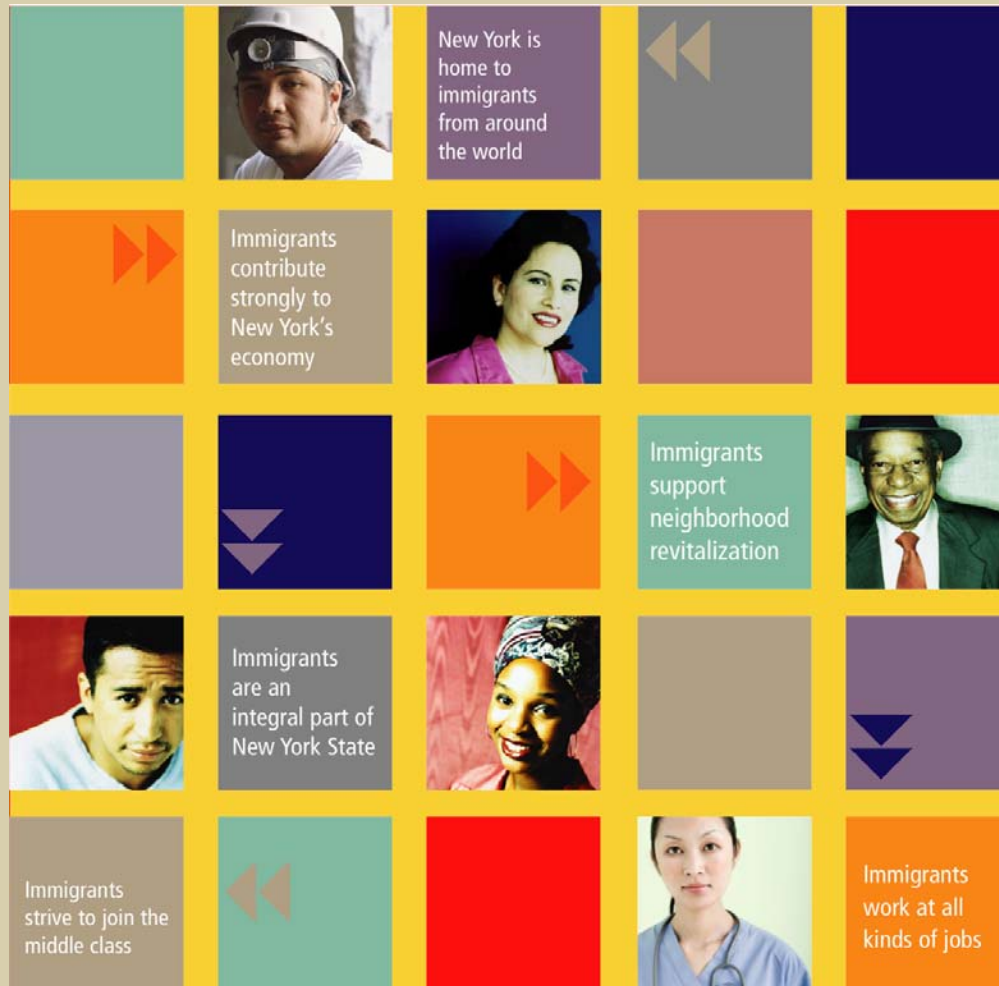


Fiscal Policy Institute



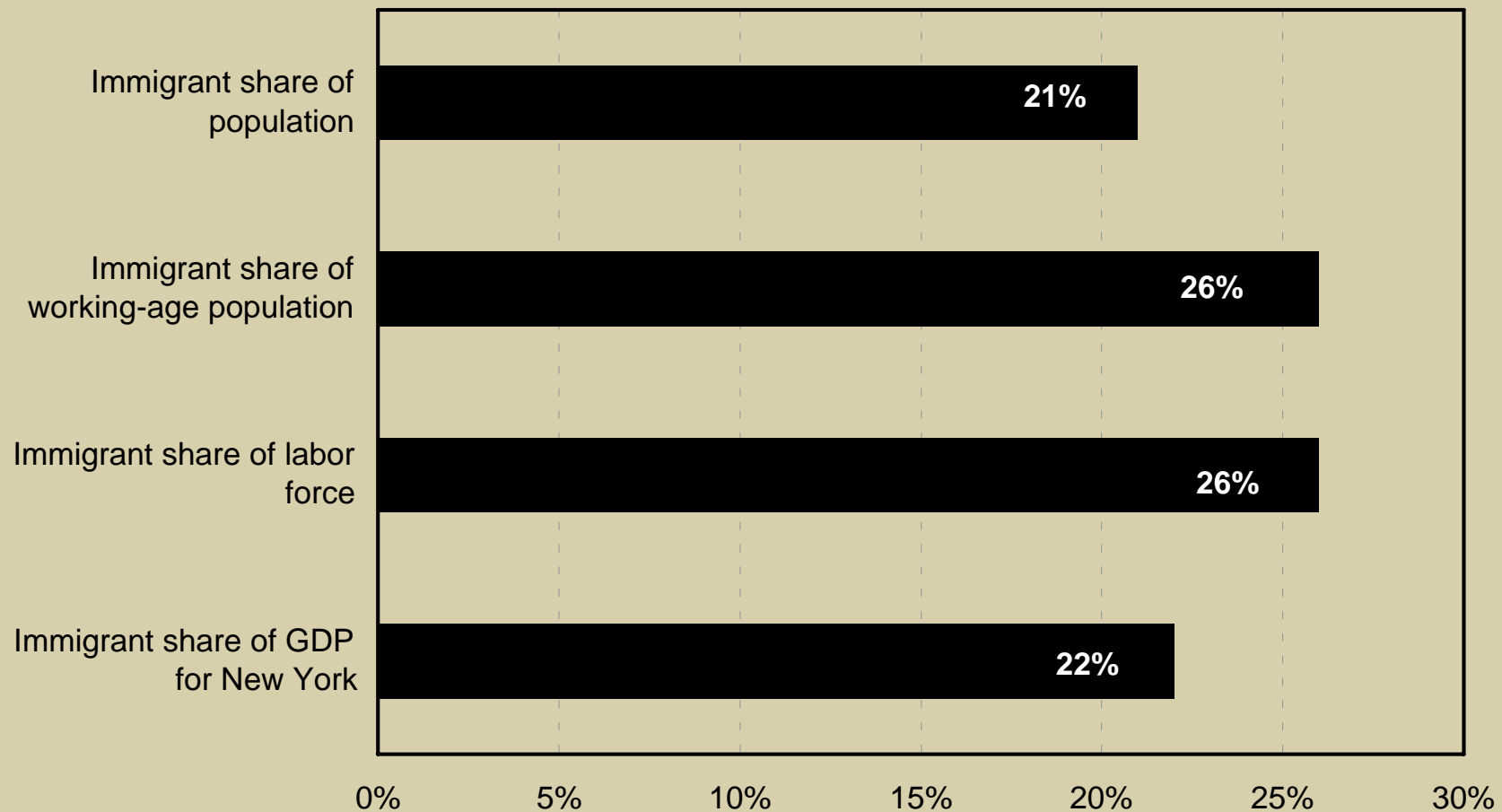
Working for a Better Life

A Profile of Immigrants in the New York State Economy

In an overheated atmosphere, Fiscal Policy Institute set out to take a calm look at the *real role of immigrants* in New York



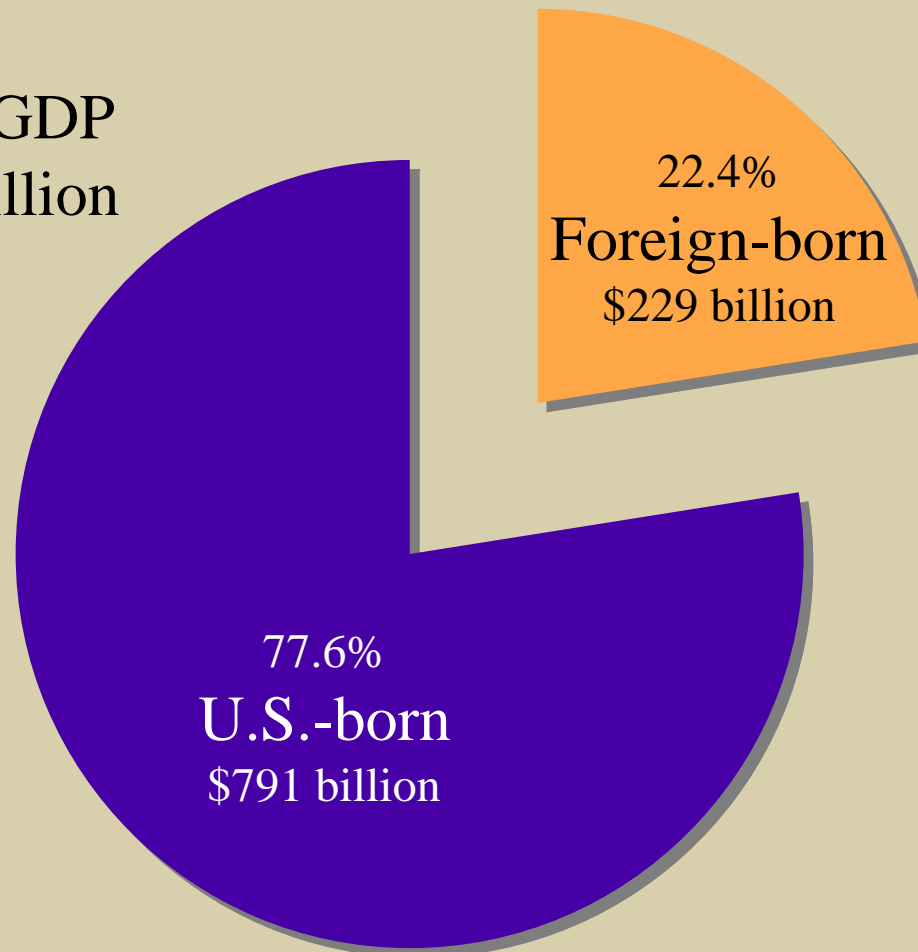
Immigrant **economic** contribution is greater than the share of state population



Source: FPI analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS. Working age is 16-64 years old.

Immigrant **economic** contribution represents nearly
a quarter of the New York State economy

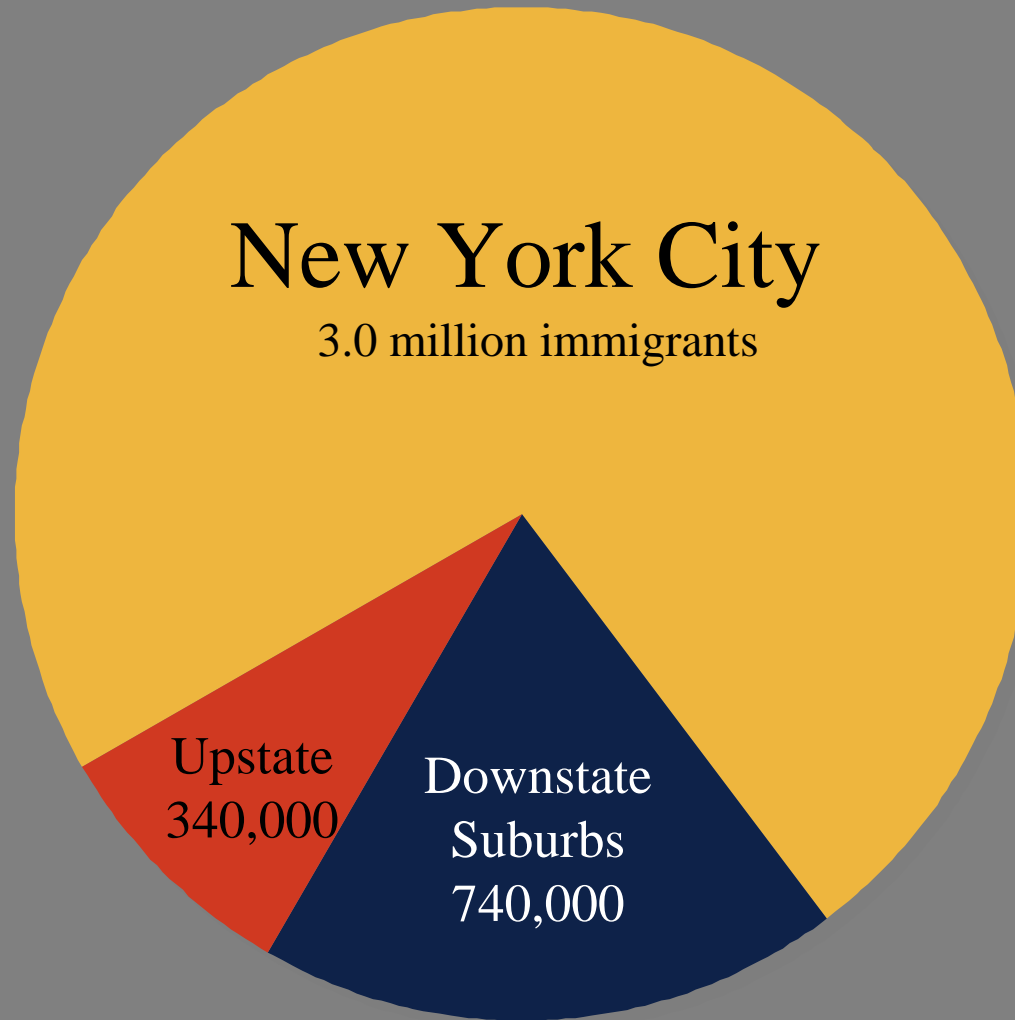
New York State GDP
in 2006: \$1.02 trillion



Source: FPI calculation based on Bureau of Economic Analysis estimate of Gross Domestic Product by State and ACS PUMS. See *Working for a Better Life*, Appendix B, for details.

