

# Demographic Trends in North Dakota

**Ina Cernusca**  
**North Dakota Compass**  
**Center for Social Research**  
**North Dakota State University**

# NORTH DAKOTA COMPASS

**NORTH DAKOTA COMPASS** ... Measuring progress. Inspiring action.

TOPICS: Aging, Children & Youth, Civic Engagement, Demographics, Disparities, Early Childhood, Economy, Education, Environment, Health, Housing, Workforce

**WELCOME TO NORTH DAKOTA COMPASS**

ND Compass provides and promotes the use of credible data to improve the quality of life in North Dakota.

A project of the Center for Social Research at North Dakota State University, ND Compass provides reliable and consistent information needed by North Dakota's community, policy, organizational, non-profit, and business leaders who must plan for the future in an environment of continuous change. [MORE >](#)

**TRENDS**

- Major trends
- Compass Points 2019

**NEW/UPDATED DATA**

Get the full listing of new and updated charts [here!](#)

**JOIN THE CONVERSATION**

How are you using ND Compass data? Know ways our website could be improved? [We want your testimonials and input!](#)

**DATA HIGHLIGHT**

The number and percentage of older adults who are working continue to increase in North Dakota.

**Number and percentage of older adults (age 65+) working**  
North Dakota, 2008-2017

**2019 COMPASS POINTS**

**ND COMPASS TUTORIALS**

**GEOGRAPHIC PROFILES**

Find data organized by geographic area. Get profiles by state, planning region, Native American reservation area, county, metropolitan and micropolitan areas, and cities with populations of at least 1,000 people. [View profiles >](#)

**STATE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT PROFILES**

Highlighting measures focusing on population, household, social, and economic characteristics for each of the 47 districts in North Dakota. [View profiles >](#)

**COMMUNITY BUILDING TOOLKIT**

Explore the ND Compass Community Building Toolkit. It provides a framework and resources to improve your community development.

**FEATURED ARTICLE**

**Behind the scenes – The story of the North Dakota State Legislative District Profiles.**

*Ina Cernusca is a research specialist within the Center for Social Research at NDSU and the Project Director for North Dakota Compass. North Dakota Compass provides a curated collection of reliable, accurate, and unbiased demographic and socio-economic data on a variety of topics to support decision making and community engagement in North Dakota.*

*Karen Olson is an information specialist and the Program Director for North Dakota KIDS COUNT. Sponsored by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, North Dakota KIDS COUNT measures the educational, social, economic, and physical well-being of children in North Dakota in order to inform local and state discussions about how to secure better futures for all of North Dakota's children.*

North Dakota Compass provides and promotes the use of reliable, accurate, and unbiased demographic, economic, and socio-economic data to support informed decision making and community engagement in North Dakota.

# NORTH DAKOTA KIDS COUNT

By providing policymakers and citizens with benchmarks of child well-being, North Dakota KIDS COUNT seeks to enrich local and state discussions concerning ways to secure a better future for all children.

**North Dakota KIDS COUNT**  
Measuring child well-being in North Dakota, county by county

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**Publications**  
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**Topics**

**Welcome!**

North Dakota KIDS COUNT is a statewide effort to track the status of children in North Dakota. It is sponsored by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and supported by the Center for Social Research at North Dakota State University. By providing policymakers and citizens with benchmarks of child well-being, North Dakota KIDS COUNT seeks to enrich local and state discussions concerning ways to secure a better future for all children.

**DATA UPDATES, NEWS REPORTS & MORE**

Subscribe to ND KIDS COUNT monthly newsletter to receive news & updates

**Subscribe**

**FEATURED**

**North Dakota 11th in nation for child well-being.**  
Although North Dakota ranks well in economic, family, and community indicators, several challenges exist with respect to education and health that could harm children if there is an undercount in the 2020 Census. [Read more in the 2019 KIDS COUNT® Data Book!](#) And, check out these videos to learn how the U.S. child population has changed since 1990 (see video) and to see how states compare (see video) in this year's *Data Book*.

**Many Children and Families in North Dakota Face Barriers to Financial Stability**  
For children experiencing the effects of lower family incomes in North Dakota, barriers to moving out of poverty are more prevalent depending on where they live, age, race, and family composition. Learn more in this month's *Insights on Children*.

**2019 State Legislative District Profiles now available!**  
The 2019 demographic and socio-economic profiles highlight 16 measures focusing on population, household, social, and economic characteristics for all 47 legislative districts in ND. Each profile compares the individual district with North Dakota and the U.S.

# DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

- Population Changes
- Age Distribution
- Gender Breakdown
- Racial & Ethnic Composition

# POPULATION CHANGES



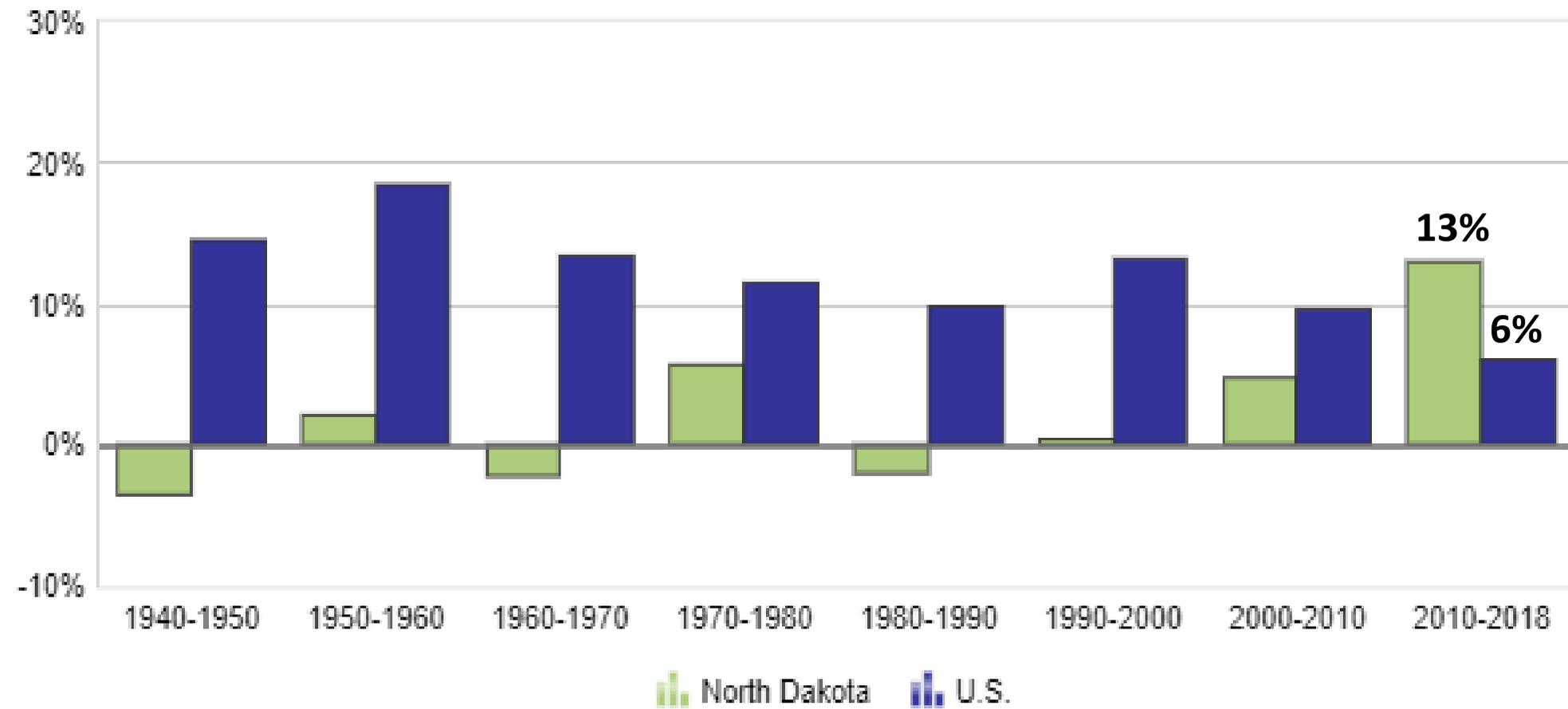
# QUESTION

The population increase in North Dakota from 2010 to 2018 is:

- a) Larger than the U.S.
- b) About the same as U.S.
- c) Smaller than the U.S.

# POPULATION CHANGE

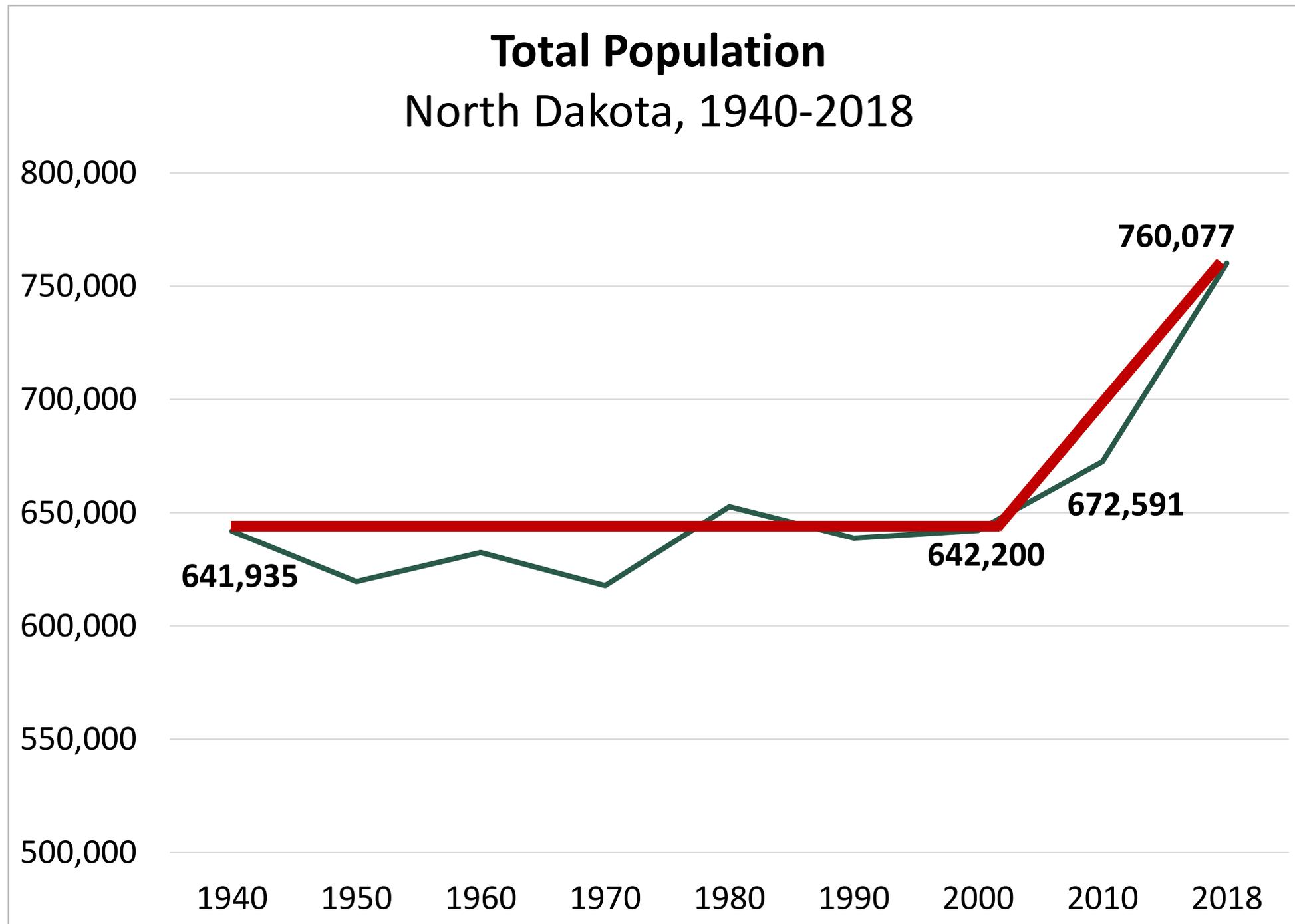
Population change by period  
North Dakota and U.S., 1940-2018



