Dependency Ratios in the United States: A State and Metropolitan Area Analysis.

Data from the 2009 American Community Survey.

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Background

One frequently used index for globally summarizing age distributions is the dependency ratio, or the ratio of the dependent-age population (young or old) to the working age population. The higher this ratio is, the greater the burden of support on working people in specific geographic areas. In general, researchers have used dependency ratios to consider whether a population is "too young" or "too old." Much has been made, for example, of high fertility rates in Africa and the forecasted "age bubble" predicted for China (United Nations World Population Prospects, 2006), where ratios of nearly one dependent for each person of working age have been either observed or predicted.

Although commonly used to summarize age distributions in developing countries, this analysis focuses on the United States and its 50 states and 366 metropolitan areas. This paper not only presents overall dependency ratios for all geographies in question, but also disaggregates these ratios in order to identify sub sectors of highly or lowly dependent populations, specifically those between the ages of 0-17 and those 65 and older. We also attempt to ascertain whether any additional patterns can be observed by disaggregating dependency ratios even further by age.

Although understanding the distribution and variability of dependency ratios tells us something about states and metropolitan areas, it does not tell us everything. This analysis represents a first step in better understanding and describing differences across the country.

Data

This analysis addresses a lack of sub-national research on dependency ratios by relying on a Census Bureau program designed to provide comparable data for the nation as a whole, as well as for small geographic levels. The American Community Survey (ACS) was started in the late 1990's as a Census Bureau program intended to replace detailed long-form data collected once a decade during the decennial Census. The ACS serves as a continuous data collection effort intended to provide information routinely for all parts of the country. This is accomplished using a design that accumulates data over a series of years in order to provide "moving average" estimates for smaller geographic units.

Each month the Census Bureau mails out about a quarter-million forms to sampled addresses across the country. Through a series of telephone and in-person follow-ups, a total annual sample of about 2.5 million households a year is realized. The ACS sample was also expanded in 2006 to include populations living in group-quarters (GQ's include nursing homes, correctional facilities, military barracks, and college/university housing).

The collection activities for a single year provide detailed data for geographic units with populations of 65,000 and greater. This includes states, congressional districts, over 1000 counties, and most of the major metropolitan areas in the United States. In this specific analysis we use data collected in the 2009 ACS. Data were collected from a sample of 1,917,748 housing units. As noted earlier, the sample includes persons living in households as well as group quarters. Part of the goal of this analysis is to demonstrate the utility of ACS data as a means of providing consistent estimates of dependency ratios, not only for the country as a whole, but for states and smaller geographies as well.

Methods

Dependency ratios have developed into a commonly used index for measuring the social and economic impact of age structures in societies. A normal practice in demographic analysis is to characterize all persons between the ages of 15 and 64 as "producers," and all persons either 14 and younger, or 65 and older, as "dependents." Here we have adjusted these categories slightly to better account for current age structures in the United States. Instead of using "15" as the lower bound for our producer population, we use "18," as this is typically the age when an American adolescent graduates from high school and leaves their parents home, either for college or a more independent life.

To determine a specific area's dependency ratio, the two dependent populations are added together and divided by the total number of producers in a given geography. The resulting quotient is then multiplied by 100, giving us a ratio that typically rests somewhere on a continuum between 1 and 100, assuming that a geography has more producers than dependents (which is typically the case). Theoretically speaking, the closer a population gets to a dependency ratio of 100, the closer they are to having exactly one producer for every dependent, an age structure that is typically considered less than ideal. Radically low dependency ratios can also prove problematic, particularly if a population is devoid of children, since producer populations will one day retire and require support from a younger generation growing into productive members of the labor force.

We present these ratios for each state and metropolitan area in the U.S. By Census definition, Metropolitan areas require the presence of a distinct city with 50,000 or more inhabitants, or the presence of an urban area (more than a single city or town) with a total population of at least 100,000. Because we are interested in more than just overall dependency ratios, we also unpack these estimates by addressing whether they are driven by a particularly young or old subset of the dependent population.[1]

[1] All dependency ratio estimates are derived from the ACS subject table S0101.

Our analysis therefore shifts towards the relative size of an area's 0 to 17 year old population, alongside a separate 65 years and older inquiry. With little background one can imagine a series of states or metropolitan areas with similarly sized overall dependency ratios yet entirely different age structures. We attempt to identify and analyze geographies where this is indeed the case. At both the state and metropolitan levels, we focus our attention on states and metros with large statistical deviations from the national average, asking first whether an area is statistically different from the U.S. as a whole, and then whether this difference meets a standardized threshold.

In addition to summary tables and figures, we also use ArcGIS mapping software to present geographic representations of dependency ratios at both state and metropolitan levels. Every derived dependency ratio presented in these maps has been statistically tested against the national value. We also present a short appendix analysis to account for states with large non-metropolitan populations.

Additionally, we briefly present data that have been re-categorized with seven separate age brackets – as opposed to the basic "young" or "old" age dichotomy discussed above. Using the age groups of 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-17, 65-74, 75-84, and 85 and older, we attempt to determine whether anything additional can be determined from this more substantive age disaggregation.

Dependency Ratios in States

The first level of our examination involves exploring dependency variation at the state level. An assessment of both Map A and Table 1 shows that state level differences clearly exist.

A quick note on the presentation of our maps: Yellow and red areas represent geographies with dependency ratios greater than the national average,[2] whereas green and blue represent geographies with ratios less than the national average. The differences between yellow and red and between green and blue are based on whether a specific dependency ratio differs from the U.S. average by an identified threshold. For all state based maps this threshold is five points, whereas for metropolitan areas this threshold is ten points.

We are primarily interested in answering two fundamental questions. First, do states and their dependency ratios statistically differ from the U.S. average? Second, of those identified geographies that do differ, which vary by a value of more than five points on the dependency ratio scale? Map A displays overall dependency ratios for states, where the overall range varies from a high of 67.4 in Utah to a low of 44.2 in Washington, D.C.

[2] All differences are significant at the 99 percent confidence level.

In comparison to the nation's average dependency ratio of 59.1, forty-seven states plus the District of Columbia have statistically different estimates. Twenty-one of these areas have greater ratios, while 26 plus the District of Columbia have lower ratios.

Compared to the national standard, three states have estimates statistically higher by more than five points (i.e. states with ratios greater than 64.1). We characterize these states as being "outlier geographies," and overall our results make intuitive sense, as two of these states – Arizona (65.0) and Florida (64.3) – are known to have large retiree populations, whereas the remaining state – Utah (67.4) – is home to a high percentage of Mormons – a religion characterized in part by large families. [3]

Eighteen additional states have dependency ratios statistically higher than the national average[4] – but by a margin of five points or less. These states are primarily located in the Midwest (South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Indiana, and Ohio) and the South (Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama), but also include the Western states of Idaho, Nevada and New Mexico, along with the Eastern states of Delaware and Pennsylvania.

Of the 26 states (plus the District of Columbia) with ratios statistically lower than the U.S. average, three states and D.C. have estimates statistically below the national average by more than five points (i.e. states with ratios below 54.1). In addition to Washington, D.C., these low-ratio states include Colorado (54.0), Vermont (53.2) and Alaska (50.9). This means that for every child or elderly person residing in these low dependency states, there are roughly two producer aged residents present.

Age Disaggregation in States

In order to say much more about these relationships, it's important to determine what category of dependents is driving these ratios. In the following section, we have recalibrated our estimates into two separate components, one for the younger portion of the computation (those 0 to 17) and one for the older (those 65 years and older). For the sake of continuity, from this point forward the former will be referred to as the "child dependency ratio," while the latter will be called the "elderly dependency ratio." For child dependency ratios, the range across states varies from a high of 52.3 in Utah to a low of 27.3 in Washington, D.C. For elderly ratios, the range varies from a high of 28.4 in Florida to a low of 11.2 in Alaska.

[3] http://pewforum.org/Christian/Mormon/A-Portrait-of-Mormons-in-the-US.aspx

[4] Many of these states have dependency ratios that are not statistically different from one another.

Figure 1 extends this analysis by not only disaggregating dependent populations by age, but also by displaying states in descending order relative to the overall size of their dependency ratios. We present this figure primarily to remind readers of the great variation that exists with regards to individual states and the raw size of their dependent populations. For example, even though Utah's dependency ratio of 67.4 far exceeds that of a state like New York (56.3), Figure 1 reminds us that New York has more than twice the number of total children.

Figure 2 presents all states rank ordered in the same fashion as Figure 1 (i.e. the largest ratios are listed on top), but this time we also show the *component* makeup of each state's dependency ratio. The total size of the bar reflects the scope of a given state's ratio, while the colored components display the portion of that ratio comprised of either children or elderly residents. Without exception, all states have a larger component composition of children in comparison to the elderly, but the size of these differences obviously varies depending on the area of the country.

Figure 3 displays all states rank ordered in a slightly different fashion. Here states are sorted according to the relative size of their child dependency ratios, which is of course directly related to the relative size of their elderly dependency ratios. In Figure 3, each state has a dependent populations estimate summing to 100, regardless of the size of that state's dependent population or its calculated ratio. While young people clearly make up a larger relative proportion of each state's dependency ratio, in some cases this disparity is far greater than in others (see Utah, Idaho, and Texas, for notable examples). Similarly, certain states show a markedly larger proportion of older residents (for example, Florida, West Virginia, and Maine).

Maps B and C allow for further visual analyses of both child and elderly dependency ratios at the state level. The logic behind these maps is identical to Map A, as each graphic displays states with statistically higher or lower dependency ratios, relative to the national average. For example, comparing Map B and Map C shows that Utah's large child population is responsible for driving the state's high overall dependency ratio displayed in Map A.

Utah is red in Map A and therefore highly dependent overall. In Map B (child dependency ratios), Utah is once again red and therefore highly dependent, but in Map C (elderly dependency ratios), Utah is one of only two blue states in the entire country - meaning the state's elderly dependency ratio is significantly lower than the U.S. average. This tells us that the high dependency ratio observed in Utah is not only being driven by a large amount of children, but that this surplus of children is actually making up for a relative deficit of elderly residents.

Alternatively, Florida's significantly high overall ratio is being driven by large amounts of elderly residents, as Map C displays a significantly large elderly dependency ratio. This result only grows more noteworthy when compared to Florida's outcome in Map B, which displays a state with a significantly low child dependency ratio. Meanwhile, Arizona's high overall dependency ratio appears to be significantly influenced by statistically high numbers of both children and elderly residents.

What about the low dependency states identified earlier? Map B and Map C show us that Washington D.C. has relatively low numbers of both young and elderly residents. The same can be said for Colorado, but the picture is more complicated in Vermont and Alaska.
For example, in Vermont there appears to be a statistically large number of elderly residents, a surplus that is actually being offset by a large deficit of children. The results in Alaska are exactly the opposite, where the state shows a large amount of children being offset by a deficit of elderly residents. This represents a good example of the variability that exists across states, even in states that on the surface seem very similar. In Alaska and Vermont – two rural states with high dependency ratios – the sub-age components driving these outcomes are actually quite different.

Dependency Ratios in Metropolitan Areas

One of the benefits of the ACS program is the ability to consistently provide estimates for small geographic areas (expressed relative to the national average). Map D and Table 2 display dependency ratios for all 366 U.S. metropolitan areas. Overall, the residents of these metropolitan areas constitute 83.8 percent of the total U.S. population.

Once again, yellow and red represent geographies with dependency ratios greater than the national average, whereas green and blue represent geographies with ratios less than the national average. The differences between yellow and red and between green and blue are based on whether a specific dependency ratio differs from the U.S. average by the identified metro threshold of more than ten points.

The range of dependency ratios across metros varies from a high of 96.8 in Punta Gorda, Florida to a low of 36.3 in Ithaca, New York[5]. Analyses of Table 2 and Map D reveal more notable geographic trends. While pockets of high dependency ratios exist in the Southwest (particularly along the Mexican border and in Southern California), the Atlantic Coast in general and the Northeast region in particular are characterized as having metropolitan areas with comparatively low dependency ratios.

[5] Note: The dependency ratio discussed for Ithaca, New York is not statistically different from Lawrence, Kansas.

One notable exception to this pattern is in Florida, an unsurprising finding given our earlier state level discussion of this state's large elderly population. Florida, of course, has long been known as a retirement destination for elderly Americans. This is an important observation to make, particularly since we are interested in using dependency ratios as a mechanism for identifying areas of the country where dependency burdens are high. In a highly dependent state such as Florida, where many of the dependents are residents with economic means high enough to choose the option of relocating for the purpose of retirement, the burden on communities will be quite different from other high dependency areas where elderly dependents may not necessarily be "choosing" to reside.

Overall, 159 metropolitan areas have dependency ratios significantly greater than the national average. Of these, 24 geographies differ by more than ten points (i.e. metros with ratios greater than 69.1), fourteen of which are within the three states previously identified as outliers for their high dependency ratios (i.e. Florida, Arizona, and Utah). Four others are along the Mexican border in Texas, while two are located in central California. As noted above, Punta Gorda, Florida (96.8) stands out for having the highest dependency ratio in the country, an estimate that puts it on par with the African country of Zambia.

Each of the three remaining highly dependent metros (Yakima, Washington; Hot Springs, Arkansas; Barnstable, Massachusetts) stand out for being the only high ratio metros in their particular states. Yakima and Barnstable are also noteworthy for residing in states with relatively low dependency ratios, as their home states of Washington and Massachusetts each have dependency ratios statistically lower than the national average.

Meanwhile, 137 metropolitan areas display dependency ratios significantly lower than the national average.[6] Of these, 29 geographies differ by more than ten points (i.e. metros with ratios below 49.1), most of which are notable for housing large colleges or universities.[7] Using our measure for dependency ratios means that most college aged individuals will be counted as part of the non-dependent (or productive) population. In metropolitan areas with few or no higher education institutions, or in very large metro areas (like New York City or Los Angeles), the impact of these college-enrolled populations will be negligible. However, in smaller college towns like Ithaca, New York and Lawrence, Kansas, the effect drastically skews dependency ratios downward. We will return to this observation later in our analysis.

[6] 70 metropolitan areas were not statistically different from the national average.

[7] The lone exception to this rule is Jacksonville, North Carolina, a metropolitan area known for having a largely young military population.

Age Disaggregation in Metropolitan Areas

In the following section, we have once again recalibrated our dependency ratios into two separate components. Figure 4 displays dependency ratios for all 366 metro areas by their *component* makeup. This figure helps demonstrate the great variability that exists in dependency ratios across the country by providing a visual representation of this variation – not only in terms of overall dependent populations, but also with regard to the young and old sub-populations that go into their composition.

For child dependency ratios, the range across metros varies from a high of 69.6 in Laredo, Texas to a low of 22.2 in State College, Pennsylvania[8]. For elderly ratios, the range varies from a high of 68.1 in Punta Gorda, Florida to a low of 8.0 in Hinesville-Fort Stewart, Georgia[9].

Figure 5 displays only "outlier" metropolitan areas and presents overall dependency ratios along with their component parts. We have defined "outlier metros" according to two criteria. First, we ask whether metros are statistically different from the national average. If so, we also ask whether they are different by a margin, either positive or negative, of more than ten points. In short, for the purposes of this section, outlier geographies are any metro areas that are either red or dark blue on Map D, including 24 metropolitan areas with dependency ratios significantly greater than the national average, and 29 metropolitan areas with ratios significantly below the national average.

Map E, meanwhile, displays 22 metropolitan areas with *child dependency ratios* significantly greater than the national average by more than 10 points. These metros are heavily clustered in the Western States, with none residing east of the Mississippi River. Of these highly dependent metros, 6 are in California, 5 are in Texas, 4 are in Utah, 2 are in Washington, and 1 of each is located in Idaho and Arizona. The Utah and Idaho results fit nicely with our earlier discussion of those states and their large numbers of children.

