

Table 10. General Characteristics in 1940 of Rural Counties* That Lost Through Migration in 1940-1950 and Counties That Gained

Net migration	Level of living	Fer-tility ratio	Age of owners	Average distance to trade centers	Percent-age of farms on hard roads	Number of workers in manufacturing		Urban centers
						Num-ber	Number gained	
Counties with heaviest loss	Low	High	Low or average	Far	Low	Small	Small	None or small only
Counties with gain or least loss	Average or high	Low	Average or high	Near	High	Large	Large	Some tendency to have large centers

* Rural counties are those outside of Metropolitan Areas A and B.

ally those counties which had the lowest levels of living in 1940 lost the most due to migration.

Although more farmers in 1950 used some hired labor, the average expenditure decreased over the decade. There was a big increase in the number of tractors used on Minnesota farms, and there was some tendency for those counties which had the largest number of tractors per 100 farms to lose more through net migration.

In spite of the heavy migration from rural areas, a decrease in the number of farms, and a sharp reduction in the amount spent for hired labor, Minnesota farmers increased their production substantially in the decade.

Those counties which had the smallest proportion of farmers on hard-top roads and which had the greatest average distance of farms from trade centers lost the most due to migration. Those counties having the highest number of children under five years per 1,000 women of child-bearing age also lost the most due to net migration. The counties in which the average age of farm operators was high lost the least or gained through migration.

Only one kind of industrial factor was studied in relation to migration: the number of workers in manufactur-

ing. Those counties with the greatest number of workers in manufacturing and with the greatest "absolute" increase in the number of such workers gained or lost little through migration.

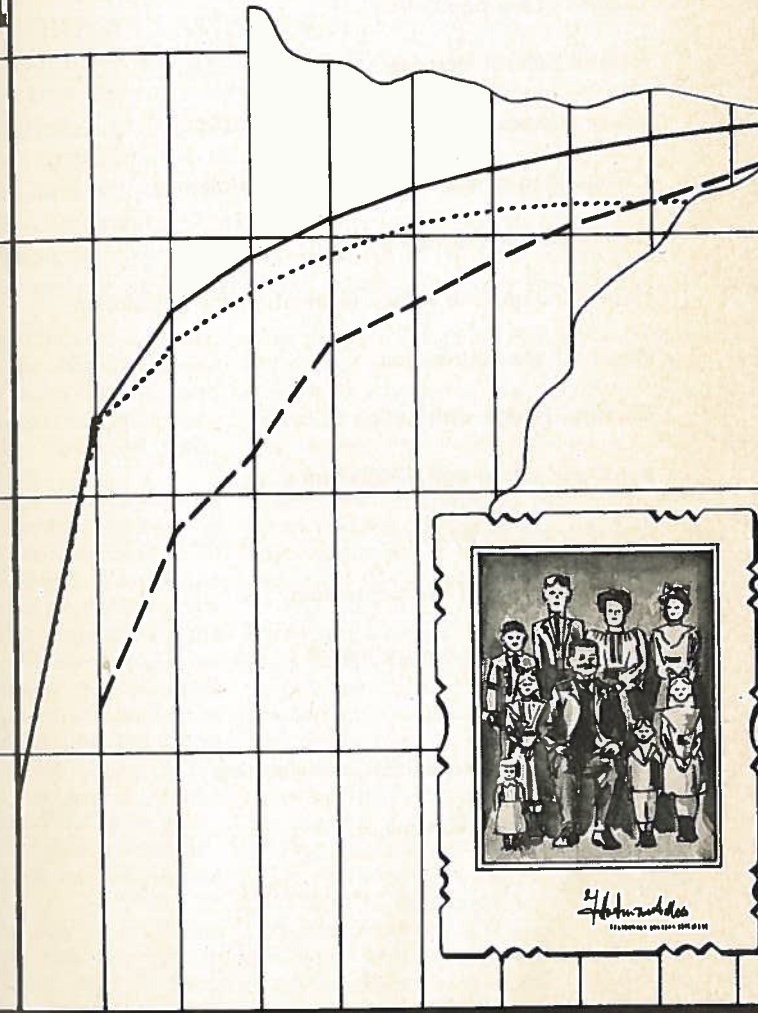
In table 10 the general characteristics of the 22 rural counties that lost the most through net migration are compared with the 22 rural counties that either lost the least or gained. The counties losing the most may be described as counties with a low level of living, a high fertility ratio, younger farm owners, a greater distance of farms from trade centers, a low percentage of farms on hard-top roads, and a small number of laborers employed in manufacturing. Such counties had only a small to moderate rise in the number of laborers employed in manufacturing.

The counties losing the least or gaining may be described as having an average or better level of living, low fertility ratio, older farm owners, farms close to trade centers, a high proportion of farms on hard roads, and a large number of workers in manufacturing. These counties had a large "absolute" increase in the number of workers in manufacturing and are more likely to contain large cities than are counties losing by migration.

Century of POPULATION GROWTH

Minnesota

Lowry Nelson
Charles E. Ramsey
Jacob Toews



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A Century of Population Growth in Minnesota

Lowry Nelson, Charles E. Ramsey, and Jacob Toews¹

THE STUDY OF POPULATION trends is an important factor in future planning. Whether the programs are economic or social, and whether they are local, state-wide, or national, they require a knowledge of the number of people in relation to a given area. For instance, the effect of the rapid increase in the population on land values in the nineteenth century is well known to most Americans. Fortunes were made from the unearned increment in values simply because of the increase in the number of people and, therefore, in the demand for land.

Another type of problem arises when the number of people exceeds a desirable or optimum ratio to the land and other natural resources and there is a lowering of the economic well-being of the population.

Changes in the age composition of a population also have an influence on the economic life of the community. In recent years, before World War II, the decline in the number of children led to a decline in school enrollment, the need for teachers, and the usual economic needs of children. At the same time, the increase in the number of old people in the population led to an increase in the economic needs of the aged. The marked increase in births in the decade of the 1940's is at present causing widespread demand for additional school facilities and additional teachers.

The steady urbanization of the population over the years has resulted in a change in the national outlook from that of a predominantly agricultural people to that of a predominantly ur-

ban people. The rapid urbanization has involved heavy migration of farm people to the cities. In fact, the farm population is now furnishing most of the replacement of population in the urban centers, where the birth rate is insufficient to maintain numbers from generation to generation. This farm to city migration is one of the most conspicuous trends of America today.

The migration from farms has seriously unbalanced the sex ratio. There is a large surplus of men in the farm population while the converse is true in the city. This is especially true in the case of youth, and the result is that opportunities for marriage of young men on the farms and of young women in the cities are restricted.

The analysis of population trends is only one aspect of the study of society, but it is an important one. Of equal or greater importance is the study of the manifold social forms and relationships such as occur in religion, family life, education, government, welfare and health, recreation, and the numerous

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economic associations, but these aspects are beyond the scope of this study.²

Growth of the Population

In the last 100 years, Minnesota has increased in population from 6,077 to 2,982,483. Expressed as a percentage of increase over the previous decade, the growth in the early years was dramatic. From 1850 to 1860 the increase was over 2700 per cent. In the 1860's the population increased 155 per cent. Since that time the growth has continued, but at a decreasing rate. In the last decade the increase was 6.8 per cent (see table 1 and figure 1).

The decline in the proportionate growth has been explained by the decreasing birth rate and by drastic reductions in immigration. However, these factors are only part of the explanation. Economic and social motives have led thousands to leave Minnesota for other states. For example, in the 1940's all but five counties lost more than they gained through migration.

For the state as a whole, 178,034 more people left for other states and counties than came into the state from these other areas. This suggests that if such outward migration is to be considered undesirable, changes should be made in the opportunities available at home.

The decreasing rate of growth also implies that the population is becoming stabilized. The long-range trend is definitely in this direction. But some question is raised about this point by a sharp increase in the birth rate in the last decade. However, it is too early to determine whether this indicates a change of direction in the long-range downward trend.

Perhaps as important as the growth of the total population is the growth

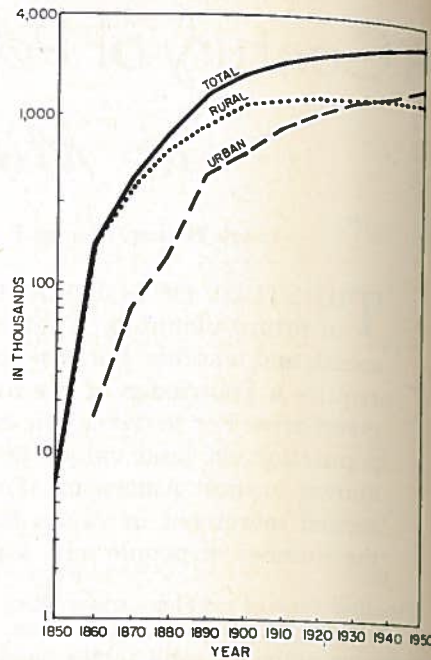


Fig. 1. Population growth in Minnesota from 1850 to 1950

of particular residence groups within the population. The long-term trends as well as the changes in the last decade indicate noticeable differences in the rate of growth among the various kinds of residence groups.

The urban population consistently decreased in rate of growth until 1940, but it increased rapidly in absolute numbers. The phenomenal growth of the total state population in the early decades was also characteristic of the urban population during and after the 1860's. The rate of growth in the cities continued to decrease until the 1940 decade, when it again rose. From 1940 to 1950 the urban population increased by 15.6 per cent, while it increased only 10.5 per cent in the previous decade.

²This bulletin is the third in a series of publications on population trends in Minnesota. The first was *Population Trends in Minnesota*, Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 327, May 1936, by R. W. Murchie and M. E. Jarchow. The second was a revision to take into account the data of the 1940 census: *Population Trends in Minnesota, 1940*, Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 387, June 1945, by Lowry Nelson and Hazel Clappitt. The present revision is modified to include 1950 data.

Table 1. Number and Per Cent Minnesota Population in Various Residence Categories, 1850-1950

Year	Total	Urban	Rural	Rural nonfarm	Rural farm
	NUMBER OF POPULATION				
1950	2,982,483	1,607,446	1,375,037*	568,519†	806,518†
1940	2,792,300	1,390,098	1,402,202	496,762	905,440
1930	2,563,953	1,257,616	1,306,337	418,288	888,049
1920	2,387,125	1,051,593	1,335,532	442,072	893,460
1910	2,075,708	850,294	1,225,414	—	—
1900	1,751,394	598,100	1,153,294	—	—
1890	1,310,283	443,049	867,234	—	—
1880	780,773	148,758	632,015	—	—
1870	439,706	70,754	368,952	—	—
1860	172,023	16,223	155,800	—	—
1850	6,077	—	6,077	—	—
PER CENT OF THE TOTAL POPULATION					
1950	—	53.9	46.1	19.1	27.0
1940	—	49.8	50.2	17.8	32.4
1930	—	49.0	51.0	16.3	34.7
1920	—	44.1	55.9	18.5	37.4
1910	—	41.0	59.0	—	—
1900	—	34.1	65.9	—	—
1890	—	33.8	66.2	—	—
1880	—	19.1	80.9	—	—
1870	—	16.1	83.9	—	—
1860	—	9.4	90.6	—	—
1850	—	—	100.0	—	—
PER CENT INCREASE OVER PREVIOUS DECADE					
1950	6.8	15.6	-1.9	14.4	-10.9
1940	8.9	10.5	7.3	18.8	2.0
1930	7.4	19.6	-2.2	-5.4	-0.6
1920	15.0	23.7	9.0	—	—
1910	18.5	42.2	6.3	—	—
1900	33.7	35.0	33.0	—	—
1890	67.8	197.8	37.2	—	—
1880	77.6	110.2	71.3	—	—
1870	155.6	336.1	136.8	—	—
1860	2,730.7	—	2,463.8	—	—

* The definition of urban-rural was changed between 1940 and 1950 by the Bureau of the Census. The figures and percentages appearing above are all based on the 1940 definition to compare with previous decades. The purpose is to describe real changes, not changes due to definition. By the 1950 definition, there are 1,624,914 people in the urban population and 1,357,569 in the rural.

† The same situation exists for the farm-nonfarm distinction, due to a further change in definition. By the 1950 definitions of rural, urban, farm, and nonfarm, there are 617,770 people in the rural non-farm population and 739,799 in the rural farm population.

The relative importance of agriculture and of the rural population in Minnesota has undergone a vast change. From 1860 to 1880 more than 50 per cent of all gainfully employed workers were engaged in agriculture, compared with 30 per cent in 1940 and 22 per cent

in 1950. It may, therefore, be of some value to refer to this as the urbanization of the population.

It was not until the last census that the urban population surpassed the rural (including farm and nonfarm) in numbers in Minnesota.³ In 1850 there

³A change in the Census definition of the farm and nonfarm categories in the rural population should be noted:

"In 1950, persons living on what might have been considered farm land were classified as nonfarm if they paid cash rent for their homes and yards only. Some persons in institutions, summer camps, 'motels,' and tourist camps were classified as farm residents in 1940, whereas in 1950 all such persons were classified as nonfarm."

For the United States as a whole the 1950 farm population would have been reported as about 9 per cent larger if the 1940 definition had been used.

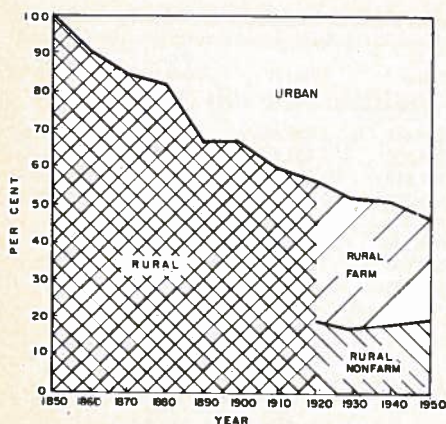


Fig. 2. A century of change in the rural-urban composition of Minnesota population

were no cities (see table 1 and figure 2). In the 1860's the urban population was still less than 10 per cent of the total, but the proportion of population that was urban increased steadily from then on.

At the turn of the century, the population of Minnesota was still two-thirds rural. In 1940 the difference between rural and urban was negligible, although the rural still had the edge by two-tenths of one per cent. In 1950, however, 53.9 per cent of the total population was urban by the 1940 definition.⁴

The growth of the urban population is graphically shown by size of city in figure 3. St. Paul constituted 6 per cent of the total population of Minnesota in 1860. With small variation it remained about the same proportion of the total until the 1880's. In the 1890 Census it was 10.2 per cent of the total population of the state, and with small variation it has remained about the same proportion of the total since that time.

⁴ In the 1950 Census the definition of urban was changed from that used in previous censuses. Under the old definition, which is used in this bulletin for all years, the urban population comprised "all persons living in incorporated places of 2500 inhabitants or more and was classified as urban under special rules relating to population size and density." The remainder were classified as rural. The new definition, used in the 1950 Census, classifies as urban population "all persons living in (a) places of 2500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, towns, and villages; (b) the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, around cities of 50,000 or more; and (c) unincorporated places of 2500 inhabitants or more outside any urban fringe."

In 1950 it represented 10.4 per cent of the total.