Compiled by  
Compass

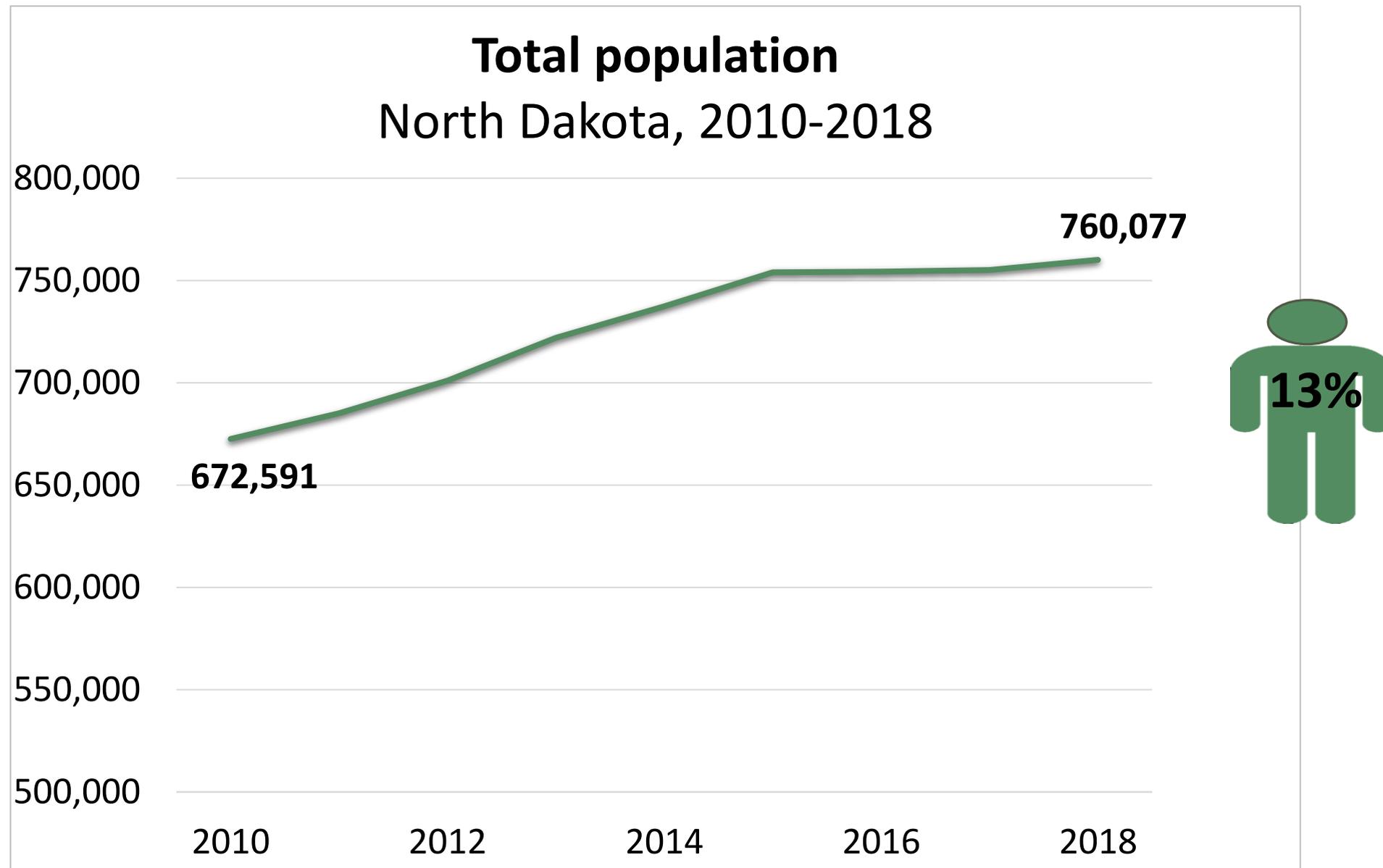
Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Population

# POPULATION CHANGE



Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Population

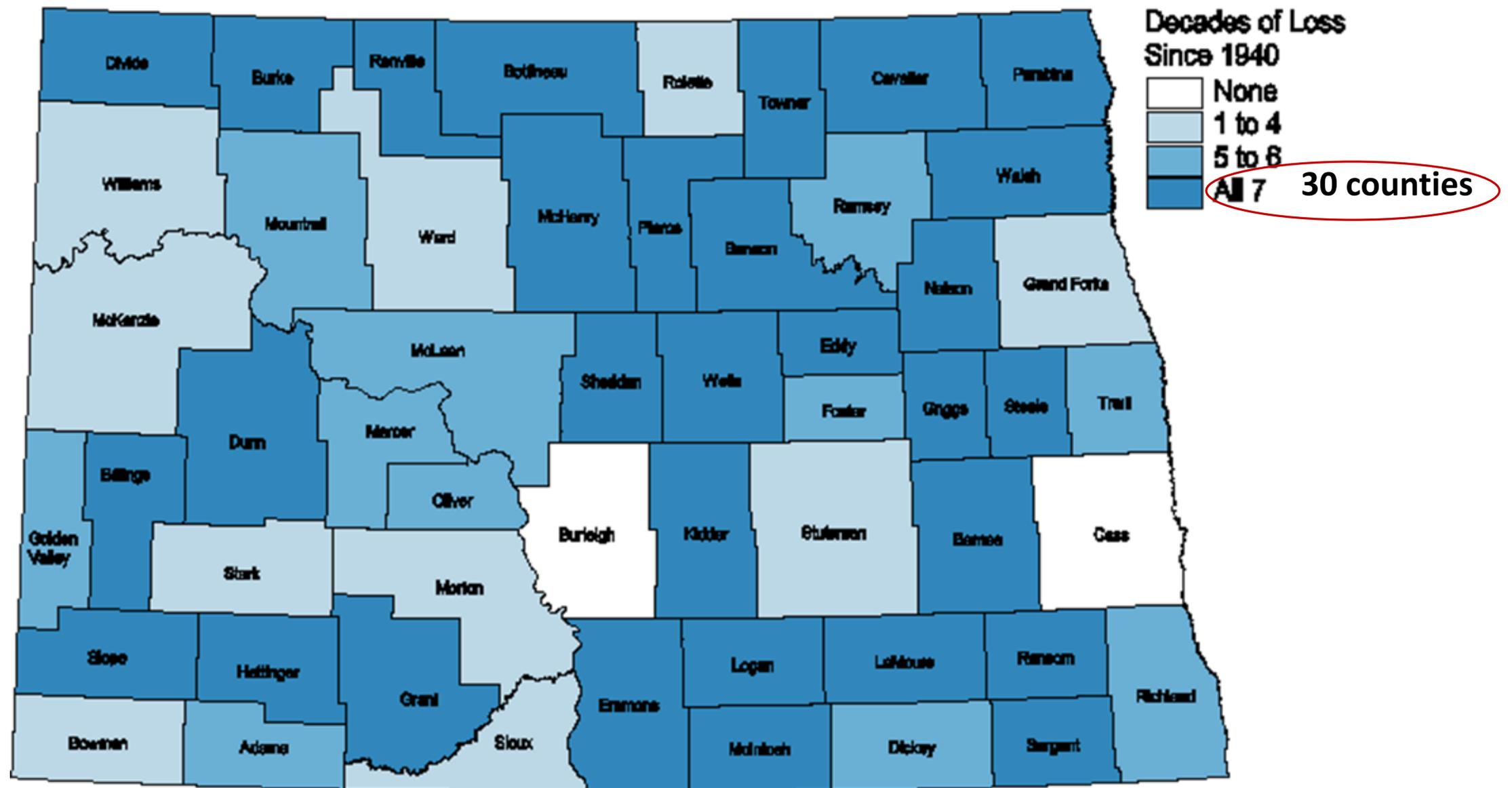
# POPULATION CHANGE



Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Population

# POPULATION CHANGE

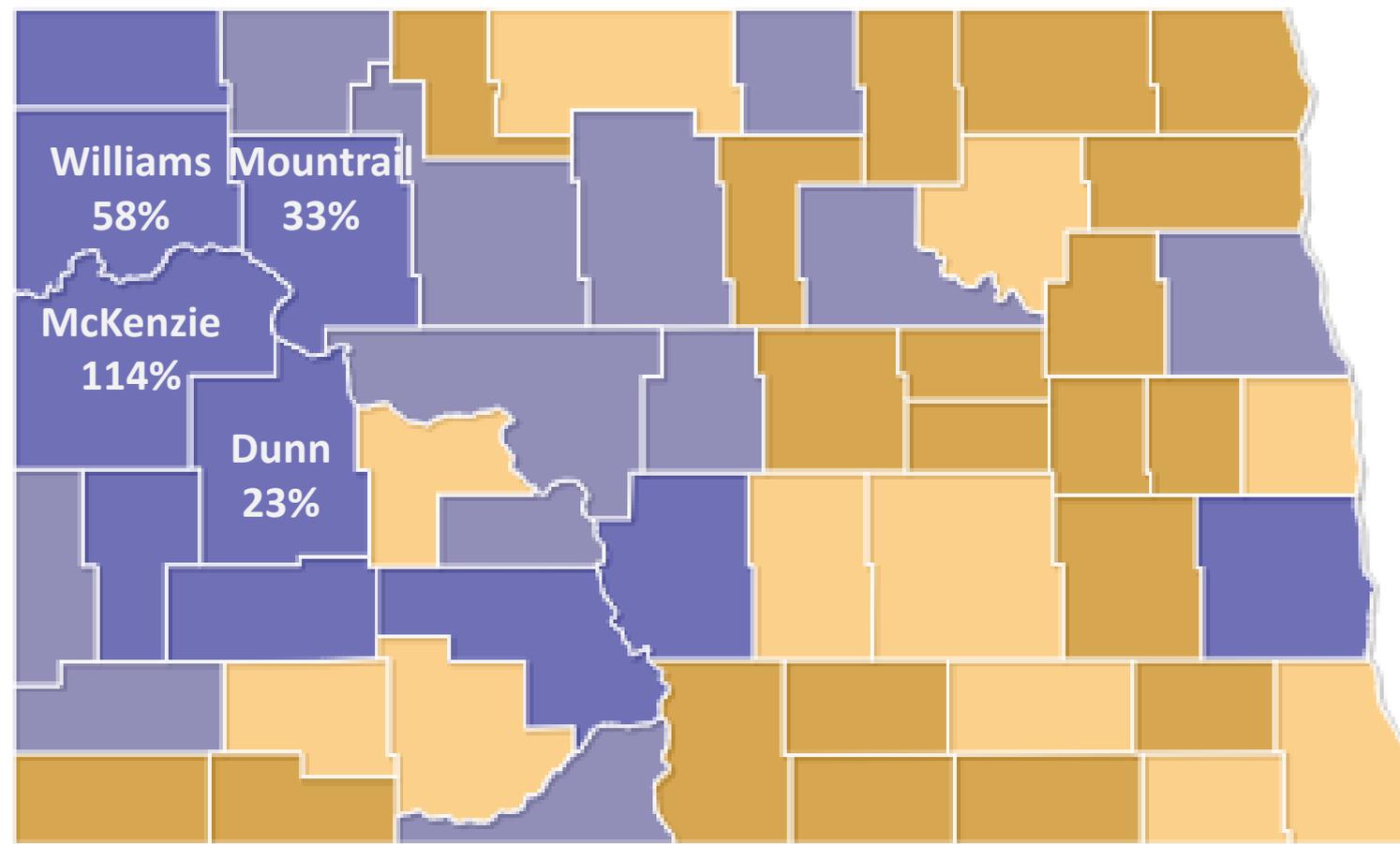
## Population Loss North Dakota counties, 1940-2010



Source: 2012 ND Statewide Housing Needs Assessment

# POPULATION CHANGE

Population change  
North Dakota counties, 2010-2018



- Growth of 10.0% or more
- Growth of 2.0 to 9.9%
- Steady (change of -1.9 to 1.9%)
- Decline of 2.0% or more

