Immigrant Educational Attainment, Mobility, and Differential Returns



Dr. Julie Park

Associate Professor, Sociology

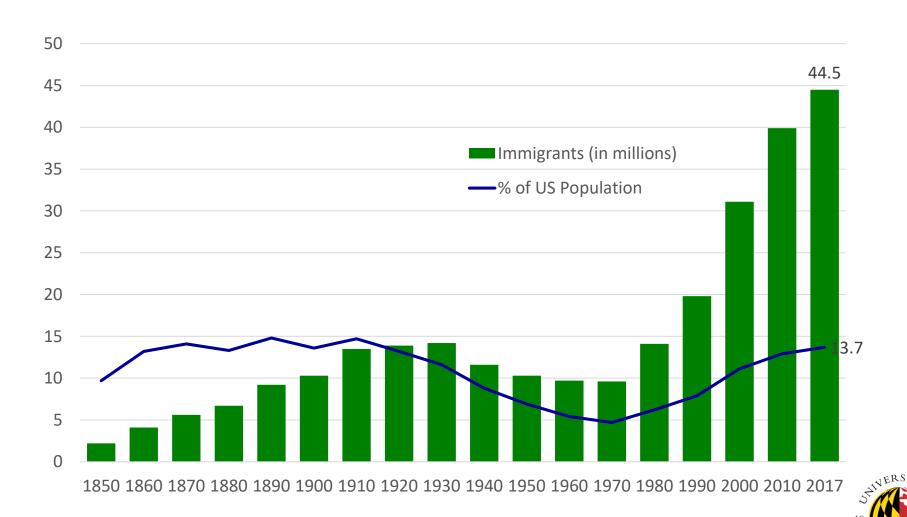
Director, Asian American Studies

2019 UMBC Research Forum: Immigration and Mobility in Higher Ed

Immigrants Changing Demographics

A. Growing numbers, growing share

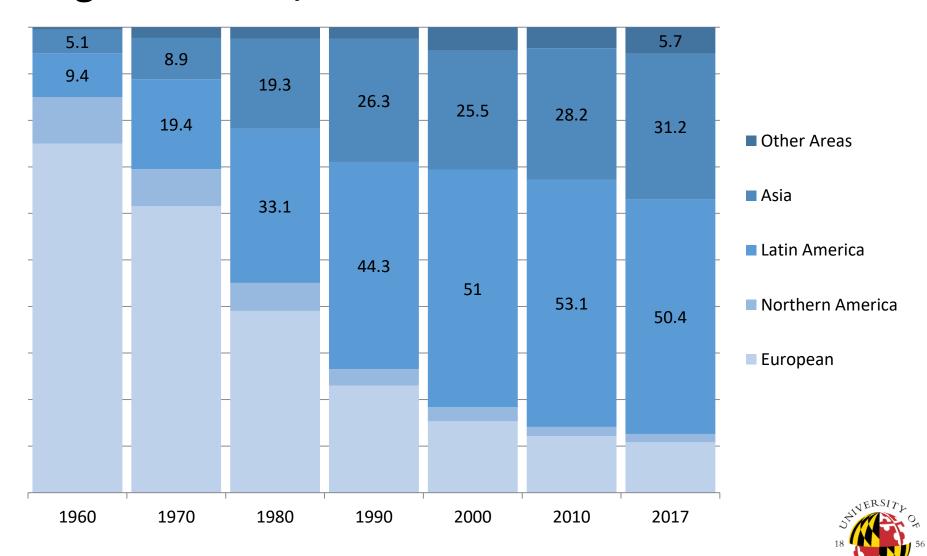
Immigrants and Share of US Population 1850 to 2017



