

Marriage pattern(s) in Denmark in 19th century

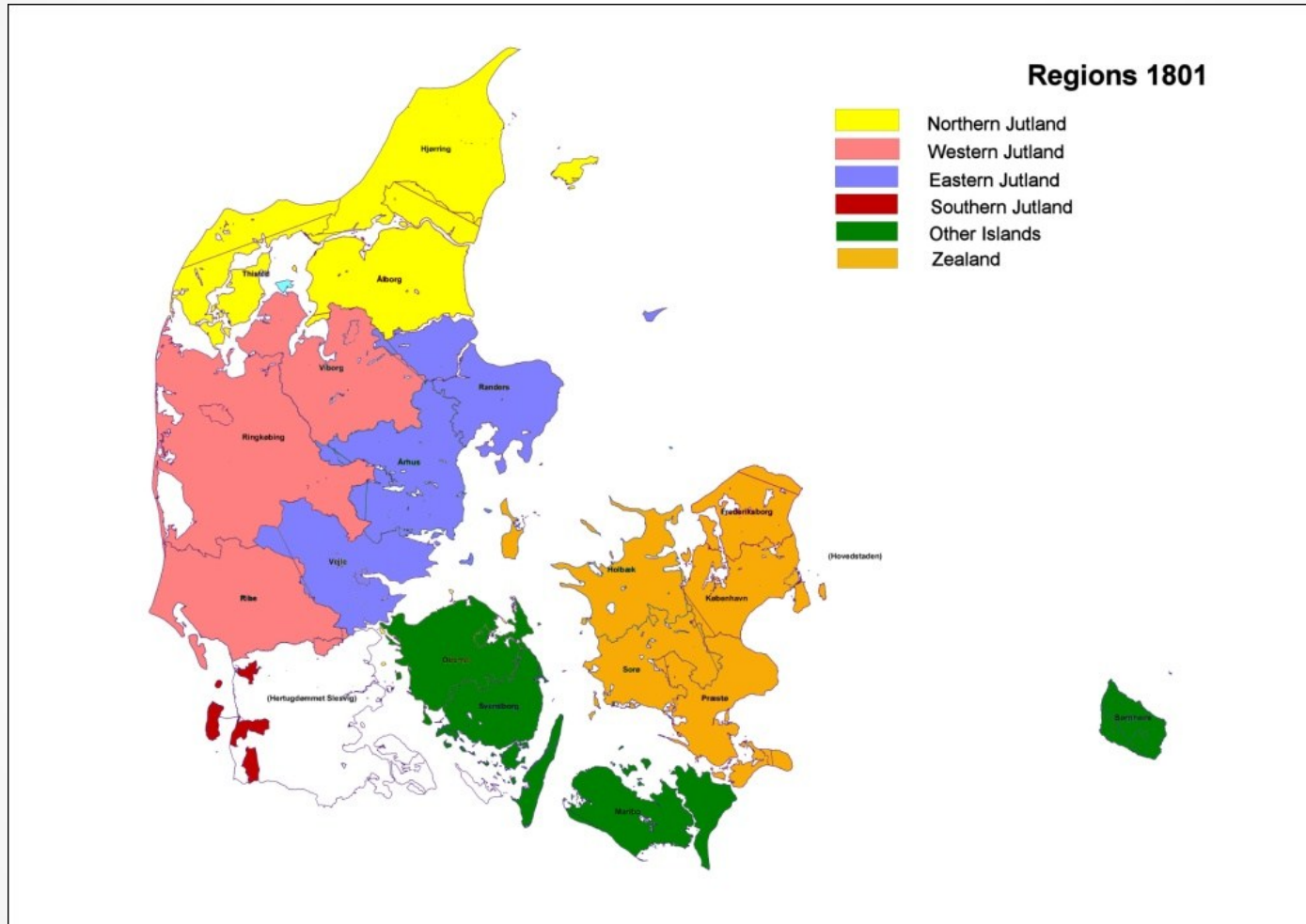
Nanna Floor Clausen, Danish Data Archive
Hans Jørgen Marker, Swedish National Data
Service

