

U.S. Immigration Demographics and Immigrant Integration

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National Convening on Immigrant Integration

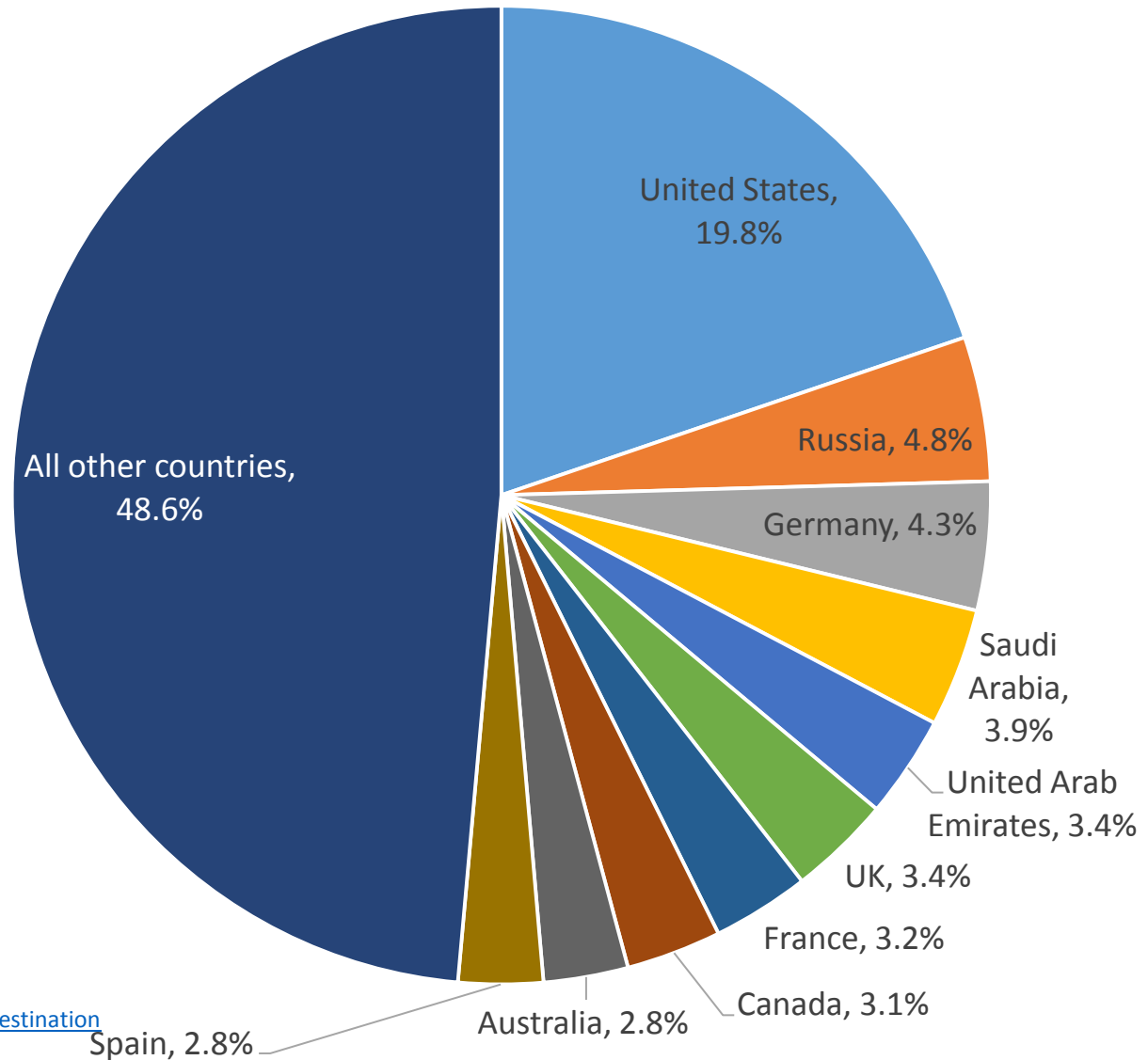
The White House

July 16, 2014

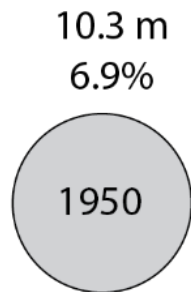
One-fifth of the world's international migrants live in the United States

There are 232 million international migrants worldwide – 3.2% of the world population

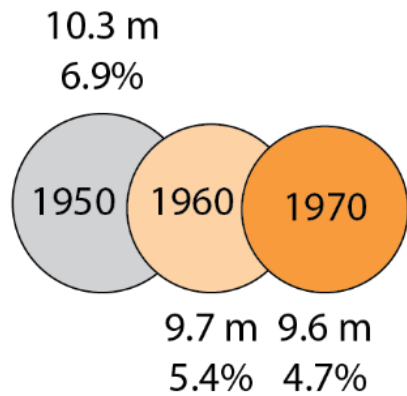
The top ten receiving countries house over 51% of all migrants



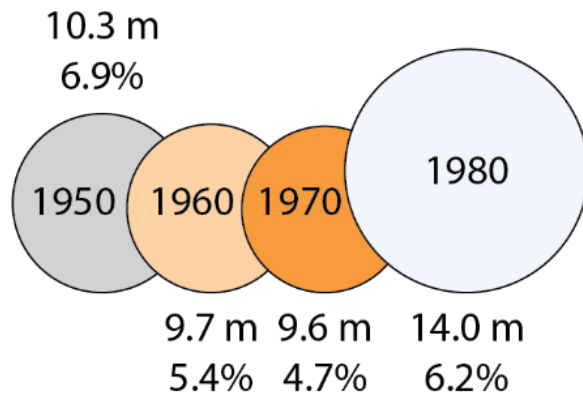
There were 10 million immigrants in the US in 1950



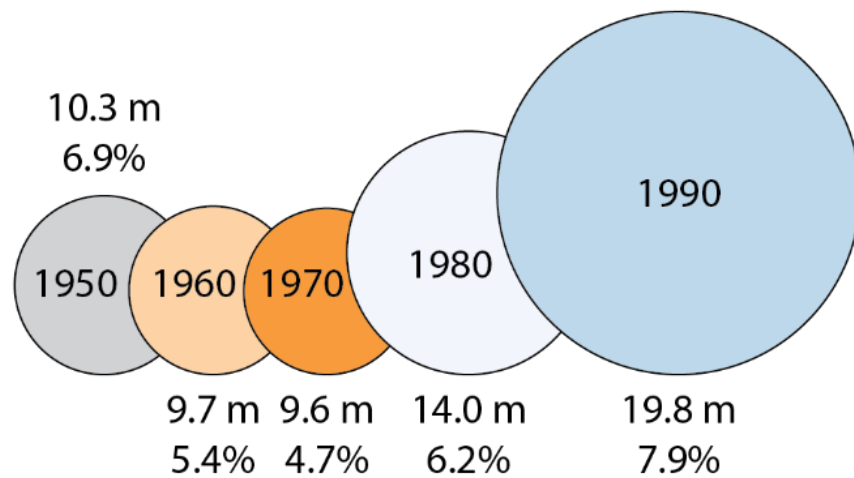
By 1970, the number had decreased and the share of the US that was foreign-born was less than 5 percent



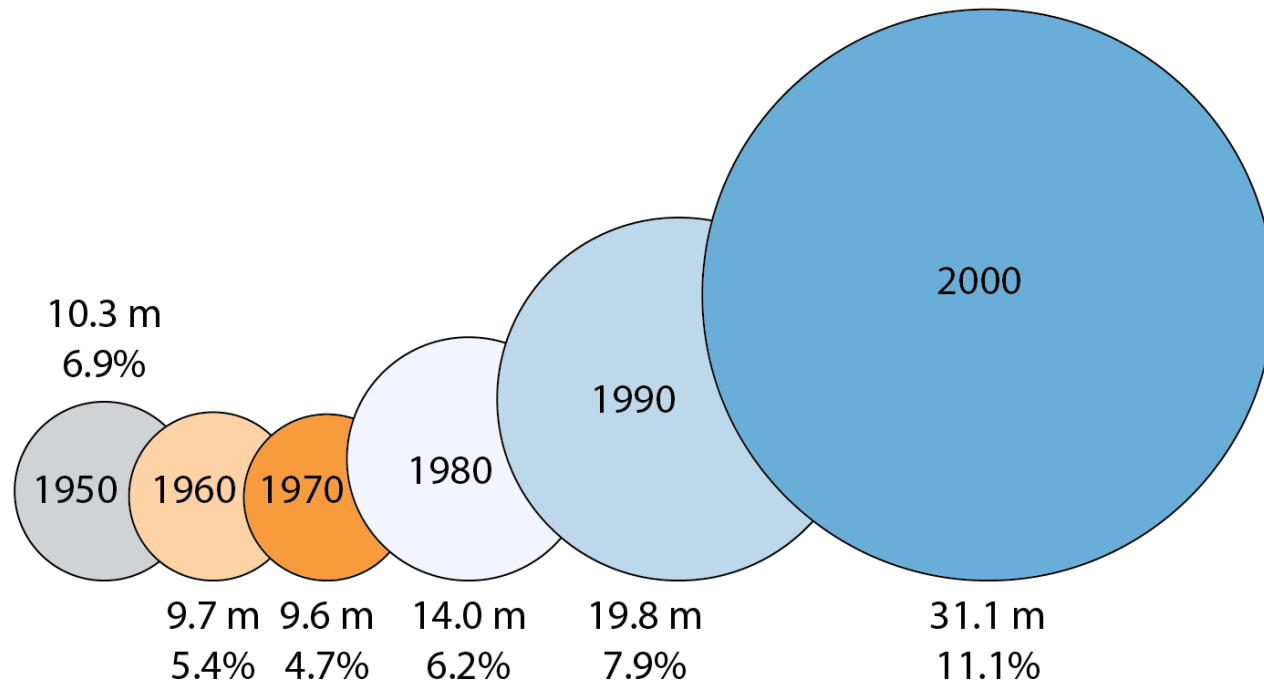
By 1980, the immigrant population started growing