Minneapolis is observed to have a steady growth until 1930 as a proportion of Minnesota's population. It had only 1.5 per cent of the people of the state in 1860 but had grown to 18.1 per cent of the total in 1930. A slight decline was noted during the last two decades, so that in 1950 it was 17.5 per cent of the total. Duluth's growth was similar to that for Minneapolis in long-range trends but always on a much smaller scale.

Other cities that were smaller were observed to grow steadily from 1.8 per cent in 1860 to 22.5 in 1950. Without exception they have made up a larger proportion of the total every decade.

The trend of the rural population was, of course, opposite to that of the urban. It declined steadily from 100 per cent in 1850 to slightly less than one-half in 1950. However, the decline in rate of growth, as expressed as a percentage of increase over the previous decade, was much more rapid than that of the urban population (see table 1 and figures 2 and 3).

When the rural population was subclassified by farm and nonfarm, growth trends noticeable since 1920 were seen to continue in the last decade although not as steadily as the total, rural, and urban trends. The rural nonfarm population continued to increase. However, the increase was 14.4 per cent in the 1940's while it was 18.8 per cent in the previous decade.

The rural farm population continued to decline as it did in the 1920's. The loss in the 1940's was 10.9 per cent of the 1940 population, as compared to a loss of .6 of 1 per cent in the 1920's. The

depression of the 1930's saw a small increase of 2 per cent in the farm population. The long-term trend, however, is a decline in the farm population, and in the last decade the loss was upwards of 100,000.

The proportion of the state's total population which was village or sub-urban grew slightly in the last decade. In 1940 this proportion was 17.8 per cent and in 1950 it was 19.1 per cent. The farm population dropped from 32.4 per cent of the total population in 1940 to 27 per cent in 1950.

The discussion of growth trends would not be complete without a description of changes in the density of population per square mile (see figures 4 and 5). In the earlier decades the entire state doubtless gained in density, with a few exceptions unique to a par-

ticular decade. In the 1930's there was a remarkably even increase of population density over the entire state, and in only four counties was there a decrease of density.

But the last decade saw a decrease of density in over half of the counties in Minnesota—in 47 of Minnesota's 87 counties. With only two exceptions, Otter Tail and St. Louis, all counties which had cities of 10,000 or more people were among the 40 which increased in density. This trend is evidence of the movement of population toward the urban centers of the state.

A direct measure of the urbanward movement is presented in the net migration of the rural population of the state. As previously mentioned, only five counties gained through the migration and all of these were near the Twin Cities or Duluth. The counties which gained were Anoka, Hennepin, Lake, Ramsey, and Washington.

Rate of Natural Increase

Figures in the previous section indicate that the long-range trend is toward a decrease in the farm population. Population change in a given area can occur in only two ways: (a) through the excess of births over deaths (natural increase) and (b) through migration.

The contribution to the increase of the population of Minnesota from inward migration was very important in the early days of settlement, but this inward migration has progressively declined. Any increase as has taken place in more recent decades has been due almost entirely to natural increase.

Minnesota showed a falling birth rate from 24.7 in 1915 to 16.8 in 1933 (see figure 6). After that the rate rose rather steadily to 19.0 in 1940. Since 1940, however, the rise has been more marked. Even in 1945, the lowest year since World War II began, the birth

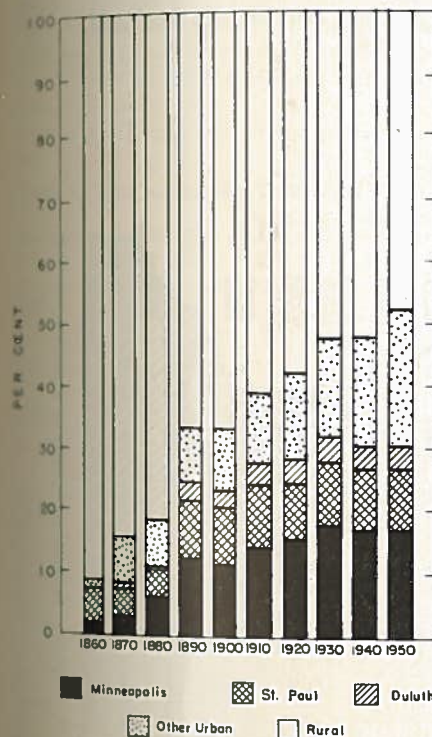


Fig. 3. Proportion of the total population in the urban centers of Minnesota, 1860-1950

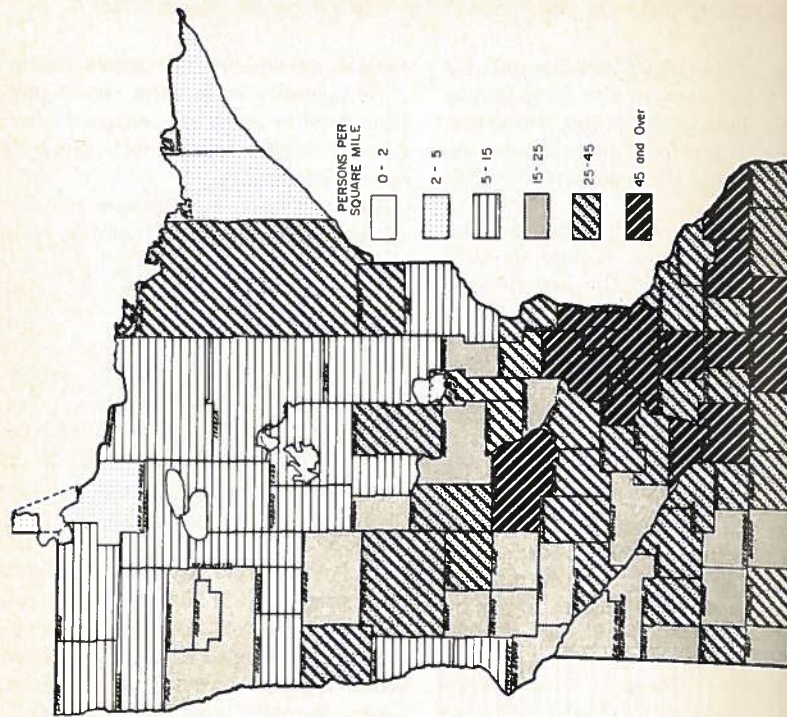


Fig. 5. Population density of Minnesota in 1950

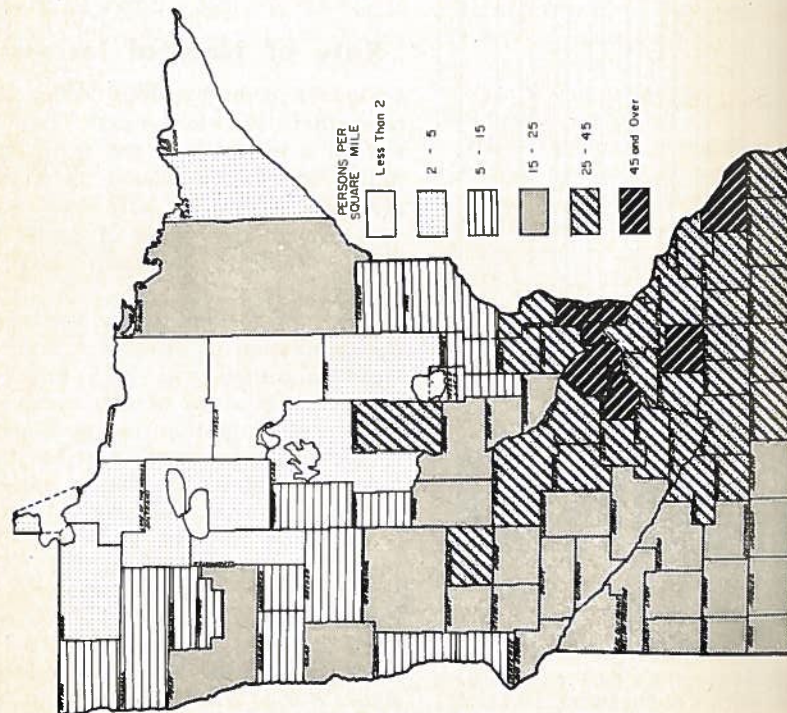


Fig. 4. Population density of Minnesota in 1900

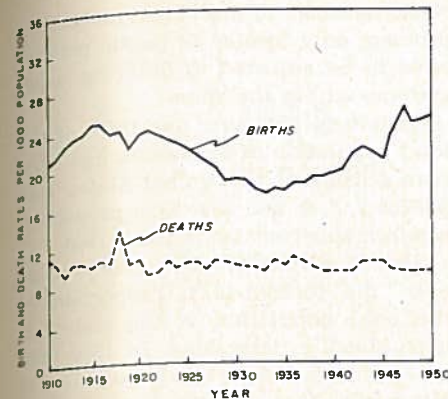


Fig. 6. Minnesota birth and death rates per 1,000 population, 1910-1950

last 40 years, remaining close to 10 per 1,000 population. The only marked variation since 1910 was the 13.5 rate in 1918 when the influenza epidemic was widespread. Better health conditions explain the steady death rate in an increasing population.

The result is that older age groups are becoming a constantly greater proportion of the total. But this aging of the population is bound to cause an increase in the death rates in future years, since the advances made have merely assured that more people will live to old age; the life span of the individual has not been increased.

rate was higher than at any time in the 1930's.

Although somewhat lower than the peak year of 1947, the birth rate in 1950 was 25.2. This was higher than it had been from the turn of the century until 1947. In 1951 the birth rate rose even higher to 26.5.

The death rate has varied little in the

The decline in the birth rate before 1940 was a striking phenomenon. However, the increase during the 1940's is just as striking. The number of children under five years of age per 100 women of childbearing age is presented in table 2. The increase in the last decade was not only the greatest change noted since 1910, but it was also in the direction opposite to the one expected from the long-range trend.

Table 2. Ratio of Children Under Five Years of Age to Women 15-44 Years of Age in Various Residence Categories in Minnesota, 1910-1950

	Children under 5 years	Women 15-44 years	Number children per 100 women
1950			
Total	332,560	630,497	52.7
Urban	171,963	375,268	45.8
Rural nonfarm	73,768	121,457	60.7
Rural farm	86,729	133,772	64.8
1940			
Total	230,057	653,329	35.2
Urban	98,842	363,707	27.2
Rural nonfarm	44,180	112,403	39.3
Rural farm	87,035	177,219	49.1
1930			
Total	231,001	596,426	38.7
Urban	99,633	329,762	30.2
Rural nonfarm	38,785	91,612	42.3
Rural farm	92,583	175,052	52.9
1920			
Total	261,394	551,373	47.4
Urban	102,693	274,235	37.5
Rural	158,701	277,138	57.3
1910			
Total	226,840	470,279	48.2
Urban	77,837	221,594	35.1
Rural	149,003	248,685	59.9

The last decade saw the urban birth rate exceed the rural birth rate. Traditionally the rural birth rate has been higher, but in every year from 1942 to 1950 (except 1945) the urban rate was higher.

The urban death rate remained somewhat higher than the rural death rate, although the difference between the two was decreased slightly in the last decade.

Ethnic Composition of the Population

As pointed out in the previous section, population grows through the excess of births over deaths and through migration. In former years, migration from foreign countries was an important factor in the state's growth. Minnesota ranks high among the states in the number of nationality groups represented in its population. The principal implication of the so-called "nationality islands" is that customs and traditions which differ from surrounding areas may be retained by the people of a particular community who have the

same national origin. This presents a problem only insofar as public policies have to be adjusted to differing value systems within the state.

As late as 1890 over one-third of the total population of Minnesota had been born outside of the United States (see figures 7, 8, 9, and 10). This proportion had remained constant from 1860.

Since the turn of the century, however, the foreign-born proportion of the total population of the state has been steadily decreasing. In 1920 only one-fifth of the total population of Minnesota was foreign-born and in 1940 only one-tenth. In 1950 further decrease was noted since only 8 per cent were reported as foreign-born. The proportion of foreign-born has become increasingly more like that of the country as a whole. The proportion of the Minnesota population born in other states has changed little since the turn of the century, remaining about one-fifth of the total.

The declining proportion of foreign-born population was doubtless brought about by federal immigration restrictions. Evidence of this is shown in the

