

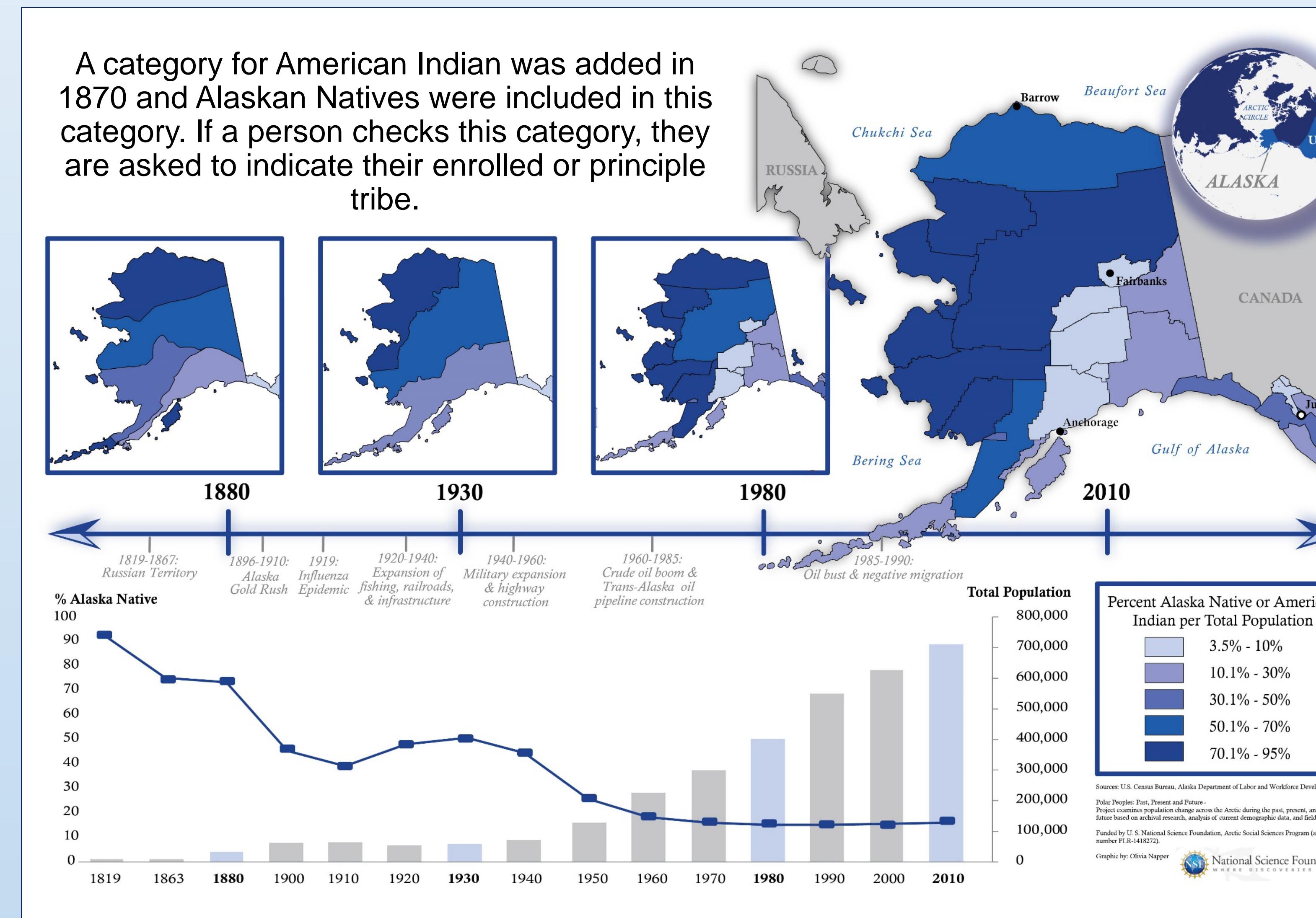
How Governments Categorize Arctic Peoples

BACKGROUND

All the Arctic states categorize their populations based on some aspect of identity in population censuses, registers, surveys, and other government data collection efforts. These include identity according to race, ethnicity, ethnic origin, tribe, language, religion, nationality, citizenship, place of birth, national origin, place identity or other identities. The approaches that each Arctic state uses to classify the identities of peoples varies considerably and there have been significant changes in classification over time. Some of the current classification practices are a vestige of frontier times when data collection efforts expanded to Arctic peripheries and first began to include Arctic natives or indigenous peoples. This poster examines how the national statistical offices of the Arctic states categorize Arctic peoples, both currently and historically. This examination of identity in the Arctic in official government statistics reveals complex and contested portrait.

