
The Size, Place of Birth, and Geographic Distribution of the Foreign-Born Population in the United States: 1960 to 2010

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Abstract

During the last 50 years, the foreign-born population of the United States has undergone dramatic changes, shifting from an older, predominantly European population settled in the Northeast and Midwest to a younger, predominantly Latin American and Asian population settled in the West and South. This paper uses data from the 1960 to 2000 decennial censuses and the 2010 American Community Survey to describe changes in the size, origins, and geographic distribution of the foreign-born population. First, the historic growth of the foreign-born population is reviewed. Next, changes in the distribution by place of birth are discussed, focusing on the simultaneous decline of the foreign born from Europe and increase from Latin America and Asia. The geographic distribution among the states and regions within the United States will then be reviewed. The median age and age distribution for the period will also be discussed. This paper will conclude with a brief analysis of how the foreign-born population has contributed to the growth of the total population over the last 50 years.

Introduction

During the last 50 years, the foreign-born population of the United States has undergone dramatic changes in size, origins, and geographic distribution.¹ Representing about 1 in 20 residents in 1960 – mostly from countries in Europe who settled in the Northeast and Midwest – today’s foreign-born population make up about 1 in 8 U.S. residents, composed mostly of immigrants from countries in Latin America and Asia who have settled in the West and South.² This transformation was triggered, at least in part, by U.S. immigration policy implemented after 1960.

New waves of immigrants began arriving in the United States following amendments to the Immigration Act in 1965 that abolished the national origins quota system, resulting in a shift away from traditional source countries to a greater diversity in the origins of the foreign born (CBO 2006; Vialet 1991). Unlike during the great migration of the late 1800s and early 1900s, when the majority of immigrants to the United States came from countries in Europe, most of the immigrants who arrived after 1970 were from countries in Latin America and Asia (Grieco 2009; Grieco and Trevelyan 2010; Walters and Cortes 2010). In addition to abolishing national quotas, the new law established a categorical preference system, placing priority on family reunification, attracting needed skills, and refugees, and expanded the categories of family members who could enter without numerical limit (CBO 2006; Vialet 1991). The 1965 Act also restricted Eastern Hemisphere immigration to 170,000 and Western Hemisphere immigration to 150,000, but legislation enacted in 1978 combined the separate limits into a single annual worldwide ceiling of 290,000. In the 1980s and 1990s, growth in the foreign-born population was further augmented by the Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) of 1986, which legalized approximately 2.7 million immigrants residing illegally in the United States, and the Immigration Act of 1990, which increased the worldwide immigration ceiling to a “flexible” cap of 675,000

¹ The foreign-born population includes anyone who was not a U.S. citizen at birth, including those who have become U.S. citizens through naturalization. Conversely, the native-born population includes anyone who is a U.S. citizen at birth. Respondents who were born in the United States, Puerto Rico, a U.S. Island Area (U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), or abroad of a U.S. citizen parent or parents, are defined as native. In this paper, the terms “native” and “native born” are used interchangeably.

² Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this report were derived from the 1960 through 2000 decennial censuses, as presented by Gibson and Jung (2006), and the 2010 American Community Survey 1-year estimates.

per year (Rytina 2002; Vialet 1991).³ Over the last four decades, the foreign-born population has continued to increase in size and as a percentage of the total U.S. population.

While not a direct result of immigration policy, the geographic distribution of the foreign-born population has also exhibited notable changes. In 1970, when the number of foreign born reached its lowest point in the 20th century, the majority of states had *less than 5* percent foreign born in their total populations. Over two-thirds of the foreign-born population lived in the Northeast and Midwest regions of the country.⁴ As the nation's foreign-born population increased throughout the 1980s and 1990s, the greatest proportion resided in the “gateway” states of California, New York, Texas, and Florida, but there is evidence to suggest that by 2000 more had settled in nontraditional destinations, such as North Carolina, Georgia, and Nevada (Singer 2004). By 2010, most states had *at least 5* percent foreign born in their total populations, and over two-thirds of the foreign born lived in the West and South.⁵ As the foreign-born population increased and dispersed geographically, most of the United States – including places with little recent history of immigration – experienced a greater immigrant presence.

The foreign-born population in the United States has undergone considerable transformation during the last 50 years. The purpose of this report is to describe in some detail changes in the size, origins, and geographic distribution that have occurred between 1960 and 2010. This paper begins by reviewing the historical growth of the foreign-born population, discussing the number of foreign born and the proportion of the total population they have represented through time. Next, broad shifts in the regions of origin will be reviewed, focusing on the simultaneous decline of the foreign born from Europe and increase from Latin America and Asia. Changes in the number of foreign born from specific source countries, such as Mexico, will also be discussed. The geographic distribution of the foreign-born population among the regions within the United

³ The cap is “flexible” because it can exceed 675,000 in any year when unused visas from the family-sponsored and employment-based categories are available from the previous year. If only 625,000 people were admitted during the year, for example, the cap would be raised to 725,000 the following year.

⁴ The Northeast region includes the states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont. The Midwest region includes the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

⁵ The West region includes the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. The South region includes the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia and the District of Columbia.

States – Northeast, Midwest, South, and West – will then be reviewed, as will changes in the distribution among the states. The median age and age distribution of the foreign-born population will also be presented. This paper will conclude with a brief analysis of the role the growth in the foreign-born population has played in the increase in the total population of the United States over the last 50 years.

Historical Trends in the Size of the Foreign-Born Population

In 1960, there were 9.7 million foreign born in the United States, representing 5.4 percent of the total resident population (see Figure 1). Between 1960 and 1970, the size of the foreign-born population declined to 9.6 million – or about 4.7 percent of the total population – and marked the end of a period of continuous decline that began in the 1930s. During the next four decades, the foreign-born population increased in size and as a percent of the total population: from 14.1 million (or 6.2 percent) in 1980 to 40.0 million (or 12.9 percent) in 2010. While the number of foreign born in 2010 represented a historical high, the proportion of the total population was lower than during the great migration wave of the later 1800s to early 1900s, when it fluctuated between 13 and 15 percent. Between 1910 and 1930, the foreign-born population ranged from 13.5 to 14.2 million, then experienced continual decline until 1970, when it reached its lowest number in the 20th century. By comparison, between 1970 and 2010, the foreign-born population experienced continual growth, increasing to its current historical high.⁶

Changes in the Origins of the Foreign-Born Population

Perhaps more notable than the growth in the foreign-born population is the change in distribution of origin countries over time. During the 1960 to 2010 period, the number of foreign born from Latin America and Asia grew rapidly, while the number from Europe declined then remained relatively stable. In 1960, there were fewer than 1 million foreign born from Latin America, but by 2010, there were 21.2 million (see Figure 2). For the foreign born from Asia, there were fewer

⁶ According to Gibson and Jung (2006), the data on the total foreign-born population of the United States are generally comparable from 1850 to 2000. Since 1890, however, individuals who were born in a foreign country but had a least one parent who was an American citizen have been defined as native rather than foreign born. For additional information, see U.S. Census Bureau (2002a).

than one-half million in 1960, but by 2010 there were 11.3 million. By comparison, the foreign-born population from Europe declined from 7.3 million in 1960 to 5.1 million in 1980, then ranged between 4 and 5 million from 1990 to 2010.

When compared with the change in the number of foreign born from Europe, Latin America, and Asia, change in the proportional distribution among the regions of origin is more dramatic. In 1960, 75 percent of the foreign-born population was born in Europe (see Figure 3). In 1980, 39 percent were born in Europe, while over half (52 percent) were born in Latin America or Asia. By 2010, more than 80 percent of the foreign-born population were born in either Latin America or Asia, with over half (53 percent) from Latin America alone.

Another significant trend in the shift in origins since 1960 has been the increase in the foreign born from Central America.⁷ In 1960, the foreign born from Central America represented 6 percent of the total foreign-born population (see Figure 4). By 2010, they represented 37 percent of the total foreign born. This growth was fueled primarily by immigration from a single source country: Mexico. While the decline in the size of the foreign-born population from Europe after 1960 was notable, the growth in the foreign-born population from Mexico during this 50-year period was equally remarkable. In 1960, there were about 576,000 foreign born from Mexico residing in the United States; by 1980, there were 2.2 million; and by 2010, there were 11.7 million (see Table 1). The greatest change occurred between 1970 and 2000, when the number of foreign born from Mexico increased rapidly, nearly tripling in size between 1970 and 1980, nearly doubling in size between 1980 and 1990, and more than doubling again between 1990 and 2000.

Perhaps more important than the increase in the number of foreign born from Mexico, however, is the increased proportion this population represents of the total foreign born. In 1960, the foreign born from Mexico represented just under 6 percent of the total foreign-born population; by 1980, about 16 percent; and by 2010, 29 percent. Not since the late 1800s and early 1900s has any one country-of-origin group represented such a high proportion of the total foreign-born

⁷ Central America includes the countries of Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Panama.

population: for example, between 1870 and 1900, the foreign born from Germany represented between 26 percent and 30 percent of the total foreign-born population, while the foreign born from Ireland represented between 16 percent and 33 percent.⁸ However, for a single place-of-birth group, the number of foreign born from Mexico in 2010 does represent a historical high.

Unlike immigration from Latin America, movement from Asia to the United States has not been dominated by a single sub-region or country of birth but has been more evenly distributed among several groups. Since 1960, the foreign-born populations from China (including Hong Kong and Taiwan), India, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Korea have increased steadily, each reaching 1.0 million or more by 2010. Combined, these five country-of-birth groups represented 71 percent of the Asian foreign born and about 20 percent of the total foreign born. At 2.2 million, the foreign born from China was the largest of these groups, comprising about 19 percent of the foreign born from Asia and 5 percent of the total foreign-born.

Although the foreign-born population from countries in Africa remained relatively small, it has continued to increase, from about 35,000 in 1960 to about 1.6 million in 2010. As a percentage of the total foreign-born population, the foreign born from Africa represented less than one percent in 1960, 1.5 percent in 1980, and 4.0 percent in 2010. African countries in 2010 with foreign-born populations in the United States estimated to be more than 100,000 included Nigeria, Ethiopia, Egypt, and Ghana. However, as a percentage of the total population, the foreign born from Africa represented less than 1 percent in 2010.

The foreign born from Mexico has remained the largest country-of-birth group over the last 30 years (see Table 1). By comparison, in 1960 and 1970, the foreign born from Italy, Germany, and Canada represented the three largest groups. After 1970, however, the size of some of the European country-of-birth groups began to decline. For example, 1.3 million foreign born from Italy in 1960 declined to 832,000 by 1980 and 365,000 by 2010; 990,000 foreign born from Germany in 1960 declined to 849,000 by 1980 and 605,000 by 2010. Other European countries, such as Ireland, Austria, and Hungary, exhibited a similar pattern of decline, while the United Kingdom and Poland declined early in the period then remained at about the same size. For

⁸ See Gibson and Jung (2006), table 4.

example, the size of the foreign-born population from the United Kingdom declined from 833,000 in 1960 to 669,000 in 1980 then ranged from about 640,000 to about 678,000. The size of the foreign born from Canada demonstrated a similar pattern of decline then stabilization.

When these changes in origin country distribution since 1960 are viewed as a whole, another trend emerges: as the number of foreign born increased through time, fewer and fewer countries of birth represented more than 5 percent of the total foreign-born population. In 1960, there were seven countries representing 5 percent or more, including Italy, Germany, Canada, the United Kingdom, Poland, the Soviet Union, and Mexico. By 1980, there were four: Mexico, Germany, Canada, and Italy. Paradoxically, as the number of foreign born continued to increase after 1980 and the regions of origins shifted to include more countries in Latin America and Asia, the foreign born became proportionally concentrated into fewer country-of-birth groups. In 1990 and 2000, only Mexico represented at least 5 percent of the foreign born. By 2010, there were two countries: Mexico and China. Over 1 in 3 foreign born came from either Mexico or China in 2010, while over 1 in 4 came from Mexico alone.