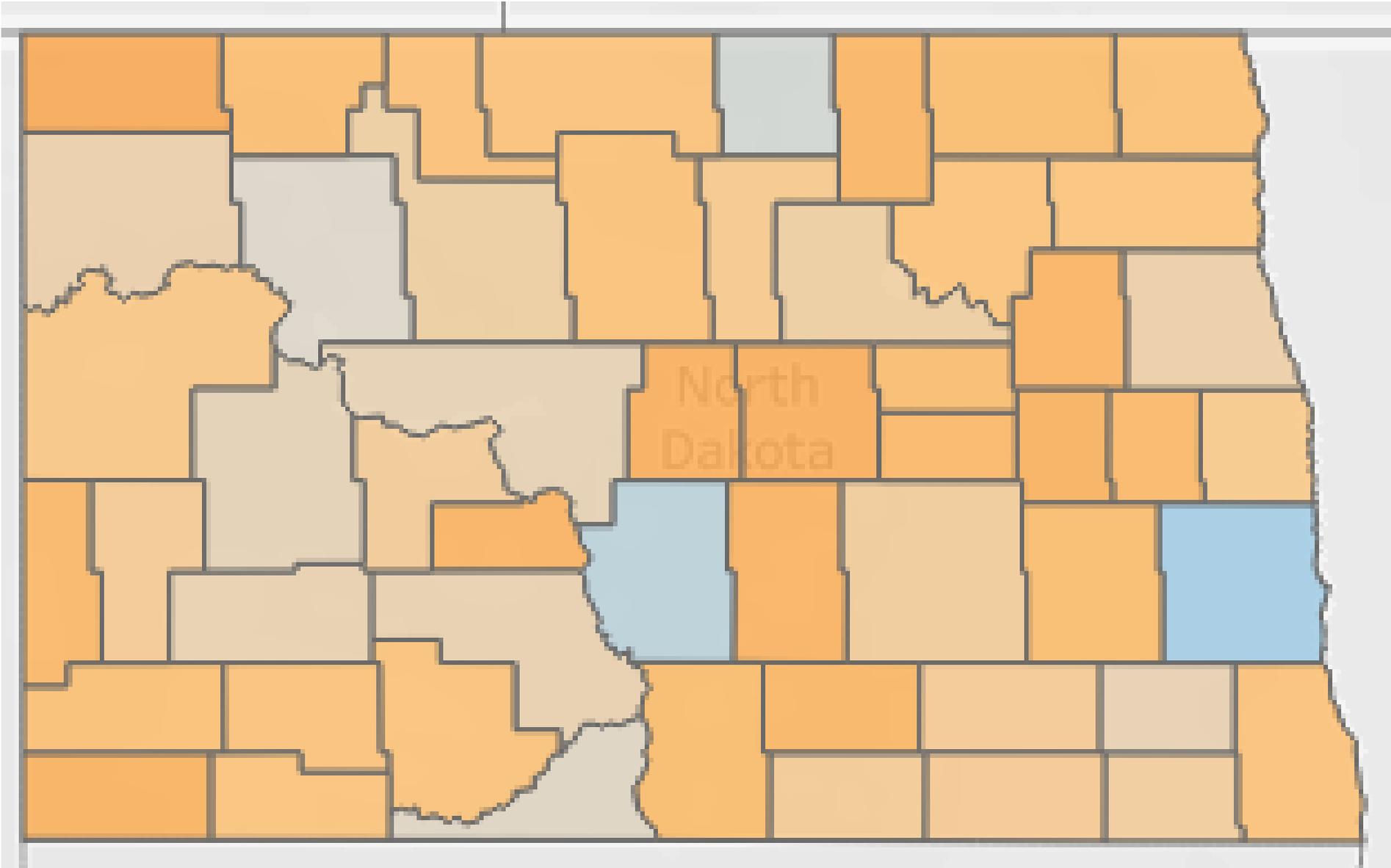
Compiled by  
Compass

Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Population

# POPULATION CHANGE BY COUNTY

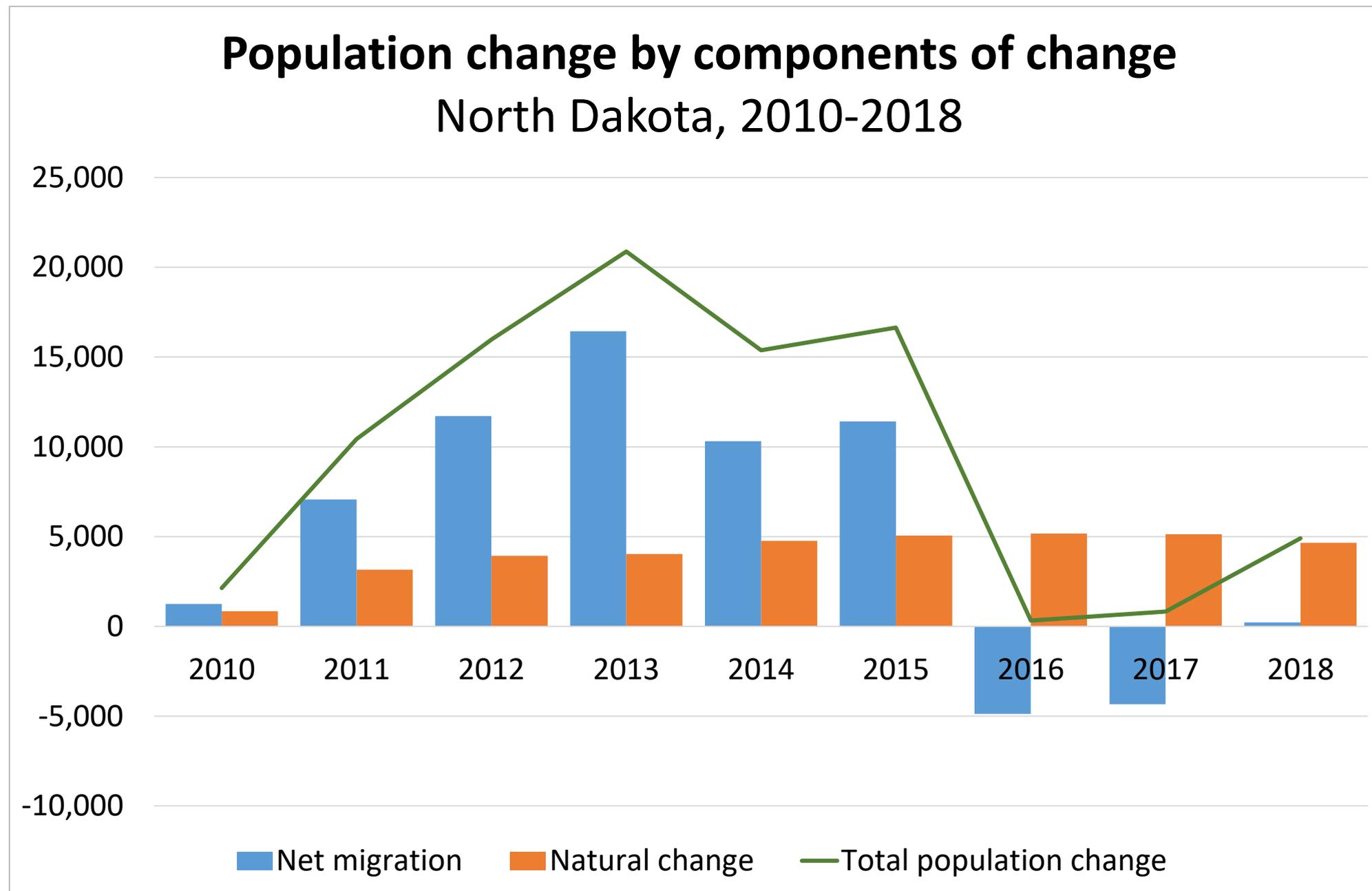
(annual percentage change)

2000-2018



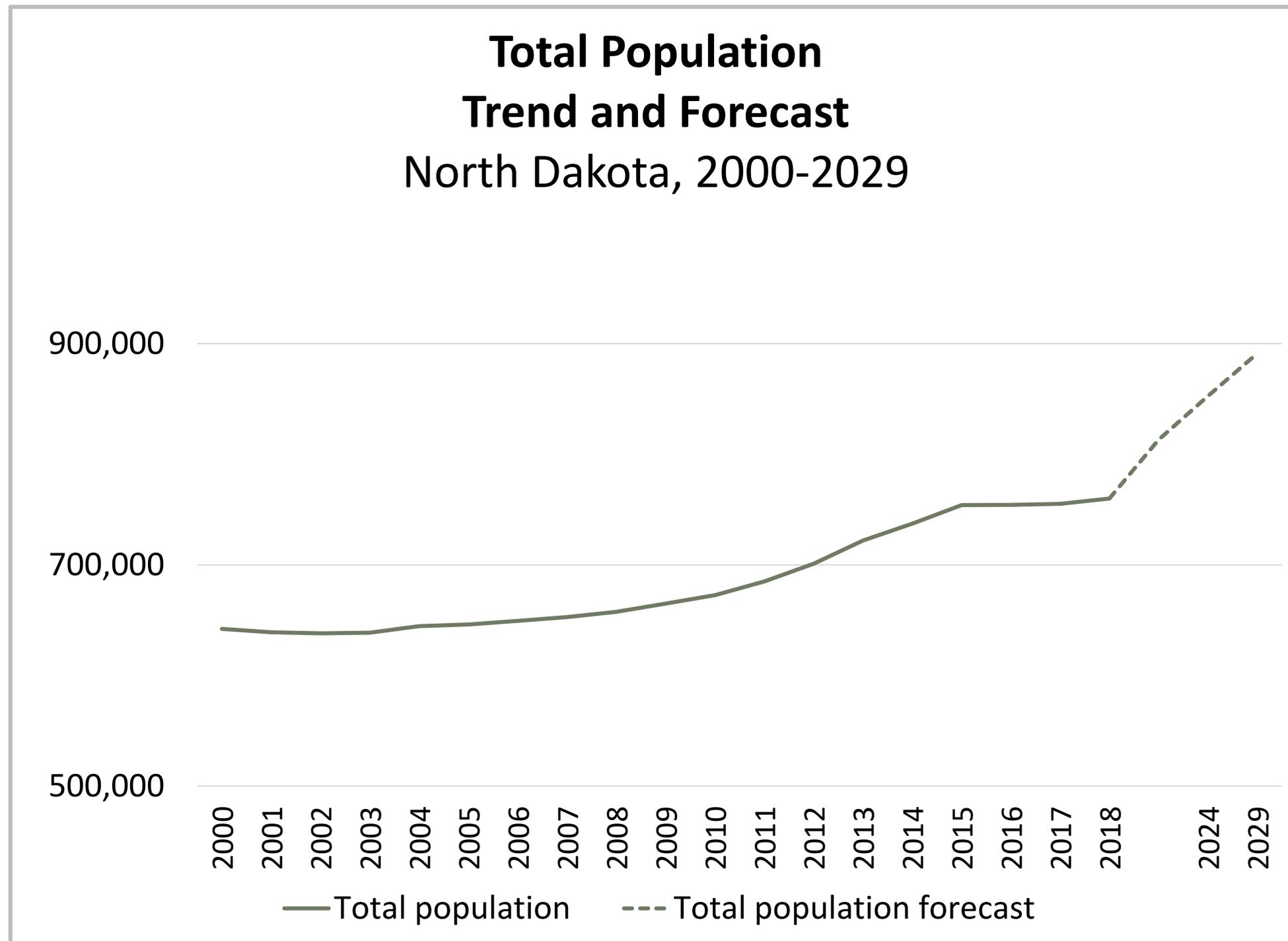
Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Population

# COMPONENTS OF CHANGE



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 Population estimates

# POPULATION PROJECTIONS



Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Population; 2016 ND Statewide Housing Needs Assessment

# POPULATION TRENDS SUMMARY

- North Dakota experienced extraordinary growth from 2000 to 2018.
- The change has not been consistent across the state.

# AGE DISTRIBUTION



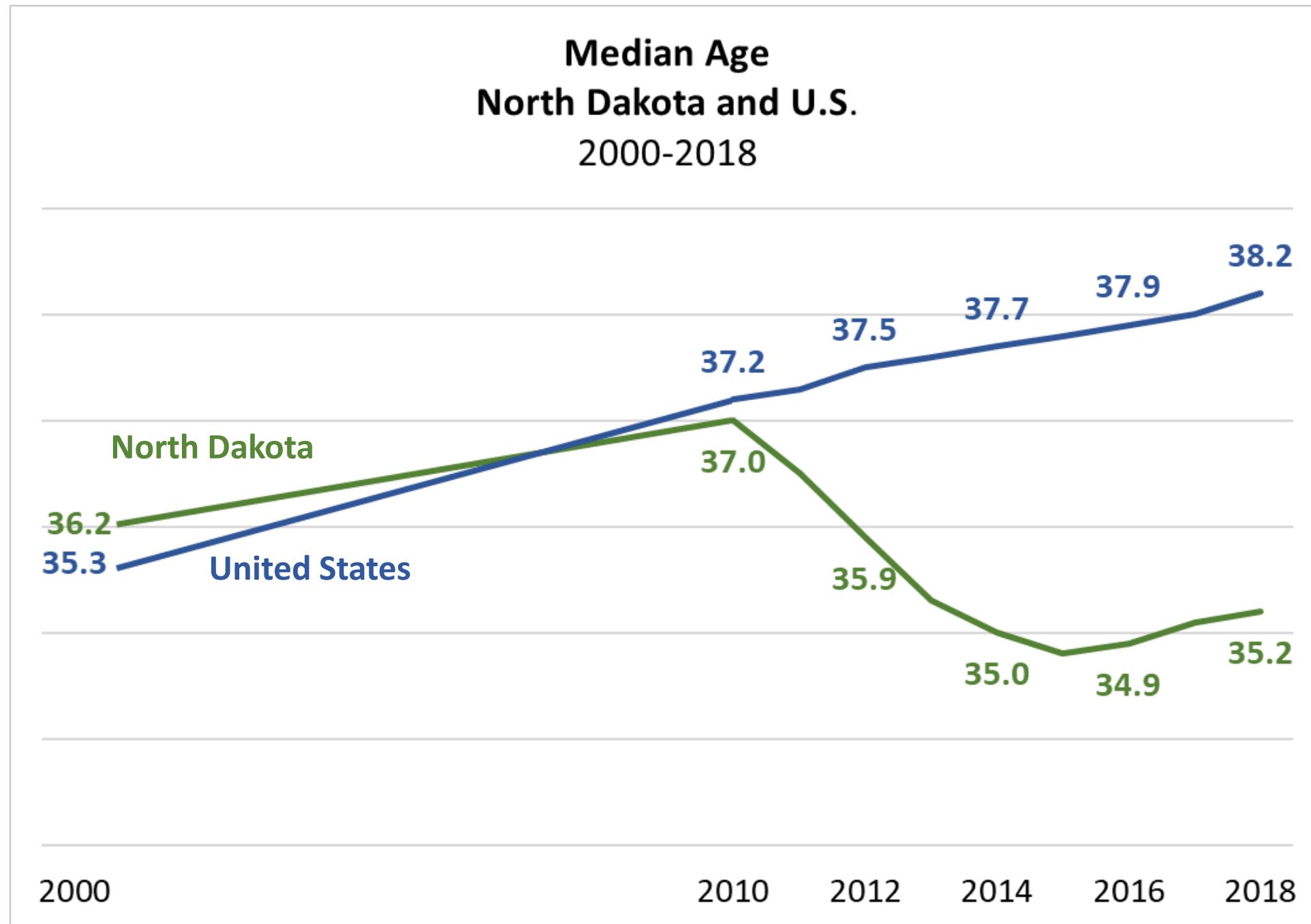
# QUESTION

North Dakota's median age is higher than the U.S.

