

Our Broken Escalator: Gathering Systemic Troubles In 21st Century America

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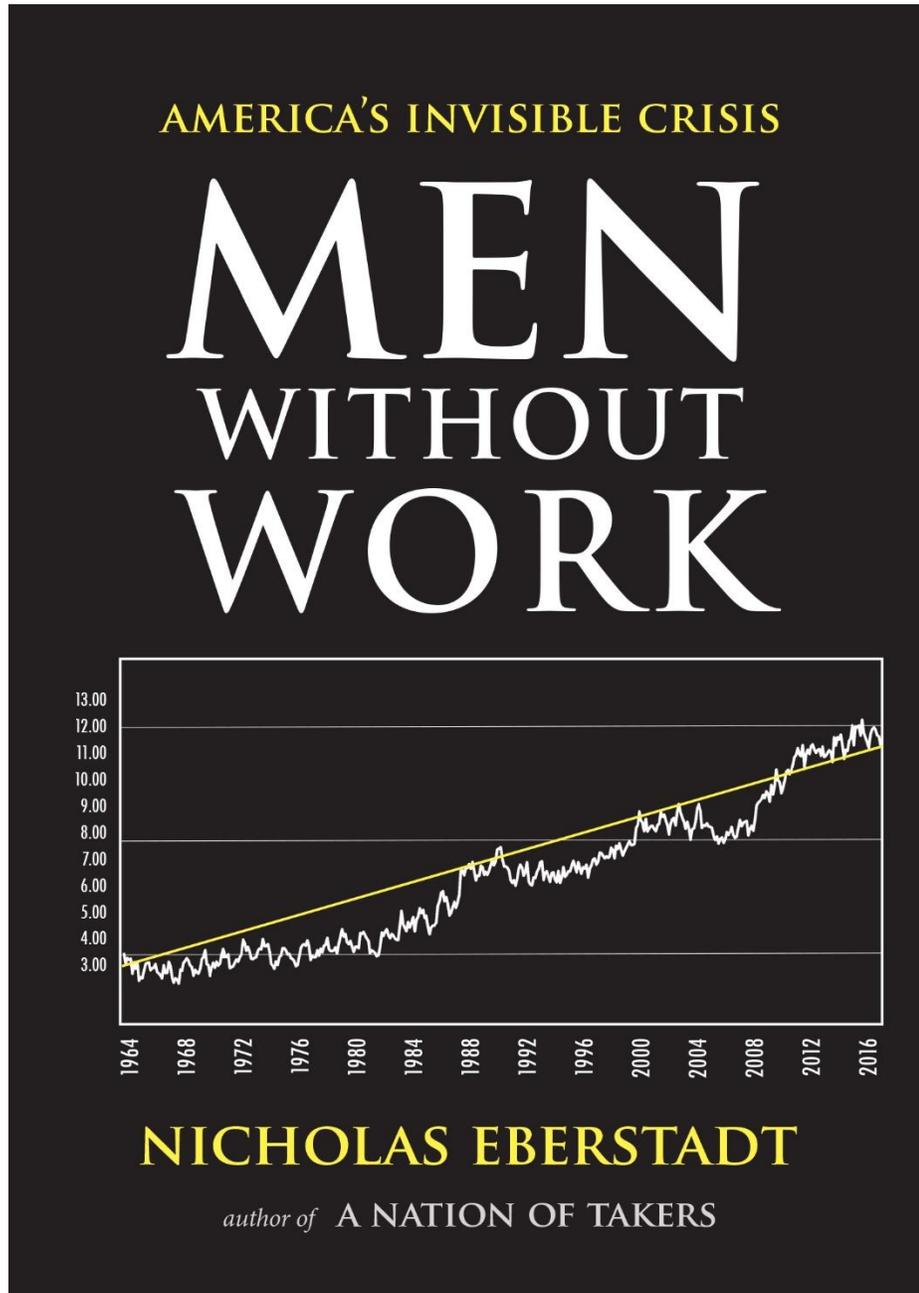
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Secretaries Innovation Group