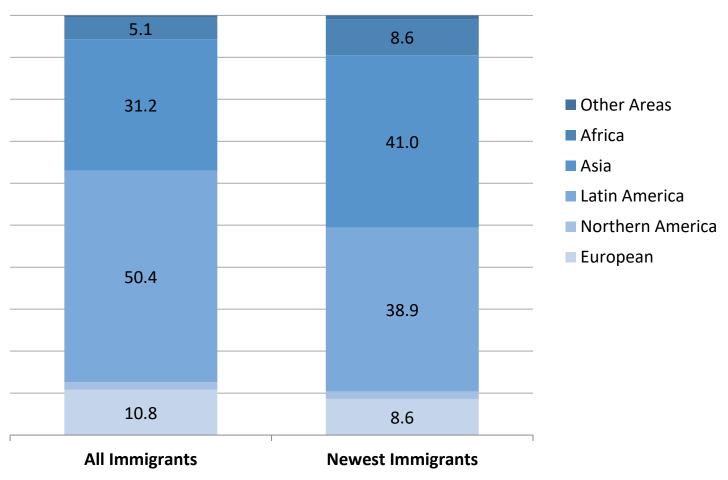
Immigrants Changing Demographics

- A. Growing numbers, growing share
- B. Shifting racial/ethnic composition

Changing Immigrant Demographics: Region of Birth, 1960 to 2017



Changing Immigrant Demographics: **Newest Immigrants** (Entered 2010 or Later)





Data Source: American Community Survey, 2017

Annual Immigrant Arrivals

According to the Pew Research Center's findings:

- Annually, more than 1 million immigrants arrive
- Asians are projected to become the largest immigrant group by 2055

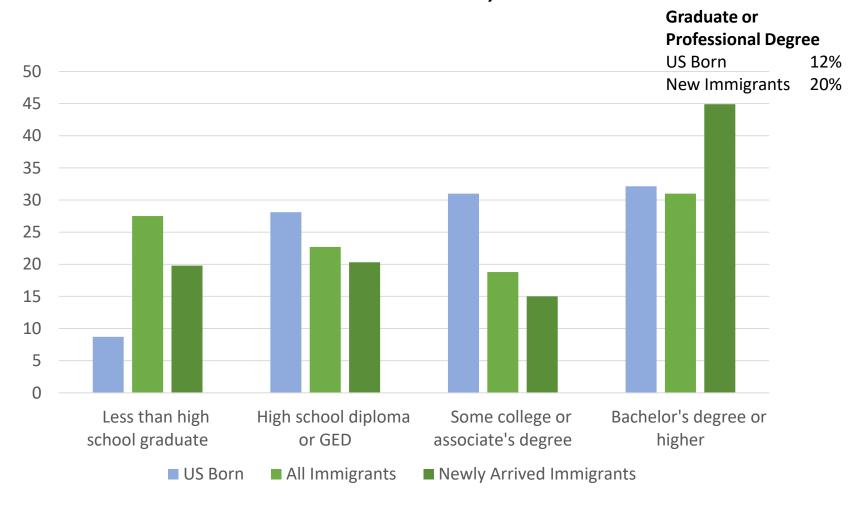
% of immigrants arriving in the U.S. in each year who are ... 60 % Hispanic 37.1 40 30 Asian 31.0 20 10 2001 2004 2007 2010 2013 2016



Immigrants Changing Demographics

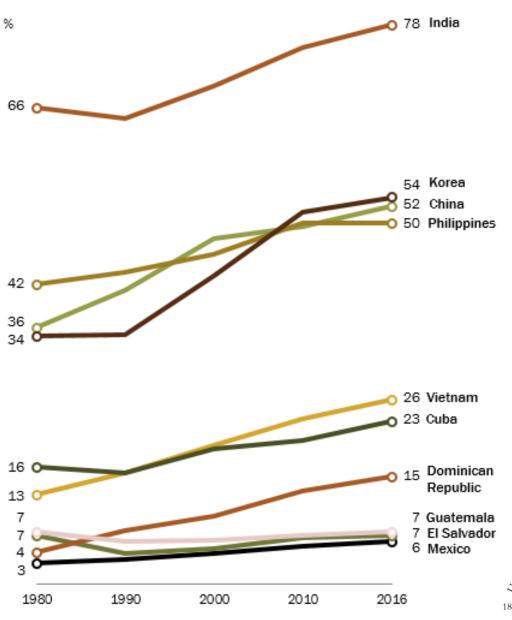
- A. Growing numbers, growing share
- B. Shifting racial/ethnic composition
- C. Shifting educational attainment composition