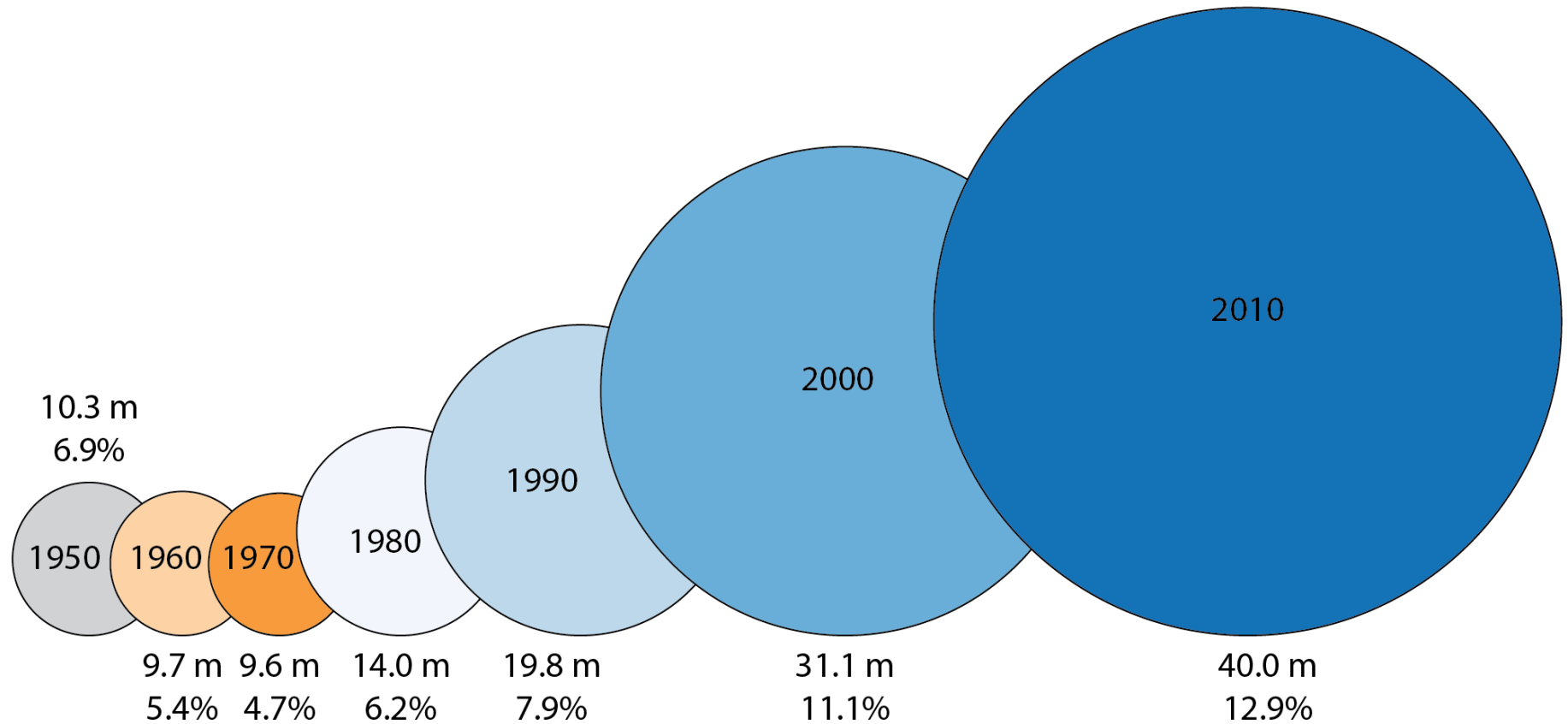
In 1990 there were twice as many immigrants as in 1970



The 1990s saw the largest increase on record, 11.3 million more immigrants

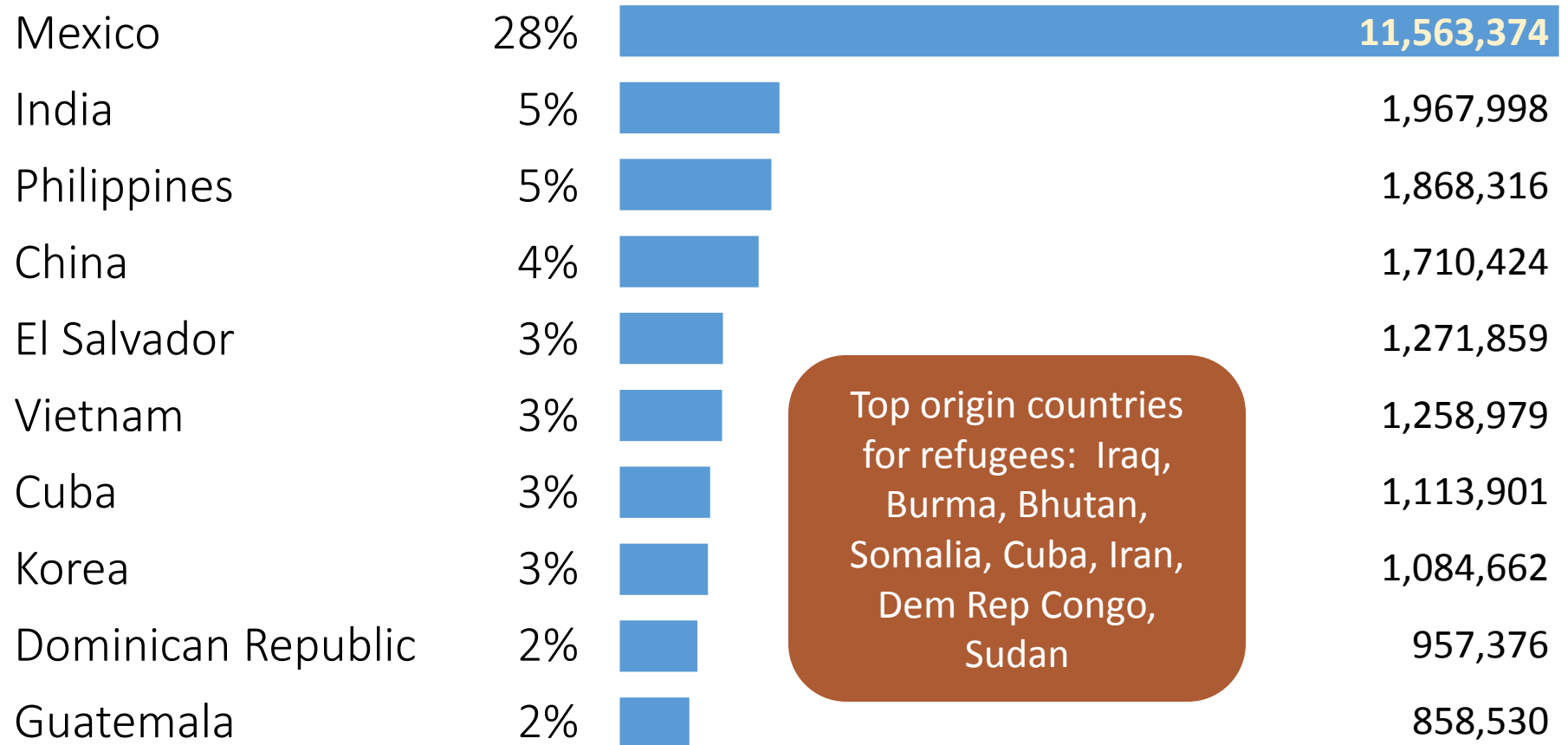


Between 1990 and 2010 the immigrant population had doubled again to over 40 million



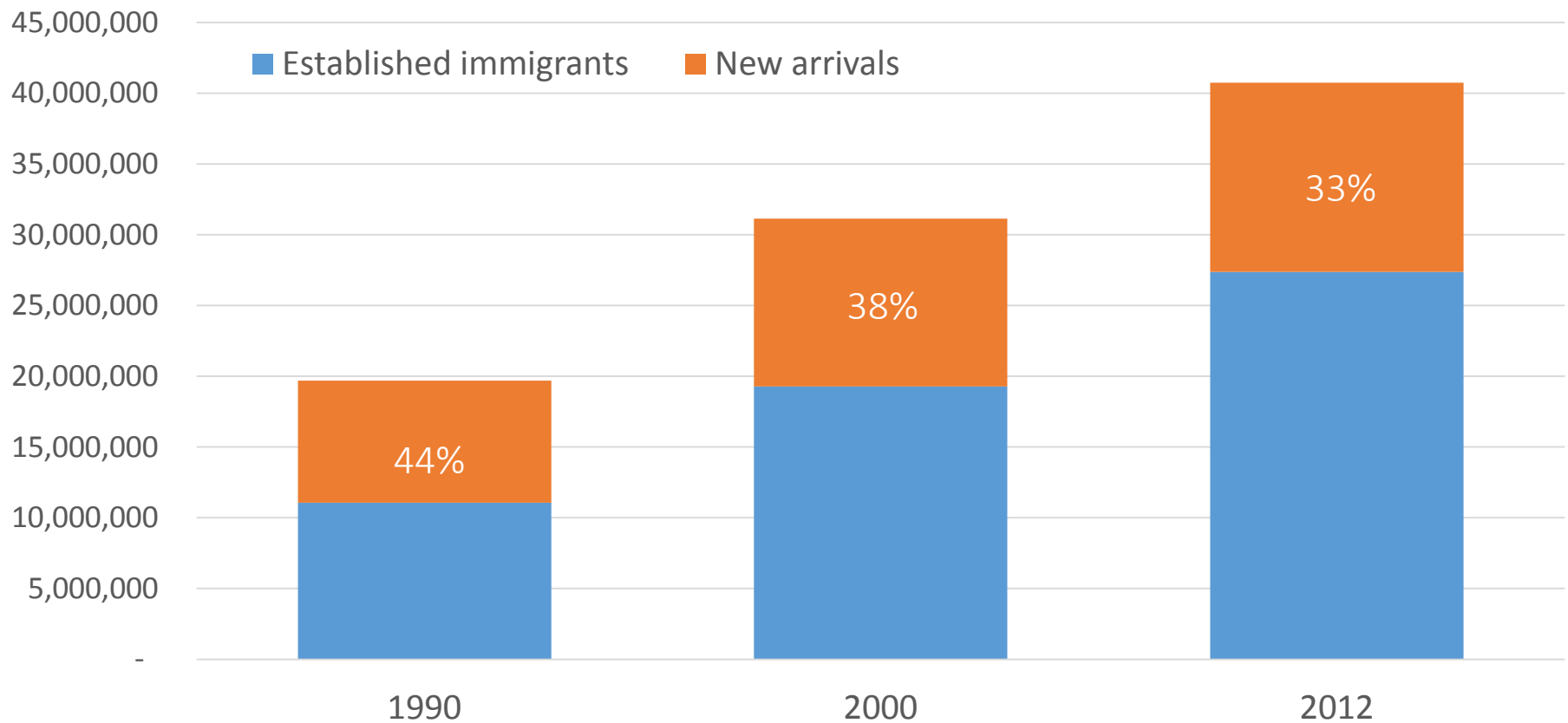
Immigrants from Mexico dominate the U.S. foreign-born population

