Inter-(Immigrant)Generational Mobility

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Mobility & Generations: Foundations

What does it mean for immigrant groups?

- Differences between immigrant generations
  - 1st = immigrants
  - 2nd = children of immigrants
  - 3rd = grandchildren of immigrants
  - Etc.

- This lens of inter-generational analysis ***MUST*** be central to study of mobility

Where does this lens come from?

- Assimilation theories

- Study of late-19th, early 20th, century S. & E. European immigrants
  - Large and compressed wave

- 80+ years of scholarship showed generational changes in:
  - Education
  - Income
  - Residential patterns
 - Intermarriage
  - Identity

Mobility & Generations: Changed Landscape

Regions of Birth for Immigrants in the United States, 1960-Present

This bar chart displays the immigrant population in the United States, between 1960 and 2018, by region of birth. The chart demonstrates the major shift in origins—from mostly European to predominantly Latin American and Asian, and more recently African—that occurred as a result of significant changes in U.S. immigration and refugee laws, the growing U.S. economic and military presence in Asia and Latin America, and economic transformations and political instability in key sending countries.
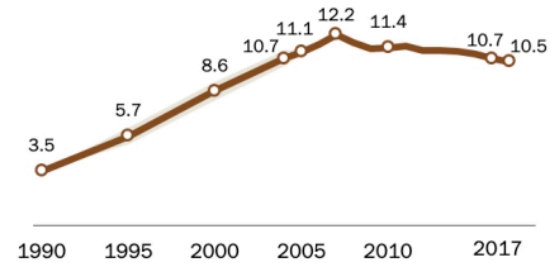

U.S. Immigrant Population by World Region of Birth, 1960-2018
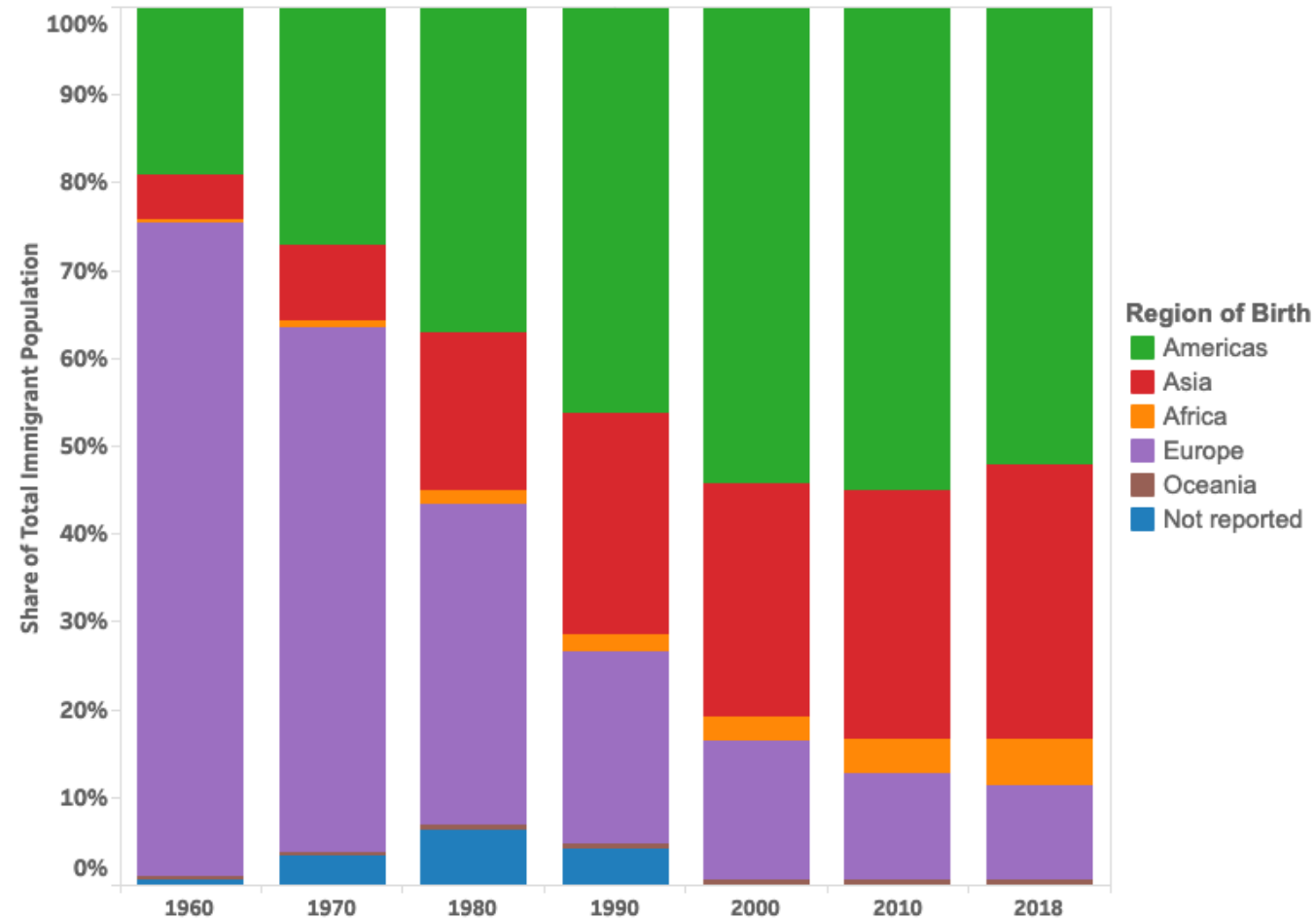
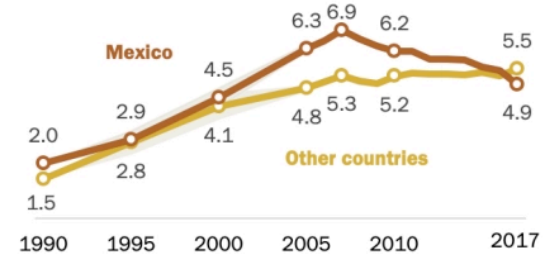# Number of unauthorized immigrants in the U.S. declined over the past decade