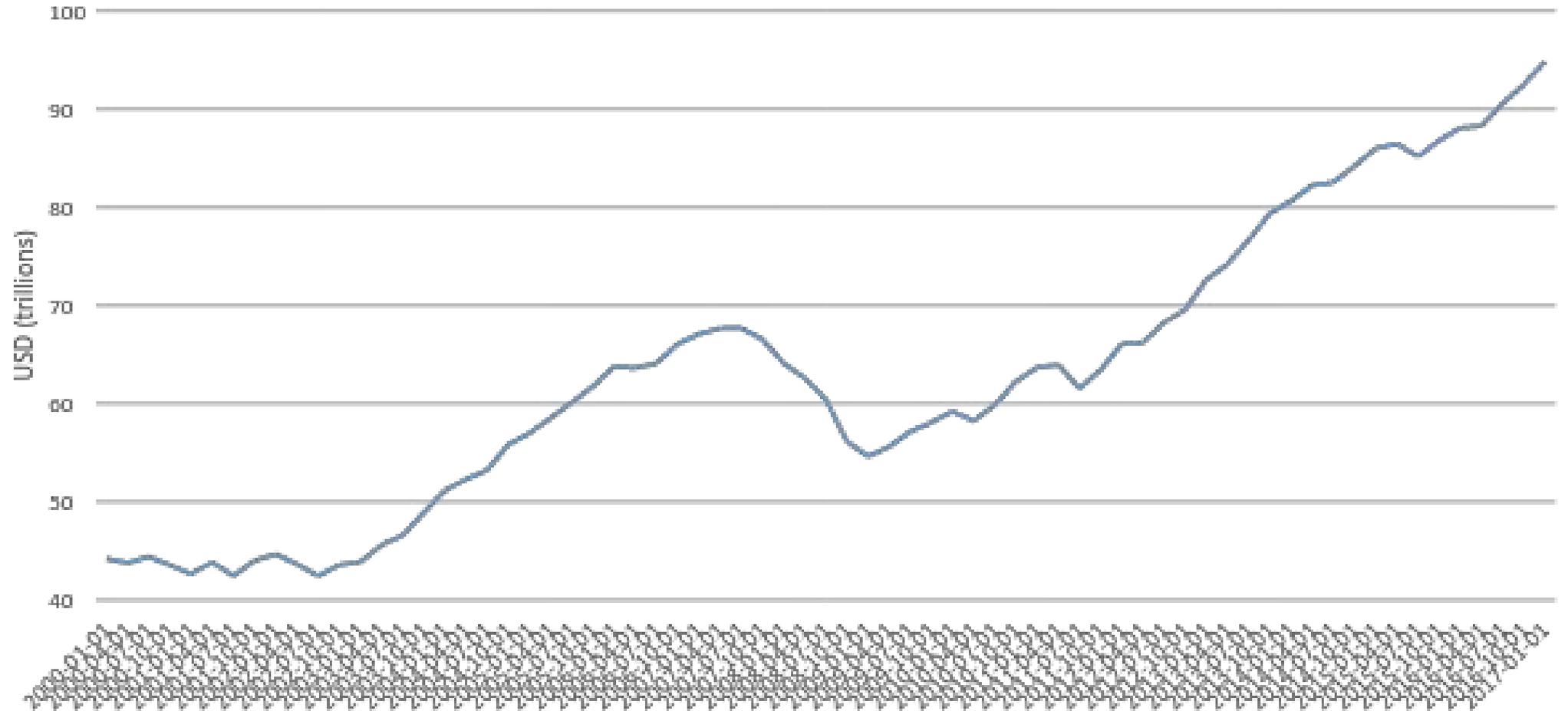
Washington DC

July 18, 2017



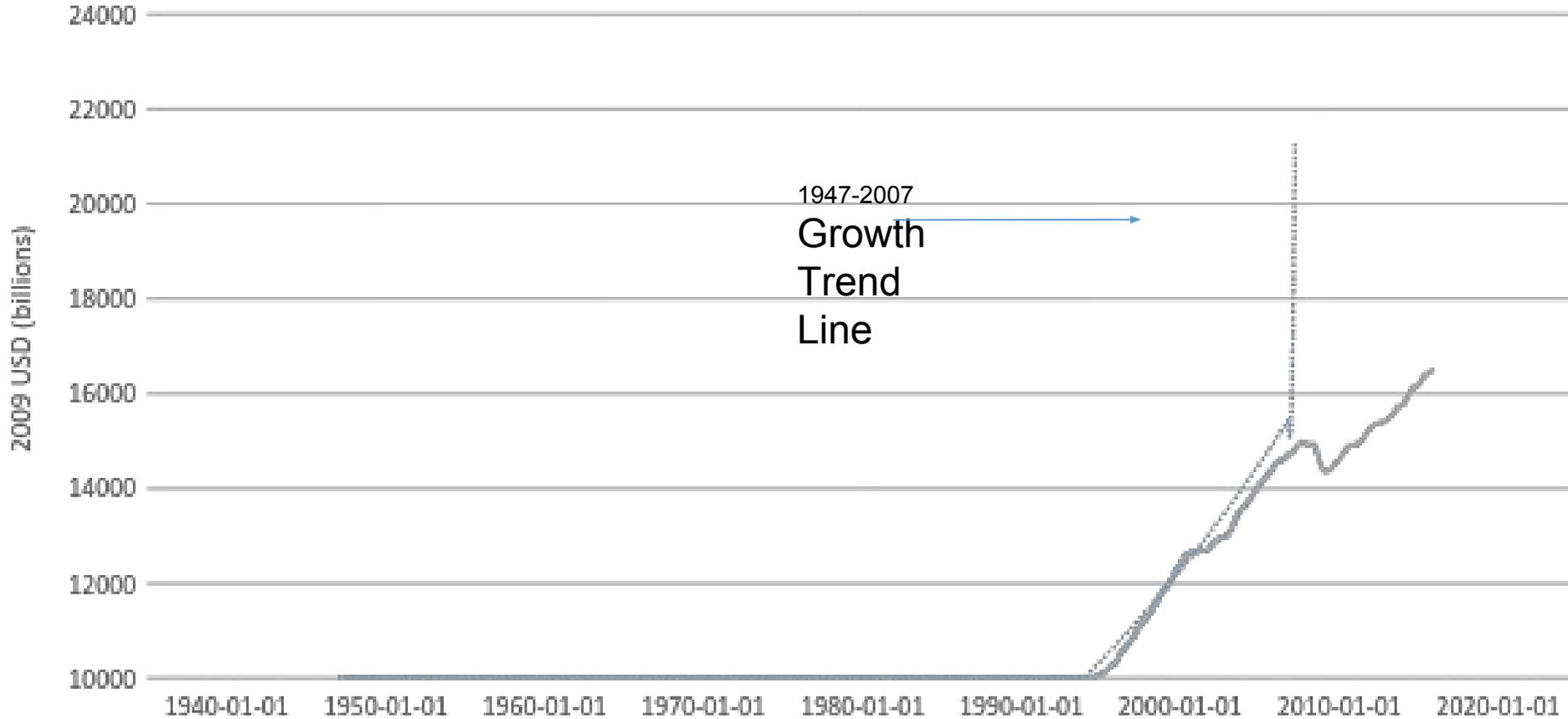
“Mission Accomplished”?

USA: Households and Nonprofit Net Worth, quarterly,
2000-2017 (trillions of current US dollars)



The Big Slowdown...

Real (2009 USD) GDP, quarterly, 2000-2016
(exponential trend-line 1947-2007)



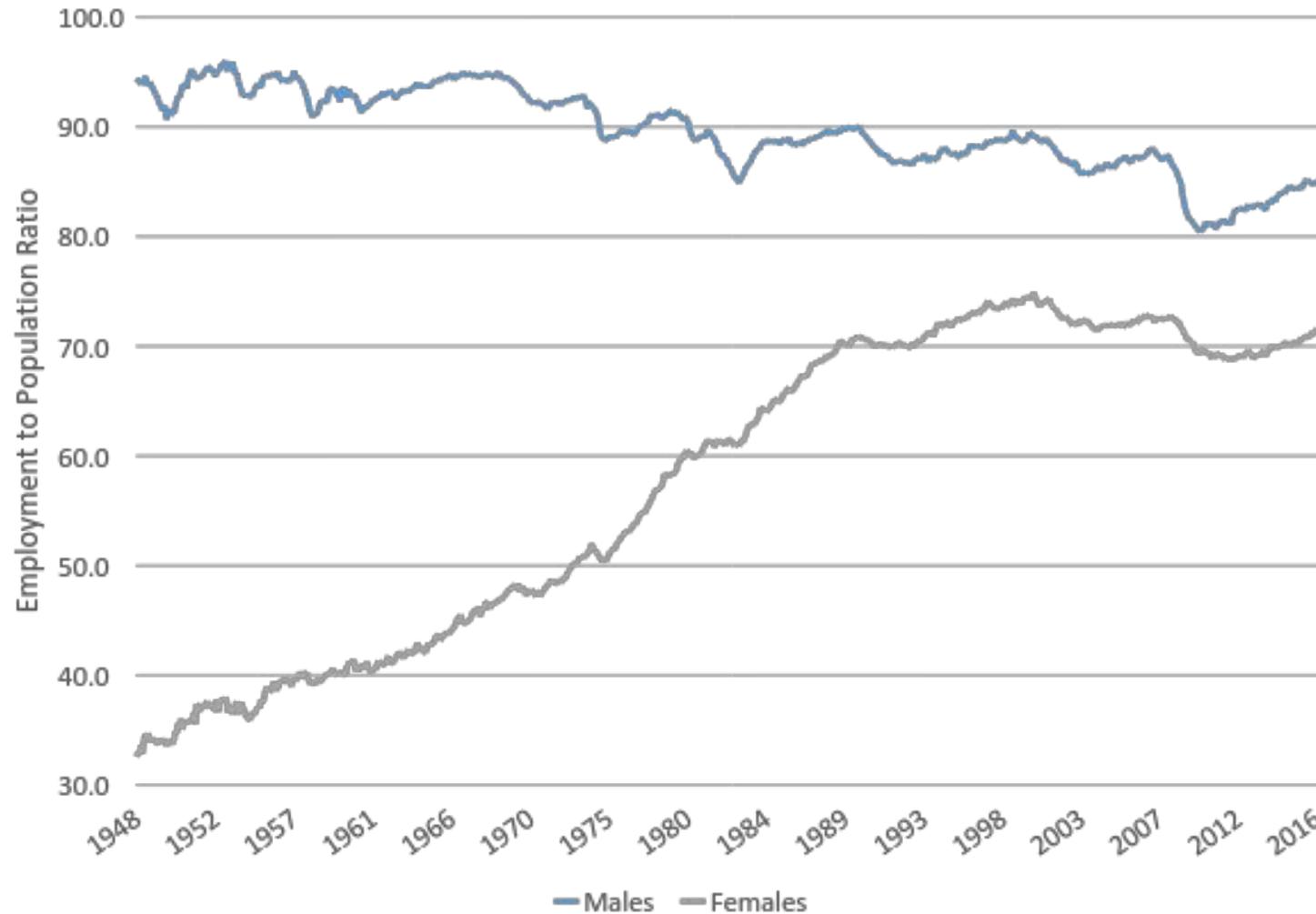
...And The Crash

Employment to Population Ratio for 20+ Population: USA, 2000-2017
(seasonally adjusted)



Decline of the Males

Employment to Population Ratios: Ages 25-54 by Sex, 1948-2017 (seasonally adjusted)



An Invisible Army of Men without Work

Percentage of Prime Working Age (25-54) Men Without Paid Employment:
USA 1948-2017 (Civilian Non-Institutional Population, Seasonally Adjusted)



US male “work rates”: Nowadays vs. Selected Depression years

Year and source	Employment to population ratio, men 20-64 (percentage of civilian non-institutional population)	Employment to population ratio, men 25-54 (percentage of civilian non-institutional population)
2015 (BLS)	78.4	84.4
1940 (Census)	81.3	86.4
1930 (Census)	88.2*	91.2*^

Notes: * = calculated for total enumerated population, not civilian non-institutional population

^ = 25-44 population—corresponding male 25/44 work ratio for 2015 would be 85.3 for civilian non-institutional population alone

Sources: For 2015: Derived from BLS “Labor Force Statistics from Current Population Survey”, <http://data.bls.gov/pdq/querytool.jsp?survey=ln>, June 21, 2016;

