

The Linguistic Atlas of Kansas German Dialects:

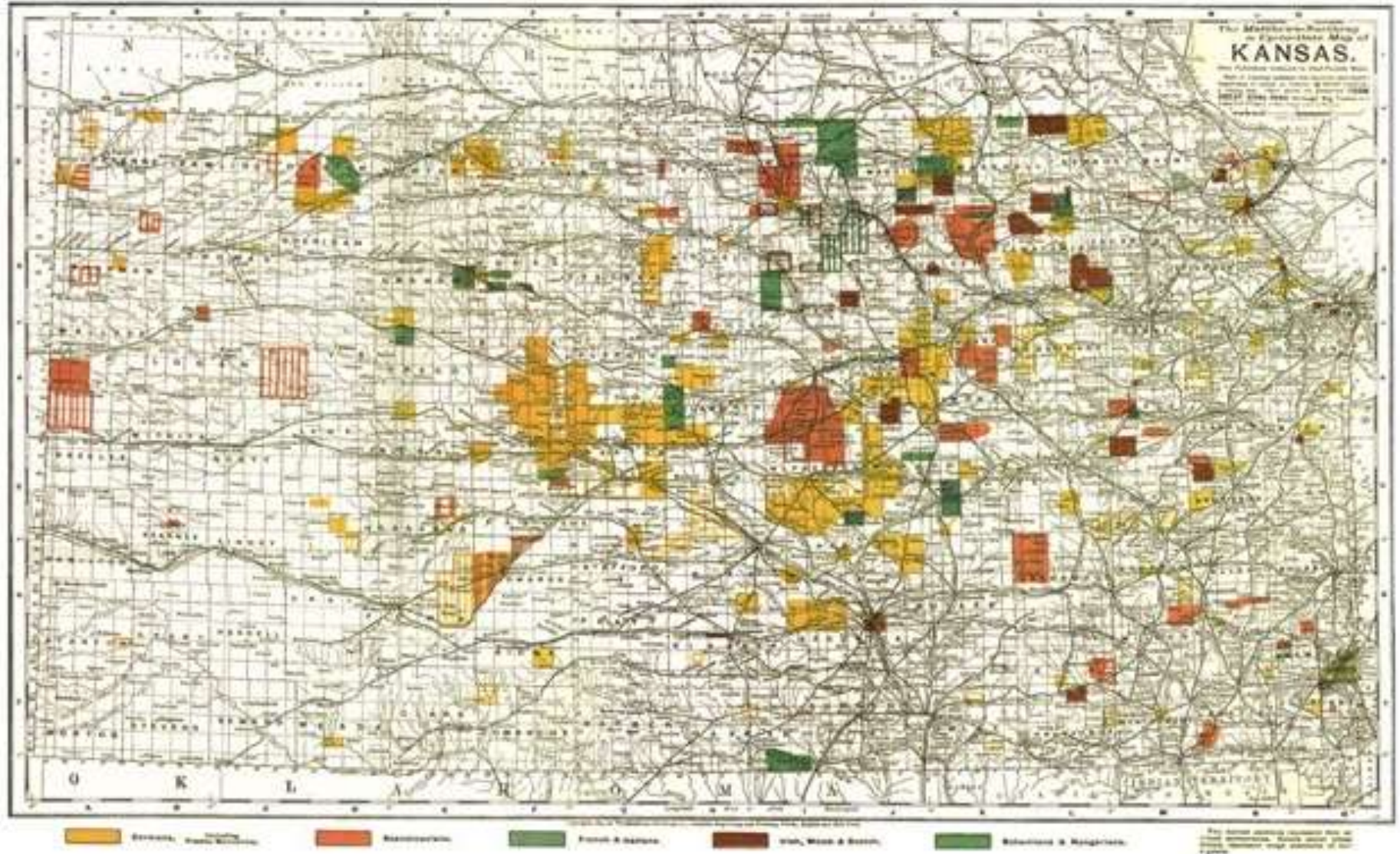
Impacts of Openness

William D. Keel

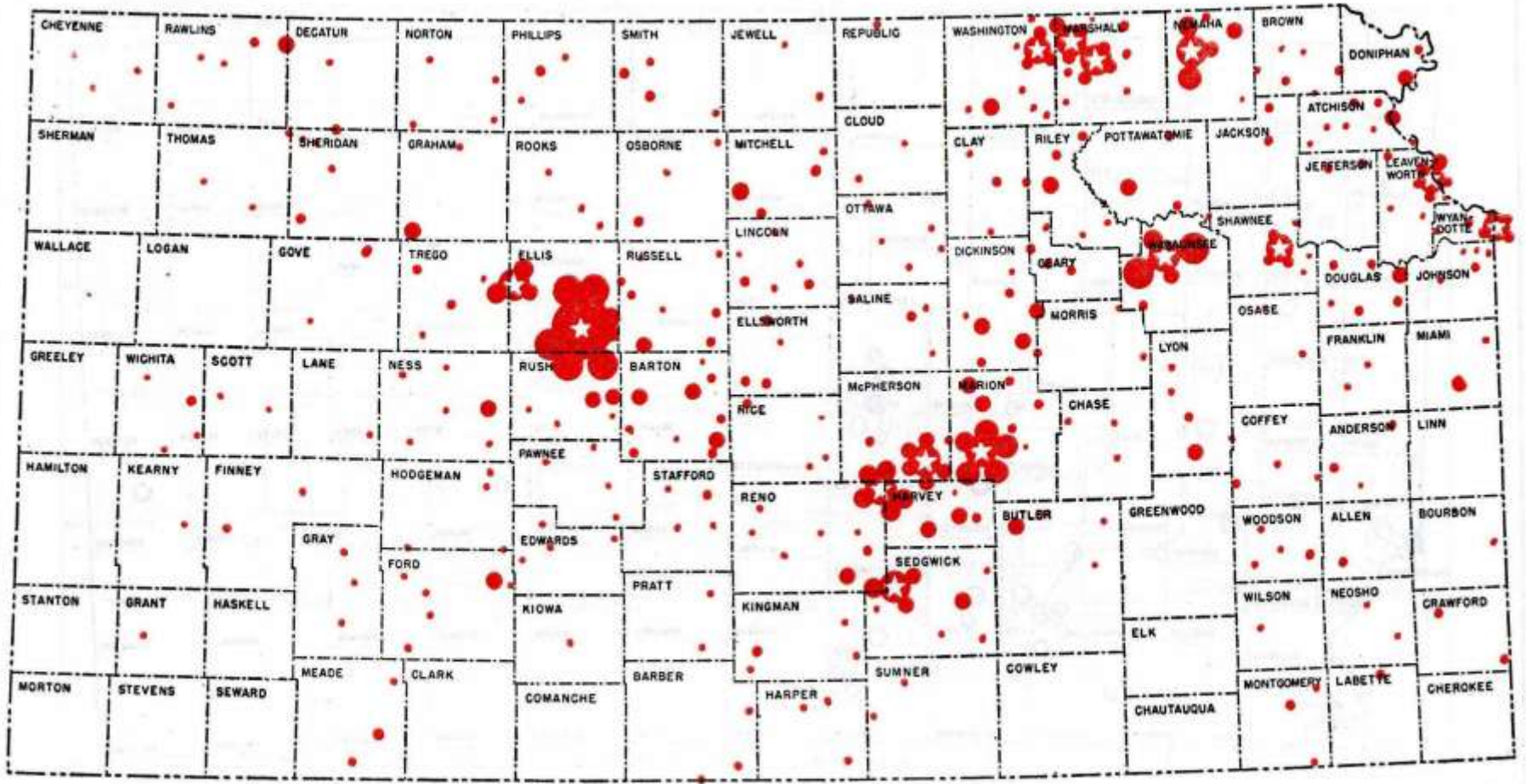
**Department of Germanic Languages & Literatures
University of Kansas**

MAP OF FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS IN KANSAS.

Compiled by W. H. CARRUTH, Professor of German in the State University.



