

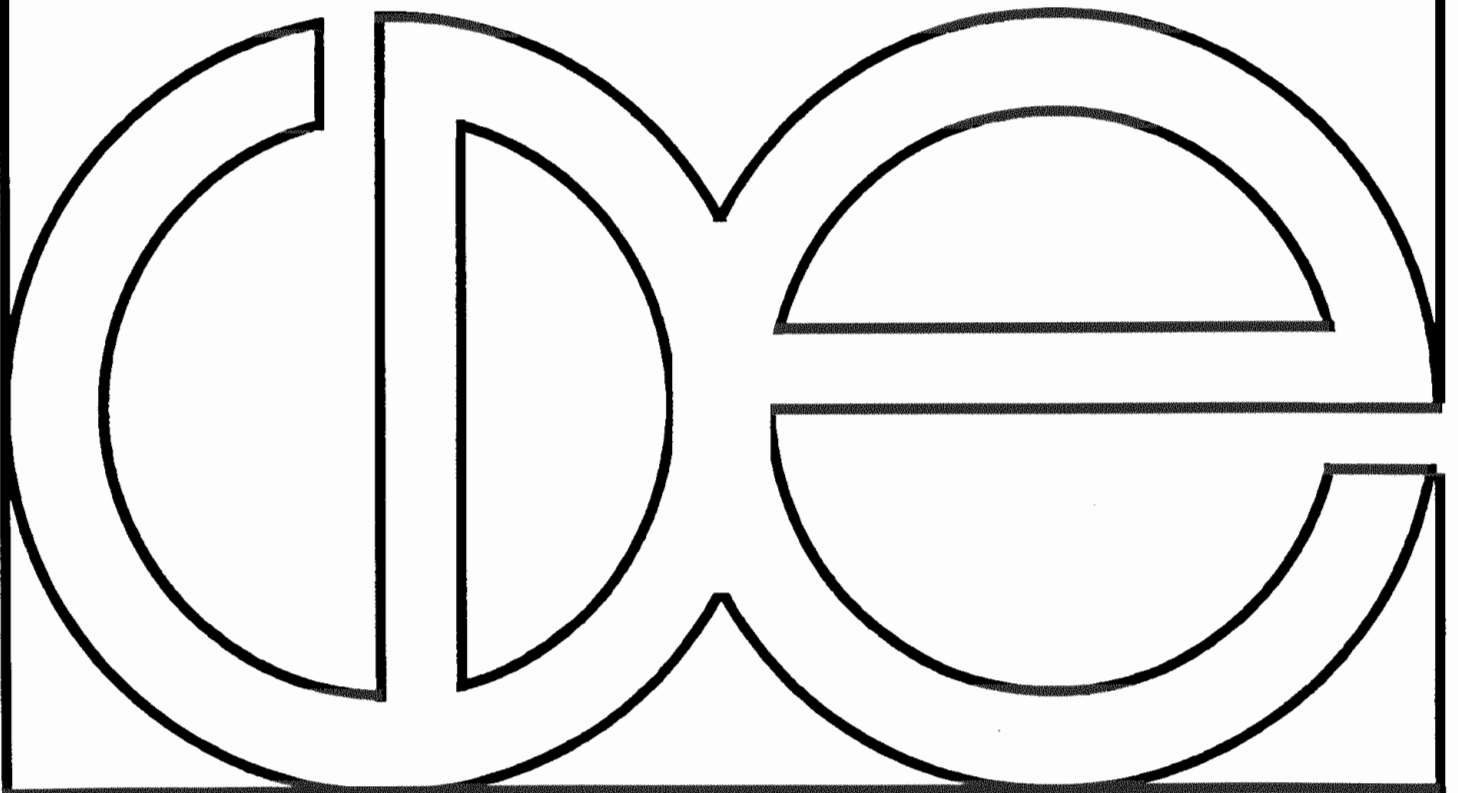
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RECENT POPULATION CHANGE IN UNITED STATES VILLAGES

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ABSTRACT

Villages have always been important to the economic and social well-being of rural America. Although they have been losing business establishments, villages overall have managed to post a modest population gain over most recent decades, and together grew as rapidly as the United States in the 1970-80 period. But during the 1980s the total village population declined, for the first time in this century, and in some midwestern states up to 85 percent of the individual villages lost population. As part of population deconcentration in the 1970s, villages grew faster than larger nonmetropolitan places across the nation, but during the 1980s theirs was the slowest growth of any population size class. Slow growth or decline was particularly marked in counties dependent upon agriculture as an economic activity. Implications of this new trend for the future function of the village are discussed, as are possible avenues for future research.

RECENT POPULATION CHANGE IN UNITED STATES VILLAGES

Villages have played an important role in the economic and social life of rural North America. Established as part of a larger urban system, the village has always been interdependent with other spatial and political units, including the surrounding countryside, other nearby small towns, cities and metropolitan areas. Although they have undergone quite a transition in response to economic, demographic and technological changes, these small population units have prevailed, and in some periods and locations, even prospered. They are an important part also of the symbolism of rural life. Somehow preserving the village, and the values it is thought to represent, is deemed important by policy-makers and members of the general public.

This is a report on recent population trends in villages of the United States, utilizing the results of the 1990 census, along with earlier censuses. There is considerable interest in seeing how villages are doing in terms of population change, particularly since the last decade was a time of marked population and economic downturn in rural America, following a decade (1970-80) of unprecedented growth.

Conceptually, the term "village" has had the same fate as "rural" or "nonmetropolitan." The word means something to most everyone, but no definition is generally accepted, and the variability among small population nodes is often overlooked. Here we restrict our attention to incorporated places having less than 2,500 population,

located in nonmetropolitan (nonmetro) areas. We are limited to incorporated centers, that is those with a separate local government recognized by their states. Although centers having a separate government do deserve special recognition, this is primarily because the census does not report unincorporated places having fewer than 1,000 residents. (1) The size limit of 2,500 is due to this being the traditional break between rural and urban places in the U.S. Census, going back to 1910. Thus all the places considered here are part of the rural population. The focus on villages located in nonmetropolitan counties removes most places which are suburban in nature. In general, nonmetropolitan counties are those which do not include, or have close commuting ties with counties having thickly settled urban areas of 50,000 or more people. (2)

Although the image of the village often is of the small agricultural trade center that is typical of the midwest, villages have been established as centers for mining, timber, manufacturing, recreation, and residence, and perhaps more often as combinations of these activities. Because of the limited data available for such small places, identifying the economic activities of a village is not easy, but it is possible to distinguish villages according to the important economic activities of the counties within which they are situated.

Throughout this century there has been concern about problems of villages bypassed by changes in trade and other economic activities. As the smallest units of a settlement structure laid out in horse-and-wagon days, this seemed a realistic concern, particularly as we moved into the automobile era. But even before this writers spoke of the "doom" of the

small town, or the "dying" village, and this theme has continued to reappear (Fletcher, 1895; Gillette, 1922; Larson, 1960). As will be shown here, population analysis did not confirm this dark view, even though there clearly was a continuing decline in the types of different services and retail activities, and in the number of village firms (Johansen and Fuguitt, 1984, 1990a, 1990b; works covering the Canadian scene include Dahms, 1980; Hodge, 1965; Hodge and Qadeer, 1983; Stabler, 1987). Villages shared in the growth of manufacturing activity in the 1960s and 1970s, but probably most important, there was an increase in their role as centers both for residents working elsewhere and for retired persons (see, for example, Hart, Salisbury and Smith, 1968; Nelson, 1961).