- The data used
- The population development
- Marriage pattern by region and gender
- Age for first marriage: two methods- same result?
- Conclusion

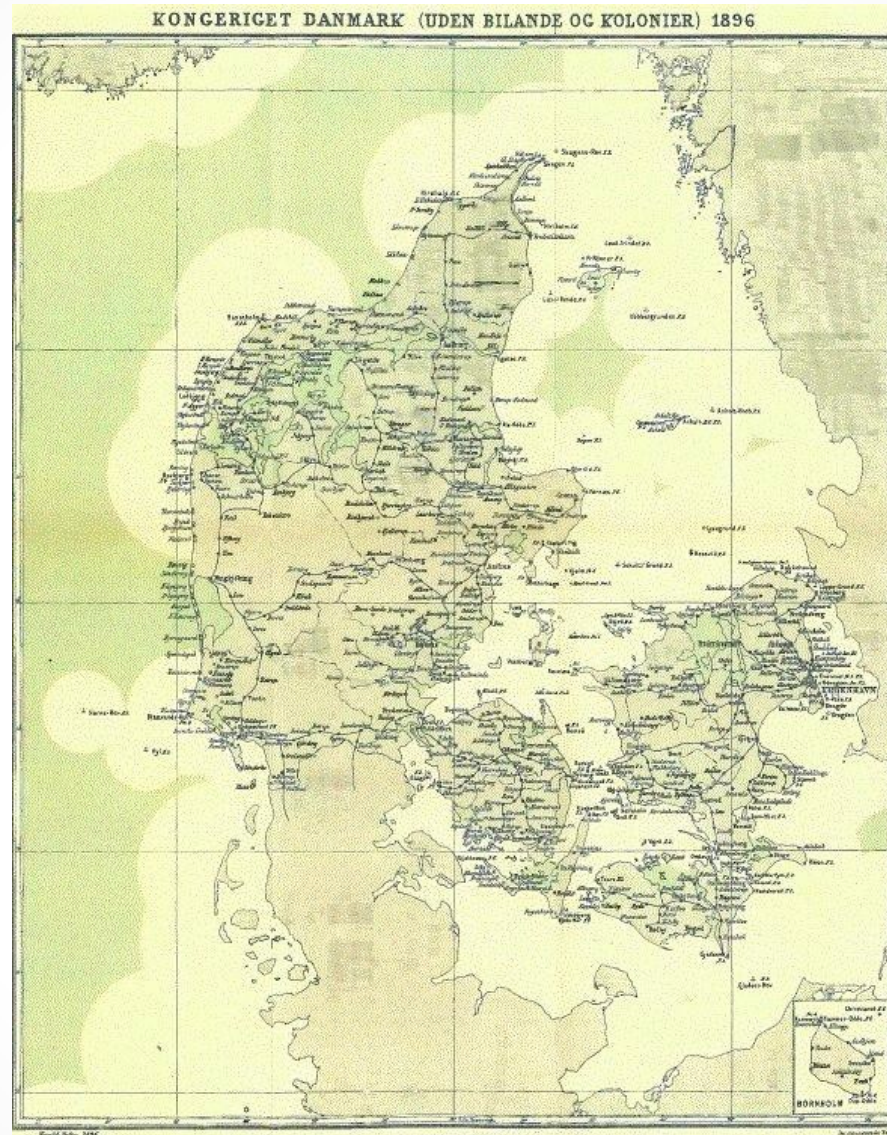
The data

- Using the complete censuses for 1801, 1845 and 1880
- Using 'regions' in place of the smaller counties (amter)
- Urbanisation: Copenhagen, cities and country parishes. In this context just urban rural
- Marital status: 5 categories: unmarried, married, widowed, separated and divorced (and unknown)