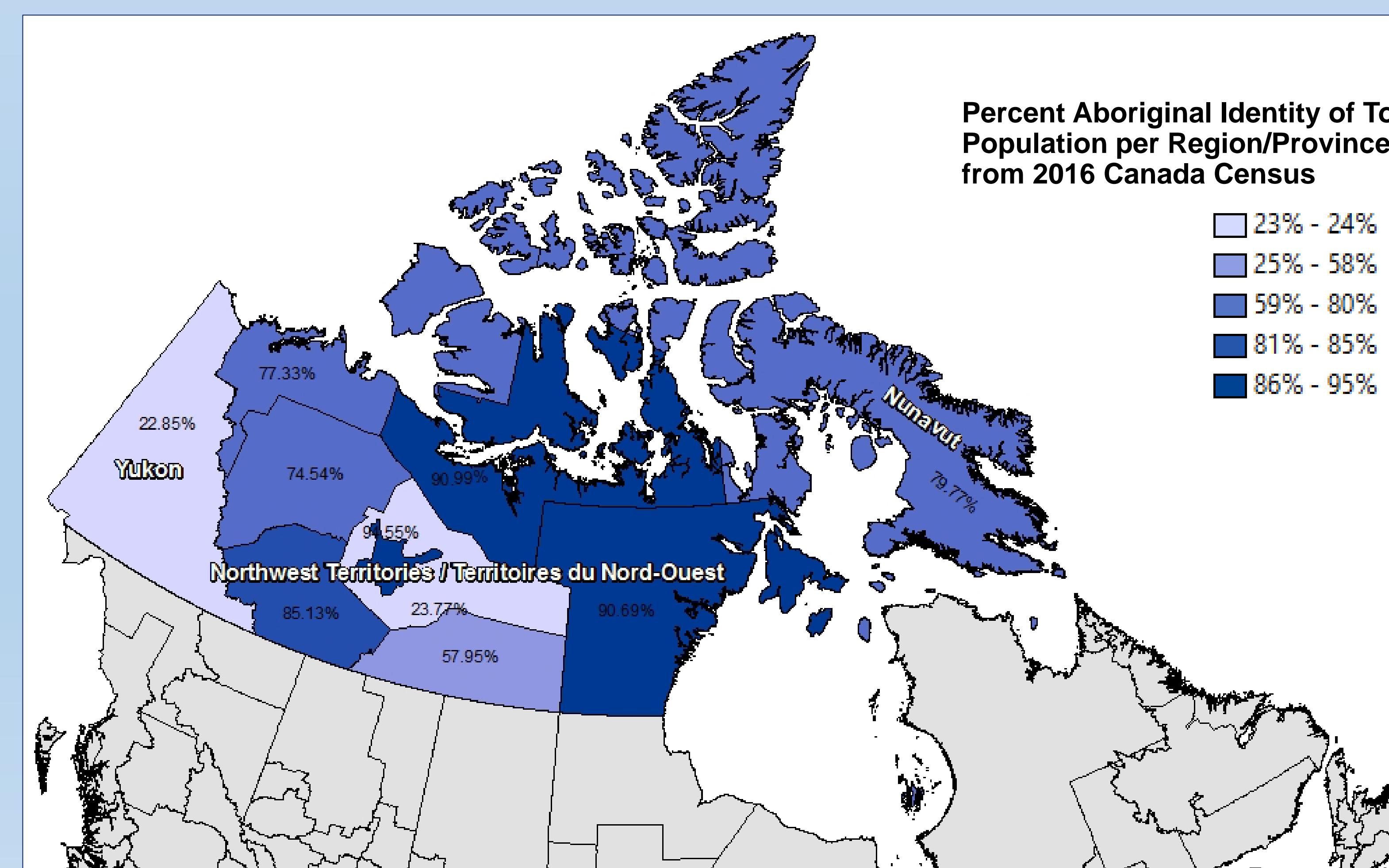
ALASKA

The United States classifies people based on **race**, a trait based mostly on phenotypes observable characteristics, and since 1970, whether the person is Hispanic or not, which considered their **ethnicity**.