William Herbert Carruth: *Kansas University Quarterly*, 1893

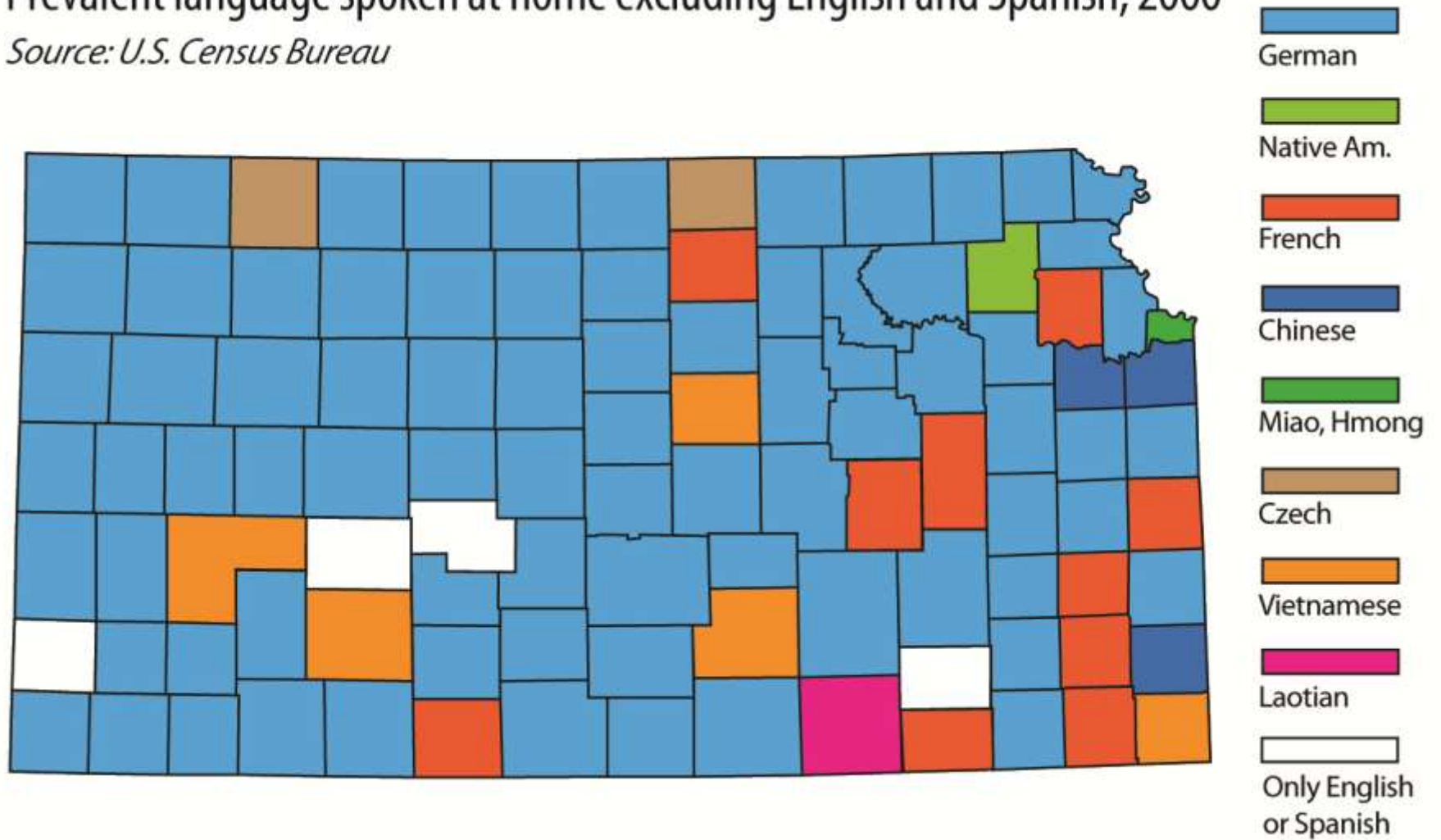


Justice Neale Carman: *Foreign