3 distinct stories of immigration

in New York State



Downstate Suburbs

Nassau
Suffolk
Westchester
Rockland
Putnam

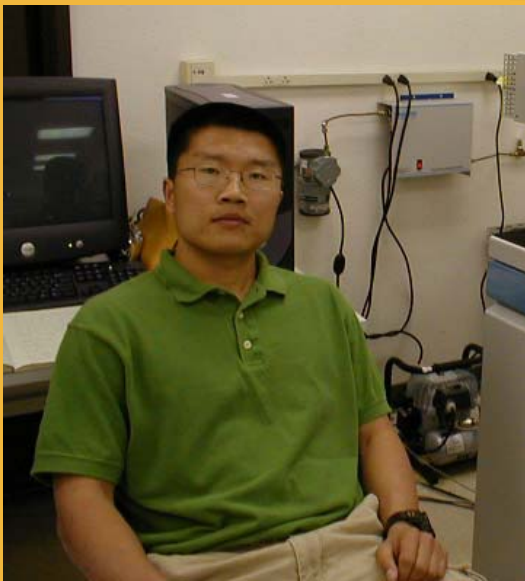
Sources: American Community Survey 2005 and New York City Department of City Planning corrected figures, as accepted by the Census Bureau.



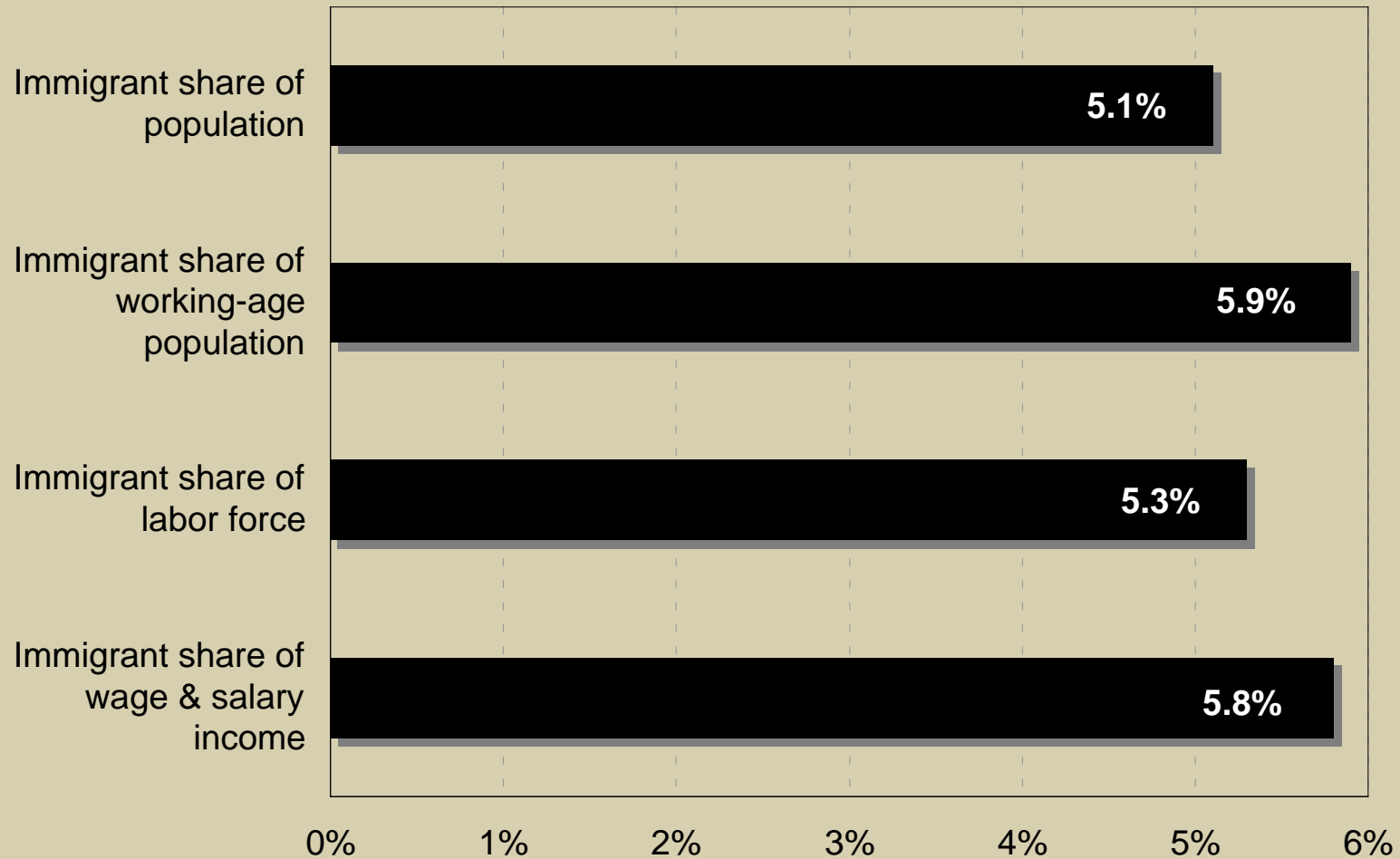
Upstate New York



Immigrants Play a Key Role in Fields
Important to Future Growth



Immigrant contribution to the **upstate** economy

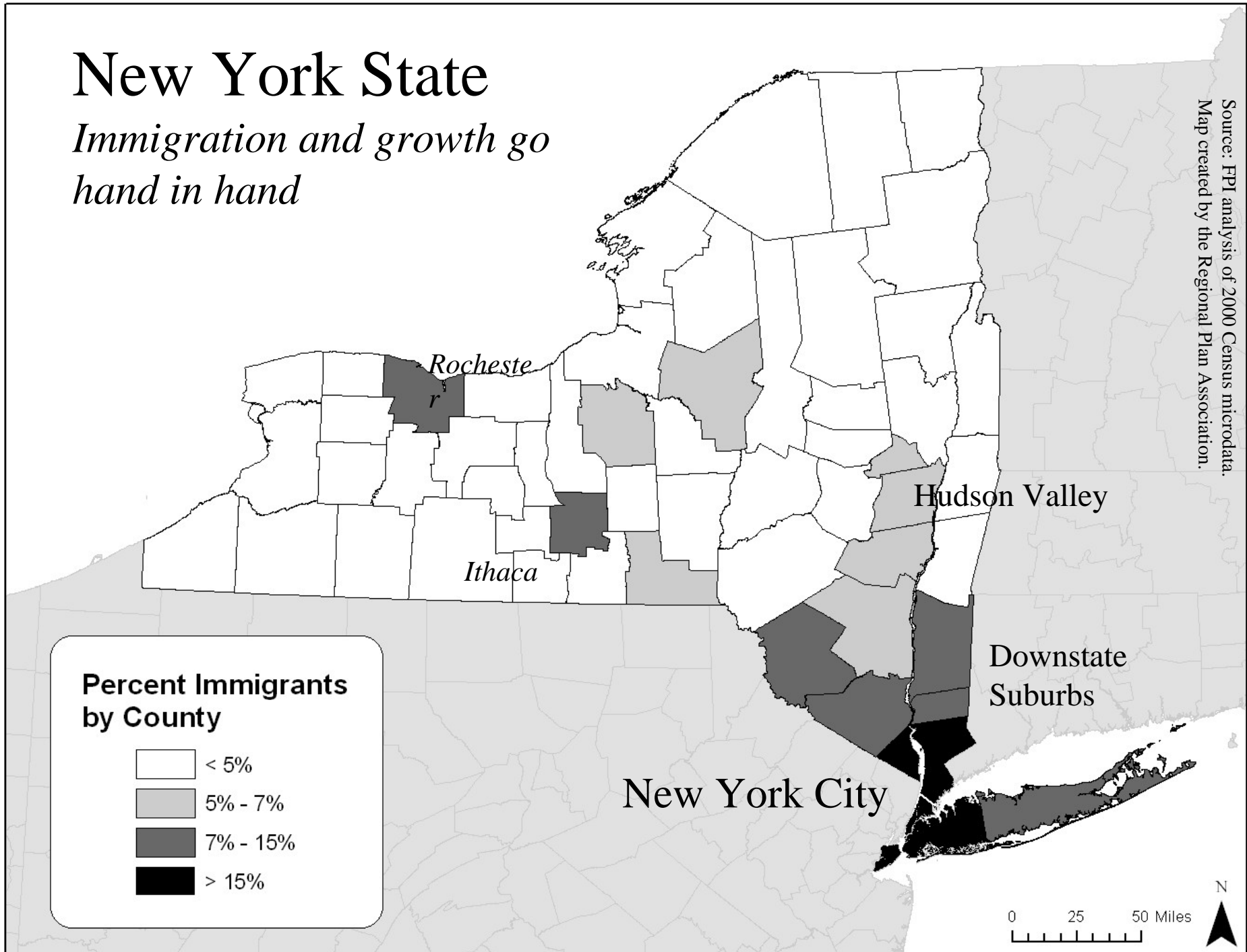


Source: FPI analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS.
Working age is 16-64 years old.

New York State

Immigration and growth go hand in hand

Source: FPI analysis of 2000 Census microdata.
Map created by the Regional Plan Association.



Immigrants are especially important to *four sectors* that are critical to upstate **growth & culture**

Health Care

35% of doctors

Higher Education

20% of professors

Research & Development

20% of computer software engineers

Farming

80% of seasonal farm workers

Immigrants in upstate New York live in families at the
same income levels as U.S.-born residents

<i>Share of individuals in families with income</i>	<i>in immigrant families</i>	<i>in U.S.-born families</i>	<i>Significant difference?</i>
under \$20,000	20%	20%	no
\$20,000-39,999	20%	20%	no
\$40,000-59,999	19%	17%	no
\$60,000-\$80,000	14%	15%	no
over \$80,000	28%	28%	no

Source: FPI analysis CPS March supplements covering years 2001-2005. Data is from a 5-year pool, with incomes in 2005 dollars (CPIU). Immigrant families are those in which any adult was foreign-born. Distribution weighted by family size. Results given are the midpoint of a 90 percent confidence interval, with standard deviations derived by bootstrapping at 100 resamplings. See *Working for a Better Life* for details.

What would you *guess* are the
top 10 countries immigrants to upstate NY come from ?