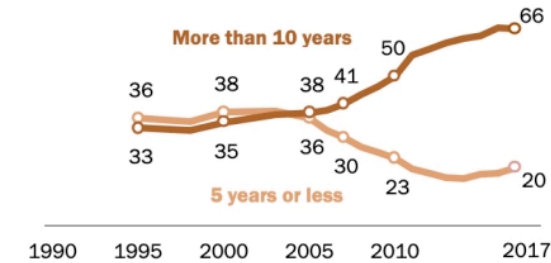## Number of unauthorized immigrants in the U.S. declined over the past decade

In millions

3.5 5.7 8.6 10.7 11.1 12.2 11.4 10.7 10.5

1990   1995   2000   2005   2010   2017

Mexicans are no longer the majority

In millions

Mexico
2.0 2.9 4.5 6.3 6.9 6.2 5.5

Other countries
1.5 2.8 4.1 4.8 5.3 5.2 4.9

1990   1995   2000   2005   2010   2017

Most are now long-term residents

% of adult unauthorized immigrants, by duration of U.S. residence

More than 10 years
36 38 38 41 50 66

5 years or less
33 35 36 30 23 20

1990   1995   2000   2005   2010   2017

Note: Shading shows range of estimated 90% confidence interval.
Source: Pew Research Center estimates based on augmented U.S. Census Bureau data.

