Immigrant Youth Outcomes

Patterns by Generation and Race and Ethnicity

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Introduction

Scope of Analysis

This report examines 40 indicators of well-being of immigrant and nonimmigrant youth. The purpose is (1) to assess inequalities between immigrant and nonimmigrant youth, and (2) to trace the progress of immigrant youth across generations. Given the continued importance of race and ethnicity in American society and their interplay with immigration (Bayor 2013; Massey 2007), it is important to assess how immigrants perform in society. The report presents outcomes for all immigrant and nonimmigrant youth and then breaks out findings for Latinos and for Asians, Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (hereafter referred to as Asians/PIs).

To present a broad picture of achievement, this report covers a wide range of outcomes pertaining to demography, geography, education, work, disconnectedness, income, health, use of technology, and civic engagement all culled from Current Population Survey data between 2010 and 2013 (see appendix A). Examining a broad set of outcomes allows for a more complete view of achievement since assimilation is multidimensional and can proceed unevenly across different dimensions (Greenman and Xie 2008; Parrado and Morgan 2008).

Assessing the standing of immigrant youth and their progress across generations is timely and relevant as the country debates inequality alongside discussions of immigration reform focused on the impacts of immigration and the integration of immigrants. Sheer numbers also underscore the importance of immigrant youth. Young immigrants and the young children of immigrants account for most of the growth in the young population. Information provided in this report can be used to identify outcomes that could be targeted for policy interventions to foster the integration of immigrants, reduce inequalities between immigrant and nonimmigrant youth, and maximize the potential of immigrants and their children.

Although the focus on youth gives only a small window into lifetime achievement, these youth are making important inroads by entering (or not entering) American institutions, such as colleges, the labor market, civic organizations, the political process, the health care system, and the government safety net. Disparities among youth by immigrant generation could be predictive of where these young people will be in terms income, health, and civic engagement. Youth disparities could widen across their life cycle, paralleling findings of racial and gender differentials, and foreshadow future inequality (Besen-Cassino 2008; Loprest 1992; Wu 2007).

In a country where most people can trace their history to an immigrant, it is difficult to identify a nonimmigrant group with which the outcomes of immigrants should be compared. To get closer to a comparison group with no recent ties to immigration, nonimmigrants are defined as third-generation non-Latino and non-Asian/PI. Outcomes for Latinos and Asian/PI are presented for first, second, and third generations for a long-term view of progress of the most recent immigrant groups.

Throughout the report, first generation refers to youth born outside the United States, and second generation refers to those born in the United States to foreign-born parents. The third generation and above are born in the United States to US-born parents.

Analysis through the Lenses of Inequality and Assimilation

Differentials in outcomes between youth by immigrant generation and in comparison to nonimmigrants can be analyzed through the lenses of inequality and assimilation. Inequalities in outcomes are often the subject of inquiries with immigration as a new axis of stratification (Bashi and McDaniel 1997; Bean et al. 2013; Jasso 2011; Massey 2007). These inequalities could be driven by immigration status and variations in human, social, and institutional capital across immigrant generations, and they can produce outcome differentials both among immigrant youth and between immigrants and nonimmigrants. Youth in compromised immigration statuses (such as unauthorized) and those with deficits in human, social, and institutional capital will likely face obstacles to their economic achievement and rank lower in social and economic outcomes (Bean et al. 2013).

When analyzing youth outcomes across immigrant generations, inequalities also need to be seen through the lens of assimilation. Assimilation broadly defined is how closely, across time, the outcomes of immigrants resemble those of nonimmigrants. Assimilation can also be viewed as the decline and ultimate disappearance of an ethnic/racial distinction and the cultural and social differences that express it (Alba and Nee 1997, 863). Similarly, Borjas (2006), in the context of economic assimilation, talks about "regression toward the mean" or toward the population average in the outcomes of immigrant children across generations, leaving immigrant groups "indistinguishable" from nonimmigrants. The assimilation lens centers the performance of

immigrant youth within the broader frame of the immigration experience.

Outcome differentials by immigrant generation and between immigrant and nonimmigrant youth not only speak about inequalities but also about the assimilation trajectories of immigrants.