1. Canada
2. India
3. Germany
4. Mexico
5. Italy
6. China
7. Korea
8. Jamaica
9. Poland
10. Bosnia and Herzegovina

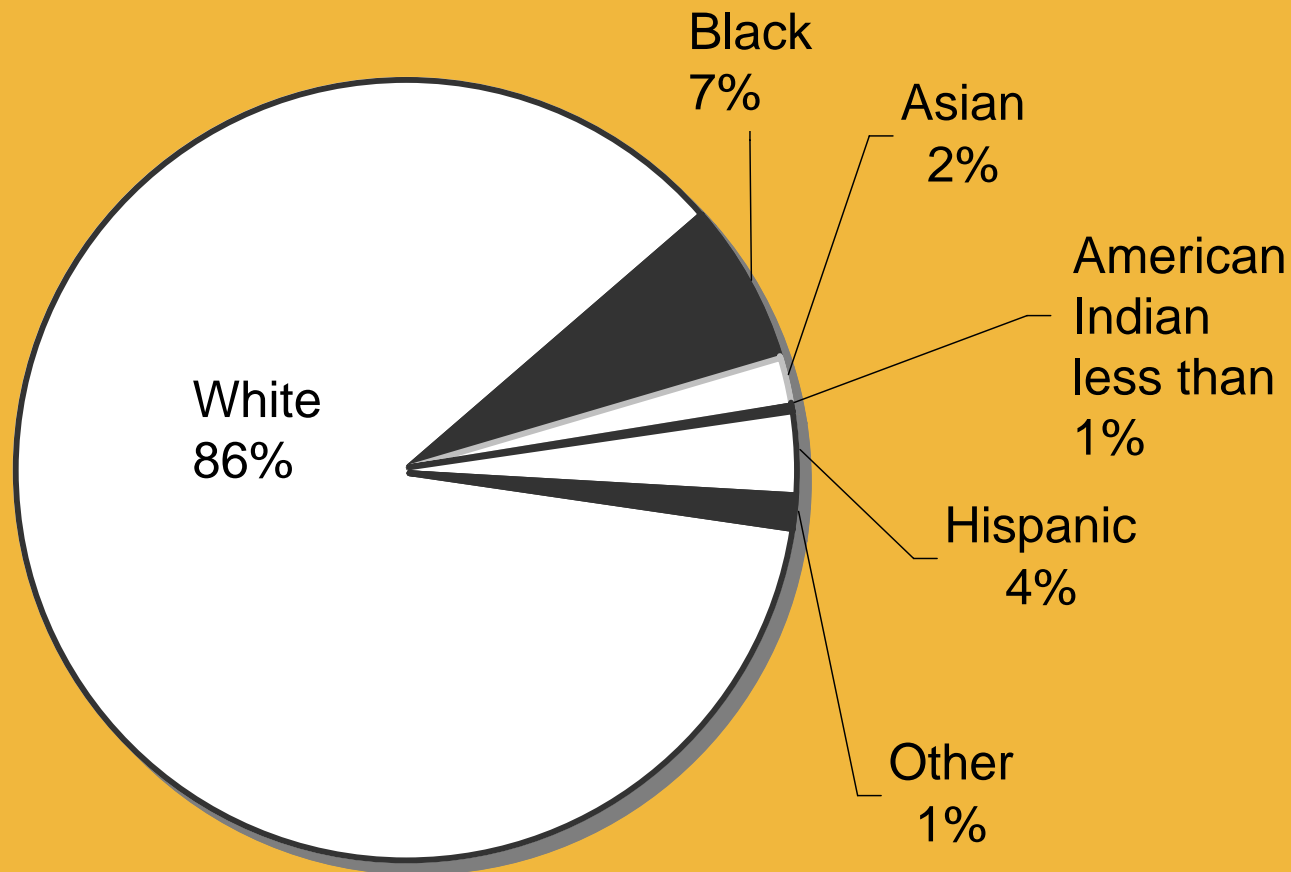
Undocumented workers play a particularly large role in upstate
New York **farming**, working tough jobs at low wages.

Of 41,000 seasonal farm workers, it is estimated that roughly *two thirds* are undocumented

2,000-2,500 foreign farm workers come *legally* to work in New York on H2A visas

Of 19,000 year-round farm workers, a *much smaller portion* are undocumented

Overall level of **diversity** upstate...



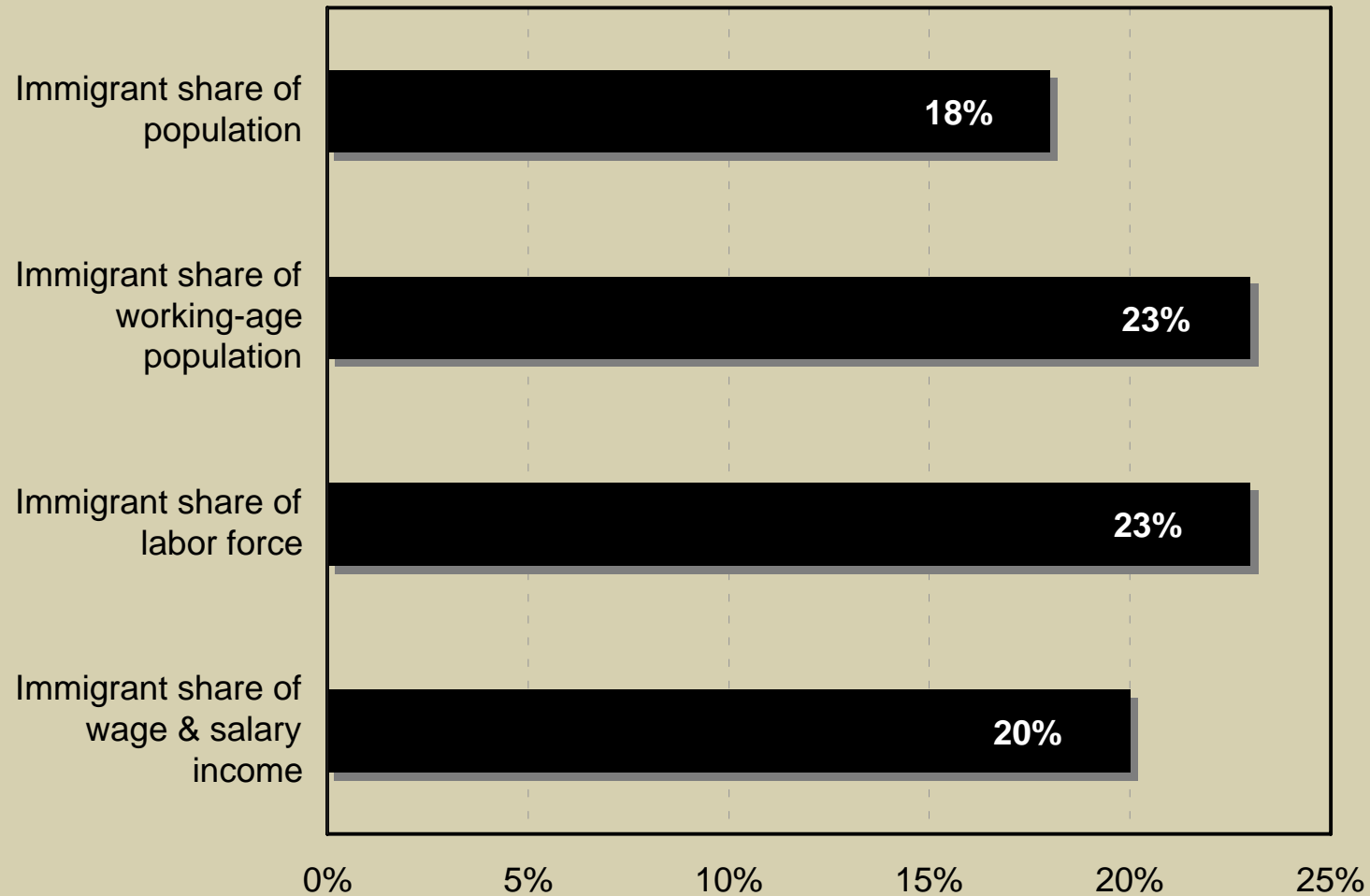


Downstate Suburbs

Growing, and Growing More Diverse



Immigrant contribution to the **downstate suburbs**



Source: FPI analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS. Working age is 16-64 years old.

Median **family income** in Nassau, Suffolk,
Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam counties

Families with at least one immigrant adult: **\$71,000**

Families with only U.S.-born adults: **\$86,000**

Source: FPI analysis of CPS March supplements covering the years 2001-2005.
Data is from 5-year pool, with incomes in 2005 dollars (CPIU).

Day laborers attract a lot of attention, but day laborers are
less than a half of one
percent of immigrants, and a small portion even
of undocumented immigrants.

Based on Valenzuela & Meléndez estimate of 6,000-8,000 day laborers hired through shape-up sites in the entire New York metropolitan area, including New York City and suburbs in New York and New Jersey. See *Working for a Better Life* for further details.

A good number of construction workers, maids, and grounds maintenance workers are immigrants.

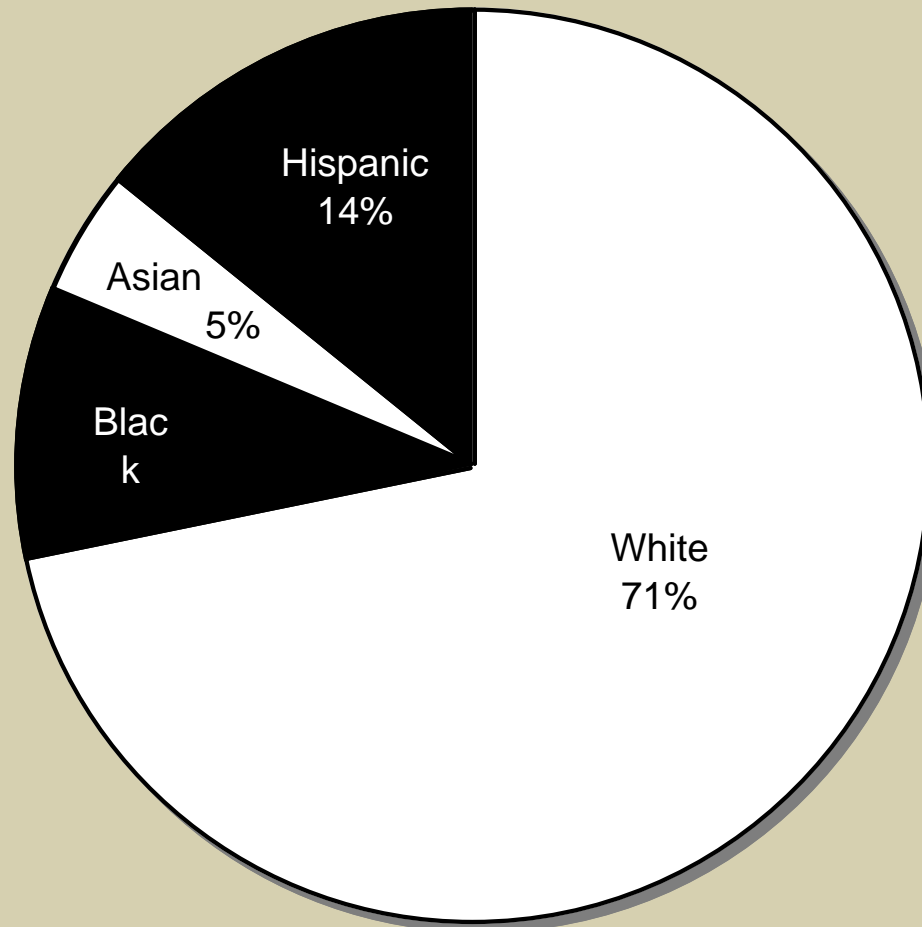
But...

the **top occupation** of immigrants in the downstate suburbs is registered nurse (29% of RNs are foreign born)