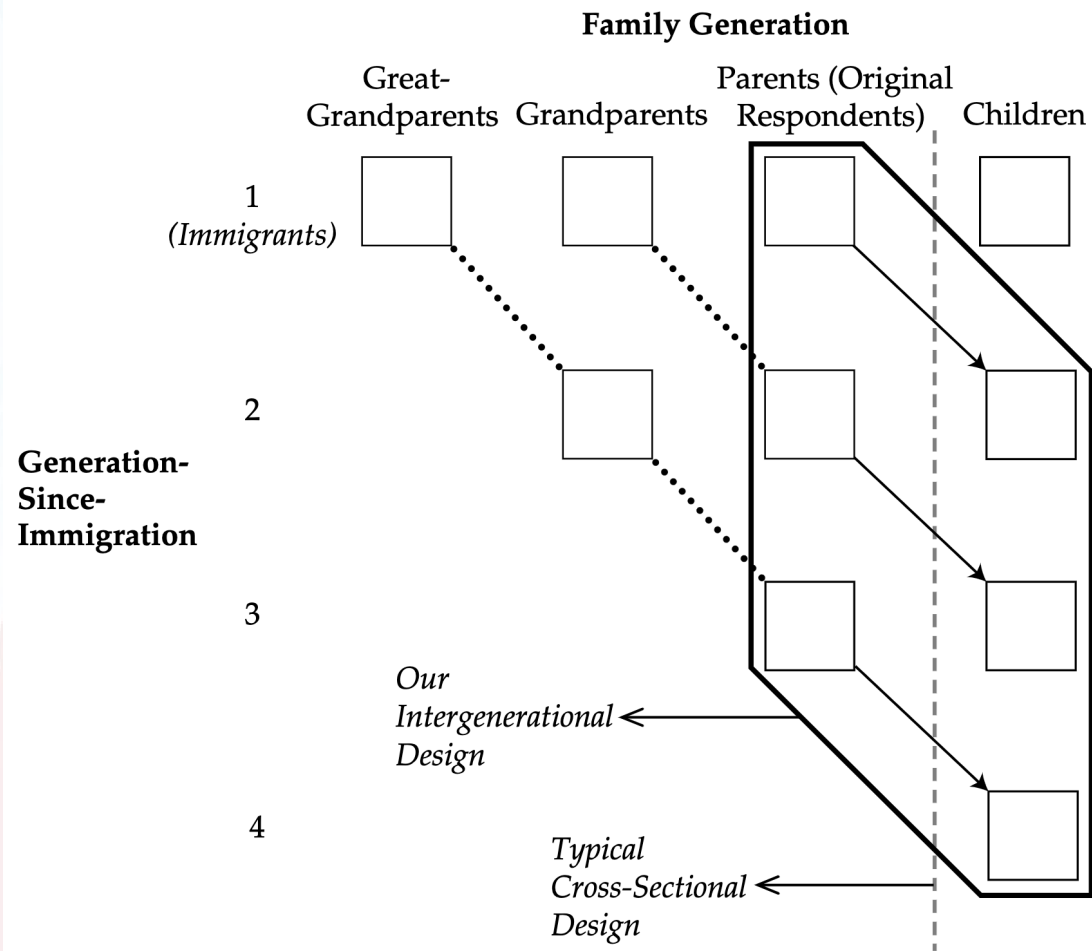**PEW RESEARCH CENTER**