a) True

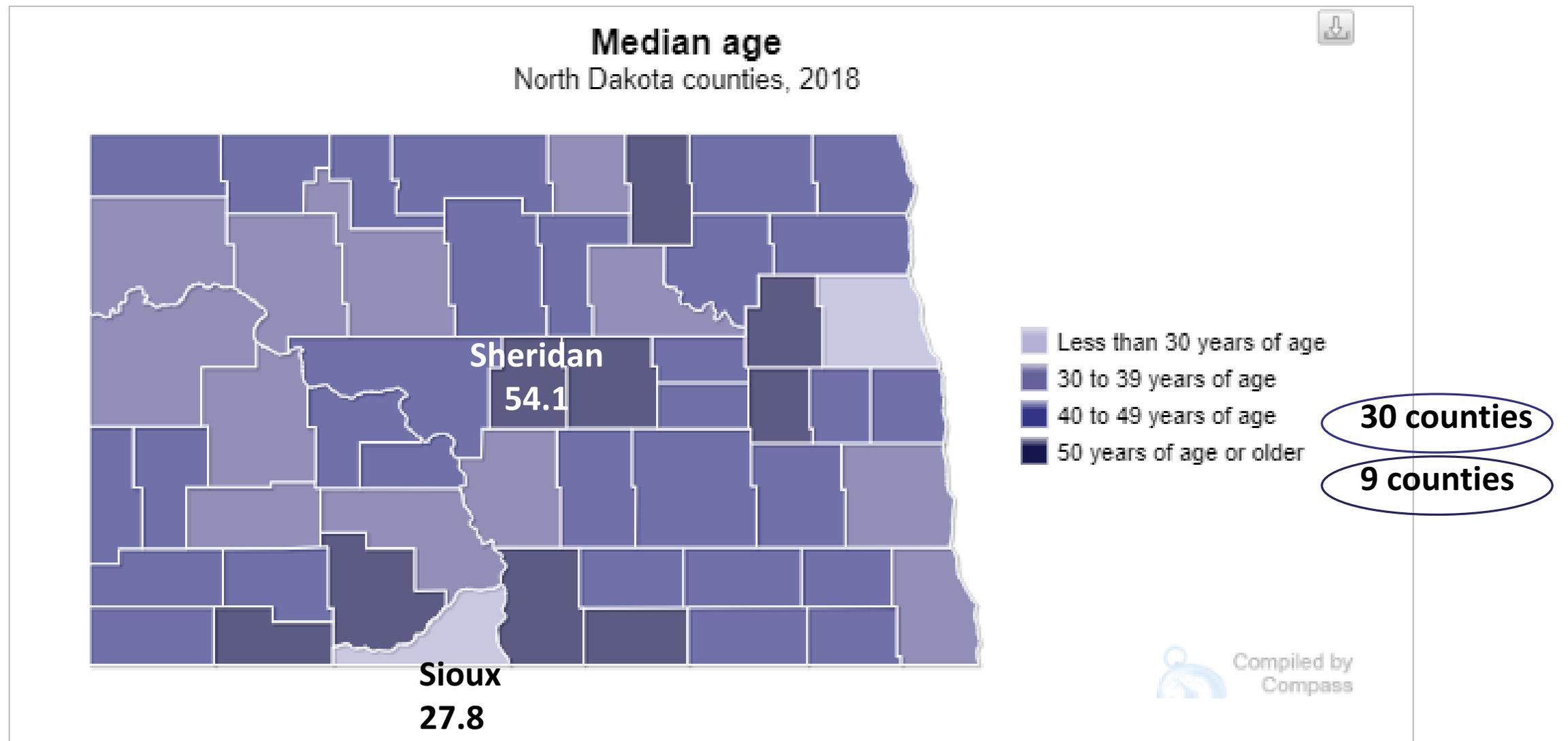
b) False

# MEDIAN AGE



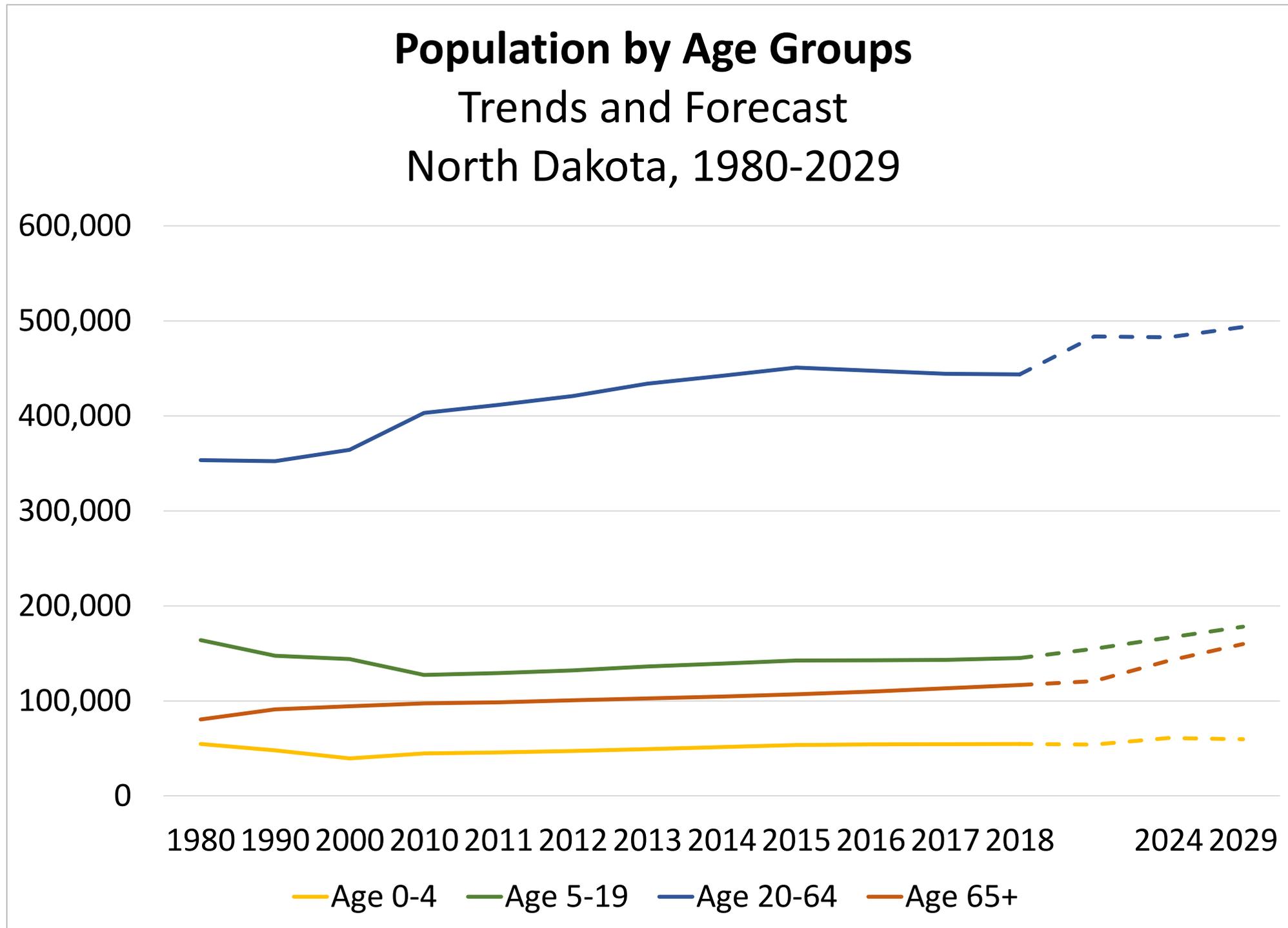
Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Age

# MEDIAN AGE



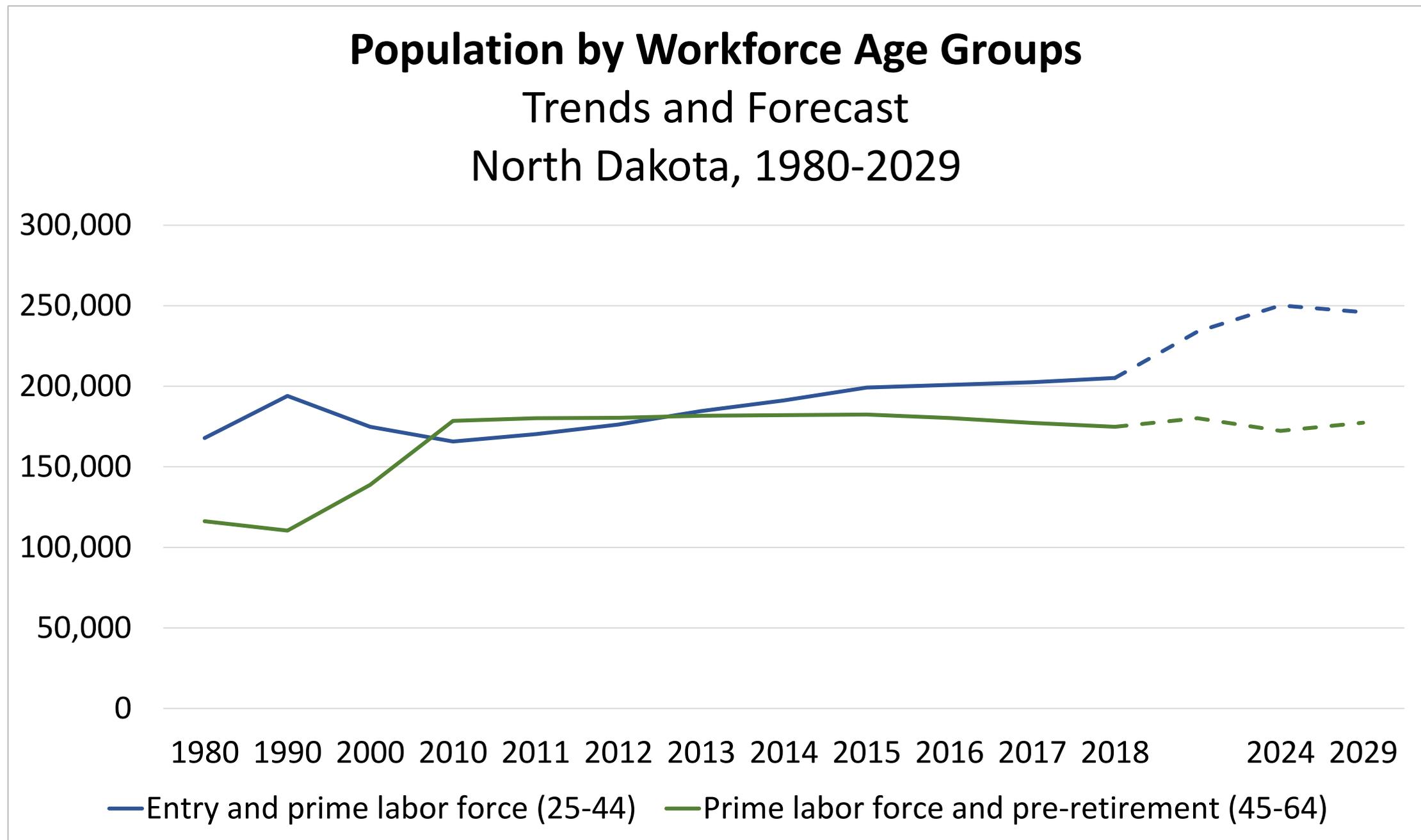
Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Age

# AGE STRUCTURE



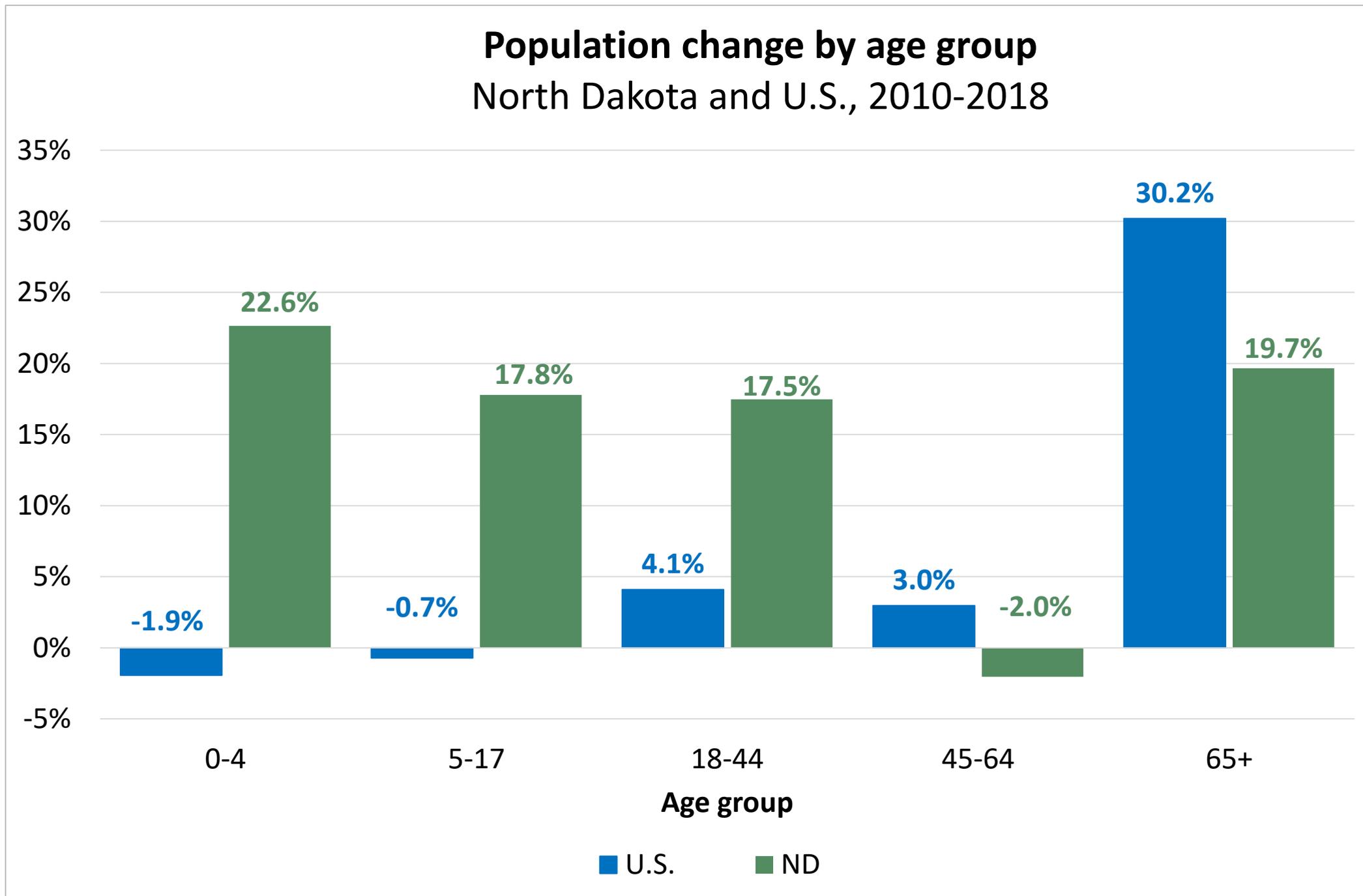
Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Age; 2016 ND Statewide Housing Needs Assessment