Language Units of Kansas, 1962*

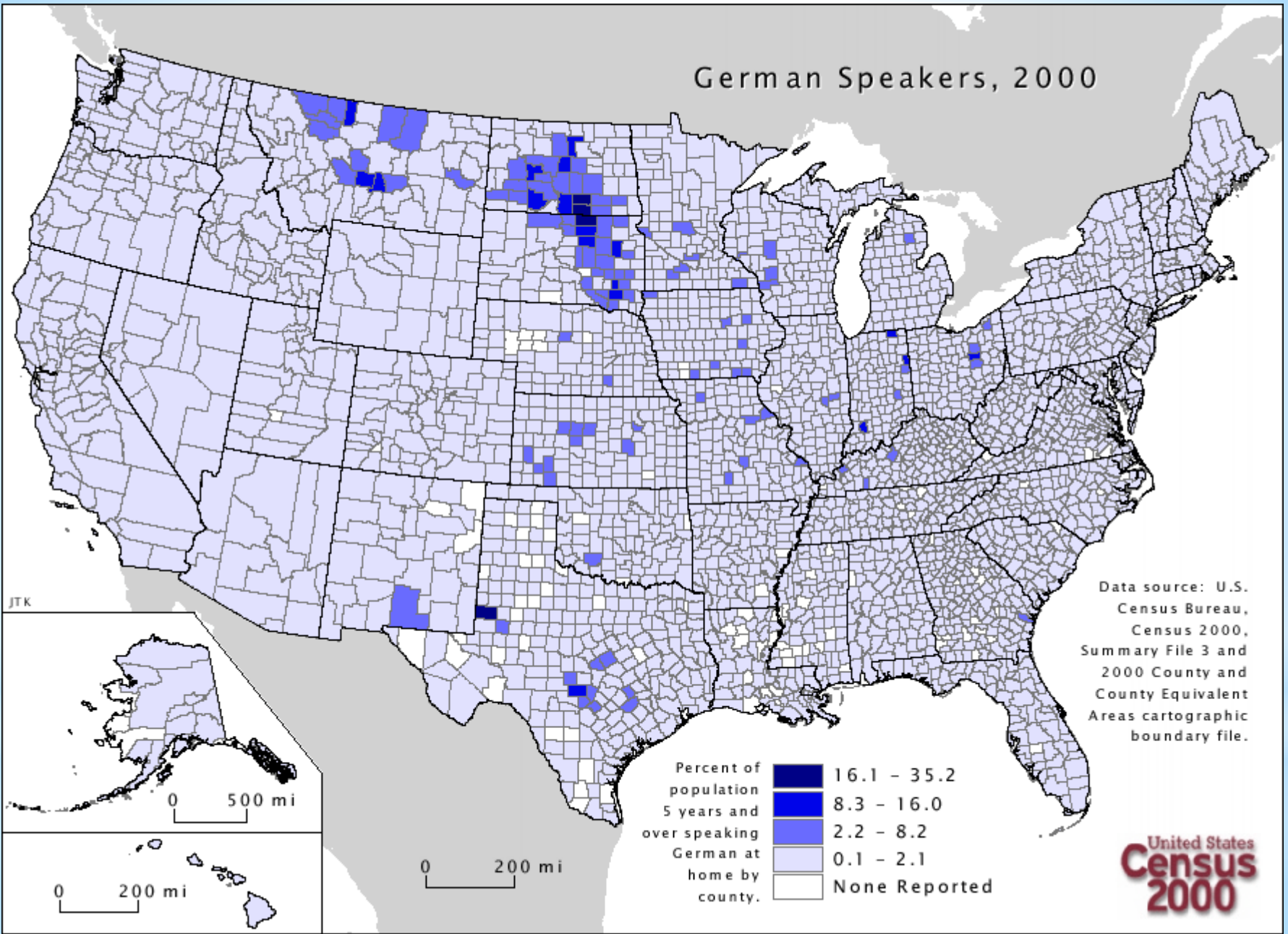
Critical Year for non-English varieties spoken in Kansas