The regions of Denmark



Denmark 1880



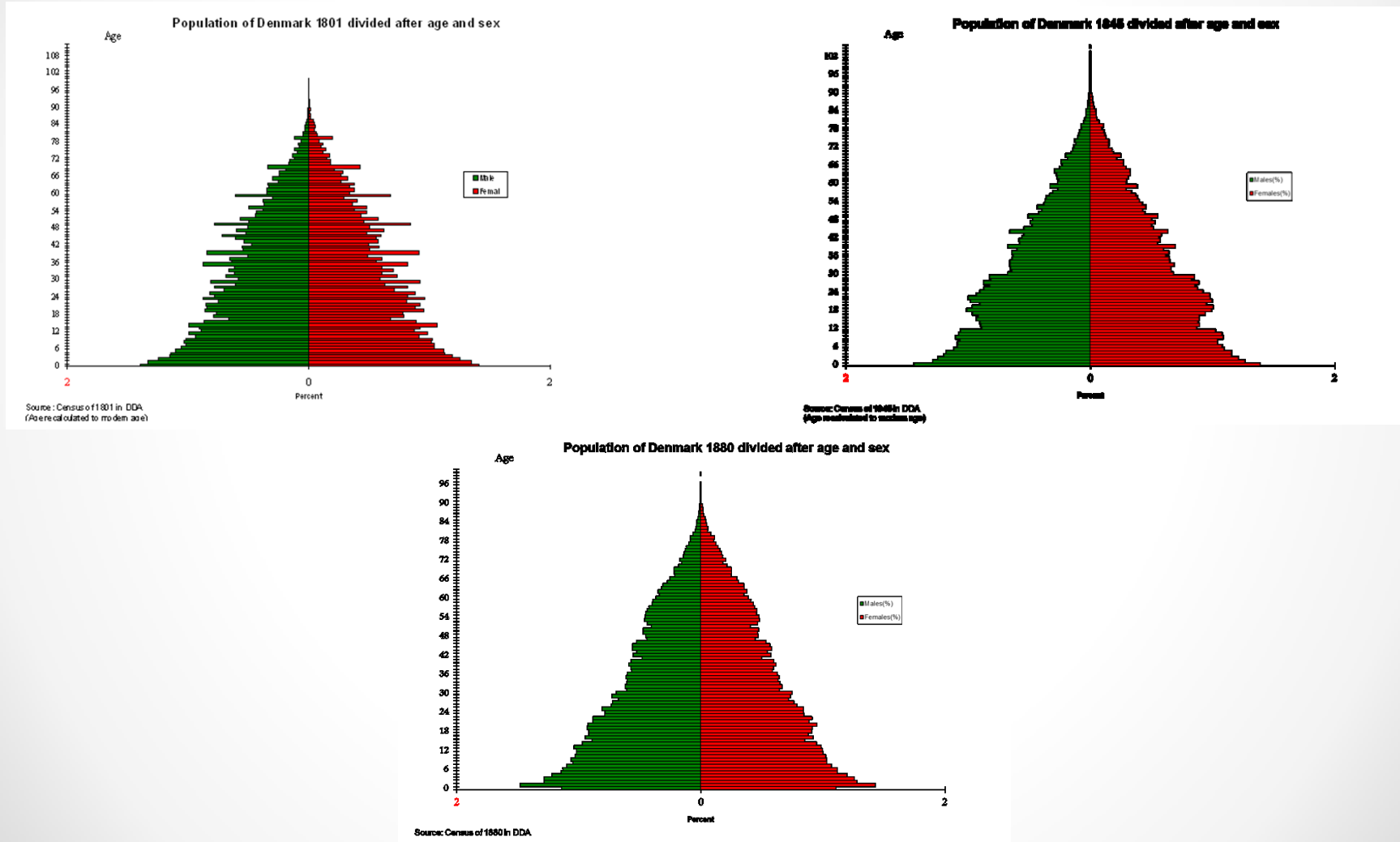
Urbanisation

	1801		1845		1880	
Urbanisation	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Copenhagen	100,959	10.9	126,729	9.4	262,465	13.3
Cities	91,071	9.8	152,948	11.3	276,365	14.0
Rural areas	733,643	79.3	1,070,610	79.3	1,402,373	71.2