The Geographic Distribution of the Foreign-Born Population

Between 1960 and 1970, the size of the foreign-born population residing in the United States declined, from 9.7 million to 9.6 million. Of the four regions of the country – Northeast, Midwest, West and South – only the Northeast and Midwest experienced declines in their foreign-born populations during this decade, driving the national trend, while the West and South grew (see Figure 5). Despite the decline experienced over the decade, by 1970, the Northeast remained the region with the largest number of foreign born; however, the West had surpassed the Midwest as the region with the second largest foreign-born population.

Between 1970 and 2010, the foreign-born populations of all regions increased.⁹ By 1980, the West had surpassed the Northeast as the region with the greatest number of foreign born, and the South exceeded the Midwest as the region with the third largest foreign-born population. By 2000, the number of foreign born in the West was greater than both the Northeast and Midwest

⁹ For the Midwest, the size of the foreign-born population for 1980 and 1990 are not statistically different.

combined, while the South had a larger foreign-born population than the Northeast. As of 2010, there were 14.1 million foreign born in the West, 12.7 million in the South, 8.6 million in the Northeast, and 4.5 million in the Midwest. Since 1990, the South has experienced the greatest numeric growth in its total foreign-born population, growing by at least 4 million between 1990 and 2000 and again between 2000 and 2010.

Over the last 50 years, the distribution of the foreign-born population has shifted from the Northeast and Midwest regions of the country to the West and South. In 1960, over two-thirds of the foreign-born population lived in either the Northeast (47 percent) or the Midwest (23 percent) (see Figure 6). Throughout this period, the proportion of foreign born residing in these two regions continued to decline, dropping by more than one half. By 2010, about 33 percent of the foreign-born population lived in the Northeast (22 percent) and Midwest (11 percent). By comparison, the proportion residing in the West and South regions more than doubled, from 30 percent in 1960 to 67 percent in 2010. The proportion of the foreign-born population residing in the West increased from about 20 percent in 1960 to 40 percent in 1990, declining to 35 percent by 2010. The South was the only region that exhibited a continuous increase in its proportion of foreign born, tripling from about 10 percent in 1960 to 32 percent in 2010.¹⁰

Distribution of the Foreign-Born Population by Geographic Region and Country of Birth

The size, origins, and geographic distribution of the foreign-born population have changed considerably since 1960. As the number of foreign born increased, especially after 1970, the geographic distribution of the foreign born moved from the Northeast and Midwest to the West and South. At the same time, the leading immigrant source countries shifted from Europe to Latin America and Asia. In general, this pattern of change in the distribution of source countries

¹⁰ From 1960 to 2010, the foreign-born population of the five boroughs of New York City (Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, and Staten Island) consistently represented over two-thirds of the foreign-born population of the state of New York (ranging between 68 percent and 74 percent) and over one-third of the foreign-born population in the Northeast (ranging between 34 percent and 40 percent). However, while the number of foreign born in New York City doubled in size during this period, increasing from 1.5 million in 1960 to 3 million in 2010, it represented an increasingly smaller share of the total foreign-born population, declining from 16 percent in 1960 to about 8 percent in 2010.

can be seen within each geographic region of the United States, although the timing and the particular countries of birth represented does vary.

Between 1960 and 1990, Italy was the largest foreign-born group in the Northeast (see Table 2), followed by other countries from Europe – such as Poland, Germany, and the United Kingdom – and Canada. Starting in 1990, the foreign born from countries in the Caribbean and Asia – including the Dominican Republic, China, India, and Jamaica – were among the largest groups. Unlike all other geographic regions in the United States, the Northeast is notable for its diversity of foreign born: no single country-of-birth group has represented more than 10 percent of the foreign-born population since 1980.

In the Midwest, the foreign-born from Europe – including Germany, Poland, Italy, and the United Kingdom – and Canada were among the largest foreign-born groups between 1960 and 2000. During this period, Germany represented the largest single country-of-birth group in 1960 (13 percent) and 1970 (12 percent). However, by 1980, the foreign born from Mexico was the largest group, with 10 percent of the foreign-born population. This proportion increased over the next 30 years, reaching 30 percent in 2010. Since 1980, no other country-of-birth group besides Mexico has represented more than 10 percent of the foreign-born population in the Midwest.

There was little change in the distribution of the foreign-born population in the South between 1960 and 1990. Mexico, Cuba, Germany, the United Kingdom, and Canada remained among the largest groups throughout this 30-year period. Since 2000, about one-third of the foreign born in the South has been from Mexico, with all other countries representing less than 10 percent each, including Cuba, India, El Salvador, and Vietnam.

In the West, the foreign born from Mexico has remained the dominant group over the last 50 years, increasing from 16 percent in 1960 to 42 percent by 2010. The foreign born from Canada and the United Kingdom were also among the largest groups in 1960, 1970, and 1980. Since 1970, only Mexico has exceeded 10 percent of the regional total. Other large groups in the West since 1990 include the Philippines, China, Vietnam, and El Salvador.

Distribution and Growth of the Foreign-Born Population by State

Since 1960, two states – California and New York – have had the largest foreign-born populations among all other states and represented the largest share of the total foreign born (see Table 3).¹¹ New York had the largest number of foreign born until 1970 but by 1980 was surpassed by California, which has remained the state with the largest foreign-born population through 2010. Today, over one-fourth of the total foreign-born population lives in the state of California alone.

During the decades between 1960 and 1990, the foreign-born populations of seven states, including Michigan, Montana, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, and Wisconsin, continuously declined in size (see Appendix A). By comparison, 20 states experienced continuous increases in their foreign-born population during these three decades, and 19 were located in either the South or West.¹² Over the next two decades – 1990 through 2010 – the number of foreign born in *every* state and the District of Columbia increased. The six states that experienced the greatest growth in number of foreign born between 2000 and 2010 included California, Texas, Florida, New York, New Jersey, and Georgia.

The Foreign Born as a Percent of State Population

As the foreign-born population increased in size and dispersed geographically, most states – including those with little recent immigrant history – experienced a greater immigrant presence. Figures 7 through 12 show the foreign born as a percent of the state population from 1960 to 2010.¹³

¹¹ In this paper, the term *states* refers to the 50 states plus the District of Columbia.

¹² The states where the foreign-born populations continually increased in size between 1960 to 1970, 1970 to 1980, and 1980 to 1990 included: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maryland, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

¹³ Note that all of the maps showing the foreign-born as a percent of the state population from 1960 to 2010 (Figures 7 through 12) use the same scale.

In 1960, the populations of two-thirds of all states included less than 5 percent foreign born (see Figure 7). Six states (New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Hawaii) had 10 percent or more foreign born in their total populations, but no state in 1960 had 15 percent or more foreign born. In 1970, when the number of foreign born reached its lowest point in the 20th century, 80 percent of all states had less than 5 percent foreign born (see Figure 8). New York, with 12 percent, was the state with the highest percent foreign born in its total population.

By 1980, most states still had relatively small foreign-born populations, but the proportion of foreign born in several states in the West and South increased to above 5 percent (see Figure 9). California replaced New York as the state with the highest percent foreign born. By 1990, 22 percent of California's population and 16 percent of New York's population was foreign born (see Figure 10). However, less than two-thirds of all states, especially those in the Midwest and South, remained at less than 5 percent foreign born in their total populations.

Between 1990 and 2000, the foreign-born population of the United States grew by 11.3 million persons, representing the largest numeric increase of any decade in U.S. history. By 2000, over half of all states included 5 percent or more foreign born in their total populations, with six states including 15 percent or more (see Figure 11). Between 2000 and 2010, the foreign-born population increased by an additional 8.8 million persons. By 2010, the foreign-born population represented more than 5 percent in about two-thirds of all states (see Figure 12). There were eight states with 15 percent or more foreign born in their total populations, including California, New York, New Jersey, Florida, Nevada, Hawaii, Texas, and Massachusetts.

The Foreign-Born as a Percent of the County Population: 2010

In 2010, the foreign-born population represented 12.9 percent of the national population. There were 13 states where the foreign-born population represented a greater share of the state population than the national average, including California (27 percent), New York (22 percent), New Jersey (21 percent), Florida (19 percent), Nevada (19 percent), Hawaii (18 percent), and

Texas (16 percent).¹⁴ These were also the states where, in general, counties with the highest proportion foreign born were concentrated (see Figure 13).

There were 3,143 counties in the United States in 2010, including 2,425 with a population of 10,000 or more. Of these 2,425 counties, there were 146 where the foreign-born population represented more than 12.9 percent of the county population, including 30 where the foreign born comprised more than one-fourth and 9 where the foreign born comprised more than one-third of the population. Most of these counties were in the states of California (33 counties), Texas (23 counties), Florida (13 counties), New Jersey (10 counties), New York (9 counties), and Virginia (8 counties). There was only one county – Miami-Dade County, Florida – where the foreign born comprised more than half (52 percent) of the total population. Additional counties with a population of at least 10,000 and a percent foreign born greater than one-third included: Queens County, New York; Hudson County, New Jersey; Kings County (Brooklyn), New York; Santa Clara County, California; San Francisco County, California; Los Angeles County, California; San Mateo County, California; and Bronx County, New York.

The Foreign-Born Population by Age

Over the past 50 years, the foreign-born population has become, in general, a younger population. This was especially true between 1960 and 1990, when the median age of the foreign-born population declined from 57 years in 1960 to 37 years in 1990 (see Figure 14). This decline in median age reflects the shift over time to a greater proportion of foreign born in the younger age groups. In 1960, over half (55 percent) of all foreign born were aged 55 and over, but by 2000, 20 percent were in this age category. In addition, the proportion of foreign born between the ages of 18 and 54 continuously increased from 39 percent in 1960 to 70 percent in 2000. Also notable during this period was the change in the proportion of foreign born under 18, which nearly doubled from 6.4 percent in 1960 to 12.2 percent in 1980, declining to and remaining at about 10 percent through 2000. In contrast to this 40 year trend, the foreign-born population actually aged between 2000 and 2010, as demonstrated by the increase in the median age to 41.4 years and the increase in the proportion aged 55 and over to 25 percent.

¹⁴ The estimates for Nevada and Hawaii are not statistically different.

When the age distribution of the foreign born from Europe is compared with that of the foreign born from Latin America and Asia, there are considerable differences. For the last 50 years, while the foreign born from Europe has become increasingly juvenescent, it has remained a population older than either the foreign born from Latin America or Asia, with a higher median age and greater proportion in the older ages. The average difference between the median age of the foreign born from Latin America and the foreign born from Europe for the entire period was about 20 years, ranging from about 13 years to about 26 years. By comparison, the difference in the median age between the foreign born from Latin America and the foreign born from Asia ranged from about the same to about 5 years younger. Also throughout the period, the proportion of the foreign-born population from Latin American and Asia who were under age 55 was considerably higher than the proportion of the foreign-born population from Europe. By 2010, 81 percent of the foreign born from Latin America and 73 percent of the foreign born from Asia were under age 55 compared with 55 percent of the foreign born from Europe.

In general, between 1960 and 2010, the foreign born as a whole became a younger population. While the median age did increase after 2000, reaching 41 years in 2010, it has yet to return to the levels seen in 1960 and 1970, when more than half of all foreign born were older than 50 years of age. The juvenescence after 1960 was due, in part, to the death of older foreign born, especially those from Europe, who had immigrated to the United States in the decades before 1950.¹⁵ Even as the proportion of younger European immigrants grew through time, the foreign born from Europe remained an older population, especially relative to the foreign born from Latin America and Asia, and represented an increasingly diminishing share of the total foreign born. By comparison, the foreign born from Latin America became a younger population, with higher proportions in the younger age groups, and grew to represent over half of all foreign born. Although the pattern of aging was different for the foreign-born population from Asia, it remained younger than the foreign born from Europe and, like Latin America, represented an increasing share of the total foreign born through time. Thus, the increasing juvenescence of the

¹⁵ The decline in the number of foreign born from Europe was also due, in part, to emigration. Unfortunately, data on the emigration/return migration of the foreign born to their countries of origin does not exist.

foreign-born population, especially after 1970, is attributable in large part to the shift over time to a greater proportion of younger immigrants from Latin America and Asia.