Number and Share of Immigrant Population for Top Ten Countries of Birth, 2012



The number of recent arrivals continues to increase while their share of all immigrants has declined

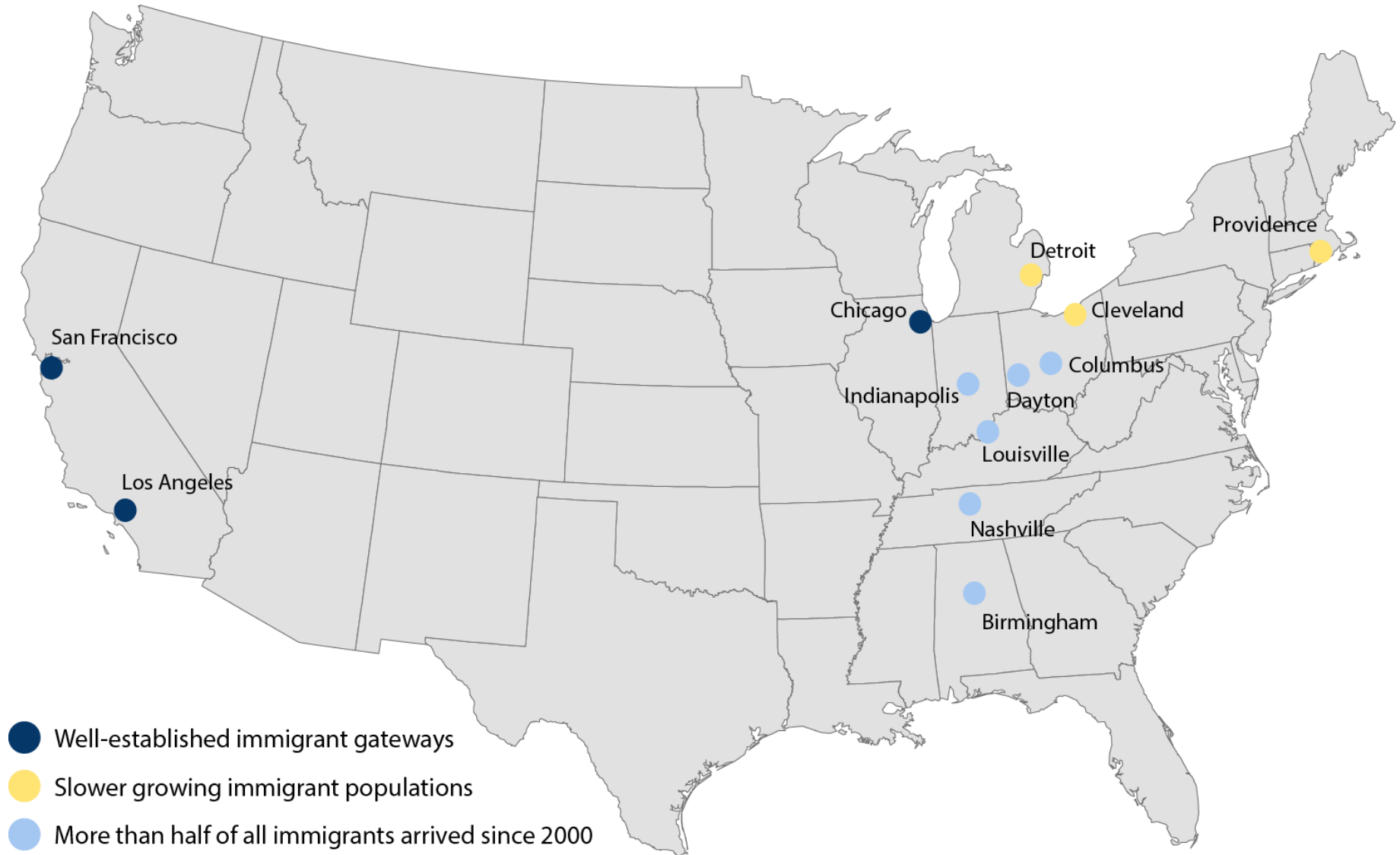
Newly arriving immigrants as a share of all immigrants, 1990, 2000, and 2012



Note: 1990 new arrivals are 1981 to 1990, 2000 new arrivals are 1991 to 2000, 2012 new arrivals are 2001 to 2012.

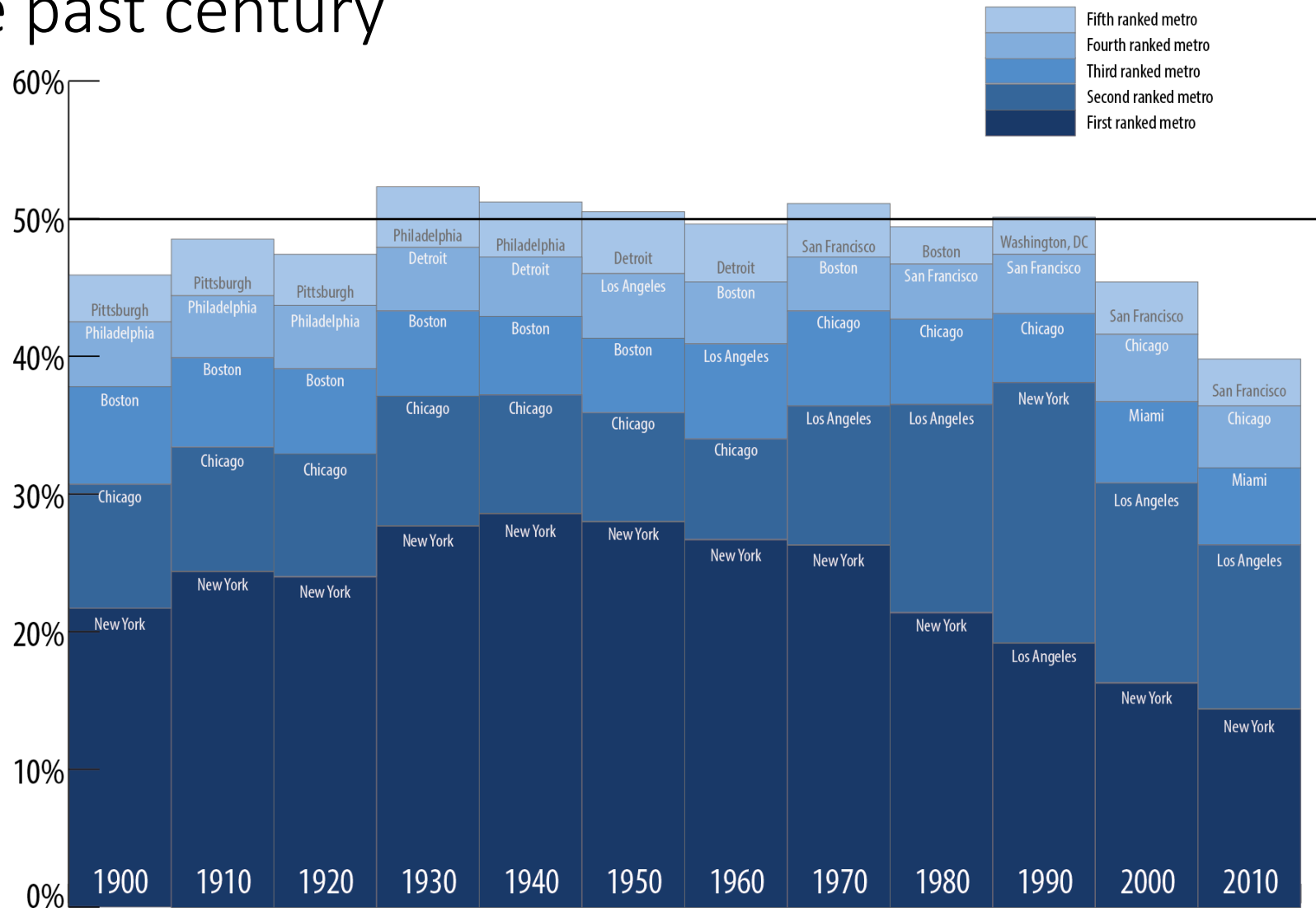
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 and 2000 Decennial Censuses, American Community Survey 2012 1-year estimates microdata, accessed via IPUMS.org.

Metros vary in the share of all immigrants who are new arrivals



Note: Geographies standardized to 2010 MSA definitions. Source: 2000 Decennial Census, 2010 ACS 1-year estimates.