# AGE GROUPS



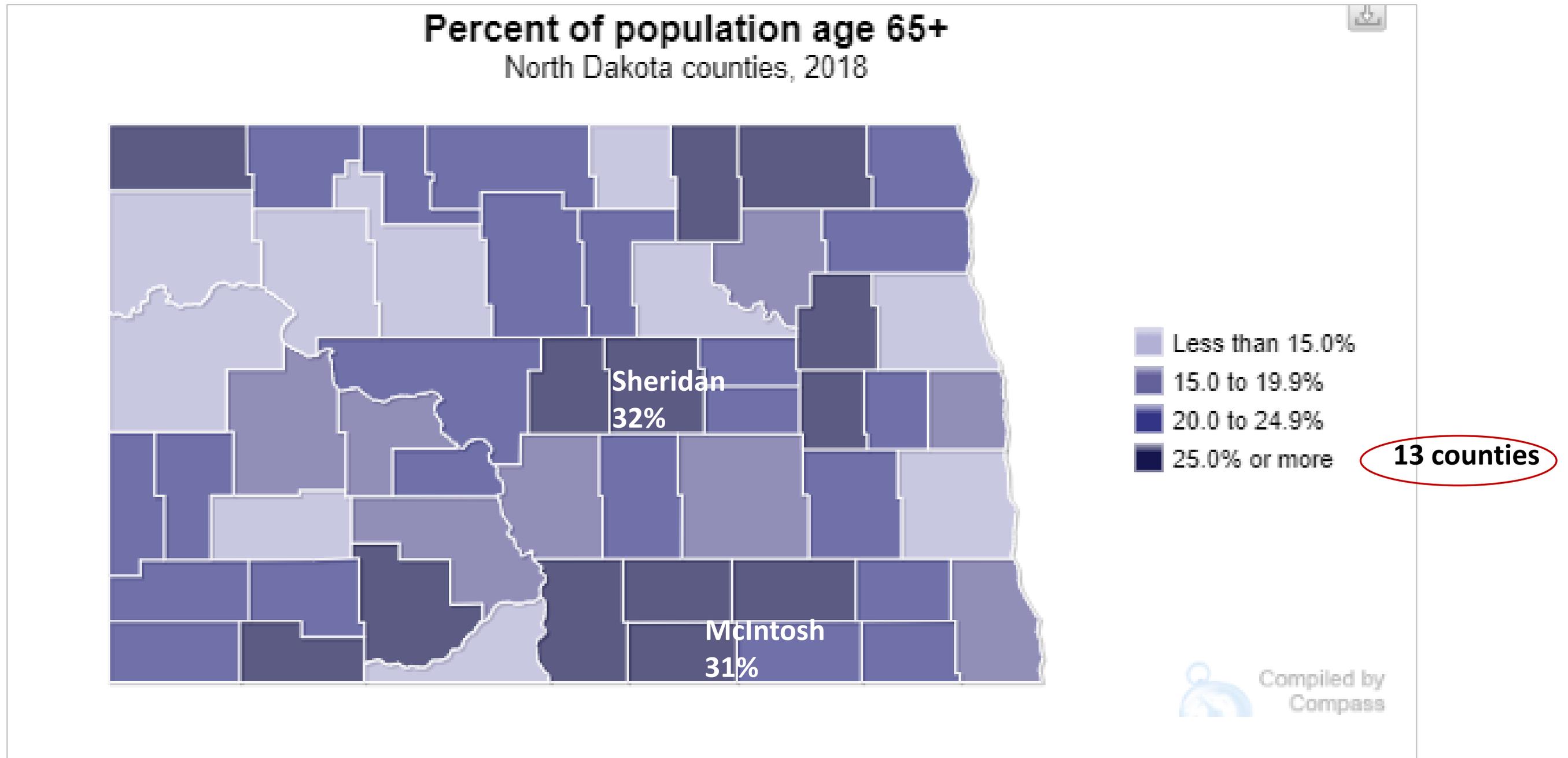
Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Age; 2016 ND Statewide Housing Needs Assessment

# AGE GROUPS



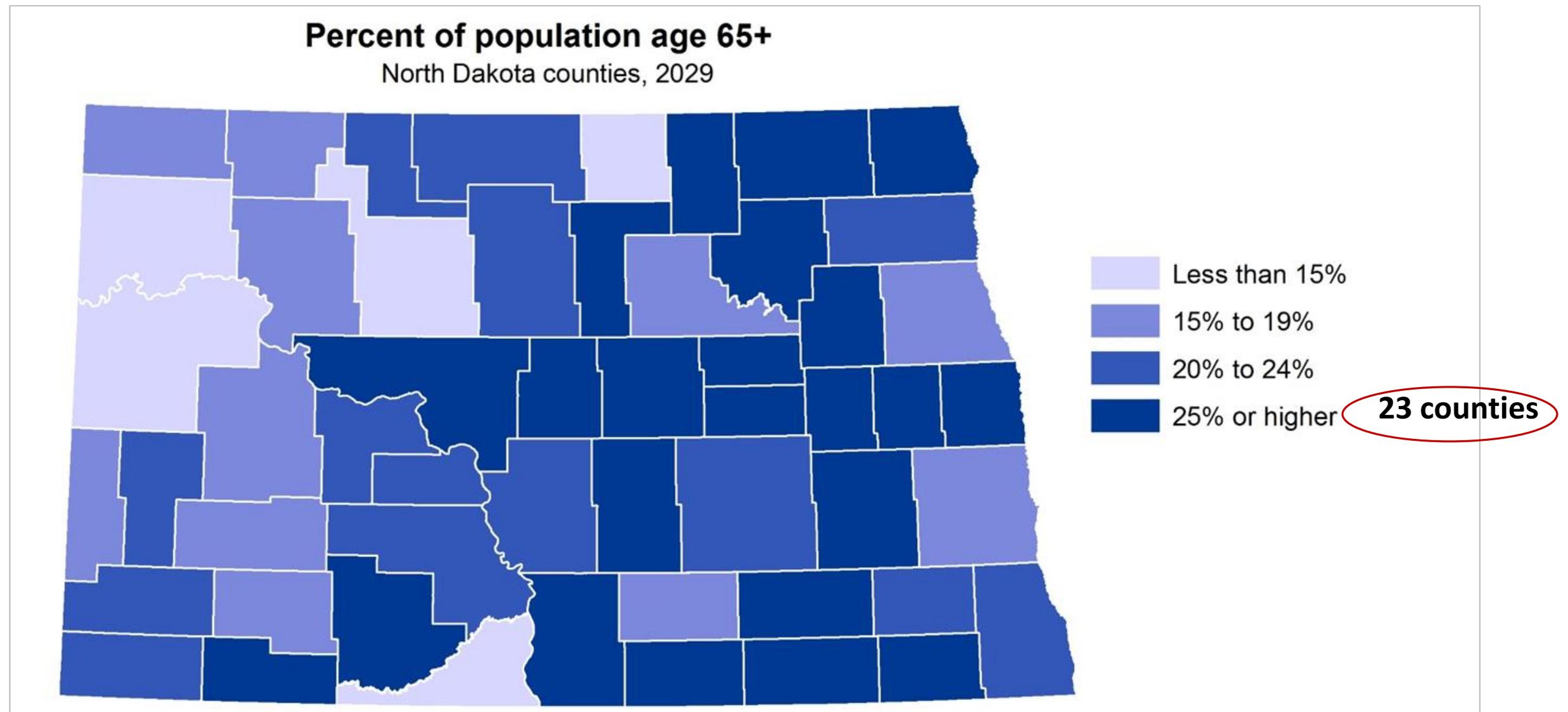
Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Age

# OLDER ADULTS (age 65+)



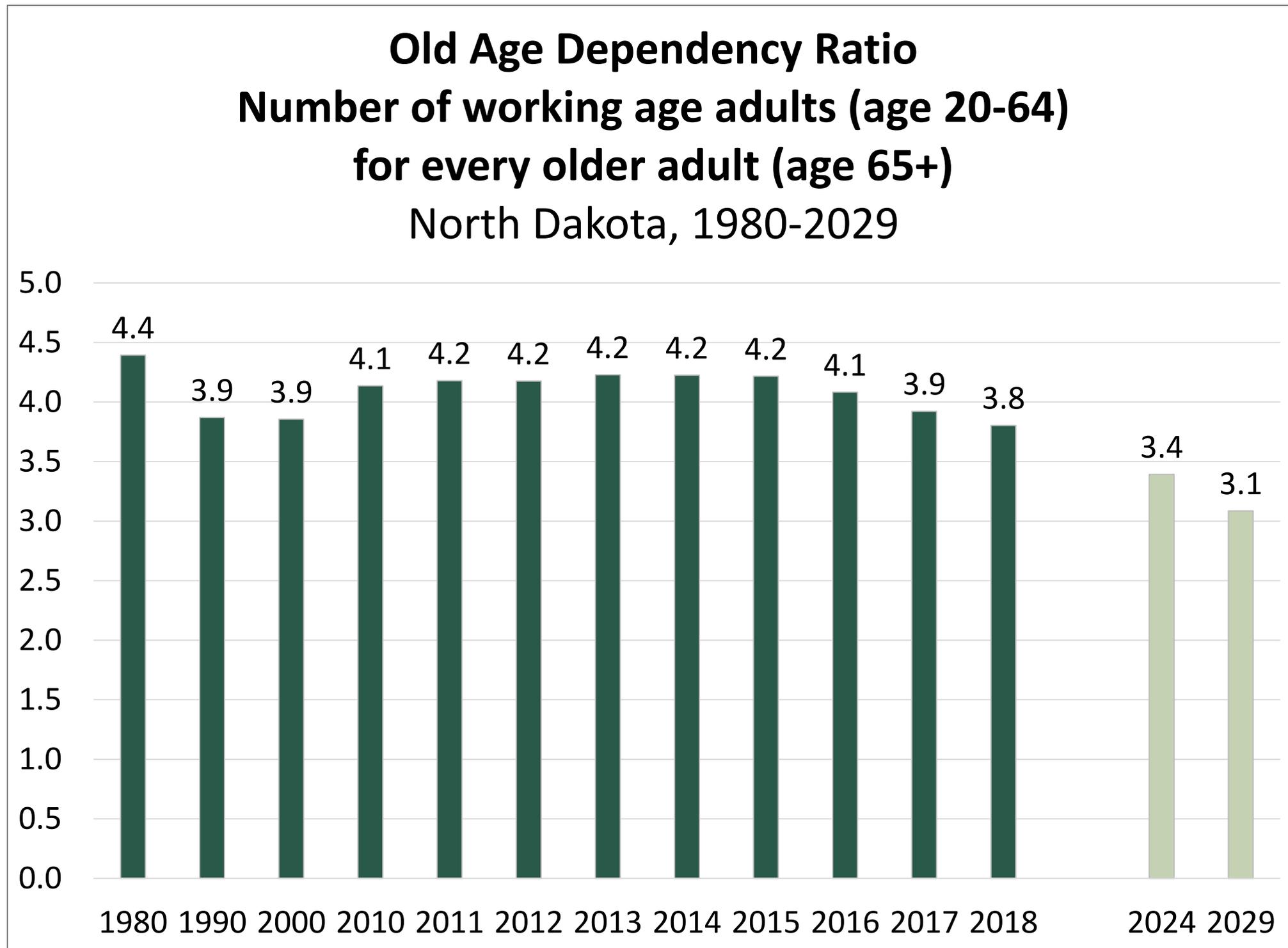
Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Age

# OLDER ADULTS (age 65+)



Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Age; 2016 ND Statewide Housing Needs Assessment