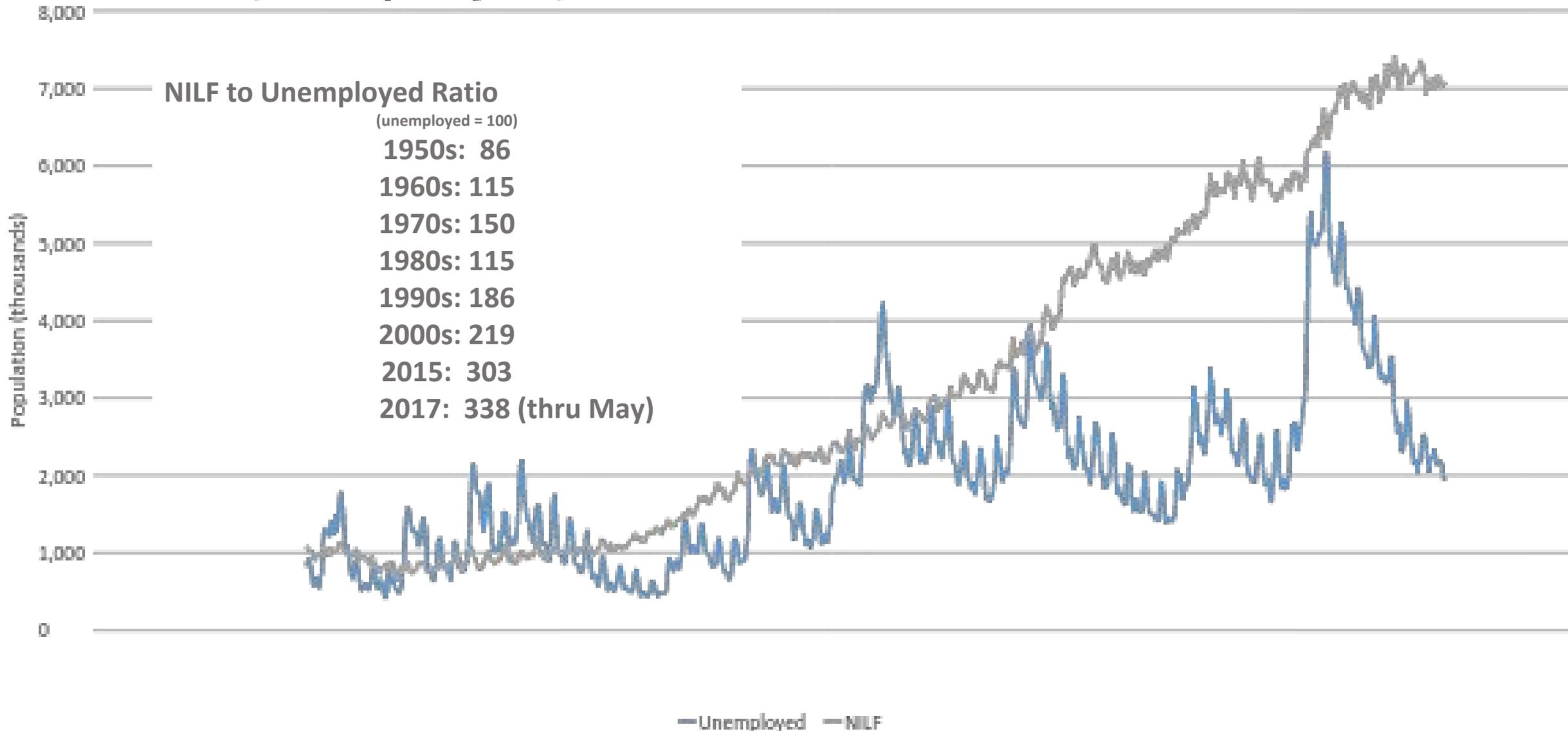
For 1940: derived from http://www.jstor.org/stable/117246?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents; <http://censusacn.adobeemcloud.com/library/publications/1943/dec/population-labor-force-sample.html> Table 1; <http://www2.census.gov/library/publications/decennial/1940/population-institutional-population/08520028ch2.pdf>; <http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a954007.pdf>. Accessed August 5, 2016.

For 1930: http://digital.library.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metadc26169/m1/1/high_res_d/R40655_2009Jun19.pdf. Accessed March 2, 2016

The Great Postwar “Flight From Work” by Men

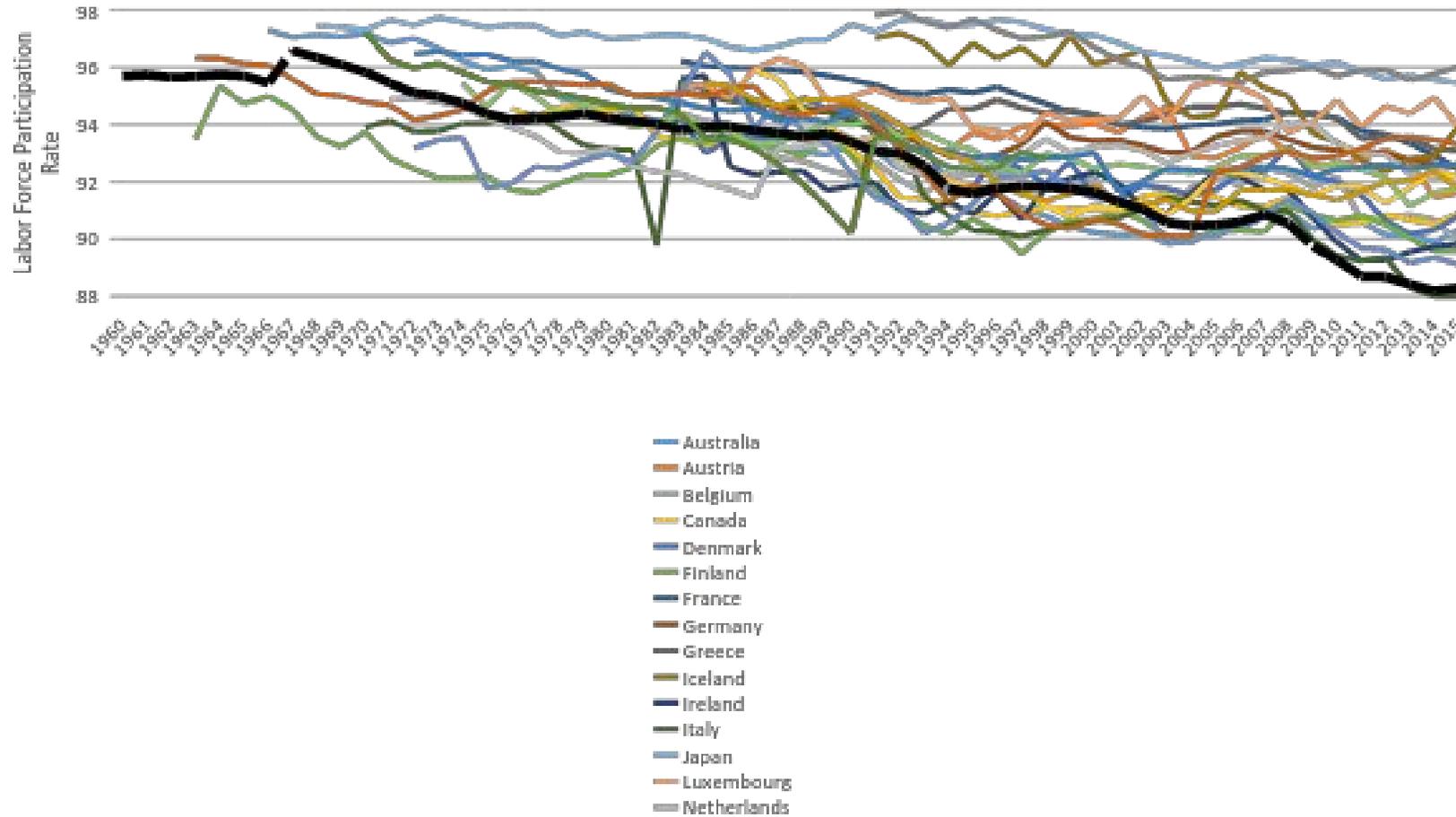
US Male 25-54 Unemployed vs. Not In Labor Force (NILF) : 1948-2017

(seasonally unadjusted)



Race To The Bottom

Labor Force Participation Rates for Men Ages 25-54:
USA vs. 22 “Original” OECD Member States, 1960-2015



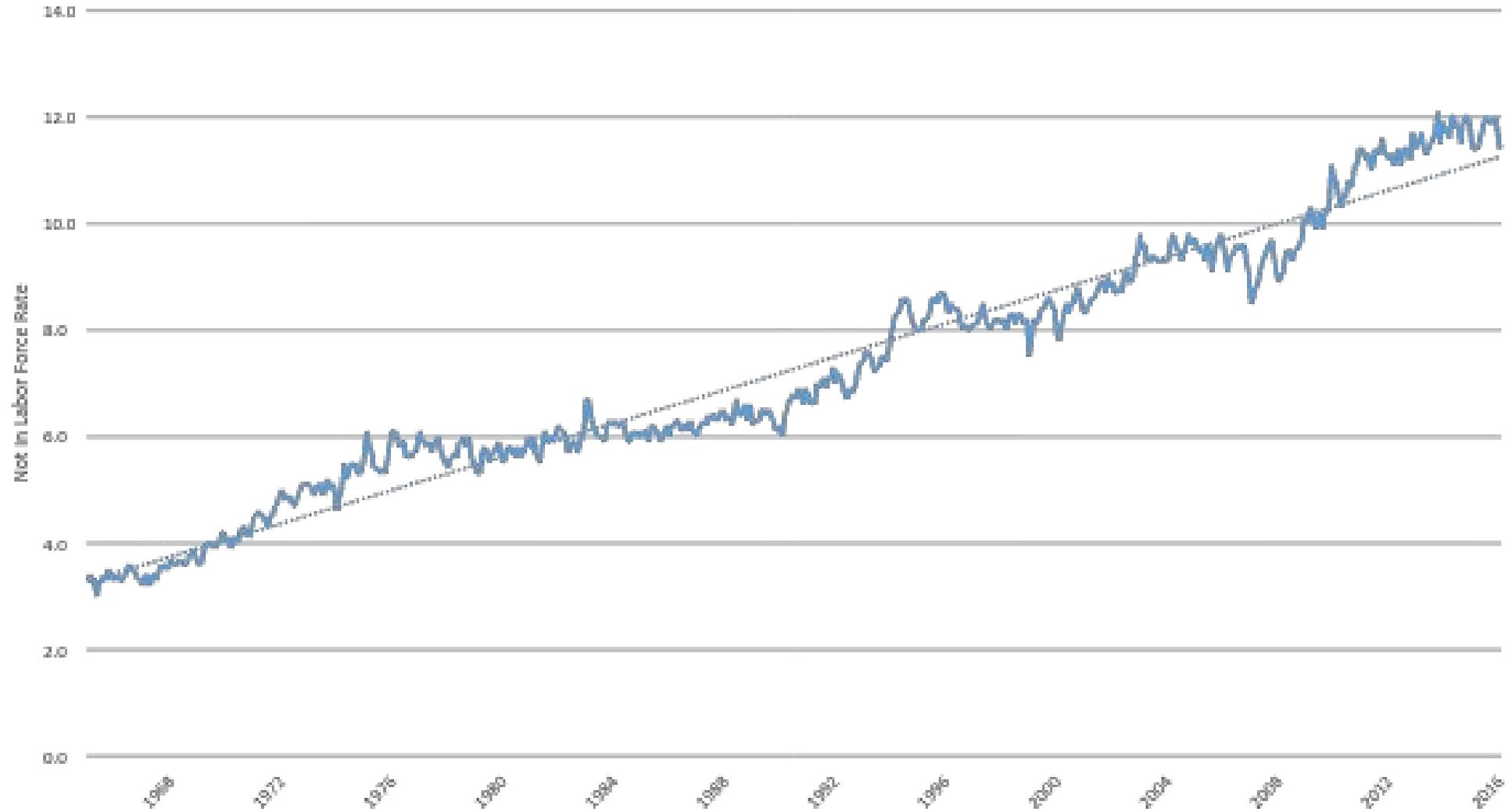
Who is more likely—and less likely—to be in the 7 million+ pool of prime age NILF men?