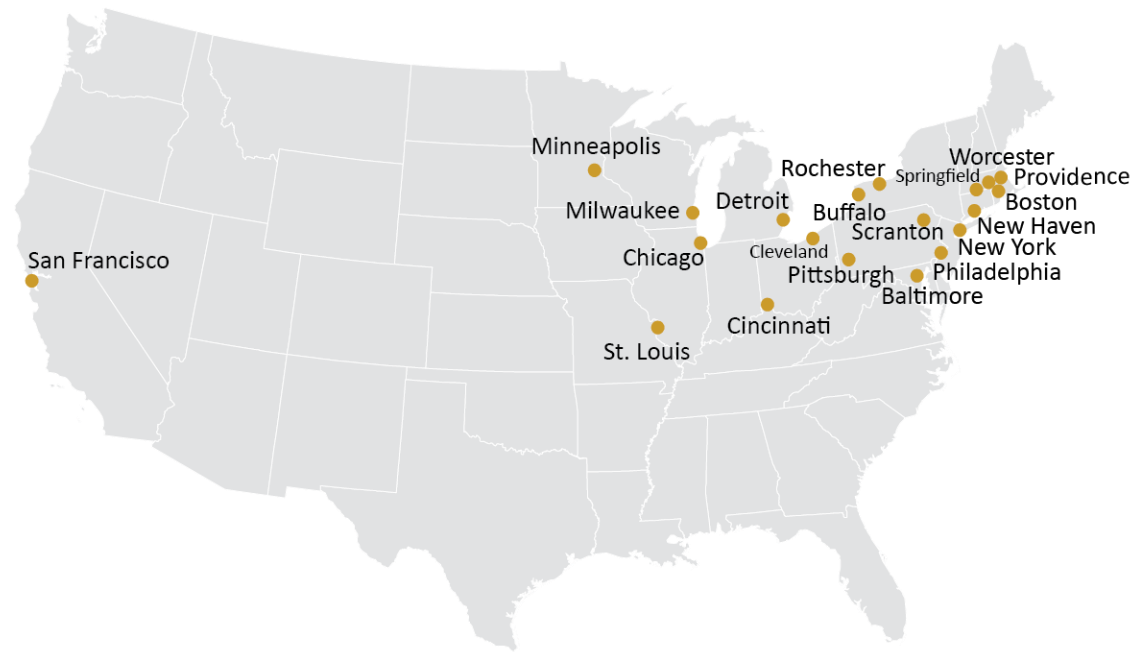
U.S. urban destinations of immigrants have shifted in the past century



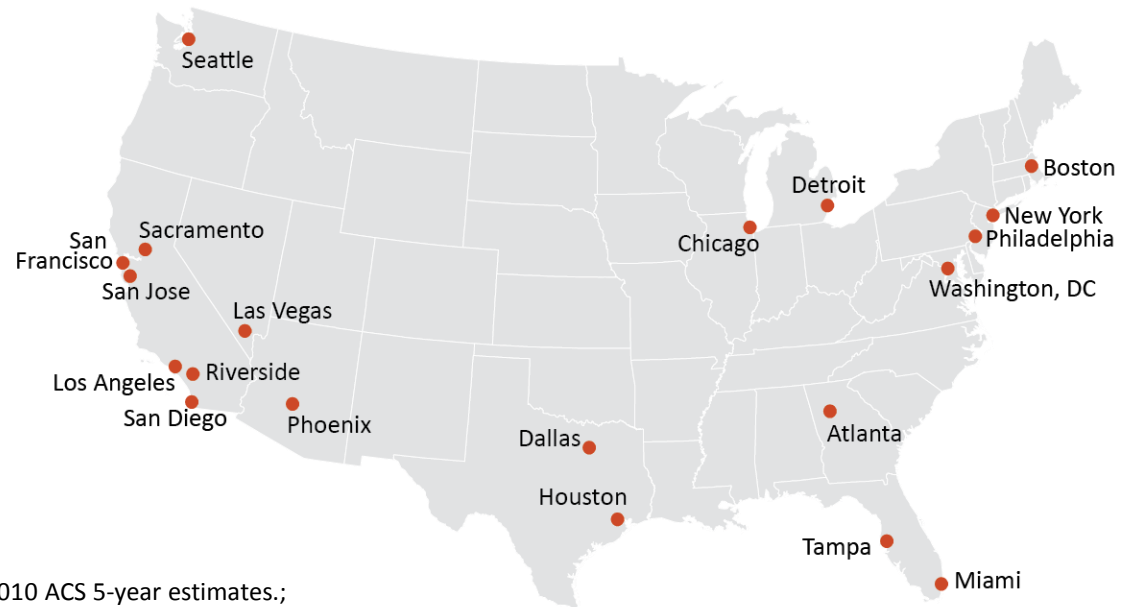
2010 values represent 2006–2010 5-year estimates. Source: Author's calculations of 1900–1950 and 1970–2000 Decennial Census data accessed via Minnesota Population Center's National Historical Geographic Information System, <http://www.nhgis.org>; 1960 Decennial Census data accessed via U.S. Census Bureau, *U.S. Census of Population: 1960, Vol. 1, Characteristics of the Population* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1963); and 2006–2010 ACS 5-year estimates, <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>.

[Audrey Singer \(2013\), "Contemporary Immigrant Gateways in Historical Perspective"](#)

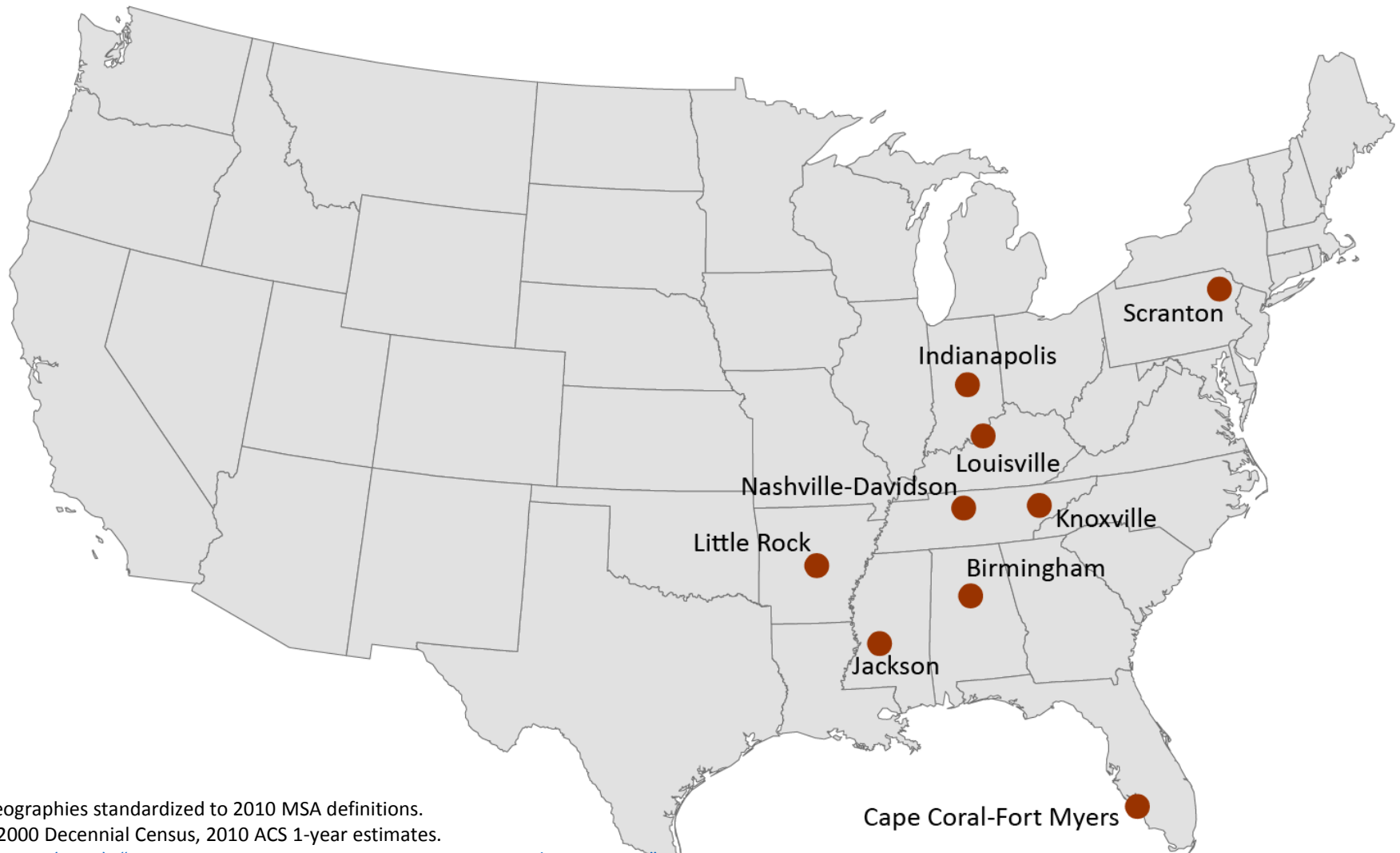
With the exception of San Francisco, the 20 largest immigrant destinations in 1900 were in the Midwest or Northeast



By 2010, the immigration map has been redrawn with metros in the South and West rising as major destinations