Prevalent language spoken at home excluding English and Spanish, 2000

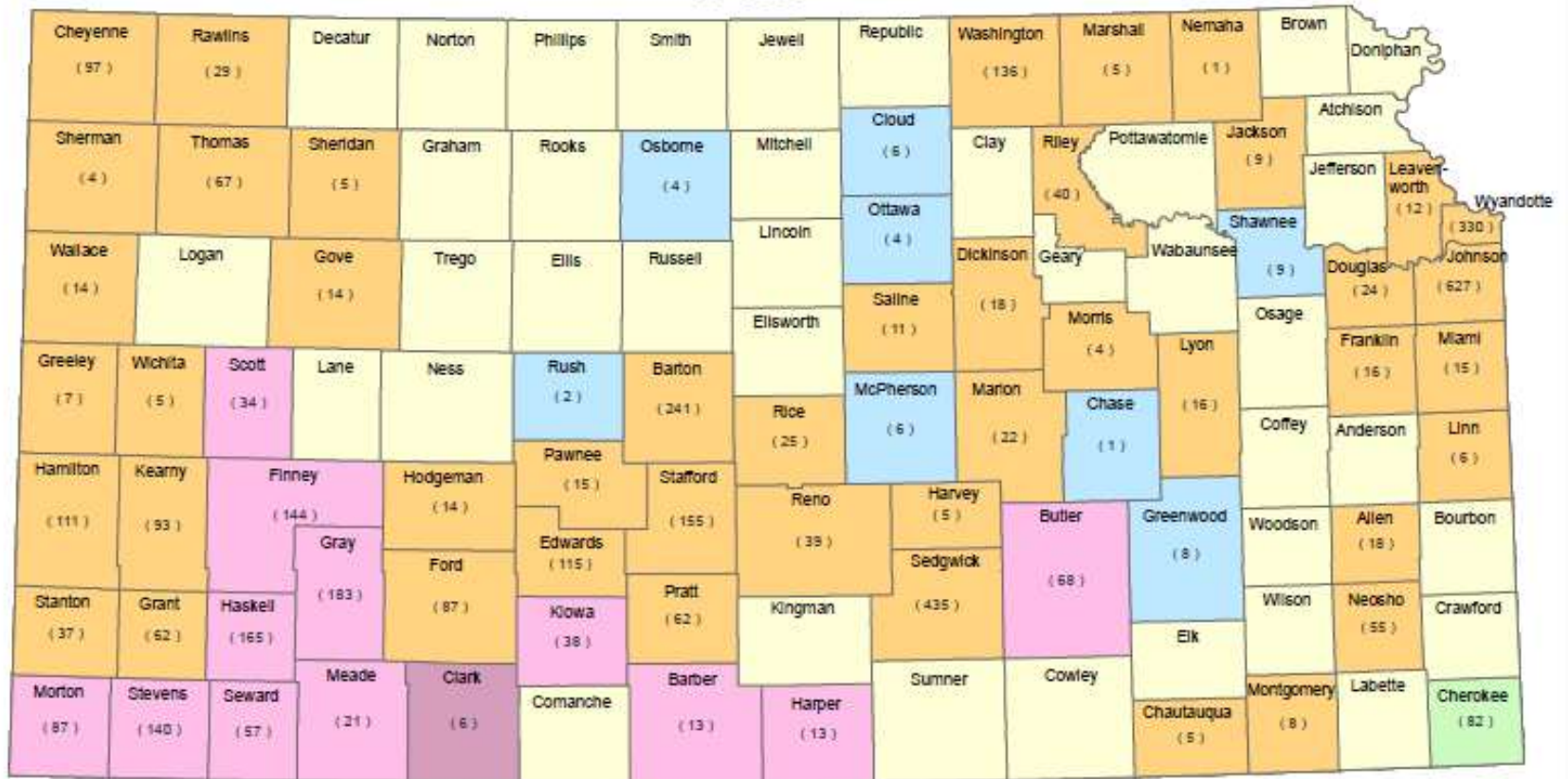
Source: U.S. Census Bureau



German Speakers, 2000



Dominant Language Spoken (Number Served) of Clients Served by Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program by County January 1 to December 31, 2010 N=4893



Data Source: Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program 2010
 Provided by: KS Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Community Health Systems

LAKGD

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Recorded Speakers
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[Speaker Attributes](#)

Questionnaires
[Wenker Sentences](#)
[LAKGD Questionnaire](#)

Identifying Dialects
[Kansas German Dialects](#)
[German Homeland Dialects](#)
[Volga German Dialects](#)
[in Russia](#)

History of Germans in Kansas
[Daitsch, Däätsch, Dүүtsch, Dietsch](#)
[Carman Map of German Settlements in Kansas](#)
[Carruth Map of Foreign Settlements in Kansas](#)
[Volga German Source Villages to Kansas](#)
[Census Maps 1870-1900](#)

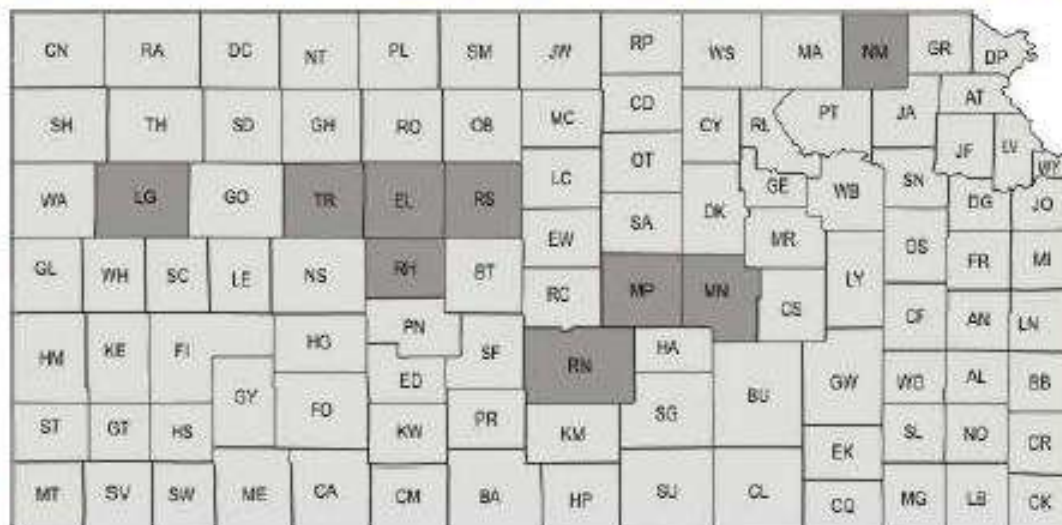
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Linguistic Atlas of Kansas German Dialects