Meanwhile, 12 of these metros with high child dependency ratios also have *overall* dependency ratios significantly greater than the national average by more than 10 points (see Map D), while 7 have ratios statistically higher but not by the ten-point threshold used throughout this paper.

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[8] Note: The dependency ratio discussed for State College, Pennsylvania is not statistically different from Ithaca, New York.

[9] Note: The dependency ratio discussed for Hinesville-Fort Stewart, Georgia is not statistically different from Fairbanks, Alaska.

Map F displays 19 metropolitan areas with *elderly dependency ratios* significantly greater than the national average by more than 10 points. These metros are also geographically clustered, although not exclusively in the Western States like the child estimates discussed above. Here, most of the notable metropolitan areas are located in known retirement states, including 10 in Florida and 3 are in Arizona. No other state has more than a single metro in this highest category.

Overall, Yuma, Arizona and St. George, Utah stand out for being the only metropolitan areas with significantly high dependency ratios on all three maps, meaning these areas have highly significant dependency ratios at the overall, child, and elderly levels.

Further Age Disaggregation

In addition to dividing dependent populations into “young” or “old” categories, we are interested in whether anything additional can be determined from further age disaggregation. Using the age groups of 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-17, 65-74, 75-84, and 85 and older, we look specifically at states and ask whether these supplementary breakdowns prove useful in expanding our understanding of dependencies.

Figure 6 and Table 3 present results across states for each additional age category. In many instances this summary simply reinforces some of the findings from our earlier analyses (high overall dependency ratios in Utah are being driven by children, for example).

However, Table 3 also expands our understanding of some previously observed results. For example, at first glance Table 3 confirms our prior observations about Michigan, a state with a low level of overall dependency. By revisiting Map C, we know that Michigan actually has a significantly high elderly ratio, but that the impact of this demographic subsector is more than offset by the state’s low child dependency ratio. In short, Michigan’s surplus of elderly residents appears to be more than offset by a deficit of children, at least in terms of calculating dependency ratios.

This extension of our age analysis allows us to say a little bit more. We now see that Michigan actually has some highly dependent sub-ages within their 0-17 population, specifically among those 10-14 and 15-17. Michigan may continue having a relatively low child dependency ratio into the near future, mainly because the state’s low child dependency ratio is being driven by really young children (i.e. those 0-4 and 5-9). If anything, we might actually expect to see Michigan’s overall dependency ratio drop further in the coming years, since the sub-components of the child ratio that are actually high will soon age and become members of the state’s “producer” population.

This represents only one example of the ways that age disaggregation can help our understanding of dependencies, and further analysis of these state results is warranted for future research. In order to actually make predictions about a given state's future dependency scenario, analysis of a state's current "producer" population will also be necessary. For example, if Michigan has a large number of residents expected to age from producers to dependents in the near future, any predictions about the state will need to take this into account.

Non-metropolitan Areas

As mentioned earlier, residents of the nation's 366 metropolitan areas constitute 83.8 percent of the total U.S. population. But what about residents who live in non-metropolitan areas? Map G shows that with few exceptions, non-metropolitan areas exhibit higher dependency ratios than the states they are a part of. [10]

Alaska stands out for being the only state with highly significant yet comparatively low dependency ratios at both the state and non-metropolitan levels.[11] Of the remaining states, 35 have higher dependency ratios when their non-metropolitan residents are isolated. The most radical discrepancies occur in Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon and Washington, states that are each statistically lower than the nation when evaluated in total, but whose non-metropolitan populations register as highly dependent when viewed in isolation. These states and their overall low dependency ratios are clearly being driven by metropolitan areas.

Nine additional states show similar shifts, meaning they move from having significantly low ratios to significantly high ratios when non-metropolitan areas are isolated.

Overall, 12 states show no significant changes when we analyze their overall dependency ratios against only their non-metropolitan areas. These include the four most highly dependent states of Arizona, Florida, Idaho, and Utah. Two others (Ohio and Pennsylvania) are notable for also having significantly high overall ratios.

[10] Please note that four states (Massachusetts, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and D.C.) are excluded from this portion of the analysis because they do not have any non-metropolitan areas within their borders.

[11] Once again we are defining non-metropolitan state estimates as being highly different from the national average, either positively or negatively, if they are significantly different by more than 5 points.

Appendix 1: Low Dependency Ratios in "College Towns"

One limitation of the metropolitan results is that many of the areas with significantly low dependency ratios are "college towns," or areas with inflated "producer" estimates due to large amounts of young residents attending college. While this realization is interesting in its own right, the question remains as to what this means for our traditional method of computing dependency ratios. Remember that dependency ratios are intended to provide an evaluative tool for comparing producer populations with dependents. Are typical college students really producers? On the other hand, since many college students study out of state or at least outside their "hometowns," is it any more accurate to describe them as "dependents" of a community, particularly when that community might not be providing the students with a whole lot of actual "support?"

What is undeniable is that these individuals are driving dependency estimates downward in metropolitan areas with lots of college students. Revisiting the bottom portion of Table 2 makes this point clear. Although outside the scope of this introductory research, we have included a short appendix analysis here in hopes of identifying potential strategies we might employ in future research to account for this college town phenomena.

Appendix Table A displays two potential approaches for addressing this issue. We do not reevaluate every metropolitan area in question, choosing instead to focus on Ithaca, New York; Lawrence, Kansas; and Morgantown, West Virginia –three low dependency metros and known "college towns" that we were able to compute standard errors for. Since we are interested in what effects our adjustments will have on all geographies in the analysis, we offset these college towns by including three high dependency metros – Yuma, Arizona, Punta Gorda, Florida, and Naples-Marco Island, Florida.

The first approach involves moving all 18-24 year olds who are enrolled in college or graduate school from the "producer" to "dependent" categories[12]. This adjustment will obviously drive all dependency ratios upward, although the effect is much stronger for the low dependency ratio geographies previously identified as college towns. For example, moving college kids into the dependent category increases our observed ratios by 69 points for Lawrence, 67 points for Ithaca, and 42 points for Morgantown (Appendix Table A). Meanwhile, for metropolitan areas without a strong college presence, the observed ratio-increase is predictably more muted, with Yuma showing an increase of 8 points, Naples 8 points, and Punta Gorda 5 points.

[12] College enrollment estimates are taken from ACS detailed table B14004.

Overall, these results are fairly radical. After moving college students into the dependent category, our previously low scoring metros now have dependency ratios on par with previously high scoring metros. Simply swapping young college enrollees from one category to another seems akin to trading one data quality problem for another.

However inaccurate it may be to describe Lawrence, Kansas as “lowly dependent” simply because they have 28,000 college kids, it’s probably just as inaccurate to label them “highly dependent” for exactly the same reason.

An additional alternative involves simply removing 18-24 year olds college enrollees from our analysis entirely. Appendix Table A displays these results, and in many ways these outcomes are more desirable and markedly less dramatic than our first effort. Removing college students from the analysis increases our observed ratios by 19 points for Lawrence, 18 points for Ithaca, and 12 points for Morgantown. Meanwhile, in metropolitan areas without a strong college presence, the observed ratio increase is again more modest, with Yuma showing an increase of 4 points, Naples 4 points, and Punta Gorda 3 points.

Perhaps most importantly, while all metros in Appendix Table A show dependency ratio increases on a scale and proportion that we would expect, the overall dependency ratio picture is not radically changed simply because we “account” for college populations.

In order to fully assess the utility of this college town approach, future research will need to adjust all 366 metropolitan areas in our analysis. This short appendix analysis will help guide those decisions.

Appendix 2: Community Characteristics and Dependency Ratios

As noted earlier, understanding the distribution of dependency ratio variability across the nation tells us something communities and their relative dependency burdens, but not everything. Future analysis will need to account for individual community characteristics and how they correlate to dependency outcomes, particularly with regards to social, economic, demographic and housing factors.

Appendix Table B provides an exploratory picture of how this more complex analysis might look – specifically with regards to some of the lowest and highest scoring metros in the country.[13] Figures highlighted in red are outcomes identified as being “non-ideal” in nature. For example, with regards to educational attainment, we display Yuma, Arizona as “red” because only 69.5 percent of Yuma residents report having at least a high-school diploma (an estimate statistically lower than the national average of 85.3 percent).

[13] Note: For this section we report estimates that have been tested at the 90-percent confidence level, not the 99-percent confidence interval used throughout the rest of this paper.

In instances where communities score equal to the U.S. value, no color is used. Similarly, when metropolitan estimates are judged to be positive in comparison to the national average, we indicate this association with the color green.

Descriptively, there does seem to be at least a superficial relationship between community characteristics and dependency ratios. When compared with national averages, highly dependent metropolitan areas generally have statistically lower levels of educational attainment, native-born citizenry, English proficiency, “professional” class employment, gross household income, and health insurance coverage. Similarly, when compared to national averages, a large amount of the same cross-section of communities display comparatively high percentages of unemployment, household poverty, and vacant housing.

Obviously, many of the concepts presented in Appendix Table B may be interrelated, and while we are not trying to imply that all of the identified measurements are by definition “negative” in nature, these descriptive results warrant further exploration. A more complex modeling strategy will allow us to address these correlations with more authority, correlations that we believe may lead to a better understanding of American metropolitan communities.

Table 1: Overall, Child, and Elderly Dependency Ratios, by State

State	Total Population	Dependency Ratio	SE	State	Total 0-17 year olds	Child Dependency Ratio	SE	State	65 years and older	Elderly Dependency Ratio	SE
Utah	2,784,572	67.4	0.1	Utah	869,907	52.3	0.1	Florida	3,198,965	28.4	0.1
Arizona	6,595,778	65.0	0.1	Texas	6,888,479	44.9	0.1	West Virginia	287,110	25.0	0.1
Florida	18,537,969	64.3	0.1	Idaho	418,907	44.5	0.1	Pennsylvania	1,944,554	24.7	0.1
Idaho	1,545,801	64.2	0.2	Arizona	1,731,864	43.3	0.1	Maine	204,821	24.3	0.1
South Dakota	812,383	63.6	0.3	Mississippi	764,862	42.2	0.1	Iowa	444,457	24.0	0.1
Arkansas	2,889,450	63.3	0.1	New Mexico	514,574	41.8	0.2	South Dakota	117,031	23.6	0.2
New Mexico	2,009,671	63.3	0.2	Nevada	685,038	41.5	0.1	Arkansas	412,582	23.3	0.1
Mississippi	2,951,996	62.9	0.1	Georgia	2,582,657	41.4	0.1	North Dakota	95,314	23.3	0.1
Oklahoma	3,687,050	62.4	0.1	Oklahoma	921,159	40.6	0.1	Hawaii	188,638	23.1	0.1
Iowa	3,007,857	62.1	0.1	Nebraska	447,302	40.4	0.1	Montana	141,221	23.1	0.1
Nebraska	1,796,622	62.1	0.2	California	9,435,102	40.3	0.1	Delaware	125,822	22.8	0.1
Texas	24,782,302	61.4	0.1	Kansas	702,208	40.1	0.1	Rhode Island	151,784	22.5	0.1
Kansas	2,818,747	61.2	0.2	South Dakota	198,929	40.1	0.2	Ohio	1,601,066	22.2	0.1
Alabama	4,708,708	60.5	0.1	Arkansas	707,727	40.0	0.1	Alabama	649,046	22.1	0.1
Missouri	5,987,580	60.3	0.1	Louisiana	1,122,395	39.9	0.1	Missouri	822,176	22.0	0.1
Delaware	885,122	60.2	0.2	Alaska	183,512	39.6	0.2	Vermont	89,293	22.0	0.1
Indiana	6,423,113	60.2	0.1	Indiana	1,586,157	39.6	0.1	Connecticut	487,037	21.9	0.1
Nevada	2,643,085	60.1	0.1	Illinois	3,174,067	39.0	0.1	Nebraska	241,305	21.8	0.1
Pennsylvania	12,604,767	59.8	0.1	UNITED STATES	74,496,983	38.6	0.1	Oklahoma	495,329	21.8	0.1
Ohio	11,542,645	59.7	0.1	Alabama	1,126,175	38.4	0.1	Arizona	867,079	21.7	0.1
Louisiana	4,492,076	59.5	0.1	North Carolina	2,273,608	38.4	0.1	South Carolina	619,031	21.6	0.1
South Carolina	4,561,242	59.4	0.1	Missouri	1,430,549	38.3	0.1	New Mexico	264,758	21.5	0.1
Montana	974,989	59.3	0.2	Iowa	708,119	38.2	0.1	Michigan	1,337,594	21.3	0.1
UNITED STATES	307,006,556	59.1	0.1	South Carolina	1,080,414	37.8	0.1	New Jersey	1,168,606	21.3	0.1
Hawaii	1,295,178	58.7	0.1	Minnesota	1,257,933	37.7	0.1	Wisconsin	760,301	21.2	0.1
Illinois	12,910,409	58.6	0.1	Colorado	1,228,089	37.6	0.1	Oregon	515,370	21.1	0.1
Michigan	9,969,727	58.6	0.1	Ohio	2,714,179	37.6	0.1	Tennessee	836,435	21.1	0.1
Tennessee	6,296,254	58.6	0.1	Tennessee	1,490,848	37.6	0.1	Kansas	367,412	21.0	0.1
New Jersey	8,707,740	58.5	0.1	Delaware	206,764	37.4	0.1	Kentucky	570,334	20.9	0.1
North Carolina	9,380,884	58.5	0.1	Michigan	2,347,572	37.4	0.1	Massachusetts	893,503	20.9	0.1
West Virginia	1,819,777	58.5	0.1	Kentucky	1,017,211	37.3	0.1	New York	2,616,716	20.9	0.1
Connecticut	3,518,288	58.2	0.5	New Jersey	2,046,141	37.3	0.1	New Hampshire	178,438	20.8	0.1
Kentucky	4,314,113	58.2	0.1	Wyoming	129,701	37.3	0.4	Mississippi	375,407	20.7	0.1
California	36,961,664	58.1	0.2	Maryland	1,350,422	36.9	0.1	Indiana	827,591	20.6	0.1
North Dakota	646,844	57.8	0.2	Washington	1,571,187	36.6	0.1	UNITED STATES	39,506,648	20.5	0.1
Minnesota	5,266,215	57.7	0.1	Wisconsin	1,306,168	36.4	0.1	North Carolina	1,188,926	20.1	0.1
Georgia	9,829,211	57.6	0.1	Connecticut	807,353	36.3	0.1	Minnesota	669,290	20.0	0.1
Wisconsin	5,654,774	57.6	0.2	Virginia	1,844,848	36.3	0.1	Idaho	185,250	19.7	0.1
Oregon	3,825,657	57.0	0.1	Montana	221,556	36.2	0.2	Louisiana	553,861	19.7	0.1
Maine	1,318,301	56.6	0.1	Florida	4,057,419	36.0	0.1	Illinois	1,595,934	19.6	0.1
Wyoming	544,270	56.4	0.1	Oregon	872,810	35.8	0.1	Wyoming	66,565	19.1	0.2
New York	19,541,453	56.3	0.1	Hawaii	290,356	35.6	0.1	Maryland	691,336	18.9	0.1
Rhode Island	1,053,209	56.1	0.2	New York	4,422,456	35.4	0.1	Virginia	955,216	18.8	0.1
Maryland	5,699,478	55.8	0.1	Pennsylvania	2,772,861	35.2	0.1	Washington	801,438	18.7	0.1
Washington	6,664,195	55.3	0.1	North Dakota	141,729	34.6	0.2	Nevada	306,736	18.6	0.1
Virginia	7,882,590	55.1	0.2	New Hampshire	289,383	33.8	0.1	California	4,143,231	17.7	0.1
New Hampshire	1,324,575	54.6	0.1	Massachusetts	1,432,880	33.6	0.1	District of Col.	70,022	16.8	0.1
Massachusetts	6,593,587	54.5	0.1	Rhode Island	226,763	33.6	0.1	Texas	2,534,998	16.5	0.1
Colorado	5,024,748	54.0	0.1	West Virginia	384,772	33.5	0.1	Colorado	533,941	16.4	0.1
Vermont	621,760	53.2	0.1	Maine	271,559	32.3	0.1	Georgia	1,010,918	16.2	0.1
Alaska	698,473	50.9	0.2	Vermont	126,602	31.2	0.1	Utah	250,917	15.1	0.1
District of Col.	599,657	44.2	0.1	District of Col.	113,710	27.3	0.1	Alaska	51,943	11.2	0.2

Data in this table are from the 2009 American Community Survey single-year file.