The early post-World War II period was an era of population concentration in and around the major cities of the nation, fueled by a massive out-migration from nonmetro areas along with the high natural increase of the baby boom. In startling contrast, the 1970s was a decade of widespread and unprecedented growth in nonmetro America, as suburbanization slowed and many major metro centers declined. Villages shared in this growth during the "nonmetropolitan turnaround" and for about a decade, the problem focus shifted to issues such as possible conflicts between "newcomers" and "old-timers" in growing communities, and to boomtowns, particularly in energy areas, impacted by large population gains (Frankena, 1980). (3)

Although again the change was unexpected, nonmetro America experienced slower growth and decline in population and economic activities in the 1980s. Once more, the press

refers to the "dying village" with illustrative case studies (for example, Vobejda, 1991). We would expect the new data to show considerably lower levels of village growth during the 1980s. Villages should have shared in the overall drop in levels of nonmetropolitan growth, just as they shared in the increased growth of the 1970-80 decade. The centralization of trade has proceeded apace, individual villages have suffered from plant closures, and a general slow growth or decline in rural areas must have impacted on the village as a residential center (Johansen and Fuguitt, 1990b).

The purpose of this work is determine the recent trends in US village population change, particularly since 1950. Now that the 1990 census counts for places are available, it is possible to extend this analysis through the most recent decade, building on previous work (Fuguitt and Beale, 1976, 1978; Johansen and Fuguitt, 1984, 1990a, 1990b). First I will consider once more the "disappearing village" issue, by showing trends in the number of villages since 1900. Then I will examine growth trends for individual villages, and how this has varied over the nation since 1950. Next, the growth of villages is differentiated by a type-of-county classification, distinguishing thereby places in counties having close commuting ties with large cities, and those that are specialized in retirement and recreation, agriculture, manufacturing and other activities. The analysis concludes with a consideration of the overall settlement system, including individual village growth by size of place and a comparison between villages, larger nonmetro places and the nonplace population. The results show that the 1980-90 decade was a time of population decline or slow growth for villages at a level unprecedented in this century.

The Disappearing Village?

Long-term trends in the population of nonmetropolitan villages is given in table 1. (Here I used a constant nonmetro designation, so these are incorporated places having less than 2500 people at the year indicated, located in the 2,374 counties designated as nonmetropolitan as of 1983). Since 1900 the number of villages increased in every decade from over 6,000 to almost 10,000 in 1990. The total village population increased during this time from 4.2 to 6.5 million, but this gain was at a slower pace than that of the US as a whole, so that the proportion living in such places dropped from less than 6 to less than 3 percent. Thus villages as defined here definitely are not disappearing, though they have decreased in relative importance. The population in the village size class declined absolutely in only two decades, 1950-60 when there was maximum metropolitan growth, and 1980-90, the most recent ten-year period. There was virtually no growth between 1940 and 1970, however. (See the percentage growth by size-class column of table 1.)

The number of places in the village class can change for four different reasons over a decade: new places may be added in the later census, places may appear in the earlier but not the later census, places may grow out of the village class, and places may decline into the village class. Thus paradoxically rapid village growth may lead to a loss to village numbers and population as places pass the 2,500 population threshold and become cities. But the numbers may also gain when slow growth causes cities to revert to village status. Actually none of the four components typically make up more than 2 percent of the total

number of villages in a given decade. "Dying" by not appearing in a subsequent census is actually a rare event, testifying to their persistence.

Nevertheless these elements can have an important effect on measures of population change, and a better view of how villages are doing is obtained by classifying places as villages at the beginning of a decade and recording their growth over the succeeding decade, whether or not they remain in the village class, with those that drop out excluded. (See column 5 of table 1.) The 1970-80 turnaround decade showed the highest village growth rates both by size class and by initial size since 1910-20. In that decade, villages grouped by initial size grew as rapidly as the U.S. as a whole for the first time since 1900-1910, (compare with column 6) so there was not a relative deconcentration from these places during the turnaround era.

The 1980-90 decade is an entirely different story, however. Table 1 shows that this was the only time villages lost absolutely both by size class (-3.1 percent) and by initial size (-3.4 percent). In terms of population change the overall performance of villages for 1980-90 was the poorest in this century. The number of villages increased by less than one percent, and the mean village size dropped from 689 to 663.

Village Growth and Decline

How have individual villages performed? The distribution of individual villages by percentage change is given in Figure 1 for the three most recent decades. Here and in subsequent analysis, villages are included if they are in counties classed as nonmetropolitan as of the beginning a given decade; that is, a "floating" metropolitan designation is used. (4) Overall, just over 50 percent of the villages grew over 1950-60 and 1960-70, and in the 1970-80 decade almost two-thirds were growing, as indicated by adding the two right-hand sections of each bar. Over 1980-90, however, the proportion growing dropped precipitously to a little less than 30 percent. The two bottom bars are mirror images: more than 4 out of 10 places gained more than 10 percent in the 1970s, whereas more than 4 out of 10 declined more than 10 percent in the 1980s.

Table 2 indicates that these trends prevail across the nation. Except for the Pacific census division (Washington, Oregon and California), no division had more than 40 percent of its villages growing in the most recent decade. There and in the Mountain states the 1980-90 proportions are close to those found before 1970-80, but in all the other divisions 1980-90 saw the lowest proportions growing since before 1950. In the midwest west of the Mississippi (the West North Central division)--bastion of the agricultural trade center, fully eight out of ten villages declined. Generally states within divisions show similar patterns but there are a few striking differences. Contrast, for example, Wisconsin and Michigan with Illinois in the East North Central. Indeed, Illinois showed the greatest drop over the last two

decades, from 72 to 14, in the percent of places growing! No satisfactory reason for this drop, or the contrast with adjacent Wisconsin is yet available. As part of the corn belt, Illinois was harder hit by the farm crisis of the early 1980s than the dairy state of Wisconsin, but there must be more to explain these differentials. Other states which stand out include West Virginia in the South Atlantic, with a very low proportion growing. This state, a part of the southern Appalachian subregion, was one of the few with a total population loss in the 1980s. Also in the Mountain states Montana was quite low and Utah quite high in proportion growing over 1980-90, though the two states were also quite different in this respect during the turnaround decade.

Village Growth by County Type

Much research has illustrated how heterogeneous nonmetropolitan America is in terms of many social and economic characteristics. Rural or nonmetro clearly is not synonymous with farming, though there continue to be a number of areas having a high degree of dependence upon agriculture, and these have experienced slow population growth or decline. Rural manufacturing has a long history, and it was an important component in the "rural renaissance" in providing new jobs, but this activity declined sharply in the 1980s as part of a national trend. Counties near metro centers have shown important growth effects through commuting and the deconcentration of urban employment. Recently also a number of nonmetropolitan counties have shown growth through recreational activity, and an influx of

new residents at or near retirement age (Reeder and Glasgow, 1990). These varied specializations have been examined in seeking to explain the nonmetro turnaround and its subsequent reversal (Beale and Fuguitt, 1986; Fuguitt and Beale, 1978). Since villages overall shared in the growth of the turnaround, and suffered serious declines in the subsequent decade, it is important to determine how this experience differed for counties concentrating in one or another of the above activities.

Trends for villages classed by the county typology are shown in figure 2. (5) Here we measure growth as aggregate percent change for all villages in a group of counties, although results are similar using the proportion of counties growing. In the first two decades villages in commuting counties were together growing substantially faster than other villages, but by 1970-80 this group was overtaken by those in retirement counties. Villages in manufacturing counties showed relatively constant levels of overall growth at about 10 percent, and agricultural and other counties grew more rapidly in the turnaround than other decades, though the rate was only five percent for agriculture. The most recent decade is a totally different picture, however, Only in retirement counties did villages grow overall, and there only about 6 percent. The loss in agricultural counties (many in the West North Central states) was about 8 percent.