CANADA

Canada classifies people based on **ethnic origin**, this includes three groups of aboriginal peoples - Inuit, Métis and First Nations people. The first Canadian census to include the entire territory and all northern aboriginal peoples was in 1891.



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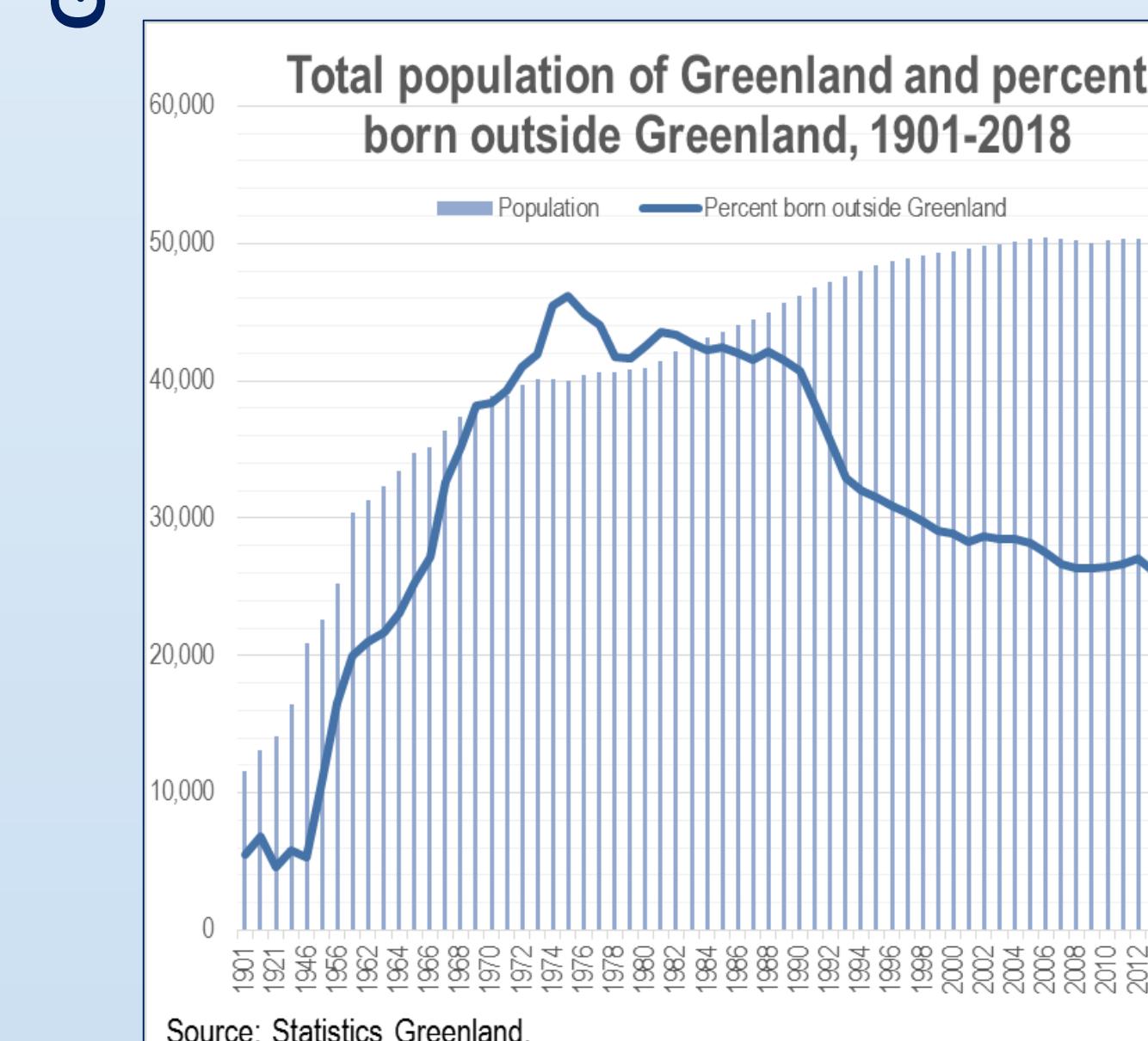
Polar Peoples: Past, Present and Future

Project examines population change across the Americas during the past, present, and into the future based on archival research, analysis of current demographic data, and fieldwork