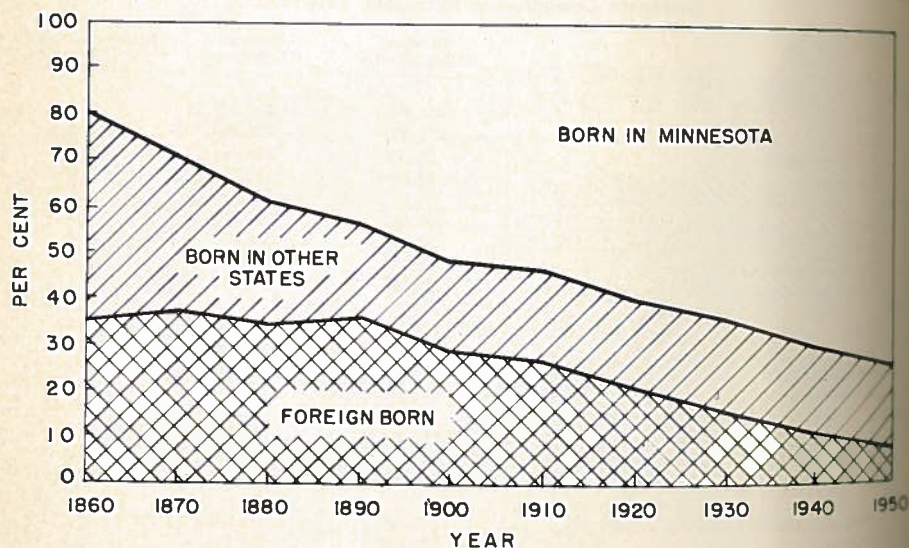


Fig. 7. Nativity of Minnesota population, 1860-1950

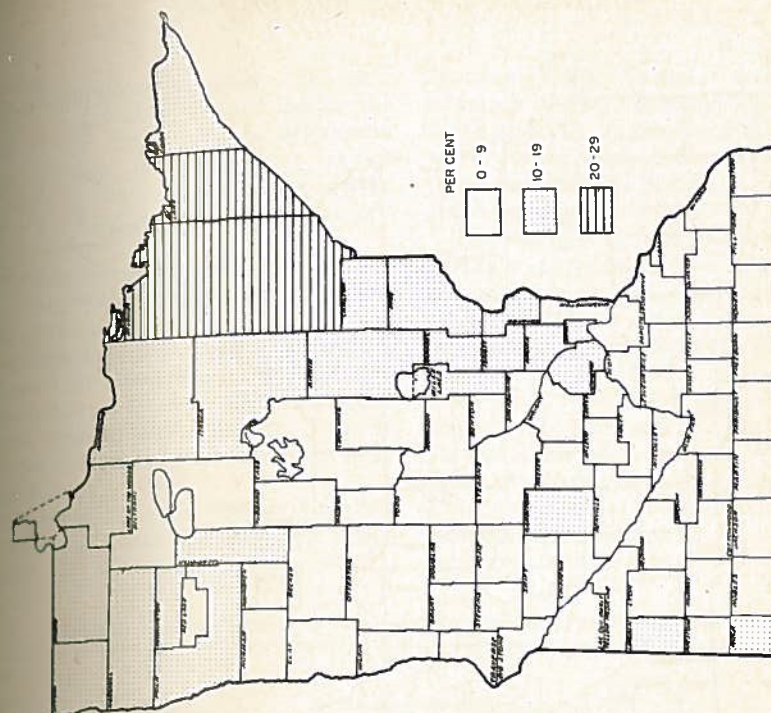


Fig. 9. Percentage of foreign-born by county, 1940

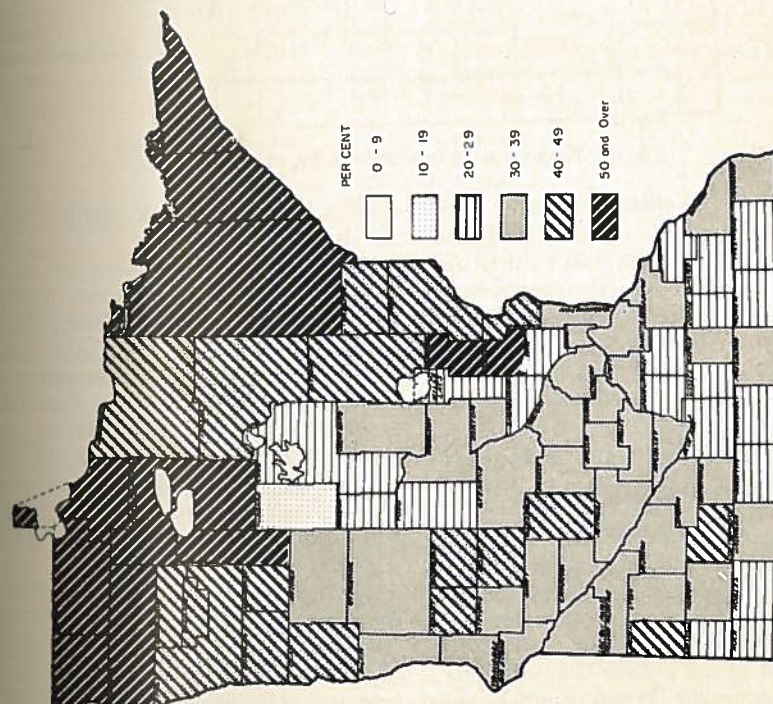


Fig. 8. Percentage of foreign-born by county, 1890

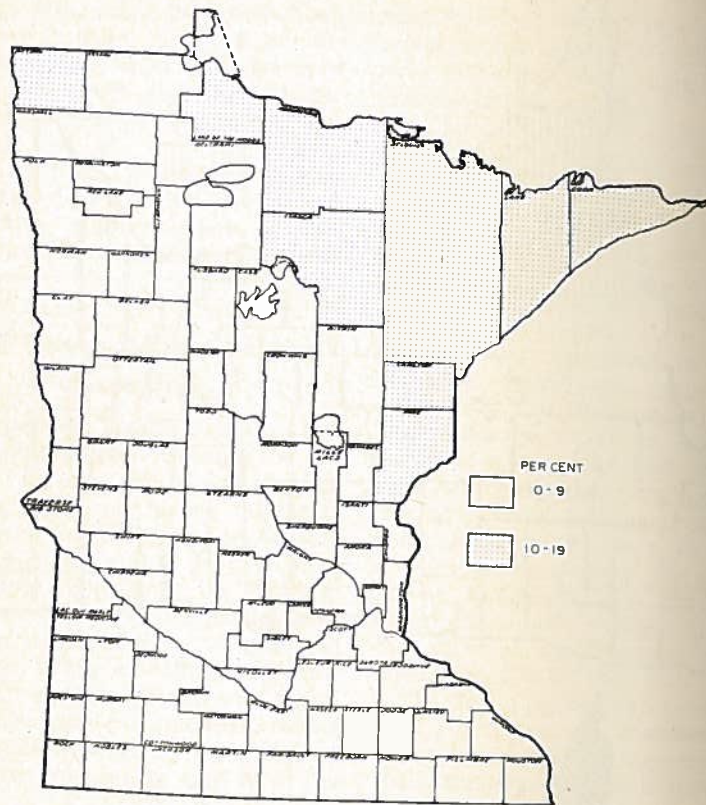


Fig. 10. Percentage of foreign-born by county, 1950

rapid decline in this proportion after the immigration acts of 1921, 1924, and 1927. Recent legislation will further decrease the proportion of foreign-born in Minnesota as in the rest of the nation. If the low rate of immigration continues, the proportion of the foreign-born will soon be negligible.

Composition of the Foreign-Born Population

Since census reports are somewhat inconsistent in the way they classify persons according to national origin, it has been found necessary in this series of bulletins to group nationality into rather broad classes. For example, one census might group English and

Scotch together, while another might list them separately.

The groupings used here are as follows: British, Scandinavian, German, Romance, Slav, and All Others. Under British have been grouped those people born in England, Ireland, Scotland, and Canada (other than French Canadian). Under the heading Scandinavian were grouped natives of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. The German group included the German states proper, Netherlands, and after World War I, Austria.

The Romance group included France, Belgium, Italy, and French Canada. The Slav group included Rumania and Russia; Austria and Bohemia before the war; and Poland, Yugoslavia,

and Czechoslovakia after the war. These five groups contained by far the bulk of the immigrants to Minnesota from foreign lands. Various minor sources of immigration were listed under the heading All Others (see appendix table I).

The first immigrants were the Scotch, Irish, and Swiss from Canada. By the time of the panic of 1858, the Canadian contributions had become relatively unimportant when compared with the large influx of German and to a lesser degree Scandinavian, British, French, and Swiss settlers that came directly from Europe.

According to state figures in 1860, the German states had supplied 18,400 settlers to Minnesota, Ireland 12,831,

Norway 8,425, Canada and British America 8,023, England 3,462, and Sweden 3,178. A few over a thousand were noted from Switzerland, but countries such as Russia, Greece, and Italy were not listed.

The number of foreign-born in Minnesota's population for six leading nationalities in different census years since 1860 is shown in table 3. It will be noted that there was a rather steady increase in nearly all groups up to 1910, with declining numbers since that time. The decline in German foreign-born began in 1900. The heavy tide of German immigration came somewhat earlier than that from the Scandinavian countries and German immigrants outranked the Scandina-

Table 3. Ranking Nations in Minnesota Foreign-Born Population, 1860-1950

Rank	1950	Rank	1900	
1.	Sweden	43,934	1. Germany	117,007
2.	Norway	33,477	2. Sweden	115,476
3.	Germany	26,459	3. Norway	104,895
4.	Anglo-Canadians	15,168	4. Anglo-Canadians and Newfoundland	35,515
5.	Finland	14,475	5. Denmark	16,299
6.	USSR	8,493	6. England	12,022
	1940		1890	
1.	Sweden	67,161	1. Germany	116,955
2.	Norway	52,025	2. Norway	101,169
3.	Germany	42,047	3. Sweden	99,913
4.	Finland	20,152	4. Canada and Newfoundland	43,580
5.	Anglo-Canadians	17,730	5. England	14,730
6.	Poland	10,755	6. Denmark	14,133
	1930		1880	
1.	Sweden	90,623	1. Sweden and Norway	101,697
2.	Norway	71,562	2. German Empire	66,592
3.	Germany	59,993	3. British America	29,631
4.	Finland	24,360	4. Ireland	25,942
5.	Anglo-Canadians	20,618	5. England and Wales	9,645
6.	Poland	15,015	6. Denmark	6,071
	1920		1870	
1.	Sweden	112,117	1. Germany	48,457
2.	Norway	90,188	2. Norway	36,573
3.	Germany	74,634	3. Ireland	21,303
4.	Finland	29,108	4. Sweden	20,948
5.	Anglo-Canadians	26,936	5. Canada and British America	16,459
6.	Poland	18,537	6. England	5,699
	1910		1860	
1.	Sweden	122,427	1. Germany	18,400
2.	Germany	109,627	2. Ireland	12,831
3.	Norway	105,302	3. Norway	8,425
4.	Austria	37,120	4. Canada and British America	8,023
5.	Anglo-Canadians	29,856	5. England	3,462
6.	Finland	26,637	6. Sweden	3,178

vian in 1890 and 1900. The Germans fell into second place in 1910 and third in 1920, 1930, and 1940.

Finnish and Polish migrations have been more recent. Both reached their peak in the state's foreign-born population in 1920.

Table 3 makes it clear that Sweden, Norway, and Germany are the countries which have contributed the greatest number of people to Minnesota's foreign-born population.

In 1950 the Scandinavian countries had contributed nearly twice as many foreign-born people to Minnesota's population as any other nationality group (see table 4). This included nearly 44,000 Swedes, 34,000 Norwegians, and somewhat over 7,000 Danes.

The Slavic group composed the next greatest number. The total of this group was approximately equal to the number born in Sweden alone. However, no one country of the Slavic group contributed as much as the 26,000 coming from Germany. Those countries classified as German were third, totaling slightly more than the Norwegians taken alone. Those born in the British Empire constituted the only other large grouping.

Table 4. Foreign-Born White Population by Country of Birth, Minnesota, 1950

British	25,363	Slavs	43,584
Anglo-Canada	15,168	Finland	14,475
England and Wales	5,544	Poland	8,308
Irish Free State	2,693	USSR	8,493
Scotland	1,824	Yugoslavia	5,678
Northern Ireland	134	Czechoslovakia	5,361
Scandinavian	84,785	Rumania	1,249
Sweden	43,934	Other	11,073
Norway	33,477	Belgium	1,197
Denmark	7,374	Lithuania	992
German	36,824	Hungary	1,508
Germany	26,459	Greece	1,565
Austria	5,907	Mexico	950
Netherlands	3,512	All other countries	5,661
Switzerland	946	All foreign-born	210,330
Romance	7,823	Native-born	2,743,460
Italy	4,496	Total white population	2,953,697
French Canada*	2,482		
French	845		

* Includes Newfoundland.

Distribution of the Foreign-Born

The foreign-born tended to group themselves according to country of origin; that is, the Germans predominate in some areas, the Swedes in others, etc.

In 1940 St. Louis and Lake Counties had 20 per cent or more of their total population of foreign birth. Twenty-three other counties had from 10 to 20 per cent of their total population of foreign birth (see figure 9).

In 1950 no county had as much as 20 per cent of its population of foreign birth and only nine counties were between 10 and 19 per cent foreign-born (see figure 10).

The British, Swedish, and Slavic foreign-born were somewhat concentrated in the counties around the Twin Cities and in St. Louis County, the British-born had settled somewhat more often in the Twin City area, and the Slavic-born were found in St. Louis County (see figures 11-13).

The Finnish foreign-born (see figure 14) were concentrated almost entirely in St. Louis and Carlton Counties. The Norwegian-born were scattered more evenly about the state, as were

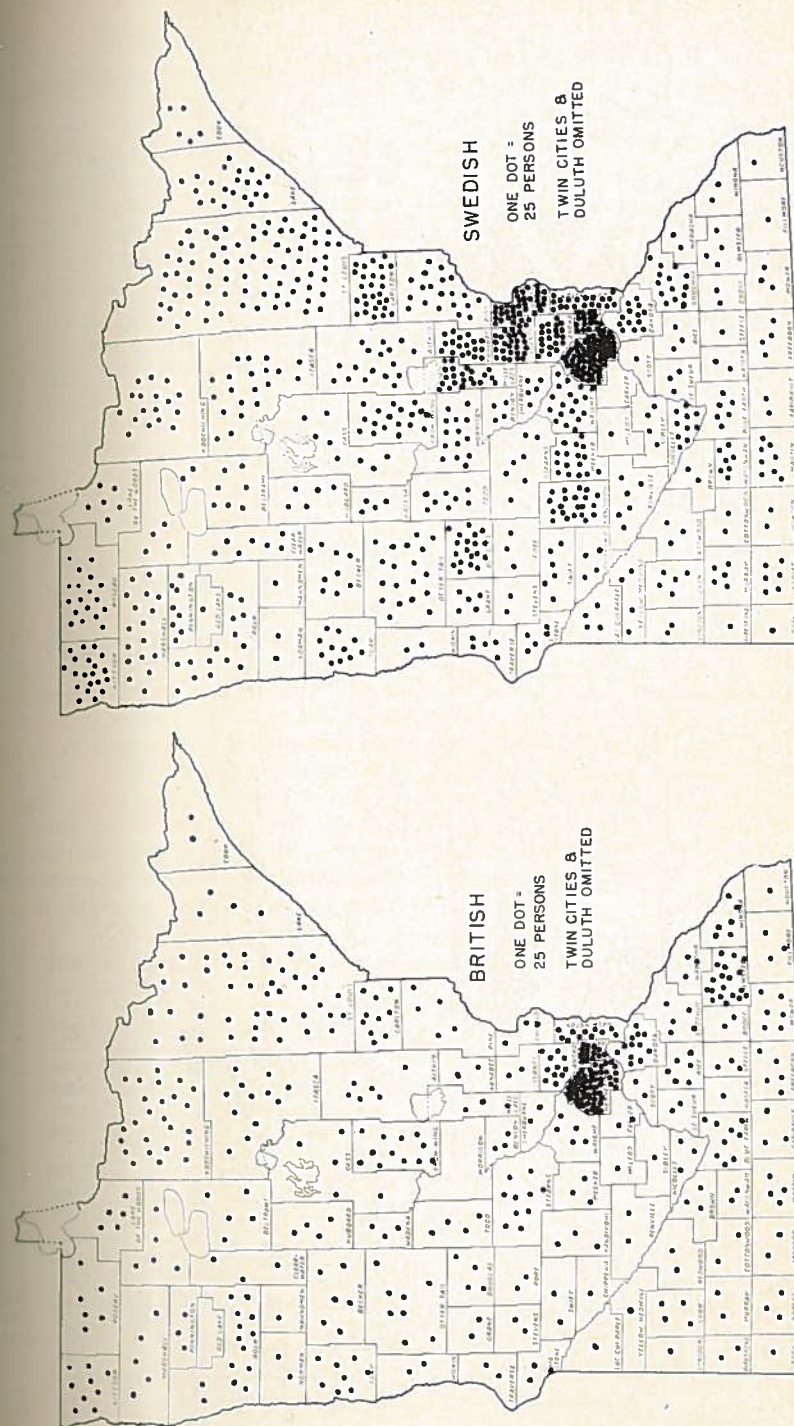


Fig. 12. Distribution of persons born in Sweden, 1950

Fig. 11. Distribution of persons born in Great Britain, 1950

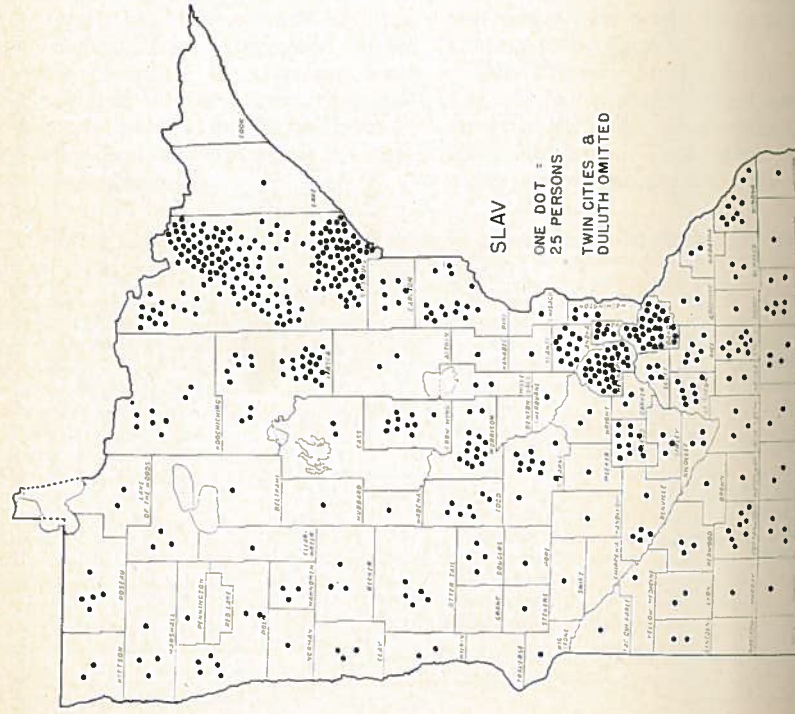


Fig. 13. Distribution in Minnesota of persons born in Poland, Russia, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and Rumania, 1950