Conclusion: The Foreign Born and the Growth of the U.S. Population

During the last 50 years, the foreign-born population of the United States has undergone dramatic changes, shifting from an older, predominantly European population settled in the Northeast and Midwest to a younger, predominantly Latin American and Asian population settled in the West and South. These qualitative changes occurred simultaneously with a quantitative growth in the total number of foreign born. In 1960, there were 9.7 million foreign born in the United States, representing 5 percent of the total population. By 2010, the population had grown to 40 million, representing about 13 percent of the total population.

As the foreign-born population increased, the native-born population grew as well, from 169.6 million in 1960 to 269.4 million in 2010. One important difference between the patterns of growth in the two populations is the rate of change throughout the period, which was higher for the foreign-born population. Between 1960 and 2010, the foreign-born population increased by 310 percent, or by about an average of 34 percent per decade, while the native-born population increased by 59 percent, or on average about 10 percent per decade. Recall that the number of foreign born in the United States actually *declined* between 1960 and 1970, so the percent change was higher for the 40-year period between 1970 and 2010: 315 percent, or by an average of about 43 percent per decade. By comparison, the native-born population increased by 39 percent between 1970 and 2010, or by about 9 percent per decade.¹⁶

Although the foreign-born population demonstrated a greater percent increase than the native population over the last 40 years, as a *proportion* of the total growth, the foreign born accounted for less than one-third of the change. The total population – including both native and foreign born – increased from 203.2 million in 1970 to 309.3 million in 2010, or by about 106.1 million.

¹⁶ For each decade, of course, the native-born population exhibited a greater numeric increase than the foreign born: between 1970 and 2010, the native population grew by an average of 18.9 million per decade, while the foreign born grew by an average of 7.6 million. However, as a change in the percent of the base population at the beginning of each decade after 1970, the foreign-born population grew at a faster rate.

The native population represented 71 percent of that growth, with 29 percent accounted for by the increase in the number of foreign born. The foreign-born from Latin America and Asia comprised 98 percent of the growth in the total foreign-born population during this period. Mexico alone accounted for 36 percent of the growth in the foreign-born population and 10 percent of the growth in the total population after 1970.

While the increase in the number of foreign born has contributed to the growth of the total population since 1970, its impact is mitigated by the fact that children of immigrants born in the United States are, by definition, native. An alternative way to assess the absolute impact of immigration on total growth is to consider the proportion of increase represented by *both* the foreign born and their children. According to the results of the 1970 census, the “first generation” (i.e., the foreign born) and “second generation” (i.e., the native born with at least one foreign-born parent) summed to 32.4 million, representing 16 percent of the population. By 2010, according to the Current Population Survey (CPS), there were 71.7 million persons in the first and second generations, comprising 24 percent of the population.¹⁷ The difference between the 1970 Census and 2010 CPS suggests the size of the combined first and second generations increased by approximately 39.3 million persons over this 40-year period. While the proportion of total growth represented by the increase in the number of foreign born was 29 percent, when combined with the second generation, the proportion increases to about 37 percent. In other words, over one-third of the growth in the total population of the United States between 1970 and 2010 was due to the increase in the foreign-born population and their native-born children.

¹⁷ Note that both the 1970 Census and 2010 Current Population Survey estimates of the population by generation groups refer to the civilian noninstitutionalized population.

Source of the Data and Accuracy of the Estimates

Many of the findings presented in this report were based on the American Community Survey (ACS) data collected in 2010. The ACS is a nationwide survey designed to provide communities with reliable and timely demographic, social, economic, and housing data for the nation, states, congressional districts, counties, places, and other localities every year. It has an annual sample size of about 3 million addresses across the United States and Puerto Rico and includes both housing units and group quarters (e.g., nursing facilities and prisons). The ACS is conducted in every county throughout the nation, and every municipio in Puerto Rico, where it is called the Puerto Rico Community Survey. For information on the ACS sample design and other topics, visit www.census.gov/acs/www. For information on sampling and estimation methods, confidentiality protection, and sampling and nonsampling errors, see the “2010 ACS Accuracy of the Data” document located at

http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/ACS_Accuracy_of_Data_2010.pdf. For additional information about the design and methodology of the ACS, see U.S. Census Bureau (2009).

Other findings presented in this report that were not derived from the 2010 ACS were collected from previously published findings based on data from each decennial census conducted by the Census Bureau since 1850. Because the structure of the decennial census has changed over time, some of the data were based on complete censuses (100 percent of the population, from 1850 to 1930) and some were based on sample populations of various sizes (ranging from 5 percent to 20 percent from 1940 to 2000). In general, the decennial censuses collected data from the population living in households as well as those living in group quarters. For more information about the source and accuracy details of the decennial censuses, see Gibson and Jung (2006) and U.S. Census Bureau (2002a, 2002b).

For additional information about the design and methodology of the Current Population Survey, see U.S. Census Bureau (2006). Additional information about the Annual Social and Economic (ASEC) supplement is available at <http://www.census.gov/cps/methodology/techdocs.html>.

All comparisons presented in this report have taken sampling error into account and are significant at the 90 percent confidence interval unless otherwise noted. Due to rounding, some details may not sum to totals.

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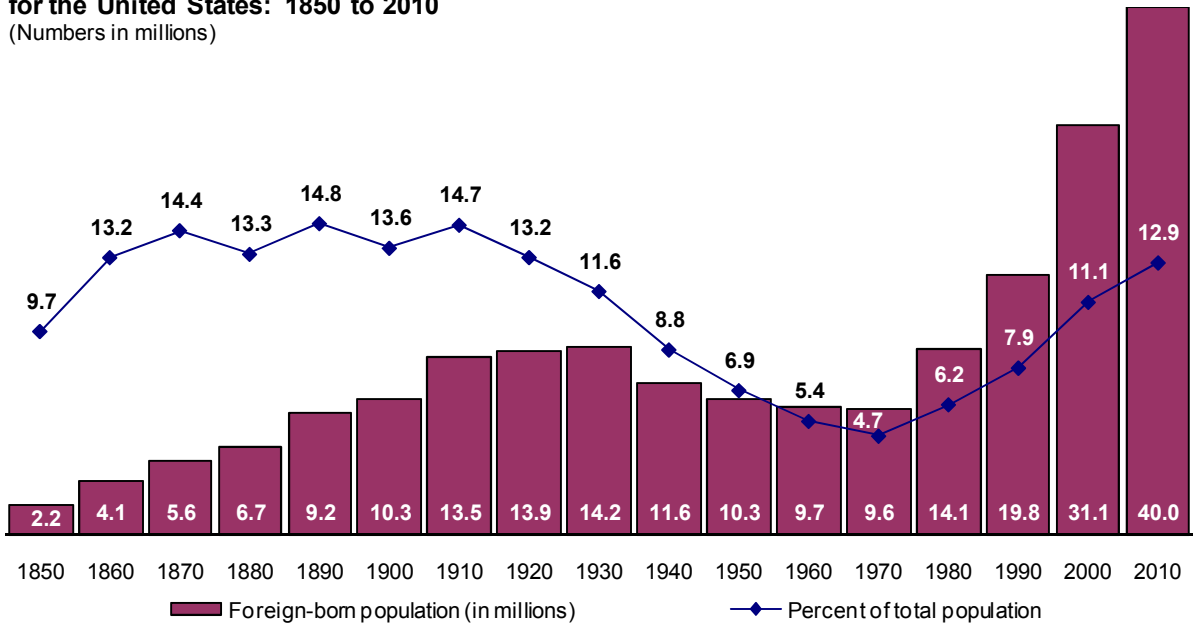
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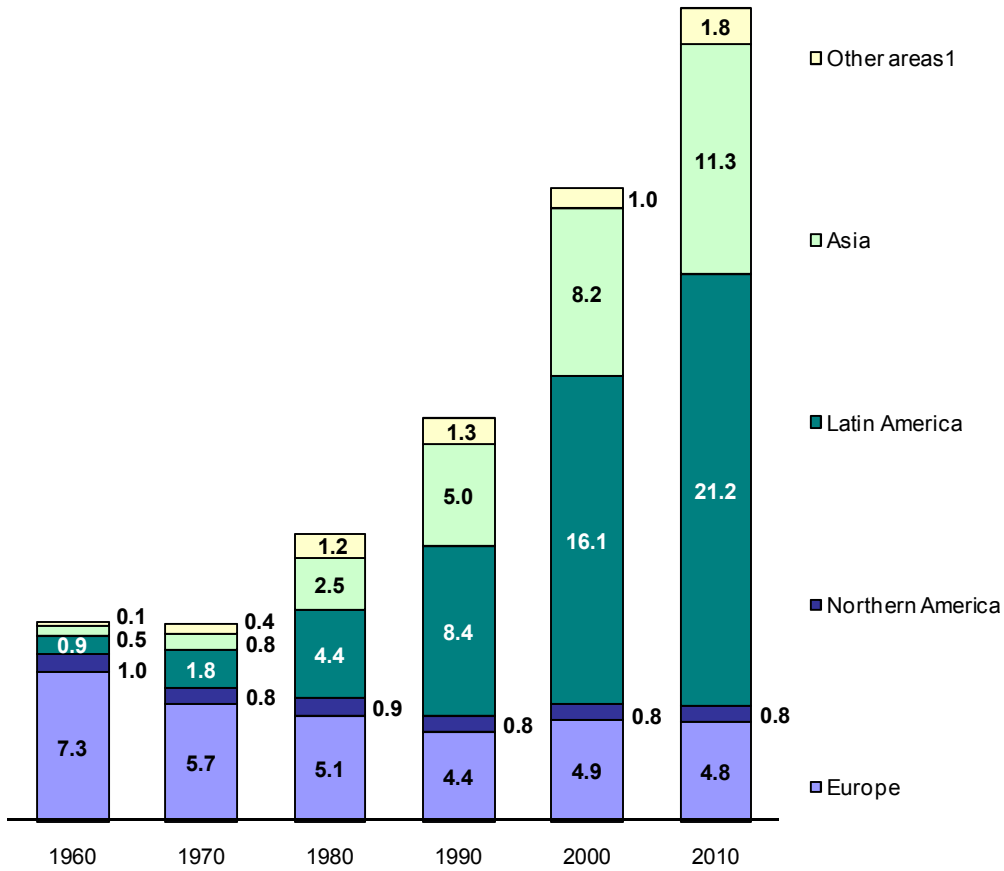
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Figure 1.
**Foreign-Born Population and Percent of Total Population,
 for the United States: 1850 to 2010**
 (Numbers in millions)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population, 1850 to 2000 (in Gibson and Jung, 2006), and American Community Survey, 2010.

