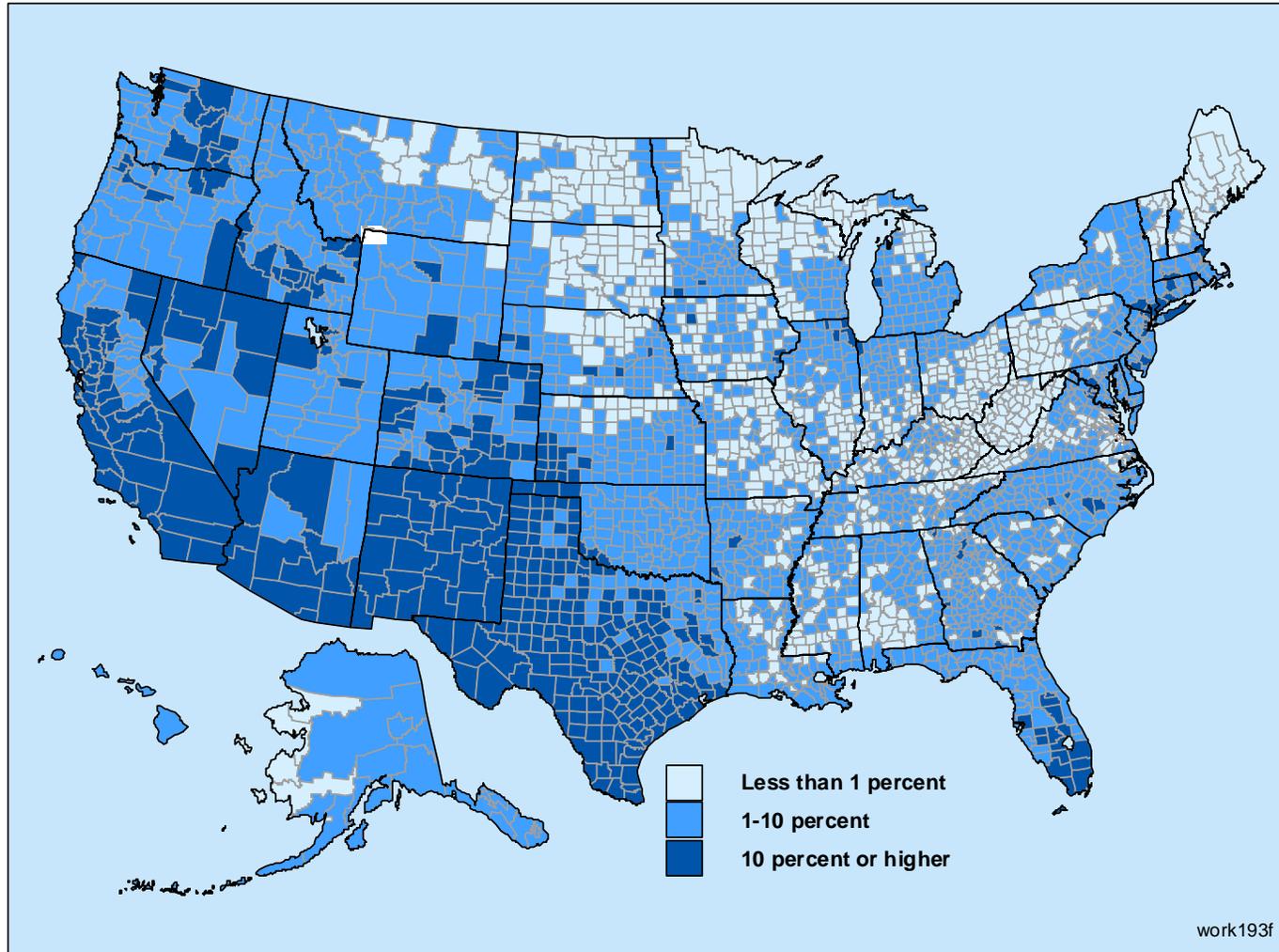
- ❑ Employment expansion in “low-skilled” industries
 - ❑ Quality of life preferences for rural areas
 - ❑ Private sector employment recruitment
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In 1990, the Hispanic population was concentrated in the West, particularly the Southwest