41% of all **physicians and surgeons** are foreign-born

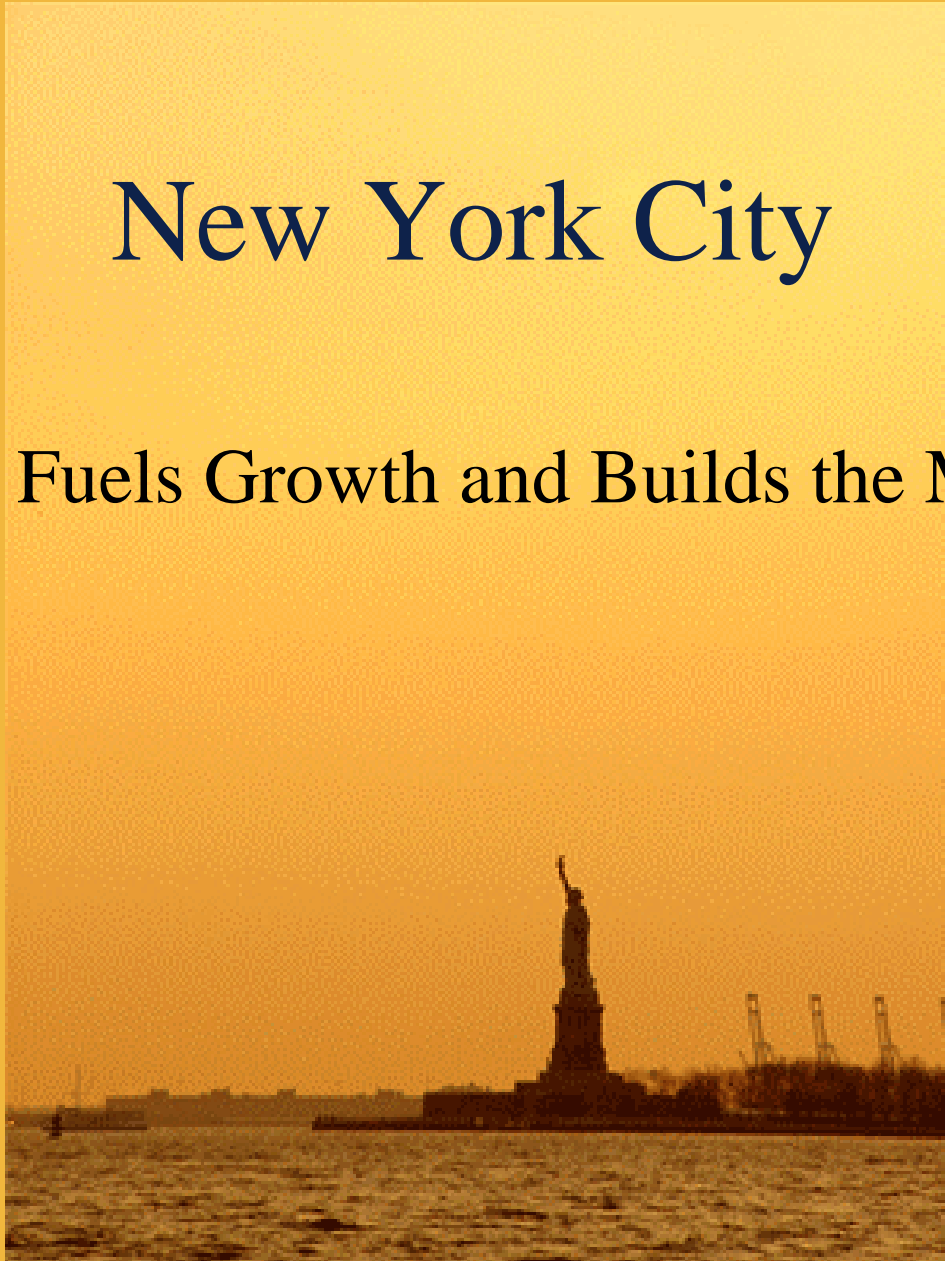
22% of **accountants** are foreign-born

The downstate suburbs are becoming
diverse and **global**

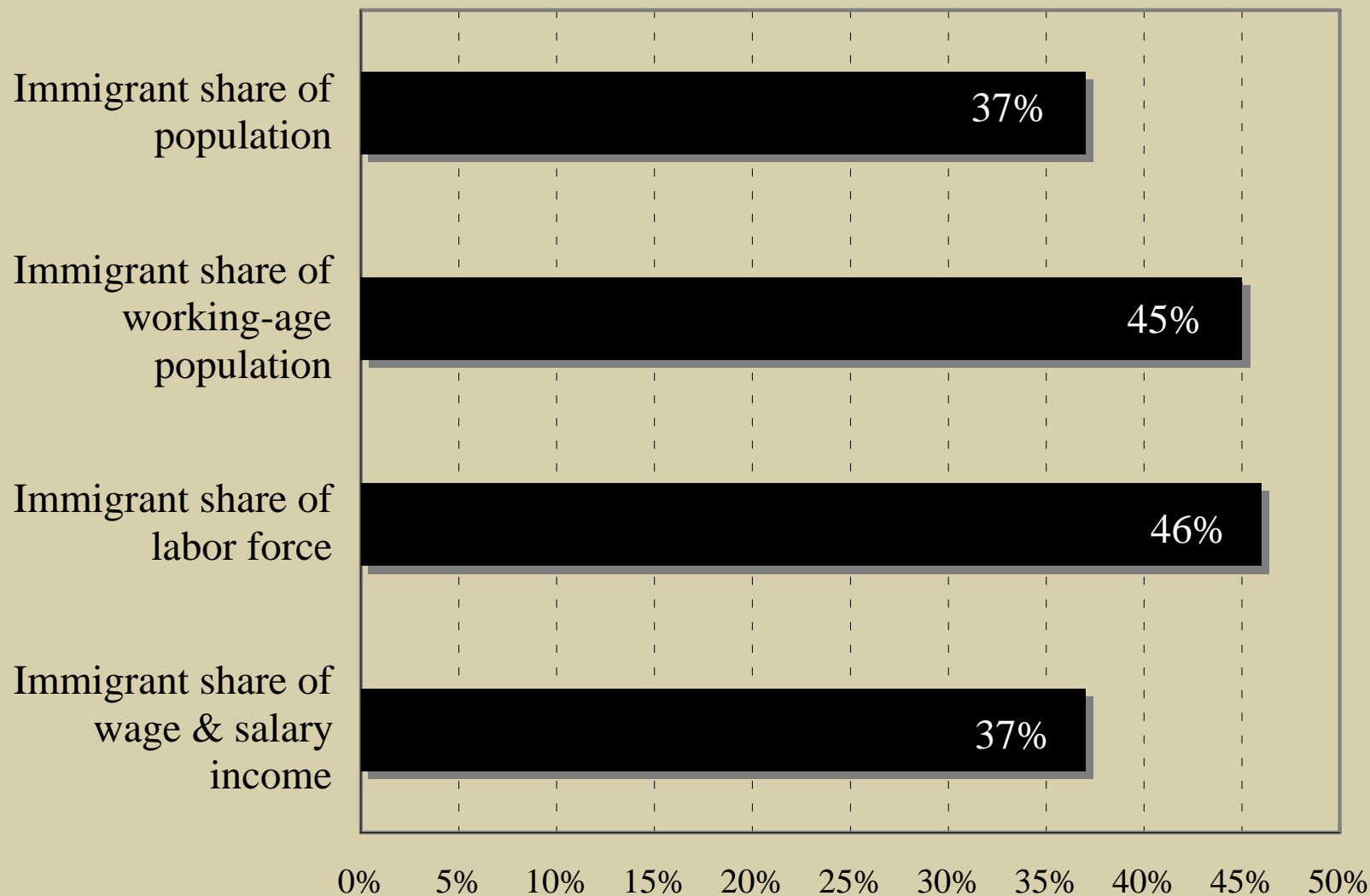


New York City

Immigration Fuels Growth and Builds the Middle Class



Immigrant contributions make up almost half of the **New York City** economy



Sources: FPI analysis of ACS PUMS, and New York City Department of City Planning.
Working age is 16-64 years old.

Where does **New York City** rank for share of immigrants among America's 20 biggest cities?

	population	foreign-born
Los Angeles	3.7 million	40%
San Jose	900,000	38%
New York City	8.0 million	37%
San Francisco	700,000	36%
Houston	1.9 million	29%
Dallas	1.1 million	27%
San Diego	1.2 million	26%
Phoenix	1.4 million	36%
Chicago	2.7 million	29%
Austin	700,000	18%
Fort Worth	600,000	18%
San Antonio	1.2 million	14%
Charlotte	600,000	13%
Philadelphia	1.4 million	11%
Columbus	700,000	9%
Jacksonville	800,000	8%
Indianapolis	800,000	7%
Detroit	800,000	6%
Memphis	600,000	6%
Baltimore	600,000	6%

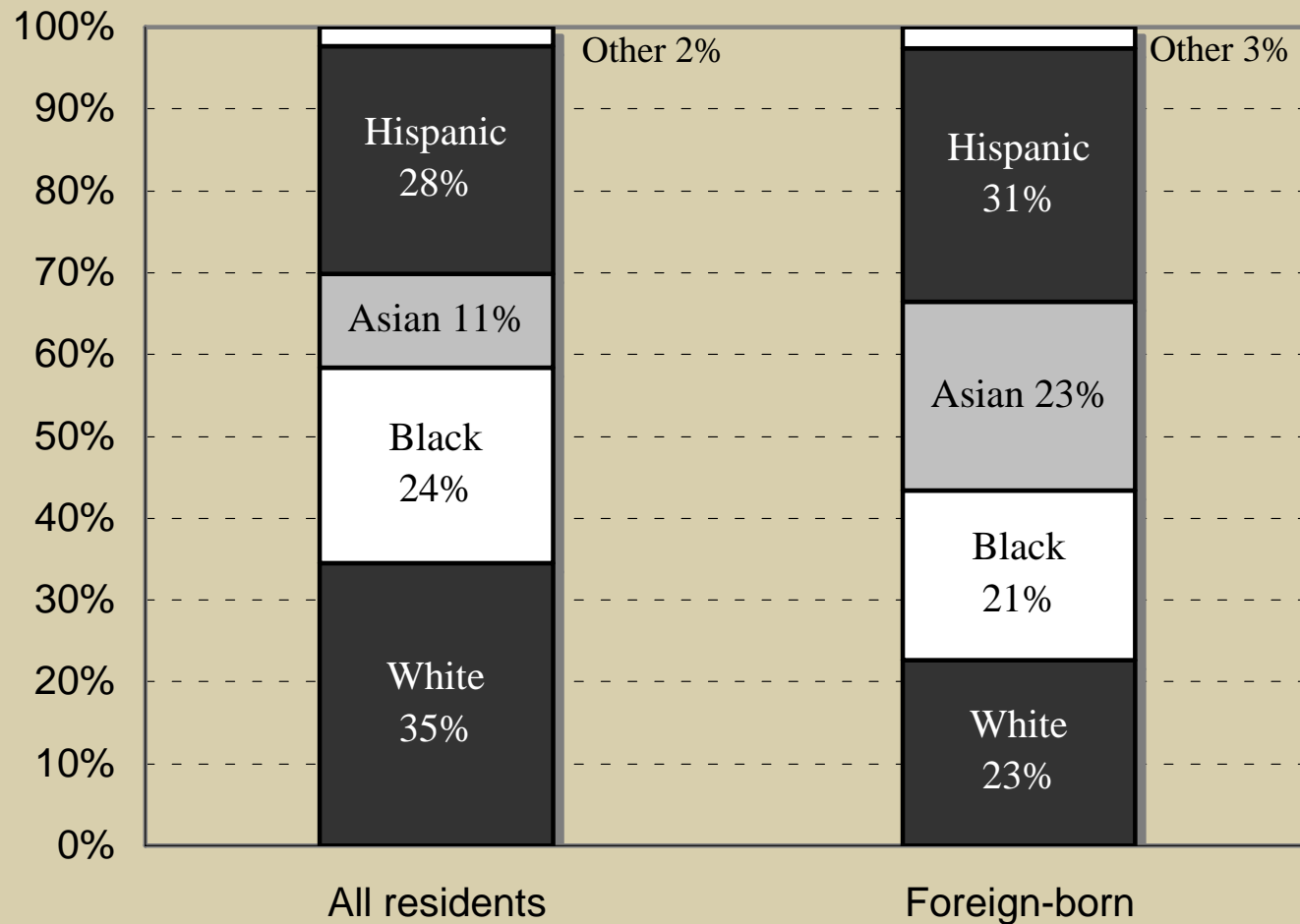
Sources: Source: 2005 ACS (American FactFinder). Populations are of city, not metropolitan region.