US Educational Attainment, 2017





Bachelor's Degree Attainment for 10 Largest US Immigrant Groups



What are the Longer Term Trends for Immigrants and Their Children? Intergenerational Mobility in Educational Attainment

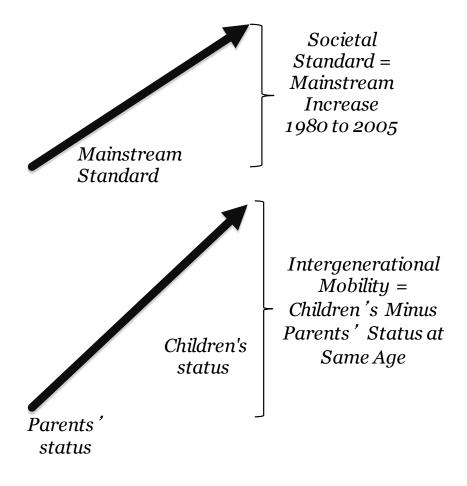


Questions to Consider

What does a intergenerational approach reveal about immigrant educational advancement?

- 1. How much educational advancement do the **new** second generation attain relative to their immigrant parents?
- 2. How do these patterns compare to those of the "mainstream"?
- 3. Do different groups of the second generation experience greater educational attainment than others?
- 4. Prospects for the *new* third generation

Intergenerational Mobility vs. Assimilation Defined



Assimilation = smaller gap between immigrants and mainstream in 2005 than in 1980

1980

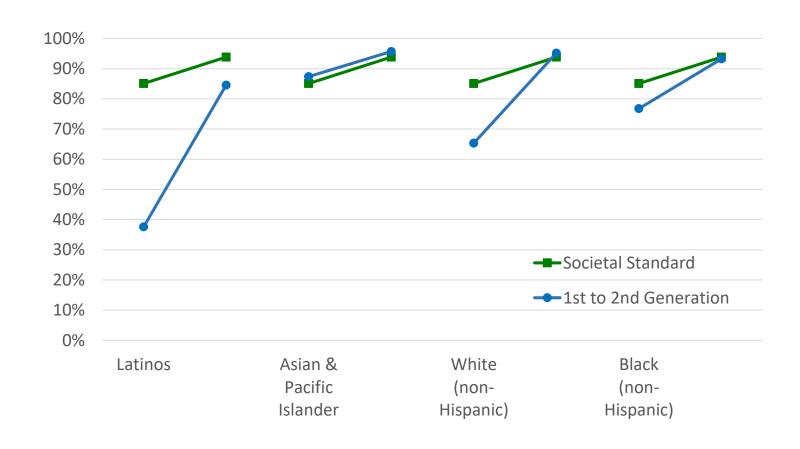
2005

Data Structure

Immigrant generation cohort design (Park & Myers Demography2010)

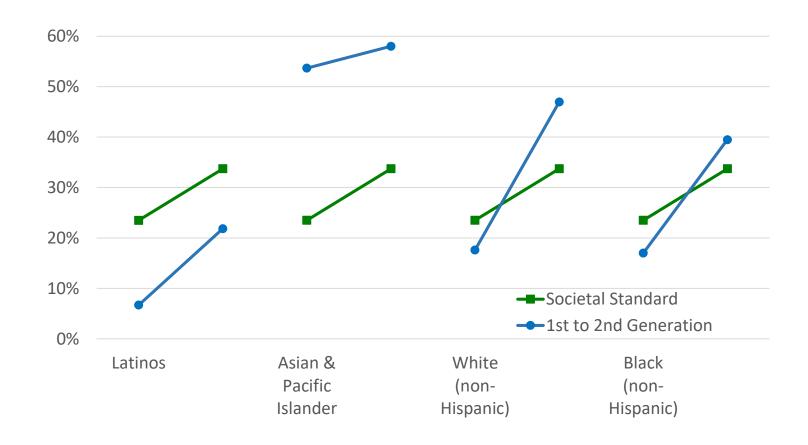
- a) 1st generation in 1980 decennial census Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS) hierarchical files by selecting foreign-born parents living with 2nd generation children
 - --select parents of children age 0 to 16 (ages of 25-44)
- b) 2nd generation in 2005 Current Population Survey (CPS) by parent's nativity
 - --select grown children now aged 25 to 41
- c) US-born reference group in 1980 and in 2005 to proxy the "mainstream" (US-born white, non-Hispanics)
 - --select adults at comparable age