Figure 2.
Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: 1960 to 2010
 (Numbers in millions)

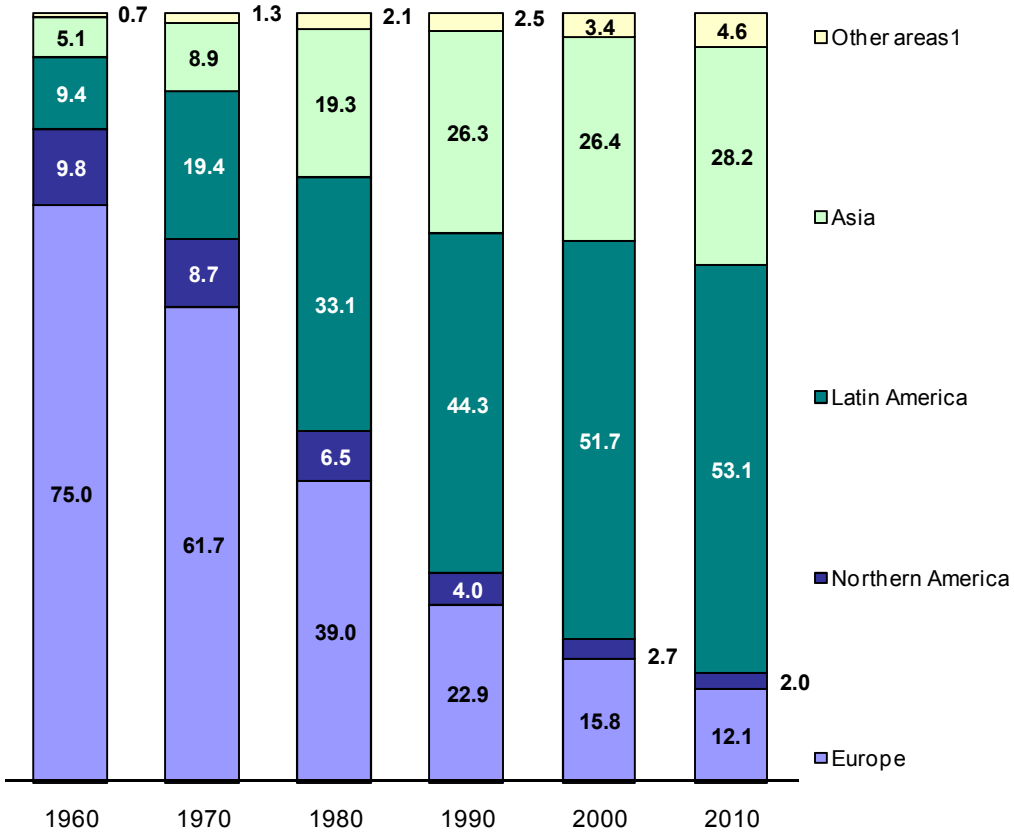


Note: Excludes region of birth not reported.

1. Other areas includes Africa and Oceania.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population, 1960 to 2000 (in Gibson and Jung, 2006) and American Community Survey, 2010.

Figure 3.
Percent Distribution of the Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: 1960 to 2010

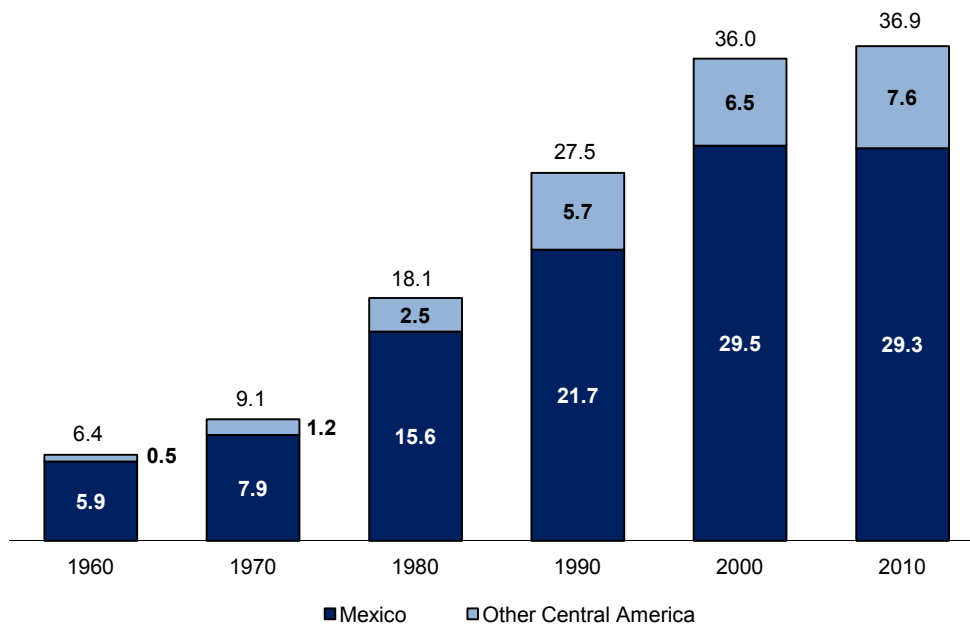


Note: Excludes region of birth not reported.

1. Other areas includes Africa and Oceania.

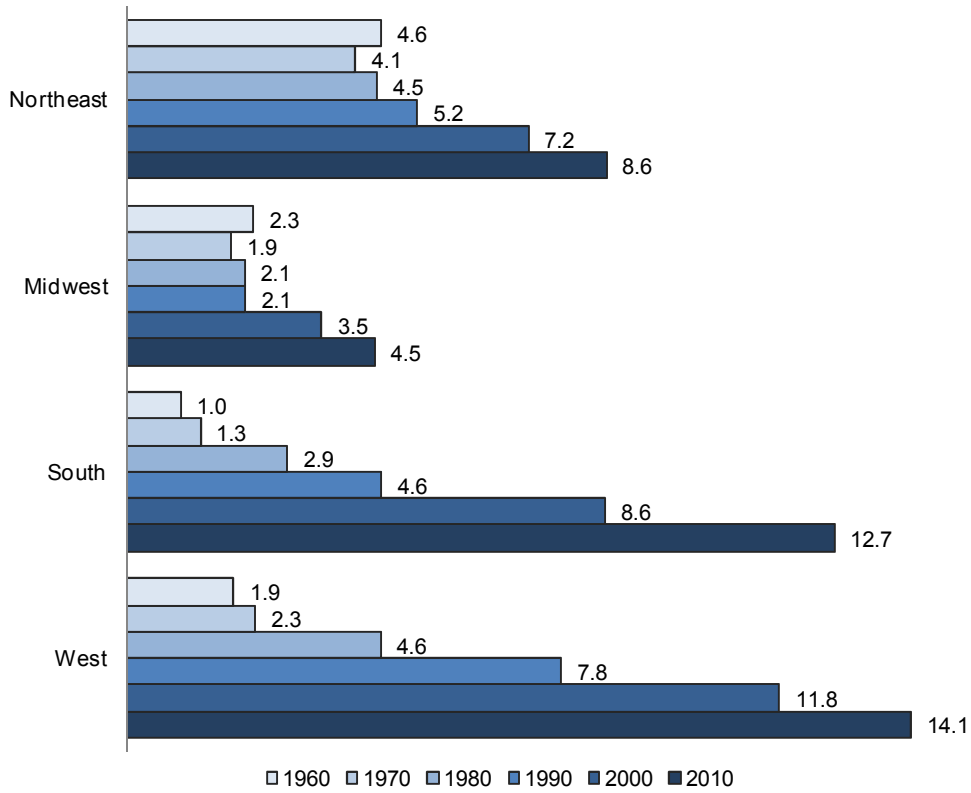
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population, 1960 to 2000 (in Gibson and Jung, 2006) and American Community Survey, 2010.

Figure 4.
Percent of the Foreign-Born Population from Mexico and Other Central America: 1960 to 2010



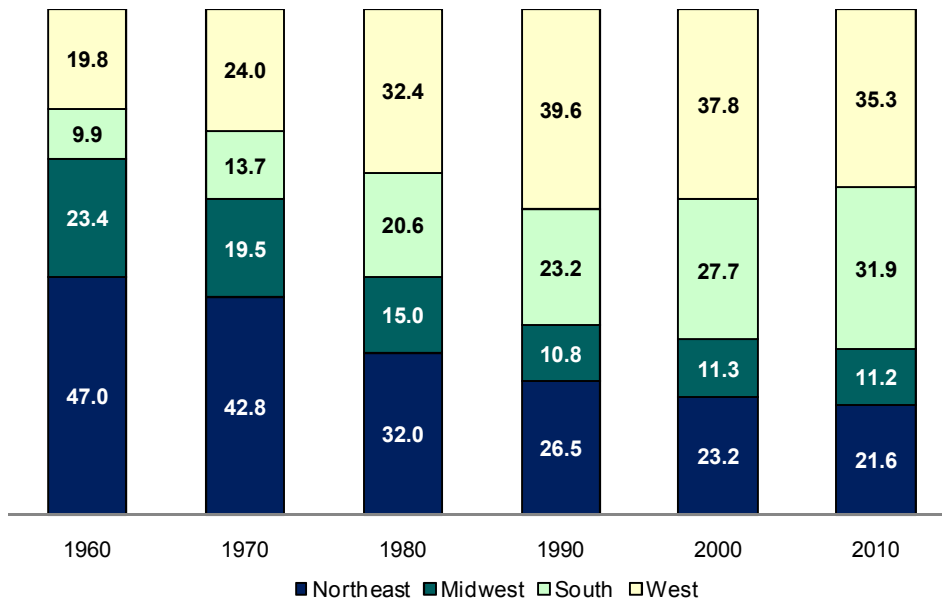
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population, 1960 to 2000 (in Gibson and Jung, 2006) and American Community Survey, 2010.

Figure 5.
The Foreign-Born Population by Region: 1960 to 2010
 (Numbers in millions)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population, 1960 to 2000 (in Gibson and Jung, 2006) and American Community Survey, 2010.

Figure 6.
**Percent Distribution of the Foreign-Born Population by Region:
 1960 to 2010**

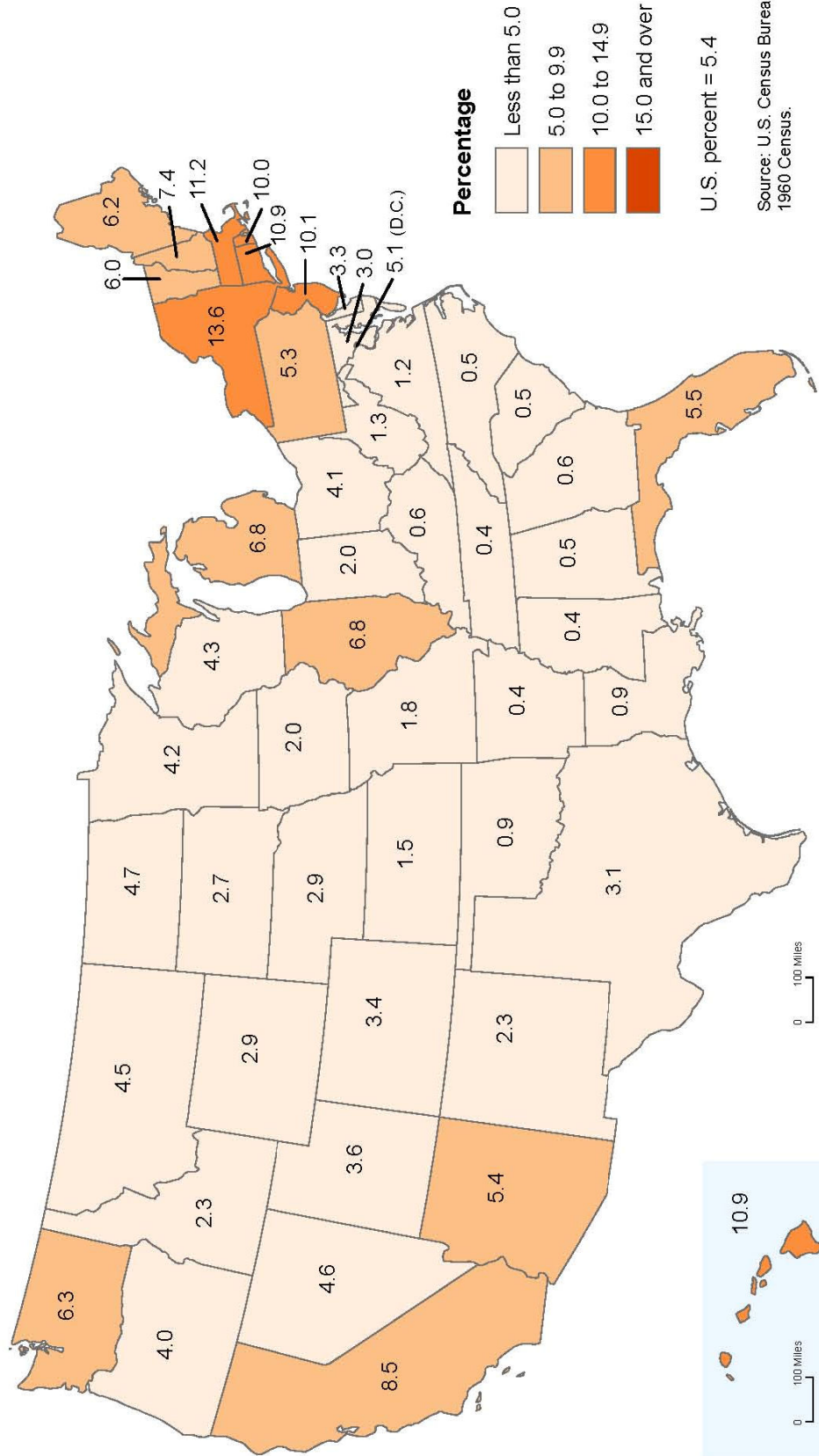
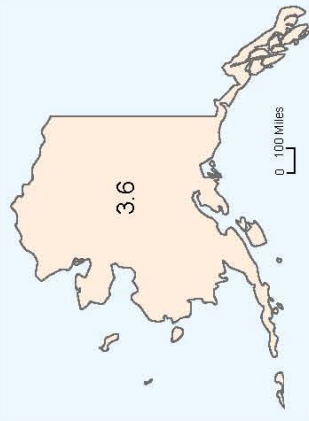