Relative odds by demographic characteristic: 2015 (Census CPS Microdata)

Race/ Ethnicity		Educational Attainment		Marital Status		Nativity	
Hispanic	-20%	Graduate Studies	-59%	Married	-36%	Foreign Born	-28%
Asian	-10%	Bachelors Degree	-43%	Divorced/ Separated	+41%	Native Born	+8%
“Anglo” (Non-Hispa nic White)	-7%	Some College	-3%	Never Married	+48%		
Multiracial	+31%	HS Degree Only	+25%	Widowed	+116%		
Non-Hispan ic Black	+71%	No HS Degree	+77%				

The Uncanny Regularity of the Male Flight From Work

NILF Rates for Men 25-54 Years of Age: USA, 1965-2016



Notes: Recession variables- The data used to create this figure is from the "Current Population Survey" (CPS) as was downloaded from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The data used to create the regression table in the upper left corner is also from the "Current Population Survey" but was downloaded from IPUMS-CPS for statistical manipulation. 1 if "year" variable falls into any time during the following list of recession dates; 0 otherwise.

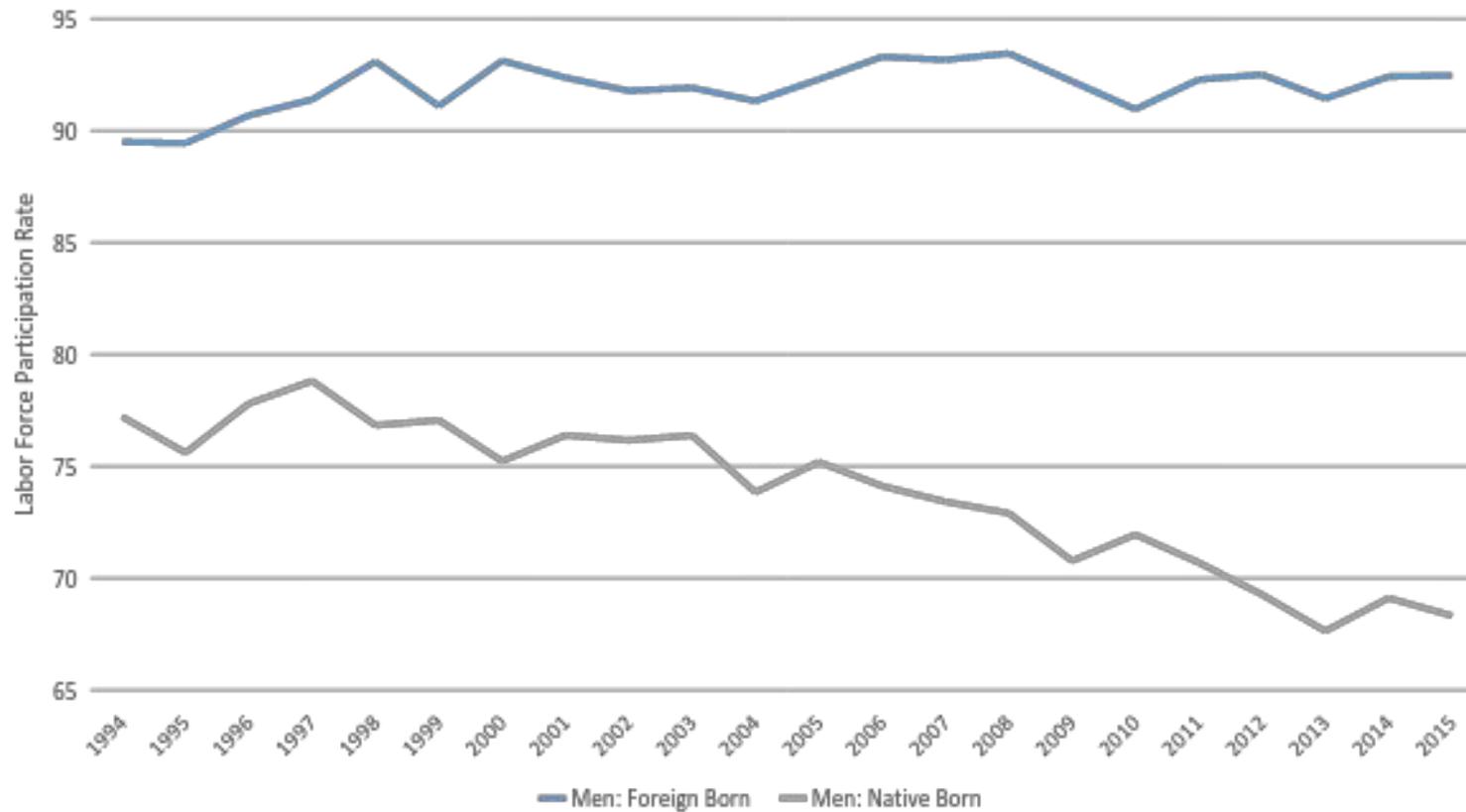
Recession dummy variables for the following recessions spanning the subsequent years- (1969-1970), (1973-1975), (1980-1982), (1990-1991), 2001, and (2007-2009).

Sources: Labor Force Data: Men 25-54 from 1948-2015 (Monthly Data), Bureau of Labor Statistics <http://data.bls.gov/pdq/querytool.jsp?survey=ln>.

Recession Data: National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) "U.S. Business Cycle Expansions and Contractions" <http://www.nber.org/cycles.html>.

Not All High School Dropouts Seem To Have Suffered

Labor Force Participation Rates for Native and Foreign Born Prime Age Men With Less than a High School Education (1994-2015)