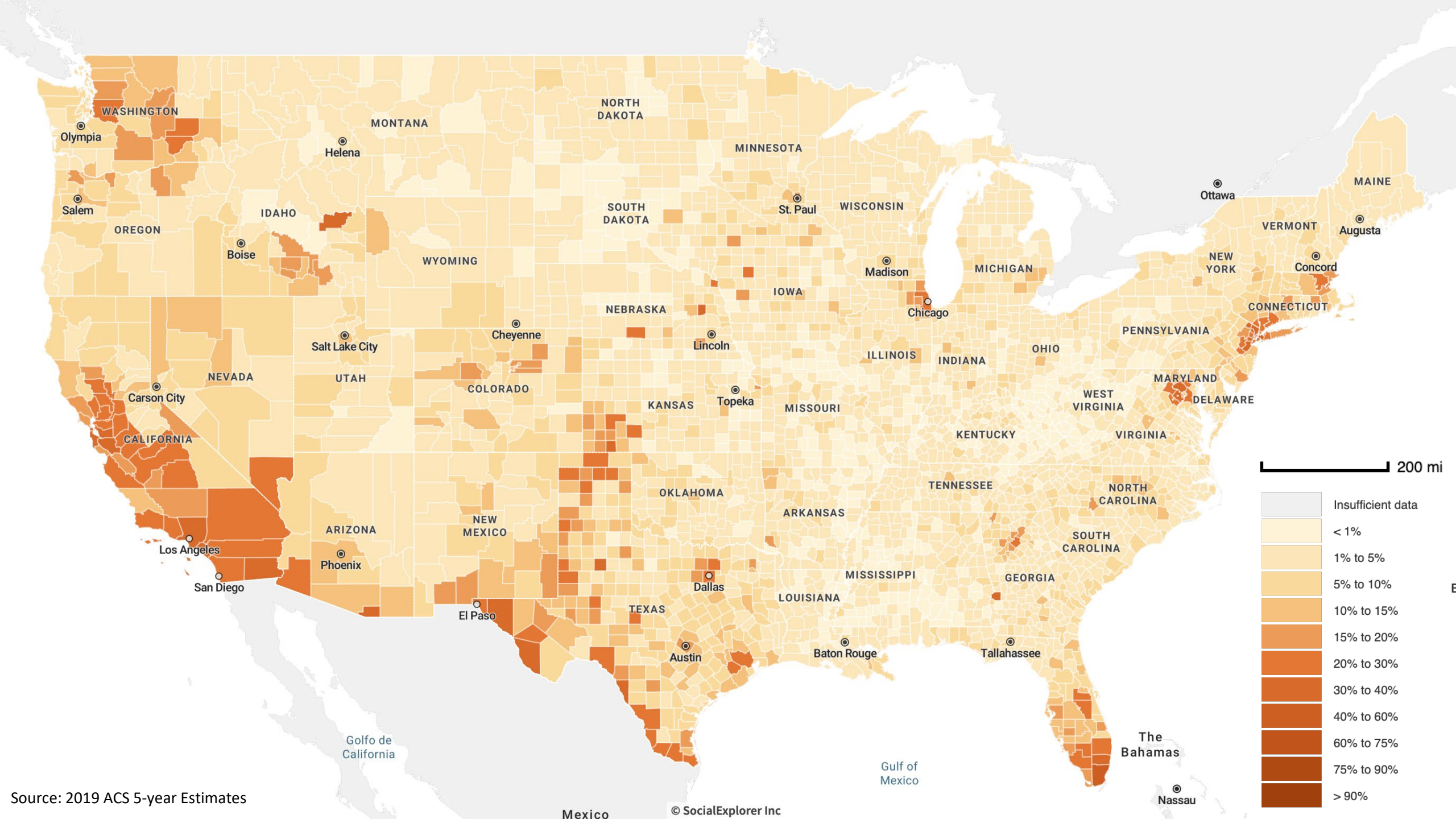
Source: 2019 ACS 5-year Estimates