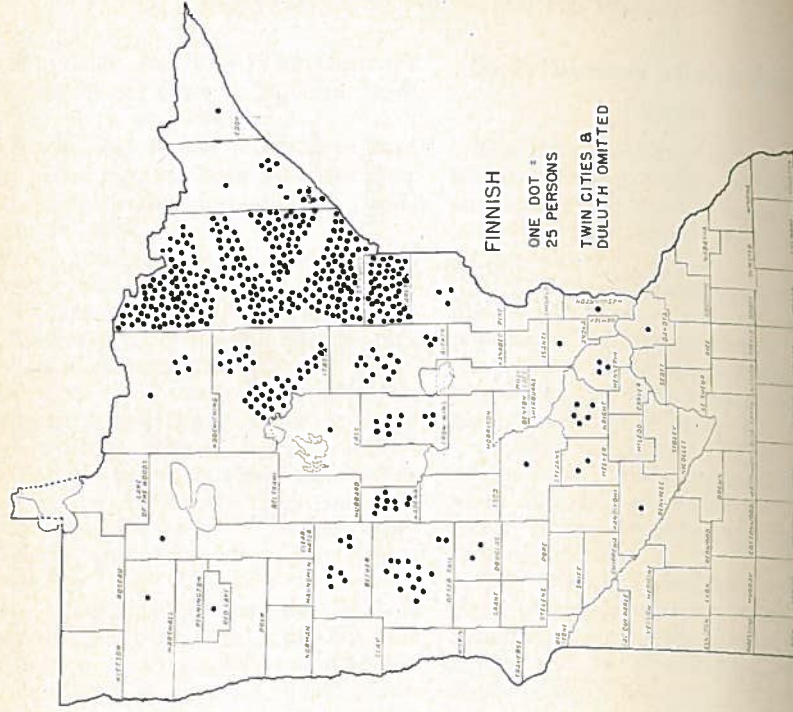


Fig. 14. Distribution in Minnesota of persons born in Finland, 1950

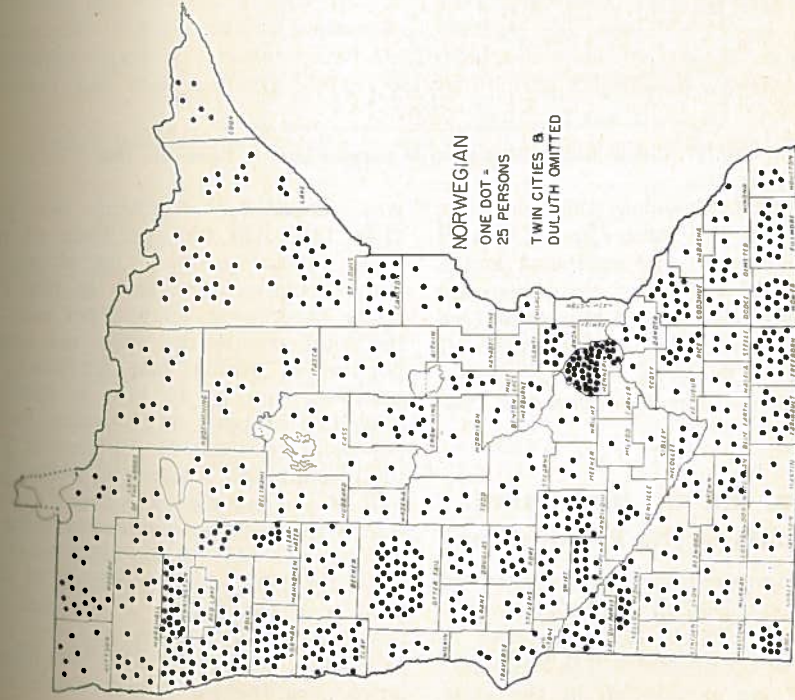


Fig. 15. Distribution in Minnesota of persons born in Norway, 1950

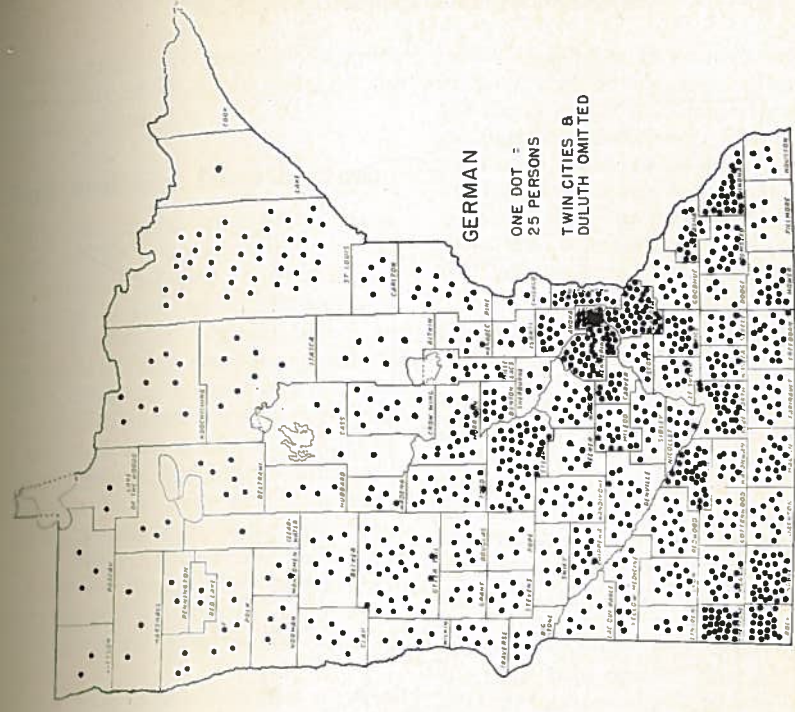


Fig. 16. Distribution in Minnesota of persons born in Germany, Austria, the Netherlands, and Switzerland, 1950

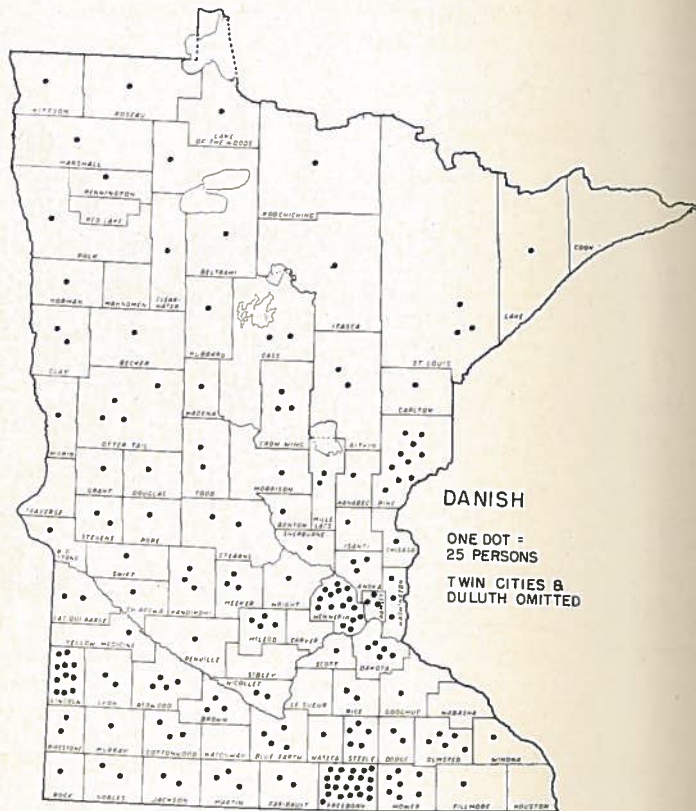


Fig. 17. Distribution in Minnesota of persons born in Denmark, 1950

the Germans. However, there is some tendency for the former to be located in the northwest and southeast and a tendency for the latter to concentrate in the southern half of the state (see figures 15 and 16). Large numbers of Danes were found in Hennepin, Freeborn, Lincoln, and Pine Counties (see figure 17).

Negro, Indian, and Asiatic Elements in the Population

The numbers and percentages of white, negro, Indian, and Asiatic population from 1850 to 1950 are given in table III of the appendix. The large majority of the population of the state

was composed of the white race. The year 1850 had 99.3 per cent of the total population made up of whites and 0.7 per cent negroes. In 1940 the white race made up 99.2 per cent of the total population, while the negro population, which had increased in numbers from 39 in 1850 to 9,928 in 1940, had dropped in proportion to 0.4 per cent. In 1950, 99 per cent of the total population was white, while one-half of one per cent was negro.

The greatest proportion of Indians was 1.4 per cent of the total listed in 1860. By 1940, this proportion of the total had dropped to .4 per cent, or less than one-half of one per cent. The proportion of Indians in the 1950 population was the same as in 1940. The

Asiatics have never equalled so much as one-tenth of one per cent of the Minnesota population.

Age and Sex Distribution

While the racial and social background of the population may be the most important factor in determining the economic and social development of any particular region, there are other factors which must be considered to get a complete picture of the population. One of these factors is the age and sex composition of the population. This is of prime importance because it determines to a large extent whether a given population is progressive—that is, likely to increase rapidly in numbers; or static—that is, likely to maintain itself at about the same level; or retrogressive—that is, likely to decrease.

It is a well known fact that a region of recent development or one still in the process of development holds considerable attraction for persons in the younger age groups, 16 to 35 or 40

years. It is also well established that in new and developing regions there are likely to be more male than female immigrants. However, short-distance migration, such as is seen in the migration from rural to urban centers, is more likely to involve women than men. This is especially true in the last few generations.

Changes in Age Distribution

The number and percentage of the Minnesota population in various age groups and in the various years are given in table 5 and figure 18. Several noteworthy trends are found. In 1880, 15 per cent of the total population fell in the age group under five years, while in 1940 this group had declined to 8.2 per cent. In 1950 it had again increased to 11.1 per cent.

At the opposite end of the age scale, the year 1880 showed that 2.5 per cent of the total population was 65 years of age or over, while in 1940 the percentage had risen to 7.7 per cent. In 1950 this trend continued—9 per cent of the total population was 65 and over.

Table 5. Distribution of Population by Age Groups in Minnesota, 1880, 1900, 1920, 1930, 1940, 1950

Age Group	1950		1940		1930		1920		1900		1880	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Under 5	332,460	11.1	230,057	8.2	231,001	9.0	261,394	11.0	228,290	13.0	117,209	15.0
5-9	267,652	9.0	220,176	7.9	256,751	10.0	248,599	10.4	217,447	12.4	103,587	13.3
10-14	223,787	7.5	238,918	8.5	253,788	9.9	233,961	9.8	192,064	11.0	87,782	11.2
15-19	207,460	7.0	257,349	9.2	239,946	9.4	219,609	9.2	170,177	9.7	80,189	10.3
20-24	213,712	7.2	245,592	8.8	214,432	8.4	217,919	9.1	160,674	9.2	81,032	10.4
25-29	220,780	7.4	225,097	8.1	193,469	7.5	213,646	8.9	148,607	8.5	62,712	8.0
30-34	212,765	7.1	204,311	7.3	189,705	7.4	189,778	7.9	131,055	7.5	51,652	6.6
35-39	205,447	6.9	192,452	6.9	192,934	7.5	168,540	7.1	121,193	6.9	45,149	5.8
40-44	189,729	6.4	187,196	6.7	172,980	6.8	135,353	5.7	100,646	5.8	37,027	4.7
45-49	176,212	5.9	182,525	6.5	147,143	5.7	122,435	5.1	72,042	4.1	32,040	4.1
50-54	170,805	5.7	162,931	5.8	122,171	4.8	105,208	4.4	57,896	3.3	29,204	3.7
55-59	157,690	5.3	129,941	4.7	100,813	3.9	87,437	3.7	45,293	2.6	19,357	2.5
60-64	134,854	4.5	103,137	3.7	84,372	3.3	69,827	2.9	35,137	2.0	14,643	1.9
65-69	105,188	3.5	82,635	3.0	69,079	2.7	45,827	1.9	28,251	1.6	8,740	1.1
70-74	73,705	2.5	60,455	2.2	48,256	1.9	30,188	1.3	19,424	1.1	5,307	0.7
75 and over	90,237	3.0	69,528	2.5	46,145	1.8	34,751	1.5	19,096	1.1	5,143	0.7
Unknown					968	*	2,653	0.1	4,102	0.2		
Total	2,982,483	100.0	2,792,300	100.0	2,563,953	100.0	2,387,125	100.0	1,751,394	100.0	780,773	100.0

* Per cent not shown where less than 0.1.

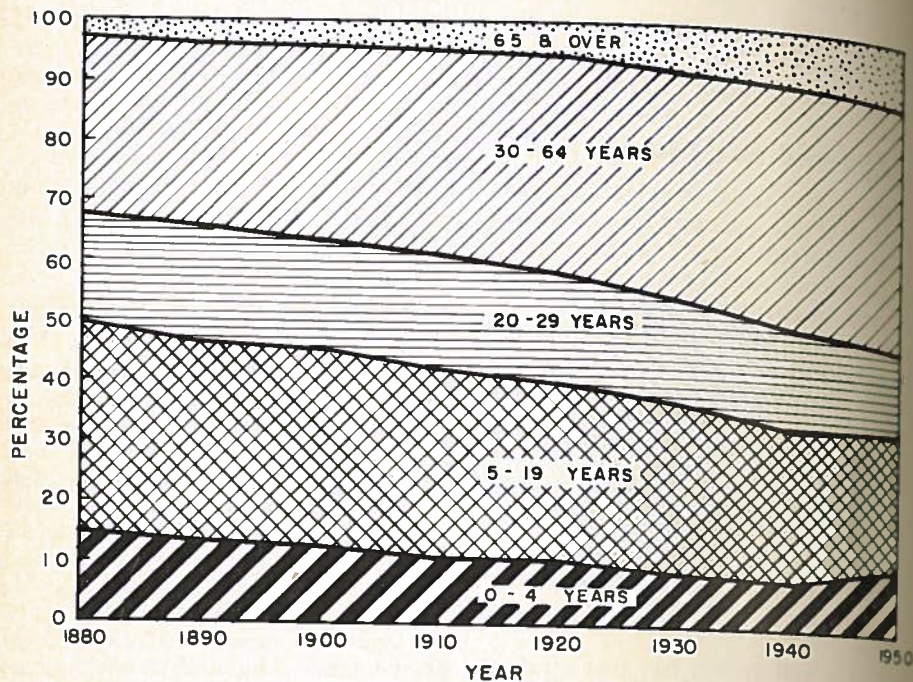


Fig. 18. Percentage of the various age groups in Minnesota, 1880 to 1950

In 1880 the total population over 45 years of age, considered as a group, constituted 14.7 per cent, while in 1940 it had increased to 28.4 per cent. In 1950 it had further increased to 30.4 per cent. Thus, the tendency was for the population to be generally aging. The exception to this was the higher proportion of the population in the first five years of life in 1950. This was a function of the higher birth rate previously noted.

