



A Shifting Safety Net After PRWORA?

Use of Cash Assistance by Non-Citizens in Missouri

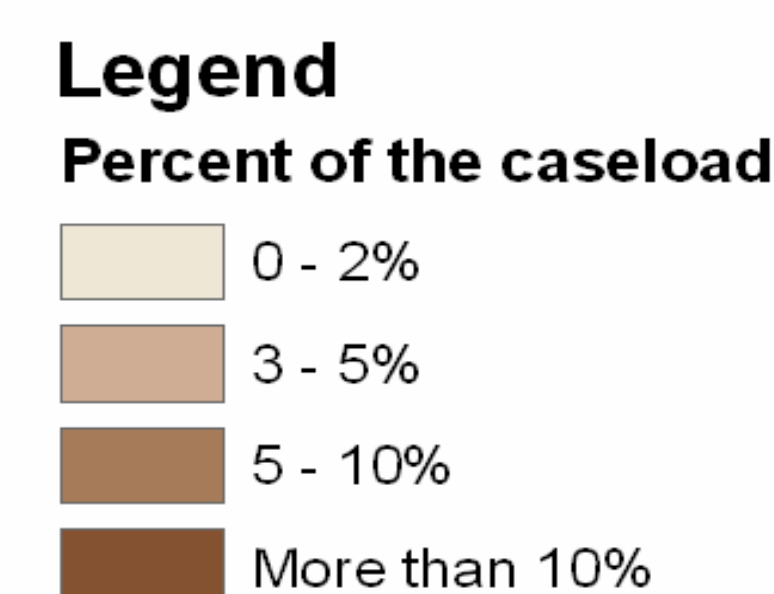