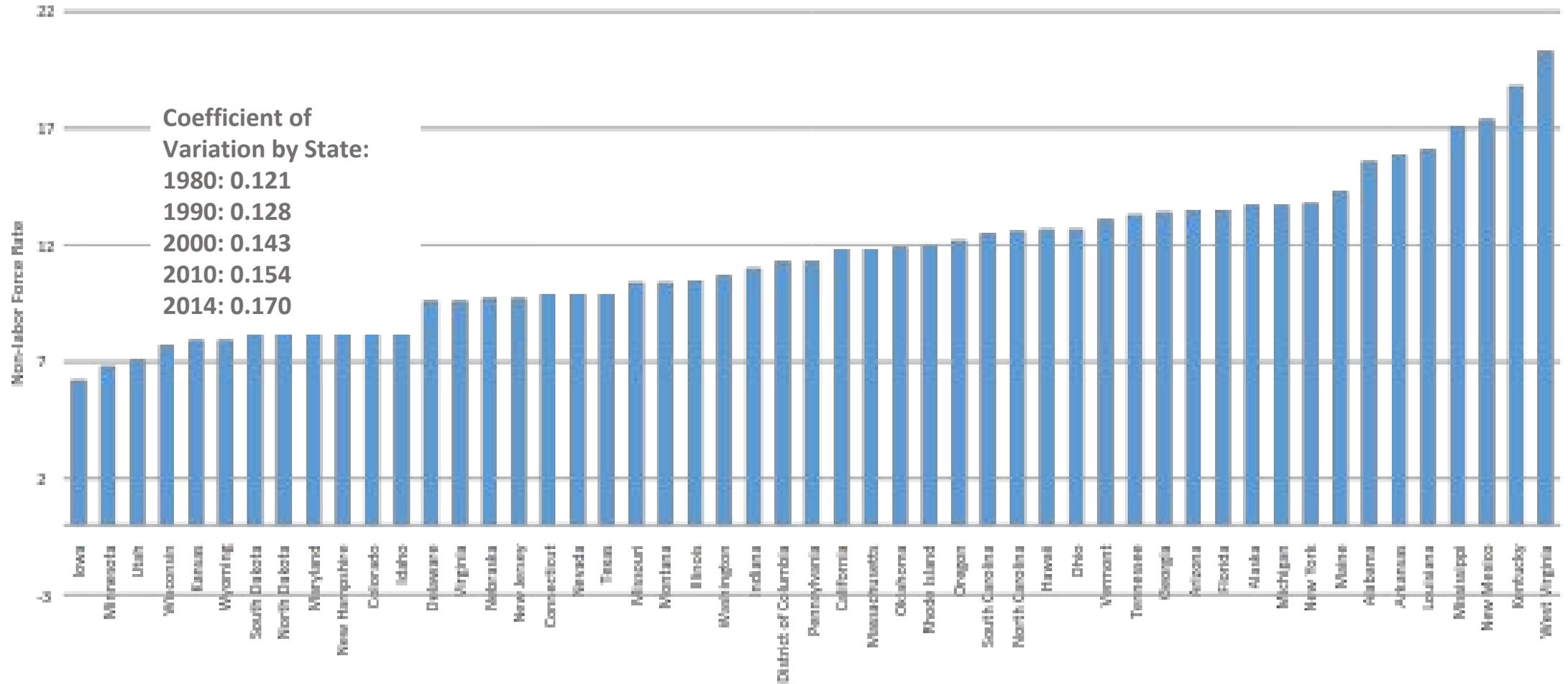


Notes: "Nativity" is a variable that equals 1 if an individual was born either in a territory of the United States or born in one of the fifty United States; "Nativity" equals 0 otherwise.

Source: U.S. Census Data, CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) 1994-2014, "Poverty Status, All income levels" http://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/cps-pov/pov_24.2012.html#par_textimage_10, Date Accessed (July 6th, 2016)

Where Are The U-Hauls?

NILF Rates Among Prime Age Males by State (2015)



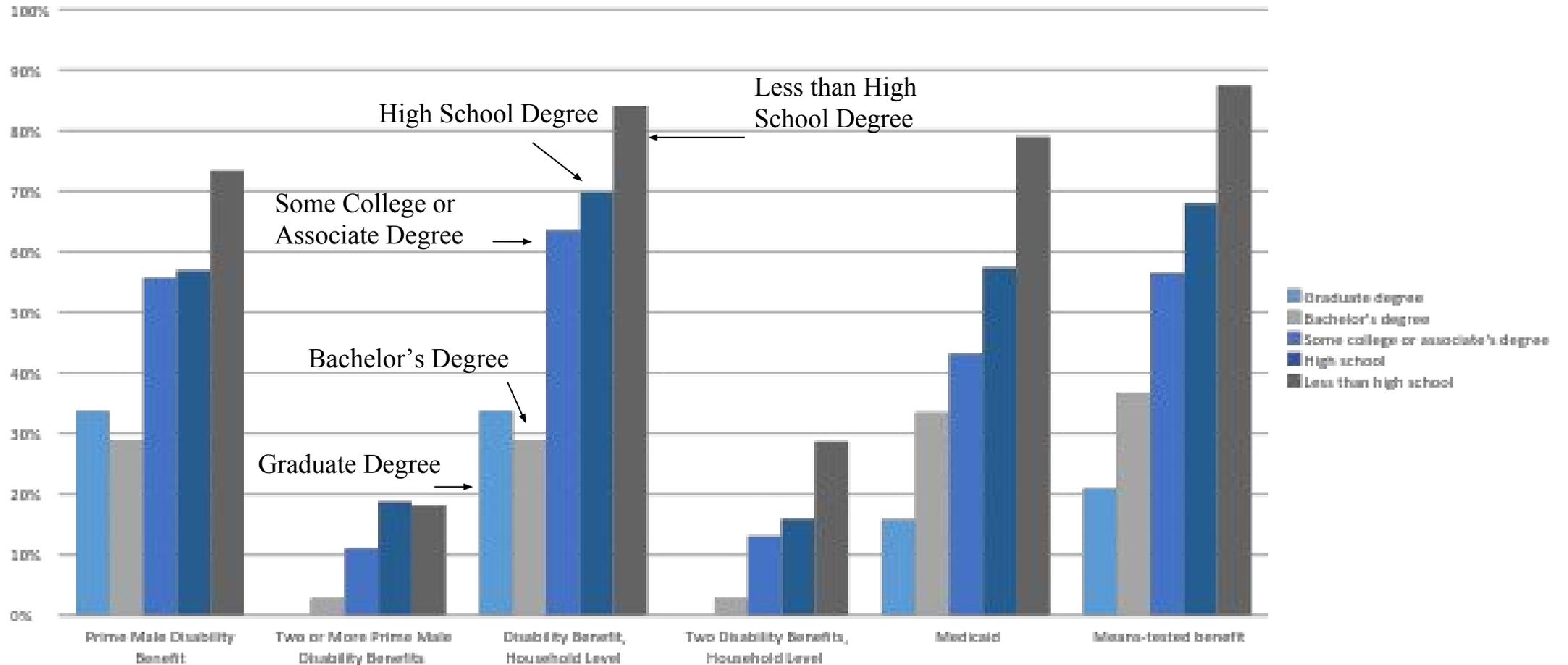
Disability Nation

Reported Recipience of Disability Benefits for Prime Working Age Men 25-54 and their Households: SIPP Survey, 1985 and 2013 (percent)

Year	Employment status	Prime male disability benefit	Two or more prime male disability benefits	Disability benefit, household level	Two disability benefits, household level
1985	Total	4.2	0.6	13.1	1.9
1985	Employed	2.0	0.04	10.1	1.1
1985	Unemployed	4.7	0.17	23.7	2.2
1985 NILF		38.3	9.9	51.9	13.6
2013	Total	6.3	1.1	14.9	2.4
2013	Employed	2.5	0.1	10.6	1.4
2013	Unemployed	4.3	--	21.6	2.2
2013 NILF		56.5	14.1	66.0	15.4

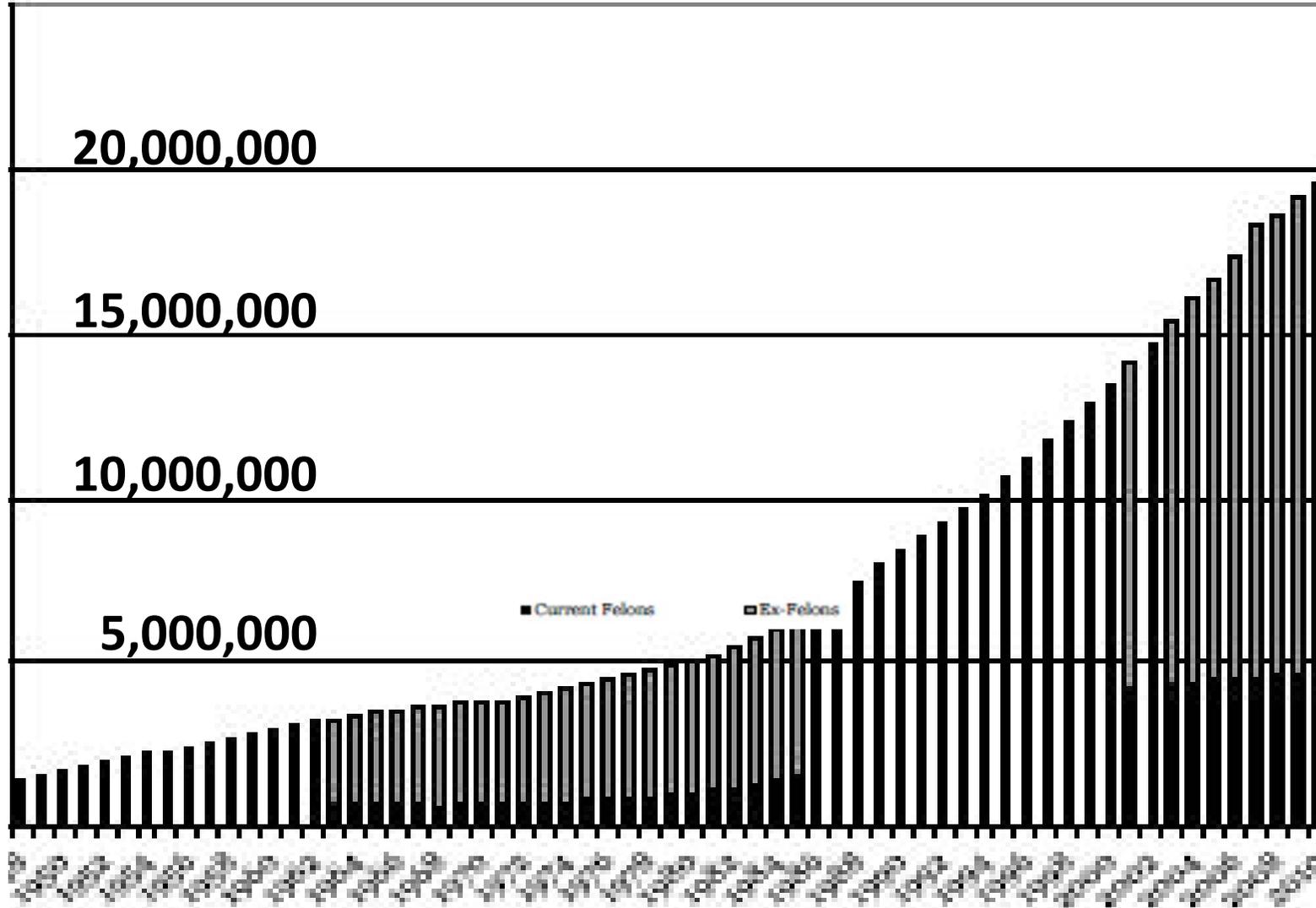
Disability, Medicaid, and the Opioid Epidemic