- Significantly greater than the national average by more than 5 points
- Significantly greater than the national average, but by 5 points or less
- Not statistically different from the national average
- Significantly less than the national average, by 5 points or less
- Significantly less than the national average, by more than 5 points

Table 1: Overall Dependency Ratios, by Metropolitan Area

Metro	Ratio	SE
Punta Gorda, FL Metro Area	96.8	1.0
Yuma, AZ Metro Area	91.7	0.3
Naples-Marco Island, FL Metro Area	89.2	0.4
St. George, UT Metro Area	88.8	1.0
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, TX Metro Area	85.5	0.2
Brownsville-Harlingen, TX Metro Area	85.2	0.2
Laredo, TX Metro Area	84.7	0.5
Sebastian-Vero Beach, FL Metro Area	84.1	1.2
Bradenton-Sarasota-Venice, FL Metro Area	82.4	0.4
Ocala, FL Metro Area	80.9	0.3
Palm Coast, FL Metro Area	80.6	1.3
Lake Havasu City-Kingman, AZ Metro Area	79.4	0.6
Port St. Lucie, FL Metro Area	78.1	0.3
Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL Metro Area	75.9	0.2
Prescott, AZ Metro Area	75.2	0.4
Yakima, WA Metro Area	74.7	0.4
Idaho Falls, ID Metro Area	74.2	1.2
Hot Springs, AR Metro Area	74.0	1.0
Visalia-Porterville, CA Metro Area	73.5	0.2
Barnstable Town, MA Metro Area	72.6	0.5
El Paso, TX Metro Area	72.4	0.2
Lakeland-Winter Haven, FL Metro Area	71.8	0.2
Merced, CA Metro Area	70.9	0.4
Provo-Orem, UT Metro Area	70.5	0.4
Ogden-Clearfield, UT Metro Area	69.4	0.4
Danville, IL Metro Area	69.3	0.8
Carson City, NV Metro Area	69.3	2.6
Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville, FL Metro Area	68.8	0.2
El Centro, CA Metro Area	68.8	0.7
Kennewick-Pasco-Richland, WA Metro Area	68.8	0.7
Victoria, TX Metro Area	68.8	1.6
Odessa, TX Metro Area	68.5	0.5
Kokomo, IN Metro Area	68.3	1.5
Tyler, TX Metro Area	68.1	0.5
Ocean City, NJ Metro Area	67.7	0.7
Deltona-Daytona Beach-Ormond Beach, FL Me	67.6	0.1
Lewiston, ID-WA Metro Area	67.4	3.0
Wenatchee-East Wenatchee, WA Metro Area	67.2	0.5
Brunswick, GA Metro Area	67.2	3.1
Dothan, AL Metro Area	66.9	0.5
Stockton, CA Metro Area	66.8	0.1
Bakersfield, CA Metro Area	66.6	0.1
Fresno, CA Metro Area	66.4	0.1
Dalton, GA Metro Area	66.4	0.7
Madera-Chowchilla, CA Metro Area	66.4	1.2
Sherman-Denison, TX Metro Area	66.2	0.8
Niles-Benton Harbor, MI Metro Area	66.1	0.5
Rome, GA Metro Area	66.1	0.5
Elkhart-Goshen, IN Metro Area	66.0	0.4
Modesto, CA Metro Area	65.8	0.2
Sandusky, OH Metro Area	65.8	0.7
Las Cruces, NM Metro Area	65.8	0.8
Pueblo, CO Metro Area	65.6	0.6
Sioux City, IA-NE-SD Metro Area	65.6	0.9
Lebanon, PA Metro Area	65.5	0.5
Sumter, SC Metro Area	65.5	0.7
Lancaster, PA Metro Area	65.4	0.2
Owensboro, KY Metro Area	65.3	1.3
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA Metro A	65.2	0.1
Medford, OR Metro Area	65.1	0.4
Salem, OR Metro Area	65.1	0.4
Longview, TX Metro Area	65.1	1.2
Altoona, PA Metro Area	64.9	0.6
Springfield, OH Metro Area	64.9	0.7
Weirton-Steubenville, WV-OH Metro Area	64.8	0.6
Danville, VA Metro Area	64.8	2.2
Columbus, IN Metro Area	64.7	0.4
Fort Smith, AR-OK Metro Area	64.7	0.8
Joplin, MO Metro Area	64.6	0.5
Macon, GA Metro Area	64.6	1.0
Gadsden, AL Metro Area	64.5	0.5
Yuba City, CA Metro Area	64.5	1.2
Midland, TX Metro Area	64.4	0.6
Youngstown-Warren-Boardman, OH-PA Metro	64.3	0.2
Corpus Christi, TX Metro Area	64.3	0.5
Longview, WA Metro Area	64.3	0.9
Anderson, SC Metro Area	64.2	0.3
Alexandria, LA Metro Area	64.2	1.0
Lima, OH Metro Area	64.1	1.0
Topeka, KS Metro Area	64.0	0.9
Rocky Mount, NC Metro Area	63.9	0.2
Mount Vernon-Anacortes, WA Metro Area	63.8	0.5
Farmington, NM Metro Area	63.8	0.7
Dubuque, IA Metro Area	63.7	0.3
Logan, UT-ID Metro Area	63.7	0.7
Wichita, KS Metro Area	63.6	0.3
Decatur, IL Metro Area	63.6	0.7
Mansfield, OH Metro Area	63.6	0.8
Redding, CA Metro Area	63.5	0.4
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL Metro Ar	63.4	0.1
Gainesville, GA Metro Area	63.3	0.6
Monroe, LA Metro Area	63.2	1.0

Metro	Ratio	SE
Pittsfield, MA Metro Area	63.1	0.5
Asheville, NC Metro Area	63.1	0.7
Saginaw-Saginaw Township North, MI Metro A	63.0	0.4
Florence, SC Metro Area	62.9	0.2
Canton-Massillon, OH Metro Area	62.9	0.4
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ Metro Area	62.8	0.1
Anderson, IN Metro Area	62.8	0.1
Coeur d'Alene, ID Metro Area	62.8	0.2
Battle Creek, MI Metro Area	62.8	0.5
San Antonio, TX Metro Area	62.7	0.1
Tucson, AZ Metro Area	62.7	0.1
Peoria, IL Metro Area	62.7	0.3
Rockford, IL Metro Area	62.7	0.4
Albany, GA Metro Area	62.7	1.9
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL Me	62.6	0.1
Great Falls, MT Metro Area	62.6	1.0
Scranton--Wilkes-Barre, PA Metro Area	62.5	0.2
Johnstown, PA Metro Area	62.5	0.3
Shreveport-Bossier City, LA Metro Area	62.5	0.6
Napa, CA Metro Area	62.5	1.3
Flint, MI Metro Area	62.3	0.1
Mobile, AL Metro Area	62.3	0.2
Fort Wayne, IN Metro Area	62.3	0.4
Dover, DE Metro Area	62.3	0.4
Lake Charles, LA Metro Area	62.3	0.4
Decatur, AL Metro Area	62.3	0.6
Anniston-Oxford, AL Metro Area	62.3	0.7
Goldsboro, NC Metro Area	62.2	0.2
Burlington, NC Metro Area	62.2	0.3
Myrtle Beach-North Myrtle Beach-Conway, SC	62.2	0.3
Billings, MT Metro Area	62.1	0.7
Cleveland, TN Metro Area	62.1	1.2
Kankakee-Bradley, IL Metro Area	62.0	0.6
Roanoke, VA Metro Area	61.9	1.0
Spartanburg, SC Metro Area	61.8	0.2
Tulsa, OK Metro Area	61.8	0.2
Janesville, WI Metro Area	61.8	0.5
Texarkana, TX-Texarkana, AR Metro Area	61.8	0.7
Parkersburg-Marietta-Vienna, WV-OH Metro A	61.8	0.7
Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor, OH Metro Area	61.7	0.1
Beaumont-Port Arthur, TX Metro Area	61.7	0.5
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL Metro Ar	61.7	0.7
Florence-Muscle Shoals, AL Metro Area	61.7	0.9
Reading, PA Metro Area	61.5	0.2
Wausau, WI Metro Area	61.5	0.4
Winchester, VA-WV Metro Area	61.5	1.9
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk, CT Metro Area	61.4	0.1
Bay City, MI Metro Area	61.3	0.5
Elizabethtown, KY Metro Area	61.3	1.2
Salt Lake City, UT Metro Area	61.2	0.2
Charleston, WV Metro Area	61.2	0.7
Kingsport-Bristol-Bristol, TN-VA Metro Area	61.2	0.8
Grand Junction, CO Metro Area	61.1	0.6
Rapid City, SD Metro Area	61.1	0.8
Morristown, TN Metro Area	61.1	1.1
Jackson, TN Metro Area	61.1	1.4
Boise City-Nampa, ID Metro Area	61.0	0.4
Augusta-Richmond County, GA-SC Metro Area	61.0	0.5
Amarillo, TX Metro Area	61.0	0.6
Oxnard-Thousand Oaks-Ventura, CA Metro Ar	60.9	0.1
Rochester, MN Metro Area	60.9	0.4
Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood, TX Metro Area	60.9	0.5
Pascagoula, MS Metro Area	60.9	1.0
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, PA-NJ Metro Ar	60.8	0.2
Waco, TX Metro Area	60.8	0.2
Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton, NC Metro Area	60.8	0.4
Utica-Rome, NY Metro Area	60.7	0.4
Salinas, CA Metro Area	60.6	0.3
Warner Robins, GA Metro Area	60.5	0.2
Springfield, IL Metro Area	60.5	0.6
Racine, WI Metro Area	60.4	0.4
Memphis, TN-MS-AR Metro Area	60.3	0.2
South Bend-Mishawaka, IN-MI Metro Area	60.3	0.3
Muskegon-Norton Shores, MI Metro Area	60.3	0.5
Wheeling, WV-OH Metro Area	60.3	0.7
Winston-Salem, NC Metro Area	60.2	0.2
Jackson, MS Metro Area	60.2	0.5
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux, LA Metro Area	60.2	0.7
Lawton, OK Metro Area	60.2	0.9
Pocatello, ID Metro Area	60.2	1.2
Gulfport-Biloxi, MS Metro Area	60.2	1.3
Dayton, OH Metro Area	60.0	0.1
Chattanooga, TN-GA Metro Area	60.0	0.5
Sheboygan, WI Metro Area	60.0	0.5
Elmira, NY Metro Area	59.9	1.0
Pittsburgh, PA Metro Area	59.8	0.1
Panama City-Lynn Haven-Panama City Beach, F	59.8	0.5
San Angelo, TX Metro Area	59.8	0.8
Fond du Lac, WI Metro Area	59.7	0.6
Huntington-Ashland, WV-KY-OH Metro Area	59.6	0.2
Holland-Grand Haven, MI Metro Area	59.6	0.3
Buffalo-Niagara Falls, NY Metro Area	59.5	0.1

Metro	Ratio	SE
Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA Metro Area	59.5	0.3
Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, AR-MO Metro	59.5	0.5
Abilene, TX Metro Area	59.5	0.5
Vineland-Millville-Bridgeton, NJ Metro Area	59.5	0.5
Jonesboro, AR Metro Area	59.5	0.9
Cedar Rapids, IA Metro Area	59.4	0.2
Atlantic City-Hammonton, NJ Metro Area	59.3	0.3
Columbus, GA-AL Metro Area	59.3	0.8
Erie, PA Metro Area	59.2	0.2
Bend, OR Metro Area	59.2	0.7
Pine Bluff, AR Metro Area	59.2	0.8
St. Joseph, MO-KS Metro Area	59.2	1.5
UNITED STATES	59.1	0.1
Cape Girardeau-Jackson, MO-IL Metro Area	59.1	1.5
Honolulu, HI Metro Area	59.1	0.1
Orlando-Kissimmee, FL Metro Area	59.1	0.1
Lynchburg, VA Metro Area	59.0	1.4
Wichita Falls, TX Metro Area	59.0	1.2
Birmingham-Hoover, AL Metro Area	59.0	0.2
York-Hanover, PA Metro Area	59.0	0.2
Clarksville, TN-KY Metro Area	58.9	0.7
Fort Walton Beach-Crestview-Destin, FL Metro	58.9	0.5
Williamsport, PA Metro Area	58.9	0.3
St. Louis, MO-IL Metro Area	58.9	0.1
Montgomery, AL Metro Area	58.8	0.4
Binghamton, NY Metro Area	58.8	0.3
Oklahoma City, OK Metro Area	58.8	0.2
Detroit-Warren-Livonia, MI Metro Area	58.8	0.1
Las Vegas-Paradise, NV Metro Area	58.8	0.1
Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, WI Metro A	58.8	0.1
Sacramento--Arden-Arcade--Roseville, CA Met	58.7	0.1
Des Moines-West Des Moines, IA Metro Area	58.6	0.4
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX Metro Area	58.6	0.1
Casper, WY Metro Area	58.5	1.3
Jackson, MI Metro Area	58.5	0.4
Michigan City-La Porte, IN Metro Area	58.5	0.4
Springfield, MO Metro Area	58.5	0.4
Albuquerque, NM Metro Area	58.5	0.3
Lewiston-Auburn, ME Metro Area	58.5	0.3
Greensboro-High Point, NC Metro Area	58.5	0.2
Kansas City, MO-KS Metro Area	58.5	0.2
Indianapolis-Carmel, IN Metro Area	58.5	0.1
Hagerstown-Martinsburg, MD-WV Metro Area	58.4	0.6
Evansville, IN-KY Metro Area	58.4	0.4
Appleton, WI Metro Area	58.4	0.2
Cheyenne, WY Metro Area	58.3	0.8
Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway, AR Metr	58.2	0.2
Santa Barbara-Santa Maria-Goleta, CA Metro A	58.2	0.2
Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI Metro Area	58.2	0.2
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN Metro Area	58.2	0.1
Lubbock, TX Metro Area	58.1	0.4
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-M	58.0	0.1
Hattiesburg, MS Metro Area	57.9	0.9
Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, IL-IN-WI Metro Area	57.9	0.1
Poughkeepsie-Newburgh-Middletown, NY Met	57.8	0.3
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX Metro Area	57.8	0.1
Sioux Falls, SD Metro Area	57.7	0.4
Louisville-Jefferson County, KY-IN Metro Area	57.7	0.2
New Haven-Milford, CT Metro Area	57.7	0.1
Vallejo-Fairfield, CA Metro Area	57.7	0.1
Reno-Sparks, NV Metro Area	57.6	0.3
Savannah, GA Metro Area	57.6	0.2
Huntsville, AL Metro Area	57.4	0.3
Greenville-Mauldin-Easley, SC Metro Area	57.4	0.2
Toledo, OH Metro Area	57.4	0.1
Glens Falls, NY Metro Area	57.3	0.8
Waterloo-Cedar Falls, IA Metro Area	57.3	0.7
Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford, CT Met	57.3	0.1
Terre Haute, IN Metro Area	57.2	0.9
Syracuse, NY Metro Area	57.2	0.2
Hinesville-Fort Stewart, GA Metro Area	57.1	2.1
Pensacola-Ferry Pass-Brent, FL Metro Area	57.1	0.4
Monroe, MI Metro Area	57.1	0.3
Akron, OH Metro Area	57.1	0.2
Harrisburg-Carlisle, PA Metro Area	57.1	0.2
Fayetteville, NC Metro Area	57.0	0.4
Knoxville, TN Metro Area	57.0	0.2
Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord, NC-SC Metro Are	56.8	0.1
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N	56.8	0.1
Salisbury, MD Metro Area	56.7	1.2
Spokane, WA Metro Area	56.7	0.2
Rochester, NY Metro Area	56.7	0.1
Bismarck, ND Metro Area	56.6	0.7
Greeley, CO Metro Area	56.6	0.4
Jacksonville, FL Metro Area	56.5	0.2
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, CA Metro A	56.5	0.1
Worcester, MA Metro Area	56.5	0.1
Lafayette, LA Metro Area	56.4	0.2
Providence-New Bedford-Fall River, RI-MA Me	56.4	0.1
Cumberland, MD-WV Metro Area	56.3	1.7
Chico, CA Metro Area	56.3	0.4
Johnson City, TN Metro Area	56.0	0.4