Most surprising was the finding that villages were not growing in commuting counties, where previously they had grown the fastest. For this reason I did the same classification for total county populations shown in figure 3. Overall growth in commuting

counties had fallen by half in comparing the last two decades, but county population was still growing at about 9 percent, approximately the rate of growth for the U.S. as a whole. As with villages, growth continued to be highest for retirement areas, though again there was a marked dropoff from the turnaround era. Total population declined in agricultural counties in all but the 1970s and the widespread nature of the turnaround is seen by the fact that in this decade each of the county groups except commuting showed most rapid growth. But the lack of growth of villages in counties having close ties with large cities which overall grew in total population continues to be puzzling, and indicates the need for a more detailed examination of the village within the overall settlement system. (6)

Villages and the Settlement System

Villages have never been completely autonomous, and are increasingly interdependent with each other, with larger places and with the population living outside any place. These interdependencies have been reflected in their population trends as shown in many previous analyses (see Johansen and Fuguitt, 1984 for citations). To examine trends in these patterns, we will first consider the association of village size with their population change. Then, to get a more complete picture, we will compare the growth of villages with larger nonmetro centers and with the population living outside any place, and do this for counties either near, or away from metropolitan centers.

Village size and growth: A common finding has been that smaller villages are less likely to grow, or grow at a lower rate, than larger ones. This has been attributed to the centralization of trade and services adversely affecting smaller places, as people are able to travel further to seek a greater variety and range of quality and price. More recently, however, there has been a weakening of this relationship, and overall almost an inverse association between size and growth in the turnaround decade (Fuguitt and Beale, 1976; Johansen and Fuguitt, 1984. Similarly, Davies, 1990, reported a shift from a positive to essentially no association for small towns in the prairie provinces of Canada between 1971-81 and 1981-86.) The latter trend has been seen as evidence of decline in the primary importance of trade and services and as a basis for population size, with the village category, including smaller places, are becoming more attractive as a residence for commuters, even at some distance from large cities.

Figure 4 confirms this finding for the U.S. and the North and West regions. The strongest association between initial size and growth was found for 1950-60. For the two decades after 1950-60 there was an increase in the likelihood of growth particularly for the smaller places. (Here villages are classed by initial size in units of 200 and the percent of places growing used as the growth measure. For comparison, the point on the right is for all places 2,500 and over in nonmetro areas.) For 1980-90 the major impression is that the considerable decline in the proportion growing is almost uniform across size classes. There seems to be a somewhat increased size effect compared with 1970-80, however. Among regions, the West is distinctive, in that village growth appears to have returned to the level of

the 1950s and 1960s, rather than falling far below as elsewhere, after having a very high likelihood of growth during the turnaround (recall similar results in table 2). Lines for the West are irregular because numbers are small.

Population change by size of place: Overall percent change for three size of place categories and for the population living outside places is given in figure 5. The results for 1950-60 are as expected for nonmetro areas in a regime of urban and metropolitan development: the larger the place-size group the greater the overall growth, with the nonplace population growing the slowest. Growth levels are lower and differentials are stronger in counties not adjacent to metro centers, and there the nonplace population declined absolutely by about 4 percent, as rural areas provided people for the rapid urban and metropolitan growth. For 1960-70 this pattern was weaker in nonadjacent counties, and there was essentially no growth differential in adjacent counties. The 1970-80 turnaround decade was notable in that there was a strong reversal of the size-growth gradient (this was also found in distinguishing metro areas by size). The fastest growing segment even in nonadjacent areas was the population living outside any place, and villages were the next fastest growing group. Needless to say, in a now-familiar refrain, the picture was almost entirely different for 1980-90. Not only were growth rates generally at their lowest, but a positive size-growth pattern has reemerged, among places, though the differentials are very small. Villages have the lowest rates, and indeed are declining in population both in adjacent and nonadjacent counties. But one important element of the 1970-80 turnaround pattern has continued: the nonplace population is growing faster than the place population both in

adjacent and in nonadjacent counties. Despite the downturns of the 1980s, the open country appears to have suffered less than places in terms of changing population numbers, and the experience of the village was most negative of all. The results for regions generally confirm these conclusions (figures 6, 7, 8). In every region the nonplace population grew faster than the place population, and with only one exception the village had the lowest level of population change.

CONCLUSION

This overview of population trends for American villages, utilizing the new 1990 census figures along with the results of earlier U.S. censuses, shows:

- A dramatic widespread lowering of village growth levels -- overall the lowest in this century.
- Among counties grouped by economic activity, villages grew only in retirement counties over 1980-90. Village population even declined very slightly overall in counties having a high degree of commuting to metro areas.
- There is some evidence of a return to a positive size/growth differential among villages, and also among all nonmetro places, with larger places growing faster

than smaller places in a concentrating pattern. These associations are far from being as strong as they were in the 1950s, however.

- The population living outside any place grew, and grew faster than the place population over 1980-90. This is the only carry-over from the pattern of the 1970-80 turnaround decade, and was found even in more remote counties not adjacent to metropolitan areas and across the regions of the nation.

This initial work based on the new census data has underscored in many ways the population-size dimension of the serious problems faced by the American village today. Slower growth was generally expected for villages, in common with the remainder of nonmetro America, but I for one did not anticipate the extent and magnitude of this reversal, with villages turning in the worst performance of any population size-class, including the nonplace population, and overall their worst performance in this century.

Explaining these patterns needs to be a high priority for subsequent work. This should include micro-level field work to seek to understand, among other things, how extensive the nonmetro deconcentration is outside places, and its nature in an era of very slow growth. Some is undoubtedly of suburban character around large and small nonmetro places, and we need to find out whether the annexation of thickly settled areas adjacent to these cities has become more difficult in recent years. Analysis of the sort pursued here

should be further disaggregated geographically, and economic variables incorporated, such as data files from Dun and Bradstreet. Up to now, only the number of inhabitants is available for villages from the 1990 census. The consequences of this drastic decline in terms of social and economic characteristics needs to be assessed as soon as additional census the appropriate data become available.

Perhaps villages experienced a gain and then loss of the residential function which is analogous to the well-known shift of low-wage manufacturing into and then away from many nonmetropolitan areas. Despite continuing loss of trade center activities, and more recently also manufacturing, many villages continued to grow as places of residence at least through 1980. Now, as the population continues to spread, and the number and variety of retail establishments and services available in villages continue to decline, the comparative advantage of villages as a place to live may have all but disappeared, particularly in an era of rural economic stagnation. (7) Hodge and Qadeer (1983), in their study of towns and villages in Canada, asserted that these places continue to play an essential role in satisfying the need for community and in providing many of the necessities of daily life. In their comparable study of villages in the United States at about the same time, Johansen and Fuguitt (1984) reached similar conclusions. But the subsequent growth patterns in the U.S. in the 1980s suggest today that the ultimate fate of villages in many parts of both nations may not be to disappear or die, but to become undifferentiated from the remainder of the countryside. The question is not will villages die, but will villages continue to make any difference?

FOOTNOTES

(1) One problem with this necessary restriction is that states differ in the extent to which they allow the incorporation of small places. There are virtually no incorporated villages in New England, but states of the Midwest include a large number. For this reason it is important to retain regional distinctions in any analysis, and to recognize that in some states the villages included may be only a minority of the population nodes of that size.

(2) Exceptions in 1980 and later are the few cases where a thickly settled urban area (urbanized area) is located in a county with fewer than 100,000 people. Such counties continue to be classed a nonmetropolitan. Although the official metropolitan designation utilizes townships in New England, we use county-equivalents for comparability with the remainder of the country.