Rural and Urban Age Distribution

The age distribution of the population differs as to rural and urban residence (see table 6). In 1950 the urban group had the smallest proportion of its total population in the three youngest age groups (below 15 years) when compared with rural farm and rural

nonfarm. The rural nonfarm group had the highest proportion in the youngest age group but a smaller proportion of its total from 5 to 19 years than did the farm group.

The rural nonfarm group had a larger proportion of its total in the age class 65 years and over than either of the other residence categories. The rural farm group had the smallest proportion of its total in this older age group. Generally, in the age groups ranging from 20 to 64, the urban had the highest proportion, while the rural farm group had the lowest. These differences reflect the influence of migration from country to city.

The increase in the aged people—those 65 years old or over—warrants special interest. Although the total population of the state increased by only 6.8 per cent from 1940 to 1950, the senior citizens grew in numbers from

Table 6. Urban, Rural Farm, and Rural Nonfarm Population by Age Group, Minnesota, 1950

Age group	Urban*		Rural farm†		Rural nonfarm†	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Under 5	169,559	10.5	86,739	11.7	76,162	12.0
5-9	125,668	7.8	81,846	11.1	60,138	9.5
10-14	99,018	6.2	75,501	10.2	49,268	7.8
15-19	105,084	6.5	62,221	8.4	40,155	6.3
20-24	131,846	8.2	43,196	5.8	38,670	6.1
25-29	131,088	8.2	45,314	6.1	44,378	7.0
30-34	119,850	7.4	48,224	6.5	44,691	7.0
35-39	112,972	7.0	50,261	6.8	42,214	6.6
40-44	104,874	6.5	46,835	6.3	38,020	6.0
45-49	97,795	6.1	44,245	6.0	34,172	5.4
50-54	95,899	6.0	41,551	5.6	33,355	5.2
55-59	88,892	5.5	36,136	4.9	32,662	5.1
60-64	76,665	4.8	28,489	3.9	29,700	4.7
65-69	58,817	3.7	20,500	2.8	25,871	4.1
70-74	39,979	2.5	13,470	1.8	20,256	3.2
75 and over	49,440	3.1	15,397	2.1	25,400	4.0
Total	1,607,446	100.0	739,925	100.0	635,112	100.0

* The 1940 definition of urban was used (see footnote, table 1).

† The 1950 definition of farm-nonfarm was used (see footnote 1).

212,618 to 269,130, a gain of 26.6 per cent. The greatest percentage increase was in the rural nonfarm, 47.0, and the urban, 40.0. The rural farm aged population actually declined by 15 per cent, a result of the general decrease in population on farms.

In spite of the general increase of over a fourth in the aged, the rate was considerably less than that for the nation as a whole. Apparently migration of this age group out of the state is fairly high.

Age Distribution by Sex

Figures 19 through 23 present the conventional age-sex pyramids. It is notable that the pyramid figure valid in 1880, when there was a decreasing proportion of the population in the upper age groups (see figure 23), did not hold for 1950 to the same degree. Although there was some tendency in this direction, the various age groups were more equal in their proportions of the total population than in the earlier years. In other words, the shape is becoming more of a rectangle than a pyramid—showing an aging population.

Sex Distribution of the Population

The percentages of males and females in the total population of the state in 1850 were 61.2 and 38.9 respec-

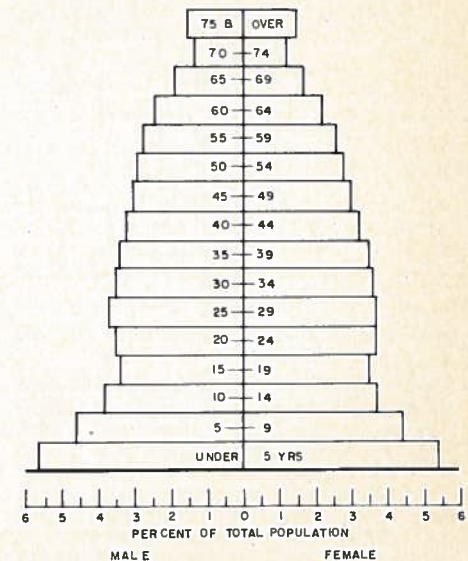


Fig. 19. Age and sex distribution of the total population in Minnesota, 1950

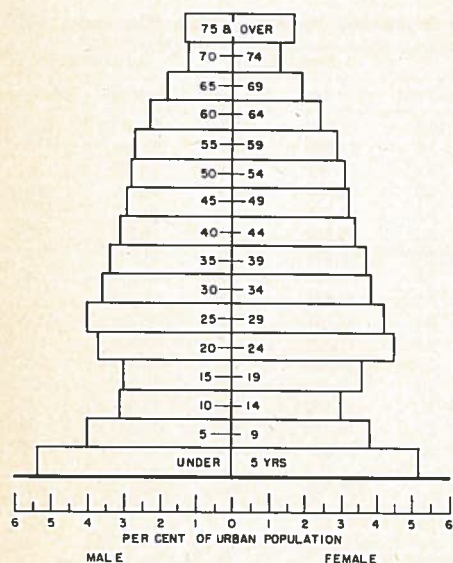


Fig. 20. Age and sex distribution of the urban population in Minnesota, 1950

tively (see table 7). By 1860 this relationship was 54.1 per cent males to 45.9 per cent females. From 1860 to

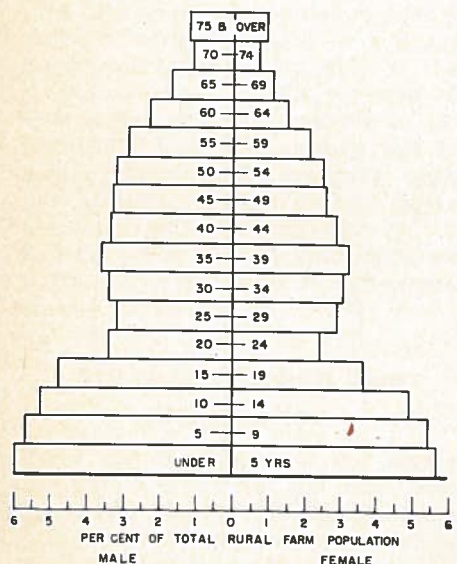


Fig. 21. Age and sex distribution of the rural farm population in Minnesota, 1950

1950 there were only slight changes in any decade, and the trend was steadily in the direction of equal proportions of the sexes. In 1950 there were 50.3 per cent males to 49.7 per cent females.

Throughout the remainder of this section sex ratios will be used. A sex ratio is expressed as the number of males to 100 females. Thus a sex ratio of 105 means that for every 100 females there are 105 males. A sex ratio of 95 means that for every 100 females there are only 95 males.

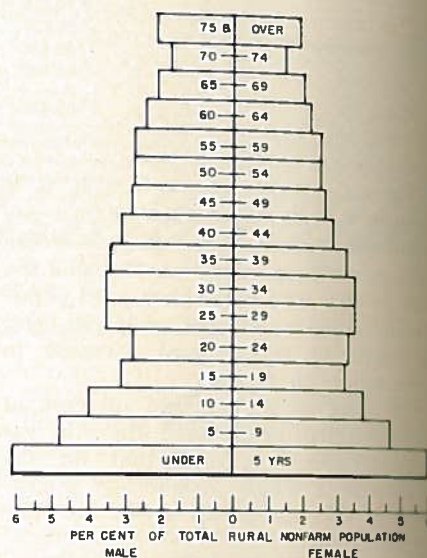


Fig. 22. Age and sex distribution of the rural nonfarm population, 1950

The sex ratio for the total population of Minnesota in 1890 was 114.5. This ratio decreased steadily to 101.3 in 1950. Similar trends were noticed at different levels for the foreign-born white and the native-born white (see table 8). The foreign-born white sex ratio decreased from 130 in 1890 to 118.2 in 1950. Immigration has traditionally brought more males than females from foreign countries, and this fact explains the consistently high sex ratios. On the other hand, the native-born white pop-

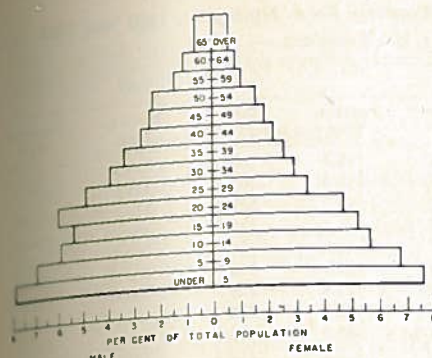


Fig. 23. Age and sex distribution of the total population in Minnesota, 1950

ulation had a relatively low sex ratio in 1890, 106.8, and this decreased to an almost even balance of 100.1 in 1950.

The ratios for the foreign-born have been not only high but also uneven about the state. In the cutover region, type of farming area 8 (see figure 24 and table 9), the sex ratio was 195.3 in 1900, or nearly two men to each woman. This area was also highest in 1950, but the ratio had decreased to 132.8.

All of the type-of-farming areas in 1900 had more men than women—even among the native-born white. However, in 1950 Area 9, the Twin City area, had sex ratios of 93.3 and 91.8 in the total population and the native-born white population, respectively.

Table 7. Sex Distribution by Number and Per Cent in Minnesota, 1850-1950

Year	Male		Female	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
1850	1,501,208	50.3	1,481,275	49.7
1940	1,427,545	51.1	1,364,755	48.9
1930	1,316,571	51.3	1,247,382	48.7
1920	1,245,537	52.2	1,141,588	47.8
1910	1,108,511	53.4	967,197	46.6
1900	932,490	53.2	818,904	46.8
1890	695,321	53.4	606,505	46.6
1880	419,149	53.7	361,624	46.3
1870	235,299	53.5	204,407	46.5
1860	93,084	54.1	78,939	45.9
1850	3,716	61.2	2,361	38.9

Table 8. Sex Ratios by Nativity, Minnesota, 1890-1950 (Number Males per 100 Females)

Year	Total population	Foreign-born white	Native-born white
1950	101.3	118.2	100.1
1940	104.6	127.0	102.1
1930	105.5	238.1	101.8
1920	109.1	134.2	103.4
1910	114.6	144.0	105.7
1900	113.9	132.2	107.2
1890	114.5	130.0	106.8

Sex Ratios by Age and Residence

As in 1940, all of the age groups up to 15 had more boys than girls in 1950, regardless of residence (see table 10). However, a dramatic contrast appeared

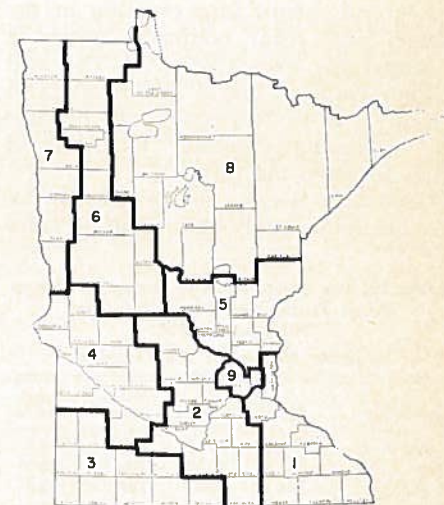


Fig. 24. Type-of-farming areas in Minnesota, outlined by county boundaries

- Area 1. Southeast: dairy and livestock.
- Area 2. South-central: dairy and livestock.
- Area 3. Southwest: livestock and cash grain.
- Area 4. West-central: livestock and cash grain.
- Area 5. East-central: dairy and potatoes.
- Area 6. Northwestern: dairy and livestock.
- Area 7. Red River Valley: small grain, potatoes, and livestock.
- Area 8. Northern cutover: dairy, potatoes, and clover seed.
- Area 9. Twin City suburban: truck, dairy, and fruit.

Table 9. Changes in Sex Ratios by Type of Farming Area, Minnesota, 1900 and 1950
(Number Males per 100 Females)

Type of farming area	1950			1900		
	Total population	Native-born	Foreign-born	Total population	Native-born	Foreign-born
Area 1	102.0	101.4	116.3	108.3	104.3	122.4
Area 2	104.4	103.9	115.3	108.6	104.2	121.1
Area 3	105.5	104.3	128.2	117.8	112.1	136.4
Area 4	108.5	107.6	125.9	116.0	109.2	134.2
Area 5	108.5	107.7	119.5	116.4	110.3	130.5
Area 6	108.8	107.9	123.0	115.3	107.9	133.0
Area 7	109.7	108.9	122.9	121.3	110.7	142.7
Area 8	106.6	102.9	132.8	147.9	125.5	195.3
Area 9	93.3	91.8	108.0	106.3	101.9	118.0
State	101.4	100.1	118.2	113.9	107.2	132.3

in the rural farm group of the ages 15-19. In this case the ratio was 130.5. This indicates a markedly higher proportion of girls than of boys within this age group had migrated to the cities and towns, thus creating in the urban and rural nonfarm centers a considerable excess of girls. The still higher ratio of 144 in the rural farm group of 20 to 24 years of age denotes an increasingly greater tendency of girls to leave the farms.

The sharp decline in the ratio in the groups immediately older than 24 years

Table 10. Sex Ratios by Age Group for Urban, Rural Farm, and Rural Nonfarm, Minnesota, 1950*
(Number Males per 100 Females)

Age group	State	Urban	Rural farm	Rural nonfarm
Under 5	104.4	103.6	105.8	104.7
5-9	104.6	103.8	106.3	103.9
10-14	104.4	102.6	107.1	103.9
15-19	98.2	83.2	130.5	97.4
20-24	93.6	83.7	144.5	84.6
25-29	99.3	95.7	111.6	98.3
30-34	98.7	93.9	110.4	99.8
35-39	99.4	91.8	113.8	105.0
40-44	100.7	91.7	120.0	105.3
45-49	100.0	88.5	126.6	104.5
50-54	102.4	91.1	129.8	106.9
55-59	105.6	94.0	137.3	108.4
60-64	109.0	97.0	149.5	109.1
65-69	104.2	92.3	149.0	103.9
70-74	102.6	87.1	148.4	111.2
75 and over	95.3	77.3	132.8	115.6
Total	101.3	93.2	119.8	103.1

* The 1940 definition of urban was used.

indicates one or both of these developments: (a) the return of girls to the farm—probably by reason of marriage to a farm boy, or (b) an increase in the proportion of boy migrants. Possibly both of these things have happened.