High School Completion Intergenerational Mobility, 1980 to 2005



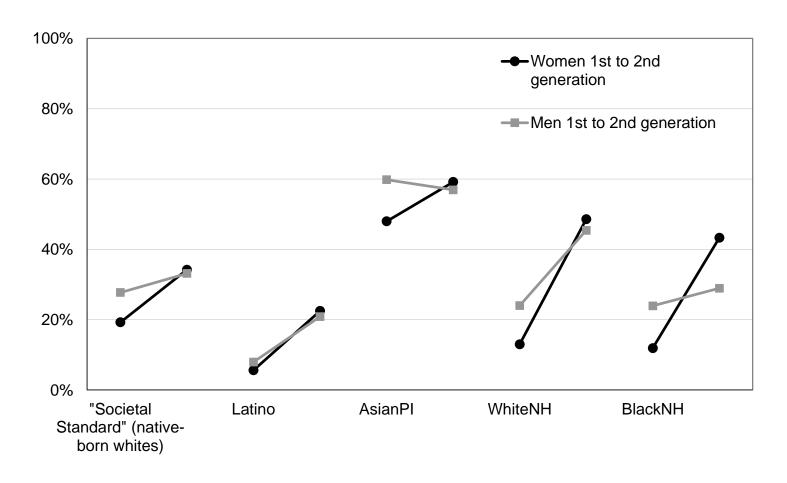


Bachelor's Degree & Higher Intergenerational Mobility, 1980 to 2005





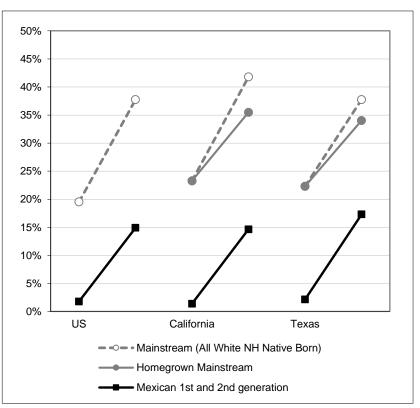
Gender Differences in <u>BA Degree</u> Attainment Intergenerational Mobility, 1980 to 2005