Immigrants to NYC come from all around the world

Dominican Republic	Ukraine	Honduras
China	Russia	El Salvador
Jamaica	Korea	Cuba
Mexico	Philippines	Barbados
Guyana	Poland	Greece
Ecuador	Italy	Israel
Haiti	Bangladesh	Romania
India	Pakistan	Yugoslavia
Trinidad & Tobago	Peru	Panama
Colombia	Hong Kong	Taiwan

countries from which there are over 20,000 residents, in order from most (336,000) to fewest (20,700)

and immigrants *fit right in* to the racial and ethnic mix of New York City



Immigrants in NYC are more likely to live in families in the **middle** income brackets

Living in families with income of	Families with immigrant adult	Families with only U.S.-born adults
\$20,000-\$80,000	55%	44%

Immigrants represent a significant portion of workers
in virtually **every occupation** in New York City

Business

A quarter of of CEOs (8,000)

5 in 10 accountants

3 in 10 office clerks

3 in 10 receptionists

5 in 10 building cleaners

Real estate

3 in 10 of brokers

4 in 10 property managers

4 in 10 architects

7 in 10 construction laborers

Health Care

5 in 10 doctors

6 in 10 registered nurses

7 in 10 nursing aids

Finance

3 in 10 financial managers

3 in 10 securities, commodities and
financial service sales agents

31 percent of **commuters** are immigrants

**Percent of
commuters
who are
foreign-born**

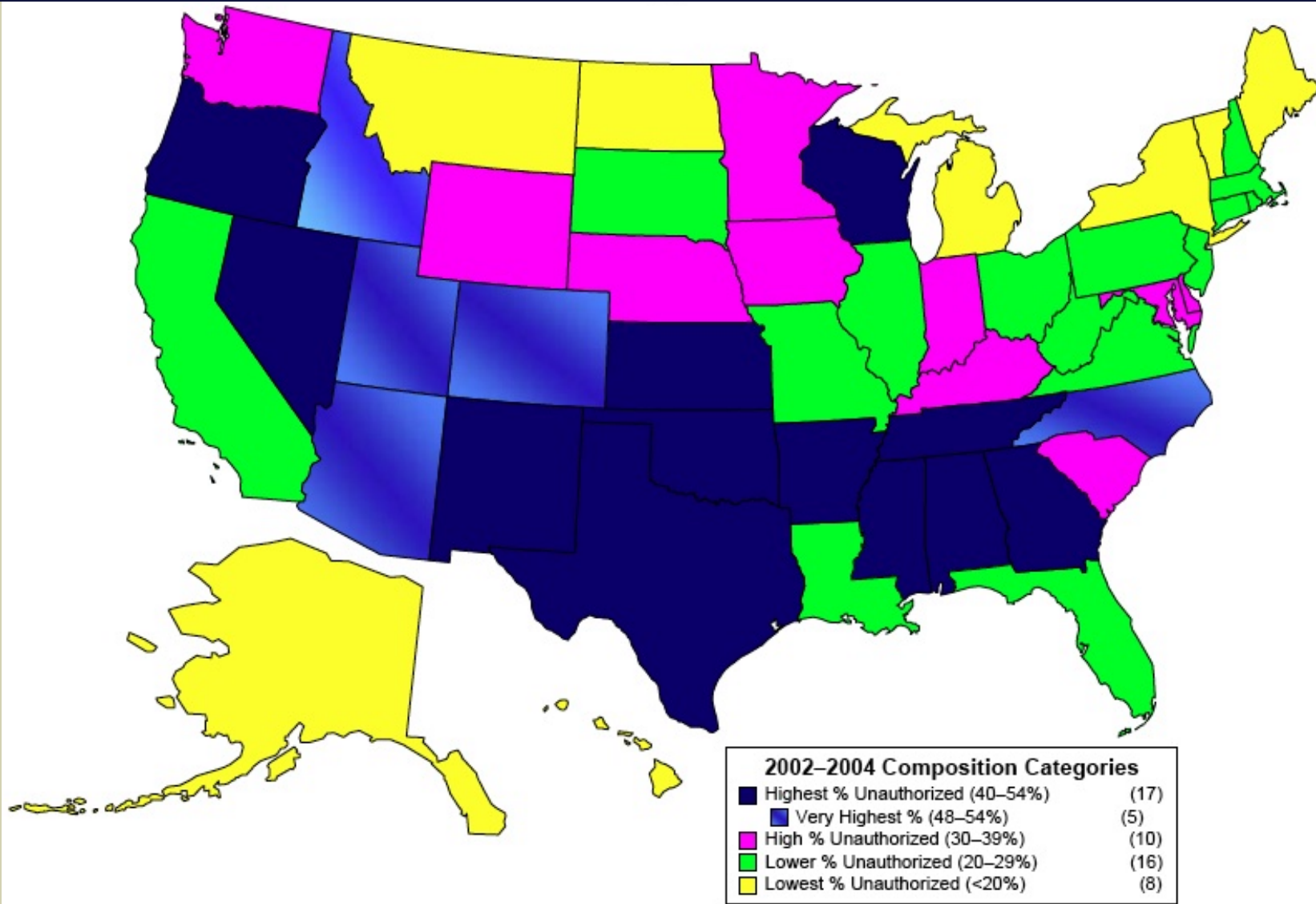
Commuters to New York City, by type of work

Management, business, and financial	24%
Professional and related	34%
Service	39%
Sales and related	27%
Office and administrative support	28%
Construction and extraction	33%
Installation, maintenance and repair	29%
Production	49%
Transportation and material moving	40%
All	31%

Chart shows inbound commuters to New York City from New Jersey, Connecticut, and other parts of New York State.

Source: FPI Analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS. Universe: those 16 and older who live in NY, NJ, or CT, and who report New York City as place of work.

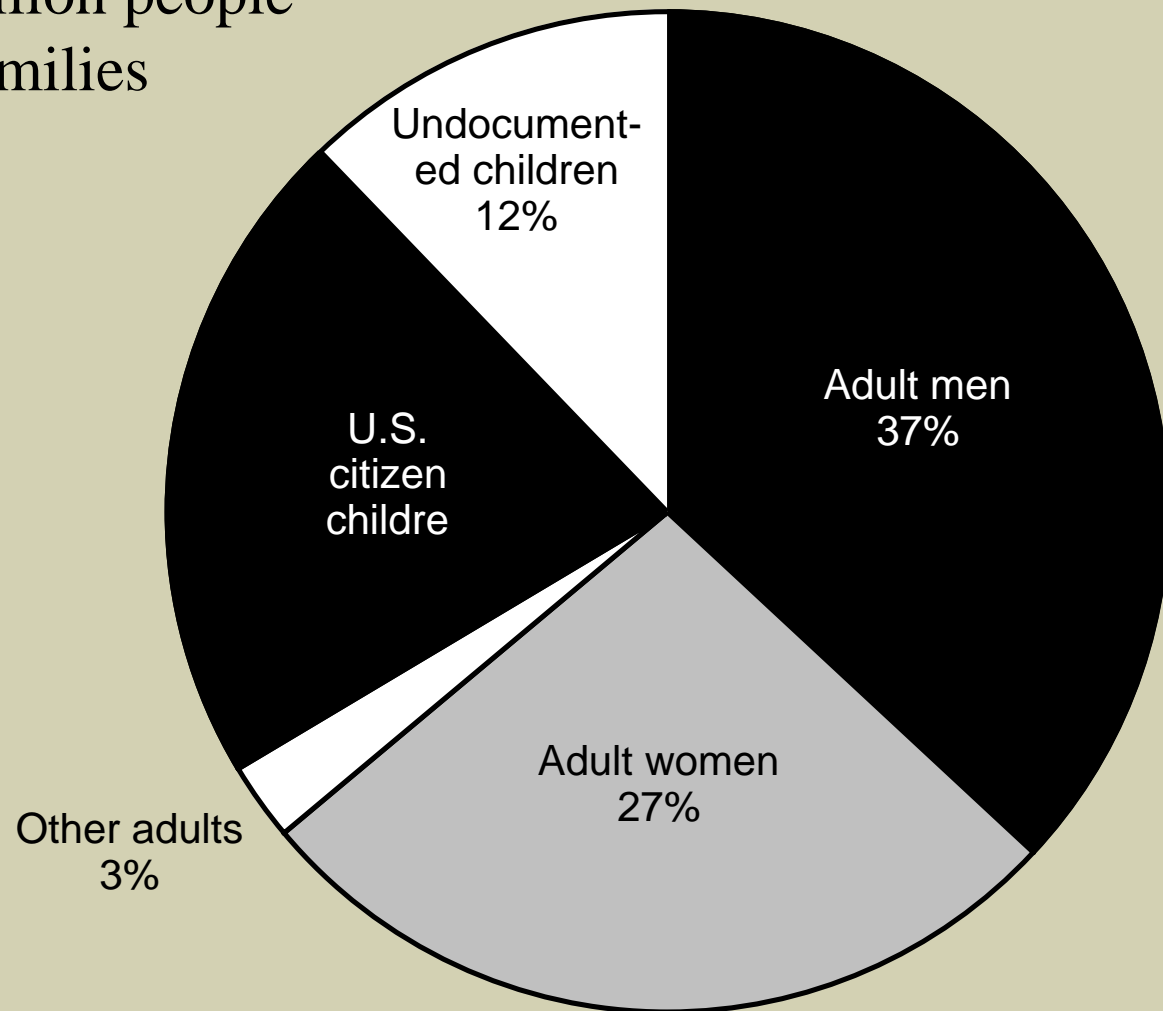
The debate often turns on illegal immigration, and on *undocumented* immigrants, NY is a “yellow” state



Source: Jeffrey S. Passell, “Unauthorized Migrants: Numbers and Characteristics,” Pew Hispanic Center, 2005

There isn't a bright line between "legal" and "illegal."

In the U.S., 14.6 million people in undocumented families



Source: Jeffrey S. Passell, "Unauthorized Migrants: Numbers and Characteristics," Pew Hispanic Center, 2006

How many undocumented immigrants are in New York City?

Estimated undocumented *residents* in New York City: 535,000

Estimated undocumented *workers* 374,000

Portion of New York City workers who are undocumented: 10%

Source: Prepared for FPI by Jeffrey S. Passel, Pew Hispanic Center, 2007. Based on Pew Hispanic Center data from March 2000-2006, CPS with legal status assigned. Occupations included in this table have an average of at least 5,000 workers and the share of undocumented exceeds the New York City share of undocumented workers. For more information, see *Working for a Better Life*, Appendix A.

Where do undocumented immigrants work ?

<i>Top occupations of undocumented workers</i>	<i>Number in NYC</i>	<i>Portion of all in occupation</i>
Cooks	21,000	33%
Janitors & building cleaners	19,000	19%
Construction laborers	17,000	32%
Maids & housekeeping cleaners	16,000	28%
Waiters & waitresses	15,000	28%
Sewing machine operators	12,000	35%
Dishwashers	11,000	54%
Taxi drivers & chauffeurs	11,000	20%
Cashiers	10,000	12%
Retail salespersons	10,000	12%

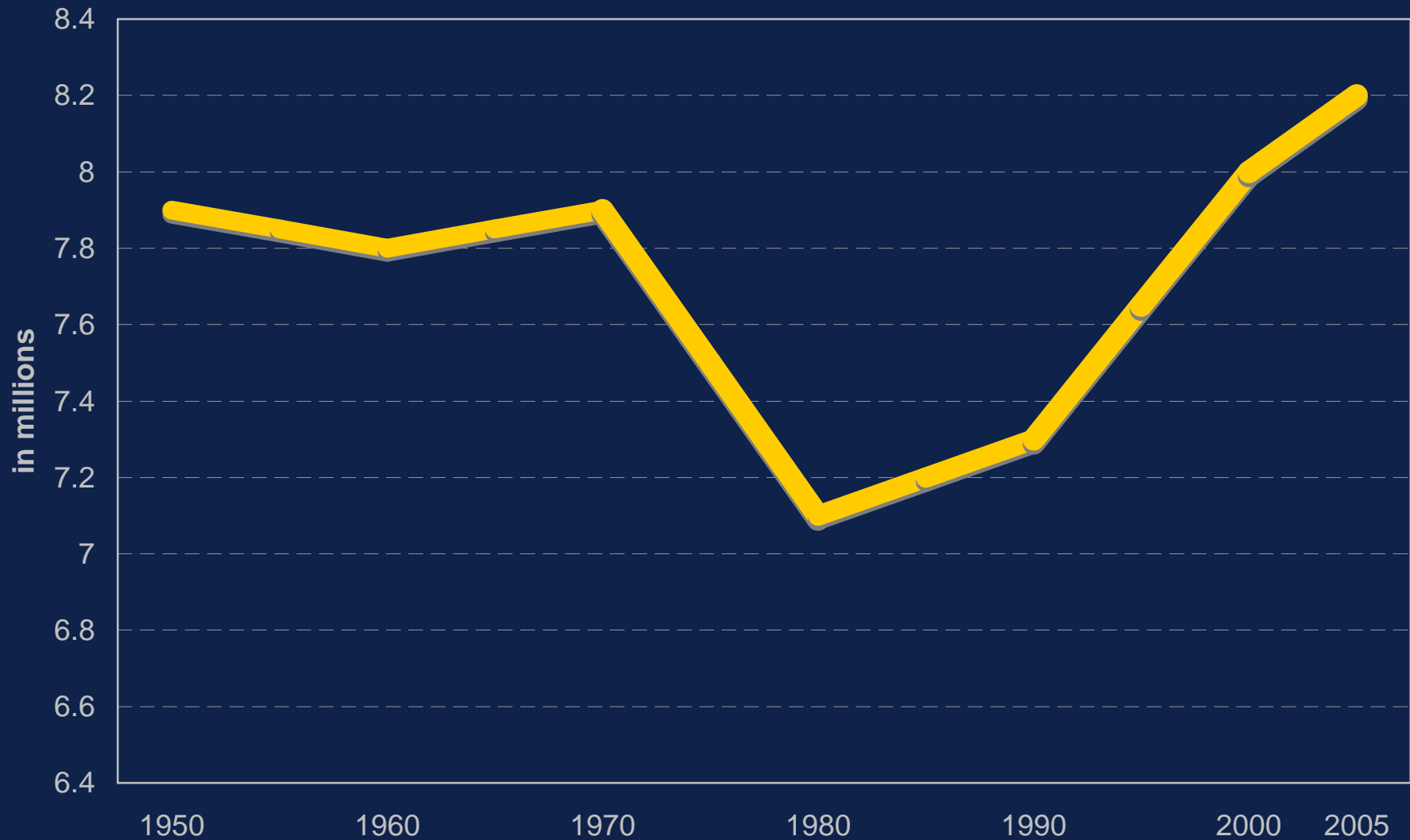
Source: Prepared for FPI by Jeffrey S. Passel, Pew Hispanic Center, 2007. Based on Pew Hispanic Center data from March 2000-2006, CPS with legal status assigned. Occupations included in this table have an average of at least 5,000 workers and the share of undocumented exceeds the New York City share of undocumented workers. For more information, see *Working for a Better Life*, Appendix A.