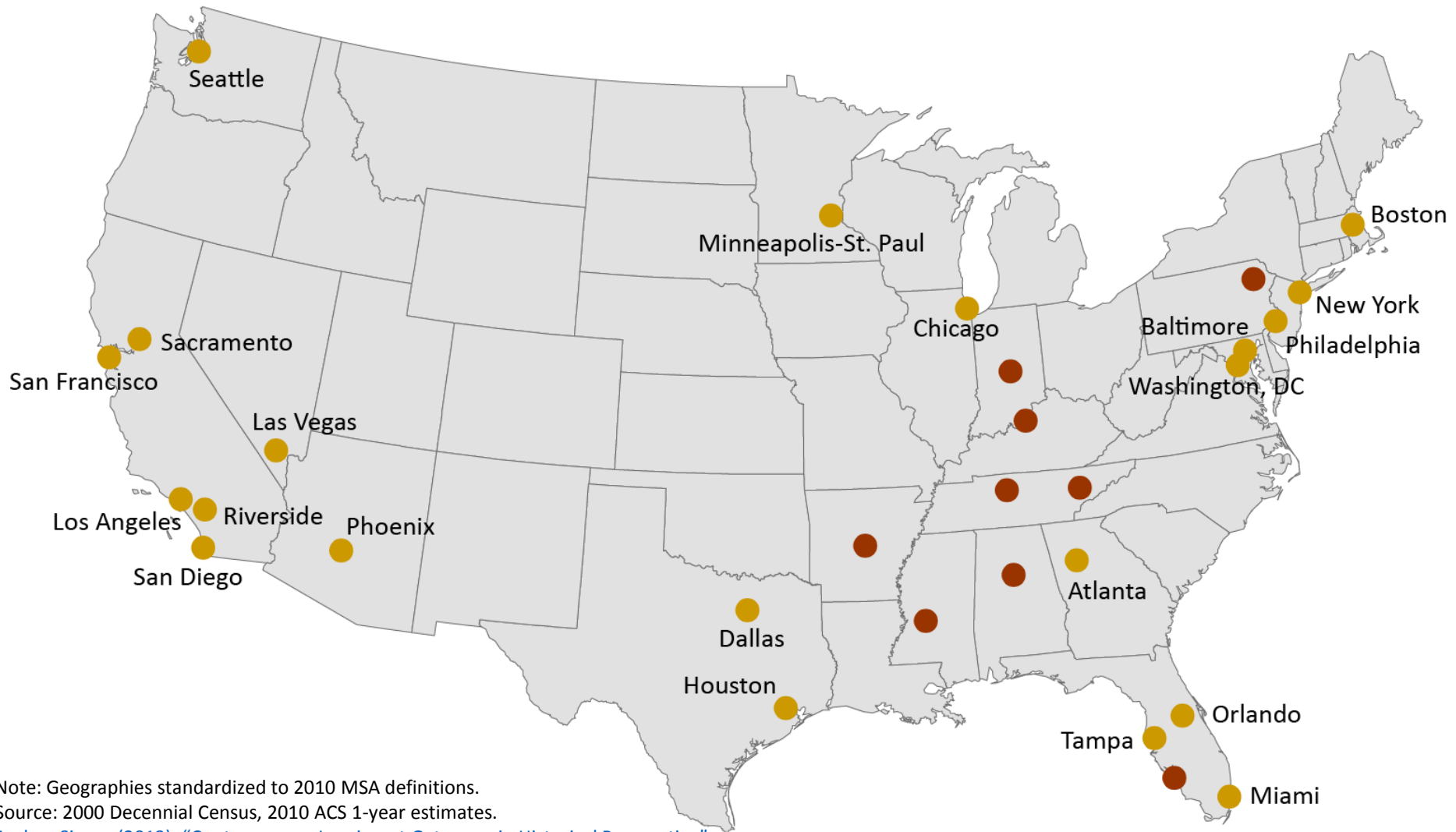
Nine metropolitan areas experienced a doubling of their foreign-born population in the last decade



Note: Geographies standardized to 2010 MSA definitions.
Source: 2000 Decennial Census, 2010 ACS 1-year estimates.

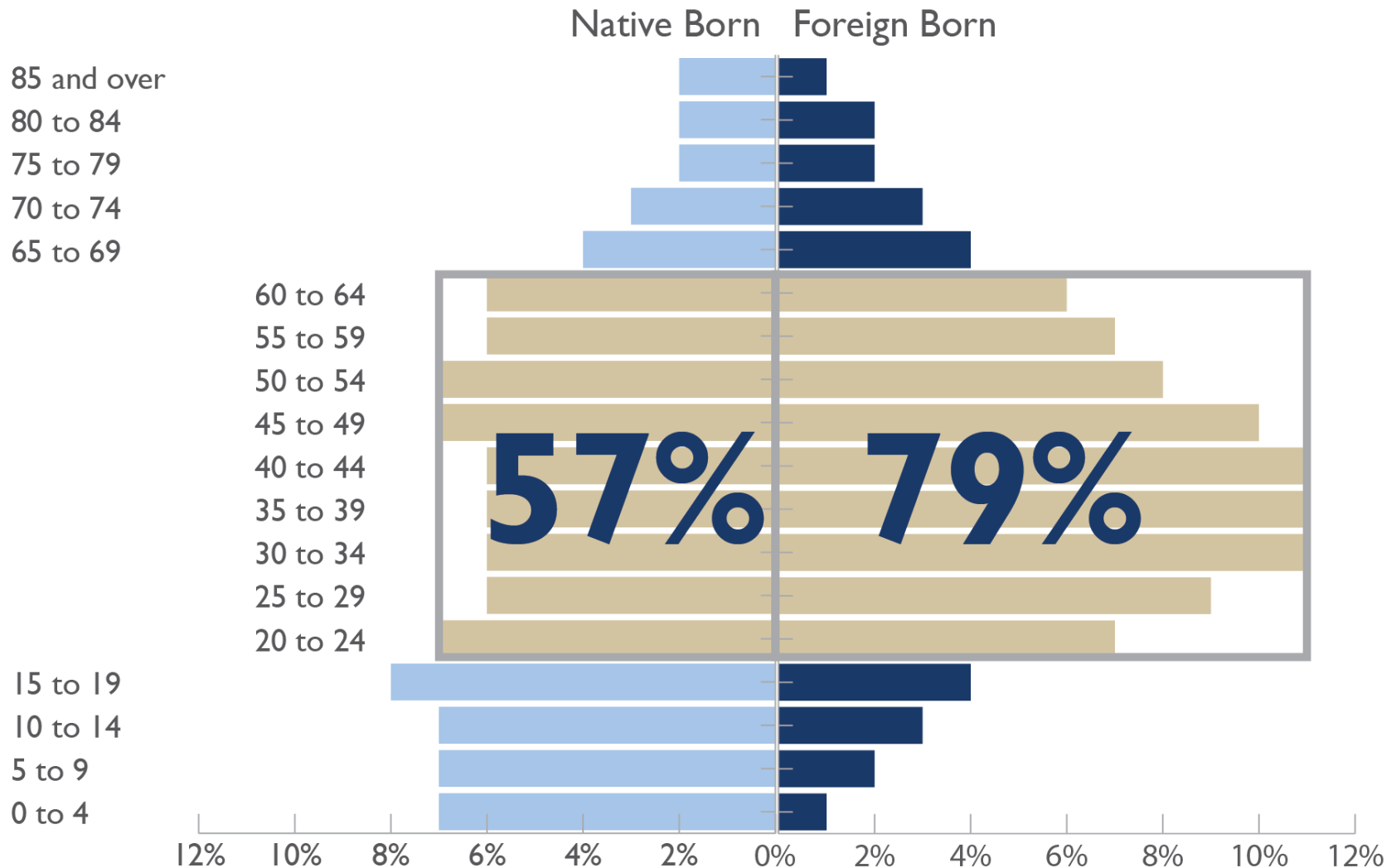
[Audrey Singer \(2013\), "Contemporary Immigrant Gateways in Historical Perspective"](#)

21 metros gained over 100,000 immigrants in the last decade

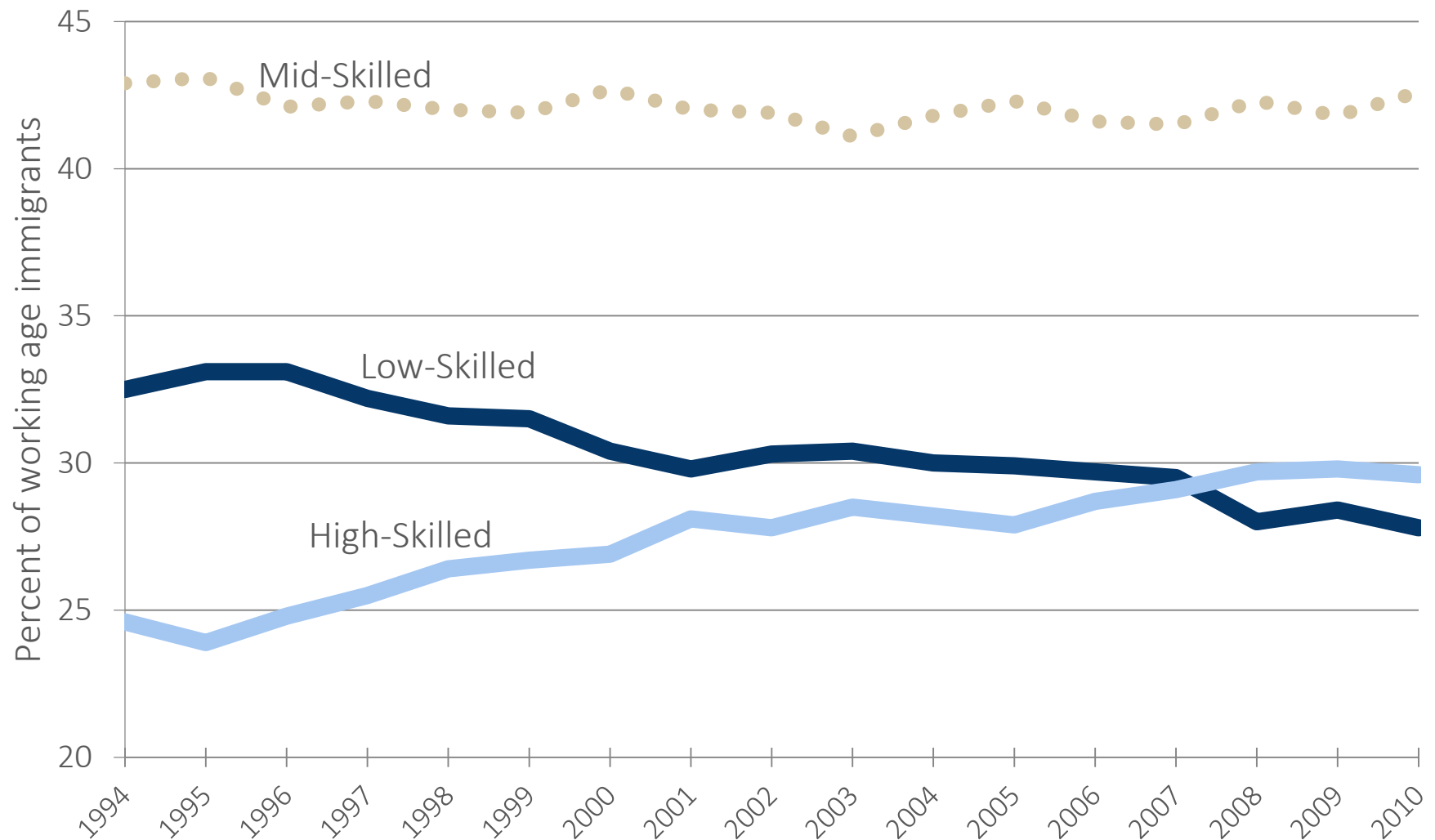


Note: Geographies standardized to 2010 MSA definitions.
Source: 2000 Decennial Census, 2010 ACS 1-year estimates.
[Audrey Singer \(2013\), "Contemporary Immigrant Gateways in Historical Perspective"](#)