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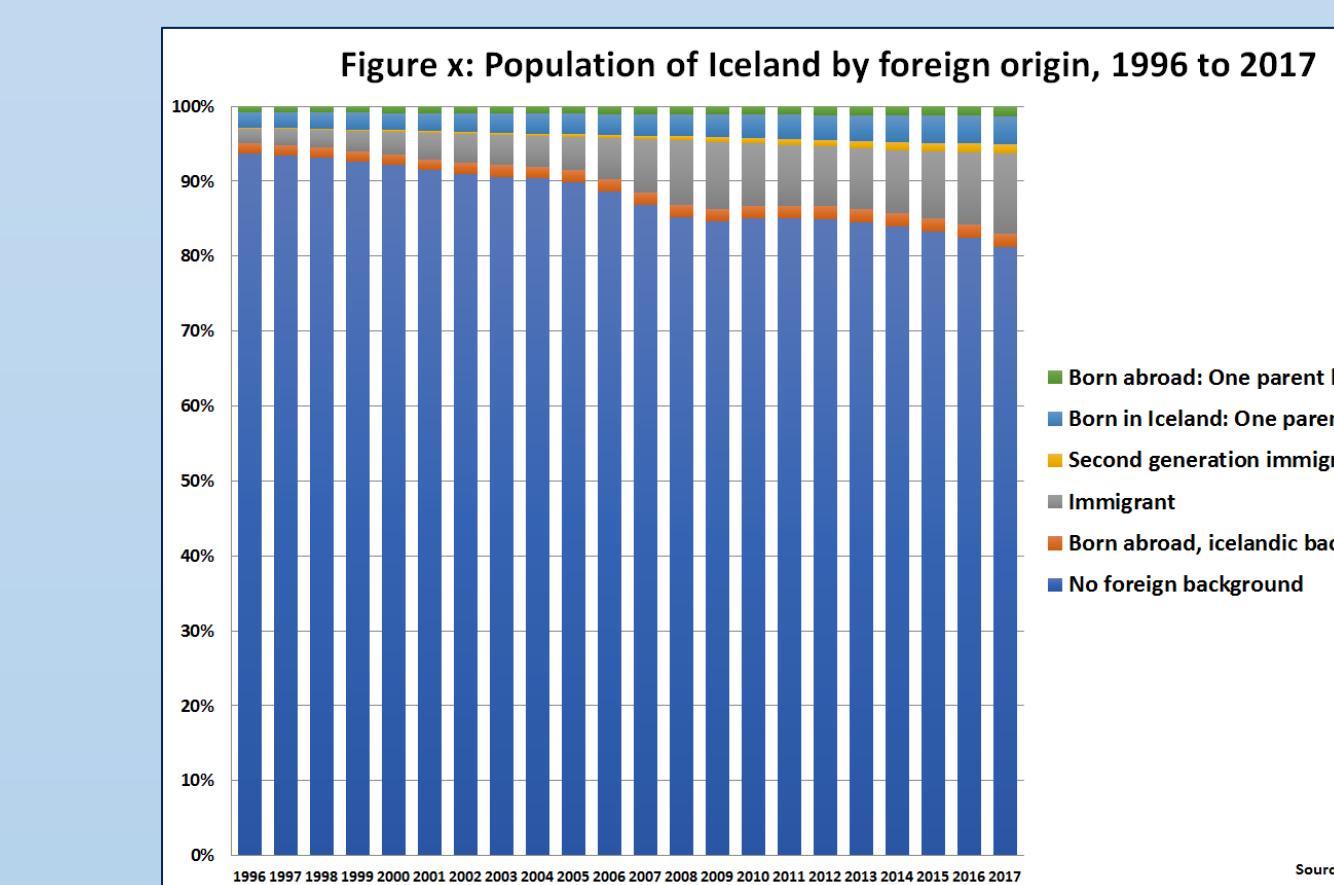
GREENLAND Greenland categorizes people based on **place of birth**, the main distinction being in Greenland or outside Greenland. This distinction can be roughly thought to be native Greenlanders or non-Greenlanders, Inuit or non-Inuit.