“The most visible symbol and source of New York City’s comeback is that we’re growing again. Our population is at an all-time high.”

Mayor Michael Bloomberg

PlaNYC 2030 speech, December 12, 2006

New York City Population 1950-2005



Sources: Population of Counties by Decennial Census and New York City Department of City Planning

NYC Population Trends

	1980	1990	2000	2005	trend 1980-2005
Native-born	5.4 million	5.2 million	5.1 million	5.2 million	-194,000
Foreign-born	1.7 million	2.1 million	2.9 million	3.0 million	+1.3 million
Total NYC	7.0 million	7.3 million	8.0 million	8.2 million	+1.2 million
Immigrant share of pop.	24%	28%	35%	37%	

Source: NYC Dept. of City Planning analysis of Census and ACS.

Business growth is fastest in immigrant neighborhoods

	Number of businesses 1994	Number of businesses 2004	Increase 1994-2004	Percent increase 1994-2004
New York City	192,405	210,783	18,378	9.6%
Flushing	2,364	3,654	1,290	54.6%
Sunset Park	1,090	1,606	516	47.3%
Sheepshead Bay- Brighton Beach	1,421	1,900	479	33.7%
Elmhurst	1,040	1,301	261	25.1%
Washington Heights	1,807	2,129	322	17.8%
Jackson Heights	1,284	1,468	184	14.3%
Flatbush	888	984	96	10.8%

Source: Center for an Urban Future, A World of Opportunity, analysis of NYS Labor Department data.

wages for immigrants are 10-20% lower
except among top earners

Hourly wages for NYC workers

Educational attainment	Foreign- born	U.S.-born	Difference between the two
Less than high school	\$9.50	\$10.38	9%
High school	\$12.27	\$14.53	18%
Some college	\$14.53	\$16.74	15%
College	\$21.76	\$25.94	19%
All	\$13.85	\$18.68	35%

Source: FPI analysis of CPS outgoing rotation groups, 2001-2006. Universe: those in labor force, age 25 and older, who reported education level. Medians of 6-year pools (in 2006 dollars, using CPI-U deflator).

Immigrants come into a labor market with
strongly **racially defined** dimensions

Even after correcting for education:

*U.S.-born whites earn a good \$2.50/hour more than any other group,
U.S.-born or foreign-born*

Less than high school

White immigrants get considerably better wages than black or Hispanic immigrants

High school grads

White immigrants earn more than black, Hispanic or Asian immigrants

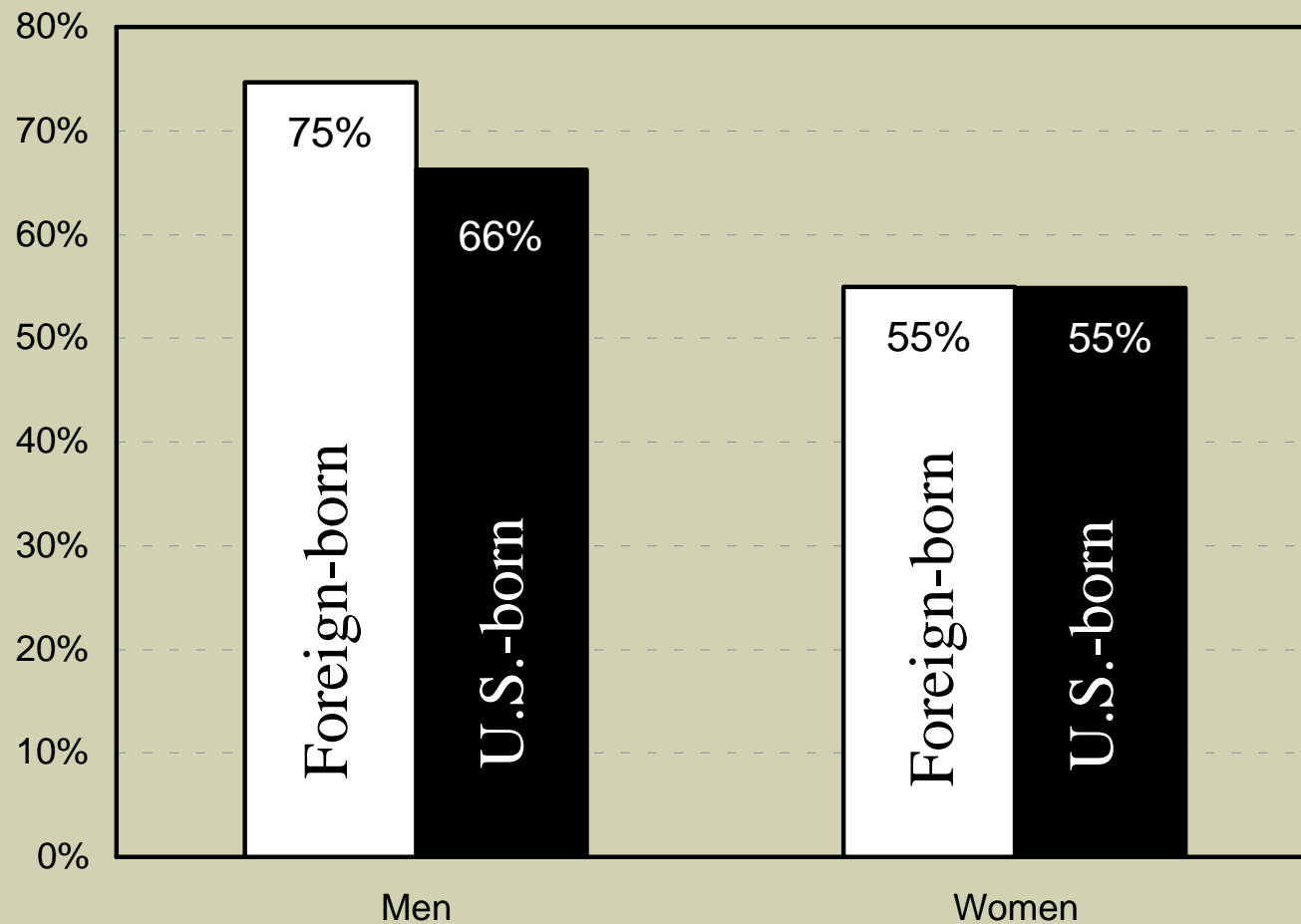
At least some college

Statistics are not clear

If **wages** are lower, how can family income be in the **middle**?

Labor Force Participation:

Foreign-born **64%** U.S.-born: **60%**



Source: FPI analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS. Universe is all 16 and older.

Immigrants also work slightly longer hours , and have more family members working

	Foreign-born	U.S.-born
Average hours worked per person	40.0	38.8

	Foreign-born families	U.S.-born families
2 family members work	33%	23%
3 or more family members work	11%	5%

Source: FPI analysis of CPS March Supplement data, 2001-2005. Non-zero answer to “usual hours of work per week.” Foreign-born families are those with at least one immigrant over the age of 18. Shares and counts are 5-year averages. Shares are of individuals; thus, 33 percent of all people in immigrant families were in families with 2 workers.

Immigrants join unions

	of immigrants are union members?	What share of union members are immigrants?
Education & Health	45%	46%
Wholesale & Retail	12%	52%
Leisure & hospitality	12%	53%
Finance	21%	45%
Professional & business	16%	50%
Other services	9%	60%
Construction	22%	50%
Transp.& Utilities	41%	40%
Manufacturing	19%	69%
Public administration	59%	24%
Information	19%	22%
All	26%	44%

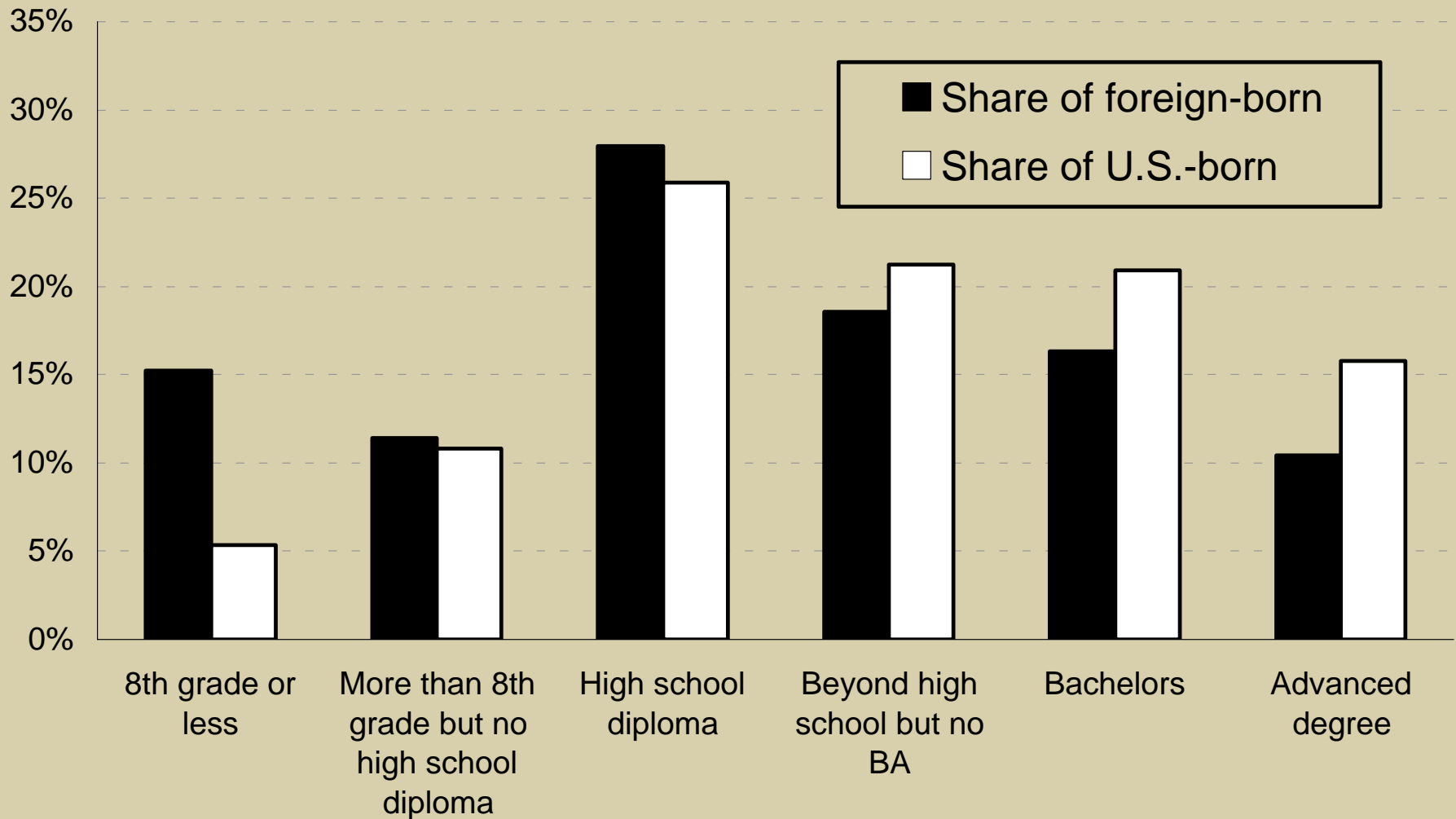
Source: FPI analysis of CPS data 2003-2006. Medians of 4-year pools.