The call of young men into the armed services undoubtedly is another factor. The ratio for the group 20-24 is about the same as it was in 1940, although there are fewer men in older age groups. More boys were dammed up on farms in 1940. In 1950 these boys are needed less on farms because of technological improvements in the meantime and also are better able now to find work in industry.

In any case, this disparity of the sexes in the ages from 15 to 24 years is one of the most important facts revealed by the Census. It gives rise to many questions: Why do farm girls in Minnesota leave for towns and cities in such large numbers? (Minnesota is one of the high ranking states in this respect.) What effect does this disproportion have on occupational choice of farm boys? Why has the proportion of single persons in the farm population increased since 1940, while declining for the state as a whole?

How may social institutions such as the church, clubs, and recreation groups adjust to this difference in numbers of men and women? The problem

in reverse exists in the towns and cities, which are characterized by the numerical superiority of women.

Marital Status

The proportion of the population which was married rose to 64.8 per cent in 1950, compared with 57.9 in 1940. This is a remarkable change in a decade and must be accounted for by the following factors:

1. During the depression years of the 1930's there was a tendency for young people of marriageable age to postpone matrimony; then when employment opportunities and wages rose after 1940, many of these marriages were consummated. The outbreak of war also precipitated a rush to the altar as a possible hedge against the military draft.

2. There were extraordinary numbers of young people of marriageable age in the population. They represented the very large baby crops of 1920 to 1925 (note figure 6). It can be pointed out in passing that the babies born in the low birth rate years of the middle 1930's are coming to marriageable age in 1953, and they account for the sharp decline in marriages currently taking place.

Table 11 and figure 25 reveal some contrasts in the marital status between males and females of farm and city populations. Most notable are these facts: (a) A higher proportion of males than females in the urban population

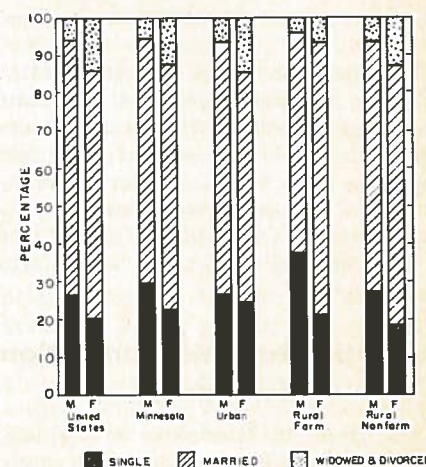


Fig. 25. Marital status of sections of population 14 years or older, 1950

are married—this in spite of a larger proportion of single men. The difference is explained by the extraordinary percentage of married and divorced females in the city, a fact which distorts the percentages in the other categories. (b) In the farm population the proportion of married women greatly exceeds that of men. This is related to the very high proportion of men on the farm, just as the city rate is due to the excess of women. (c) The low percentage of widowed and divorced persons in the farm population is due in large part to the tendency of this group to move to the towns and cities. (d) The rural nonfarm population tends to follow the trend for the state except in

Table 11. Marital Status of Minnesota's Population 14 Years or Older by Sex and Residence, Compared with United States, 1950

Marital status	per cent				
	United States	Minnesota	Urban	Rural farm	Rural nonfarm
Males					
Single	26.2	29.6	26.5	37.7	27.1
Married	67.8	64.7	67.3	58.3	66.5
Widowed or divorced	6.0	5.7	6.2	4.0	6.4
Females					
Single	20.4	22.7	24.8	20.7	18.6
Married	65.5	64.9	60.9	72.5	68.7
Widowed or divorced	14.1	12.4	14.3	6.8	12.7

the percentage of single males and females.

In spite of the large increase in Minnesota's married population, the state lags slightly behind the national average. This can be explained by the fact that the state has a greater "maldistribution" of sexes according to residence groups. Of particular importance is the very high sex ratio of the farm population.

Migration and Mechanization of Farming

The trend in Minnesota agriculture, as in the agriculture of the entire country, is in the direction of mechanization. Mechanized farming is related to migration trends in the sense that machinery reduces the requirements for manpower to operate a farm. In the last decade full employment in the city took many who would otherwise have been farm laborers. Furthermore, it took many who would otherwise be full-time farmers into nonfarm employment part of the year. Both of these trends, labor migrating to the city and farmers taking nonfarm jobs in the winter, would necessitate more mechanization on the farms. Thus, migration may be both a cause and a result of mechanization in agriculture.

In 1950, all but 15 counties of the state had a lower proportion of their total farm workers classified as hired laborers than they did in 1940. Of the 15 which did not decrease, six increased less than .7 of 1 per cent and four remained the same.

The few counties which did gain in hired workers gained little. The largest gains were in Polk and Washington Counties, which gained about 13 per cent and 11 per cent respectively.

The same urbanward trend was noted for the proportion of farm operators who worked 100 days or more off the farm. Only nine counties decreased in this proportion from 1940

to 1950. Koochiching and Lake Counties had large decreases, but these were exceptions. Some counties had twice the proportion working off the farm in 1950 than they had in 1940. Cook County had nearly five times the 1940 number.

These two trends, indicating more nonfarm work by farm males, should have resulted in an increase in mechanization. Using number of tractors as an index to mechanization, a comparison was made between the years 1940 and 1950. Every county in the state had an increase from 1940 to 1950 in the number of tractors per 100 farms. Most of the increases were large. Lake of the Woods increased 85 tractors per 100 farms and several other counties gained 80 per 100 farms.

Thus, the tendency for mechanization to increase as hired farm labor decreased was observed for the 1950's. Similarly, the nonfarm work on the part of farm operators increased.

Summary and Conclusions

Although settlement in Minnesota began as early as 1820, the most rapid growth took place following the Civil War. The population has continued to grow in numbers up to 1950, but at a decreasing rate. The only exception was the period from 1930 to 1940, when the depression years apparently retarded migration. The population of the state appears to be leveling off.

Minnesota's population represents numerous ethnic strains but is dominantly Swedish, Norwegian, and German, with Polish, Finnish, Czech, and French in significant numbers. This ethnic diversity has made for considerable enrichment of the cultural life but has also created problems in community organization.

As in the United States in general, Minnesota's population has gradually shifted from a predominantly rural to a predominantly urban one. The strict-

ly farm population has shown a tendency to decline in numbers in recent decades.

The birth rate in Minnesota is near the national average. And like the national trend, the Minnesota rate declined from World War I to the middle 1930's but has increased gradually in recent years. The death rate is somewhat lower than that for the nation and has remained fairly level in spite of the increase in the proportion of older people.

The aging of the population, together with drastic ups and downs in numbers of young people, has great significance to the social institutions of the state, especially the schools and the welfare organizations.

Migration from farms to towns and cities is seriously upsetting the ratios of the sexes, creating a deficit of males in the cities and a vast surplus in the country. This differential is also reflected in the high proportion of single men in the farm population.

The urbanward movement of farm hired workers and the part-time nonfarm work of farm operators seems to be contributing to an increase in mechanization. Perhaps mechanization itself contributes to the urbanward movement in reducing the labor requirements on the farms.

Population growth has always been taken for granted by the American people, but for certain segments and areas the future prospects do not look especially promising. Minnesota exports a large part of her natural increase, while the farm population loses annually a number almost double the natural increase. It requires a considerable adjustment in outlook, economically and socially, to face the prospect of a comparatively stationary population as far as total numbers are concerned. In our striving for BIGGER and BETTER communities we shall have to give less emphasis to the BIGGER and more to the BETTER.



Appendix

Table I. Number and Per Cent of Foreign-Born Population by Nationality Groups, 1880-1950, in Minnesota

Year	Total foreign born	British		Scandinavian		German		Slav		Romance		All others	
		Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
1950	210,231	25,363	12.1	84,785	40.3	36,824	17.5	43,564	20.7	7,823	3.7	11,873	5.6
1940	295,373	30,700	10.4	129,841	44.0	54,877	18.6	58,139	19.7	12,219	4.1	9,597	3.2
1930	390,790	38,802	9.9	176,016	45.1	74,154	19.0	74,399	19.0	14,131	3.6	13,288	3.4
1920	486,795	52,111	10.7	219,209	45.0	94,284	19.4	93,730	19.3	14,228	2.9	13,233	2.7
1910	543,595	62,224	11.4	243,866	44.9	116,161	21.4	88,888	16.3	23,747	4.4	8,709	1.6
1900	505,318	76,063	15.1	236,670	46.8	122,982	24.3	39,469	7.8	16,691	3.3	13,443	2.7
1890	467,356	93,106	19.9	215,215	46.0	122,496	26.2	30,815	6.6	3,607	0.8	2,117	0.5
1880	267,676	68,188	25.5	107,768	40.2	66,592	24.9	7,759	2.9	1,351	0.5	16,018	6.0

Table II. National Origin of Foreign-Born White Population by Counties of Minnesota, 1950

County	British	German	Swedish	Norwegian	Danish	Slavic*	Finnish*
Aitkin	148	150	419	146	42	52	373
Anoka	313	302	573	264	74	302	33
Becker	148	228	223	430	28	74	181
Beltrami	240	166	335	503	59	99	30
Benton	59	250	107	56	14	138	4
Big Stone	80	133	125	92	21	16	—
Blue Earth	216	698	144	145	92	72	1
Brown	64	723	38	93	69	34	—
Carlton	262	126	687	296	37	155	1,161
Carver	49	271	85	24	4	47	—
Cass	123	125	190	209	38	41	28
Chippewa	58	303	110	330	35	12	—
Chisago	38	73	866	56	22	24	4
Clay	207	185	276	600	48	65	4
Clearwater	74	37	179	419	13	30	3
Cook	39	8	122	153	5	10	37
Cottonwood	53	239	61	159	81	215	—
Crow Wing	309	261	466	299	78	252	244
Dakota	309	924	324	183	114	701	29
Dodge	57	122	39	124	56	26	—
Douglas	97	224	463	229	30	96	43
Faribault	63	317	50	263	60	54	3
Fillmore	73	157	20	392	19	16	2
Freeborn	136	429	99	434	518	112	—
Goodhue	121	307	361	393	37	47	—
Grant	46	97	125	197	21	10	1
Hennepin†	8,131	5,610	15,473	9,628	1,908	740	77
Houston	28	120	30	131	2	26	—
Hubbard	91	108	134	156	22	33	7
Isanti	50	115	769	51	19	16	6
Itasca	301	179	492	306	37	663	953
Jackson	54	305	50	143	61	112	1
Kanabec	44	156	448	67	27	26	3
Kandiyohi	106	340	523	522	71	21	3
Kittson	223	53	510	179	20	57	1
Koochiching	637	240	420	369	32	195	136
Lac qui Parle	28	171	110	417	46	13	—

Table II. National Origin of Foreign-Born White Population by Counties of Minnesota, 1950—Continued

County	British	German	Swedish	Norwegian	Danish	Slavic*	Finnish*
Lake	90	30	514	311	13	34	310
Lake of the Woods	129	53	156	152	13	45	8
LeSueur	52	236	66	17	10	190	1
Lincoln	27	134	46	101	283	52	—
Lyon	89	269	133	194	58	46	2
McLeod	36	398	27	19	99	269	—
Mahnomen	31	73	24	83	10	72	1
Marshall	128	72	415	446	28	109	33
Martin	96	417	206	83	77	50	—
Meeker	73	156	397	86	63	14	57
Miller	71	260	562	149	47	50	8
Morrison	120	471	345	62	31	321	6
Mower	153	371	81	329	183	165	3
Murray	59	413	113	120	25	18	—
Nicollet	75	257	261	112	38	75	11
Nobles	86	746	144	58	41	19	5
Norman	62	106	59	503	15	19	—
Olmsted	465	422	91	204	117	85	9
Otter Tail	211	715	473	1,019	104	169	369
Pennington	82	59	191	553	26	33	5
Pine	123	288	505	142	260	369	86
Pipestone	45	599	33	87	52	10	—
Polk	349	222	371	1,051	34	166	5
Pope	62	98	86	334	16	17	—
Ramsey†	412	460	424	200	75	156	6
Red Lake	30	43	25	107	4	12	22
Redwood	61	385	87	117	119	64	2
Renville	71	378	153	171	34	127	15
Rice	155	464	64	238	62	154	—
Rock	30	488	17	308	23	12	1
Roseau	145	68	441	442	20	113	2
St. Louis†	1,092	1,018	1,993	1,042	83	4,278	6,737
Scott	38	175	19	22	14	102	—
Sherburne	65	105	125	74	37	37	2
Sibley	19	281	109	21	12	64	—
Slemons	255	1,116	183	156	54	270	15
Stearns	85	243	33	92	136	217	2
Stevens	55	178	51	108	42	24	—
Swift	57	148	154	258	34	13	—
Todd	93	391	202	140	46	165	10
Traverse	43	153	130	46	10	5	—
Wabasha	70	328	58	39	11	43	1
Wadena	70	134	98	82	25	25	256
Waseca	35	299	58	60	28	40	—
Washington	295	397	429	125	82	102	14
Watsonwan	45	193	176	203	12	33	1
Willkin	47	117	50	115	24	41	—
Winona	153	625	39	105	33	261	2
Wright	126	387	458	81	27	58	134
Yellow Medicine	37	244	102	360	29	20	—
Minneapolis	6,678	4,697	13,442	8,568	1,520	8,761	770
St. Paul	3,921	5,183	3,923	1,692	588	4,894	68
Duluth	2,069	760	3,588	2,410	205	1,899	2,117

* Finnish are not included under Slavic in this table as they are listed separately.

† Twin Cities and Duluth omitted.

Table III. Minnesota's White, Negro, Indian, and Asiatic Population, 1850-1950

Year	White		Negro		Indian		Asiatic	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
1950	2,953,697	99.0	14,022	0.5	12,533	0.4	2,231	0.1
1940	2,768,982	99.2	9,928	0.4	12,528	0.4	862	·
1930	2,542,599	99.2	9,445	0.4	11,077	0.4	832	·
1920	2,368,936	99.2	8,809	0.4	8,761	0.4	619	·
1910	2,059,227	99.2	7,084	0.3	9,053	0.4	344	·
1900	1,737,036	99.2	4,959	0.3	9,182	0.5	217	·
1890	1,296,408	98.9	3,683	0.3	10,096	0.8	96	·
1880	776,884	99.5	1,564	0.2	2,300	0.3	25	·
1870	438,257	99.7	759	0.2	690	0.1	·	·
1860	169,395	98.5	259	0.1	2,369	1.4	·	·
1850	6,038	99.3	39	0.7	·	·	·	·

* Less than 0.1 per cent.