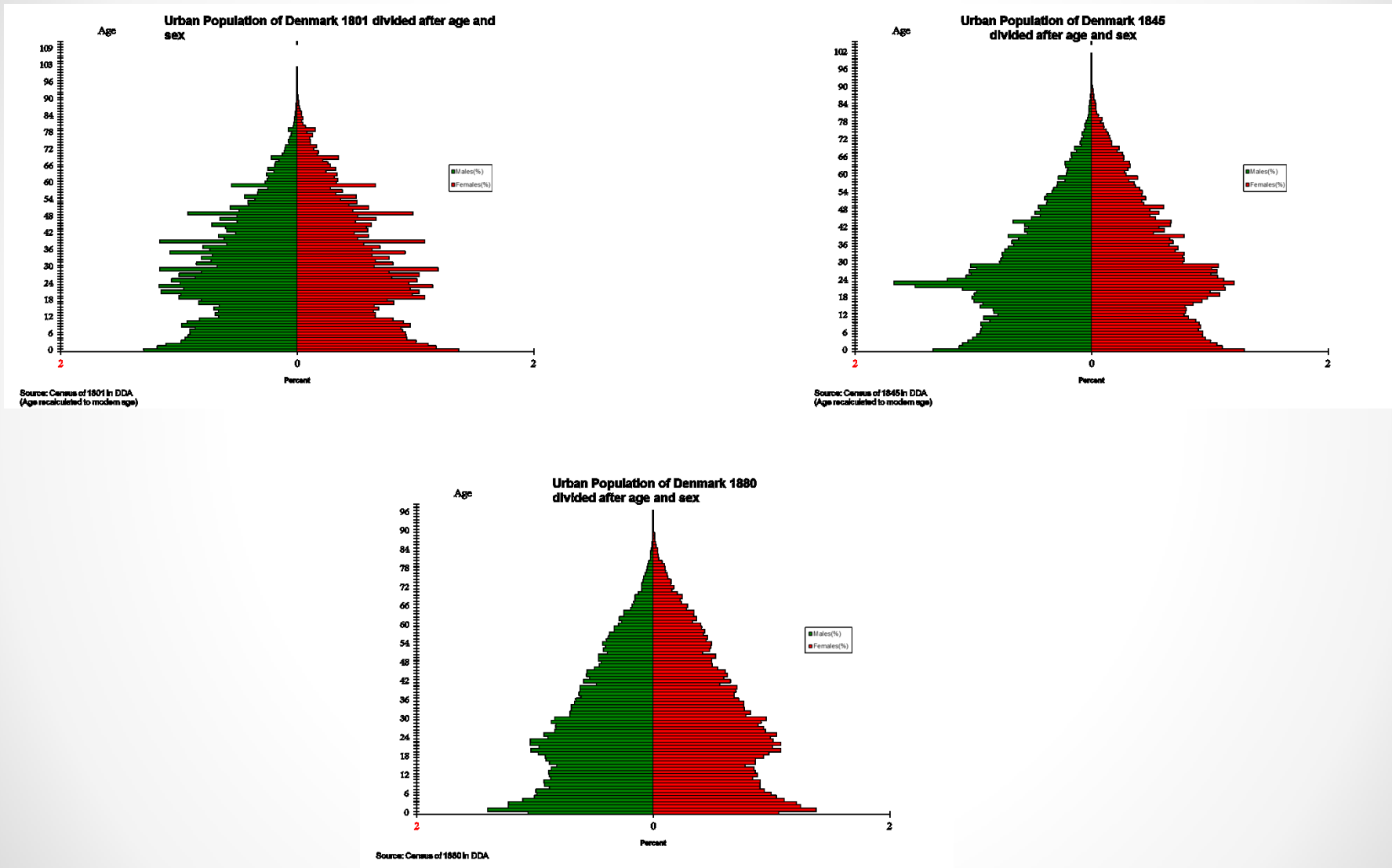
Urbanisation by region and time

Region	Urbanisation	Number of persons 1801	Growth 1801-45 per year per 1000	Number of persons 1845	Growth 1845-80 per year per 1000	Number of persons 1880	Growth 1801-80 per year per 1000
Zealand	Copenhagen	100,959	5.2	126,729	20.3	255,790	11.8
	Cities	23,404	11.9	39,312	10.6	56,943	11.3
	Country parishes	218,266	9.0	323,570	4.8	382,346	7.1
Other Islands	Cities	28,097	12.3	48,094	17.0	86,895	14.4
	Rural	165,760	8.1	236,618	6.1	292,926	7.2
Eastern Jutland	Cities	20,268	12.4	34,791	21.5	73,187	16.4
	Country parishes	123,044	9.7	188,463	10.2	269,197	10.0
Northern Jutland	Cities	11,400	10.8	18,293	19.0	35,375	14.4
	Country parishes	109,531	8.5	158,969	10.2	226,817	9.3
Western Jutland	Cities	7,902	10.4	12,458	18.9	23,964	14.1
	Country parishes	107,512	7.3	148,052	12.8	231,084	9.7
Whole country			8.6		10.6		9.5