The Immigrant Youth Imperative

One of the major demographic shifts of the 21st century is the growing importance of immigration in population growth. Immigrants, their children, and their grandchildren will account for 82 percent of the projected population growth between 2000 and 2050 (Passel and Cohn 2008).

The effect of immigration on population trends is clearly seen when focusing on youth. Of the over 30 million people ages 16 to 22 in 2013, 7.7 million (25 percent) were born abroad (first generation) or had at least one parent born abroad (second generation). From 2005 to 2013, the combined population of first- and second-generation youth grew 23 percent compared with 1.4 percent for US-born youth with US-born parents (third generation and up).[1] First- and second-generation immigrant youth are fueling labor force growth. In the past decade, the number of third-generation youth in the labor force declined, but the number of immigrant youth the labor force increased by about 5 percent.

Society projects its hopes and aspirations on its youth, and a growing share of America's youth is immigrants. The achievements of these youth provide a vantage point to assess the impacts of immigration. The success of youth is a yardstick for measuring assimilation and an important component of the long-run costs and benefits of immigration (Card 2005). Mollenkopf (2005) argues that the fate of these youth will likely shape how we evaluate the current epoch of immigration.

Interest in young immigrants also stems from the diversity of their assimilation experiences. Second-generation immigrant youth are at the crux of scholarly debates about assimilation. Gans (1992) and Portes and Zhou (1993) challenge the classical view of assimilation as a beneficial and linear integration toward the American middle class. Portes and Zhou offer that immigrants assimilate to different segments of the society in three main pathways: assimilation into the middle class, assimilation into the urban underclass, and the preservation of immigrants' culture and values.

This view has highlighted the poor outcomes of second-generation youth. Haller, Portes, and Lynch argue that "when the proportion of Mexican and Caribbean-origin young men in prison almost matches those of black Americans and when the rates of adolescent child bearing and school abandonment among major second-generation nationalities exceed those of domestic minorities, the ground for celebratory statements [about the success of the second generation] become much shakier" (2011, 758). Borjas (2006) is also pessimistic about the second generation's progress, pointing out that about half the differences in relative economic status across ethnic groups in one generation persist into the next.

However, Kasinitz and colleagues (2009) refer to the second-generation advantage, bringing attention to the successes of the second generation in areas such as employment and education by making use of the resources of the first generation, such as ethnic enclaves. Waldinger and Feliciano (2004) are confident that there is no "downward assimilation" for the second-generation youth.

The performance of third-generation immigrants has also been discussed. In *Generations of Exclusion*, Telles and Ortiz (2008) find that Mexican American progress stalls after the second generation, a finding echoed by Trejo (2003). In a study by Bean and colleagues (2013), the disadvantage of growing up with undocumented parents, mainly Mexican Americans, carries over to the third generation.

But some third-generation persons may not identify themselves as Hispanics or under the racial category of their grandparents, limiting the extent to which we can be sure about how this generation fares (Duncan and Trejo 2011).

Technical Notes

All the data presented are from the Current Population Survey (CPS). In addition to the Basic CPS for March 2012 and 2013, the following supplements were used:

- Annual social and economic characteristics (March 2012 and 2013)
- Fertility (June 2010 and 2012)
- Computers and Internet use (July 2011 and October 2012)
- School enrollment (October 2010 and 2012)
- Tobacco use (May 2010, August 2010, and January 2011)
- Civic engagement (November 2010 and 2011)
- Voting and registration (November 2010 and 2012)
- Food security (December 2011 and 2012)
- Voluntarism (September 2012 and 2013)

Appendix A presents information about the variables and the questions used in each supplement.

Most data are based on individuals ages 16 to 22. However, in some instances, the age range may include youth ages 18 to 24 if the survey questions were not asked to youth under 18 or the sample size was too small.

Immigrant generations are identified using information on citizenship/place of birth of the youth and the mother's and father's place of birth. The first generation refers to persons born abroad not of American parents born nor born in the US territories. The second generation refers to persons born in the United States of at least one foreign-born parent. The third generation and higher are US born and their parents are US born.