(3) There is not yet a high degree of consensus on the nature and significance of the turnaround. Researchers in the U.S. have generally assumed it was a situation where population growth rates were higher in nonmetro than in metro areas, that is higher growth in areas that are not highly accessible to major cities on a daily basis for commuting or other activities. Perhaps more important than the comparisons with metro areas, however, is the fact that the 1970s saw higher growth or lower levels of population decline than in previous decades over most of the nonmetro counties of the nation, and not just those counties near large cities. The proximate reasons for this varied by area as shown in the section following

on village growth by county type. Overall trends similar to those in the U.S. were reported in many western counties in the 1970s. Though there is still reluctance to ascribe the trend simply to the unique events of that decade, few people today continue to argue that the turnaround represents a new "stage" in the evolution of population distribution in the U.S. or elsewhere, particularly given the general return to slow nonmetro growth in the 1980s (Fuguitt, 1985; Wardwell and Gilchrist, 1987).

Differences in definitions and areal units make it difficult to compare the situation in Canada with the United States. A turnaround was evident in Canada, at least in the early 1970s, though apparently it was not as widespread or of as long a duration as in the United States (Bollman and Biggs, 1991; Davies, 1990; Joseph, Keddie and Smit, 1988).

(4) In following the same villages through time I included those in counties nonmetropolitan in 1950 for the 1950-60 comparison, those in 1963 nonmetro counties for 1960-70 those in 1974 nonmetro counties for 1970-80 and those in 1983 counties for 1980-90. After 1950 these are the years when the designation took into account commuting data from the previous census. Appendix table 1 contrasts this approach with the fixed 1983 designation found in text table 1. The fixed approach is probably best for text table 1, since to consider the "disappearing village" issue we are interested in what has happened over time to villages in the same area. In contrasting nonmetro village growth over three periods, however, I argue that the floating approach really results in comparable areas. A fixed nonmetro designation at the end of the three periods builds in a bias for increased nonmetro

growth over time, and this effect is seen in Appendix Table 1. Nonmetro 1983 counties include no counties that became metro before 1990, so they must be the most remote and slowest growing of all nonmetro counties in a 1950-60 computation. But for 1980-90 this designation includes counties that actually become metropolitan by the end of the period. With the floating designation some nonmetro counties became metropolitan at the end of each decade compared, as the process of metropolitanization proceeded.

(5) Commuting counties are those with 15 percent or more of their population commuting to a central county of a metropolitan area in 1980. Others are classed according to a USDA county classification. Retirement counties are those with a high level of net inmigration of persons 65 and over, and agriculture and manufacturing dependent counties are classed by per capita income data (Bender and associates, 1985). To avoid overlaps, noncommuting counties were classed as retirement if they had that classification, otherwise they were classed as agricultural if they had that classification, and otherwise as manufacturing if they had that classification. Those with none of the above were included in the "other" group. Of the 57 million nonmetropolitan residents in 1990, about 7 million were in commuting counties, 12 million in retirement counties, 6 million in agricultural counties, 15 million in manufacturing counties, and 17 million in other counties.

(6) I reran the analysis, using nonmetro counties adjacent to metro counties at the beginning of the same decade instead of the constant 1980 commuting variable, and obtained very similar results.

(7) Our recent studies of residential preferences are consistent with this conclusion.

In nationwide U.S. sample surveys, only one in five of those persons living in places with less than 10,000 population and located more than 30 miles from a large city would prefer to live in such a place and location. This was true both in 1972 and 1988, and was the lowest proportion among all the types of residence considered, including major metropolitan cities. In contrast, almost one half of those living in remote areas outside any place preferred that setting in 1972, and this increased to 69 percent in 1988 (Fuguitt and Brown, 1990).

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Table 1. Number and Total Population of Nonmetropolitan Incorporated Places Having Less Than 2500 People, United States 1900-1990*

	Number of villages	Population (thousands)	Percentage of U.S. population	Percentage growth since last census		
				Size class	Places by initial size	U.S. total population
1900	6282	4261	5.6	-	-	-
1910	8302	5495	6.0	29.0	23.2	21.0
1920	9227	6116	5.8	11.3	12.9	15.0
1930	9655	6243	5.1	2.1	5.2	16.2
1940	9514	6320	4.8	1.2	7.5	7.3
1950	9509	6326	4.2	0.1	8.8	14.5
1960	9640	6304	3.5	-0.3	5.5	18.5
1970	9566	6359	3.1	0.9	4.4	13.3
1980	9784	6737	3.0	5.9	11.6	11.5
1990	9837	6525	2.6	-3.1	-3.4	9.8

* Located in counties nonmetropolitan in 1983.

Table 2. Percent of Villages Growing by Division and State, United States, 1950-1990 (a)

Division & State	1950-60	1960-70	1970-80	1980-90
TOTAL UNITED STATES	53	54	65	28
NEW ENGLAND	56	55	45	33
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	63	52	41	25
NEW JERSEY	95	91	--	--
NEW YORK	74	57	34	29
PENNSYLVANIA	48	41	39	22
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	66	63	68	29
ILLINOIS	53	61	72	14
INDIANA	71	65	55	24
MICHIGAN	78	65	63	45
OHIO	79	62	60	28
WISCONSIN	62	62	81	53
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	41	42	60	20
IOWA	47	45	66	16
KANSAS	39	37	58	17
MINNESOTA	53	46	63	26
MISSOURI	42	58	68	28
NEBRASKA	28	45	62	18
NORTH DAKOTA	29	13	40	10
SOUTH DAKOTA	35	26	42	22
SO ATLANTIC	64	59	64	36
DELAWARE	--	--	--	--
FLORIDA	92	77	83	51
GEORGIA	60	68	66	40
MARYLAND	71	57	61	49
NORTH CAROLINA	67	61	62	42
SOUTH CAROLINA	66	59	57	30
VIRGINIA	61	48	60	28
WEST VIRGINIA	32	36	63	12
E SO CENTRAL	59	72	73	31
ALABAMA	62	71	72	38
KENTUCKY	56	63	72	22
MISSISSIPPI	58	74	67	32
TENNESSEE	62	81	82	32
W SO CENTRAL	44	67	75	28
ARKANSAS	41	76	78	28
LOUISIANA	70	65	64	22
OKLAHOMA	31	66	73	22
TEXAS	50	61	78	35

(continued)

Table 2, continued.

MOUNTAIN	49	41	76	39
ARIZONA	--	--	--	--
COLORADO	40	49	74	41
IDAHO	49	41	73	31
MONTANA	67	28	55	19
NEVADA	--	--	--	--
NEW MEXICO	56	35	57	34
UTAH	39	38	96	63
WYOMING	62	36	91	23
PACIFIC	60	60	81	57
ALASKA	--	--	91	83
CALIFORNIA	87	--	--	--
OREGON	57	65	86	40
WASHINGTON	52	51	67	38

- (a) Villages are nonmetropolitan incorporated places under 2,500 population at the beginning of each decade. The nonmetropolitan county designation is as of the beginning of each decade. See text.
 (--) indicates the state has fewer than 40 villages.