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Legend:
- Insufficient data
- < 1%
- 1% to 5%
- 5% to 10%
- 10% to 15%
- 15% to 20%
- 20% to 30%
- 30% to 40%
- 40% to 60%
- 60% to 75%
- 75% to 90%
- > 90%
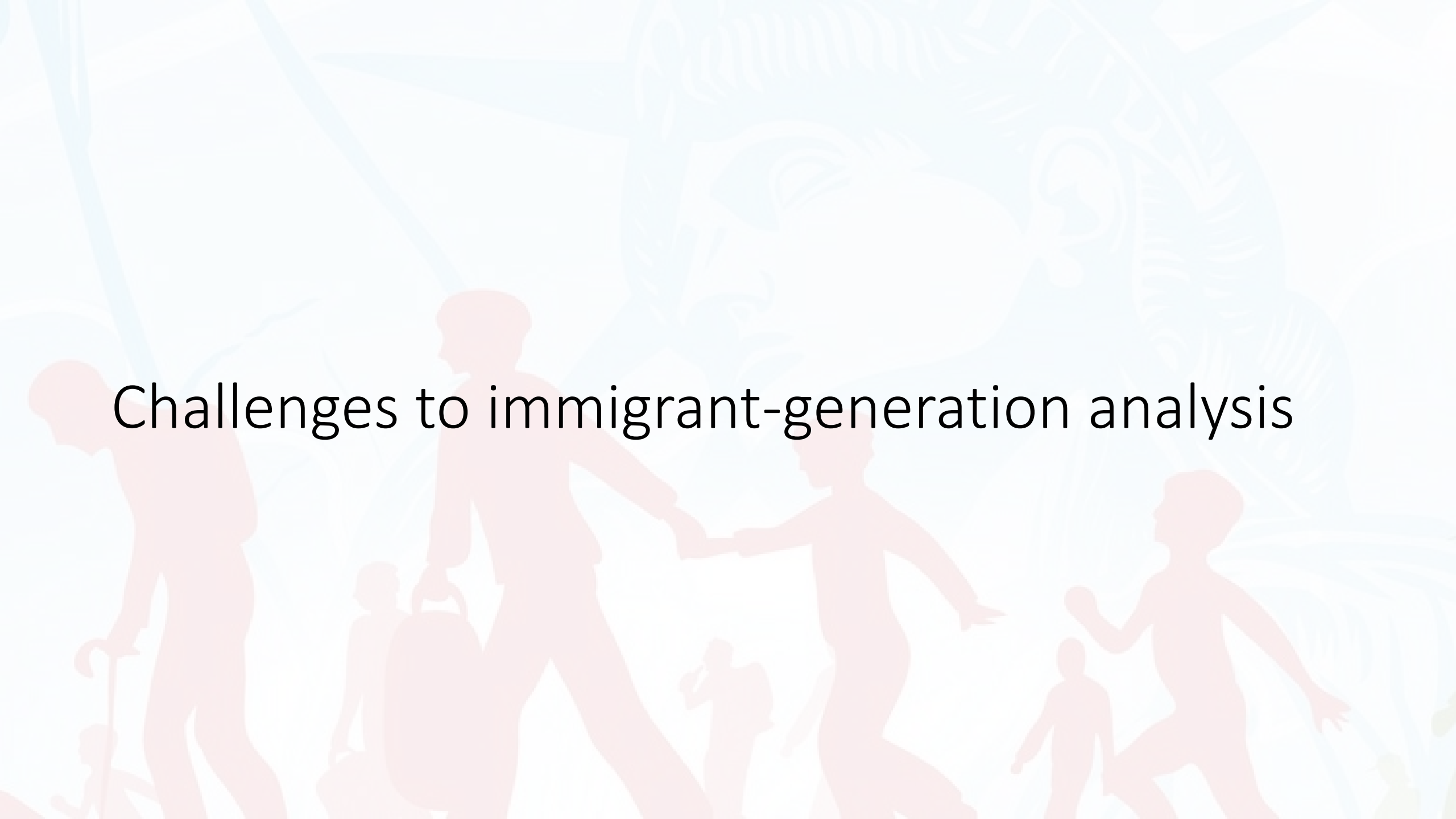
200 mi