Reported Recipience of Disability Benefits and Means Tested Benefits by Education: US Prime Age Non-Labor Force Men, 2013 (percent)



Felony Nation

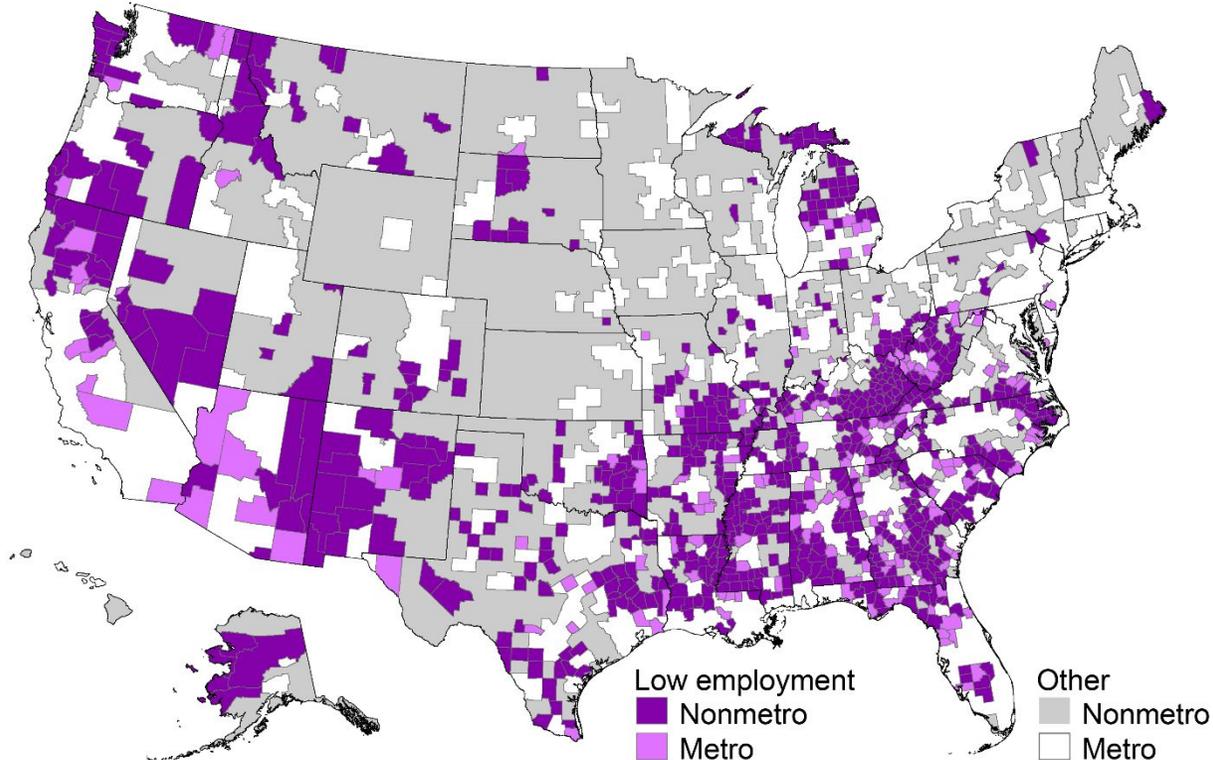
Estimated Population of Felons and Ex-Felons: USA, 1948-2010



Bonus Round:
Rural America in Extremis

Rural Is The New Inner City

Low employment counties, 2015 edition



Of America's 906 low-work counties in 2008/12,
720 were non-Metro

("Low work" defined as 35%+ of population
25-64 years of age with no paid employment)

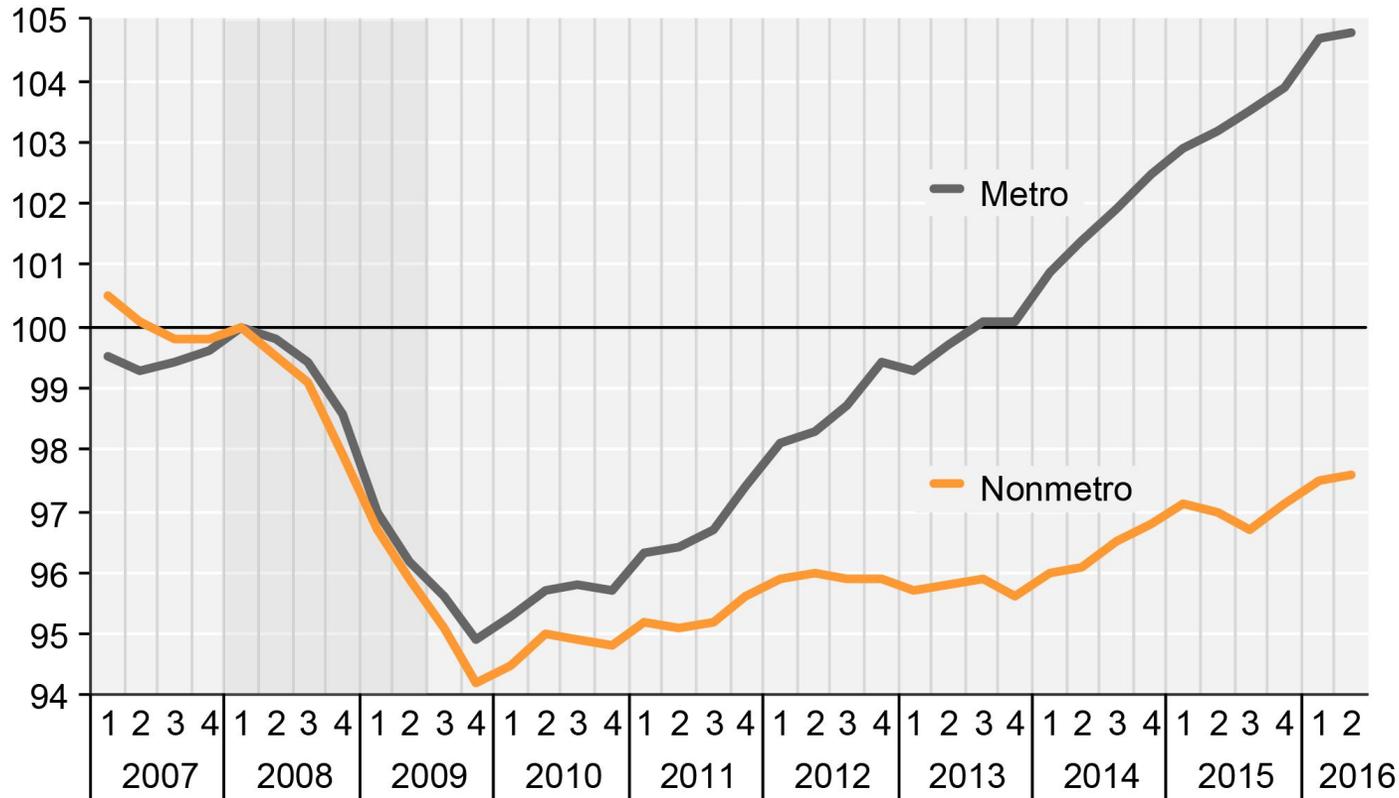
Low employment counties are those where less than 65 percent of county residents age 25-64 were employed, determined by the American Community Survey 5-year average data for 2008-12.

Note that county boundaries are drawn for the low employment counties only.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from U.S. Census Bureau.

U.S. employment, metro and nonmetro areas, 2007-2016 (quarterly)

Employment, index (2008 Q1=100)



Notes: Data are seasonally adjusted. Shaded area indicates recession period.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS).

The Great Recession hit non-Metro areas harder—
And recovery has been much weaker in them

Image source: "Rural Employment and Education," USDA, March 17, 2017, available online at

<https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/rural-economy-population/employment-education/rural-employment-and-unemployment/>. Accessed on May 5, 2017.