And when they do, **all workers benefit**

Median wage selected industries	Foreign-born		U.S.-born	
	Non-union	Union	Non-union	Union
Wholesale & retail	\$10.54	\$13.09	\$12.30	\$13.00
Construction	\$12.90	\$17.37	\$16.43	\$22.41
Transportation & utilities	\$13.70	\$16.52	\$15.07	\$17.50
administration	\$19.00	\$16.83	\$20.52	\$16.98
All	\$12.33	\$15.00	\$16.92	\$17.37

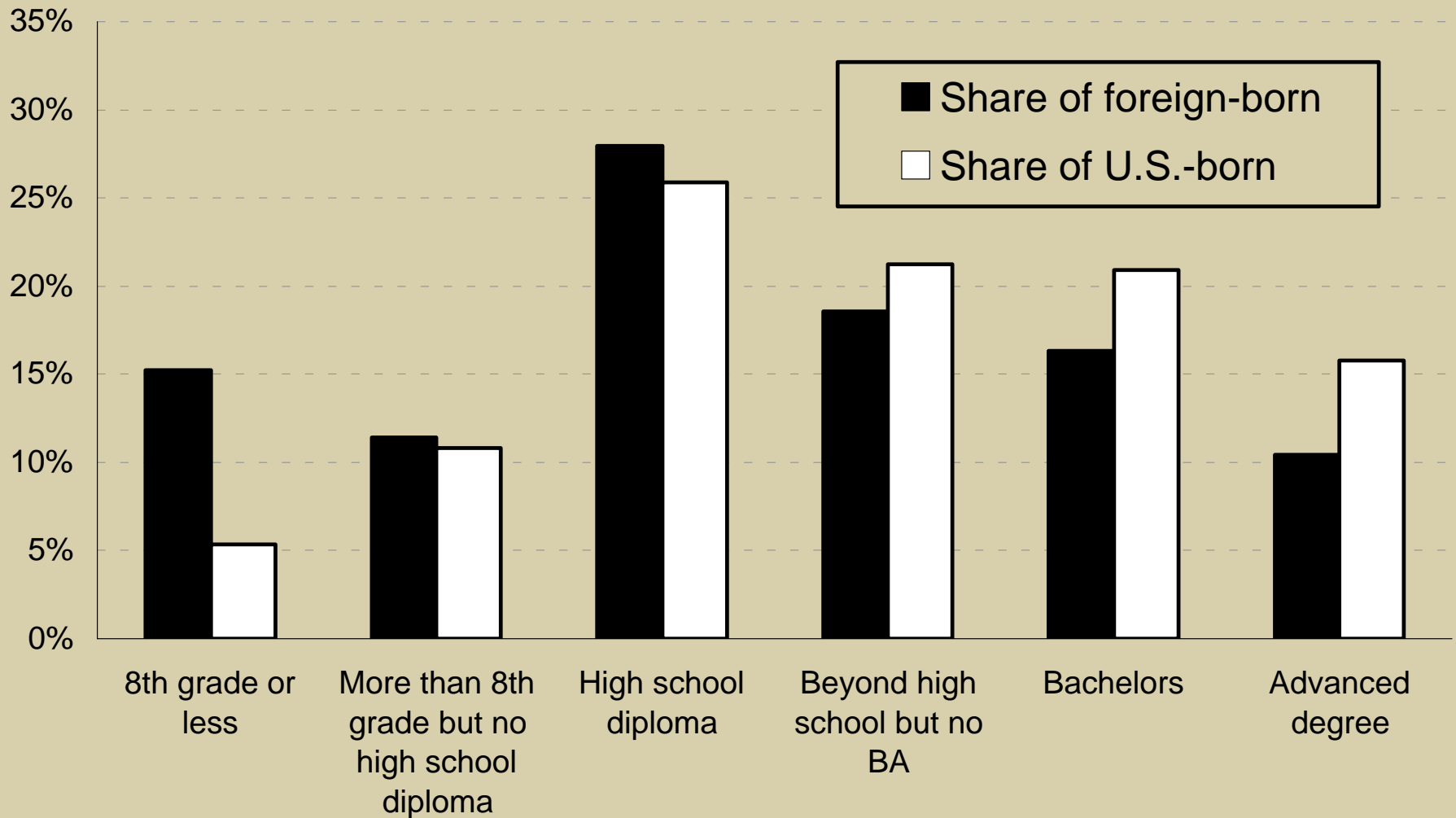
Source: FPI analysis of CPS data 2003-2006; data points are medians of 4-year pools. Universe is those in the labor force or reporting a wage. In 2006 dollars, using CPI-U deflator.

Education levels of NYC immigrants



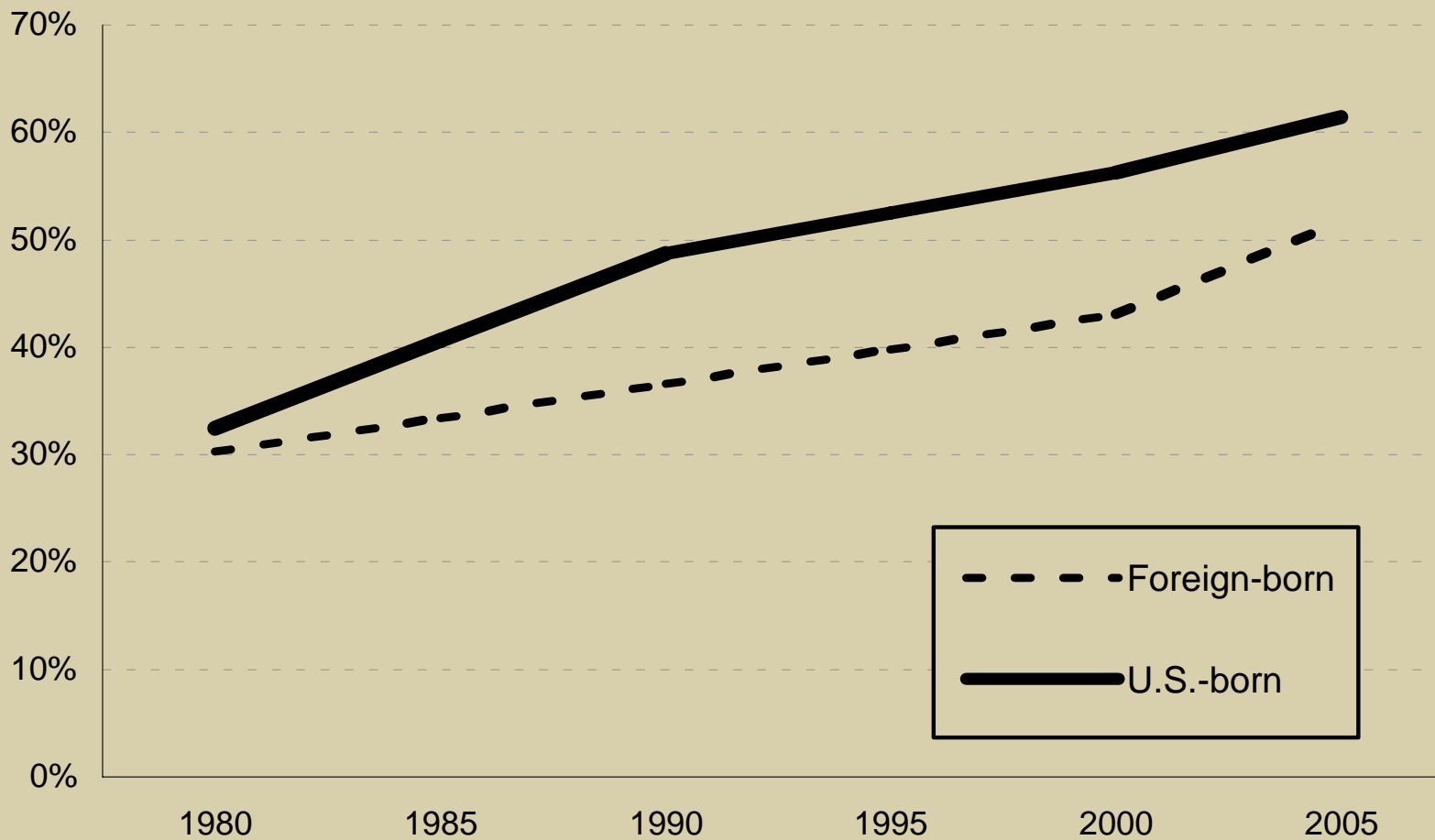
Source: Fiscal Policy Institute analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS. Universe is New York City residents 25 years of age and older.

Education levels of NYC immigrants



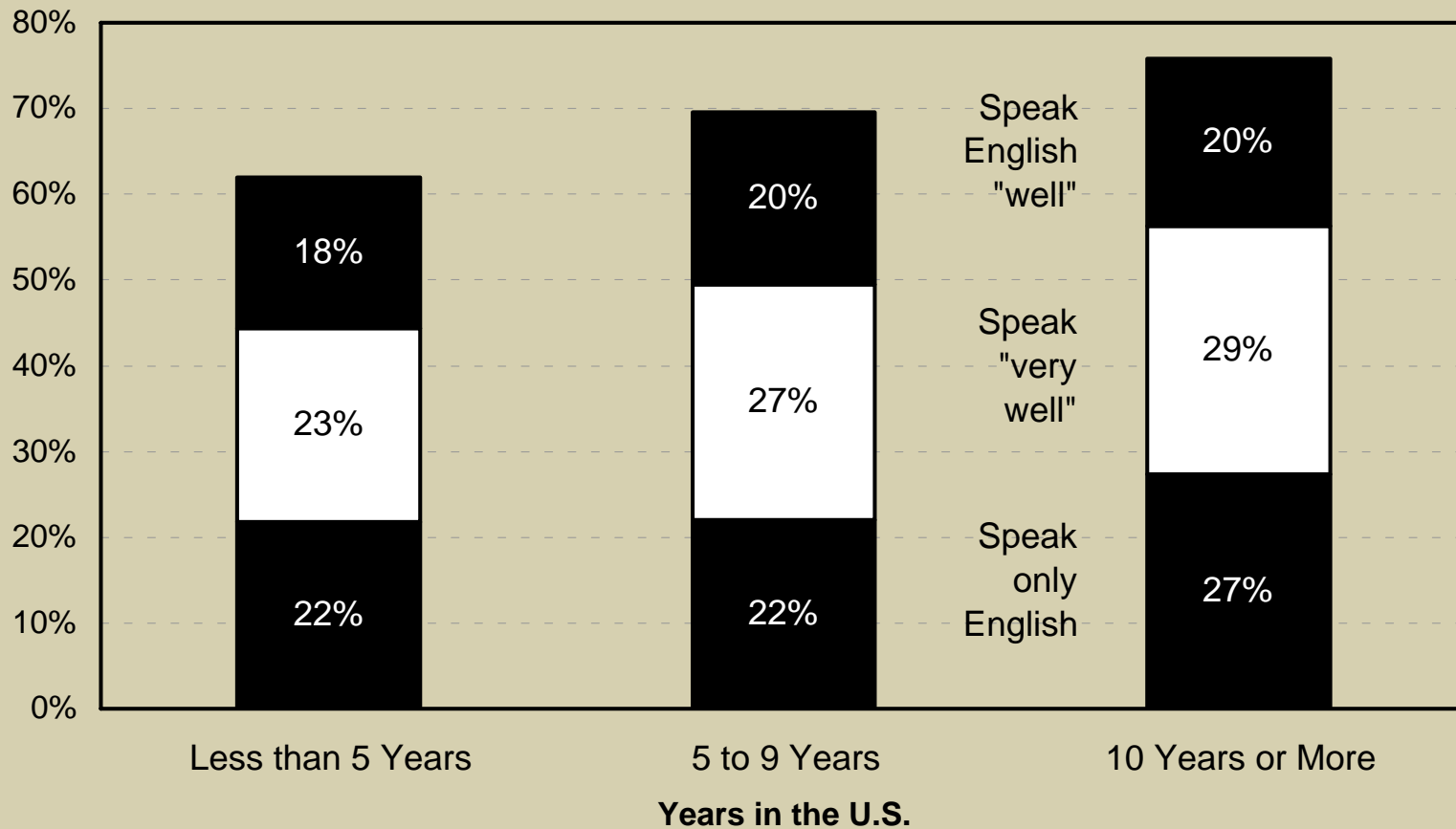
Source: Fiscal Policy Institute analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS. Universe is New York City residents 25 years of age and older.

Education levels of NYC immigrants



Source: FPI analysis of Census 1980, 1990, and 2005 ACS IPUMS. Census 2000 is not used because coding does not allow a consistent delineation of some downstate counties. Data for 1985, 1995, and 2000 are interpolated for chart. Universe: Immigrants who were 25 or older as of year of original immigration, and who immigrated during the decade immediately preceding the census. For 2005 ACS, those who immigrated since 2000.