What framework do we need?

Figure 3.3   Two Dimensions of Generational Change

Challenges to immigrant-generation analysis

Data challenges

- Lack of large gov't surveys that track immigrant generations

- Exception:
  - Current Population Survey – Parent place of birth
    - Limited: geographic, smaller groups, unique 3rd gen ("3rd+ gen")

- Lack of large non-gov't surveys

Intellectual challenges

- "race" vs. "immigration" scholarship: a false distinction

- Homogenization/essentialization of ethnoracial groups

- assimilation/integration/incorporation: unfashionable ideas

Then immigrant-generation analysis imperative

The "new 3rd generation" is here

- 1990s-early 2000s: studies of adolescent and early adult 2nd generation
  - Waters 1999; Portes & Rumbaut 2001; Kazinitz et al. 2008; Lee and Zhou 2015; Bean, Brown & Bachmeier 2015

- Where are they now?

- How are their 3rd generation children doing?

TABLE 1

HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS FOR THE SECOND GENERATION IN 1980 AND FOR THE THIRD GENERATION IN 2010 (INCLUDES BOTH ONE- AND TWO-PARENT HOUSEHOLDS) BOTH ONE- AND TWO-PARENT HOUSE-HOLDS

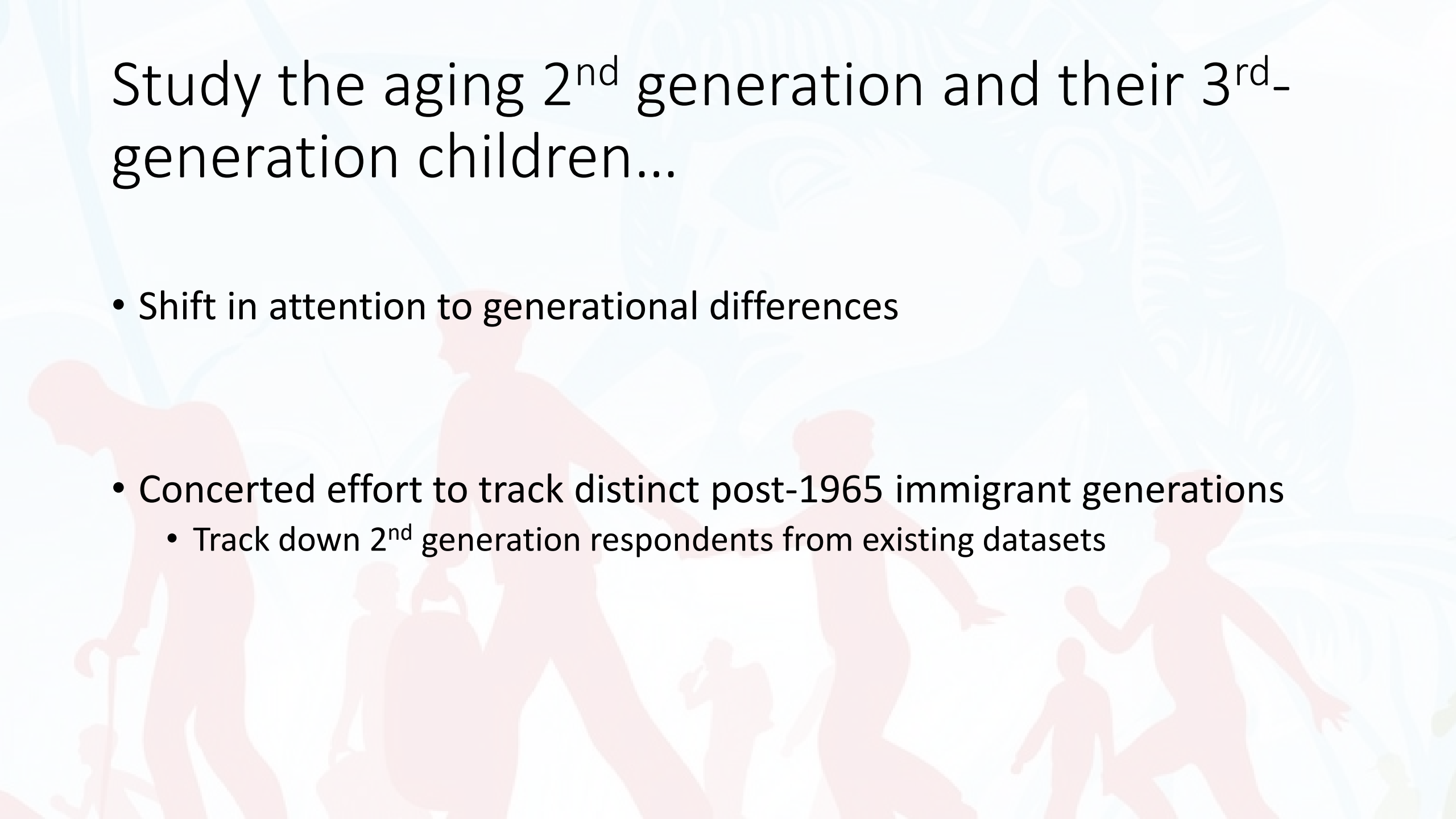|	Hispanic households		Asian, non-Hispanic households	
	2nd Generation (1980)	3rd Generation (2010)	2nd Generation (1980)	3rd Generation (2010)
Two-parent household (%)	75	73	93	88
Age (mean)	7	7	6	7
Under age 10 (%)	65	65	76	69
Head of household age (mean)	37	36	37	39
Family size (mean)	5.2	4.5	4.7	4.4
Number of children (mean)	3.2	2.6	2.4	2.3
Extended family (%)	16.3	9.9	20.6	11.0
Household head with BA+ (%)	6.4	20.2	49.5	55
Unemployed head of household (%)	7.2	7.4	2.3	4.6
Working adults per household (mean)	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.6
Household income (median, 2010 dollars, thousands)	$40	$49	$75	$94
Poverty status (% below poverty line)	32.1	21.9	8.0	7.2
Observations (unweighted)	66,124	6,645	18,425	1,754