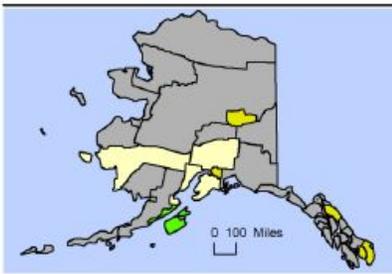
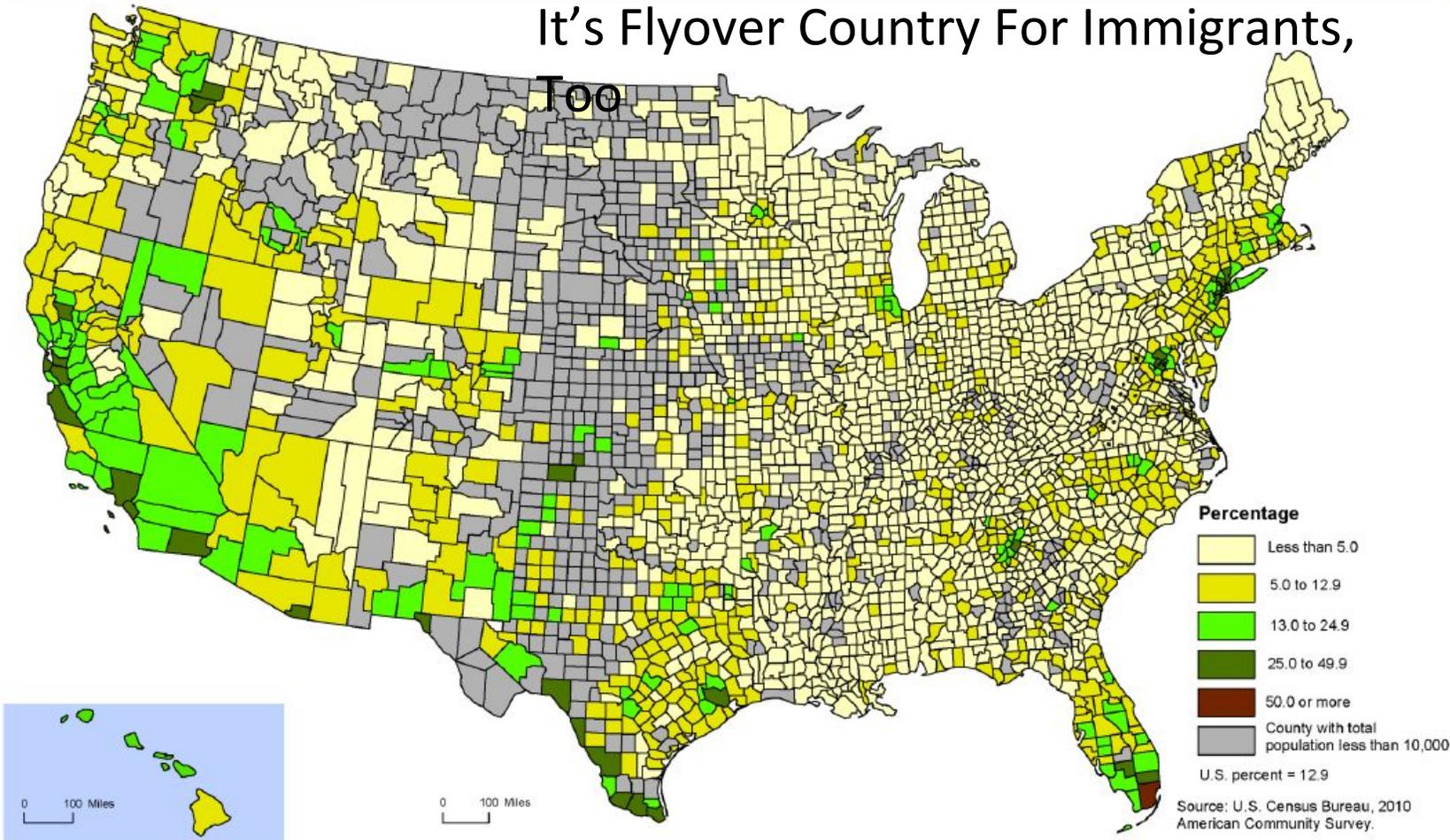


Figure 13.

Foreign-Born Population as Percent of County Population: 2010

(Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/acs/www)



“The White Death”

All-cause mortality by race and ethnicity: USA, ages 50-54, 1999-2015

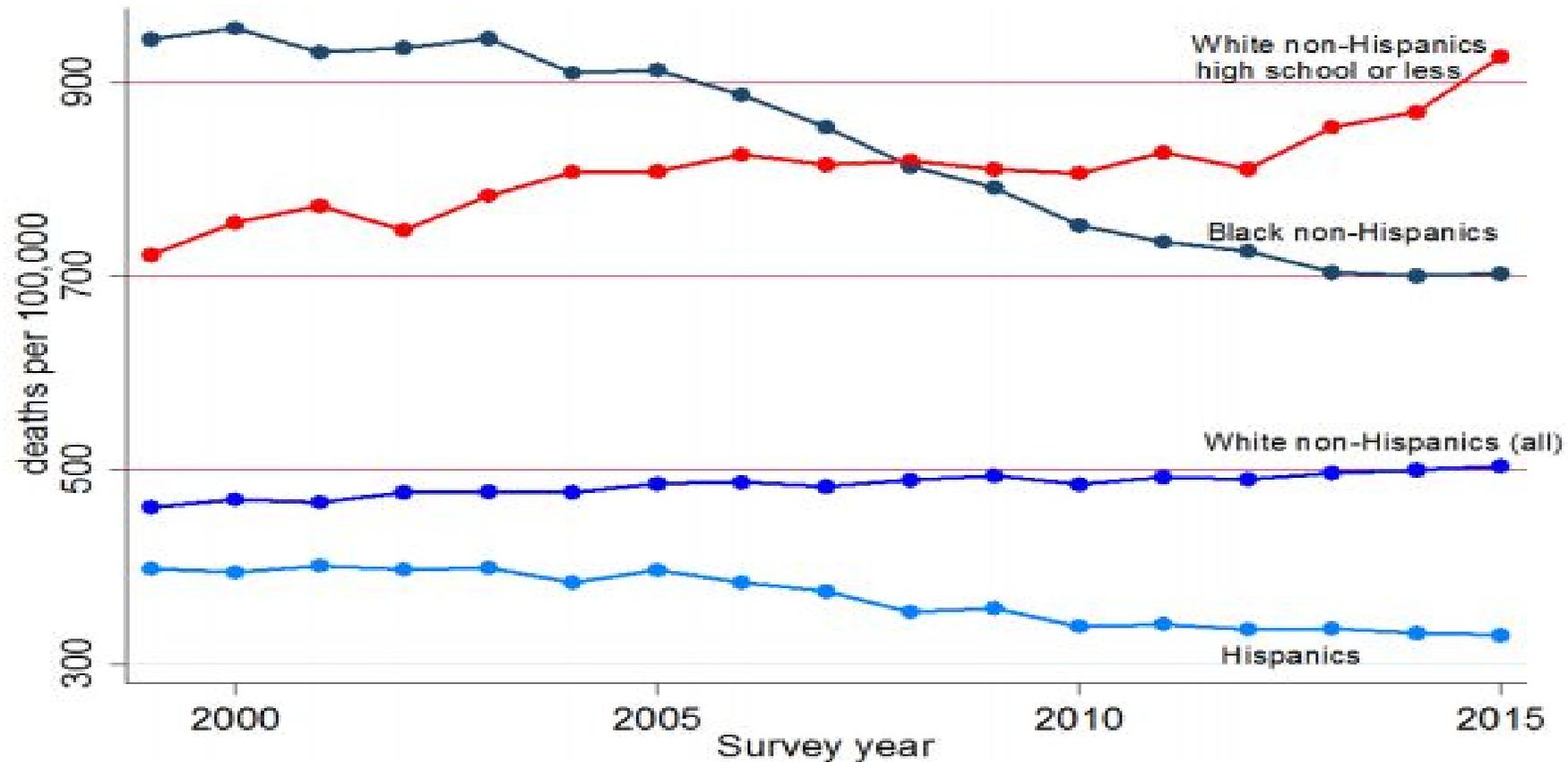


Image source: “Mortality and morbidity in the 21st century,” Anne Case and Angus Deaton, *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity Conference Drafts*, March 23-25, 2017, available online at https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/6_casedeaton.pdf. Accessed on May 5, 2017.