Metro	Ratio	SE
Columbia, SC Metro Area	56.0	0.4
Wilmington, NC Metro Area	55.9	0.2
New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner, LA Metro Area	55.9	0.2
Norwich-New London, CT Metro Area	55.8	0.4
Duluth, MN-WI Metro Area	55.8	0.3
Santa Rosa-Petaluma, CA Metro Area	55.7	0.1
Bremerton-Silverdale, WA Metro Area	55.6	0.3
Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC	55.5	0.2
Colorado Springs, CO Metro Area	55.5	0.2
Richmond, VA Metro Area	55.3	0.4
Baltimore-Towson, MD Metro Area	55.3	0.1
San Diego-Carlsbad-San Marcos, CA Metro Are	55.3	0.1
Baton Rouge, LA Metro Area	55.2	0.2
Portland-South Portland-Biddeford, ME Metro	55.1	0.2
Jefferson City, MO Metro Area	55.0	1.2
Springfield, MA Metro Area	55.0	0.2
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA Metro Are	55.0	0.1
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA Metro Are	55.0	0.1
Kalamazoo-Portage, MI Metro Area	54.9	0.2
Valdosta, GA Metro Area	54.8	0.8
Manchester-Nashua, NH Metro Area	54.8	0.2
Trenton-Ewing, NJ Metro Area	54.8	0.2
St. Cloud, MN Metro Area	54.8	0.1
Hanford-Corcoran, CA Metro Area	54.6	0.4
Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY Metro Area	54.5	0.2
Santa Fe, NM Metro Area	54.4	0.4
Raleigh-Cary, NC Metro Area	54.3	0.2
Denver-Aurora-Broomfield, CO Metro Area	54.2	0.1
Columbus, OH Metro Area	54.1	0.1
Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI Me	54.1	0.1
Muncie, IN Metro Area	53.9	0.5
Nashville-Davidson--Murfreesboro--Franklin, T	53.9	0.2
Olympia, WA Metro Area	53.8	0.4
La Crosse, WI-MN Metro Area	53.6	0.2
Eau Claire, WI Metro Area	53.4	0.5
Kingston, NY Metro Area	53.4	0.4
Charleston-North Charleston-Summerville, SC	53.3	0.1
Portland-Vancouver-Beaverton, OR-WA Metro	53.0	0.1
Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, MA-NH Metro Are	52.7	0.1
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-	52.4	0.1
Charlottesville, VA Metro Area	52.2	1.6
Tuscaloosa, AL Metro Area	52.2	0.9
Bangor, ME Metro Area	52.2	0.4
Eugene-Springfield, OR Metro Area	52.1	0.2
Bowling Green, KY Metro Area	52.0	0.9
San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, CA Metro Are	51.7	0.1
Anchorage, AK Metro Area	51.0	0.4
Flagstaff, AZ Metro Area	50.9	0.7
Bellingham, WA Metro Area	50.9	0.4
Lexington-Fayette, KY Metro Area	50.7	0.4
Oshkosh-Neenah, WI Metro Area	50.7	0.2
San Luis Obispo-Paso Robles, CA Metro Area	50.6	0.2
Lincoln, NE Metro Area	50.5	0.4
Lansing-East Lansing, MI Metro Area	50.5	0.2
Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA Metro Area	50.0	0.1
Durham-Chapel Hill, NC Metro Area	49.9	0.2
Bloomington-Normal, IL Metro Area	49.7	0.3
Greenville, NC Metro Area	49.6	0.7
Austin-Round Rock, TX Metro Area	49.6	0.1
Grand Forks, ND-MN Metro Area	49.3	1.2
Harrisonburg, VA Metro Area	48.6	0.5
Santa Cruz-Watsonville, CA Metro Area	48.5	0.3
Fort Collins-Loveland, CO Metro Area	48.1	0.5
Fargo, ND-MN Metro Area	48.0	0.6
Mankato-North Mankato, MN Metro Area	47.9	0.6
Burlington-South Burlington, VT Metro Area	47.0	0.3
Fairbanks, AK Metro Area	46.9	0.5
Lafayette, IN Metro Area	46.6	0.7
Madison, WI Metro Area	46.1	0.2
College Station-Bryan, TX Metro Area	45.7	0.7
Manhattan, KS Metro Area	45.2	1.2
Athens-Clarke County, GA Metro Area	44.9	0.8
Missoula, MT Metro Area	44.6	0.6
Champaign-Urbana, IL Metro Area	44.3	0.7
Tallahassee, FL Metro Area	44.3	0.4
Jacksonville, NC Metro Area	44.2	0.4
Columbia, MO Metro Area	44.1	0.7
Auburn-Opelika, AL Metro Area	43.6	0.2
Ann Arbor, MI Metro Area	43.5	0.2
Corvallis, OR Metro Area	43.4	0.5
Iowa City, IA Metro Area	43.3	0.6
Gainesville, FL Metro Area	43.2	0.5
Boulder, CO Metro Area	43.2	0.2
Bloomington, IN Metro Area	42.7	0.5
Morgantown, WV Metro Area	42.2	1.2
Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford, VA Metro	39.2	1.0
Ames, IA Metro Area	38.3	0.9
State College, PA Metro Area	37.8	0.5
Lawrence, KS Metro Area	37.4	0.7
Ithaca, NY Metro Area	36.3	0.2

Data in this table are from the 2009 American Community Survey single-year file.

- Significantly greater than the national average by more than 10 points
- Significantly greater than the national average, but by 10 points or less
- Not statistically different from the national average
- Significantly less than the national average, by 10 points or less
- Significantly less than the national average, by more than 10 points

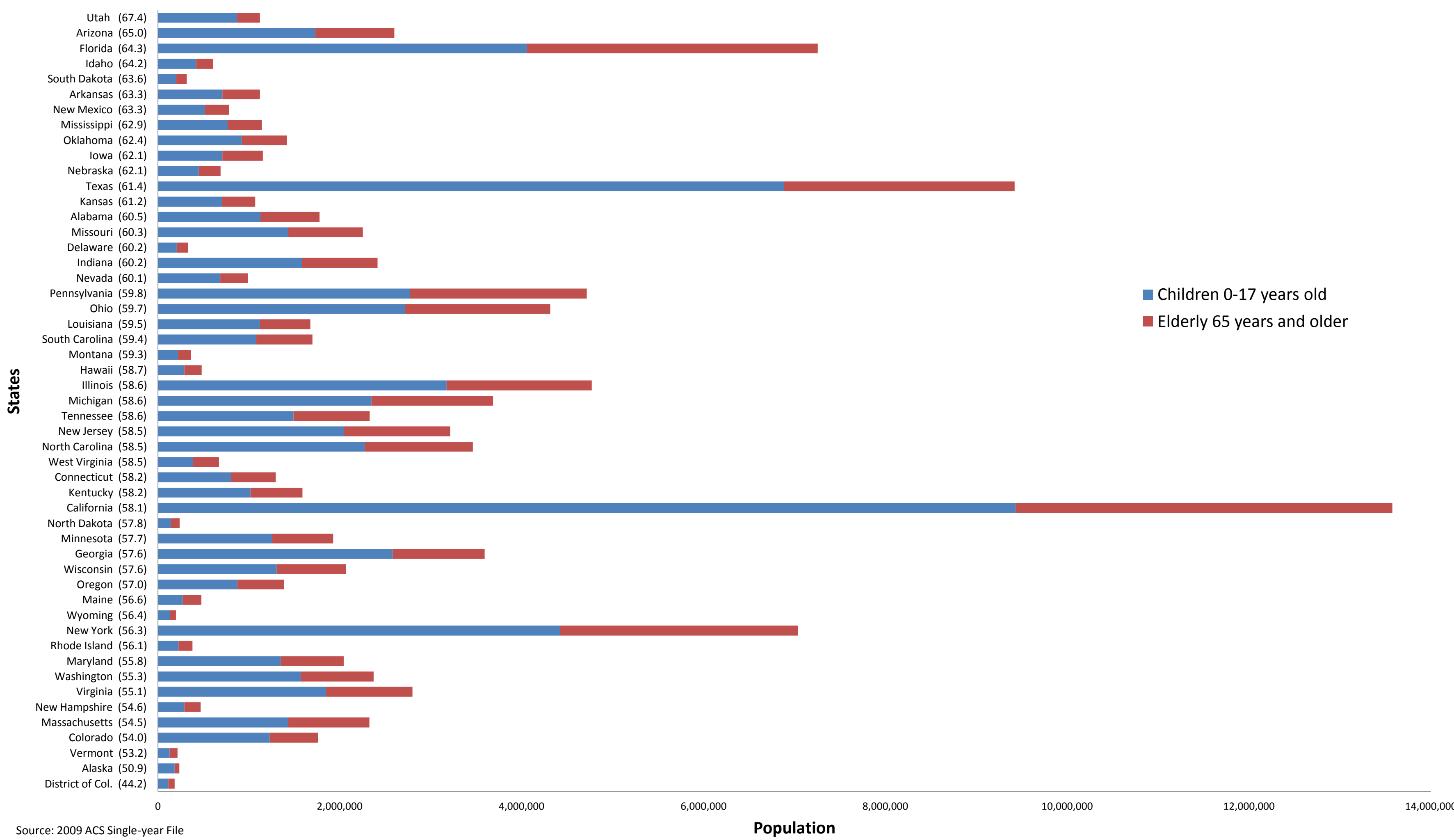
Table 3: State Dependency Ratios, by 7 Age Groups