Overview of population distribution

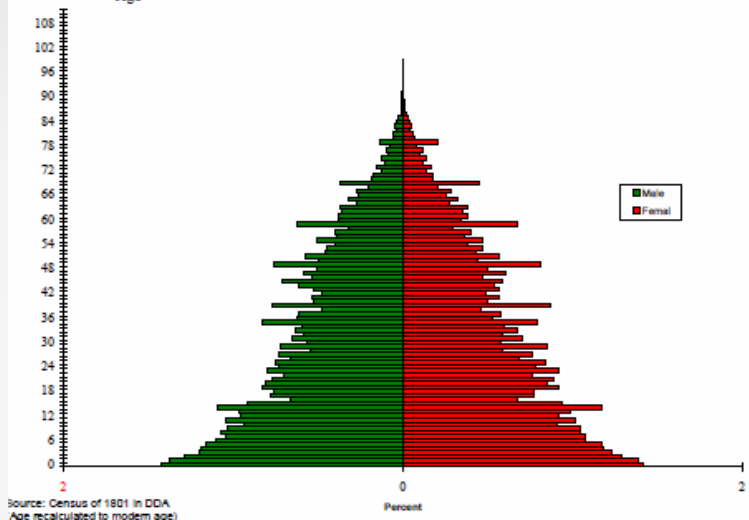


Urban



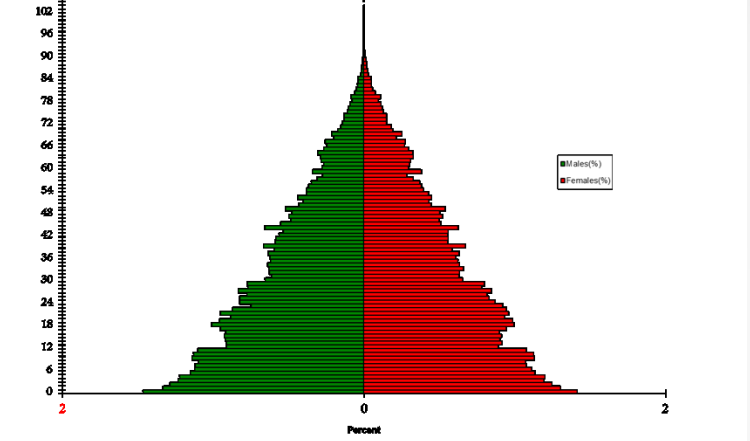
Rural

Population of Danish country parishes 1801 divided after age and sex



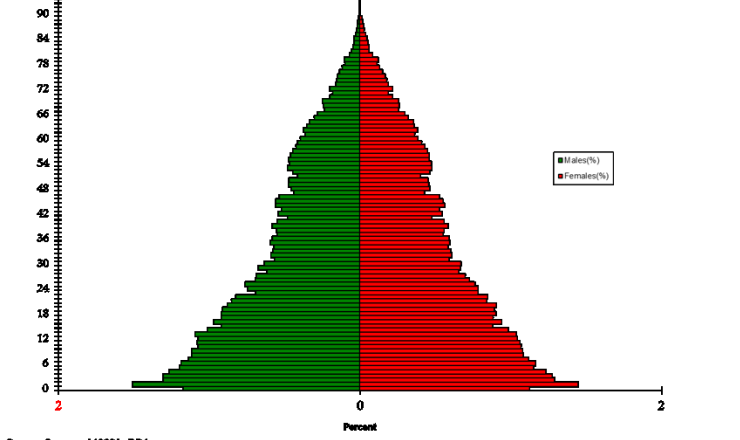
Source: Census of 1801 in DDA
(Age recalculated to modern age)