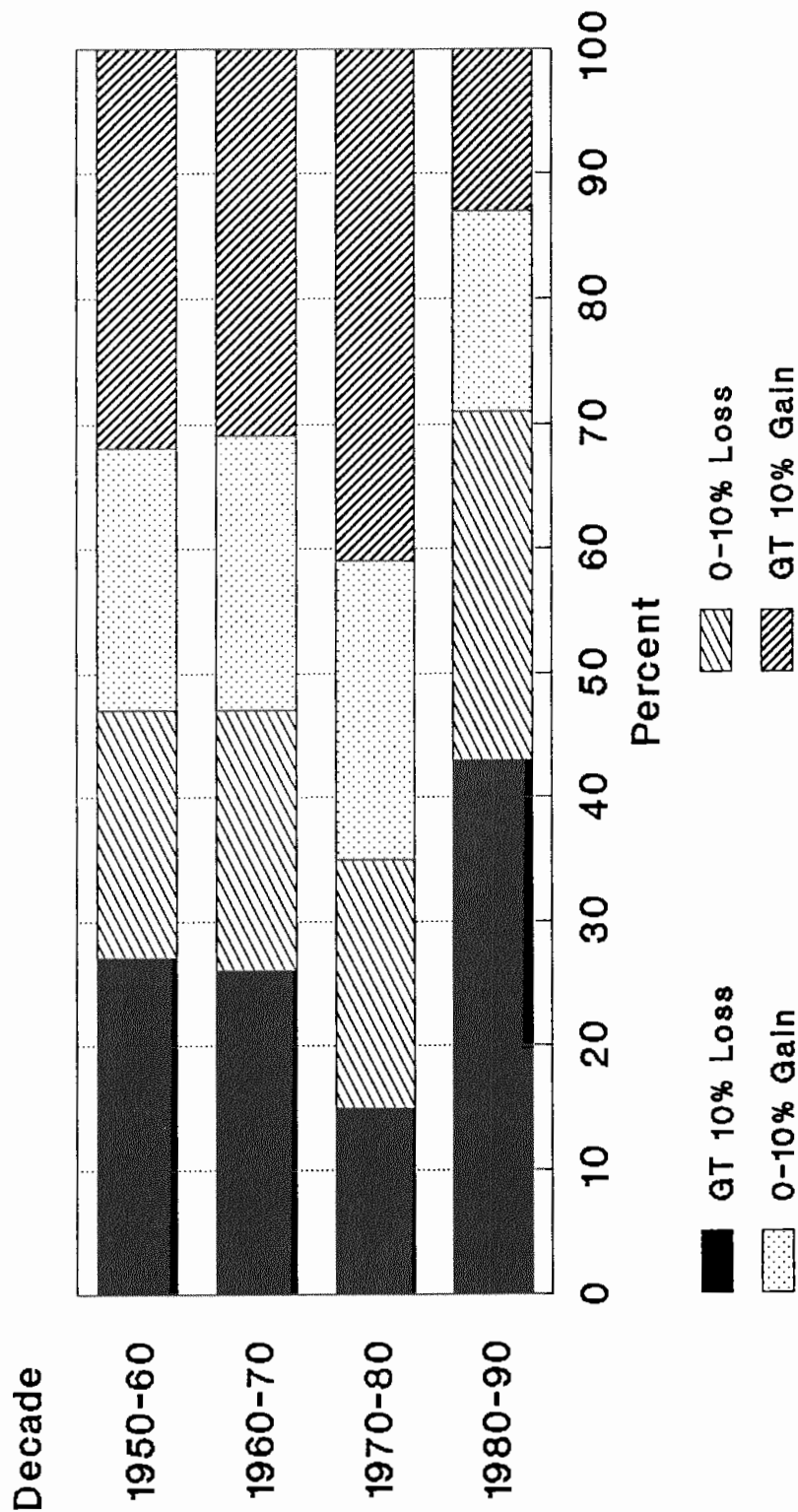
Appendix Table 1. Comparison of Fixed and Floating Nonmetropolitan County Designations, United States Villages, 1950-1990. (a)

Year	Fixed 1983 nonmetro designation			Floating nonmetro designation				
	Number of ----- Ctys. Places	Population (000s)	Growth by Init. Size (b)	Number of ----- Ctys. Places	Population (000s)	Growth by Init. Size (b)		
1950	2,374	9,509	6,326	--	2,815	11,520	7,870	--
1960	2,374	9,640	6,304	5.5	2,679	10,934	7,343	11.4
1970	2,374	9,566	6,359	4.4	2,459	9,926	6,656	8.4
1980	2,374	9,784	6,737	11.6	2,374	9,782	6,737	13.0
1990	2,374	9,837	6,525	-3.4	2,365	9,815	6,512	-3.4

(a) Villages are incorporated places with less than 2,500 population. The Floating nonmetro designation is as of 1950 for the 1950 census, 1963 for the 1960 census, 1974 for the 1970 census, 1983 for the 1980 census and 1990 for the 1990 census. Except for 1950 and 1990 these designations incorporate the commuting data of the respective census in determining whether or not to designate a county as metropolitan.

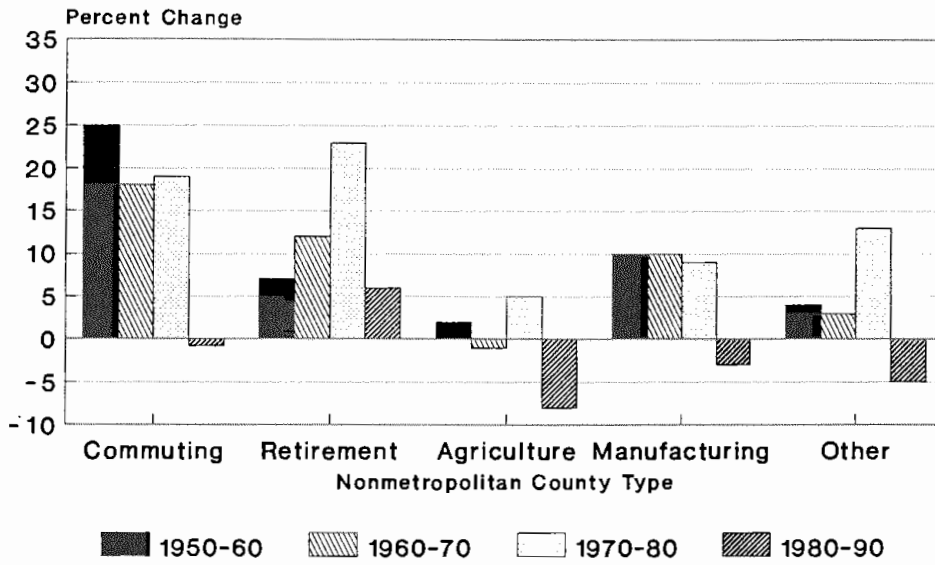
(b) Growth figures are percent change for all nonmetropolitan incorporated places with less than 2,500 people in the preceding census.

Figure 1
**VILLAGE DISTRIBUTION BY POPULATION
 PERCENT CHANGE 1950-60 - 1980-90**



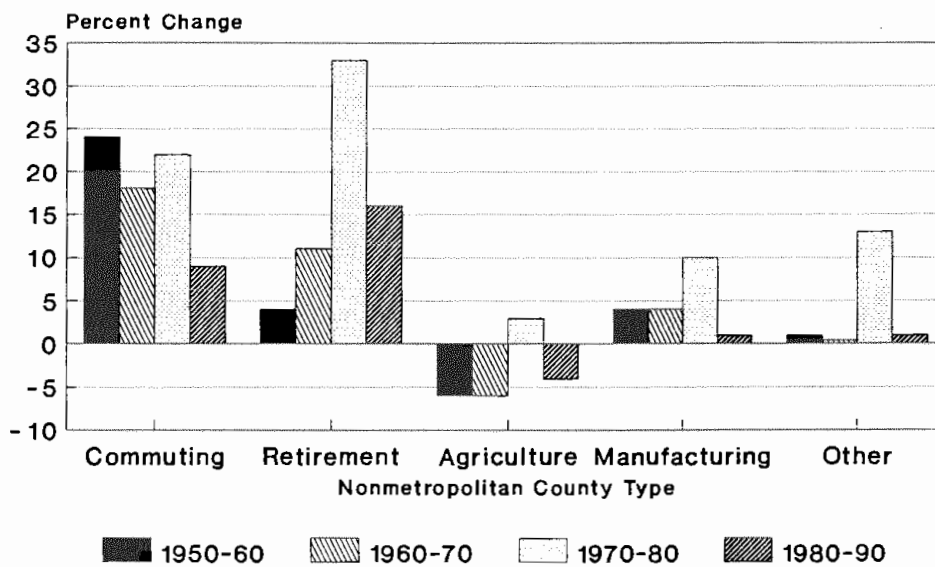
Nonmetro Incorporated places under 2,500 population. Nonmetro county designation as of the beginning of each decade.