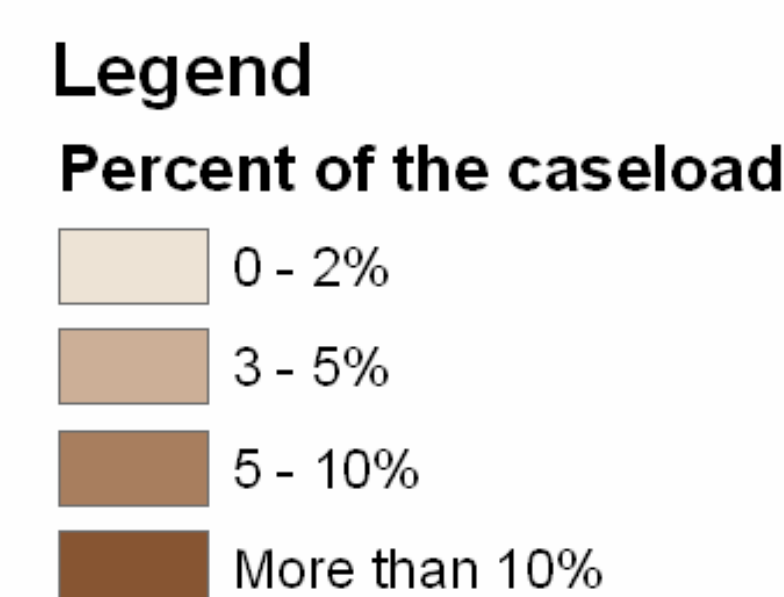
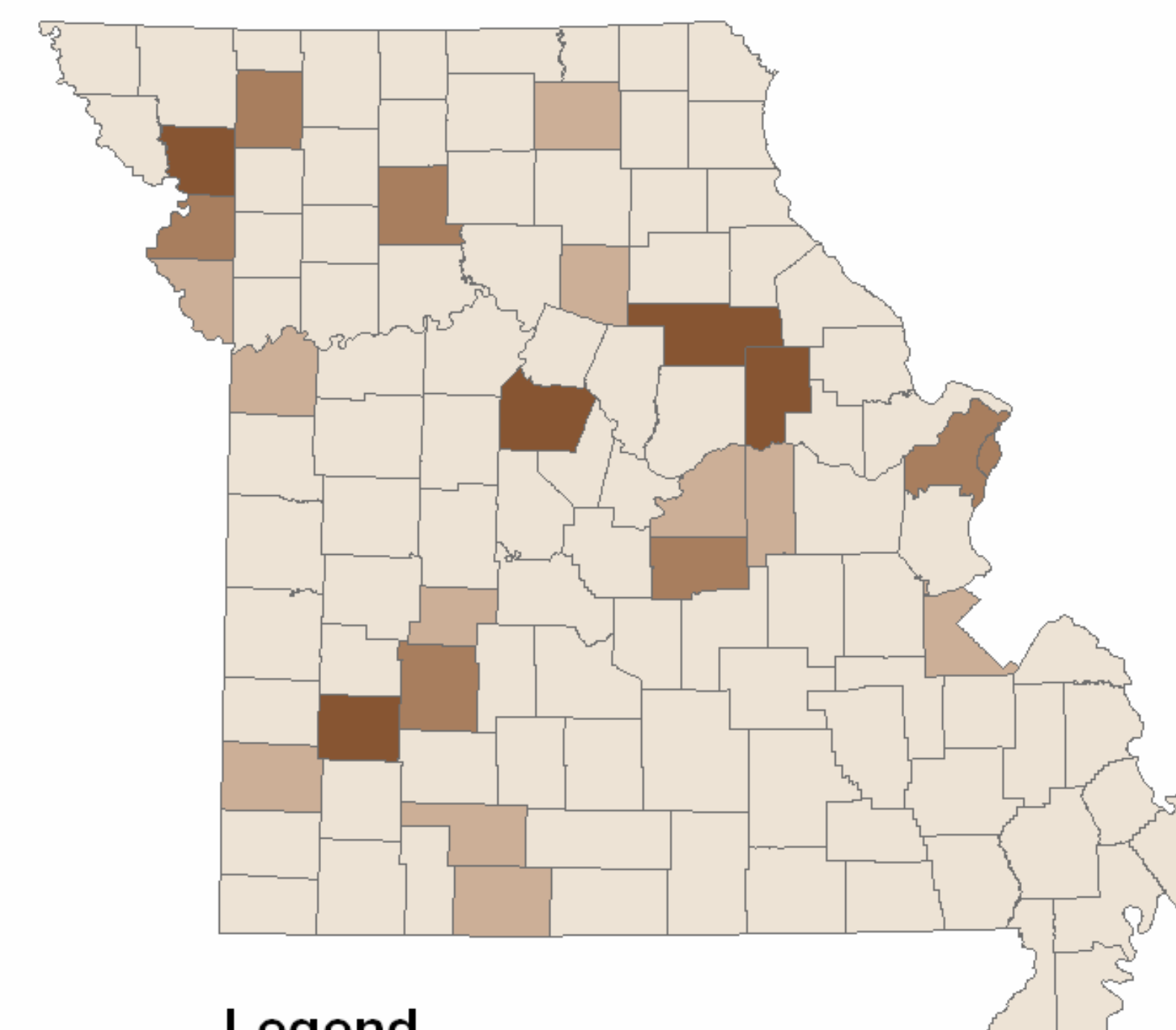
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Background