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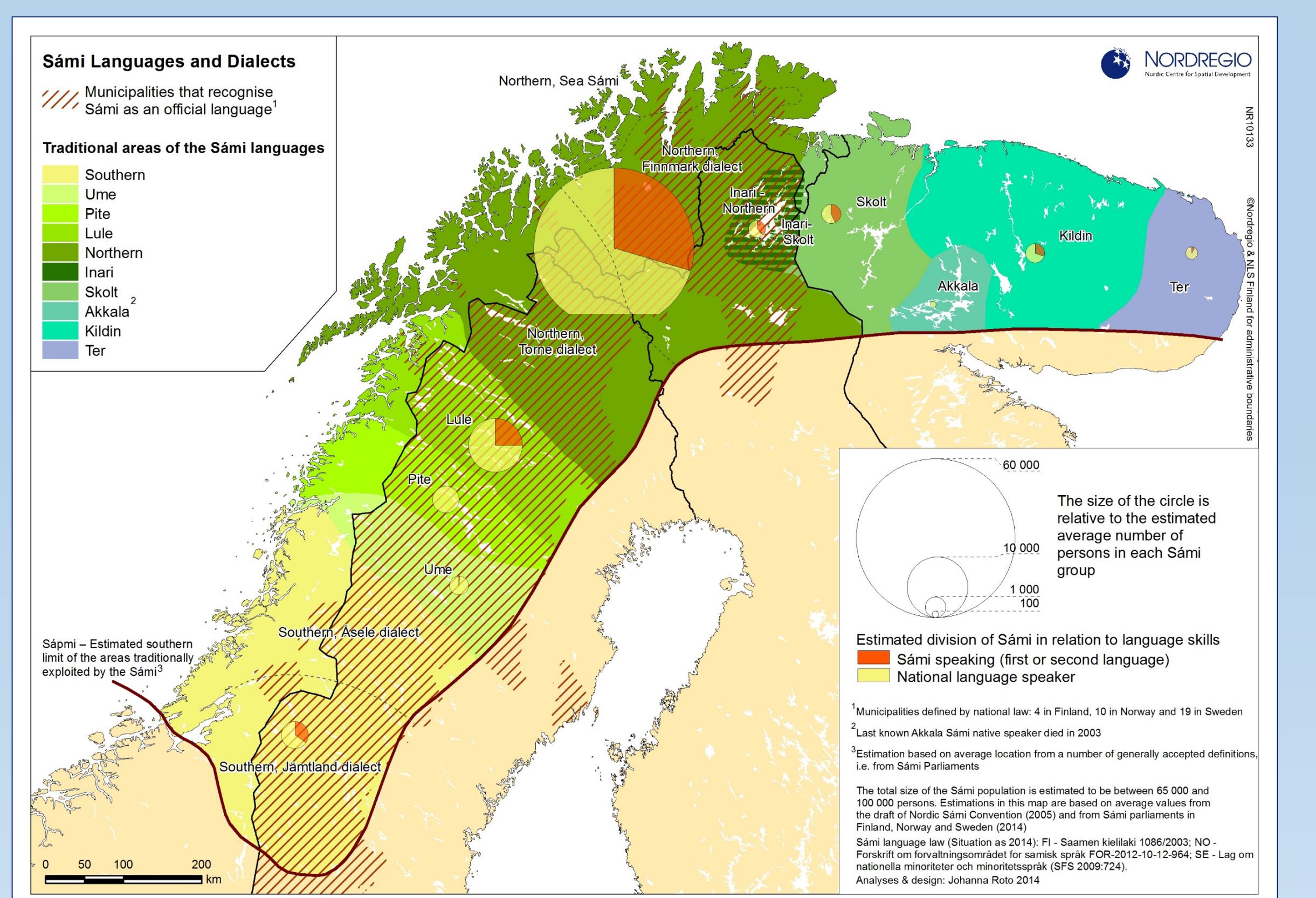
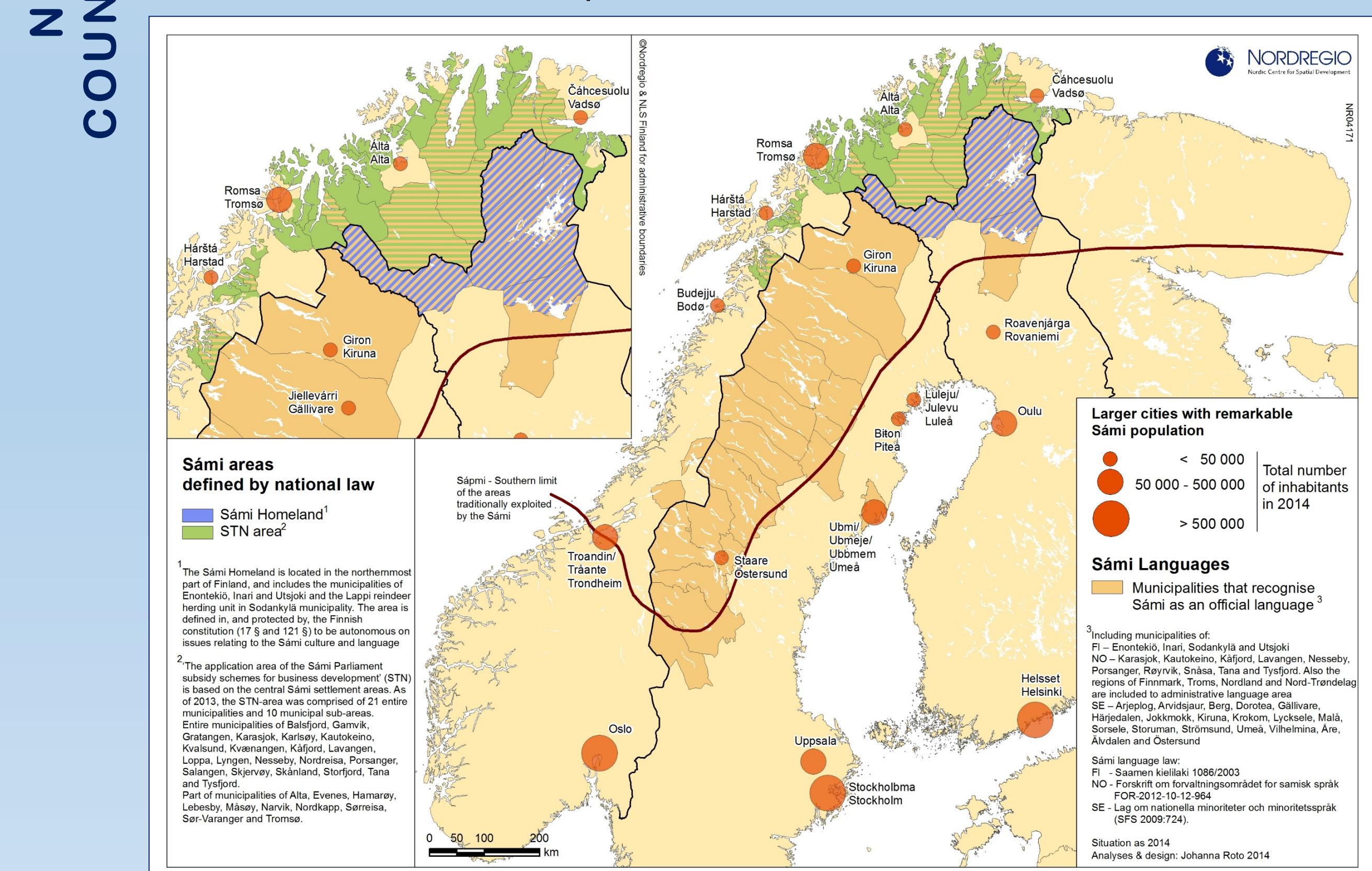
ICELAND