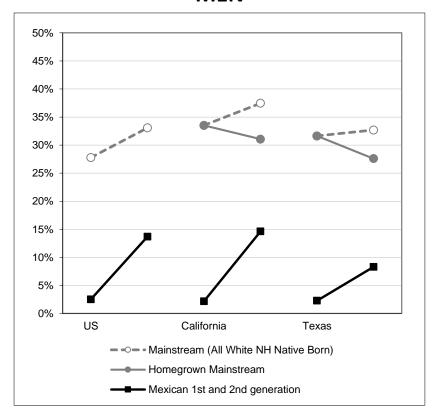


Reference Group Matters: Mexican BA Attainment Mobility, 1980 to 2005

WOMEN



MEN

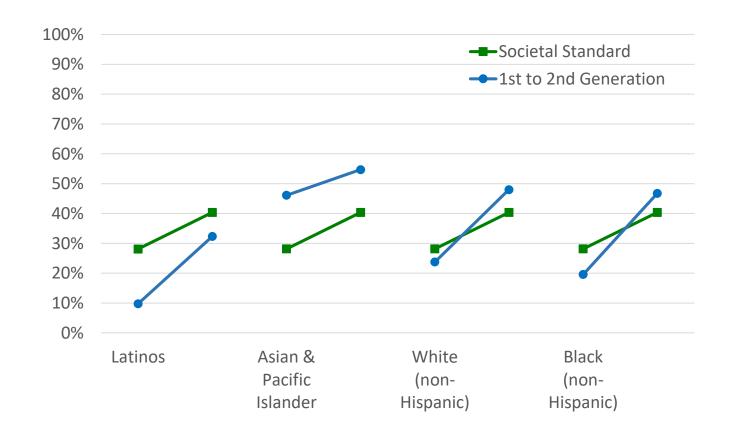




Other Socioeconomic Attainments, Returns on Education

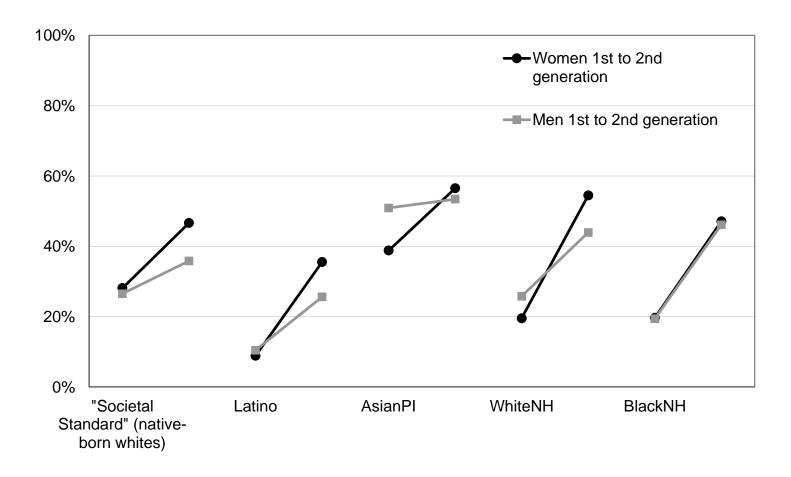


High Occupation (Prof. & Managerial) Intergenerational Mobility, 1980 to 2005



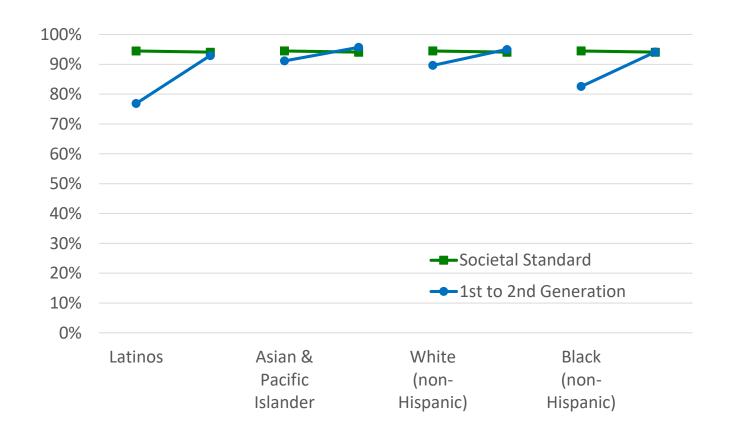


Gender Differences in <u>Occupational</u> Attainment Intergenerational Mobility, 1980 to 2005



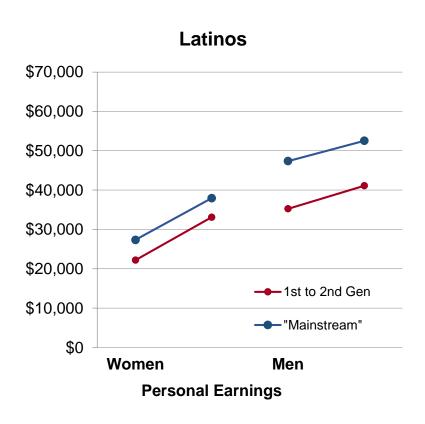


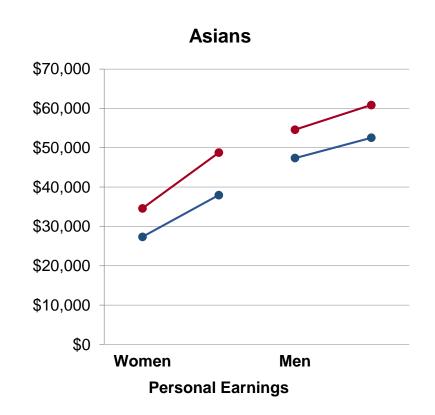
Above Poverty Intergenerational Mobility, 1980 to 2005