Figure 2
**POPULATION PERCENT CHANGE FOR VILLAGES
 BY COUNTY TYPE 1950-60 - 1980-90**



Nonmetropolitan county designation as of the beginning of each decade.

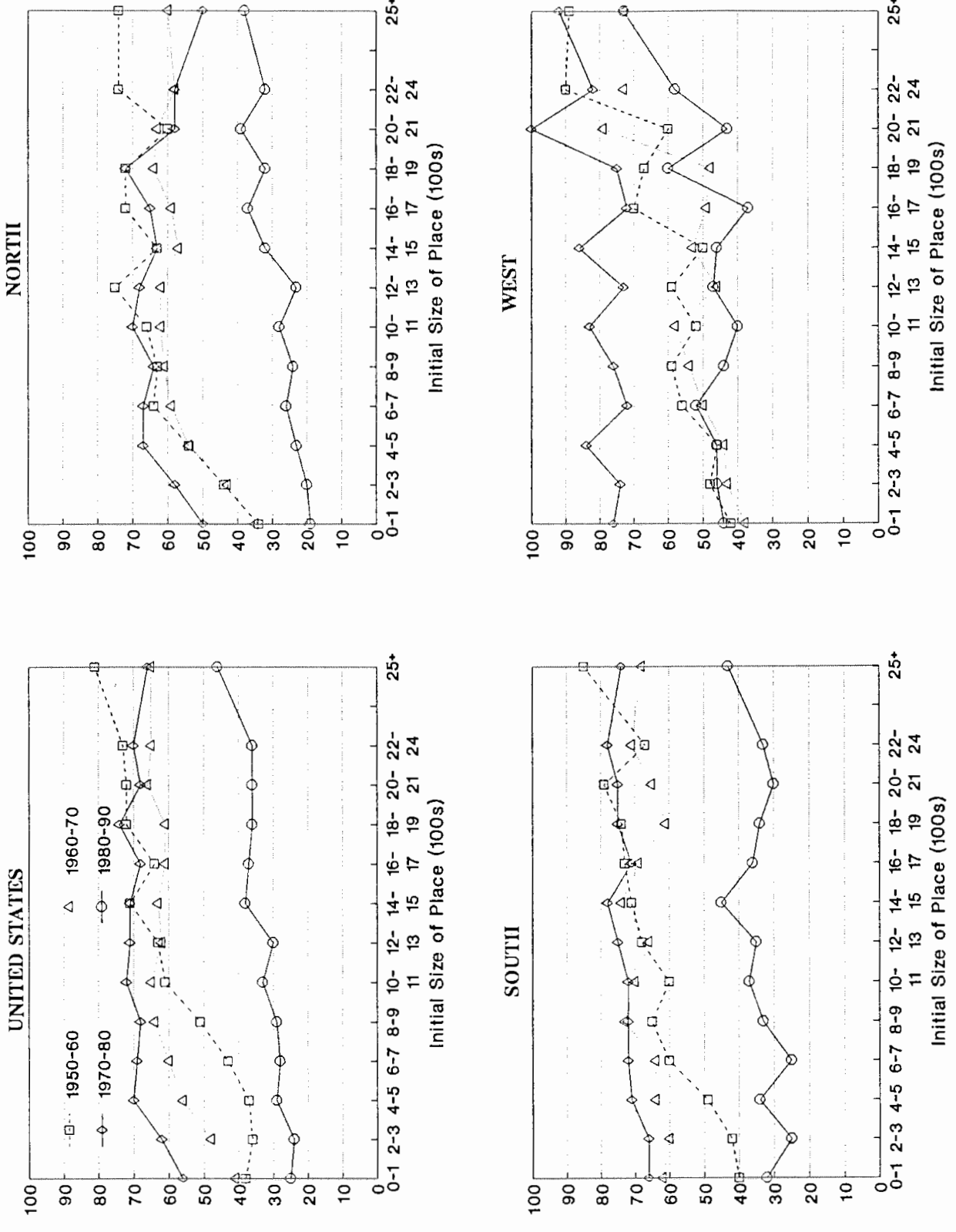
Figure 3
**POPULATION PERCENT CHANGE FOR COUNTIES
 BY COUNTY TYPE 1950-60 - 1980-90**



Nonmetropolitan county designation as of the beginning of each decade.

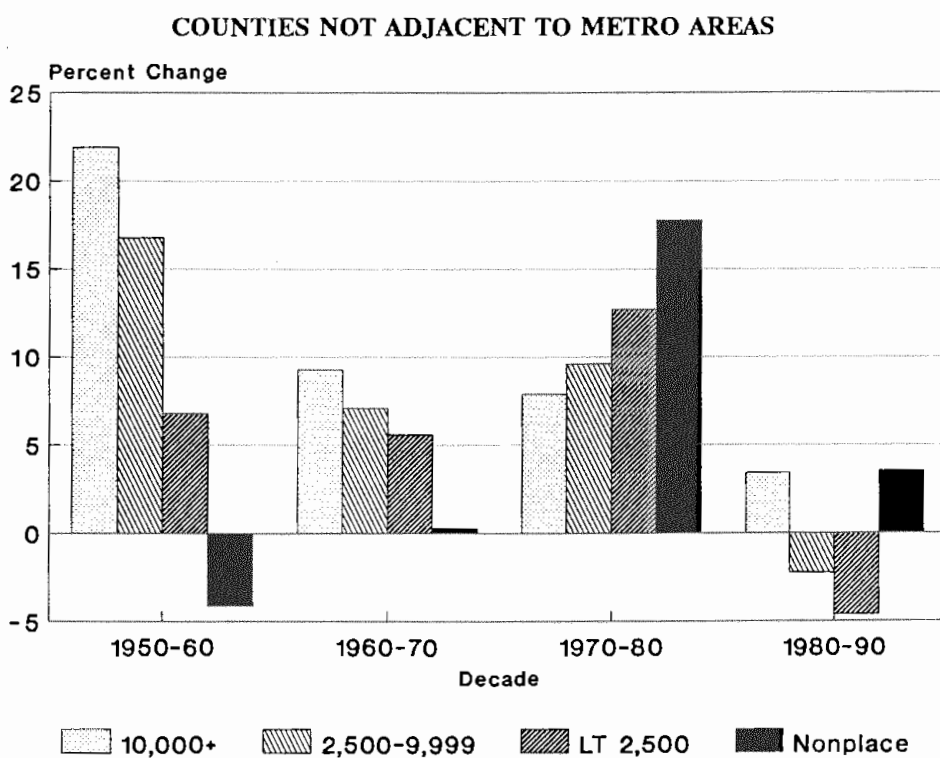
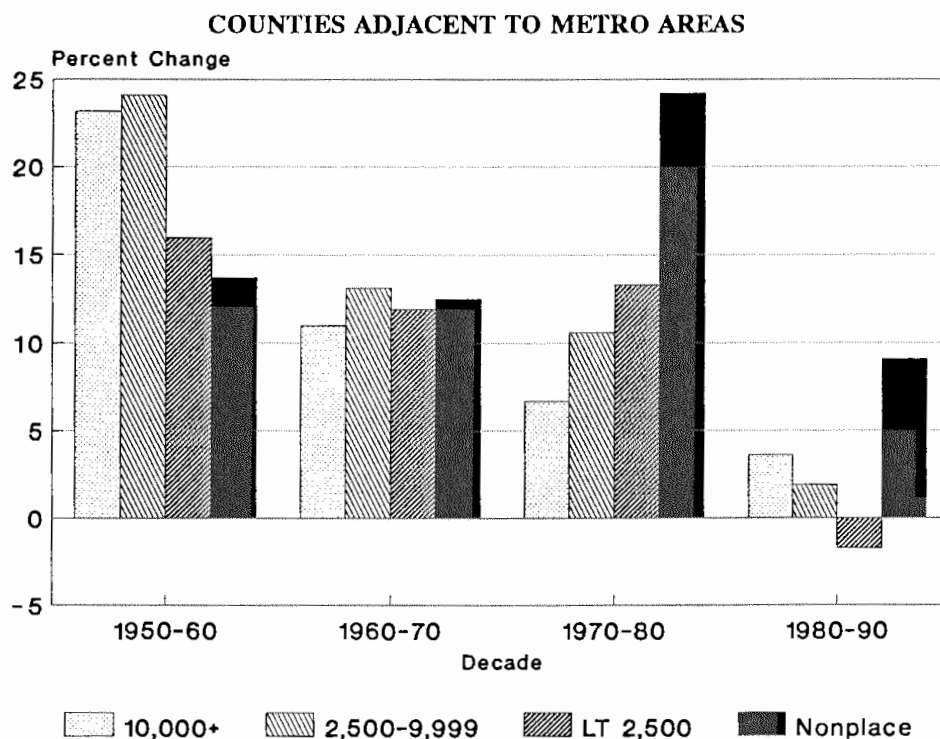
Figure 4