Rural Population of Denmark 1845 divided after age and sex



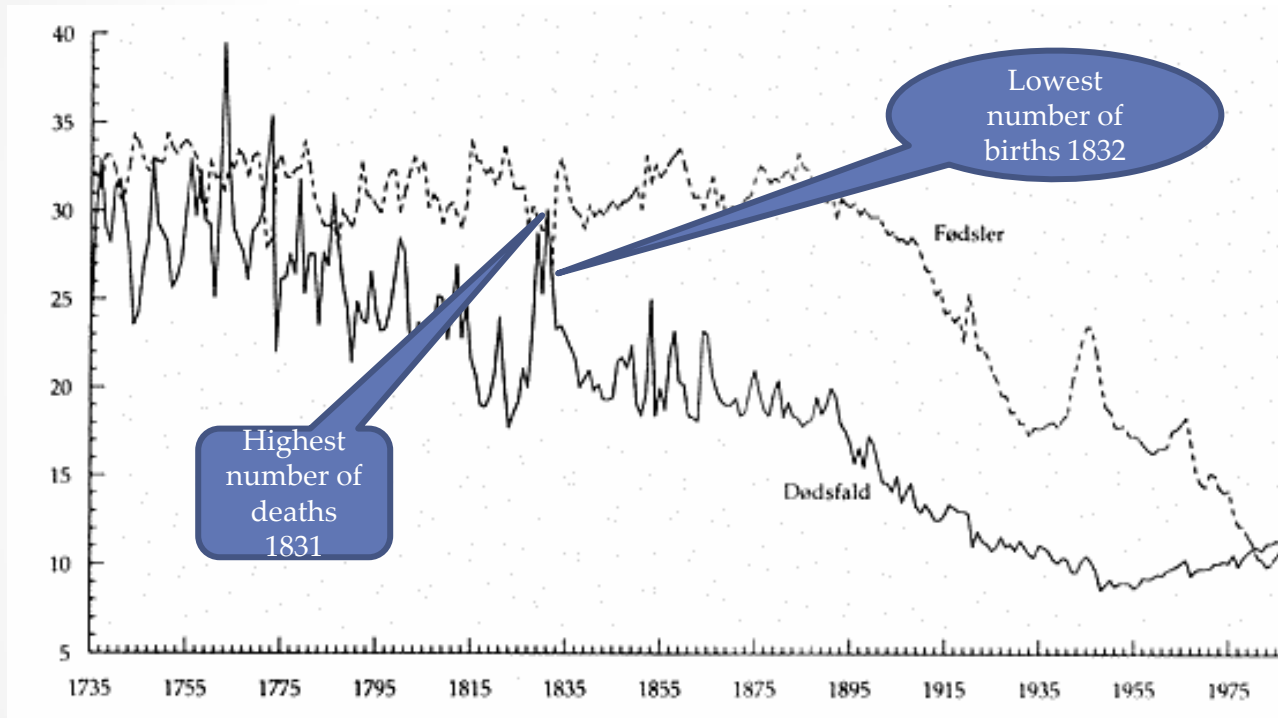
Source: Census of 1845 in DDA
(Age recalculated to modern age)