Latinos are people of Hispanic origin, regardless of race. Asians, Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (Asians/PIs) are anybody whose race was Asian, Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, or a combination of this with any other one race.[2]

Data across generations in this report are cross-sectional.[3] We compare first generation, second generation, and third generation and higher at one point in time.

To demonstrate progress within ethnic groups, we present outcomes for Latinos and Asian/PIs of first, second, and third generations.

In addition to depicting the outcomes by immigrant generation in graphs, we calculated odds ratios based on univariate logit models for all outcomes and their statistical significance relative to third-generation non-Latino/non-Asian/PI youth. The odds ratio refers to a group's chances of experiencing an outcome relative to the comparison group's chances of experiencing the same outcome. Odds ratios below 1 mean that the group under consideration is less likely than the comparison group to experience the outcome. The odds-ratio tables throughout this report only show the ratios that are statistically significant at a 0.05 level or less; others are marked *ns*, meaning that they are not statistically different from the comparison group of non-Latino/non-Asian nonimmigrants.

Overview and Findings

Together, these data tell a story of inequality in the midst of assimilation.

In almost all outcomes examined, the second generation ranks better than the first. For most outcomes examined, immigrant youth become more similar to nonimmigrants across generations. Sometimes this means improvement, such as an increased share of registered voters; other times it means deterioration, such as an increased share of smokers across generations. However, inequalities between immigrants and nonimmigrants often persist and even grow by the third generation.

There is rapid assimilation in the demographic outcomes of marital status, position of the youth within the household, and having a child by age 22. In these outcomes, statistical differences between immigrant and nonimmigrant youth disappear by the second generation.

Our comprehensive review uncovered slow assimilation and inequalities in outcomes that are not often the focus of policymakers or advocates; but such outcomes still have important repercussions for immigrant youth and their future in US society. This is the case for outcomes related to civic engagement and access to computers and the Internet. Even the high college achievement of the second generation, a finding common in immigrant youth research, is clouded when dissecting the college experience of these youths. The second generation in college is more likely than nonimmigrants to attend two-year college institutions and to attend college part time.

With respect to inequalities between immigrant and nonimmigrant youth, the following findings stand out:

- Immigrant youth have higher wages and work more hours than nonimmigrant youth.
- Disconnectedness from work and school is more of a problem among first-generation young women than among other groups. First-generation young women are 1.73 times as likely as nonimmigrant young women to neither attend school nor work. There is no difference among young men.
- Immigrant youth are more likely to live in households with incomes at or below $40,000, to be enrolled in the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), and to live in households with low or very low food security.
- Immigrant youth are less likely to smoke cigarettes but are in poorer health than nonimmigrant youth.
- Immigrant youth are civically disengaged. Examination of civic engagement outcomes show disconnectedness from neighbors, communities, institutions, and the voting process among immigrant youth compared with nonimmigrant youth. An extreme finding in this rubric is that only 6 percent of all first-generation immigrants ages 18 to 24 voted in the 2010 and 2012 national elections compared with the 32 percent voting rate of nonimmigrant youth.

- Immigrant youth have less access to computers and the Internet than nonimmigrant youth.

The largest inequalities between second-generation and nonimmigrant youth are in the following outcomes:

- The second generation is over five times as likely as nonimmigrants to reside in California, Florida, New York, and Texas.
- The second generation is 1.55 times as likely as nonimmigrants to attend a two-year versus a four-year college.
- The second generation is 0.66 times as likely as nonimmigrants to attend college full time.
- The second generation is 1.8 times as likely as nonimmigrants to search for work through family and friends.
- The second generation is 0.74 times as likely as nonimmigrants to be in good or excellent health.
- The second generation is 0.37 times as likely as nonimmigrants to smoke cigarettes.
- Immigrant youth are 0.77 times as likely as nonimmigrants to do volunteer work and to be registered to vote.

Outcomes vary by ethnicity and race. Asians/PIs tend to score better than Latinos, especially in educational outcomes. Latinos who come to the United States as teenagers are unlikely to be attending school. Among 16- to 22-year-old, first-generation Latinos in 2012 and 2013 who came to the United States when they were 13 to 15, only about 40 percent were attending school at the time of the survey.