While slightly more than half of the native-born population are 20-64, 79 percent of the foreign-born are in that age group

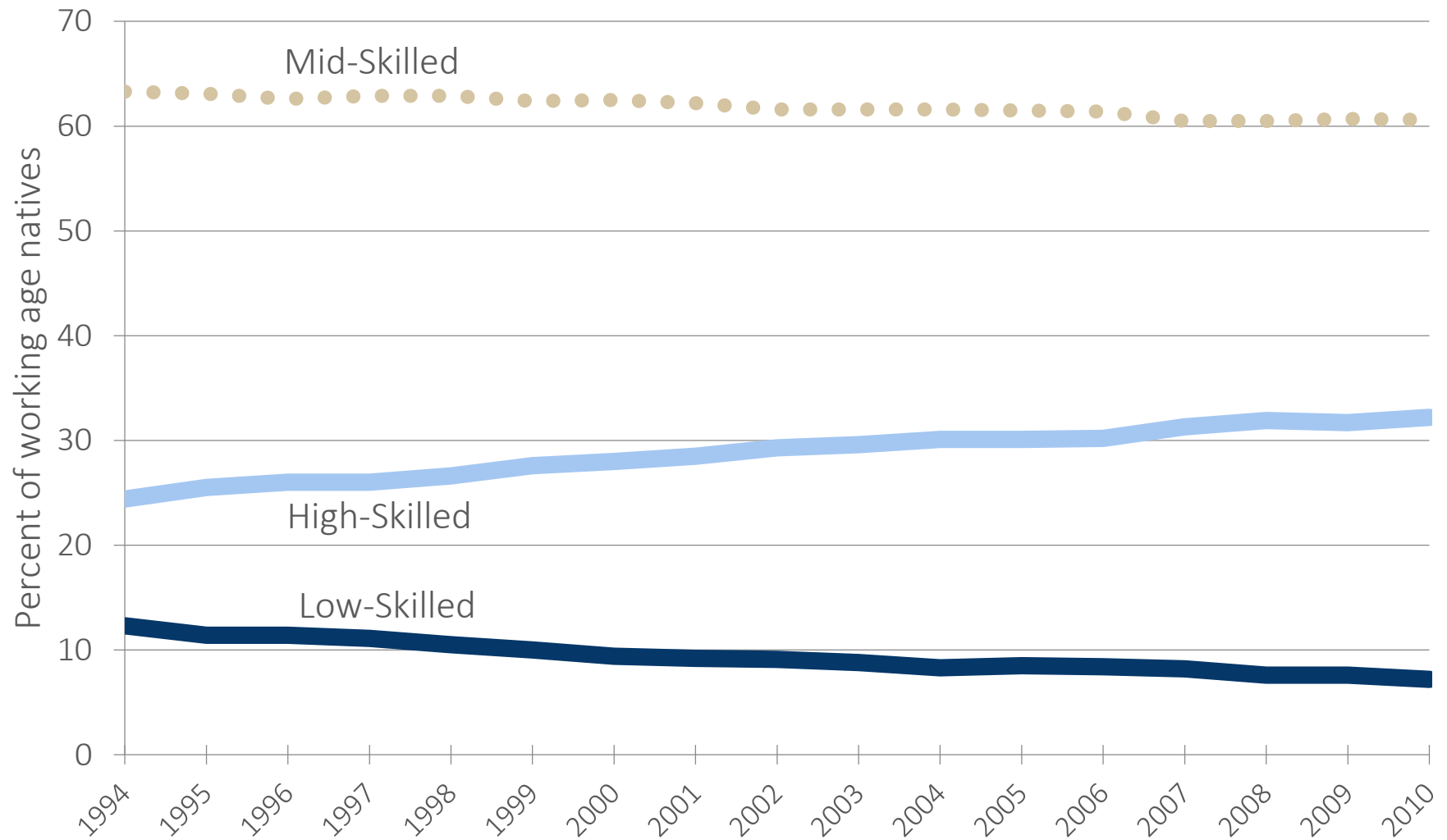


The share of working age immigrants with a bachelor's degree exceeds the share without a high school diploma

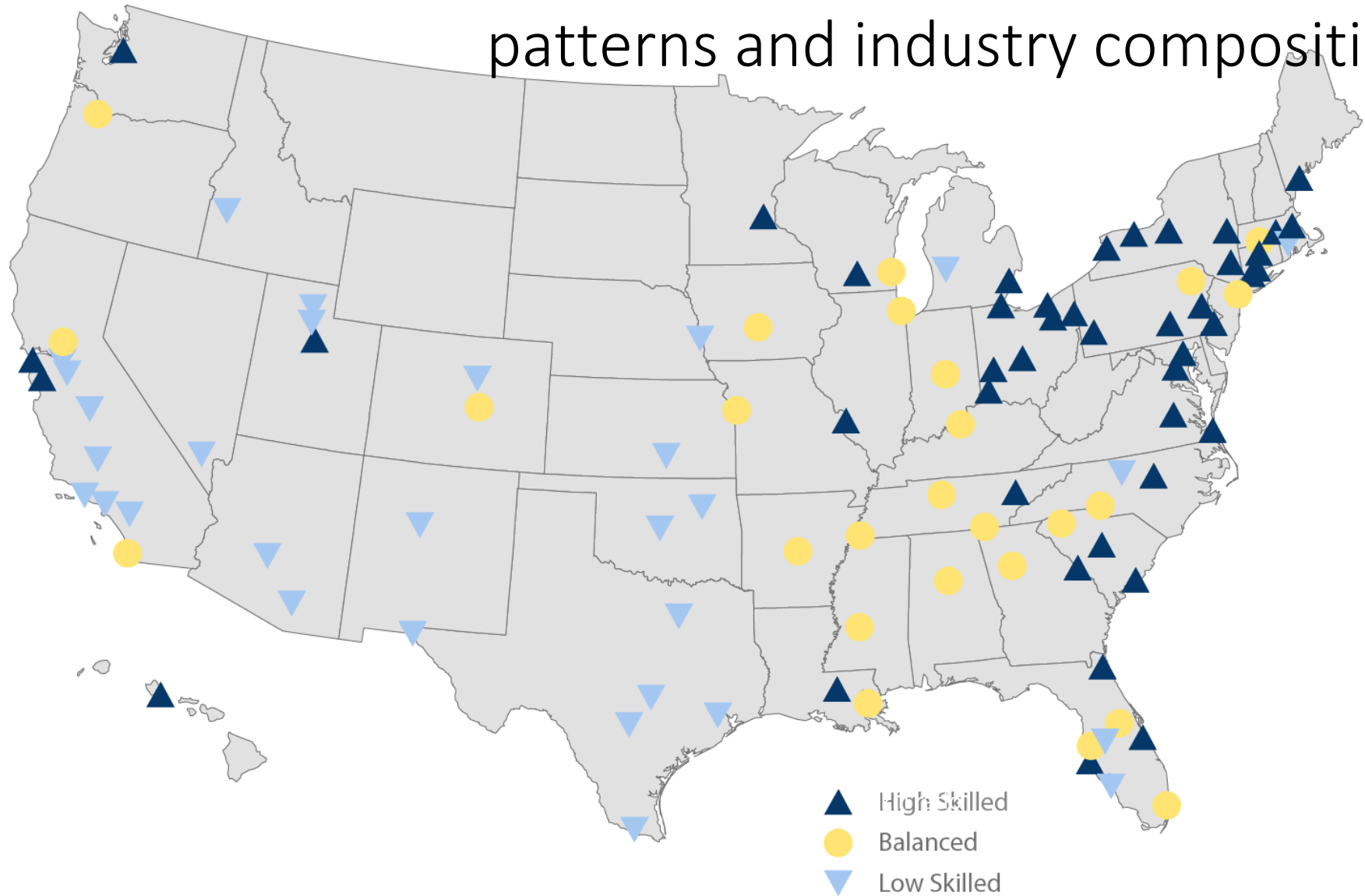


Note: Brookings analysis of weighted 1994-2010 Current Population Surveys; Matthew Hall et al. (2011), [“The Geography of Immigrant Skills: Educational Profiles of Metropolitan Areas”](#)