Source: Authors' calculations of March Current Population Survey (2008–2013) and 1980 decennial Census. Figures by generation status include one- and two-parent households with children aged 16 and under. Figures are limited to households where head of household is between 25 and 54 years old.

Source: Jiménez, Park, & Pedroza 2018

The Opportunity

Study the aging 2nd generation and their 3rd-generation children…

- Shift in attention to generational differences

- Concerted effort to track distinct post-1965 immigrant generations
  - Track down 2nd generation respondents from existing datasets

Questions/Comments

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Extra slides

TABLE 4
Household Characteristics for the Second Generation in 1980 and for the Third Generation in 2010 Include Only Two-Parent Households

	Hispanic households		Asian, non-Hispanic households		White, non-Hispanic households	
	2nd Generation (1980)	3rd Generation (2010)	2nd Generation (1980)	3rd Generation (2010)	3rd Generation (1980)	4th+ Generation (2010)
Parents are intermarried (%)	7.5	28.5	20.0	62.0	3.1	9.3
Age (mean)	7	7	6	7	8	8
Under age 10 (%)	69	67	78	70	55	58
Head of household age (mean)	37	36	38	39	37	39
Family size (mean)	5.5	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.7	4.6
Number of children (mean)	3.2	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.7	2.5
Extended family (%)	16.9	8.1	20.6	9.6	4.0	3.5
Fathers with BA+ (%)	7.7	21.8	51.4	56.3	24.7	42.3
Mothers with BA+ (%)	4.6	24.8	40.7	57.7	14.0	44.8
Unemployed head of household (%)	6.3	6.3	2.1	4.1	3.5	4.7
Working adults per household (mean)	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.6
Household income (median, 2010 dollars, thousands)	$48	$58	$78	$100	$70	$87
Poverty status (% below poverty line)	20.8	13.9	6.0	5.4	6.2	5.0
Observations (unweighted)	49,404	4,890	17,130	1,532	1,616,394	66,707

Source: Authors' calculations of March Current Population Survey (2008–2013) and 1980 decennial Census. Figures by generation status limited to two-parent households with children aged 16 and under. Figures are limited to households where head of household is between 25 and 54 years old.

TABLE 6
RACIAL/ETHNIC IDENTIFICATION OF CHILDREN IN INTERMARRIED HOUSEHOLDS BY GENERATION

One Hispanic parent	Child racial/Ethnic identification			Share of Couples
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic		
1980				
Intermarried Hispanics	62.2%	37.8%	100%	
Mother, Hispanic	59.8%	40.2%	100%	61.6%
Father, Hispanic	65.9%	34.1%	100%	38.4%
2010				
Intermarried Hispanics	75.6%	24.4%	100%	
Mother, Hispanic	74.2%	25.8%	100%	49.4%
Father, Hispanic	76.9%	23.1%	100%	50.6%

One Asian parent	Asian[a]	Non-Asian		Shared of couples
1980				
Intermarried Asians	44.4%	55.6%	100%	
Mother, Asian	44.6%	55.4%	100%	83.1%
Father, Asian	43.7%	56.3%	100%	16.9%
2010				
Intermarried Asians	81.9%	18.1%	100%	
Mother, Asian	82.9%	17.1%	100%	68.1%
Father, Asian	79.6%	20.4%	100%	31.9%

Source: Authors' calculations of March Current Population Survey (2008–2013) and 1980 decennial Census. Notes: [a]Including those who were identified as Asian only and as Asian in combination with one or more other races.