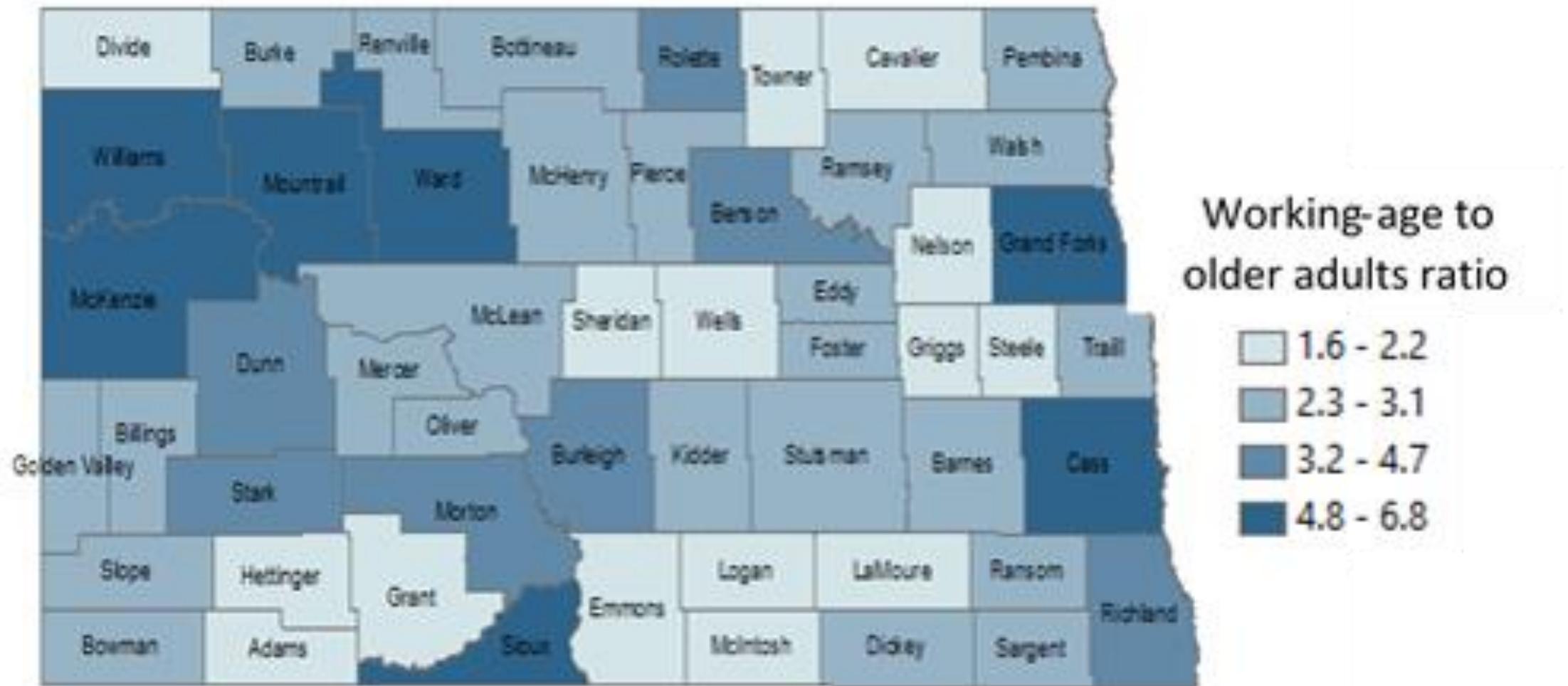
# OLD AGE DEPENDENCY



Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Age; 2016 ND Statewide Housing Needs Assessment

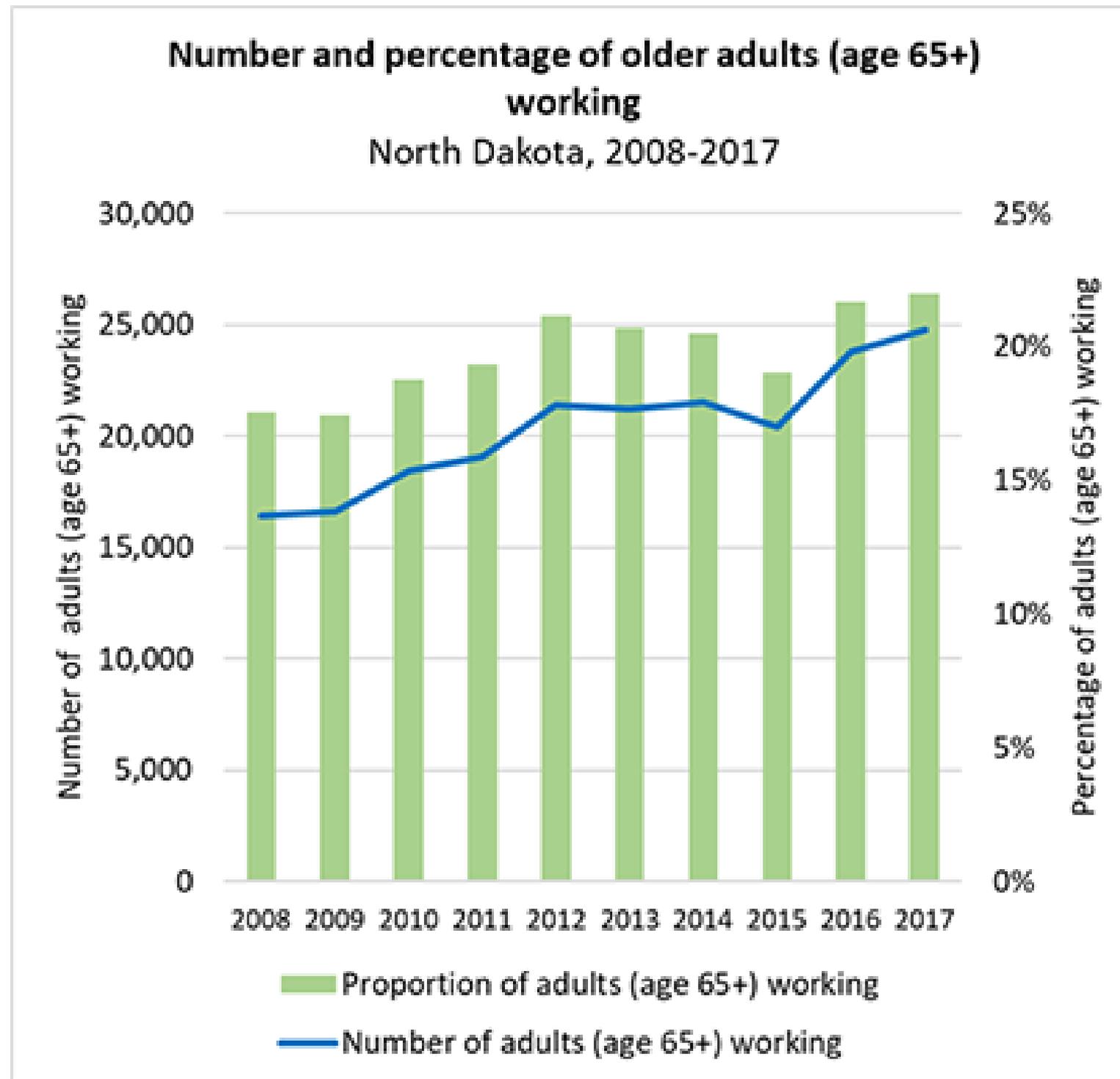
# OLD AGE DEPENDENCY

Number of working-age adults (age 20-64)  
for every older adult (age 65+), by county  
North Dakota, 2017



Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Age

# OLDER ADULTS WORKING (age 65+)



Source: ND Compass/Workforce/Proportion of adults working

# AGE DISTRIBUTION SUMMARY

- Increase in the number of children and young adults.
- Increase of the older adult population with the aging of the baby boomers.
- Decrease of the pre-retirement age group (potential caregivers)

# GENDER BREAKDOWN

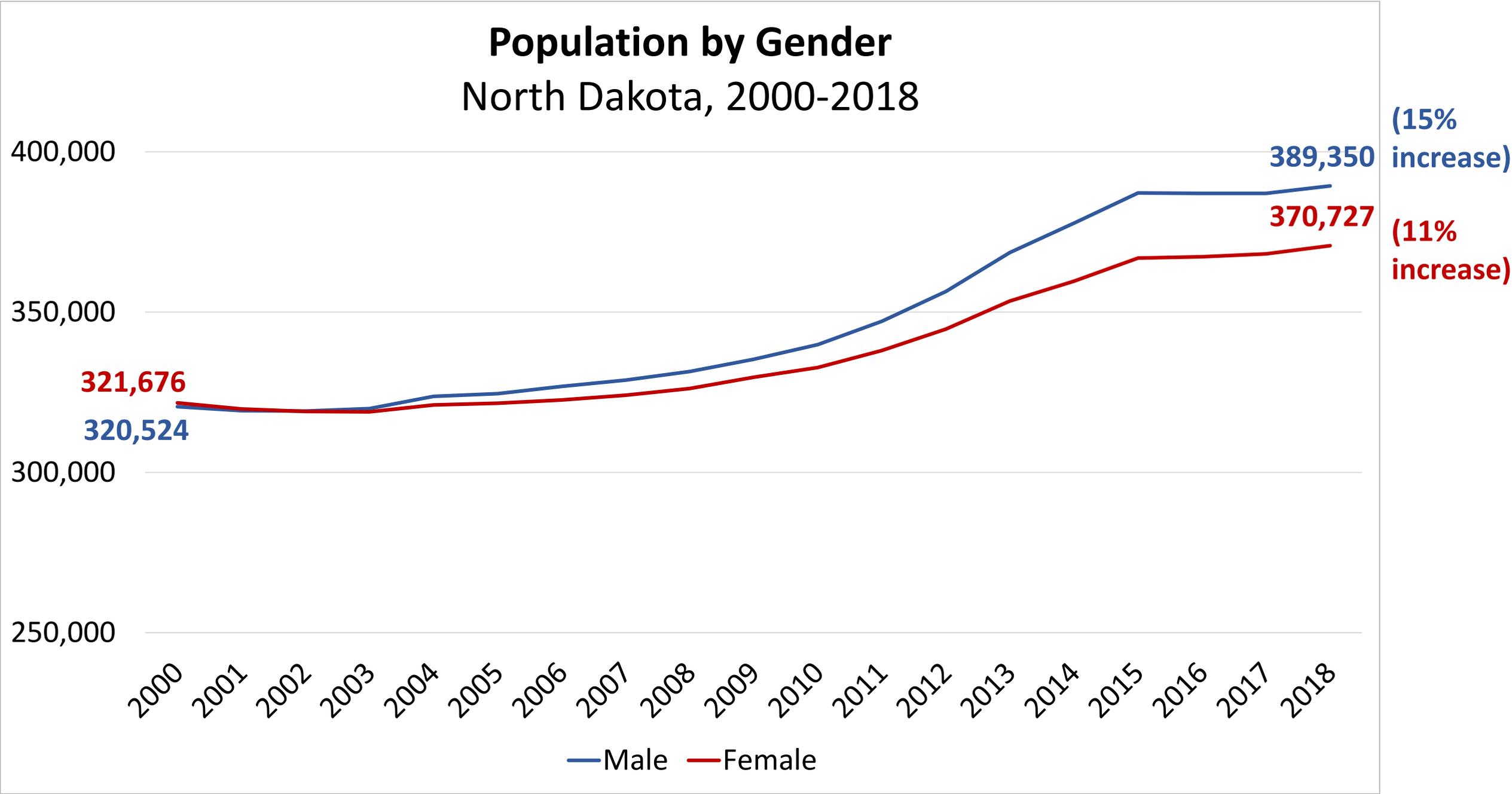


# QUESTION

What is the gender breakdown in ND (total population)?

- a) More males than females
- b) Males and females are equal
- c) More females than males