Because the population of Iceland was so homogeneous for much of its history, there has never been an effort to classify people by race, ethnicity, language, or other classifications. The only categorizations of the population are of **foreign-born** and **foreign citizens**.



Iceland.

NORDIC COUNTRIES Norway, Sweden, and Finland are considered together because the indigenous peoples in the northern regions are the same, and the Sami, and the treatment of them in censuses and statistical registers is similar. All three **ceased recording ethnicity** in the censuses after World War II in part because of the role that ethnicity played in some of the atrocities. The Sami people are spread across those three countries plus Russia in the Sami homeland called Sapmi.



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The map illustrates the Arctic region, focusing on the Alaskan Peninsula and the Chukotka Peninsula. Ethnic homelands are represented by shaded areas: orange for the Alaskan region and dark red for Chukotka. The Arctic circle is indicated by a dashed line. National/regional boundaries are shown as grey lines. The label 'ALASKA' is positioned below the orange-shaded area, and 'CHUKOTKA' is positioned below the dark red-shaded area.

Siberian peoples. The different ethnic units or communities were classified according to their **stage of historical development** and the various

The figure consists of two maps of Canada. The left map shows the country with a focus on the Northwest Territories, which is shaded in orange. The word 'CANADA' is written vertically on the left side. The right map is a close-up of the Arctic region, also shaded in orange. The word 'SAKHA' is written vertically on the right side. A dashed line separates the two maps.