Rural Population of Denmark 1880 divided after age and sex



Source: Census of 1880 in DDA

Births and deaths 1735 - 1975

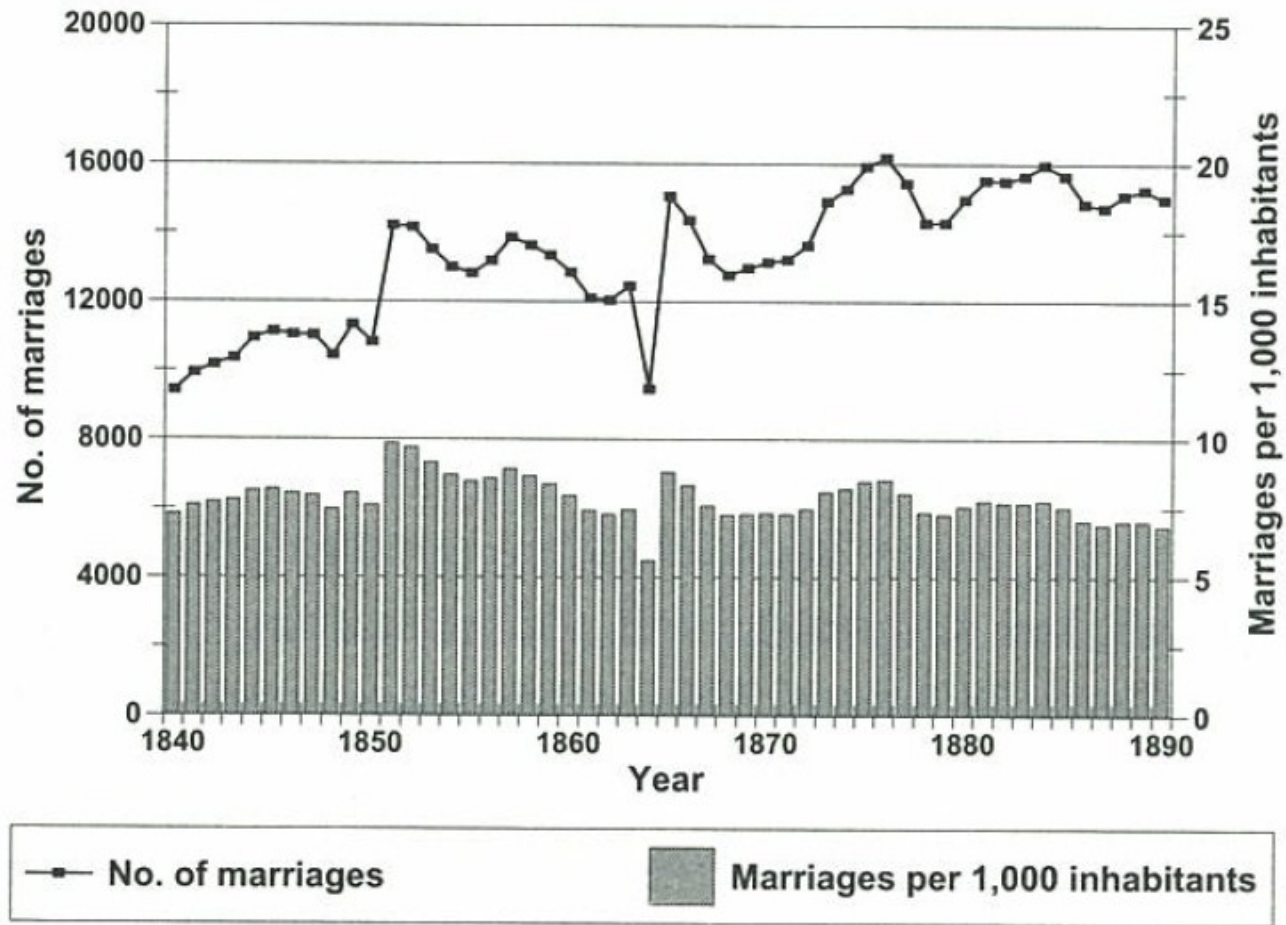


Graph from Hans Chr. Johansen, 1991

Talking about marriage



Nuptiality



Ever married men / age group

	Urban			Rural		
Age group	1801	1845	1880	1801	1845	1880
15-19	0.19	0.05	0.17	0.14	0.08	0.01
20-24	6.16	4.55	11.91	6.85	7.60	8.50
25-29	28.44	25.94	50.33	35.51	40.68	42.58
30-34	53.77	55.96	73.80	70.36	73.08	71.44
35-39	65.37	72.45	80.91	86.50	87.33	83.97
40-44	75.10	78.30	85.61	91.01	91.59	89.01
45-49	79.55	81.48	86.24	94.61	93.29	91.51
50-54	82.91	84.70	87.84	95.40	94.52	92.66
55-59	82.96	84.34	88.72	96.66	94.84	93.98
60-64	85.82	87.17	88.21	96.33	95.58	94.03
65-69	85.92	87.22	89.22	96.99	96.25	94.68
70+	87.77	89.15	89.70	97.63	97.17	95.87