# GENDER BREAKDOWN

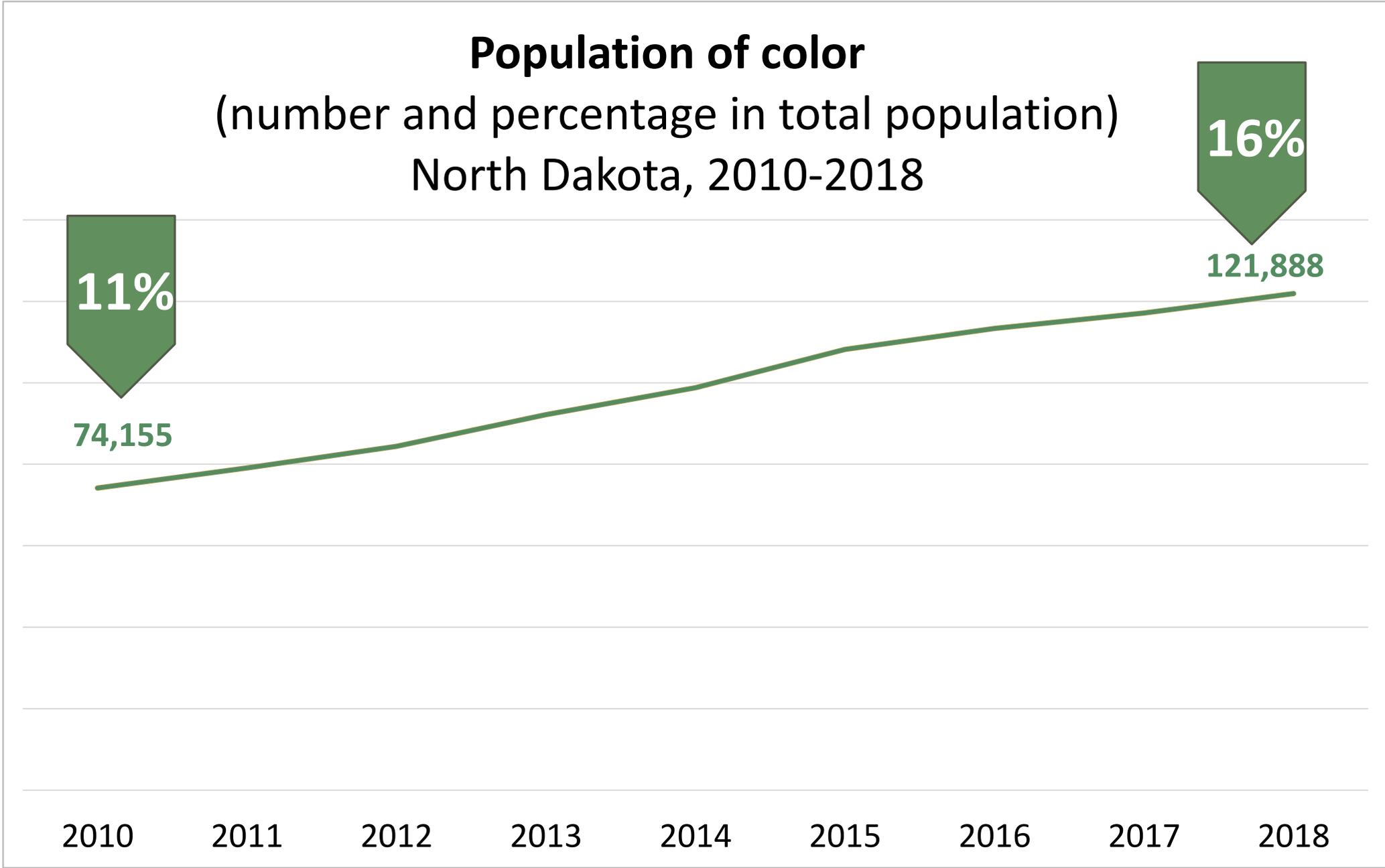


Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Population

# RACIAL & ETHNIC COMPOSITION



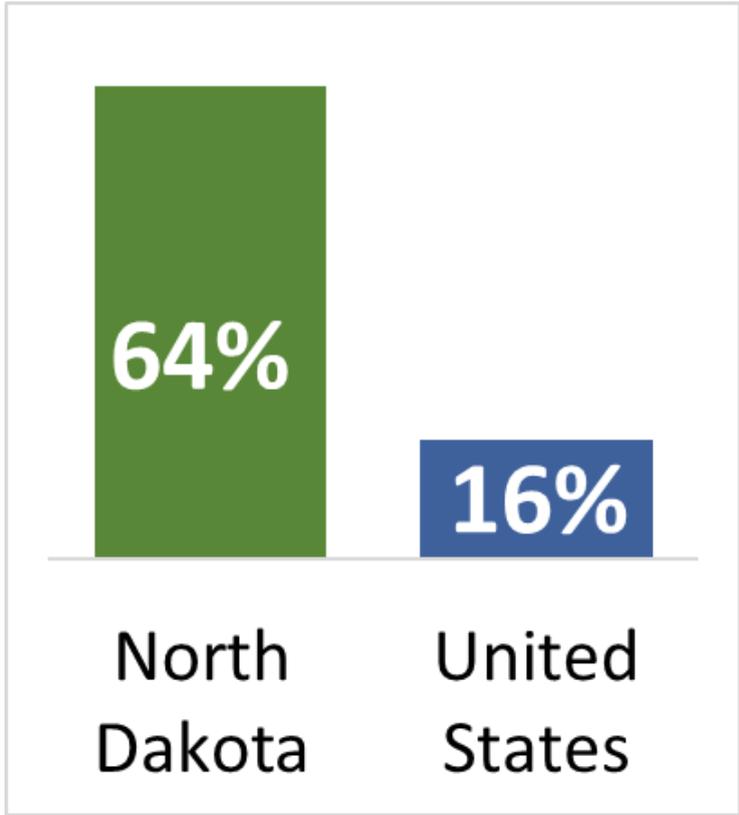
# RACIAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY



Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Race

# RACIAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY

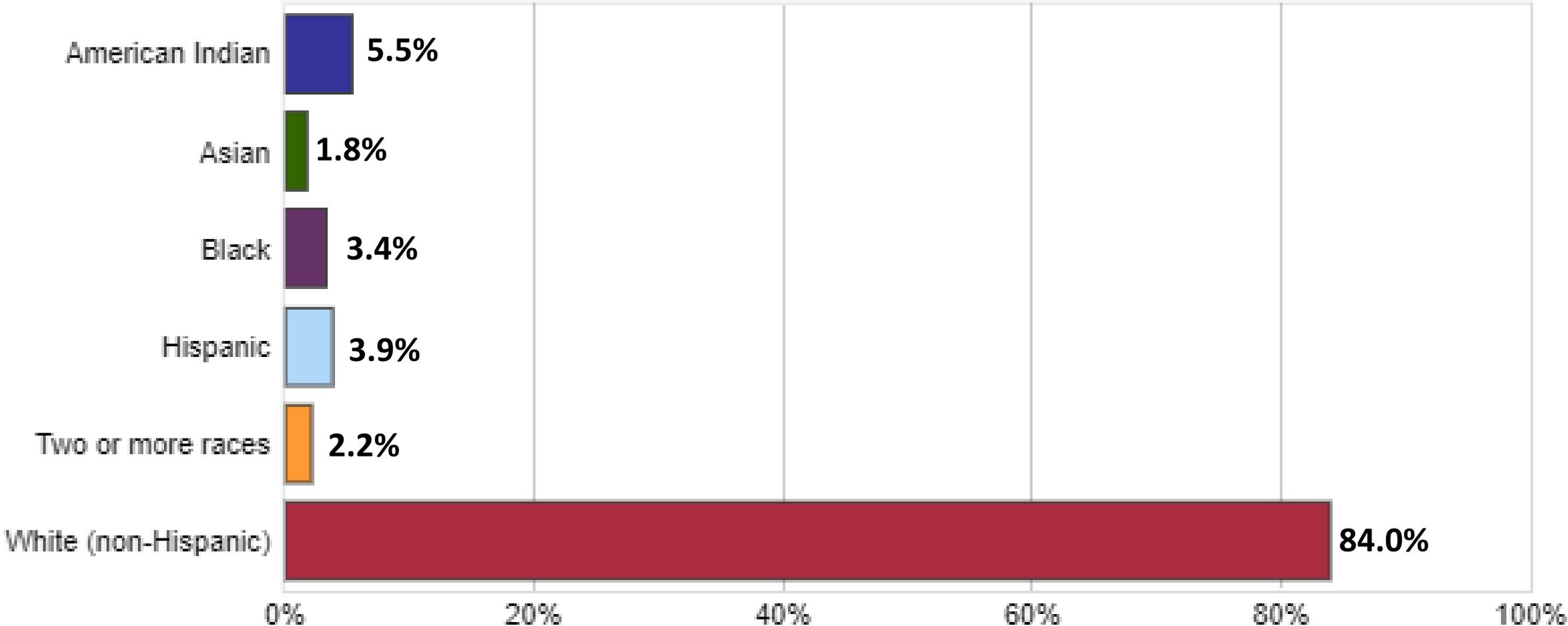
Percentage increase in  
population of color  
(2010-2018)



Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Race

# RACIAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY

Population by racial and ethnic group  
North Dakota, 2018

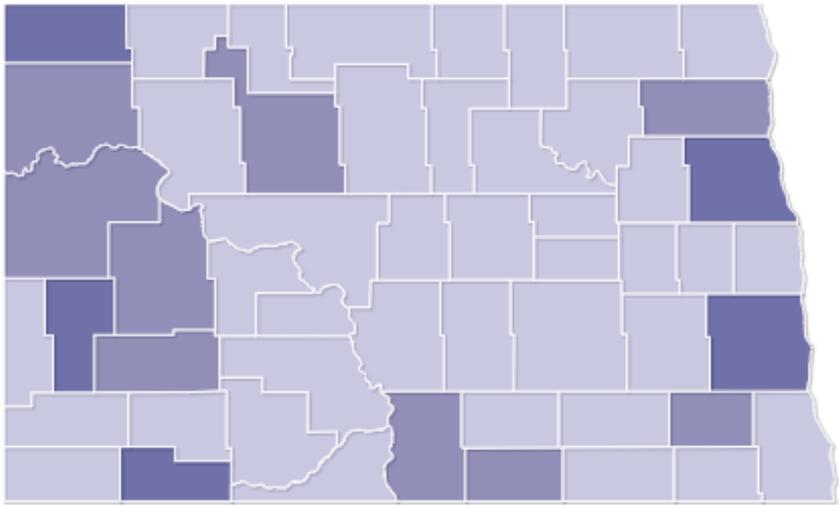


Compiled by  
Compass

Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Race

# RACIAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY

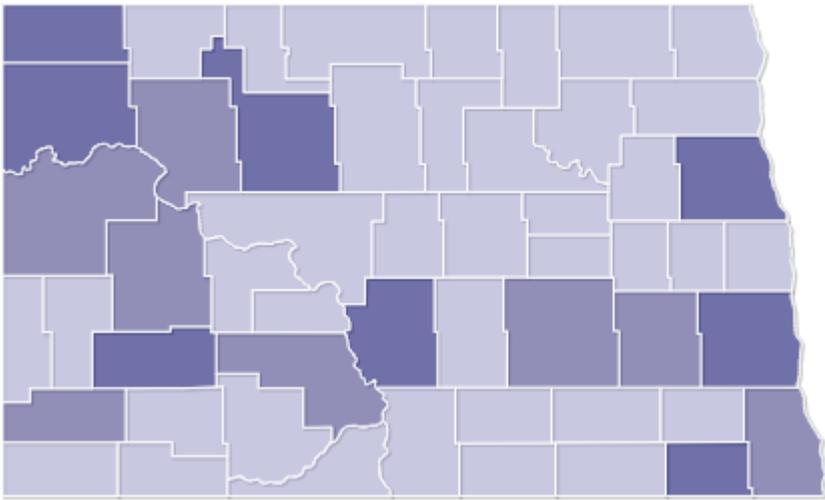
**Asian population**  
North Dakota counties, 2018



Less than 1.0%  
1.0 to 1.9%  
2.0% or more

Compiled by  
Compass

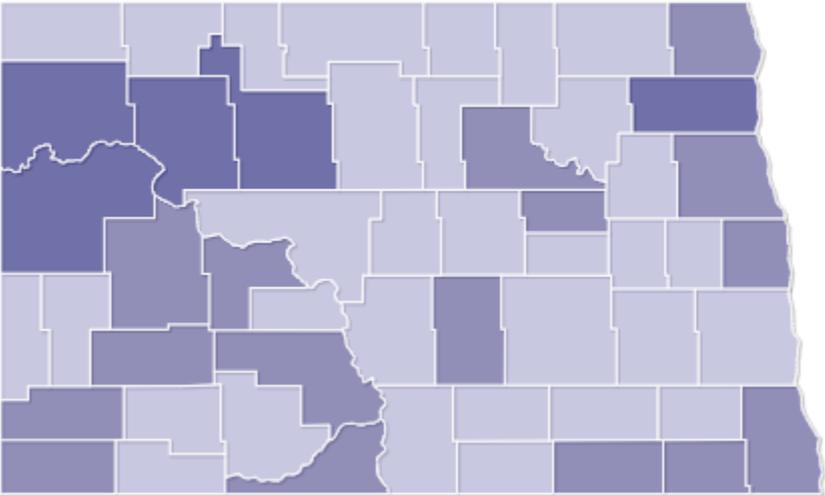
**Black population**  
North Dakota counties, 2018



Less than 1.0%  
1.0 to 1.9%  
2.0% or more

Compiled by  
Compass

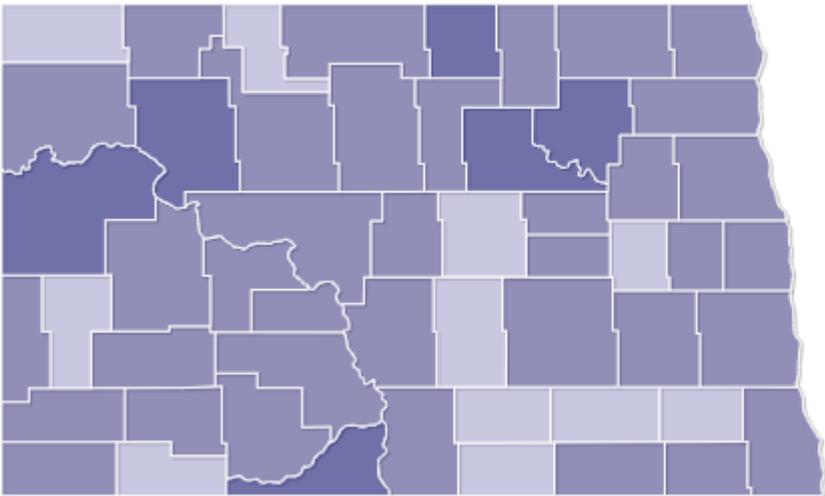
**Hispanic population**  
North Dakota counties, 2018