Table IV. Rural-Urban Distribution of the Population by Counties and Type of Farming Areas, Minnesota, 1950

Area and county	Total	Urban	Rural	Rural farm	Rural nonfarm
Area 1					
Dakota*	49,019	30,410	18,609	8,646	9,963
Dodge	12,624	·	12,624	7,355	5,269
Fillmore	24,465	·	24,265	12,179	12,286
Goodhue	32,118	10,645	21,473	11,766	9,707
Houston	14,435	·	14,435	7,079	7,356
Mower	42,277	23,100	19,777	10,803	8,374
Olmsted	48,228	29,885	18,343	10,470	7,873
Wabasha	16,878	3,457	13,421	6,828	6,593
Washington*	34,544	10,190	24,354	7,318	17,036
Winona	39,641	25,031	14,810	8,261	6,548
Total	314,429	132,718	181,711	90,755	91,006
Per cent	100.0	42.2	57.8	28.9	28.9
Area 2					
Blue Earth	38,327	18,809	19,518	12,050	7,468
Brown	25,895	15,200	10,695	8,800	1,895
Carver	18,155	·	18,155	8,659	9,496
Freeborn	34,517	13,545	20,972	12,479	8,493
LeSueur	19,088	2,713	16,375	8,143	8,232
McLeod	22,198	7,491	14,707	9,981	4,726
Meeker	18,966	4,608	14,358	10,206	4,152
Nicollet	20,929	12,542	8,387	6,637	1,750
Rice	36,235	23,515	12,720	9,339	3,381
Scott	16,486	3,185	13,301	6,710	6,591
Sibley	15,816	·	15,816	9,562	6,254
Stearns	70,681	25,291	44,760	22,969	21,791
Steele	21,155	10,191	10,964	7,786	3,178
Waseca	14,957	4,927	10,030	6,822	3,208
Wright	27,716	·	27,716	15,535	12,181
Total	401,121	142,647	258,474	155,678	102,796
Per cent	100.0	35.6	64.4	38.8	25.6

Table IV. Rural-Urban Distribution of the Population by Counties and Type of Farming Areas, Minnesota, 1950—Continued

Area and county	Total	Urban	Rural	Rural farm	Rural nonfarm
Area 3					
Cottonwood	15,763	3,165	12,598	8,031	4,567
Faribault	23,879	3,843	20,036	10,924	9,112
Jackson	16,306	3,313	12,993	9,551	3,442
Lincoln	10,150	·	10,150	6,205	3,945
Lyon	22,253	8,943	13,310	8,214	5,096
Martin	25,655	8,193	17,462	10,574	6,888
Murray	14,801	·	14,801	9,219	5,582
Nobles	22,435	7,923	14,512	9,445	5,067
Pipestone	14,003	5,269	8,734	5,601	3,133
Rock	11,278	3,650	7,628	5,701	1,927
Watsonwan	13,881	3,861	10,020	6,112	3,901
Total	190,404	48,160	142,244	89,577	52,660
Per cent	100.0	25.3	74.7	47.0	27.7
Area 4					
Big Stone	9,607	2,577	7,030	4,053	2,477
Chippewa	16,739	5,991	10,748	6,729	4,019
Grant	9,542	·	9,542	5,241	4,301
Kandiyohi	28,644	9,410	19,234	10,775	8,459
LaC qui Parle	14,545	·	14,545	8,311	6,234
Pope	12,862	2,666	10,196	7,098	3,098
Redwood	22,127	3,813	18,314	11,106	7,208
Renville	23,954	·	23,954	12,797	11,157
Stevens	11,106	3,811	7,295	5,292	2,003
Swift	15,827	3,398	12,439	7,637	4,802
Traverse	8,053	·	8,053	4,281	3,772
Yellow Medicine	16,279	1,979	14,300	8,723	5,577
Total	189,295	33,645	155,650	92,043	63,607
Per cent	100.0	17.8	82.2	48.6	33.6
Area 5					
Anoka	35,579	19,367	16,212	5,635	10,577
Benton	15,911	6,383	9,538	6,811	2,717
Chisago	12,669	·	12,669	6,705	5,964
Isanti	12,123	2,978	9,145	6,729	2,416
Kanabec	9,192	·	9,192	6,331	2,861
Mille Lacs	15,165	·	15,165	7,707	7,458
Morrison	25,832	6,717	19,115	14,240	4,875
Pine	18,223	·	18,223	11,564	6,659
Sherburne	10,661	2,656	8,005	4,884	3,121
Total	155,355	38,101	117,254	70,606	46,648
Per cent	100.0	24.5	75.5	45.5	30.0
Area 6					
Becker	24,836	5,787	19,049	11,908	7,141
Douglas	21,304	6,319	14,985	9,537	5,448
Mahnomen	7,059	·	7,059	3,796	3,263
Marshall—East	8,063	·	8,063	5,032	3,031
Otter Tail	51,320	12,917	38,403	26,576	11,827
Pennington	12,965	6,926	6,039	4,567	1,472
Polk—East	17,950	6,201	11,749	7,614	4,135
Red Lake	6,806	·	6,806	3,871	2,935
Roseau	14,505	·	14,505	8,793	5,712
Todd	25,420	2,782	22,638	15,063	6,575
Wadena	12,806	3,958	8,848	6,200	2,648
Total	203,034	44,890	158,144	102,957	55,187
Per cent	100.0	22.1	77.9	50.7	27.2

Table IV. Rural-Urban Distribution of the Population by Counties and Type of Farming Areas, Minnesota, 1950—Continued

Area and county	Total	Urban	Rural	Rural farm	Rural nonfarm
Area 7					
Clay	30,363	14,870	15,493	8,469	7,024
Kittson	9,649	—	9,649	4,778	4,871
Marshall—West	8,062	—	8,062	5,032	3,030
Norman	12,909	—	12,909	7,329	5,581
Polk—West	17,950	6,200	11,750	7,614	4,136
Wilkin	10,567	3,623	6,944	5,072	1,872
Total	89,500	24,693	64,807	38,293	26,514
Per cent	100.0	27.6	72.4	42.8	29.6
Area 8					
Aitkin	14,327	—	14,327	8,541	5,786
Beltrami	24,962	10,001	14,961	7,798	7,163
Carlton	24,584	7,685	16,899	8,109	8,790
Cass	19,468	—	19,468	7,930	11,538
Clearwater	10,204	—	10,204	6,160	4,044
Cook	2,900	—	2,900	205	2,695
Crow Wing	30,875	15,414	15,461	6,767	8,694
Hubbard	11,085	3,027	8,058	5,159	2,899
Itasca	33,321	6,019	27,302	9,234	18,068
Koochiching	16,910	6,269	10,641	4,118	6,523
Lake	7,781	4,400	3,381	1,009	2,372
Lake of the Woods	4,955	—	4,955	2,666	2,289
St. Louis*	206,062	154,173	51,889	18,726	33,163
Total	407,434	206,988	200,446	86,422	114,024
Per cent	100.0	50.8	49.2	21.2	28.0
Area 9					
Hennepin*	676,579	606,040	70,539	12,122	58,417
Ramsey*	355,332	329,564	25,768	1,515	24,253
Total	1,031,911	935,604	96,307	13,637	82,670
Per cent	100.0	90.7	9.3	1.3	8.0

* Old urban definition.

Table V. Minnesota Population by Counties, 1870-1950

County	1950	1940	1930	1920	1910	1900	1890	1880	1870
Aitkin	14,327	17,865	15,009	15,043	10,371	6,743	2,462	366	178
Anoka	35,579	22,443	18,415	15,626	12,493	11,313	9,884	7,108	3,940
Becker	24,836	26,562	22,503	22,851	18,840	14,375	9,401	5,218	308
Beltrami	24,962	26,107	20,707	27,079	19,337	11,030	312	10	80
Benton	15,911	16,106	15,056	14,073	11,615	9,912	6,284	3,012	1,558
Big Stone	9,607	10,447	9,838	9,766	9,367	8,731	5,722	3,688	24
Blue Earth	38,327	36,203	33,847	31,477	29,337	32,263	29,310	22,889	17,302
Brown	25,895	25,544	23,428	22,421	20,134	19,787	15,817	12,018	6,396
Carlton	24,584	24,212	21,232	19,291	17,559	10,017	5,272	1,230	286
Carver	18,155	17,606	16,936	16,946	17,455	17,544	16,532	14,140	11,586
Cass	19,468	20,646	15,591	15,897	11,620	7,777	1,247	486	380
Chippewa	16,739	16,927	15,762	15,720	13,458	12,499	8,555	5,408	1,467
Chisago	12,669	13,124	13,189	14,445	13,537	13,248	10,359	7,982	4,358
Clay	30,363	25,337	23,120	21,780	19,640	17,942	11,517	5,887	92
Clearwater	10,204	11,153	9,546	8,569	6,870	—	—	—	—
Cook	2,900	3,030	2,435	1,841	1,336	810	98	65	—
Cottonwood	15,763	16,143	14,782	14,570	12,651	12,069	7,412	5,533	534
Crow Wing	30,875	30,226	25,627	24,566	16,861	14,250	8,852	2,319	200
Dakota	49,019	39,660	34,592	28,967	25,171	21,733	20,240	17,391	16,312
Dodge	12,624	12,931	12,127	12,552	12,094	13,340	10,864	11,344	8,598
Douglas	21,304	20,369	18,813	19,039	17,669	17,964	14,606	9,130	4,239
Faribault	23,879	23,941	21,642	20,998	19,949	22,055	16,708	13,016	9,940
Fillmore	24,465	25,830	24,748	25,330	25,680	28,238	25,966	26,162	24,887
Freeborn	24,517	31,780	28,741	24,692	22,282	21,838	17,962	16,069	10,578
Goodhue	32,118	31,564	31,317	30,799	31,637	31,137	28,807	29,651	22,618
Grant	9,542	9,828	9,558	9,788	9,114	8,935	6,875	3,004	340
Hennepin	676,579	568,899	517,785	415,419	333,480	228,340	185,294	67,013	31,566
Houston	14,435	41,735	13,845	14,013	14,297	15,400	14,653	16,332	14,936
Hubbard	11,085	11,085	9,596	10,136	9,831	6,578	1,412	—	—
Isanti	12,123	12,950	12,081	13,278	12,615	11,675	7,607	5,063	2,035
Itasca	33,321	32,996	27,224	23,876	17,208	4,573	743	124	96
Jackson	16,306	16,805	15,863	15,955	14,491	14,793	8,924	4,806	1,825
Kanabec	9,192	9,651	8,558	9,086	6,461	4,614	1,579	505	93
Kandiyohi	28,644	26,524	23,574	22,060	18,969	18,416	13,997	10,159	1,760
Kittson	9,649	10,717	9,688	10,638	9,669	7,889	5,387	905	64
Koochiching	16,910	16,930	14,078	13,520	6,431	—	—	—	—
Lac qui Parle	14,545	15,509	15,398	15,554	15,435	14,289	10,382	4,891	145
Lake	7,781	6,956	7,068	8,251	8,011	4,654	1,299	106	135
Lake of the Woods	4,955	5,975	4,194	—	—	—	—	—	—
LeSueur	19,088	19,227	17,990	17,870	18,609	20,234	19,057	16,103	11,607
Lincoln	10,150	10,797	11,303	11,268	9,874	8,966	5,691	2,945	—
Lyon	22,253	21,569	19,326	18,837	15,722	14,591	9,501	6,257	—
McLeod	22,198	21,380	20,522	20,444	18,691	19,595	17,026	12,342	5,643
Mahnomen	7,059	8,054	6,153	6,197	3,249	—	—	—	—
Marshall	16,125	18,364	17,003	19,443	16,338	15,698	9,130	992	—
Martin	25,655	24,656	22,401	21,085	17,518	16,936	9,403	5,249	3,867
Meeker	18,966	19,277	17,914	18,103	17,022	17,553	15,456	11,739	6,090
Mille Lacs	15,165	15,558	14,076	14,180	10,705	8,066	2,845	1,501	1,109
Morrison	25,832	27,473	25,442	25,841	24,053	22,891	13,325	5,875	1,681
Mower	42,277	36,113	28,065	25,993	22,640	22,335	18,019	16,799	10,447
Murray	14,801	15,060	13,902	13,631	11,755	11,911	6,692	3,604	209
Nicollet	20,929	18,282	16,550	15,036	14,125	14,774	13,382	12,333	8,362
Nobles	22,435	21,215	18,618	17,917	15,210	14,932	7,958	4,435	117
Norman	12,909	14,746	14,061	14,880	13,446	15,045	10,618	—	—
Olmsted	48,228	42,658	35,426	28,014	22,497	23,119	19,806	21,543	19,793
Otter Tail	54,320	53,192	51,006	50,818	46,036	45,375	34,232	18,675	1,868
Pennington	12,965	12,913	10,487	12,091	9,376	—	—	—	—
Pine	18,223	21,478	20,264	21,117	15,878	11,546	4,052	1,365	648

Table V. Minnesota Population by Counties, 1870-1950—Continued

County	1950	1940	1930	1920	1910	1900	1890	1880	1870
Pipestone	14,003	13,794	12,238	12,050	9,553	9,264	5,132	2,092	
Polk	35,900	37,734	36,019	37,090	36,001	35,429	30,192	11,433	
Pope	12,862	13,544	13,085	13,631	12,746	12,577	10,032	5,874	
Ramsey	355,332	309,935	286,721	244,554	223,675	170,554	139,796	45,890	2,691
Red Lake	6,806	7,413	6,887	7,263	12,195				23,085
Redwood	22,127	22,290	20,620	20,908	18,425	17,261	9,386	5,375	
Renville	23,954	24,625	23,645	23,634	23,123	23,693	17,099	10,791	1,829
Rice	36,235	32,160	29,974	28,307	25,911	26,080	23,968	22,481	3,219
Rock	11,278	10,933	10,962	10,965	10,222	9,668	6,817	3,669	16,093
Roseau	14,505	15,103	12,621	13,305	11,338	6,994			138
St. Louis	206,062	206,917	204,596	206,391	163,274	82,932	44,862	4,504	4,561
Scott	16,486	15,585	14,116	14,245	14,888	15,147	13,831	13,516	11,042
Sherburne	10,661	10,456	9,709	9,651	8,136	7,281	5,908	3,855	2,050
Sibley	15,816	16,625	15,865	15,635	15,540	16,862	15,199	10,637	6,725
Stearns	70,681	67,200	62,121	55,741	47,733	44,464	34,844	21,956	14,206
Steele	21,155	19,749	18,475	18,061	16,146	16,524	13,232	12,460	8,271
Stevens	11,106	11,039	10,185	9,778	8,293	8,721	5,251	3,911	174
Swift	15,837	15,469	14,735	15,093	12,949	13,503	10,161	7,473	
Todd	25,420	27,438	26,170	26,059	23,407	22,214	12,930	6,133	2,036
Traverse	8,053	8,283	7,938	7,943	8,049	7,573	4,516	1,507	13
Wabasha	16,878	17,653	17,613	17,919	18,554	18,924	16,972	18,206	15,859
Wadena	12,806	12,772	10,990	10,699	8,652	7,921	4,053	2,080	6
Waseca	14,957	15,186	14,412	14,133	13,466	14,760	13,313	12,385	7,854
Washington	34,544	26,430	24,753	23,761	26,013	27,808	24,992	19,563	11,809
Watsonwan	13,881	13,902	12,802	12,457	11,382	11,496	7,746	5,104	2,426
Wilkin	10,567	10,475	9,791	10,187	9,063	8,080	4,346	1,906	295
Winona	39,841	37,795	35,144	33,653	33,398	35,686	33,797	27,197	22,319
Wright	27,716	27,550	27,119	28,685	28,082	29,157	24,164	18,104	9,457
Yellow									
Medicine	16,917	16,917	16,625	16,550	15,406	14,602	9,854	5,884	
State total	2,982,483	2,792,300	2,563,953	2,387,125	2,075,708	1,751,394*	1,310,283†	760,773	439,706‡

* The total for 1900 includes population (3,486) of White Earth Indian Reservation, in Becker, Clearwater, and Mahnommen Counties, not returned by counties for that year.