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population, 1960 to 2000 (in Gibson and Jung, 2006) and American Community Survey, 2010.

Figure 7.

Foreign-Born Population as Percent of State Population: 1960

(Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov)

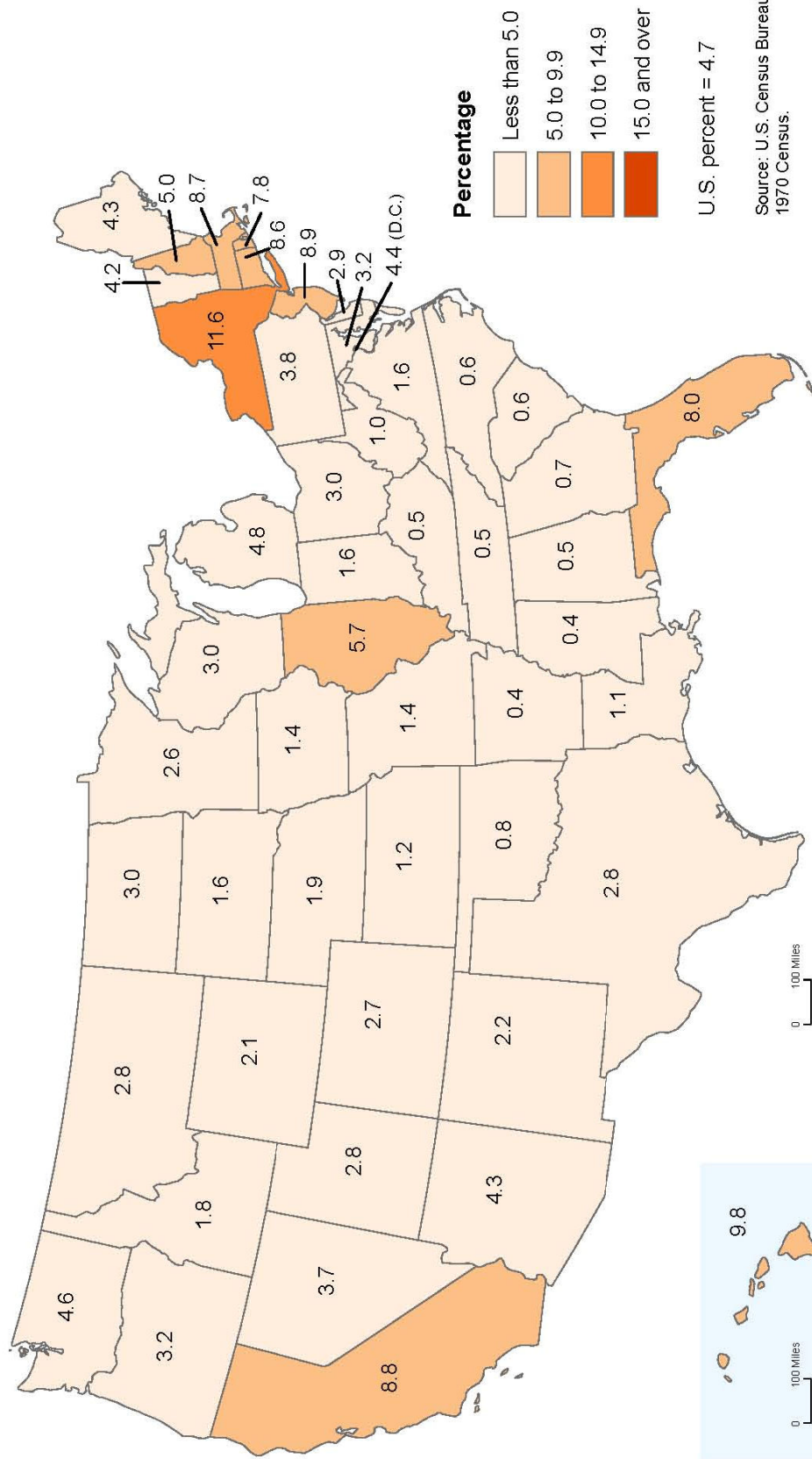
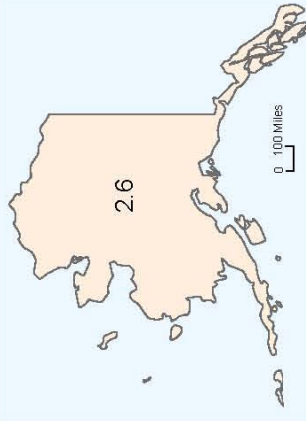


U.S. percent = 5.4
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1960 Census.

Figure 8.

Foreign-Born Population as Percent of State Population: 1970

(Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov)



Percentage

- Less than 5.0
- 5.0 to 9.9
- 10.0 to 14.9
- 15.0 and over

U.S. percent = 4.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1970 Census.



Figure 9.

Foreign-Born Population as Percent of State Population: 1980

(Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov)

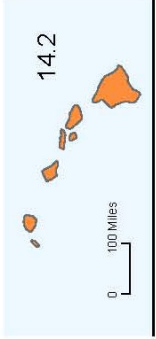
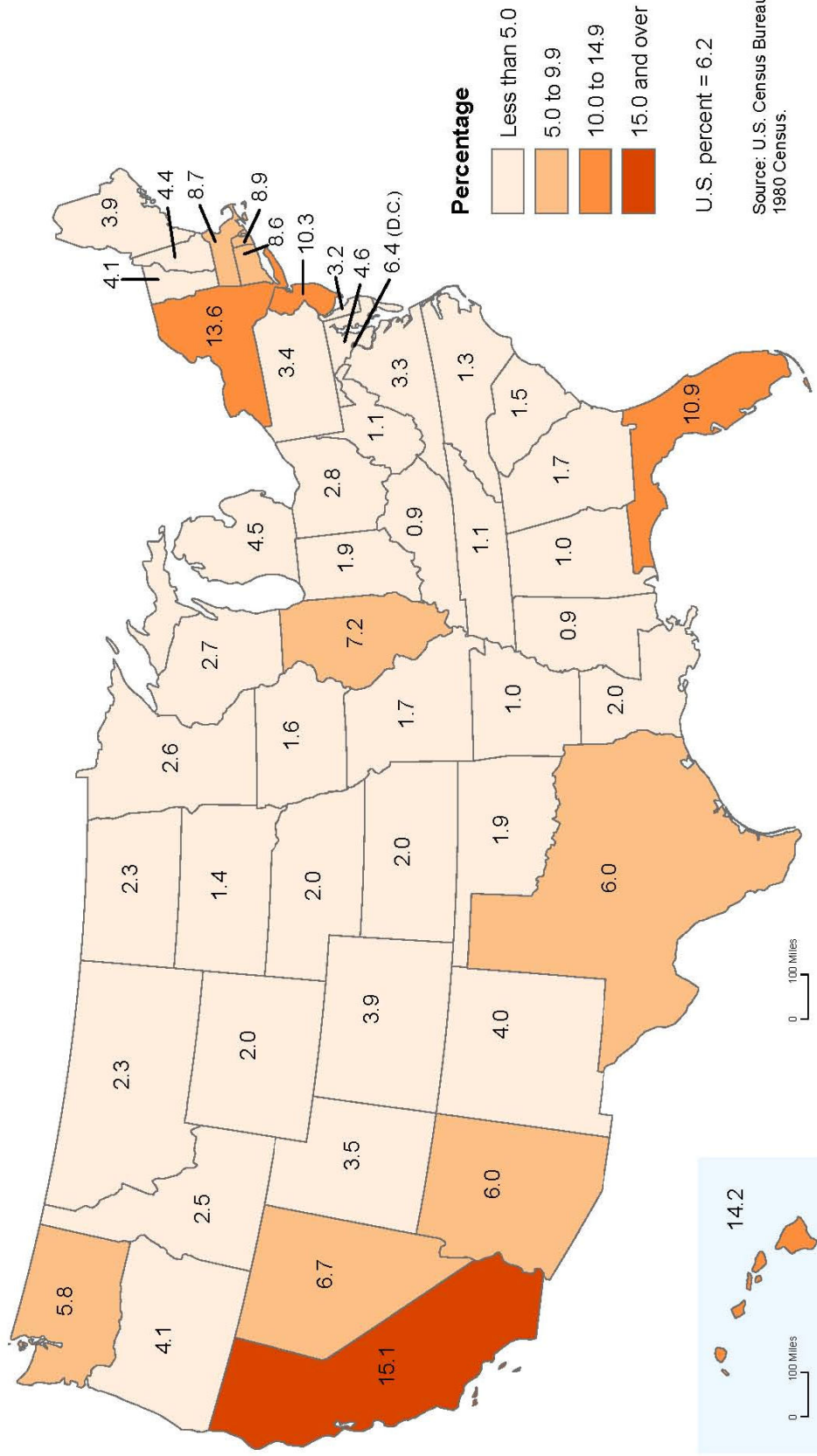
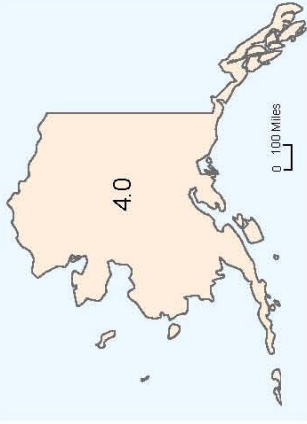


Figure 10.