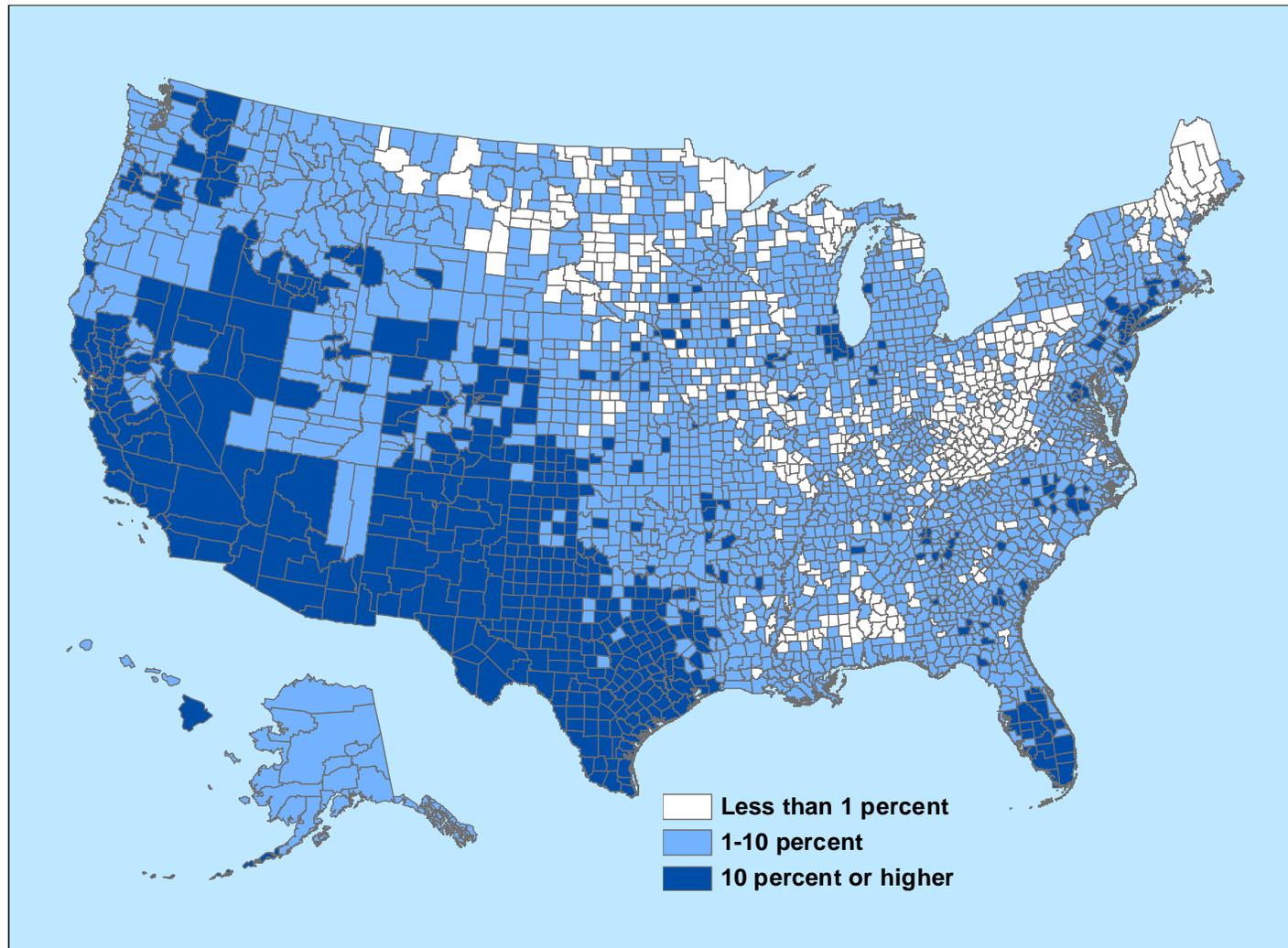
Source: 1990 Census data, STF1 file

By 2000, Hispanics were settling in the nonmetro Midwest and Southeast ...