Immigrants *learn English*



Source: FPI analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS.
Universe: Immigrants 5 years of age and older.

and it makes a big difference **in earnings**

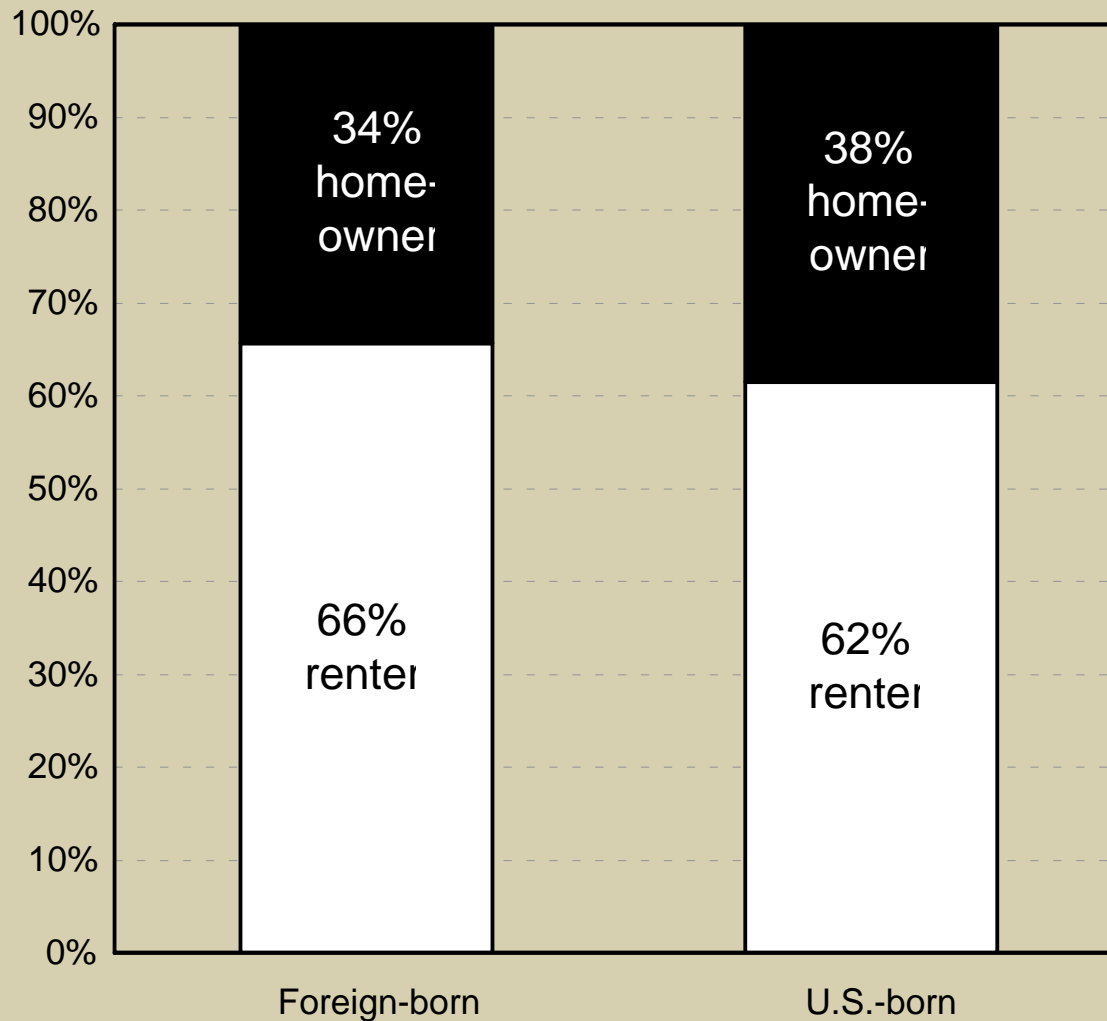
Annual wage and salary income for immigrants in New York City

High school completion or less	Median
Speak only English at home	\$25,000
Speak another language at home, but speak English very well	\$25,000
Speak another language at home and speak English well, not well, or not at all	\$19,000

More than high school	Median
Speak only English at home	\$43,000
Speak another language at home, but speak English very well	\$42,000
Speak another language at home and speak English well, not well, or not at all	\$28,600

Source: FPI analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS. Universe: Immigrant New York residents age 25 and older who reported positive wage and salary earnings for 2005.

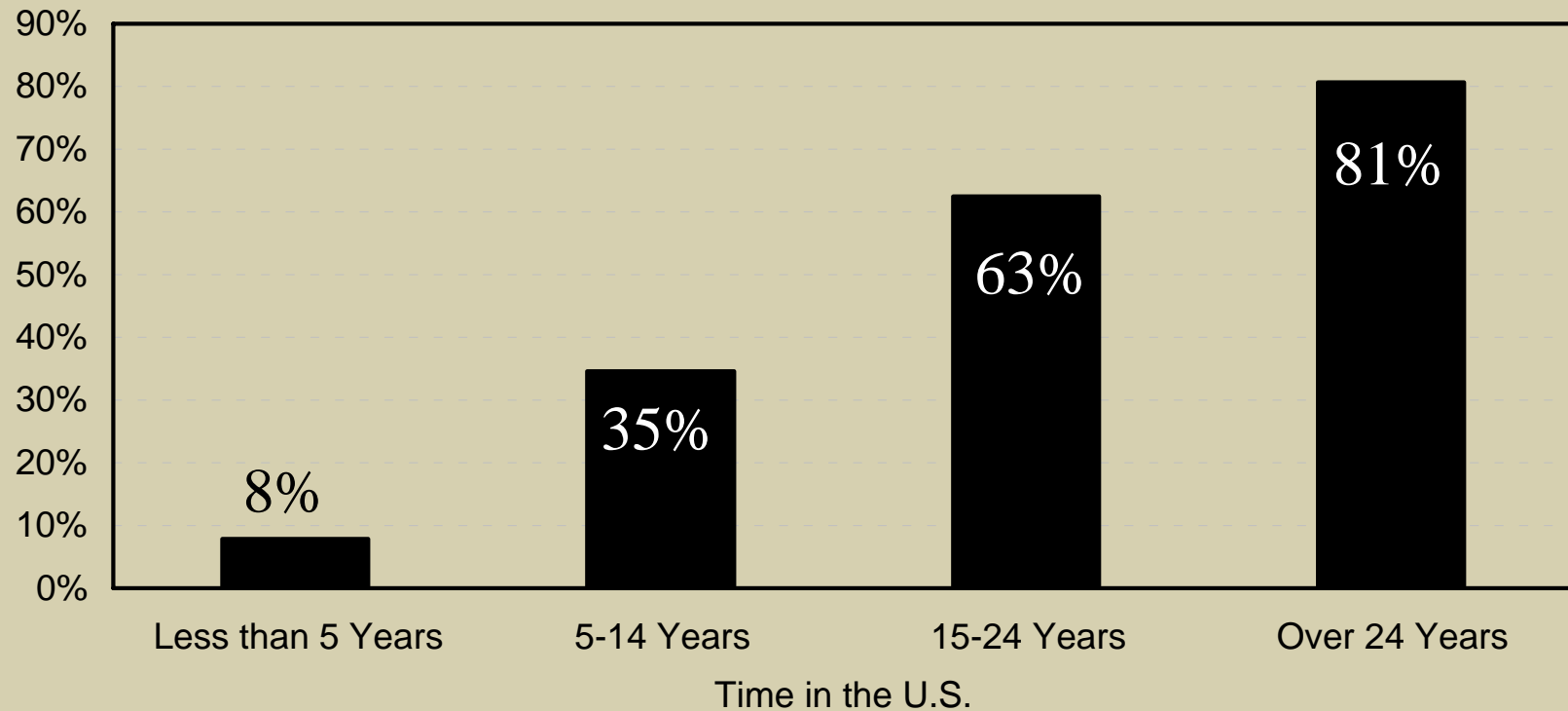
Immigrants *own homes*



Source: Source: 2005 ACS (American FactFinder), tables B06013. Numbers and shares refer to total people living in households.

Immigrants *become* citizens

Overall, 51 percent of immigrants in NYC are citizens



Source: FPI analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS. Note that the data reflect only those immigrants still alive as of 2005, and who currently live in New York City.

Immigrants *pay taxes*

New York City

- Legal immigrants paid on average \$5,500 in total taxes, while native-born pay on average \$6,000. (1994)
- Undocumented immigrants paid on average \$2,200 in taxes on considerably lower incomes. (1994)

Source: *Immigrants in New York: Their Legal Status, Incomes, and Taxes*, Jeffrey S. Passel and Rebecca L. Clark, 1998.



What taxes do *undocumented* immigrants pay?

property tax (*through rent*)

state and local sales tax

payroll taxes (*but they don't get
Social Security or Medicare*)

city, state, and federal income tax

*they also do not receive the earned
income tax credit*



“Ironically, if eventually the 11 million illegal residents of this country are required to correct past tax-paying errors, it is likely that the undocumented workers will end up ***receiving rather than paying*** the Treasury money.”

Bernard Wasow, “Illegal Immigrants, Our Low-Income Taxpayers,” The Century Foundation

What services are immigrants *eligible* to get?

What *should* the answer be?

Public Schools?

All children are eligible for public school.

Food Stamps?

Legal immigrants are restricted for 5 years, with an exception made for children.

Undocumented immigrants are never eligible.

TANF?

Federal restriction for 5 years for legal immigrants, appropriately made up for by NYS. Undocumented immigrants are never eligible.

Medicaid?

Varies by state. In New York, state-funded Medicaid & Family Health Plus available to all immigrants “permanently residing under color of law.”

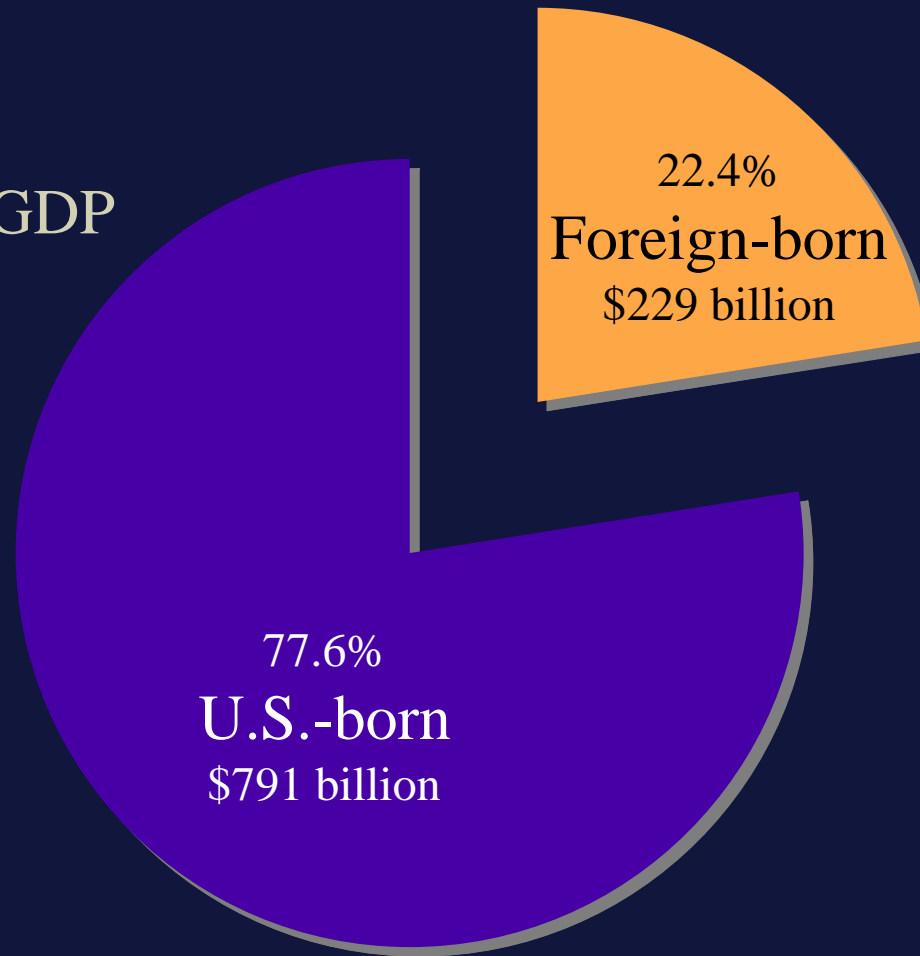
Emergency Medical Care?

Everyone is eligible; some mechanisms for reimbursement.



There are **COSTS** associated with immigration, but getting it right yields enormous **benefits**.

New York State GDP



In the end, we *have* to work it out

How many children are growing up
in families with **at least one** immigrant adult



Upstate New York:	8%
Downstate suburbs:	31%
New York City:	57%
New York State Average:	34%

Source: FPI analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS.
Children are all under 18 years old.

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