Foreign-Born Population as Percent of State Population: 1990

(Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/acs)

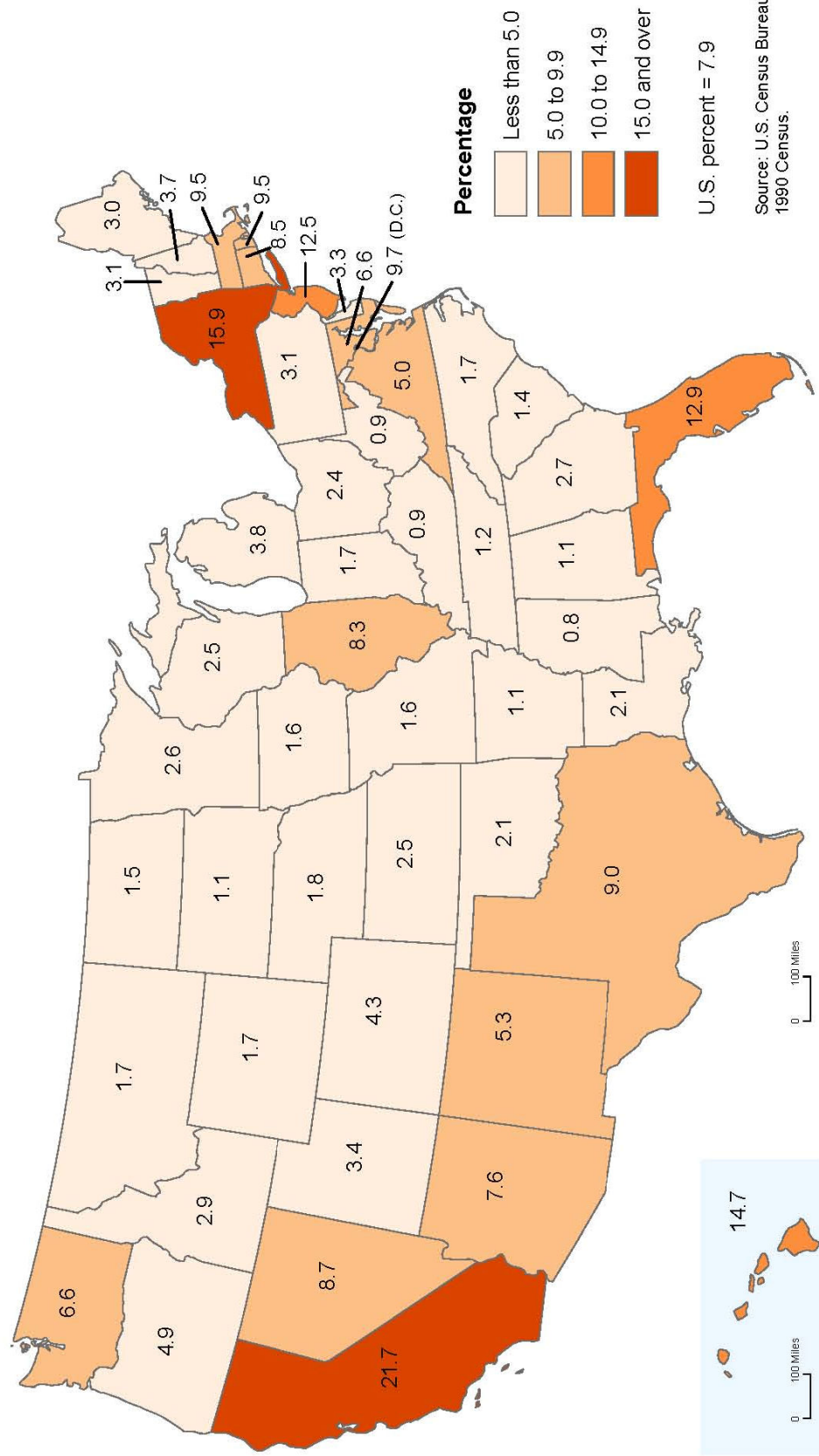


Figure 11.

Foreign-Born Population as Percent of State Population: 2000

(Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sfr.pdf)

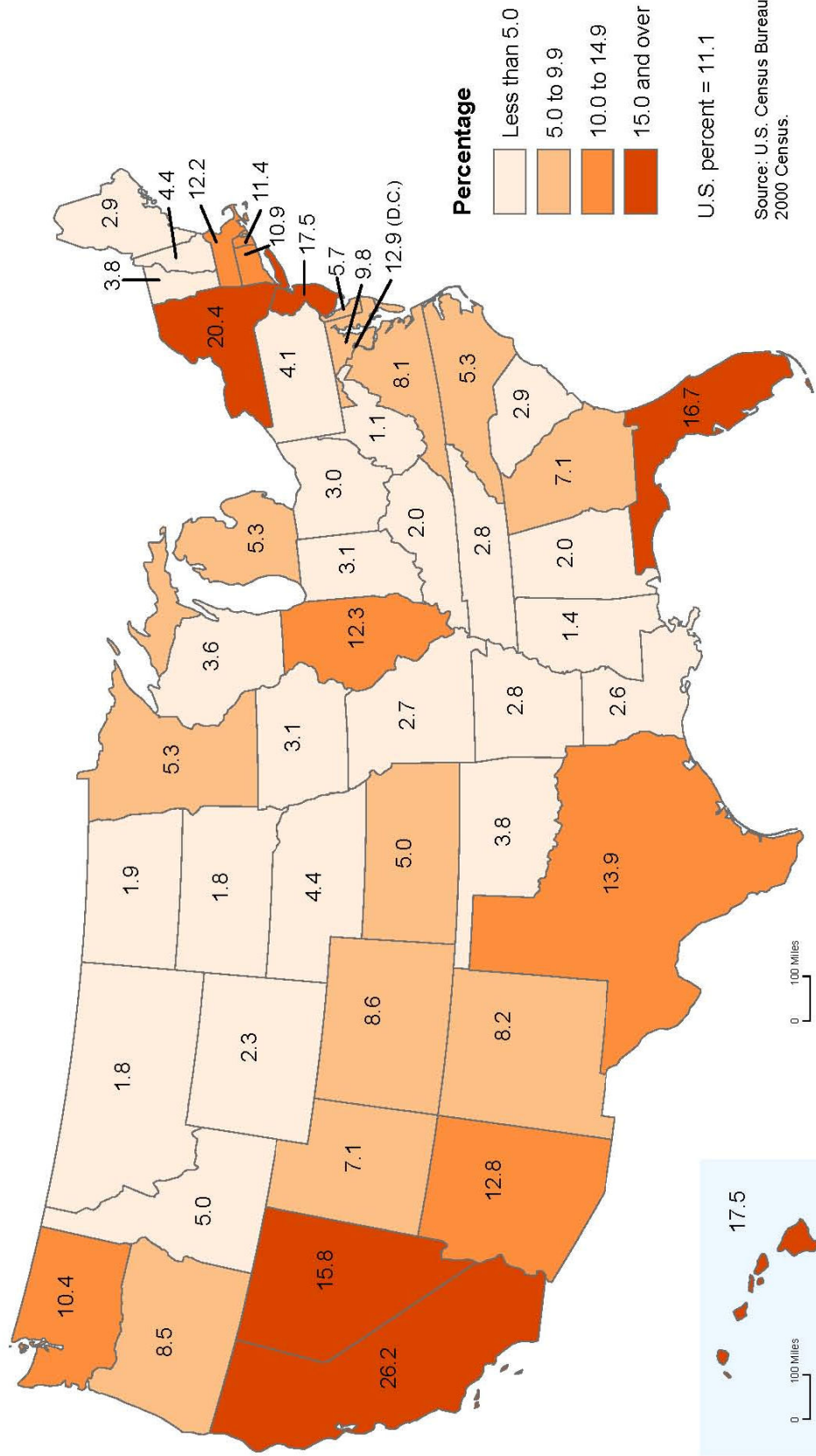
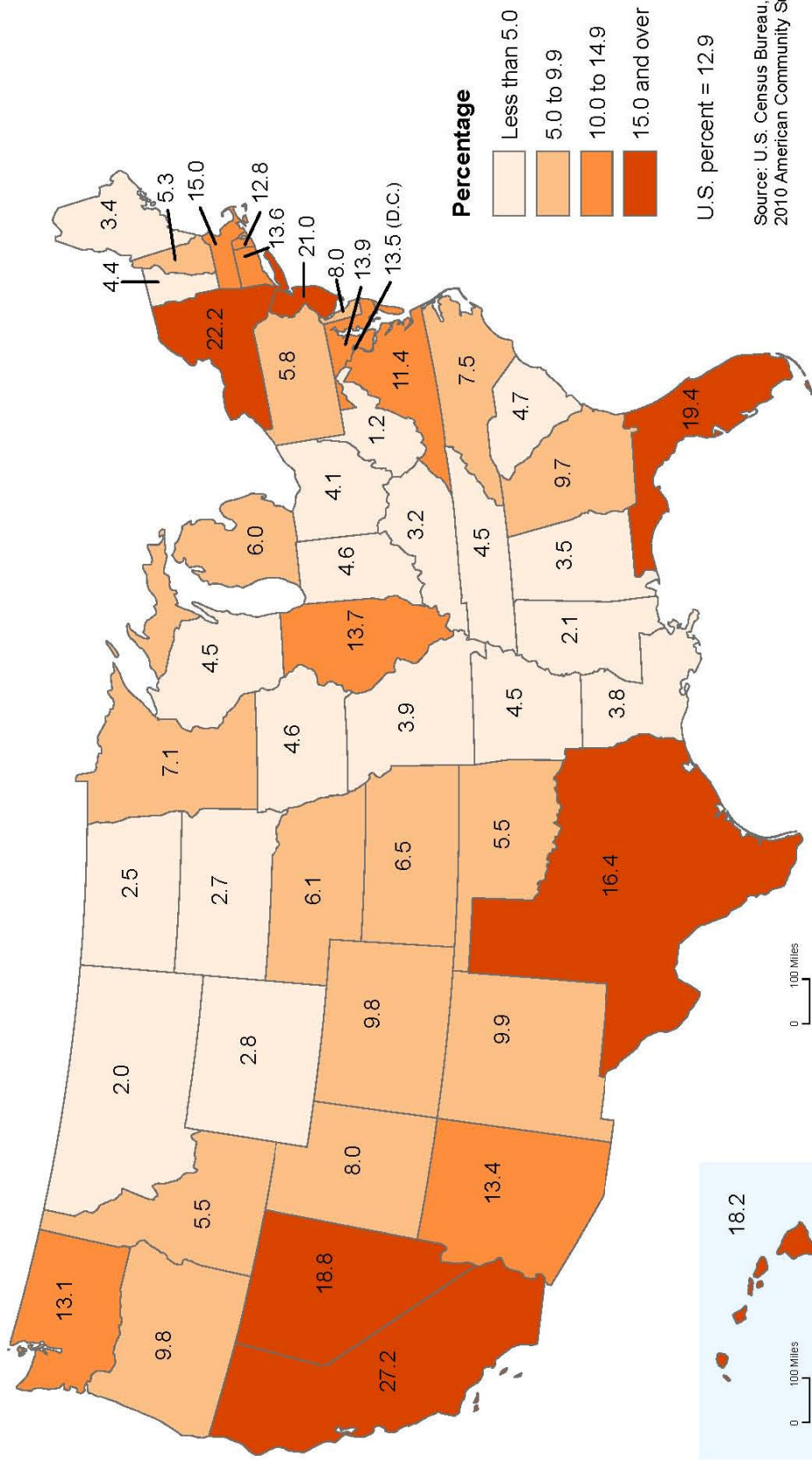
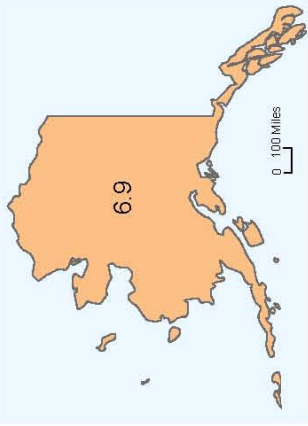


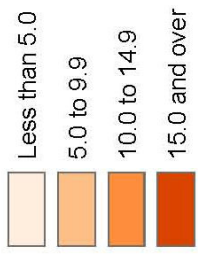
Figure 12.

Foreign-Born Population as Percent of State Population: 2010

(Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/acs/www)



Percentage



U.S. percent = 12.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 American Community Survey.