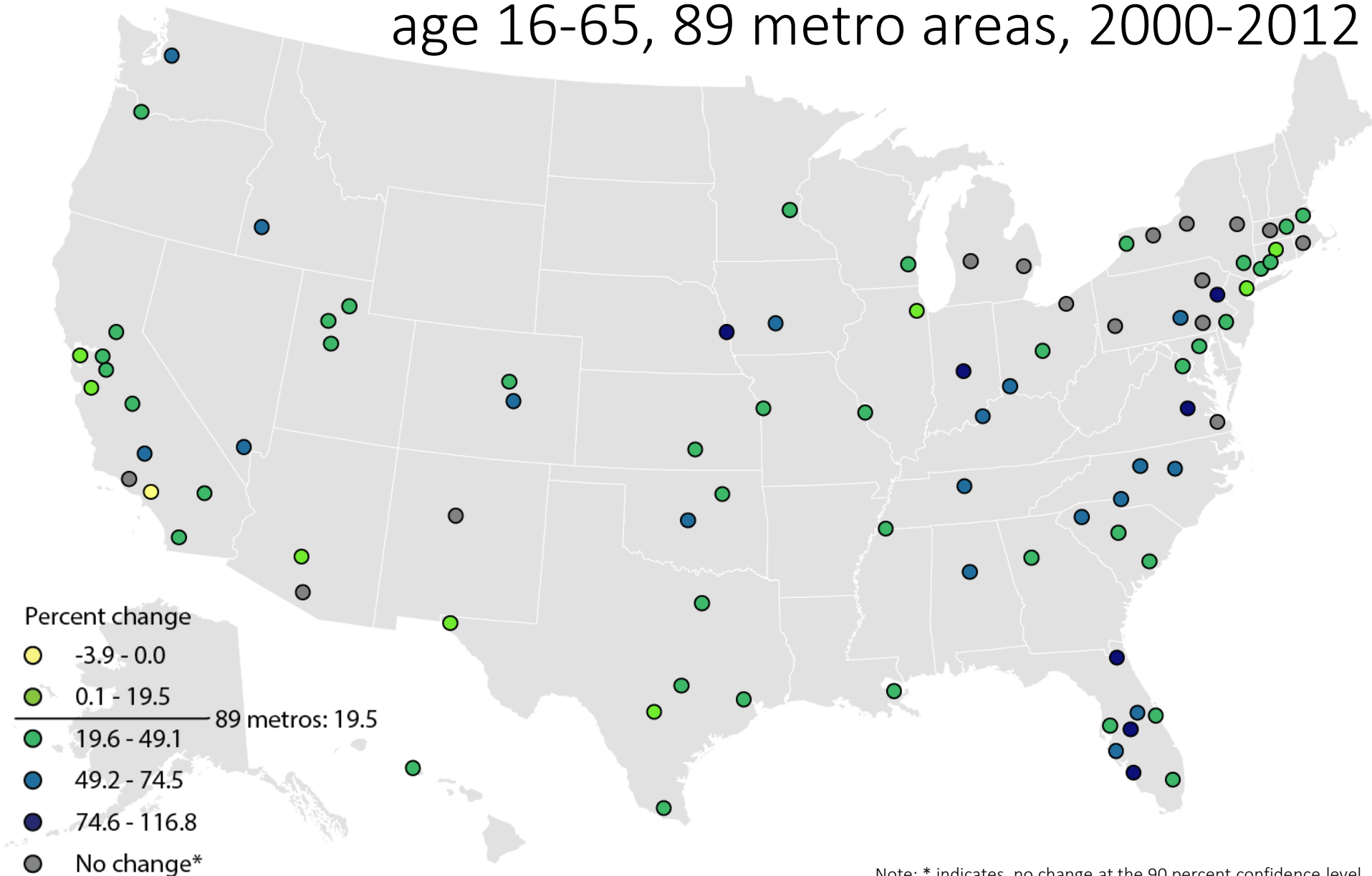
Similar shifts in skills are evident among the working age US-born, although those without a high school diploma is a much smaller share



Education profiles of immigrants vary by metropolitan area due to historical settlement patterns and industry composition

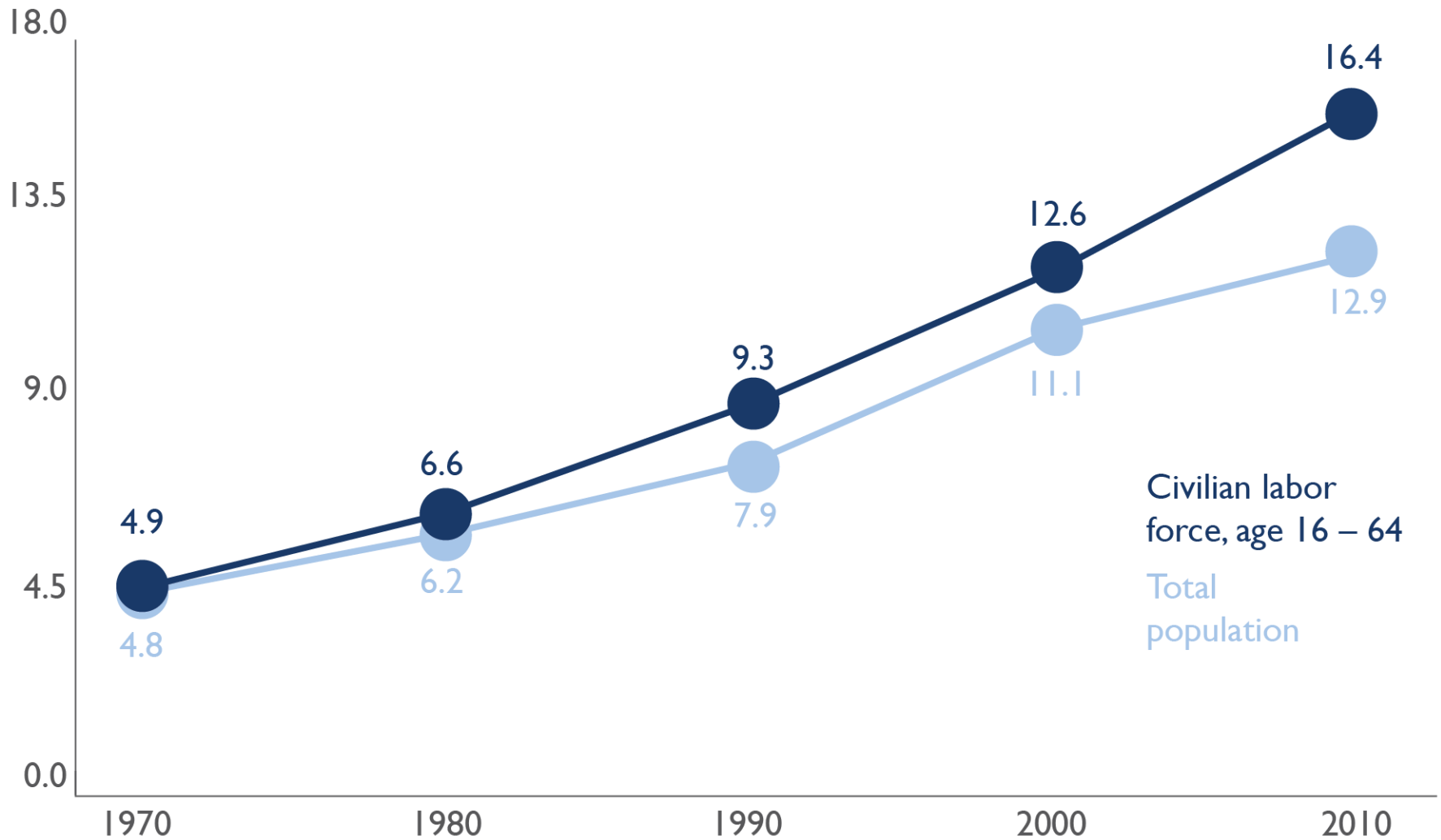


Change in the LEP population, age 16-65, 89 metro areas, 2000-2012



Immigrants are a growing part of the labor force

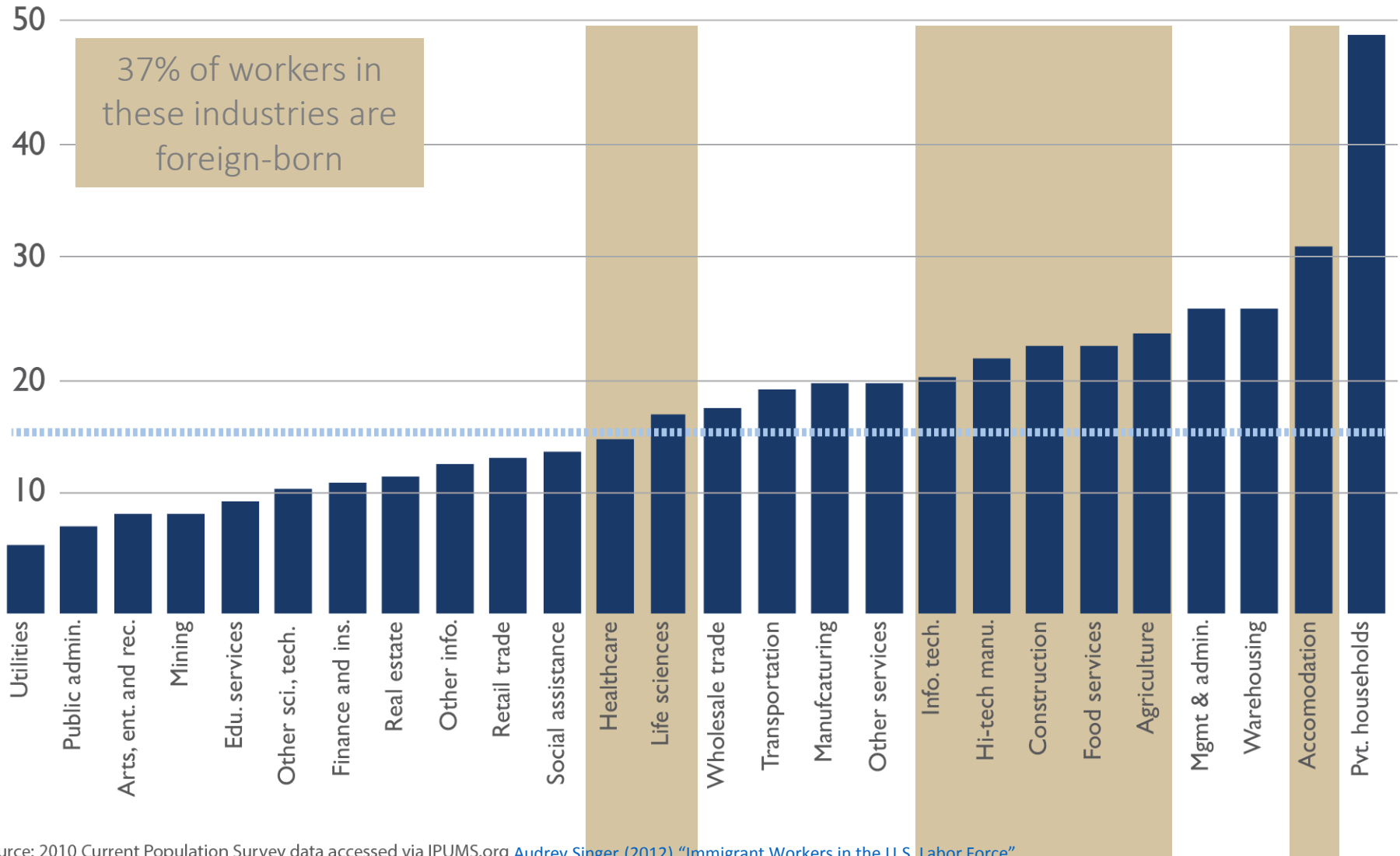
Foreign-born share of total population and labor force, 1970 – 2010