Total			0-4 years			5-9 years			10-14 years			15-17 years			65-74 years			75-84 years			85+ years		
State	Ratio	SE	State	Percent	SE	State	Percent	SE	State	Percent	SE	State	Percent	SE	State	Percent	SE	State	Percent	SE	State	Percent	SE
Utah	67.4	0.1	Utah	24.2	0.2	Utah	22.0	0.3	Alaska	22.0	0.6	Alaska	13.4	0.3	West Virginia	22.8	0.3	Florida	16.0	0.1	North Dakota	7.3	0.3
Arizona	65.0	0.1	Alaska	23.3	0.3	Texas	20.2	0.1	Utah	20.3	0.3	California	11.8	0.0	Maine	22.7	0.4	West Virginia	14.7	0.3	Rhode Island	6.6	0.3
Florida	64.3	0.1	Texas	21.9	0.1	Georgia	19.9	0.2	Texas	19.6	0.1	New Hampshire	11.8	0.1	Vermont	22.0	0.5	Pennsylvania	14.5	0.1	Florida	6.6	0.1
Idaho	64.2	0.2	District of Col.	20.8	0.4	Colorado	19.7	0.2	Georgia	19.5	0.2	Georgia	11.8	0.1	Florida	21.6	0.1	Hawaii	14.2	0.4	South Dakota	6.5	0.3
South Dakota	63.6	0.3	Georgia	20.7	0.0	Alaska	19.2	0.6	California	19.1	0.1	Michigan	11.7	0.0	District of Col.	20.6	0.8	Maine	14.0	0.4	Pennsylvania	6.5	0.1
Arkansas	63.3	0.1	Colorado	20.7	0.0	Nevada	18.9	0.3	Idaho	18.8	0.4	Maryland	11.6	0.0	Montana	20.5	0.4	North Dakota	13.9	0.5	Iowa	6.4	0.1
New Mexico	63.3	0.2	Idaho	20.4	0.1	Idaho	18.8	0.4	Maryland	18.7	0.2	Wyoming	11.6	0.4	Delaware	20.3	0.4	Vermont	13.9	0.4	Maine	6.4	0.3
Mississippi	62.9	0.1	Nevada	20.4	0.1	Louisiana	18.6	0.2	Illinois	18.6	0.1	Vermont	11.5	0.0	South Carolina	20.3	0.2	Rhode Island	13.9	0.4	Hawaii	6.2	0.3
Oklahoma	62.4	0.1	California	20.2	0.0	Wyoming	18.6	0.7	Nevada	18.6	0.3	Washington	11.4	0.0	Pennsylvania	20.3	0.1	Iowa	13.3	0.2	Massachusetts	6.1	0.1
Iowa	62.1	0.1	Wyoming	19.9	0.4	Mississippi	18.6	0.3	Michigan	18.4	0.1	Idaho	11.3	0.2	New Hampshire	20.2	0.4	Montana	13.1	0.4	Kansas	6.1	0.2
Nebraska	62.1	0.2	Arizona	19.9	0.1	New Mexico	18.4	0.4	Indiana	18.3	0.2	Connecticut	11.3	0.0	Alabama	20.0	0.2	Massachusetts	12.9	0.2	Connecticut	6.0	0.1
Texas	61.4	0.1	Nebraska	19.5	0.1	North Carolina	18.3	0.2	Connecticut	18.3	0.2	Texas	11.3	0.0	Tennessee	19.9	0.2	Ohio	12.6	0.1	Delaware	5.7	0.3
Kansas	61.2	0.2	Mississippi	19.3	0.2	California	18.3	0.1	Colorado	18.3	0.2	Illinois	11.3	0.0	Oregon	19.9	0.3	South Dakota	12.6	0.4	New Hampshire	5.6	0.2
Alabama	60.5	0.1	New Mexico	19.2	0.2	Nebraska	18.2	0.3	Arizona	18.2	0.2	New York	11.3	0.0	Arkansas	19.8	0.3	Connecticut	12.5	0.2	Nebraska	5.5	0.2
Missouri	60.3	0.1	Oklahoma	19.2	0.1	Arizona	18.1	0.2	Mississippi	18.1	0.3	Louisiana	11.2	0.1	Kentucky	19.8	0.2	New York	12.4	0.1	Vermont	5.5	0.3
Delaware	60.2	0.2	Kansas	19.1	0.1	Virginia	18.0	0.2	Louisiana	18.1	0.2	Wisconsin	11.2	0.1	Rhode Island	19.7	0.5	Wisconsin	12.4	0.2	Wisconsin	5.5	0.1
Indiana	60.2	0.1	Louisiana	19.0	0.1	UNITED STATES	18.0	0.0	Virginia	18.1	0.2	Nevada	11.2	0.2	Massachusetts	19.4	0.2	Nebraska	12.3	0.3	District of Col.	5.5	0.4
Nevada	60.1	0.1	Washington	19.0	0.0	Washington	18.0	0.2	Kansas	18.1	0.2	Ohio	11.2	0.0	Michigan	19.4	0.1	Alabama	12.3	0.2	Oregon	5.5	0.1
Pennsylvania	59.8	0.1	North Carolina	18.9	0.1	Illinois	17.9	0.1	New Hampshire	18.0	0.4	Utah	11.2	0.1	New York	19.3	0.1	New Hampshire	12.3	0.3	New York	5.5	0.1
Ohio	59.7	0.1	South Dakota	18.9	0.3	Indiana	17.9	0.2	Washington	17.9	0.2	Indiana	11.2	0.1	Ohio	19.3	0.1	New Jersey	12.2	0.1	Minnesota	5.3	0.1
Louisiana	59.5	0.1	Minnesota	18.8	0.1	Kansas	17.7	0.2	UNITED STATES	17.9	0.0	New Mexico	11.1	0.2	Missouri	19.2	0.2	Arkansas	12.2	0.2	Montana	5.3	0.3
South Carolina	59.4	0.1	Virginia	18.8	0.1	Oklahoma	17.7	0.2	New Jersey	17.9	0.2	Minnesota	11.1	0.0	Connecticut	19.2	0.2	Missouri	12.1	0.1	Ohio	5.3	0.1
Montana	59.3	0.2	Illinois	18.7	0.1	Minnesota	17.6	0.2	Minnesota	17.8	0.2	Maine	11.1	0.2	Virginia	19.0	0.2	District of Col.	12.0	0.6	New Jersey	5.2	0.1
UNITED STATES	59.1	0.1	Maryland	18.6	0.0	Arkansas	17.5	0.3	North Carolina	17.7	0.2	Colorado	11.1	0.1	North Dakota	19.0	0.5	South Carolina	11.9	0.2	West Virginia	5.2	0.2
Hawaii	58.7	0.1	UNITED STATES	18.5	0.0	Alabama	17.5	0.2	Tennessee	17.7	0.2	New Jersey	11.1	0.1	North Carolina	19.0	0.2	Michigan	11.8	0.1	Missouri	5.2	0.1
Illinois	58.6	0.1	Hawaii	18.5	0.2	South Carolina	17.4	0.2	Kentucky	17.6	0.2	Rhode Island	11.1	0.0	Hawaii	19.0	0.4	Oregon	11.8	0.2	Michigan	5.1	0.1
Michigan	58.6	0.1	Indiana	18.4	0.1	New Jersey	17.4	0.2	Missouri	17.6	0.2	Mississippi	11.1	0.2	Wisconsin	18.9	0.2	Delaware	11.8	0.4	Illinois	4.9	0.1
Tennessee	58.6	0.1	South Carolina	18.3	0.1	Tennessee	17.3	0.2	Oregon	17.6	0.3	Missouri	11.1	0.1	New Jersey	18.9	0.2	Arizona	11.7	0.2	Arkansas	4.8	0.2
New Jersey	58.5	0.1	Kentucky	18.3	0.1	Kentucky	17.3	0.2	New York	17.6	0.1	UNITED STATES	11.0	0.0	Iowa	18.8	0.2	Oklahoma	11.7	0.2	UNITED STATES	4.8	0.0
North Carolina	58.5	0.1	Tennessee	18.1	0.1	Maryland	17.3	0.2	Alabama	17.6	0.2	Virginia	11.0	0.1	Oklahoma	18.8	0.2	Tennessee	11.6	0.2	Indiana	4.7	0.1
West Virginia	58.5	0.2	Arkansas	18.1	0.2	Massachusetts	17.1	0.2	Ohio	17.6	0.1	Massachusetts	11.0	0.0	Maryland	18.7	0.2	Kentucky	11.5	0.2	Washington	4.7	0.1
Connecticut	58.2	0.1	North Dakota	17.9	0.3	Delaware	17.1	0.5	Oklahoma	17.5	0.2	Tennessee	10.9	0.1	New Mexico	18.4	0.3	Minnesota	11.5	0.1	Kentucky	4.6	0.1
Kentucky	58.2	0.1	Missouri	17.9	0.0	Wisconsin	17.1	0.2	Rhode Island	17.4	0.4	South Dakota	10.9	0.2	Wyoming	18.3	0.6	UNITED STATES	11.5	0.0	Maryland	4.5	0.1
California	58.1	0.1	Delaware	17.9	0.2	Ohio	17.1	0.1	Wisconsin	17.4	0.2	Kentucky	10.9	0.1	Washington	18.3	0.2	New Mexico	11.5	0.3	Oklahoma	4.5	0.1
North Dakota	57.8	0.2	Alabama	17.7	0.1	Michigan	17.0	0.1	New Mexico	17.3	0.4	Montana	10.9	0.2	UNITED STATES	18.2	0.0	Indiana	11.4	0.1	Tennessee	4.4	0.1
Minnesota	57.7	0.1	Oregon	17.6	0.1	Oregon	16.9	0.3	Arkansas	17.2	0.3	Pennsylvania	10.8	0.0	Indiana	18.1	0.2	North Carolina	11.3	0.1	California	4.4	0.0
Georgia	57.6	0.1	Wisconsin	17.4	0.0	Missouri	16.9	0.2	Iowa	17.1	0.2	South Carolina	10.8	0.1	Louisiana	18.1	0.1	Wyoming	11.3	0.5	Alabama	4.3	0.1
Wisconsin	57.6	0.1	New York	17.3	0.0	New York	16.7	0.1	South Carolina	17.1	0.3	Kansas	10.7	0.1	South Dakota	17.9	0.5	Kansas	11.2	0.2	Wyoming	4.3	0.4
Oregon	57.0	0.1	New Jersey	17.3	0.1	Montana	16.7	0.4	South Dakota	17.0	0.4	Alabama	10.7	0.1	Nevada	17.9	0.3	Illinois	10.9	0.1	Mississippi	4.2	0.1
Maine	56.6	0.1	Iowa	17.2	0.1	Connecticut	16.6	0.2	Massachusetts	16.9	0.2	Oregon	10.7	0.1	Minnesota	17.9	0.2	Louisiana	10.9	0.2	South Carolina	4.2	0.1
Wyoming	56.4	0.5	Ohio	17.1	0.1	Iowa	16.5	0.2	Montana	16.8	0.5	North Carolina	10.7	0.1	Mississippi	17.9	0.3	Virginia	10.9	0.1	Virginia	4.2	0.1
New York	56.3	0.1	Montana	16.8	0.2	South Dakota	16.2	0.5	Delaware	16.8	0.5	Oklahoma	10.7	0.1	Illinois	17.6	0.1	Mississippi	10.8	0.2	Idaho	4.2	0.2
Rhode Island	56.1	0.2	Michigan	16.7	0.1	New Hampshire	16.2	0.4	Hawaii	16.7	0.4	Nebraska	10.7	0.1	Arizona	17.5	0.2	Washington	10.8	0.2	Arizona	4.2	0.1
Maryland	55.8	0.1	Massachusetts	16.5	0.1	Vermont	16.0	0.5	Nebraska	16.6	0.3	Iowa	10.6	0.1	Nebraska	17.2	0.3	Maryland	10.7	0.1	Louisiana	4.1	0.1
Washington	55.3	0.1	Connecticut	16.2	0.1	Pennsylvania	15.7	0.1	Pennsylvania	16.5	0.1	North Dakota	10.5	0.2	Kansas	17.1	0.2	California	10.1	0.1	New Mexico	4.1	0.2
Virginia	55.1	0.1	Florida	16.0	0.1	Rhode Island	15.5	0.5	Maine	16.4	0.3	Arizona	10.5	0.0	Idaho	16.9	0.4	Nevada	9.8	0.2	North Carolina	4.1	0.1
New Hampshire	54.6	0.1	New Hampshire	16.0	0.1	Hawaii	15.5	0.4	North Dakota	16.3	0.4	Delaware	10.4	0.2	Colorado	16.9	0.2	Idaho	9.6	0.3	Colorado	4.0	0.1
Massachusetts	54.5	0.1	West Virginia	15.9	0.2	West Virginia	15.3	0.3	West Virginia	16.1	0.3	Arkansas	10.4	0.1	Georgia	16.2	0.2	Colorado	9.4	0.2	Texas	3.4	0.1
Colorado	54.0	0.1	Rhode Island	15.9	0.1	District of Col.	15.1	0.7	Vermont	16.0	0.5	District of Col.	10.3	0.2	California	16.1	0.1	Texas	8.8	0.1	Georgia	3.3	0.1
Vermont	53.2	0.2	Pennsylvania	15.8	0.1	North Dakota	15.0	0.4	Wyoming	15.9	0.6	Hawaii	10.0	0.2	Texas	14.7	0.1	Georgia	8.6	0.1	Nevada	3.2	0.1
Alaska	50.9	0.3	Vermont	15.0	0.1	Florida	14.6	0.1	Florida	15.7	0.1	West Virginia	9.9	0.2	Alaska	13.6	0.5	Utah	7.3	0.2	Utah	2.8	0.1
District of Col.	44.2	0.1	Maine	15.0	0.1	Maine	14.6	0.3	District of Col.	15.7	0.6	Florida	9.6	0.0	Utah	12.3	0.2	Alaska	6.5	0.3	Alaska	1.9	0.2

Data in this table are from the 2009 American Community Survey single-year file.

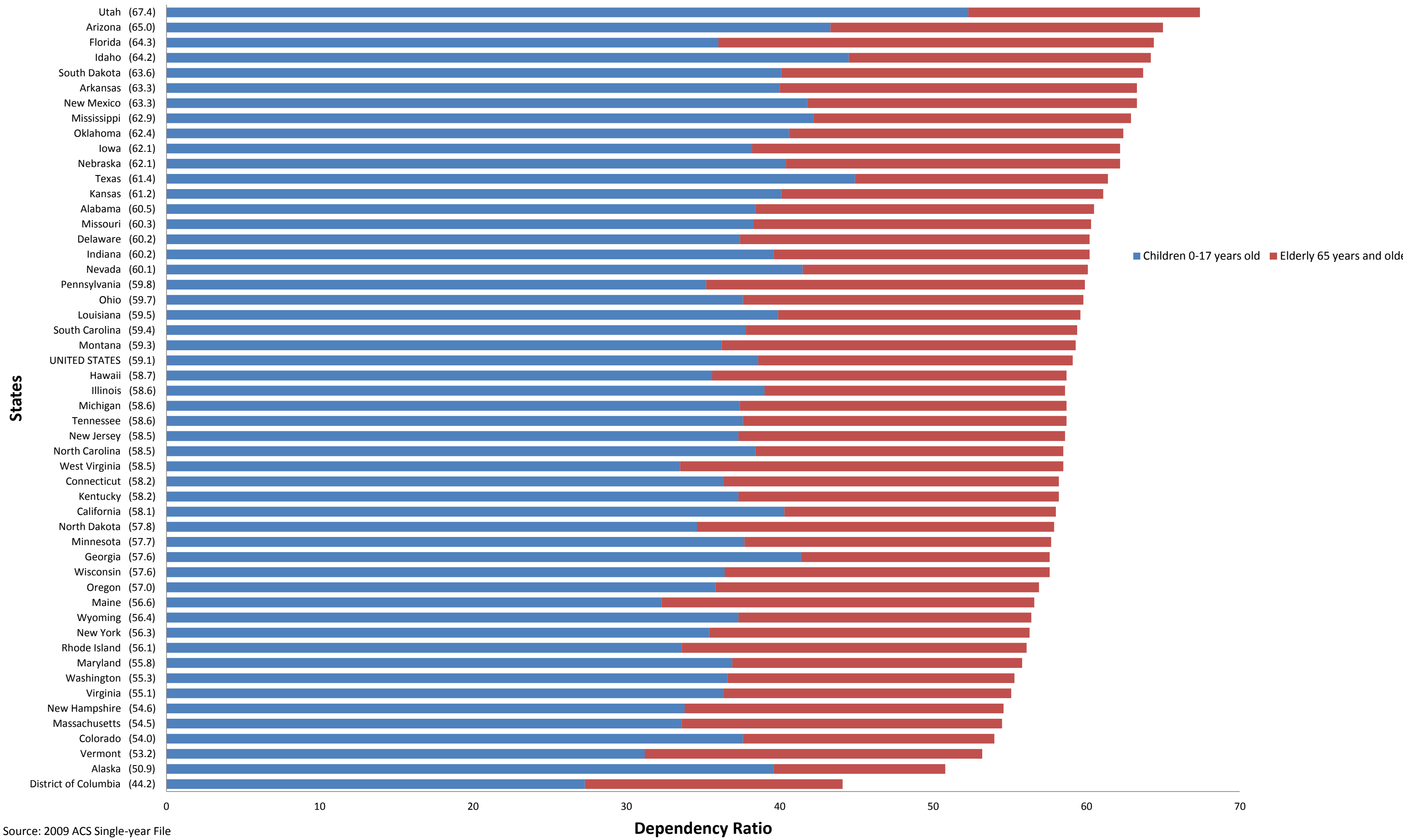
- Significantly > than U.S. average
- Not significantly different from U.S. average
- Significantly < than U.S. average

Figure 1: Overall State Dependent Populations by Age Group , Ordered by Dependency Ratio