A disturbing finding is the often uncovered U-turn of third-generation Latinos. After progress from first to second generation, there are retreats in outcomes, such as voter participation, school attendance, educational attainment, trust in institutions, trust and interchanges with neighbors, and disconnectedness from work and school. Whether these patterns prevail for third-generation Latinos or are the result of ethnic self-identification need further exploration (Duncan and Trejo 2011). It is still accurate to say, however, that most third-generation youth who identify as Latino are doing poorly in many indicators of well-being compared with nonimmigrants and second-generation Latinos.

Notes

1. Tabulations by the author are based on the March 2012 and March 2013 Current Population Survey.
2. Puerto Ricans are excluded from the Latino tabulations and included in the nonimmigrant group.
3. See also, Blau et al. (2013), Borjas (2006), Card (2005), Greenman and Xie (2008), and Trejo (2003).

Demographics

FIGURE 1A

Population Growth of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd+ Generation

Ages 16 to 22, March 1994–2013

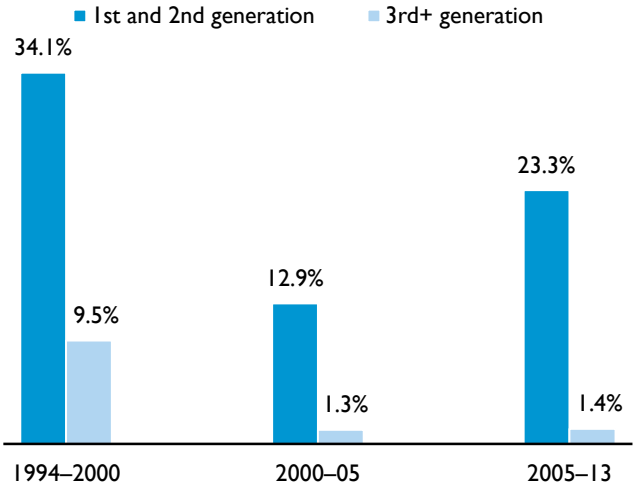


FIGURE 1B

Labor Force Growth of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd+ Generation

Ages 16 to 22, March 1994–2013

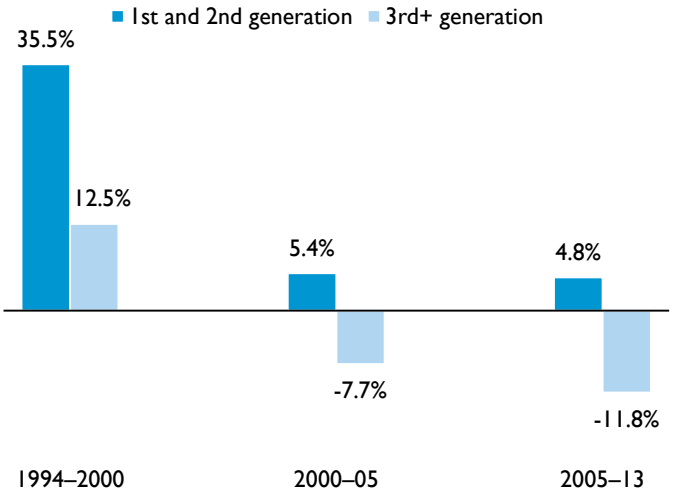
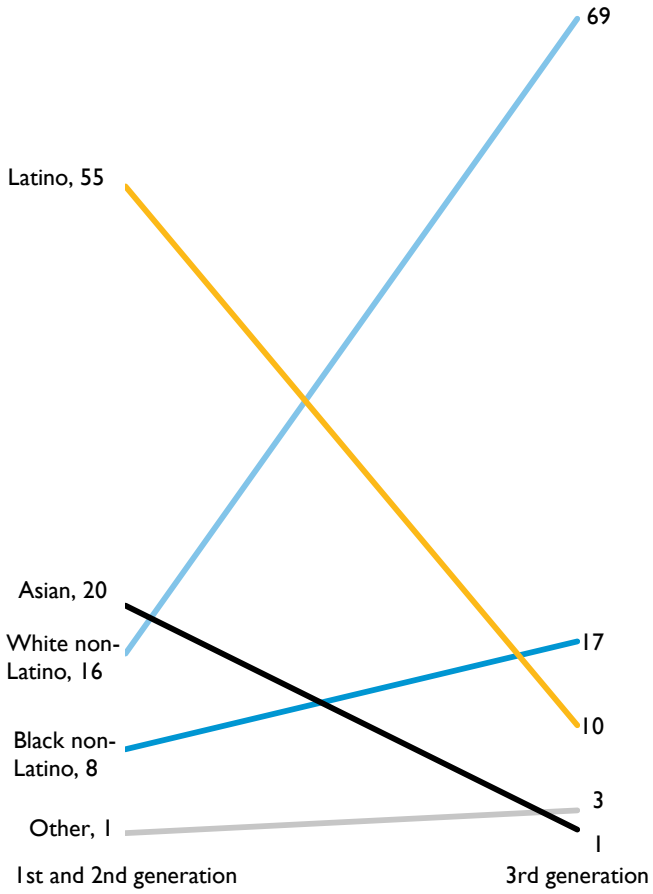