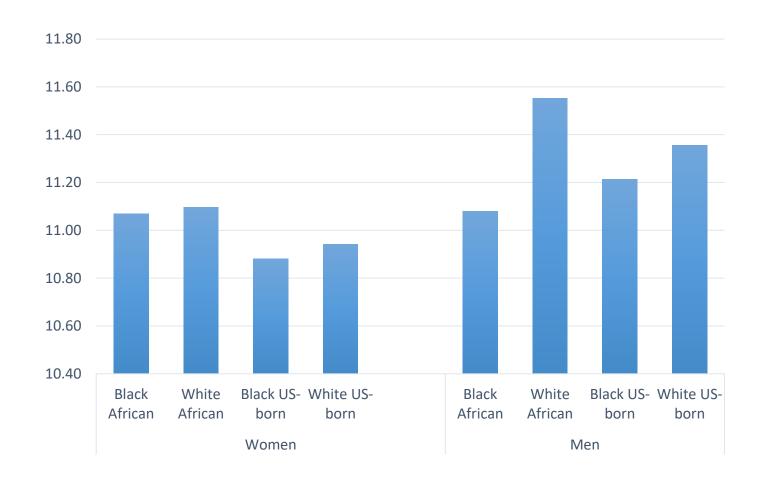
Earnings of Immigrant Generations Compared to the Mainstream, 1980 to 2005







Predicted Log Earnings Controlling for Education and Occupation





Top 5 Most Common Occupations Black African Immigrants (2010)

Women

- 1. Registered Nurse
- 2. Nurse Aide
- 3. Accountant
- 4. Licensed Nurse Practitioner
- 5. Social Worker

Men

- 1. Driver
- 2. Nurse Aide
- 3. Misc. Manager
- 4. Accountant
- 5. Post-Secondary Teacher



Prospects for the *New* Third Generation



New Third Generation Household Context 2010 (Compared to Their Parents in 1980)

Jiménez, Park, & Pedroza (2017)

- Less likely to live in two-parent households, extended or multigenerational households
- More likely to live with a college-educated parent (e.g. from 6% to 20% for Latinx), and in higher income households



New Third Generation Household Context 2010 (Compared to Their Parents in 1980)

Jiménez, Park, & Pedroza (2017)

• Three or four times more likely that parents are intermarried

	<u>Latinx</u>		<u>Asian NH</u>	
	2 nd	3 rd	2 nd	3 rd
Intermarried Parents	8%	29%	20%	62%

Children in intermarried households identified with immigrant origins

	<u>Latinx</u>		<u>Asian</u>	<u>Asian NH</u>	
	2 nd	3 rd	2 nd	3 rd	
Child ID w Immigrant Origin	64%	75%	44%	81%	



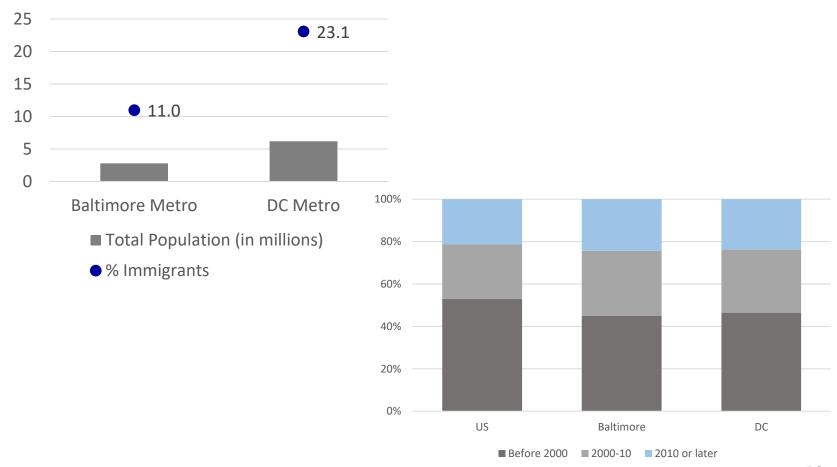
Immigrants in the Baltimore and Washington DC Regions