Less than 3.0%  
3.0 to 5.9%  
6.0% or more

Compiled by  
Compass

**Native American population**  
North Dakota counties, 2018



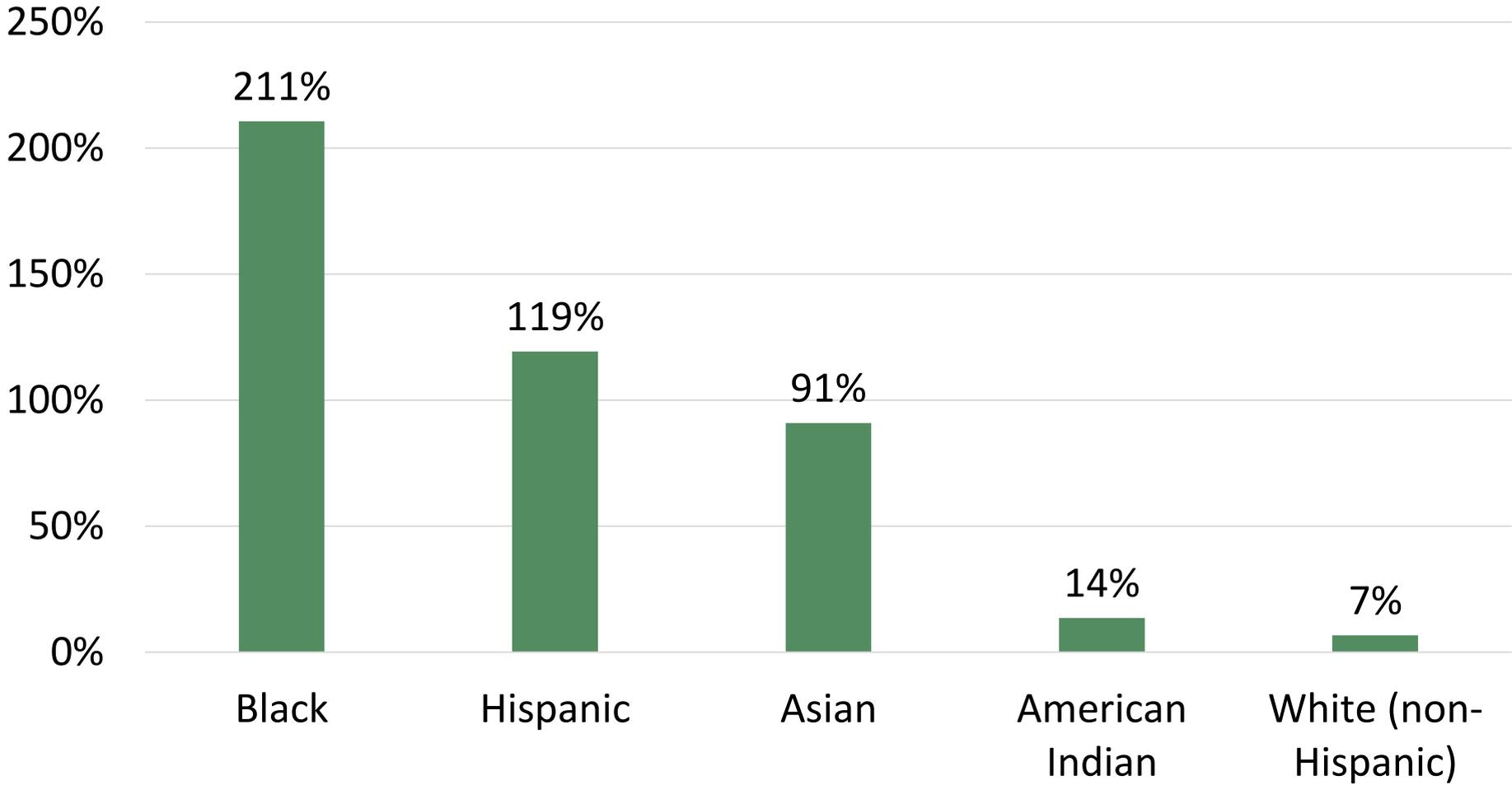
Less than 1.0%  
1.0 to 9.9%  
10.0% or more

Compiled by  
Compass

Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Race

# RACIAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY

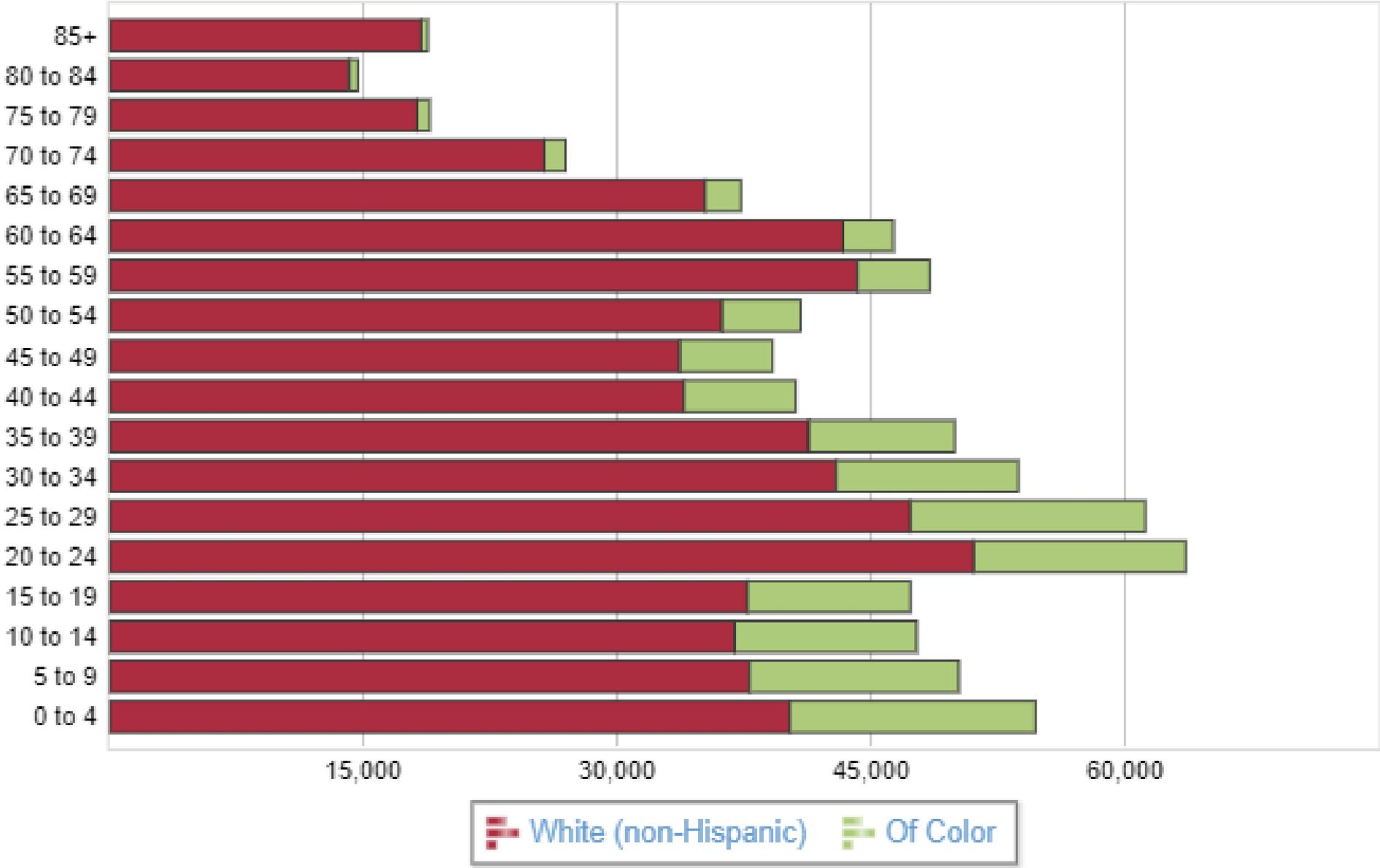
**Change in population by race and ethnicity**  
North Dakota, 2010-2018



Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Race

# RACIAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY

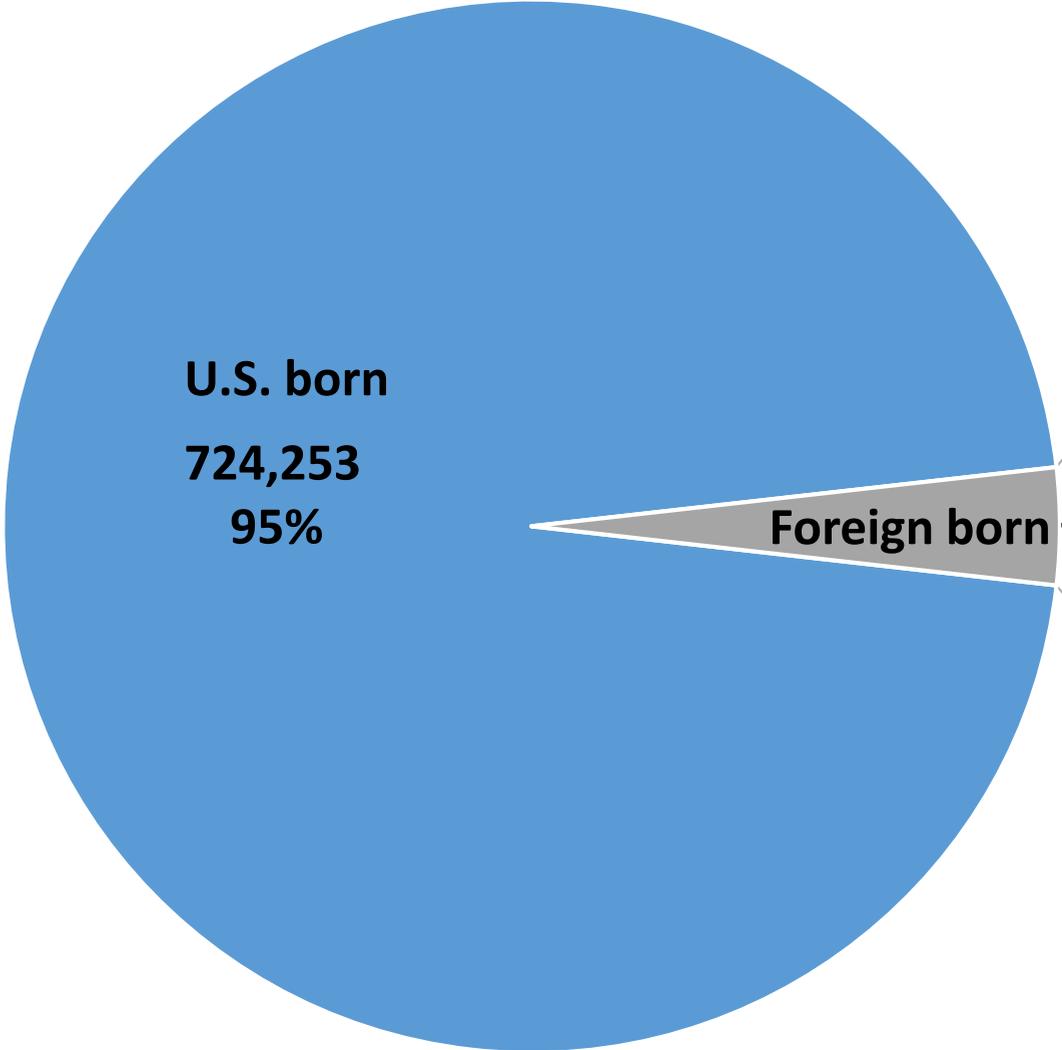
Population by age and race  
North Dakota, 2018



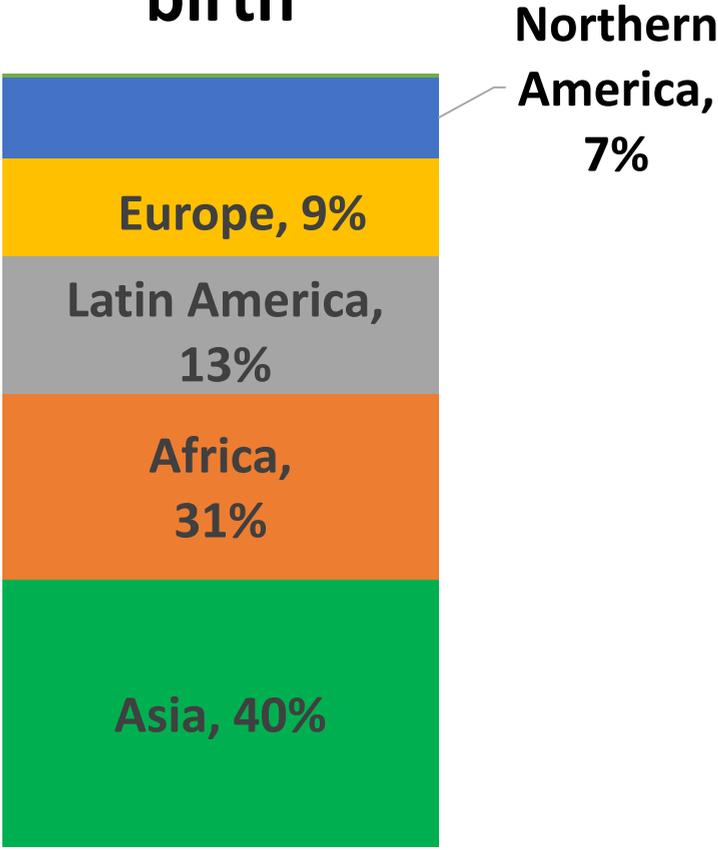
Source: ND Compass/Demographics/Age

# FOREIGN IMMIGRANTS

**Population by Nativity**  
North Dakota, 2018



**Foreign born by place of birth**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 American Community Survey, 1-Yr Estimates

# RACIAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY SUMMARY

- North Dakota is becoming increasingly diverse
- One of the least diverse states in the U.S.

# CONCLUSION

- Dramatic population shifts, becoming younger while growing old, gender differences, and increased diversity
- Main trends inform sustainable and responsible planning

# Thank You!

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