The Geography of the White Death

All-cause mortality, white non-Hispanics, ages 45-54

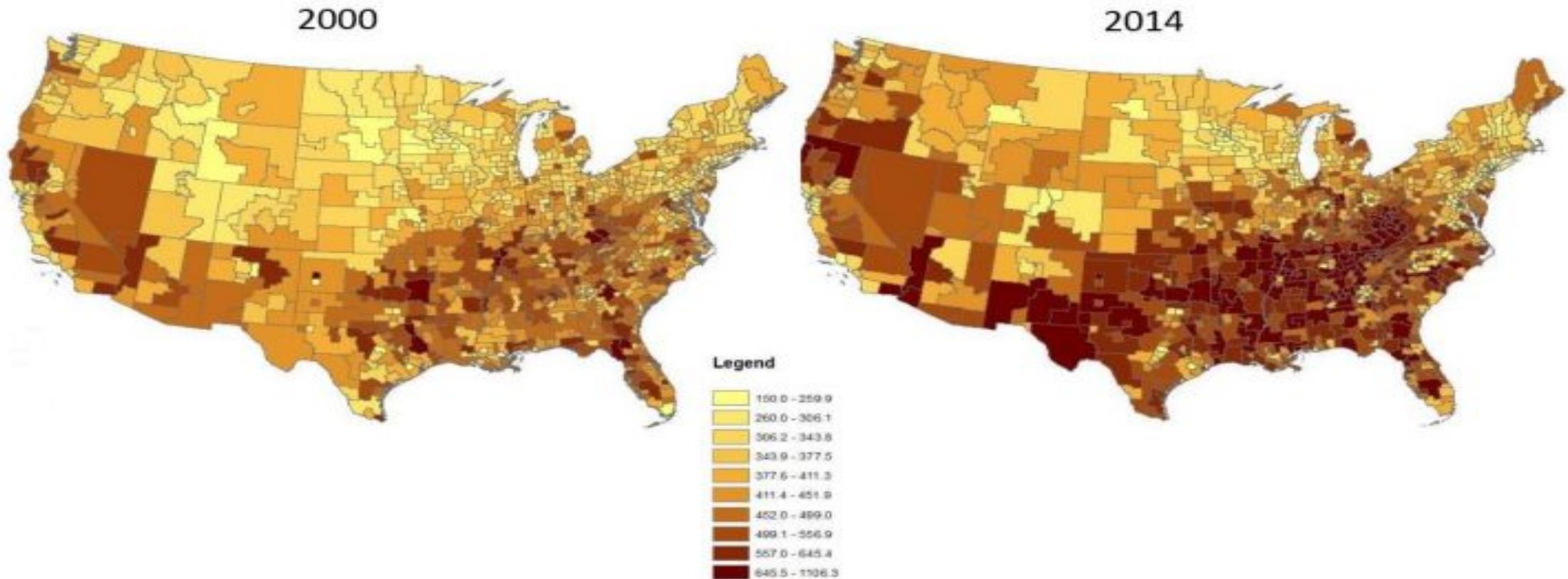


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The Geography of “Deaths of Despair”

Drug, alcohol and suicide mortality, white non-Hispanic ages 45-54

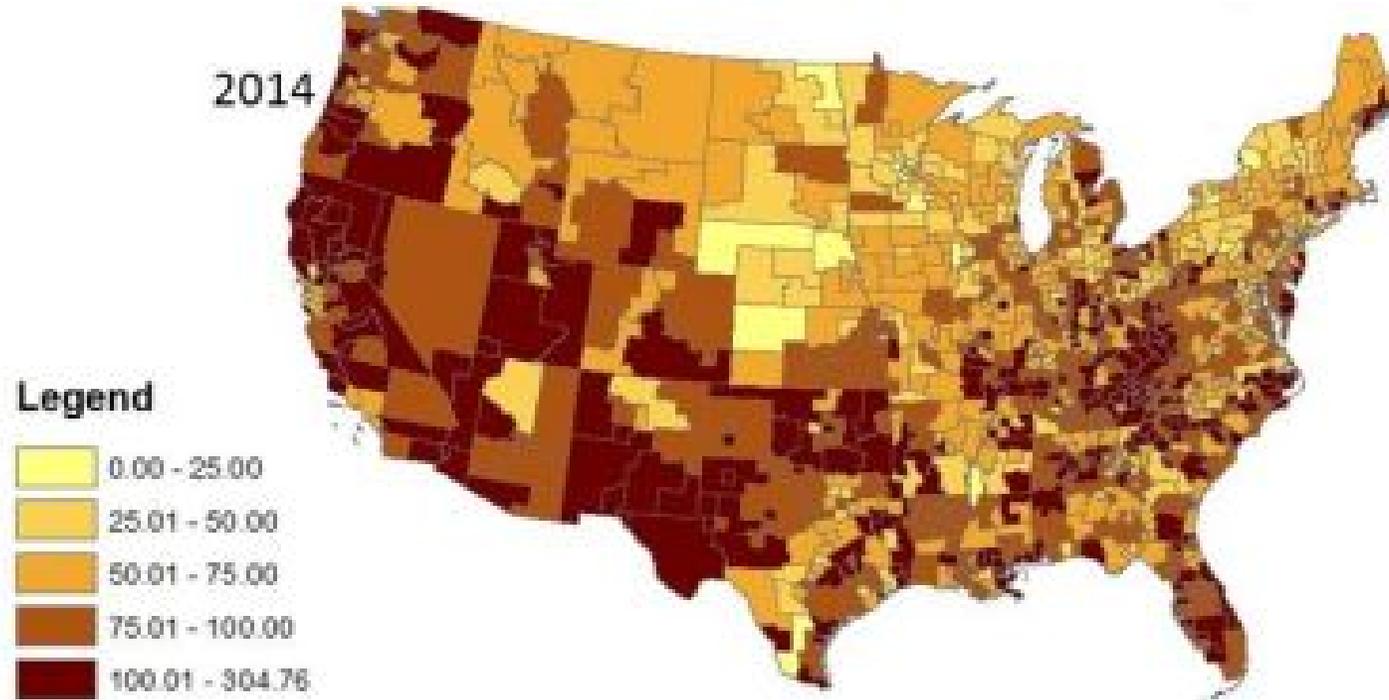
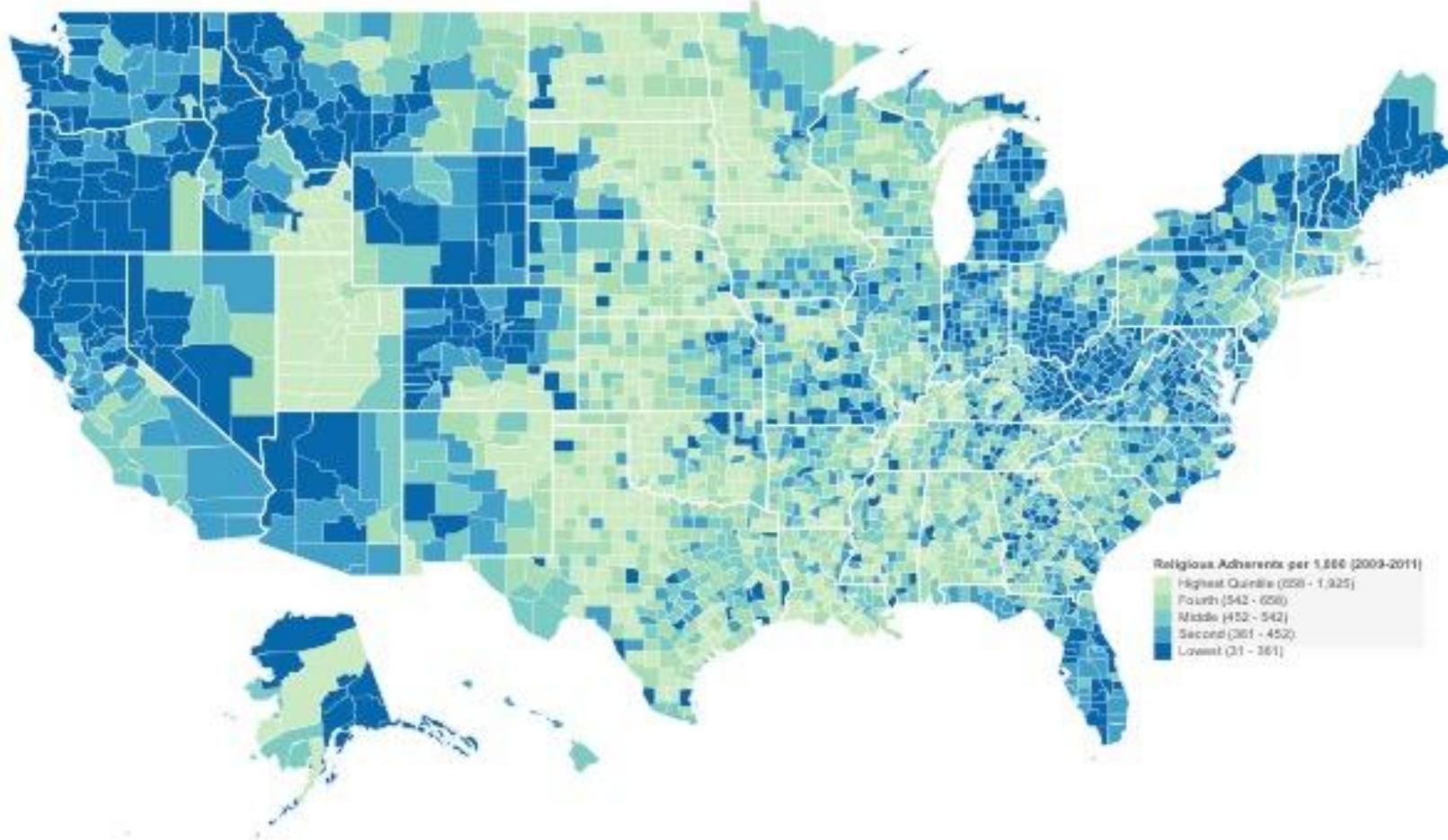


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Less God, More Despair?

Religious Adherents per Thousand People, by County, 2009-2011



Source: U.S. Religion Census: Religious Congregations and Membership Study, 2010 (County File), The Association of Religion Data Archives. Note: Some counties have adherence rates above 1,000, indicating more adherents in the county than residents. In those cases, it is likely that people in neighboring counties commute in. See interactive map online here: <https://lee.senate.gov/scp/adherents.html>