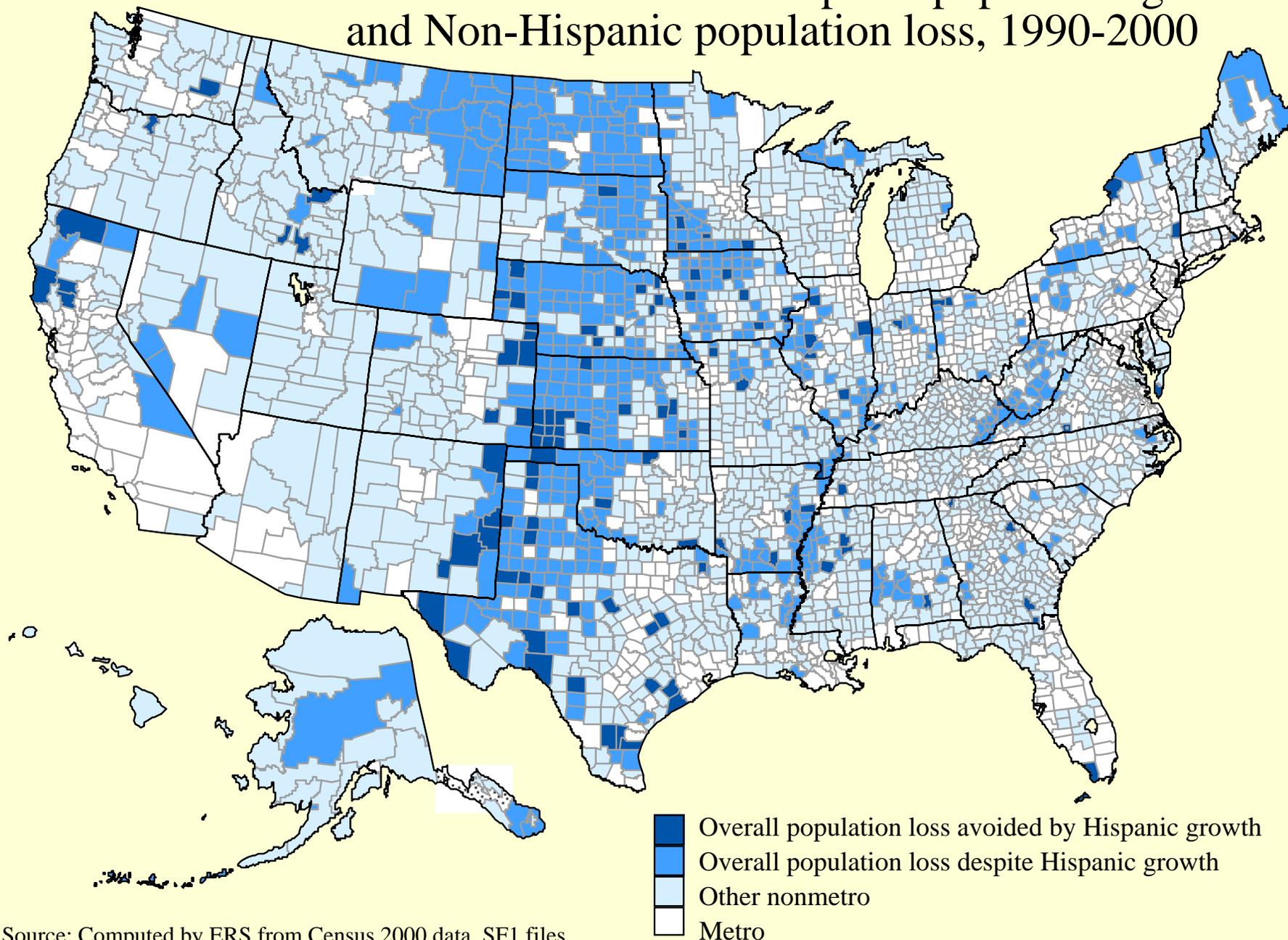
Source: 2000 Census data, SF1 file

... a trend that continued through 2006



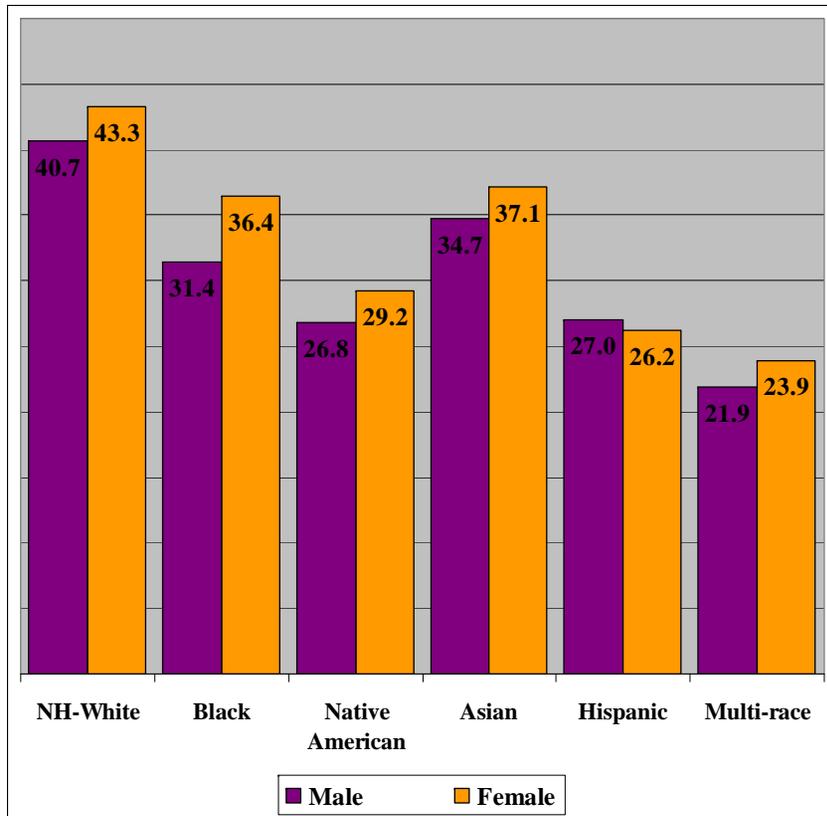
Source: 2006 Census county estimates

Nonmetro counties with Hispanic population gain and Non-Hispanic population loss, 1990-2000