† The total for 1890 includes population (8,457) of Indian reservations specially enumerated but not distributed by counties.

‡ The total for 1870 includes population of Monongalia County (3,161) annexed to Kandiyohi County in 1870. Kittson County name was changed from Pembina in 1878.

Table VI. Population of Cities 10,000 and Over, Minnesota, 1850-1950, by Decades

Cities	1950	1940	1930	1920	1910	1900	1890	1880	1870	1860	1850
Albert Lea	13,545	12,200	10,169	8,056	6,192	4,500	3,305	1,966	—*	262	—
Austin	23,100	18,307	12,276	10,118	6,960	5,474	3,901	2,305	2,039	200	—
Bemidji	10,001	9,427	7,202	7,086	5,099	2,183	—	—	—	—	—
Brainerd	12,637	12,071	10,221	9,591	8,526	7,524	5,703	—	—	—	—
Duluth	104,511	101,065	101,463	98,917	78,466	52,969	33,115	3,483	3,131	80	—
Faribault	16,028	14,527	12,767	11,089	9,001	7,868	6,520	5,415	3,045	—	—
Fergus Falls	12,917	10,848	9,389	7,581	6,887	6,072	3,772	1,635	—	—	—
Hibbing	16,276	16,385	15,666	15,089	8,832	2,481	—	—	—	—	—
Mankato	18,809	15,664	14,038	12,469	10,365	10,599	8,838	5,550	3,482	—	—
Minneapolis	521,718	492,370	464,356	380,582	301,408	202,718	164,738	46,887	13,066	2,564	—
Moorhead	14,870	9,491	7,651	5,720	4,840	3,730	2,088	—	—	—	—
Owatonna	10,191	8,694	7,654	7,252	5,658	5,561	3,849	3,161	2,070	—	—
Red Wing	10,645	9,962	9,629	8,637	9,048	7,525	6,294	5,876	4,260	1,156	—
Richfield	17,502	3,778†	1,301†	2,411	2,673	—	—	—	—	—	—
Robbinsdale	11,289	6,018	4,427	1,369	765	520	—	—	—	—	—
Rochester	29,885	26,312	20,621	13,722	7,844	6,843	5,321	5,103	3,953	1,424	—
St. Cloud	28,410	24,173	21,000	15,873	10,600	8,663	7,686	2,462	2,161	—	—
St. Louis Park	22,644	7,737	4,710	2,281	1,743	1,325	499	—	—	—	—
St. Paul	311,613	287,736	271,606	234,698	214,744	163,065	133,156	41,473	20,030	10,401	1,112
South St. Paul	15,909	11,844	10,009	6,860	4,510	2,322	2,242	—	—	—	—
Virginia	12,486	12,264	11,963	14,022	10,473	2,962	—	—	—	—	—
Winona	25,031	22,490	20,850	19,143	18,583	19,714	18,208	10,208	7,192	2,464	—

* Not returned separately.

† Excluding Fort Snelling Military Reservation.

Table VII. Population of Cities of 5,000 to 10,000 Population (as of 1950),
Minnesota, 1900-1950, by Decades

Cities	1950	1940	1930	1920	1910	1900
Alexandria	6,319	5,051	3,876	3,388	3,001	2,681
Anoka	7,396	6,426	4,851	4,287	3,972	3,769
Chisholm	6,861	7,487	8,308	9,039	7,684	—
Cloquet	7,685	7,304	6,782	5,127	7,031	3,072
Columbia Heights	8,175	6,035	5,613	2,968	590	123
Crookston	7,352	7,161	6,321	6,825	7,559	5,359
Crystal	5,713	2,373	1,865	814	—	—
Detroit Lakes	5,787	5,015	3,675	3,426	2,807	—
East Grand Forks	5,049	3,511	2,922	2,490	2,533	2,077
Edina	9,744	5,855	3,138	1,833	1,191	749
Ely	5,474	5,970	6,156	4,902	3,572	3,717
Eveleth	5,872	6,887	7,484	7,205	7,036	2,752
Fairmont	8,193	6,988	5,521	4,630	2,958	3,040
Golden Valley	5,551	2,048	1,326	830	—	—
Grand Rapids	6,019	4,875	3,206	2,914	2,230	1,428
Hastings	6,560	5,662	5,086	4,571	3,983	3,811
Hopkins	7,595	4,100	3,834	3,055	3,022	1,648
International Falls	6,296	5,626	5,036	3,448	1,487	—
Little Falls	6,717	6,047	5,014	5,500	6,078	5,774
Marshall	5,923	4,590	3,250	3,092	2,152	2,088
Montevideo	5,459	5,220	4,319	4,419	3,056	2,146
New Ulm	9,348	8,743	7,308	6,745	5,648	5,403
Northfield	7,487	4,533	4,153	4,023	3,265	3,210
Pipestone	5,269	4,682	3,489	3,325	2,475	2,536
Roseville	6,437	—	—	—	—	—
St. Peter	7,754	5,870	4,811	4,335	4,176	4,302
Stillwater	7,674	7,013	7,173	7,735	10,198	12,318
Thief River Falls	6,926	6,019	4,268	4,685	3,714	1,819
West St. Paul	7,955	5,733	4,463	2,962	2,600	1,830
Willmar	9,410	7,623	6,173	5,892	4,135	3,409
Worthington	7,923	5,918	3,878	3,481	2,385	2,386

Table VIII. Population of Cities of 2,500 to 5,000 Population (as of 1950), Minnesota, 1900-1950,
by Decades

Cities	1950	1940	1930	1920	1910	1900
Bayport	2,502	2,633	2,590	1,936	1,343	1,422
Benson	3,398	2,729	2,095	2,111	1,677	1,525
Blue Earth	3,843	3,702	2,884	2,568	2,319	2,900
Breckenridge	3,623	2,745	2,264	2,401	1,840	1,282
Brooklyn Center	4,284	1,870	1,344	788	—	—
Crosby	2,777	2,954	3,451	3,500	—	—
Falcon Heights	2,884	—	—	—	—	—
Fridley	3,796	—	—	—	—	—
Glencos	2,801	2,387	1,925	1,747	1,788	1,780
Glenwood	2,666	2,564	2,220	2,187	2,161	1,116
Granite Falls	2,511	2,388	1,791	1,611	1,454	1,214
Hutchinson	4,690	3,887	3,406	3,379	2,368	2,495
Jackson	3,313	2,840	2,206	2,144	1,907	1,756
Lake City	3,457	3,204	3,210	2,846	3,142	2,744
LeSueur	2,713	2,302	1,897	1,785	1,755	1,937
Litchfield	4,608	3,920	2,880	2,790	2,333	2,280
Luverne	3,650	3,114	2,644	2,782	2,540	2,223
Morris	3,811	3,214	2,474	2,320	1,685	1,934
North Mankato	4,788	3,517	2,822	1,840	1,279	939
North St. Paul	4,248	3,135	2,915	1,979	1,404	1,110
Ortonville	2,577	2,469	2,017	1,758	1,774	1,247
Park Rapids	3,027	2,643	2,081	1,603	1,801	1,313
Proctor	2,693	2,468	2,521	2,378	2,243	784
Redwood Falls	3,813	3,270	2,552	2,421	1,666	1,661
St. James	3,861	3,400	2,808	2,673	2,102	2,607
Sauk Centre	3,140	3,016	2,716	2,699	2,154	2,220
Sauk Rapids	3,410	2,981	2,656	2,349	1,745	1,391
Shakopee	3,185	2,418	2,023	1,988	2,302	2,047
Sleepy Eye	3,278	2,923	2,576	2,449	2,247	2,046
Springfield	2,574	2,361	2,049	1,849	1,482	1,511
Staples	2,782	2,952	2,667	2,570	2,558	1,504
Tracy	3,020	3,085	2,570	2,463	1,876	1,911
Two Harbors	4,400	4,046	4,425	4,546	4,990	3,278
Wadena	3,958	2,916	2,512	2,186	1,820	1,520
Waseca	4,927	4,270	3,815	3,908	3,054	3,103
White Bear Lake	3,646	2,858	2,600	2,022	1,505	1,288
Windom	3,165	2,807	2,123	2,123	1,749	1,944

Table IX. Summary of Agricultural Indices by Counties in Minnesota, 1940-1950

County	Per cent farm laborers classified as hired laborers		Per cent of farm operators working off farm 100 days or more		Tractors per 100 farms	
	1950	1940	1950	1940	1950	1940
Aitkin	3.4	5.2	24.4	22.1	69.6	23.8
Anoka	11.7	18.8	36.7	18.3	82.4	36.7
Becker	7.2	8.6	11.8	13.2	84.2	27.3
Beltrami	5.2	5.2	22.5	27.2	70.9	24.3
Benton	8.2	8.4	12.2	6.3	95.0	23.9
Big Stone	8.8	17.5	6.5	1.8	148.8	79.7
Blue Earth	11.0	17.4	6.9	4.0	99.6	75.9
Brown	11.7	13.7	6.0	2.6	152.9	81.3
Carlton	5.1	5.3	38.4	28.6	72.4	31.3
Carver	14.7	14.8	8.4	4.8	104.9	42.3
Cass	4.0	8.8	22.2	20.3	65.0	17.9
Chippewa	9.9	14.7	4.7	4.0	148.8	82.6
Chisago	10.6	10.4	13.9	6.9	85.3	30.2
Clay	20.1	17.2	7.8	5.0	147.2	69.7
Clearwater	6.0	5.7	10.6	16.9	84.5	29.6
Cook	0.0	4.3	43.3	9.2	33.3	14.3
Cottonwood	8.7	14.1	6.0	2.3	136.4	89.7
Crow Wing	3.9	7.6	34.1	29.1	61.5	18.7
Dakota	15.1	19.2	17.7	12.7	104.2	47.1
Dodge	10.1	14.2	9.2	5.2	121.2	67.1
Douglas	7.9	9.2	10.5	7.8	99.8	38.0
Faribault	14.5	17.0	5.8	3.4	148.2	63.8
Fillmore	16.0	15.1	9.0	3.9	100.2	47.7
Freeborn	15.2	19.6	9.2	6.2	138.1	75.2
Goodhue	12.5	20.2	10.3	4.3	110.4	62.7
Grant	9.1	9.1	5.9	3.8	125.3	78.0
Hennepin	20.9	21.9	33.8	24.8	92.6	32.4
Houston	10.9	13.7	8.2	4.7	92.8	47.4
Hubbard	3.1	4.2	21.0	20.1	68.0	18.7
Isanti	4.8	5.9	17.0	6.7	78.3	28.1
Itasca	4.1	6.0	46.5	34.1	69.3	18.8
Jackson	11.6	13.8	5.1	2.9	155.5	88.1
Kanabec	3.8	8.1	14.4	12.0	74.1	27.3
Kandiyohi	12.7	14.6	7.4	5.5	125.2	67.8
Kittson	17.6	13.6	9.8	8.3	137.7	78.8
Koochiching	5.4	4.7	13.1	32.3	77.3	27.7
Lac qui Parle	10.9	11.6	4.2	2.7	145.5	83.5
Lake	0.0	2.5	16.9	41.6	51.7	18.2
Lake of the Woods	2.1	4.4	20.6	29.9	124.1	38.3
LeSueur	12.6	11.9	7.8	3.2	122.5	54.5
Lincoln	8.8	12.6	5.3	2.5	128.6	70.0
Lyon	11.8	9.5	3.9	3.1	148.8	77.9
McLeod	15.7	13.7	7.0	3.0	126.0	59.0
Mahnomen	6.5	15.4	10.2	12.6	95.2	36.0
Marshall	7.6	8.8	9.9	7.4	141.2	74.9
Martin	9.7	17.7	5.5	2.7	155.2	84.8
Meeker	9.4	17.4	7.0	3.5	118.4	58.7
Mille Lacs	4.6	5.6	17.3	11.8	77.3	27.3
Morrison	5.5	6.8	11.8	8.0	79.6	25.9
Mower	12.0	20.7	14.9	7.6	142.1	71.9
Murray	11.2	16.1	4.4	3.2	154.2	83.0
Nicollet	14.6	23.1	8.4	3.4	140.9	84.2
Nobles	9.3	9.5	5.8	2.8	141.1	75.1
Norman	11.0	10.4	8.1	5.6	149.4	73.0
Olmsted	14.0	19.1	11.3	6.1	116.2	60.9
Otter Tail	7.3	8.8	7.8	6.7	96.9	35.9

Table IX. Summary of Agricultural Indices by Counties in Minnesota, 1940-1950—Continued

County	Per cent farm laborers classified as hired laborers		Per cent of farm operators working off farm 100 days or more		Tractors per 100 farms	
	1950	1940	1950	1940	1950	1940
Pennington	3.3	5.9	10.2	8.0	126.0	57.9
Pine	4.6	4.9	17.0	10.6	79.4	21.3
Pipestone	10.2	15.7	4.5	2.7	149.9	75.2
Polk	12.8	26.5	9.1	4.7	146.9	68.7
Pope	8.2	8.2	4.2	5.9	117.3	58.8
Ramsey	31.9	23.5	45.1	37.2	80.8	29.1
Red Lake	2.6	9.0	10.3	6.3	115.9	56.4
Redwood	9.4	19.0	3.6	2.5	141.1	84.6
Renville	10.7	14.3	4.6	2.0	147.1	88.4
Rice	11.4	12.9	10.3	4.1	103.3	53.7
Rock	14.9	16.7	4.3	2.0	146.7	77.4
Roseau	3.1	5.7	10.5	11.1	121.6	63.6
St. Louis	4.9	5.0	46.8	39.4	70.0	31.8
Scott	11.9	14.5	8.0	3.0	106.8	44.1
Sherburne	8.9	8.9	17.8	12.7	91.2	36.7
Sibley	9.7	12.5	5.7	2.1	142.2	68.5
Stearns	10.7	11.5	8.2	4.6	105.7	39.0
Steele	14.4	18.9	7.7	4.9	129.7	70.3
Stevens	9.6	11.0	6.1	3.1	141.1	82.9
Swift	8.6	10.7	4.8	3.5	133.5	68.7
Todd	6.1	7.3	9.2	4.7	91.0	32.2
Traverse	7.8	12.2	4.2	2.4	154.8	94.7
Wabasha	17.0	18.0	7.9	3.7	15.1	64.4
Wadena	3.1	6.3	15.5	11.0	76.3	26.4
Waseca	10.4	17.5	6.8	2.9	131.5	71.2
Washington	12.9	24.1	26.0	14.7	83.1	36.2
Watonwan	11.4	20.6	4.3	1.6	158.0	88.8
Wilkin	10.7	15.5	5.2	3.9	158.4	86.2
Winona	15.3	17.2	11.6	5.2	111.1	53.3
Wright	10.2	9.8	9.7	4.7	95.8	39.3
Yellow Medicine	8.1	11.3	4.5	2.5	137.6	80.7
State average	10.0	12.6	12.1	9.9	114.0	53.3