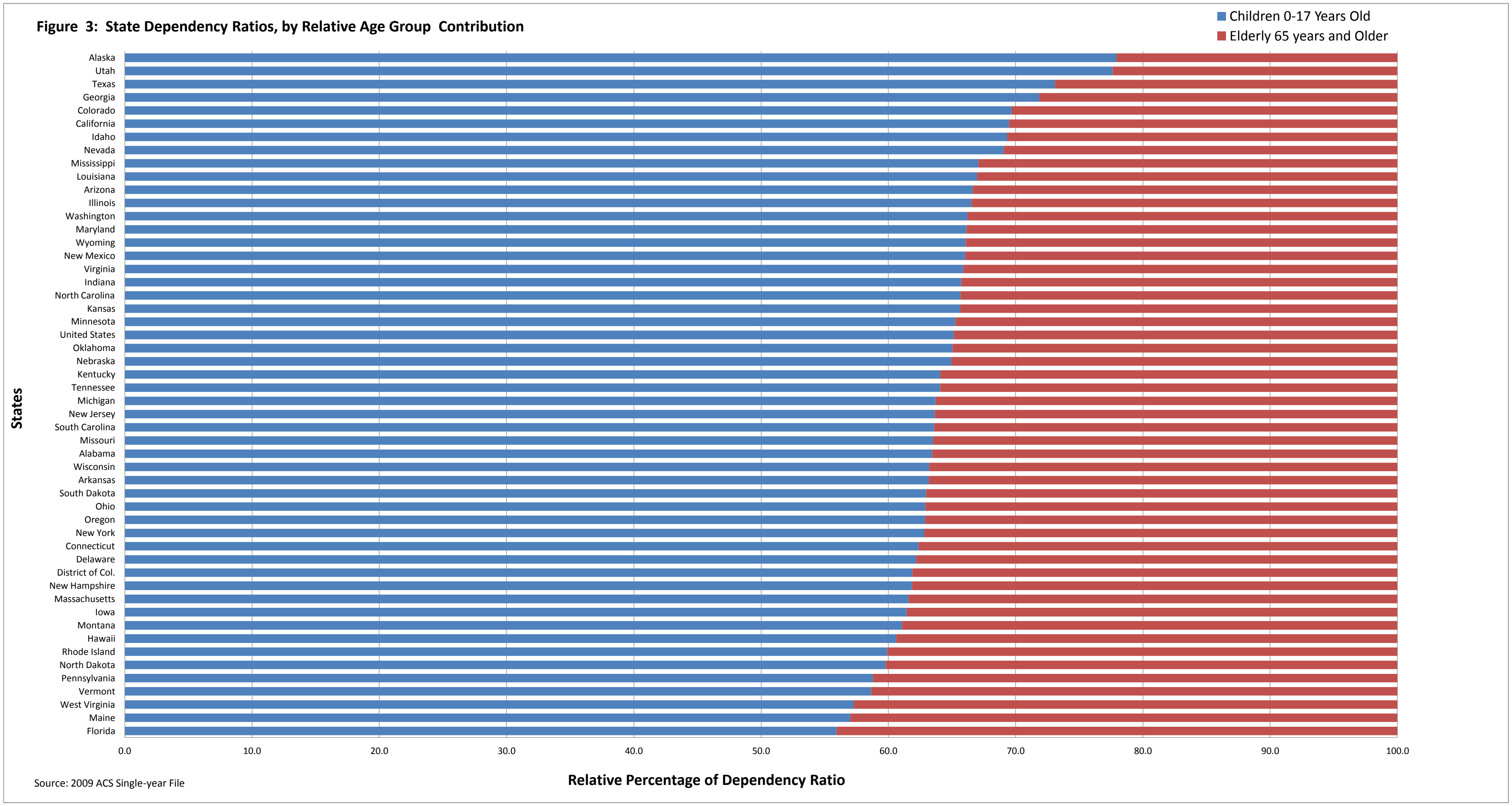
Source: 2009 ACS Single-year File

Figure 2: State Dependency Ratios , by Size and Component Composition



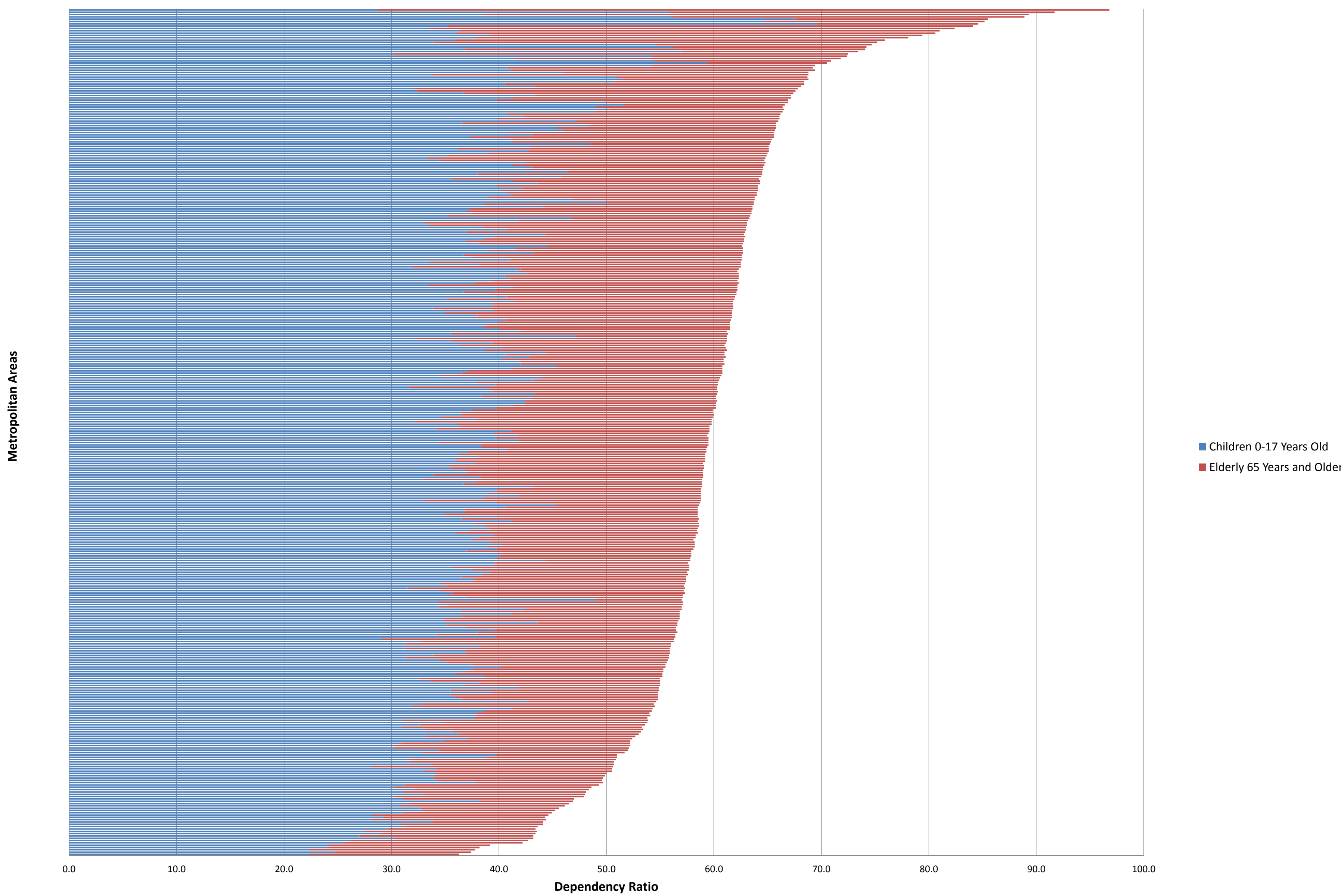
Source: 2009 ACS Single-year File

Figure 3: State Dependency Ratios, by Relative Age Group Contribution

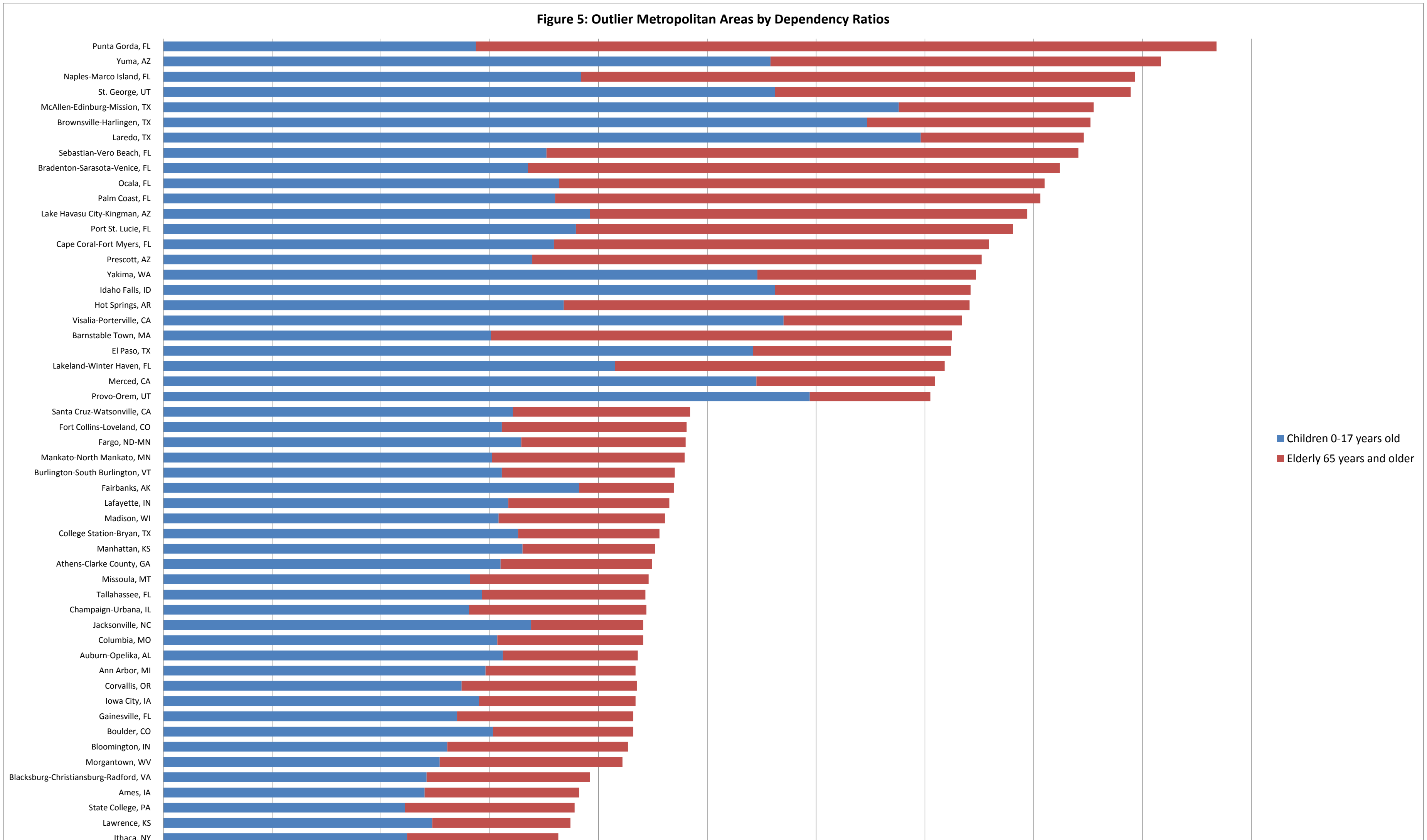


Source: 2009 ACS Single-year File

Figure 4: Metropolitan Areas and Dependency Ratios, by Size and Component Composition