Source: U.S. decennial census data, 1970-2000 and ACS 2010, accessed from IPUMS.org [Audrey Singer \(2012\), "Immigrant Workers in the U.S. Labor Force"](#)

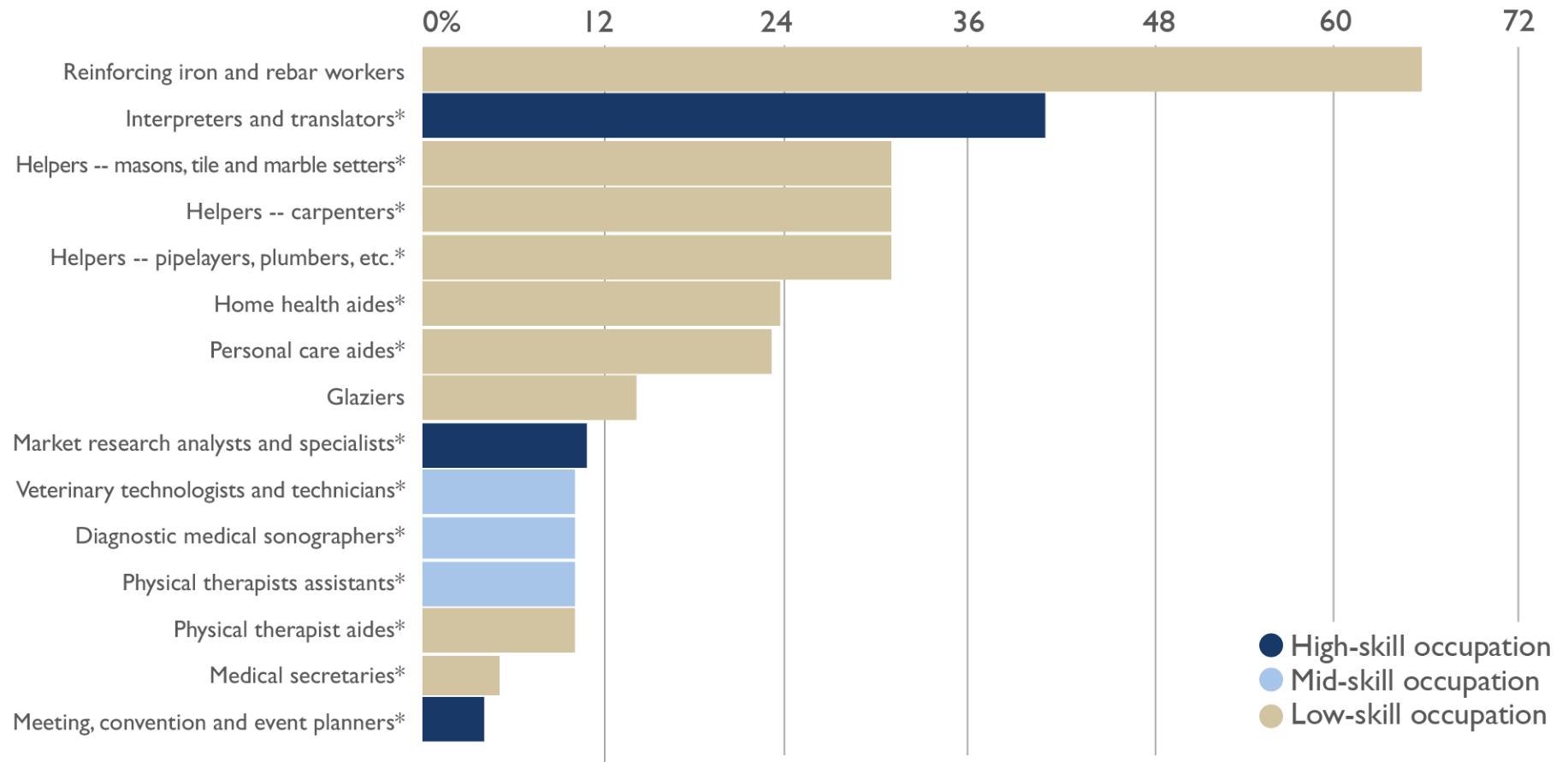
Immigrants are over-represented in certain industries

Percent foreign born by industry, 2010 (dashed line indicates total immigrant share of employed civilians)



Immigrants are over-represented in fastest-growing occupations: construction and healthcare

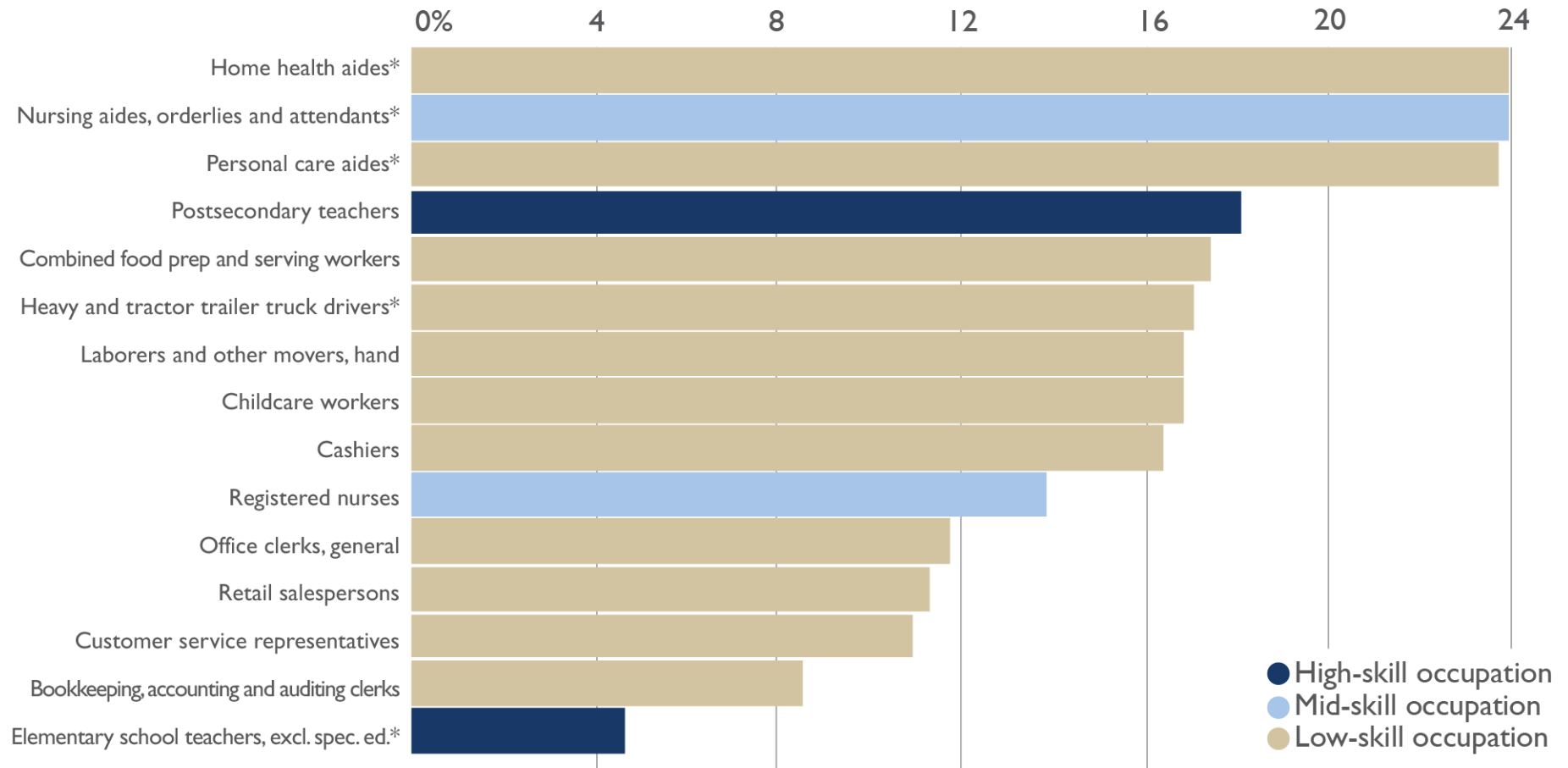
Foreign-born share in 2010 of the fifteen fastest-growing occupations, 2010 – 2020



Source: Projections data from Table 6 of <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/ecopro.pdf>; share foreign-born from 2010 Current Population Survey; skill level based on typical education needed to enter the occupation as reported by BLS. *For occupations marked with an asterisk, there is not a one-to-one match between BLS and CPS data. CPS data, which was used to determine the share foreign born, has less detailed occupational categories. Note: Biomedical engineers and occupational therapy assistants were among the fifteen occupations projected to grow the fastest by BLS, but they are not included on this graph because the sample size for foreign-born workers in those occupations in the 2010 CPS was too small to produce a reliable estimate. [Audrey Singer \(2012\), "Immigrant Workers in the U.S. Labor Force"](#)

Immigrants are over-represented in occupations projected to have the most new jobs

Foreign-born share in 2010 of the fifteen largest-growing occupations, 2010 – 2020



Source: Projections data from Table 7 of <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/ecopro.pdf>; share foreign-born from 2010 Current Population Survey; skill level based on typical education needed to enter the occupation as reported by BLS

*For occupations marked with an asterisk, there is not a one-to-one match between BLS and CPS data. CPS data, which was used to determine the share foreign born, has less detailed occupational categories. [Audrey Singer \(2012\), "Immigrant Workers in the U.S. Labor Force"](#)