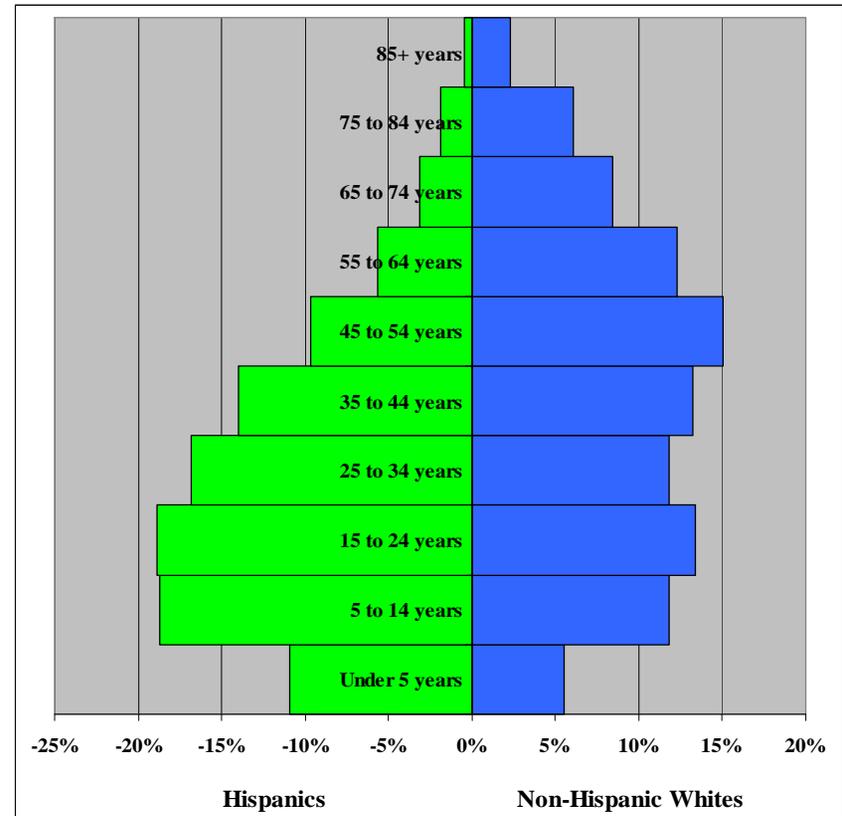
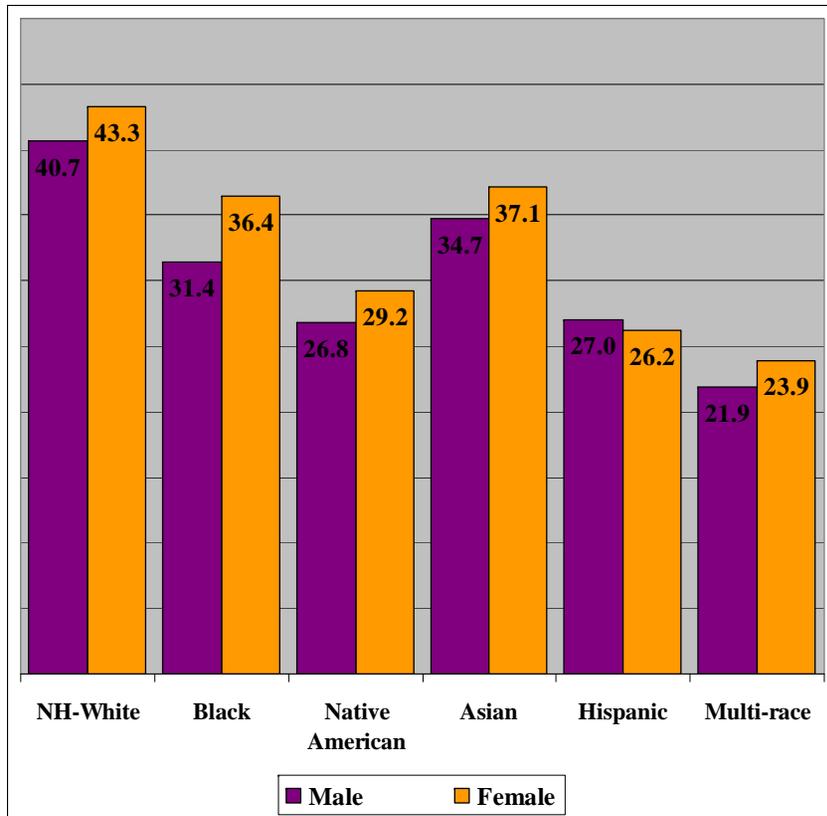
Source: Computed by ERS from Census 2000 data, SF1 files

Lower median ages of minorities versus non-Hispanic Whites ...