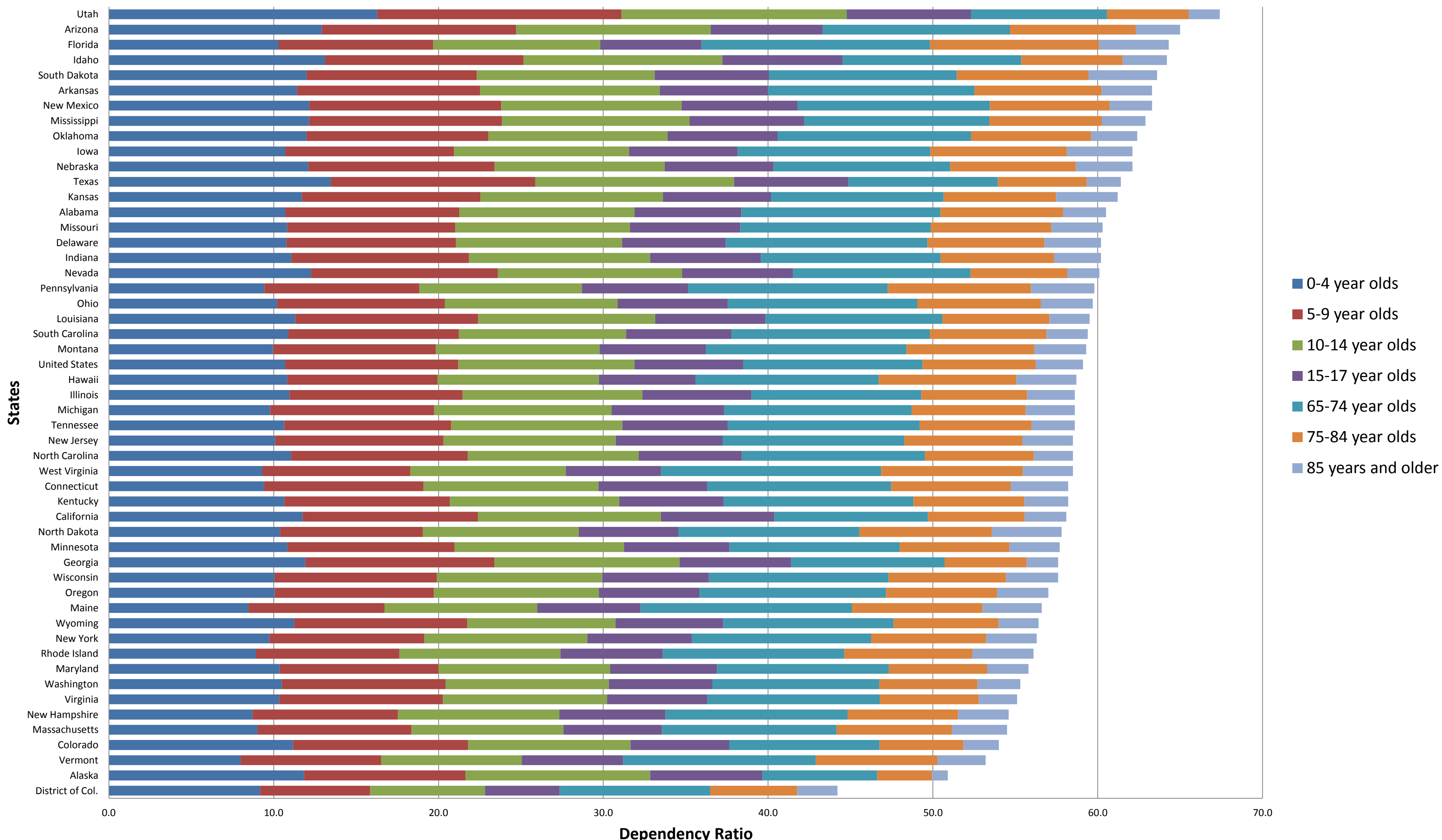


Source: 2009 ACS Single-year File

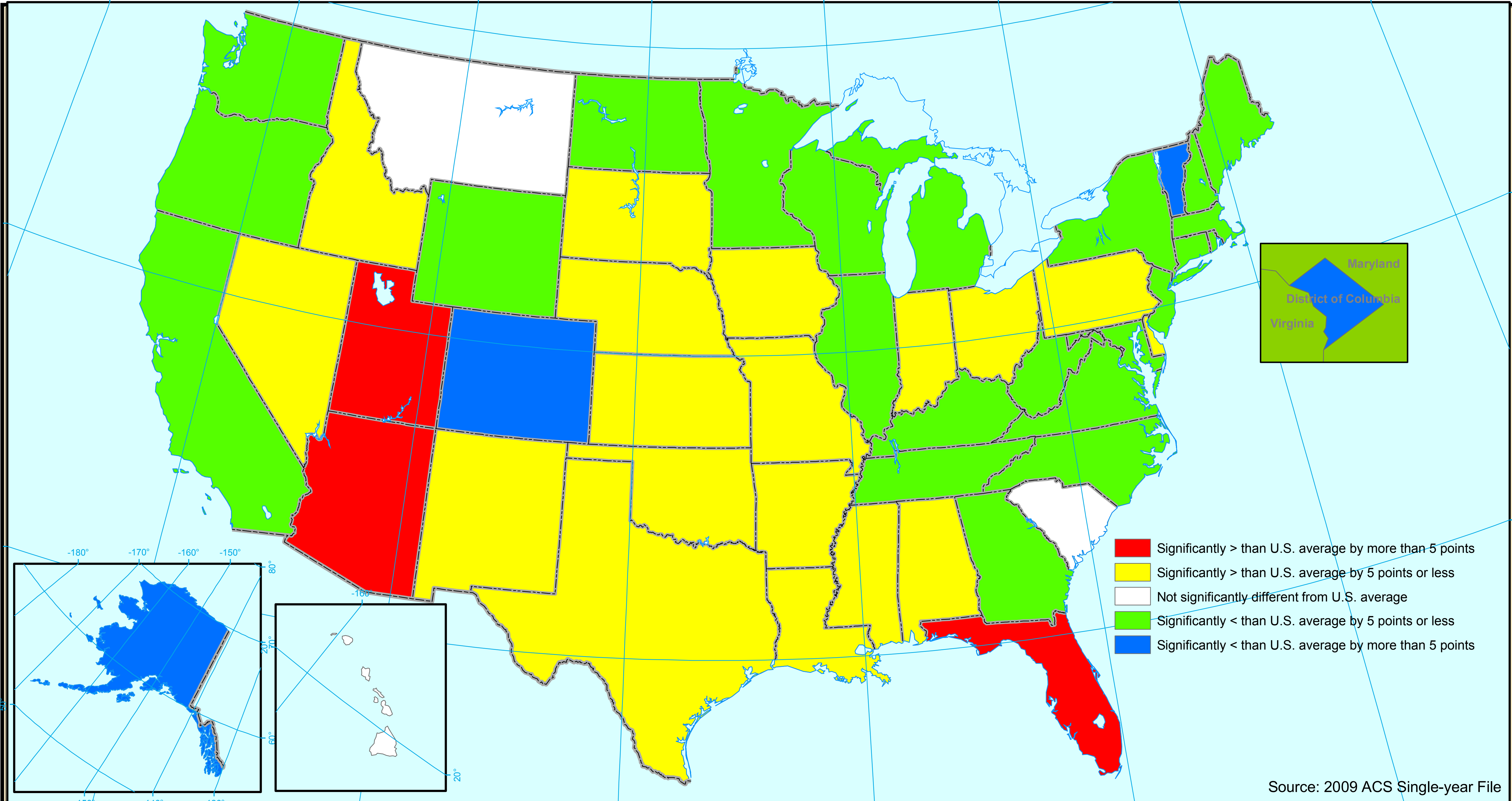


Source: 2009 ACS Single-Year File

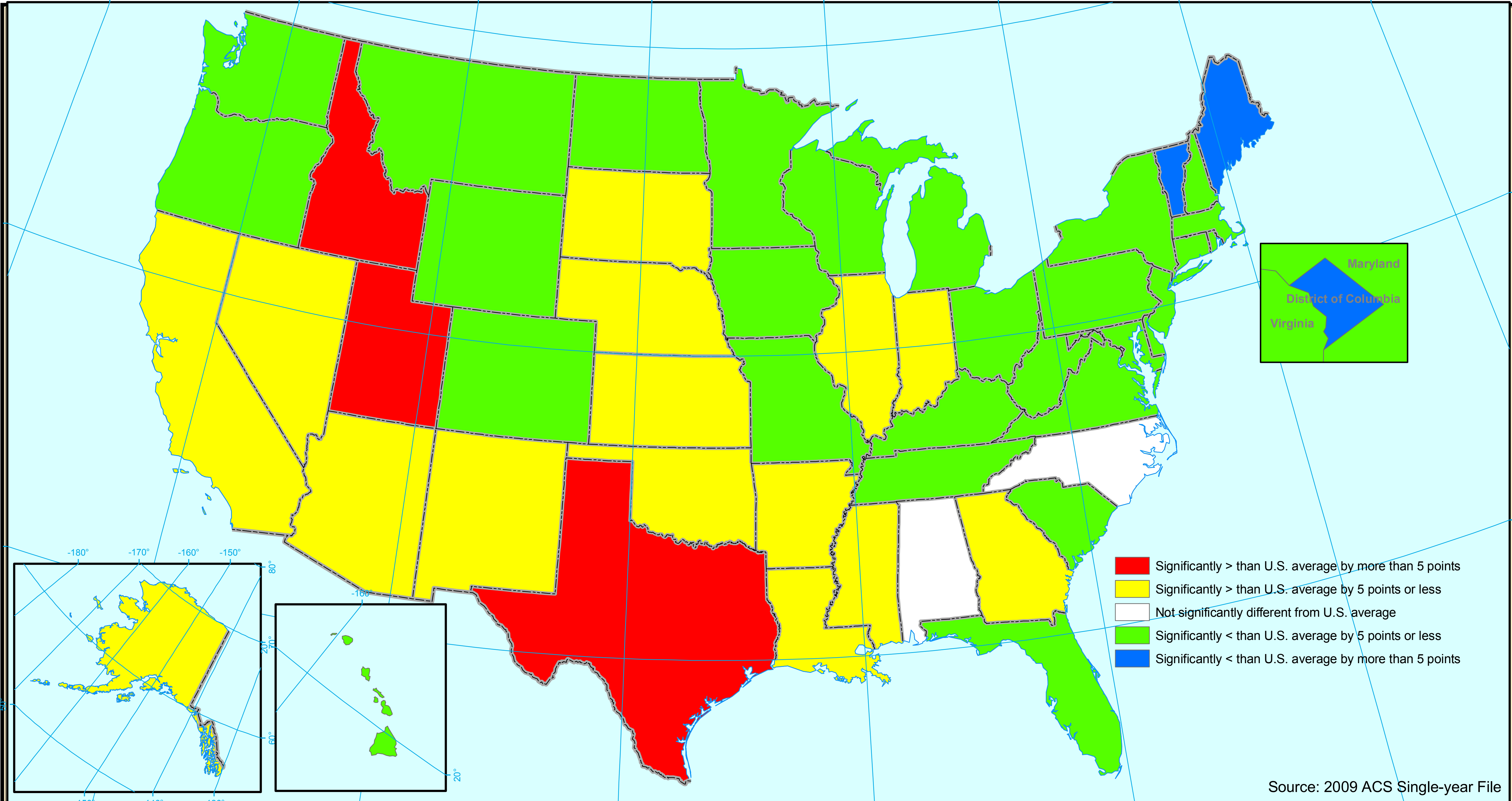
Figure 6: State Dependency Ratios, Component Composition Using 7 Age Categories



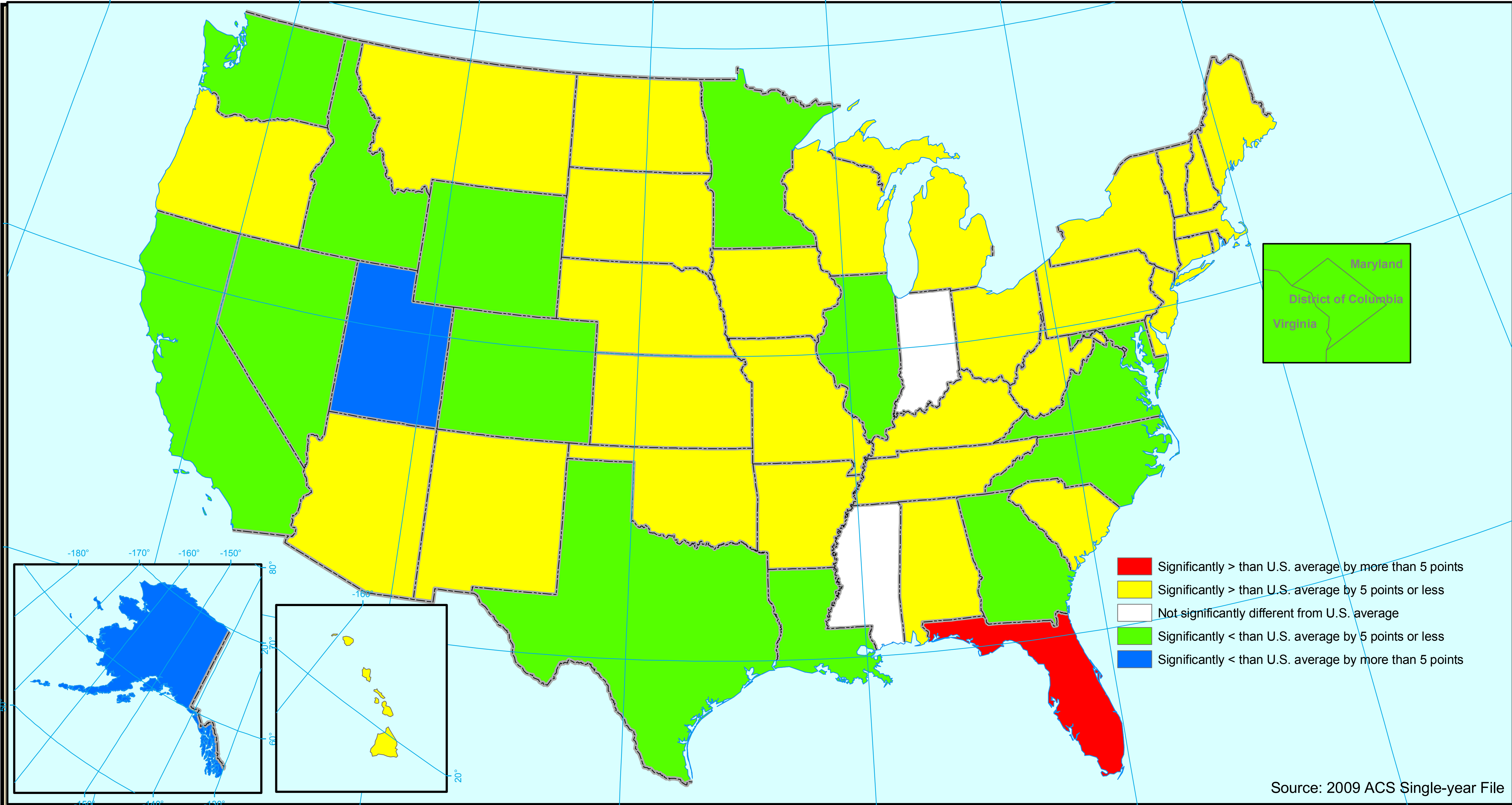
Source: 2009 ACS Single-year File



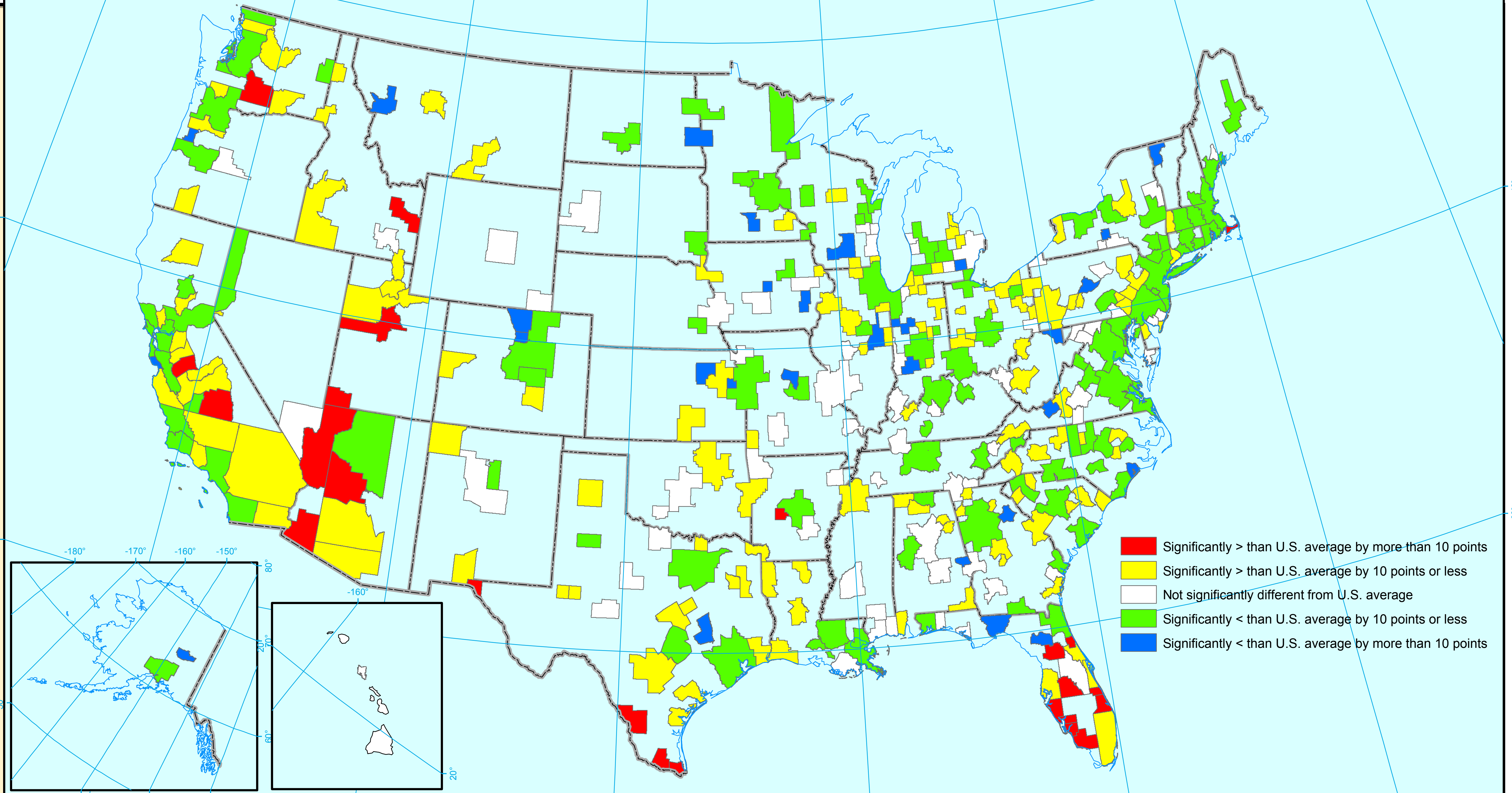
Map A: Dependency Ratios by State, Relative to the National Average of 59.1



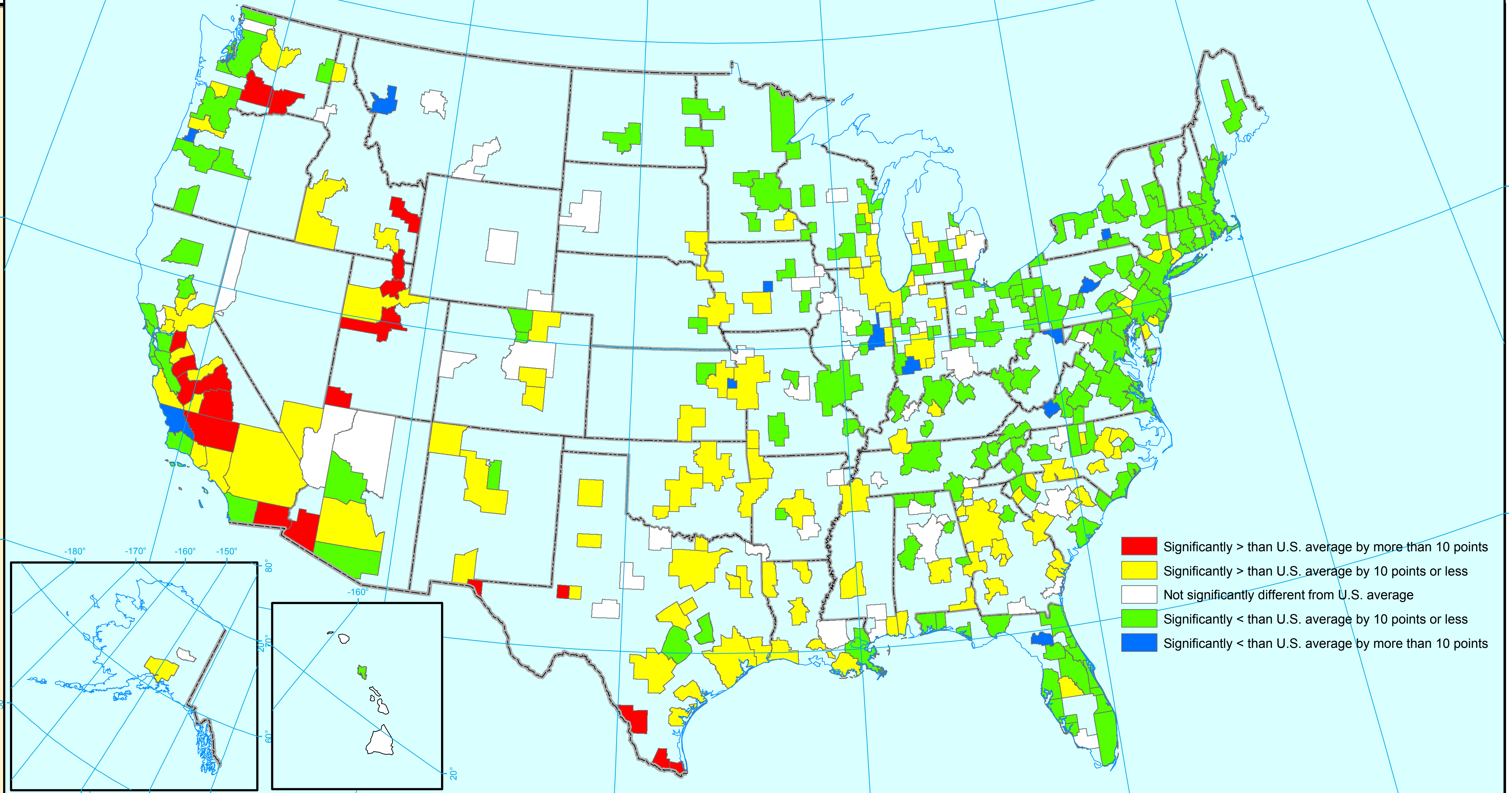
**Map B: Child Dependency Ratios by State,
Relative to the National Average of 38.6**