Regional Immigrants Changing Demographics

A. Growing numbers, growing share

Immigrant Share of Region

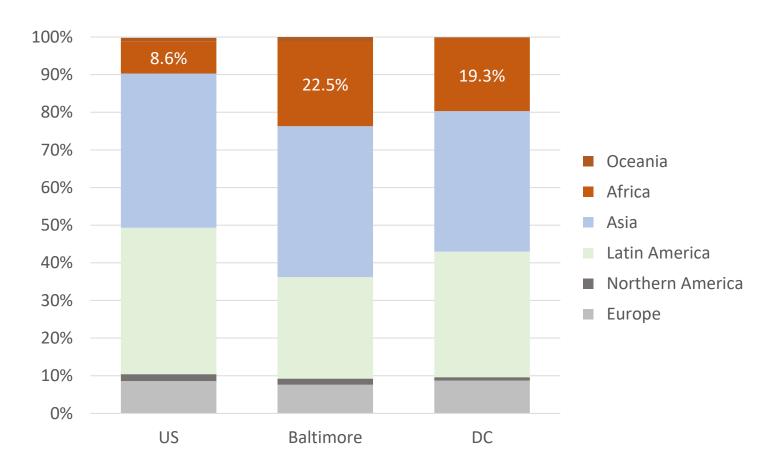




Regional Immigrants Changing Demographics

- A. Growing numbers, growing share
- B. Shifting racial/ethnic composition

Newest Immigrants Region of Birth, 2017

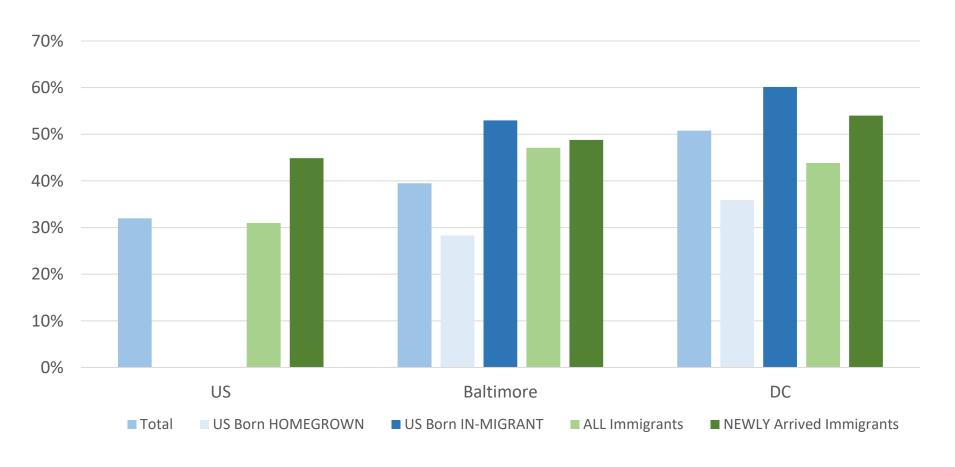




Regional Immigrants Changing Demographics

- A. Growing numbers, growing share
- B. Shifting racial/ethnic composition
- C. Shifting educational attainment composition

Regional Educational Attainment (Bachelors' Degree)





Takeaway Points to Consider

- Immigrants and their children are a growing share
 - Especially in our region
- Growing racial/ethnic diversity
 - Our region different from country
- Immigrants arriving with greater educational attainment
 - Again, especially in our region
- But returns on education are not uniform across all groups



Source: Brookings Institution 2019

Thank You

Julie Park

juliepar@umd.edu