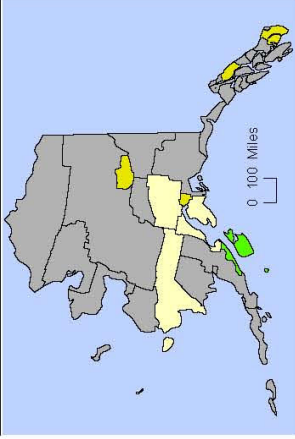


Figure 13.

Foreign-Born Population as Percent of County Population: 2010

(Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/acs/www)

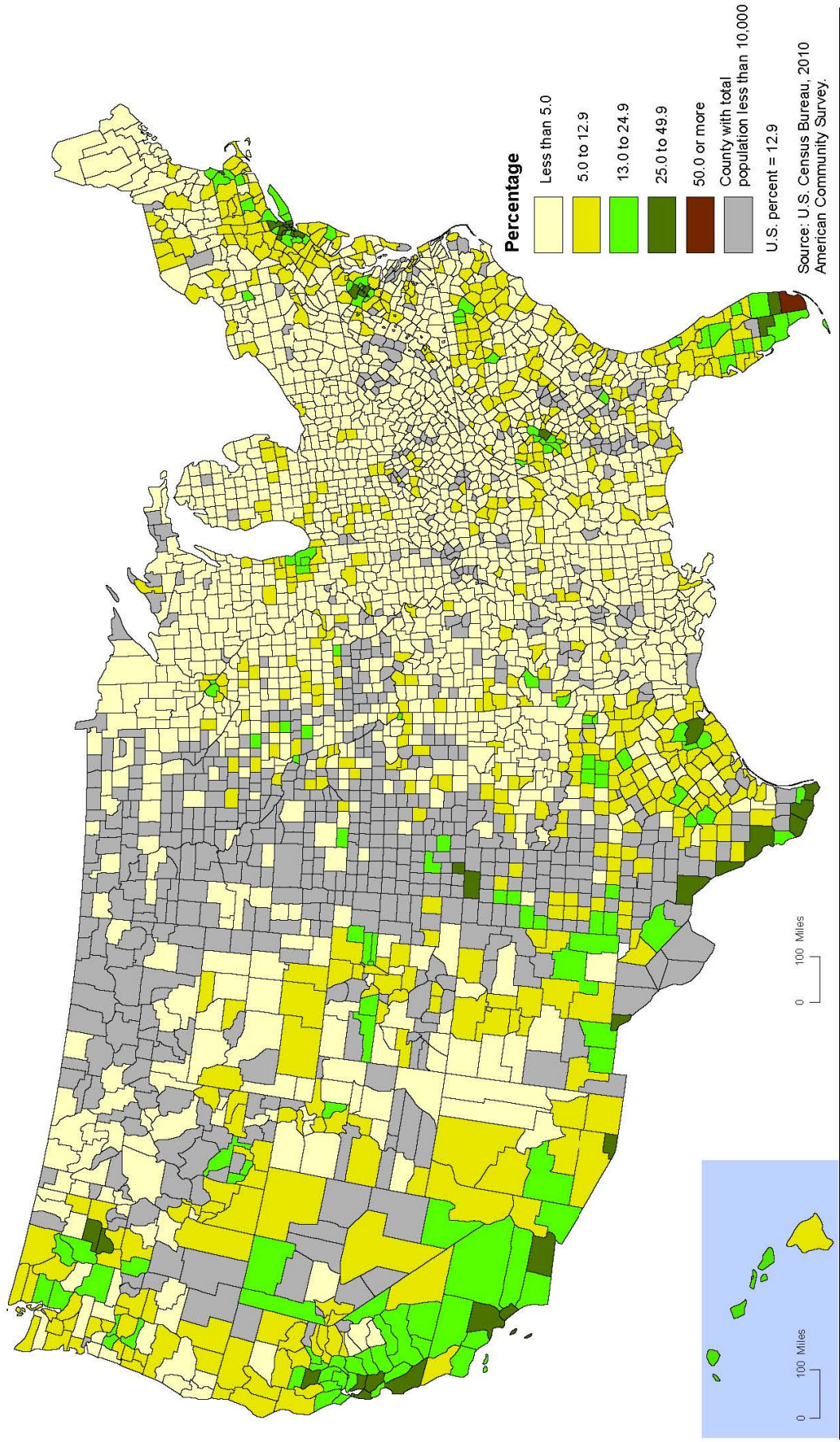
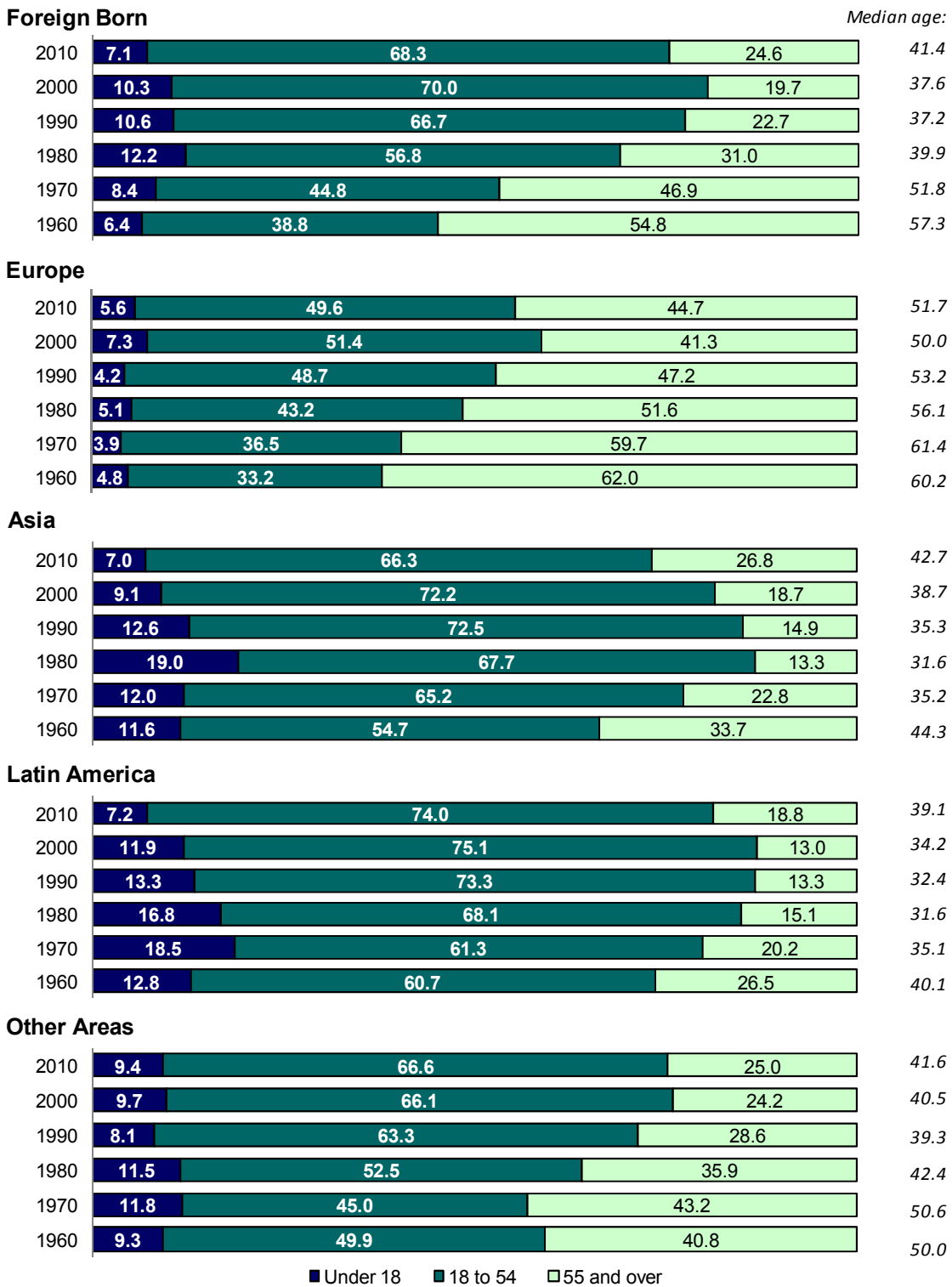


Figure 14.
Foreign-Born Population by Age and Region of Birth: 1960 to 2010
 (Percent distribution)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population, 1960 to 2000 (in Gibson and Jung, 2006, and special tabulation), and American Community Survey, 2010.

Table 1.

Ten Countries of Birth for the Foreign-Born Population with the Highest Number of of Foreign Born: 1960 to 2010

Rank	Year					
	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010 ³
Total	9,738,091	9,619,302	14,079,906	19,767,316	31,107,889	39,955,854
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1	Italy	Italy	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico
Number	1,256,999	1,008,533	2,199,221	4,298,014	9,177,487	11,711,103
Percent	12.9	10.5	15.6	21.7	29.5	29.3
2	Germany	Germany	Germany	Philippines	China ¹	China ¹
Number	989,815	832,965	849,384	912,674	1,525,370	2,166,526
Percent	10.2	8.7	6.0	4.6	4.9	5.4
3	Canada	Canada	Canada	China ¹	Philippines	India
Number	952,500	812,421	842,859	333,725	1,369,070	1,780,322
Percent	9.8	8.4	6.0	1.7	4.4	4.5
4	United Kingdom	Mexico	Italy	Canada	India	Philippines
Number	833,055	759,711	831,922	744,830	1,022,552	1,177,588
Percent	8.6	7.9	5.9	3.8	3.3	2.9
5	Poland	United Kingdom	United Kingdom	Cuba	Vietnam	Vietnam
Number	747,750	686,099	669,149	736,971	988,174	1,240,542
Percent	7.7	7.1	4.8	3.7	3.2	3.1
6	Soviet Union	Poland	Cuba	Germany	Cuba	El Salvador
Number	690,598	548,107	607,814	711,929	872,716	1,214,049
Percent	7.1	5.7	4.3	3.6	2.8	3.0
7	Mexico	Soviet Union	Philippines	United Kingdom	Korea ²	Cuba
Number	575,902	463,462	501,440	640,145	864,125	1,104,679
Percent	5.9	4.8	3.6	3.2	2.8	2.8
8	Ireland	Cuba	Poland	Italy	Canada	Korea ²
Number	338,722	439,048	418,128	580,592	820,771	1,100,422
Percent	3.5	4.6	3.0	2.9	2.6	2.8
9	Austria	Ireland	Soviet Union	Korea ²	El Salvador	Dominican Rep.
Number	304,507	251,375	406,022	568,397	817,336	879,187
Percent	3.1	2.6	2.9	2.9	2.6	2.2
10	Hungary	Austria	China ¹	Vietnam	Germany	Guatemala
Number	245,252	214,014	361,473	543,262	706,704	830,824
Percent	2.5	2.2	2.6	2.7	2.3	2.1

¹ For 1980 and 1990, China includes Taiwan. For 2000 and 2010, China includes Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau.

² Korea includes those who reported their country of birth as Korea, North Korea, and South Korea.

³ The margin of errors for the 2010 estimates are available from the American Community Survey Table B05006 Place of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population published through the American FactFinder feature on the U.S. Census Bureau's Web site (<http://www.census.gov>).

Note: Countries as reported as of date of census/survey. Data are not completely comparable over time due to changes in boundaries for some countries.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population, 1960 to 2000 (in Gibson and Jung, 2006) and the American Community Survey, 2010.