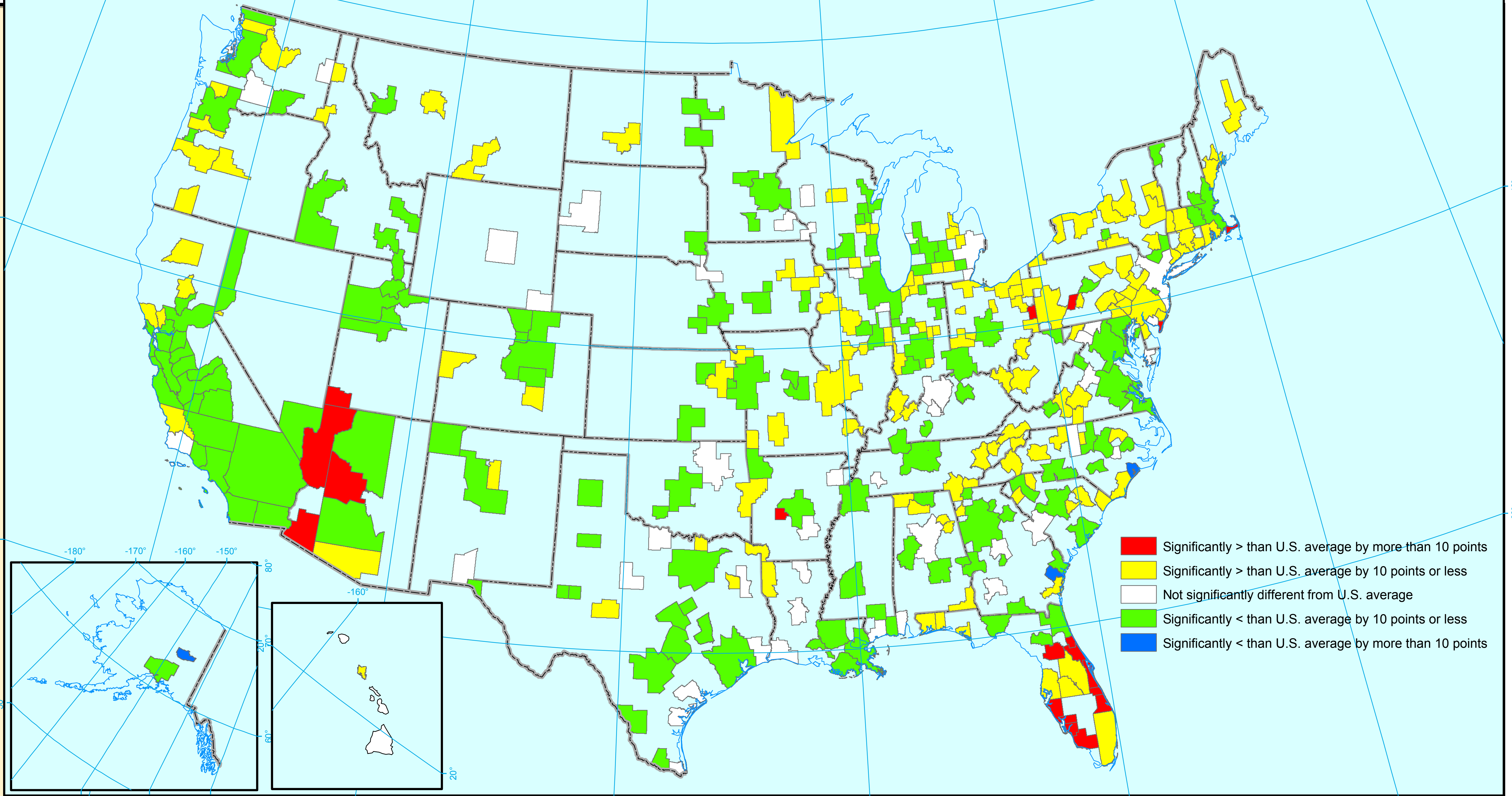
Map C: Elderly Dependency Ratios by State, Relative to the National Average of 20.5



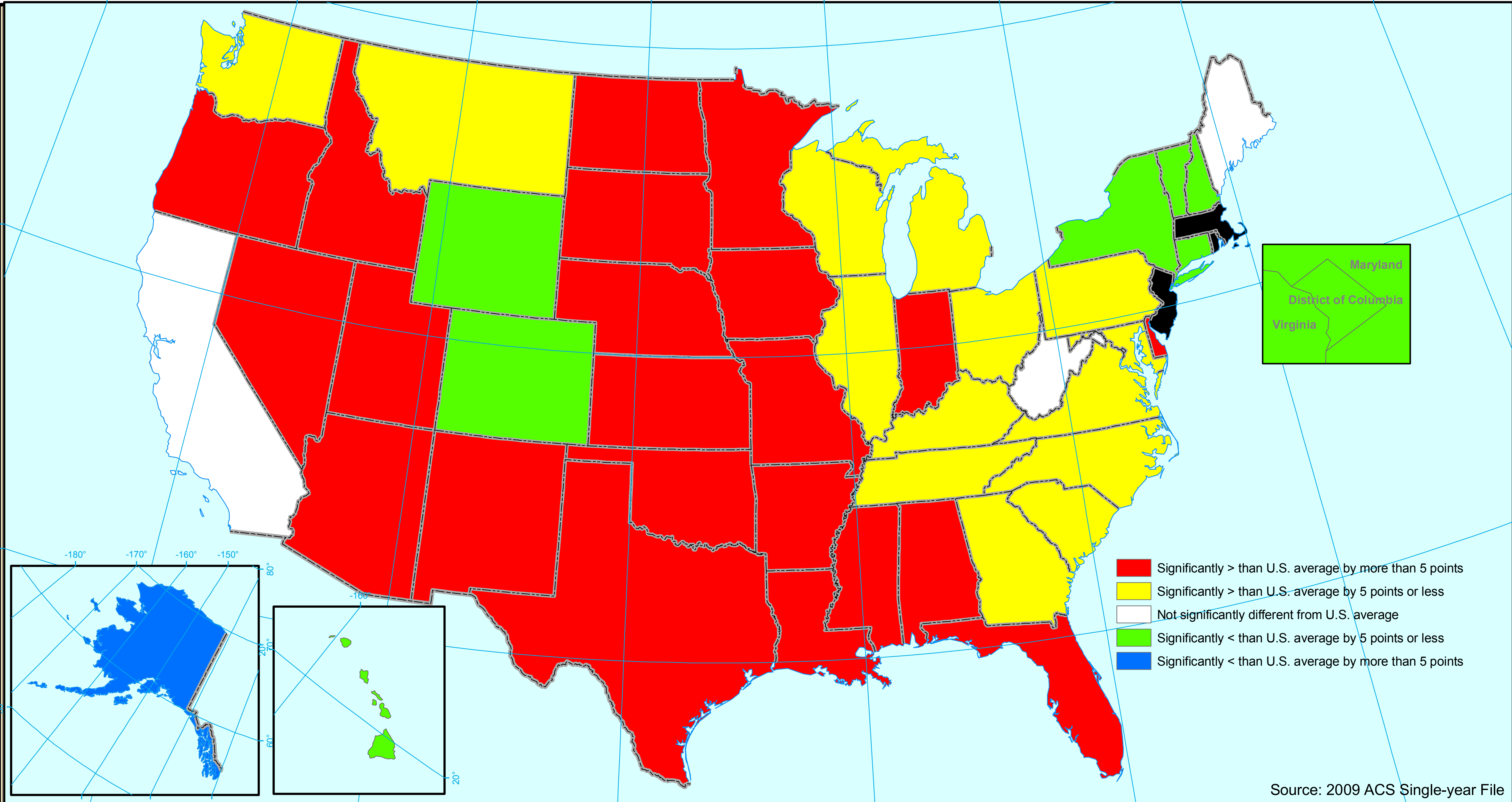
Map D: Dependency Ratios by Metropolitan Area, Relative to the National Average of 59.1



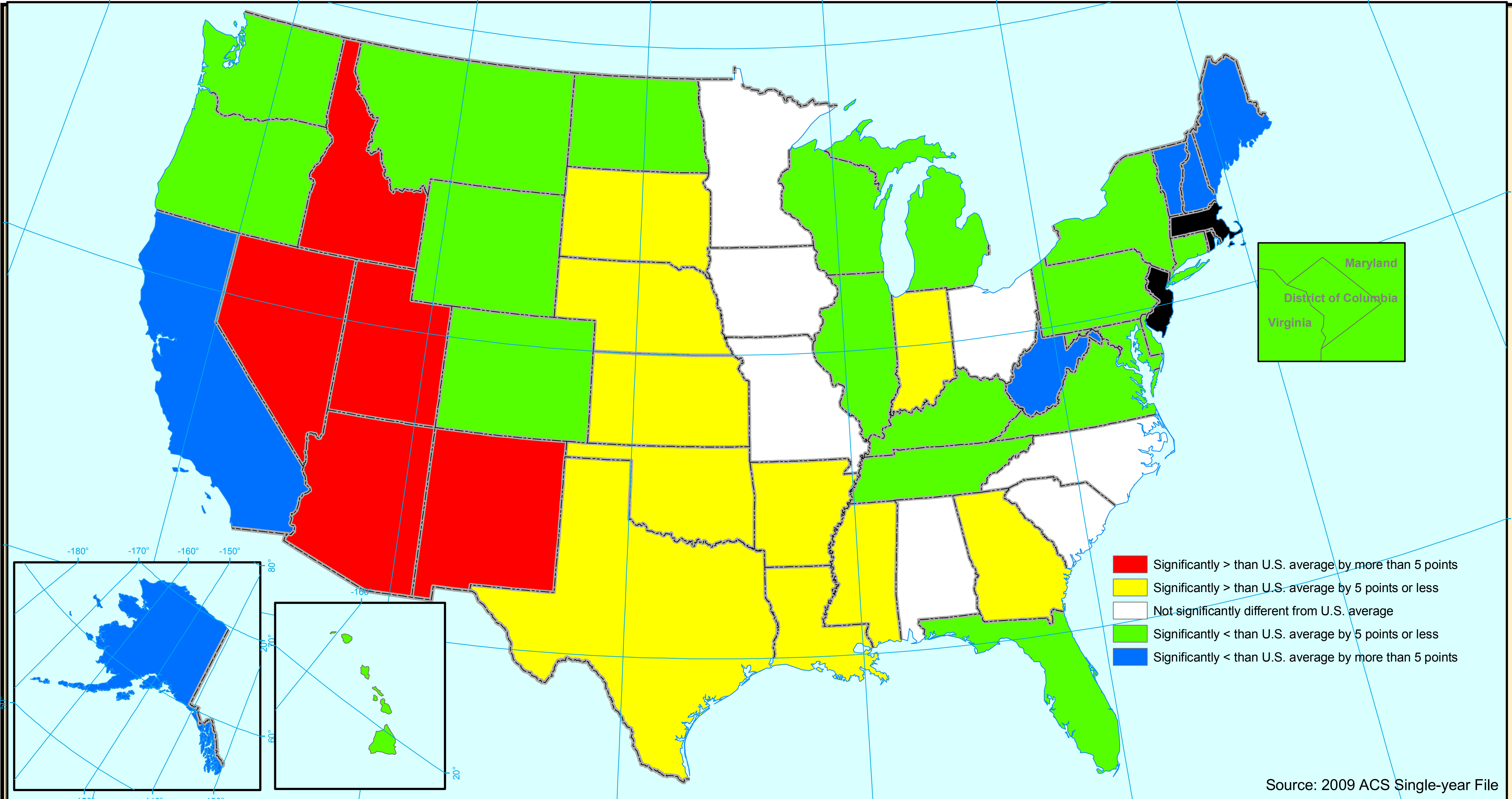
Map E: Child Dependency Ratios by Metropolitan Area, Relative to the National Average of 38.6



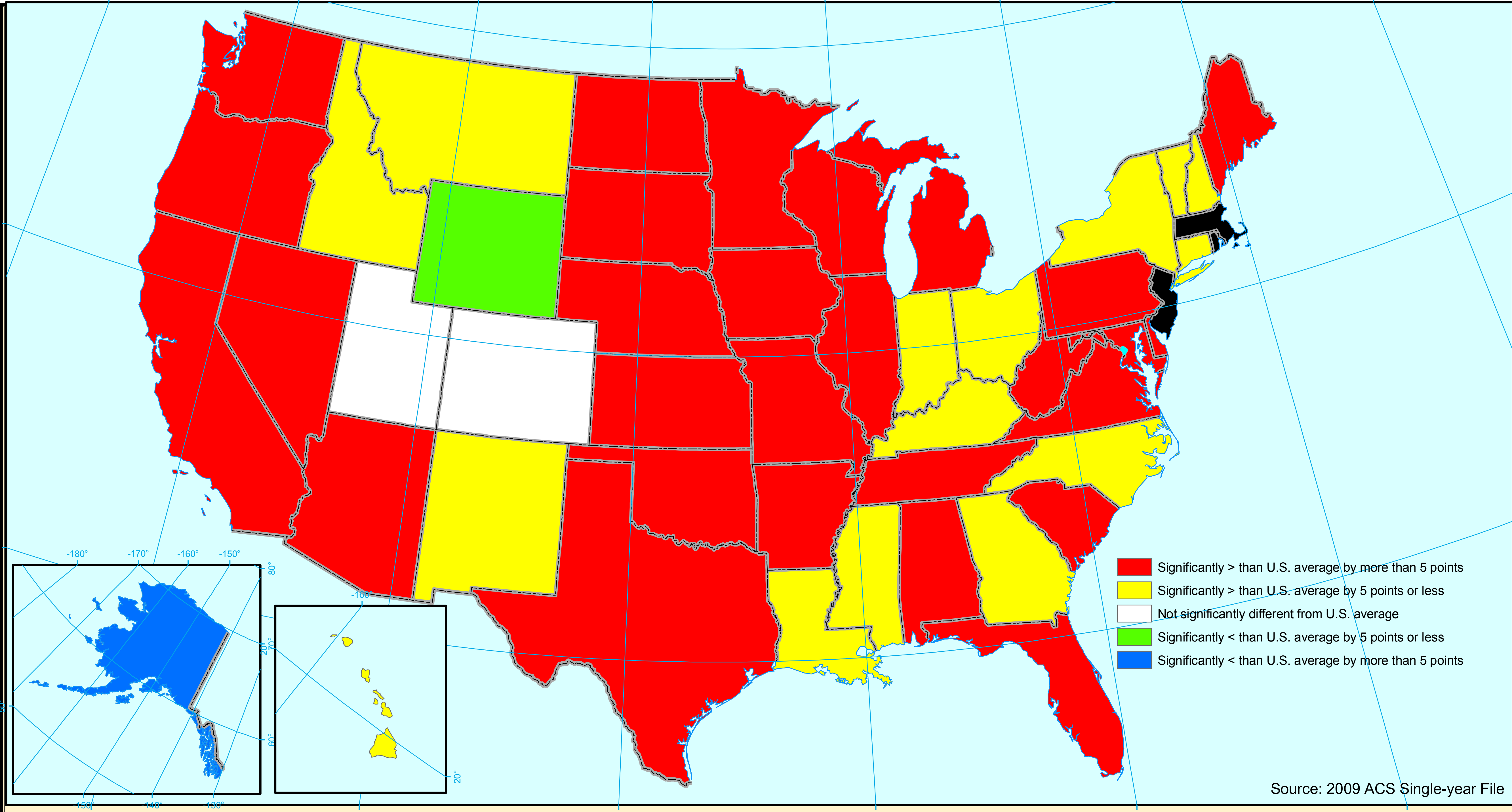
Map F: Elderly Dependency Ratios by Metropolitan Area, Relative to the National Average of 20.5



Map G: Dependency Ratios for Non-metropolitan Areas, Relative to the National Average of 59.1



Map H: Child Dependency Ratios for Non-metropolitan Areas, Relative to the National Average of 38.6



Map I: Elderly Dependency Ratios for Non-metropolitan Areas, Relative to the National Average of 20.5