PERCENT OF VILLAGES GROWING BY SIZE 1950-60, 1960-70, 1970-80, 1980-90



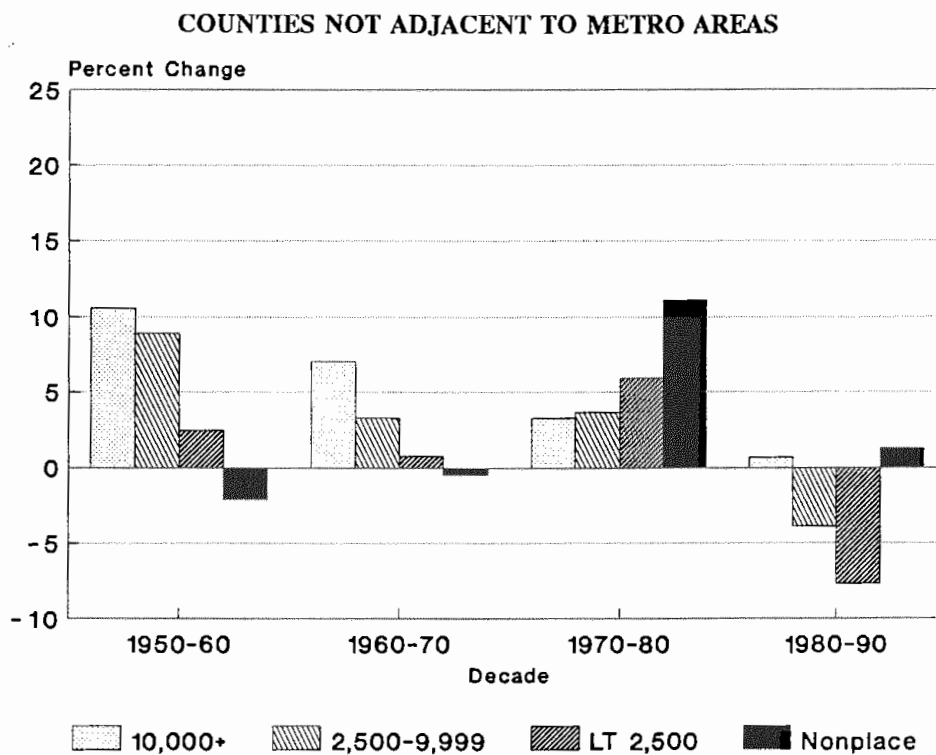
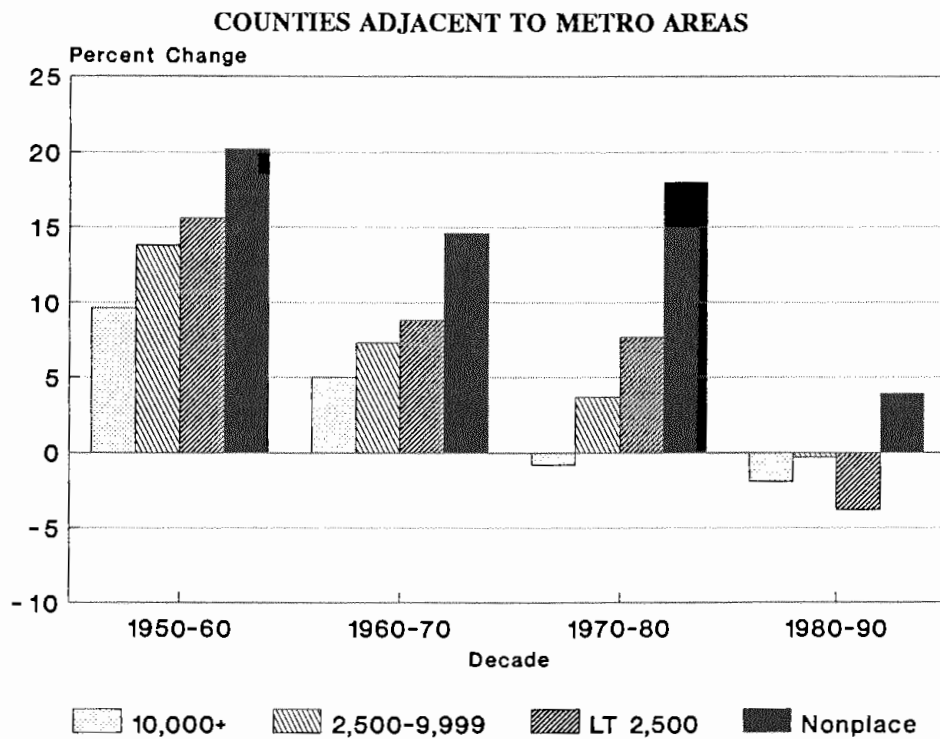
Places nonmetropolitan at beginning of each decade.