Ever married women / age group

	Urban			Rural		
Age group	1801	1845	1880	1801	1845	1880
15-19	3.61	1.18	3.12	1.10	1.34	1.21
20-24	22.67	13.24	25.63	19.91	19.68	21.17
25-29	48.65	37.59	53.49	58.28	56.51	57.12
30-34	72.46	61.82	68.20	83.02	82.33	76.30
35-39	79.99	71.42	74.53	91.42	90.18	85.12
40-44	85.24	78.63	78.33	94.28	93.44	89.69
45-49	86.81	81.11	80.50	95.83	95.06	91.63
50-54	86.87	84.21	82.12	95.62	95.61	92.58
55-59	86.18	85.66	80.74	96.60	96.18	94.30
60-64	86.90	86.11	79.65	96.34	95.94	93.93
65-69	87.33	86.51	80.09	97.01	96.82	94.62
70+	89.38	88.25	79.88	97.20	97.45	94.86

Age for first marriage

Proportion of unmarried M < 50%

M	1801	1845	1880
Zealand cities	30-34	30-34	25-29
Zealand rural	30-34	30-34	30-34
Other islands urban	30-34	30-34	25-29
Other islands rural	30-34	30-34	30-34
North Jutland cities	30-34	30-34	30-34
North Jutland rural	35-39	30-34	30-34
West Jutland cities	30-34	30-34	30-34
West Jutland rural	30-34	30-34	30-34
East Jutland cities	30-34	30-34	30-34
East Jutland rural	30-34	30-34	30-34

Age for first marriage

Proportion of unmarried F < 50%

F	1801	1845	1880
Zealand cities	30-34	30-34	25-29
Zealand rural	25-29	25-29	25-29
Other islands urban	30-34	30-34	25-29
Other islands rural	25-29	30-34	25-29
North Jutland cities	30-34	30-34	25-29
North Jutland rural	30-34	30-34	25-29
West Jutland cities	30-34	30-34	25-29
West Jutland rural	30-34	30-34	25-29
East Jutland cities	30-34	30-34	25-29
East Jutland rural	25-29	30-34	25-29

Calculated age at first marriage by urbanisation

Urban	1801	1845	1880	1801-1845	1845-1880	1801-1880
M	30.75	30.66	27.57	-0.09	-3.09	-3.18
F	27.21	29.06	26.16	1.85	-2.90	-1.05
M-F	3.54	1.60	1.41			
Rural	1801	1845	1880			
M	29.62	30.03	29.02	0.41	-1.01	-0.60
F	26.59	27.99	27.14	1.40	-0.85	0.55
M-F	3.03	2.04	1.88			

Proportion unmarried age 30-34

	Zealand		Other islands		Northern Jutland		Western Jutland		Eastern Jutland	
M	cities	Rural	Cities	Rural	Cities	Rural	cities	rural	cities	rural
1801	46.23	28.20	39.20	37.96	44.74	52.69	38.98	41.53	46.24	41.72
1845	44.04	29.92	33.74	34.26	31.73	35.02	41.71	35.63	40.94	35.93
1880	26.20	28.56	24.15	30.10	25.87	22.06	31.33	27.42	23.61	26.17

	Zealand		Other islands		Northern Jutland		Western Jutland		Eastern Jutland	
F	cities	rural	cities	rural	Cities	rural	cities	rural	cities	rural
1801	27.54	15.62	34.47	26.72	45.83	37.76	38.70	30.99	31.55	26.69
1845	38.18	17.67	32.49	27.56	30.18	28.63	37.11	30.72	33.17	23.82
1880	31.80	23.70	27.66	25.58	24.58	21.44	29.43	20.03	22,68	19.98

Conclusion

- Marriage age for men influenced by economic conditions
- For women much more stable – almost unchanged economic conditions
- A state of war in 1801
- Economic crisis from 1810's to 1830'es
- Growth in cities through the period
- Growth in industrialisation – especially towards 1880
- Proportion of unmarried compared to calculated age shows a consistent picture
- Many details still need to be investigated

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Questions