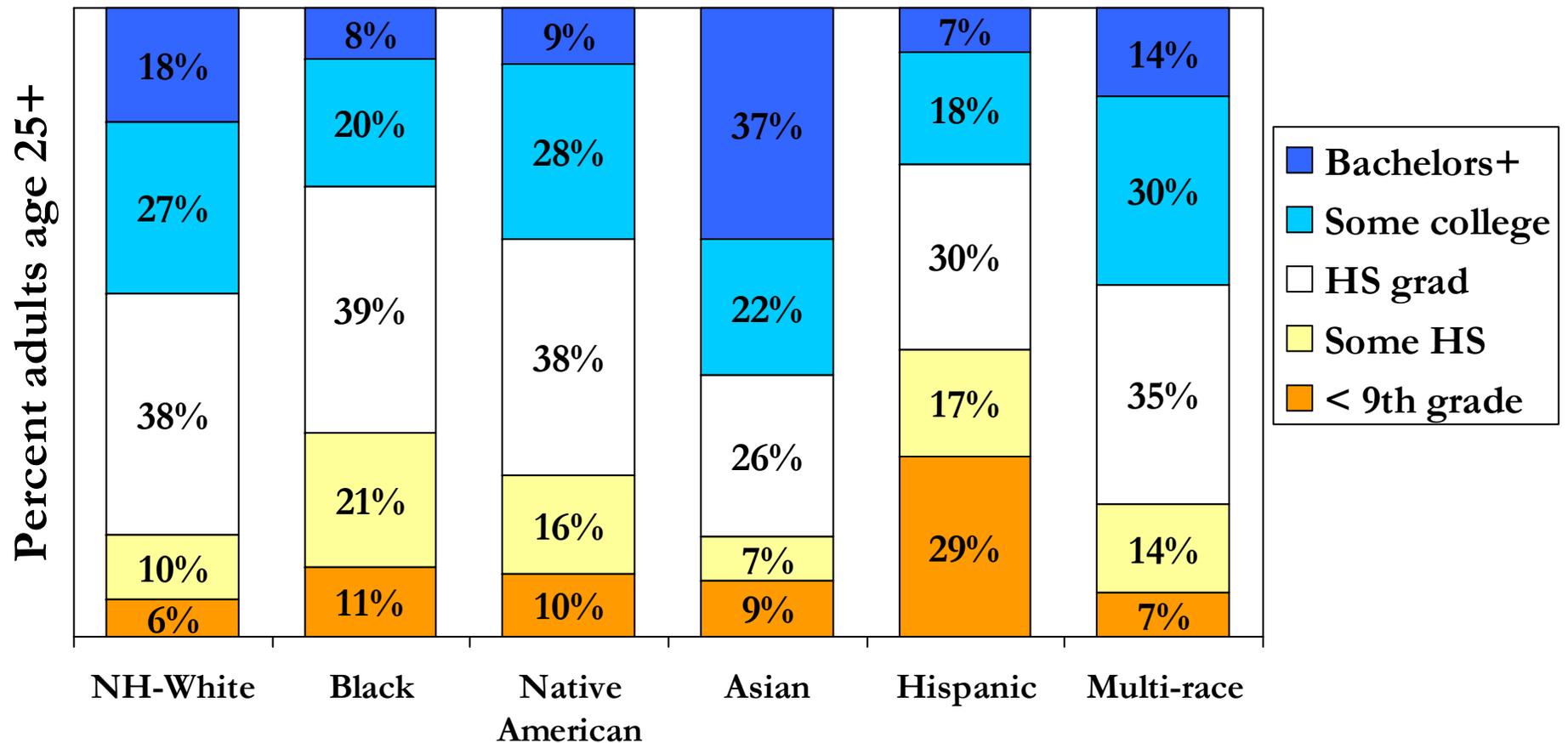
Source: ERS analysis of 2006 American Community Survey data

.. Reflect substantially different age structures



Source: ERS analysis of 2006 American Community Survey data

Differences in education attainment have direct labor market implications



Source: ERS analysis of 2006 American Community Survey data

Summary

- Minorities comprise almost 20% of the nonmetro population
- Minorities grew 8 times faster than NH-Whites from 2000-06
- Asians, Blacks, and Native Americans are more regionally concentrated than Hispanics
- Long term impacts stem from socio-demographic differences between a larger, older non-Hispanic White population, and smaller, younger, more rapidly growing minority populations.

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