Figure 5
PLACE-NONPLACE POPULATION CHANGE



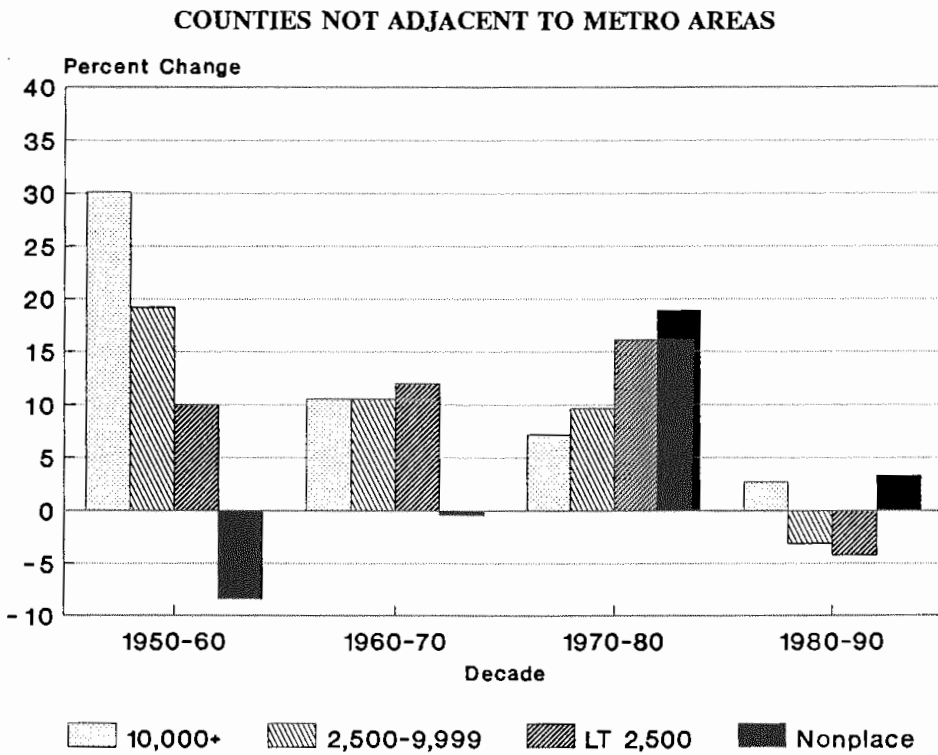
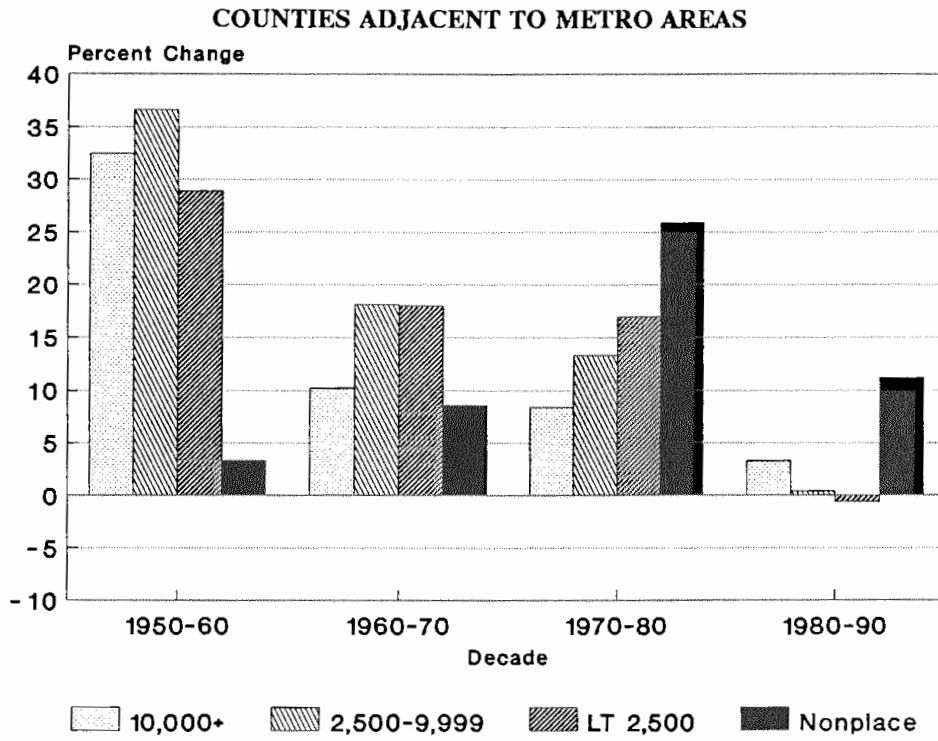
Nonmetropolitan as of the beginning of each decade.

Figure 6
PLACE-NONPLACE POPULATION CHANGE, NORTH



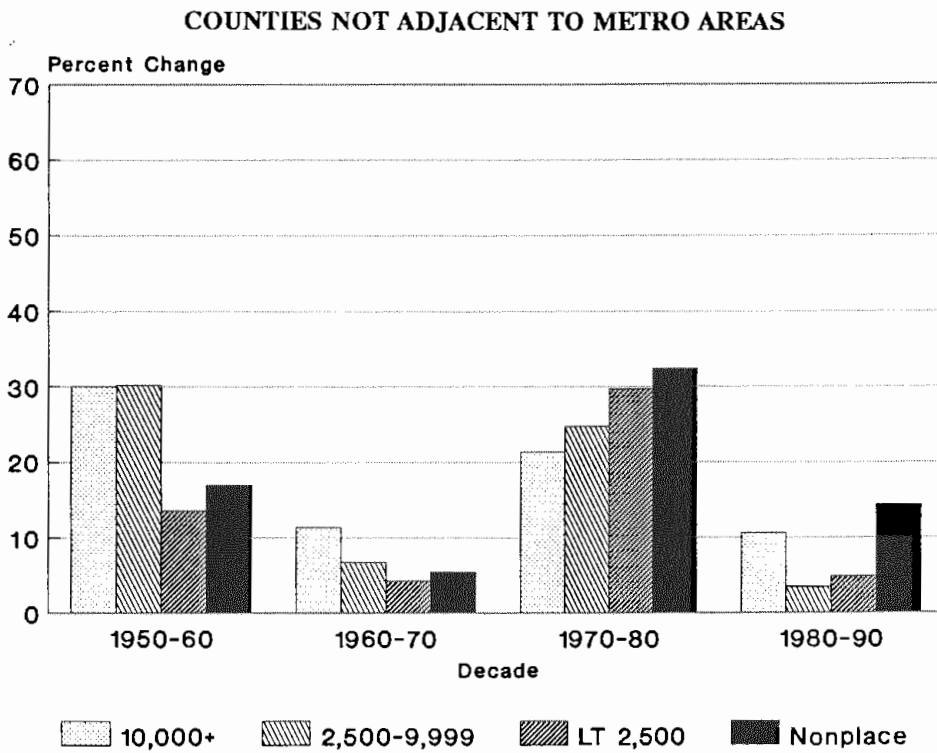
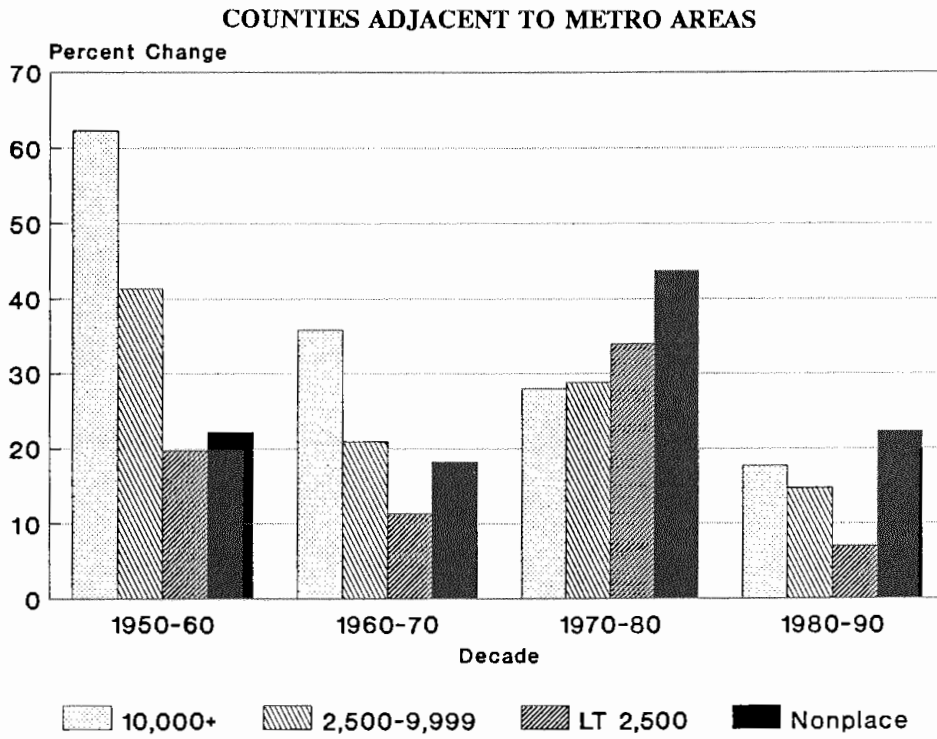
Nonmetropolitan as of the beginning of each decade.

Figure 7
PLACE-NONPLACE POPULATION CHANGE, SOUTH



Nonmetropolitan as of the beginning of each decade.

Figure 8
PLACE-NONPLACE POPULATION CHANGE, WEST



Nonmetropolitan as of the beginning of each decade.

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