Table 2.
Foreign-Born Population by Country of Birth and Region: 1960 to 2010

United States	Region								
	Northeast		Midwest		South		West		
2010 ¹									
Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0
Mexico	29.3	Dominican Rep.	8.3	Mexico	29.9	Mexico	30.6	Mexico	42.4
China ²	5.4	China ²	7.7	India	7.4	Cuba	7.2	Philippines	8.0
India	4.5	India	5.9	China ²	5.2	India	4.0	China ²	6.5
Philippines	4.4	Mexico	5.6	Poland	4.1	El Salvador	3.9	Vietnam	4.4
Vietnam	3.1	Jamaica	4.0	Philippines	3.6	Vietnam	3.0	El Salvador	3.4
All other countries	53.3	All other countries	68.5	All other countries	49.9	All other countries	51.2	All other countries	35.3
2000									
Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0
Mexico	29.5	Dominican Rep.	8.1	Mexico	28.5	Mexico	31.6	Mexico	44.1
China ²	4.9	China ²	6.6	India	5.5	Cuba	8.0	Philippines	7.5
Philippines	4.4	India	4.5	Poland	5.0	Vietnam	3.2	China ²	5.8
India	3.3	Jamaica	4.4	China ²	4.0	El Salvador	3.1	Vietnam	4.4
Vietnam	3.2	Italy	4.1	Canada	3.8	India	3.0	El Salvador	3.3
All other countries	54.7	All other countries	72.4	All other countries	53.2	All other countries	51.1	All other countries	34.8
1990									
Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0
Mexico	21.7	Italy	7.3	Mexico	16.5	Mexico	22.5	Mexico	36.3
China ²	4.7	Dominican Rep.	5.9	Germany ³	6.8	Cuba	11.6	Philippines	7.8
Philippines	4.6	China ²	5.4	Poland	5.8	Germany ³	4.1	China ²	5.7
Canada	3.8	Canada	3.9	Canada	5.7	United Kingdom	3.7	Vietnam	4.1
Cuba	3.7	Jamaica	3.9	United Kingdom	4.3	Canada	3.3	El Salvador	3.7
All other countries	61.5	All other countries	73.6	All other countries	60.8	All other countries	54.8	All other countries	42.4
1980									
Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0
Mexico	15.6	Italy	12.6	Mexico	10.2	Mexico	18.2	Mexico	31.5
Germany ³	6.0	Canada	6.1	Germany ³	9.2	Cuba	13.7	Philippines	7.1
Canada	6.0	Germany ³	6.0	Canada	7.4	Germany ³	6.7	Canada	6.1
Italy	5.9	United Kingdom	4.9	Poland	5.9	United Kingdom	4.9	China ²	4.6
United Kingdom	4.8	Poland	4.8	Italy	5.7	Canada	4.6	United Kingdom	4.2
All other countries	61.7	All other countries	65.7	All other countries	61.7	All other countries	51.8	All other countries	46.4
1970									
Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0
Italy	10.5	Italy	17.2	Germany ³	12.0	Cuba	17.5	Mexico	20.4
Germany ³	8.7	Canada	8.1	Canada	8.8	Mexico	15.4	Canada	10.0
Canada	8.4	Germany ³	8.1	Poland	8.7	Germany ³	9.1	United Kingdom	6.8
Mexico	7.9	Poland	7.5	Italy	8.1	United Kingdom	6.8	Germany ³	6.7
United Kingdom	7.1	United Kingdom	7.4	United Kingdom	7.2	Canada	6.3	Philippines	5.4
All other countries	57.4	All other countries	51.8	All other countries	55.2	All other countries	44.9	All other countries	50.6
1960									
Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0	Total	100.0
Italy	12.9	Italy	19.3	Germany ³	13.4	Mexico	21.7	Mexico	16.1
Germany ³	10.2	Poland	9.5	Poland	10.3	Germany ³	11.3	Canada	12.3
Canada	9.8	Canada	9.5	Canada	9.4	United Kingdom	10.0	United Kingdom	9.6
United Kingdom	8.6	Germany ³	9.4	Italy	8.4	Canada	7.0	Germany ³	7.6
Poland	7.6	United Kingdom	8.2	United Kingdom	7.8	Italy	6.0	Italy	6.5
All other countries	50.9	All other countries	44.1	All other countries	50.7	All other countries	44.0	All other countries	48.0

¹ The margins of error for the 2010 estimates are available from the American Community Survey Table B05006 Place of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population published through the American FactFinder feature on the U.S. Census Bureau's Web site (<http://www.census.gov>).

² For 1960, and 1970, China includes Taiwan; for 1980 to 2010, China includes Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau.

³ For 1960 to 1990, Germany includes both East Germany and West Germany.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population, 1960 to 2000 (in Gibson and Jung, 2006) and the American Community Survey, 2010.

Table 3.
Ten States with the Highest Number of Foreign Born: 1960 to 2010

Rank	Year					
	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010 ¹
Total	9,738,143	9,619,302	14,079,906	19,767,316	31,107,889	39,955,854
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1	New York	New York	California	California	California	California
Number	2,289,314	2,109,776	3,580,033	6,458,825	8,864,255	10,150,429
Percent	23.5	21.9	25.4	32.7	28.5	25.4
2	California	California	New York	New York	New York	New York
Number	1,343,698	1,757,990	2,388,938	2,851,861	3,868,133	4,297,612
Percent	13.8	18.3	17.0	14.4	12.4	10.8
3	Illinois	New Jersey	Florida	Florida	Texas	Texas
Number	686,098	634,818	1,058,732	1,662,601	2,899,642	4,142,031
Percent	7.0	6.6	7.5	8.4	9.3	10.4
4	New Jersey	Illinois	Texas	Texas	Florida	Florida
Number	615,479	628,898	856,213	1,524,436	2,670,828	3,658,043
Percent	6.3	6.5	6.1	7.7	8.6	9.2
5	Pennsylvania	Florida	Illinois	New Jersey	Illinois	New Jersey
Number	603,490	540,284	823,696	966,610	1,529,058	1,844,581
Percent	6.2	5.6	5.9	4.9	4.9	4.6
6	Massachusetts	Massachusetts	New Jersey	Illinois	New Jersey	Illinois
Number	576,452	494,660	757,822	952,272	1,476,327	1,759,859
Percent	5.9	5.1	5.4	4.8	4.7	4.4
7	Michigan	Pennsylvania	Massachusetts	Massachusetts	Massachusetts	Massachusetts
Number	529,624	445,895	500,982	573,733	772,983	983,564
Percent	5.4	4.6	3.6	2.9	2.5	2.5
8	Ohio	Michigan	Michigan	Pennsylvania	Arizona	Georgia
Number	396,614	424,309	417,152	369,316	656,183	942,959
Percent	4.1	4.4	3.0	1.9	2.1	2.4
9	Texas	Ohio	Pennsylvania	Michigan	Washington	Virginia
Number	298,791	316,496	401,016	355,393	614,457	911,119
Percent	3.1	3.3	2.8	1.8	2.0	2.3
10	Connecticut	Texas	Ohio	Washington	Georgia	Washington
Number	275,523	309,772	302,185	322,144	577,273	886,262
Percent	2.8	3.2	2.1	1.6	1.9	2.2

¹ The margins of error for the 2010 estimates are available from the American Community Survey Table B05006 Place of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population published through the American FactFinder feature on the U.S. Census Bureau's Web site (<http://www.census.gov>).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population, 1960 to 2000 (in Gibson and Jung, 2006) and the American Community Survey, 2010.

Appendix A.

Foreign-Born Population for the United States, Regions, and States: 1960 to 2010

Area	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
United States	9,738,143	9,619,302	14,079,906	19,767,316	31,107,889	39,955,854
Region						
Northeast	4,574,743	4,119,681	4,505,923	5,231,024	7,229,068	8,629,248
Midwest	2,276,959	1,873,561	2,114,190	2,131,293	3,509,937	4,461,557
South	962,920	1,316,205	2,894,757	4,582,293	8,608,441	12,742,106
West	1,923,521	2,309,855	4,565,036	7,822,706	11,760,443	14,122,943
State						
Alabama	14,955	15,988	39,002	43,533	87,772	168,596
Alaska	8,227	7,763	16,216	24,814	37,170	49,319
Arizona	70,318	76,570	162,806	278,205	656,183	856,663
Arkansas	7,457	8,287	22,371	24,867	73,690	131,667
California	1,343,698	1,757,990	3,580,033	6,458,825	8,864,255	10,150,429
Colorado	59,881	60,311	114,130	142,434	369,903	497,105
Connecticut	275,523	261,614	267,806	279,383	369,967	487,120
Delaware	14,650	15,648	18,829	22,275	44,898	71,868
District of Columbia	38,971	33,562	40,559	58,887	73,561	81,734
Florida	272,161	540,284	1,058,732	1,662,601	2,670,828	3,658,043
Georgia	25,300	32,988	91,480	173,126	577,273	942,959
Hawaii	68,900	75,595	137,016	162,704	212,229	248,213
Idaho	15,542	12,572	23,404	28,905	64,080	87,098
Illinois	686,098	628,898	823,696	952,272	1,529,058	1,759,859
Indiana	93,202	83,198	101,802	94,263	186,534	300,789
Iowa	56,278	40,217	47,659	43,316	91,085	139,477
Kansas	33,268	27,842	47,891	62,840	134,735	186,942
Kentucky	16,830	16,553	34,562	34,119	80,271	140,583
Louisiana	30,557	39,542	85,502	87,407	115,885	172,866
Maine	60,403	43,014	43,402	36,296	36,691	45,666
Maryland	94,178	124,345	195,581	313,494	518,315	803,695
Massachusetts	576,452	494,660	500,982	573,733	772,983	983,564
Michigan	529,624	424,309	417,152	355,393	523,589	587,747
Minnesota	143,878	98,056	107,474	113,039	260,463	378,483
Mississippi	8,058	8,125	23,527	20,383	39,908	61,428
Missouri	77,756	65,744	85,616	83,633	151,196	232,537
Montana	30,646	19,634	18,319	13,779	16,396	20,031
Nebraska	40,238	28,796	31,001	28,198	74,638	112,178
Nevada	13,133	18,179	53,784	104,828	316,593	508,458
New Hampshire	44,772	37,048	40,961	41,193	54,154	69,742
New Jersey	615,479	634,818	757,822	966,610	1,476,327	1,844,581
New Mexico	21,408	22,510	52,405	80,514	149,606	205,141
New York	2,289,314	2,109,776	2,388,938	2,851,861	3,868,133	4,297,612
North Carolina	21,978	28,620	78,358	115,077	430,000	719,137
North Dakota	29,907	18,437	14,818	9,388	12,114	16,639
Ohio	396,614	316,496	302,185	259,673	339,279	469,748
Oklahoma	20,003	20,160	56,294	65,489	131,747	206,382
Oregon	71,314	66,149	107,805	139,307	289,702	375,743
Pennsylvania	603,490	445,895	401,016	369,316	508,291	739,068
Rhode Island	85,974	74,374	84,001	95,088	119,277	134,335
South Carolina	11,140	14,364	46,080	49,964	115,978	218,494
South Dakota	18,577	10,899	9,599	7,731	13,495	22,238
Tennessee	15,843	19,024	48,369	59,114	159,004	288,993
Texas	298,791	309,772	856,213	1,524,436	2,899,642	4,142,031
Utah	32,133	29,573	50,451	58,600	158,664	222,638
Vermont	23,336	18,482	20,995	17,544	23,245	27,560
Virginia	48,185	72,281	177,318	311,809	570,279	911,119
Washington	178,658	156,020	239,060	322,144	614,457	886,262
West Virginia	23,863	16,662	21,980	15,712	19,390	22,511
Wisconsin	171,519	130,669	125,297	121,547	193,751	254,920
Wyoming	9,663	6,989	9,607	7,647	11,205	15,843

¹ The margins of error for the 2010 estimates are available from the American Community Survey Table B05012 Population by Nativity published through the American FactFinder feature on the U.S Census Bureau's Web site (<http://www.census.gov>).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population, 1960 to 2000 (in Gibson and Jung, 2006) and the American Community Survey, 2010.