As one travels throughout the state of Kansas, one cannot help noticing numerous place names which might lead one to believe that one is, indeed, not in Kansas anymore: Humboldt in Allen County, Bremen in Marshall County, Stuttgart in Phillips County, Marienthal in Wichita County, Windthorst in Ford County, Olmitz in Barton County, Olpe in Lyons County, Bern in Nemaha County, and many others. Whether named for famous German researchers (Alexander and Wilhelm von Humboldt), German political leaders of the nineteenth century (Ludwig Windthorst), cities and towns in Germany (Bremen, Stuttgart and Olpe), the capital of Switzerland (Bern), a city in Moravia in the former Austrian Empire (Olmütz), or a German colony near the Volga River in the Russian Empire (Marienthal), each of these Kansas communities is a living testament to the massive influx of German-speaking settlers who found new homes in Kansas during the period from the mid-1850s to the 1880s, and continue to immigrate to Kansas at the beginning of the twenty-first century. (Keel, 2006)

Darker counties indicate posted recordings. Click on a county to listen to German speakers from that county.



Ellis(EL) | Logan(LG) | Marion(MN) | McPherson(MP) | Nemaha(NM) |
 Reno(RN) | Rush(RH) | Russell(RS) | Trego(TR)

[How to get the most out of the recordings.](#)

[How to get the most out of the historical maps.](#)

Scholarly Impact:

- **Recognition by the international community of scholars in German dialectology—
"Internationale Gesellschaft für die Dialektologie des Deutschen"**
- **Participation in international conferences in Germany, Austria and Switzerland since 2003**
- **Presentations at German universities: Kiel, Mainz, Munich, Regensburg, The Saarland**
- **Collaborative research grants with European scholars under the auspices of the American Council of Learned Societies and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation**
- **Participation in the newly formed research group DiMOS – Deutsch in Mittel-, Ost- und Südosteuropa**
- **International conference at KU's Max Kade Center in 2001 on German speech islands worldwide; conference papers published in Germany**
- **Planned conference on varieties of German and Czech spoken in Kansas in 2015 in conjunction with the guest professorship of Hermann Scheuringer, head of DiMOS**
- **Six completed PhD dissertations as well as MA theses and summer undergraduate research projects on Kansas/Missouri German dialects**
- **Over 25 published scholarly articles and numerous conference presentations**

Public Impact:

- **Two published anthologies on the Bukovina Germans (1996) and the Volga Germans (2004) of Kansas co-sponsored by heritage groups in Ellis County**
- **New contacts for dialect interviews based on publicity connected to the website**
- **Contacts by radio and newspapers in Kansas and Missouri regarding German settlements, culture and dialects, particularly regarding the new immigration from Mexico**
- **Cooperation with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment on the impact of Low-German-speaking Mennonites from Chihuahua, Mexico, in southwestern Kansas**
- **Several Heritage Grants from the Kansas Humanities Council to promote public involvement in the Low-German community of Washington and Marshall counties**
- **Over 125 presentations statewide under the auspices of the Speakers Bureau of the Kansas Humanities Council; Regular course offerings in the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute on German Culture in Kansas**
- **Many presentations to the Kansas Association of Teacher of German, chapters of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia in Kansas, the Bukovina Society of the Americas and similar groups**
- **Assistance to individuals seeking information on their family and desiring to decipher handwritten German documents**

O Kaunsaslaunt!

O Kaunsaslaunt! O Kaunsaslaunt!

Opp die hab ekj mien Komst jeplaunt.

Onn kjikj mie omm gaunss onnfebleft,

Auf daut uck nochemol Heefta jeft?

Onn wan ekj dan bekjij mien Korn,

Nä, dan fekjeepe ekj nijch de Foarm.

Fälmol Dankscheen!!