- PRWORA instituted new restrictions for certain categories of immigrants Those entering the country after August, 1996 most impacted
- New requirements included five year minimum waiting period for many immigrants

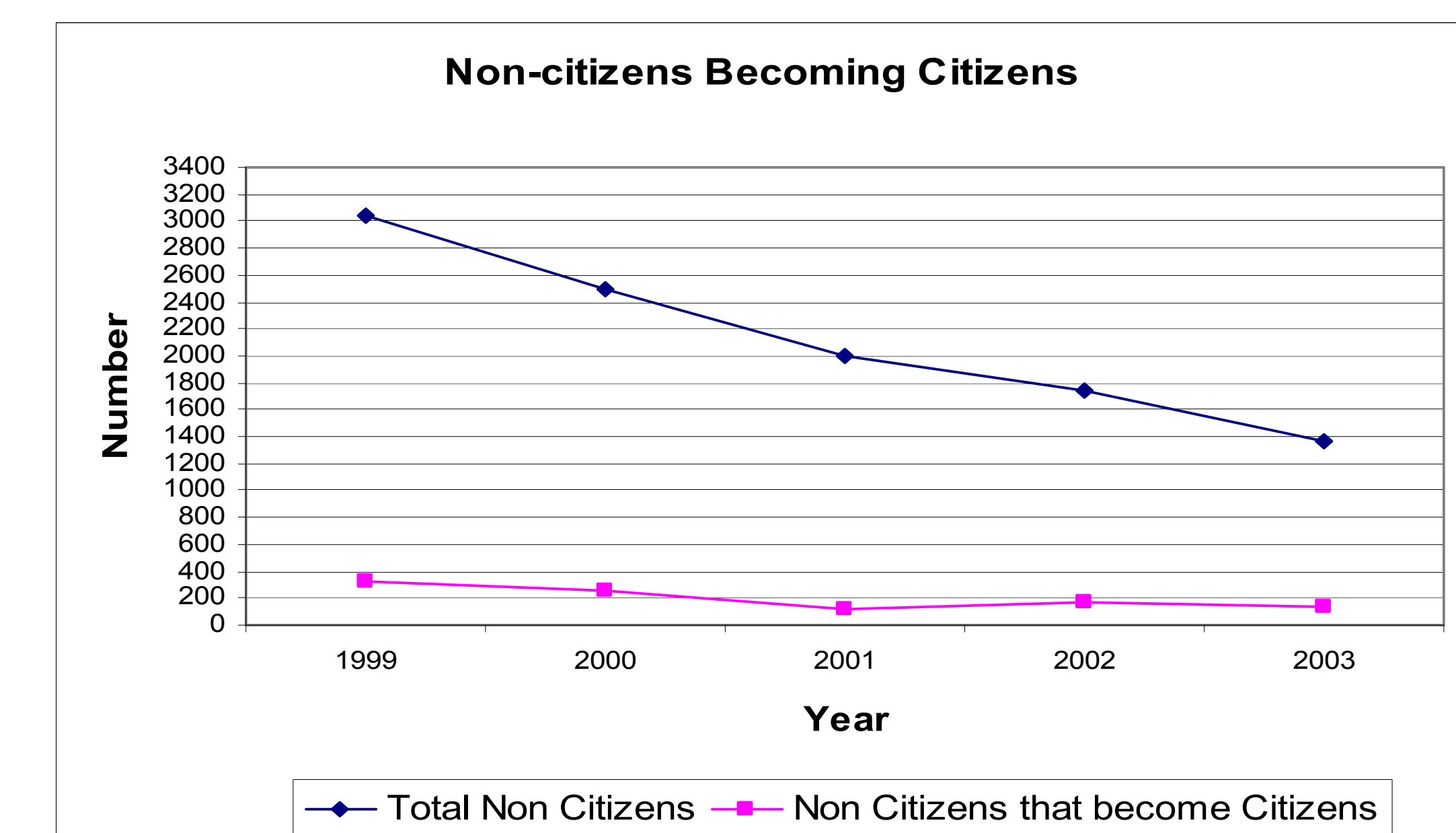
Data

- Income maintenance administrative data
- Missouri Department of Social Services
- January 1999 – April 2004
- Non-citizen case
- Head of household is not a citizen regardless of others on the case
- Many cases include other family members, primarily children, who are citizens



Caseload Declines

- Fewer non-citizens could be applying for assistance
- Either no longer eligible or perceive eligibility status has changed
- May have changed naturalization status
- National declines have been attributed to changes in naturalization status (Van Hook, 2003)



Conclusions

- Despite relatively good access for non-citizens, comprise a small percentage of the total caseload
- Not directly comparable but much lower percentage than found in neighboring states
- Minnesota – 12 to 17% of cases contained non-citizens (Hirasuna, 2003)
- Cases have declined substantially over period in terms of raw numbers and relative to cases headed by citizens

Geographic Variation 1999 & 2003

- Non-citizen cases concentrated in a few counties in Missouri
- Highest ranking counties by percent of non-citizen cases are:
 - Predominately rural counties
 - Experiencing new influxes of migration
 - Have small TANF loads
- Exceptions are St. Louis City (which may never be Bosnian immigrants and parts of Kansas City metropolitan area in 2004)