FIGURE 2

Racial and Ethnic Distribution of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Generation

Ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013 (percent)



The demographic impact of immigration is evident in the trends in population and labor force growth and in the racial and ethnic distribution of youth.

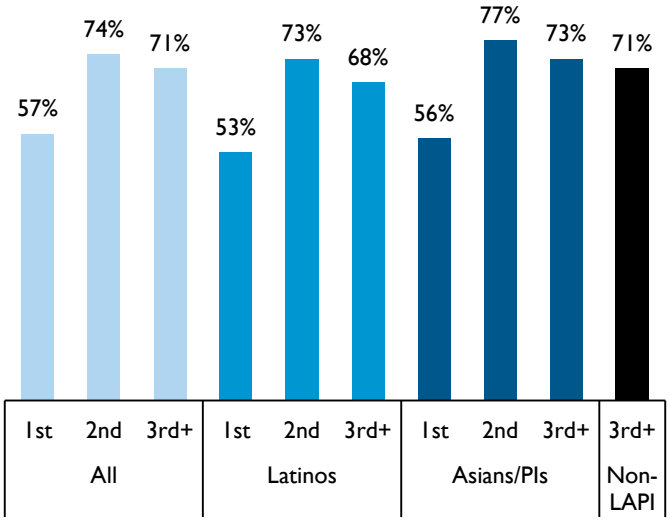
First- and second-generation immigrant youth are fueling the growth in population and labor force. Between 2005 and 2013, the immigrant youth population grew 23 percent. The immigrant-youth labor force—those who are either working or looking for work—grew 4.8 percent. By contrast, there was hardly any growth in the nonimmigrant youth population, and its labor force declined by 11.8 percent.

Differences in racial composition between immigrant youth and third-generation youth are enormous: Latinos and Asians/PIs make up 75 percent of first and second-generation youth compared with just 11 percent of the third.

FIGURE 3

Children of the Householder

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

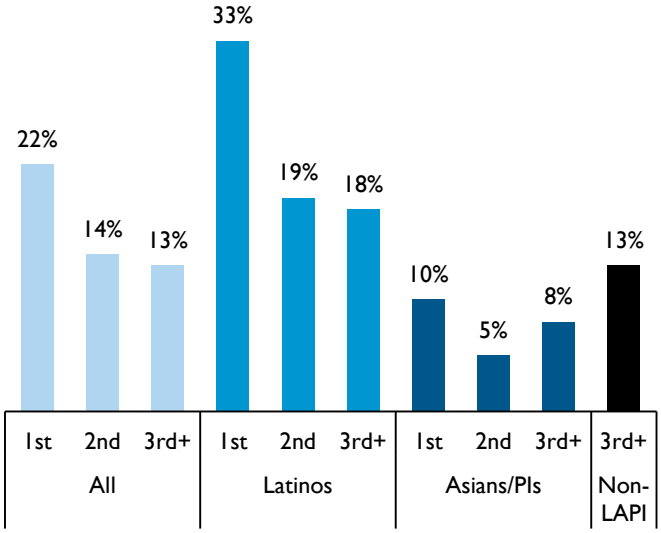


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 4

Women with at Least One Child

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, June 2010 and 2012

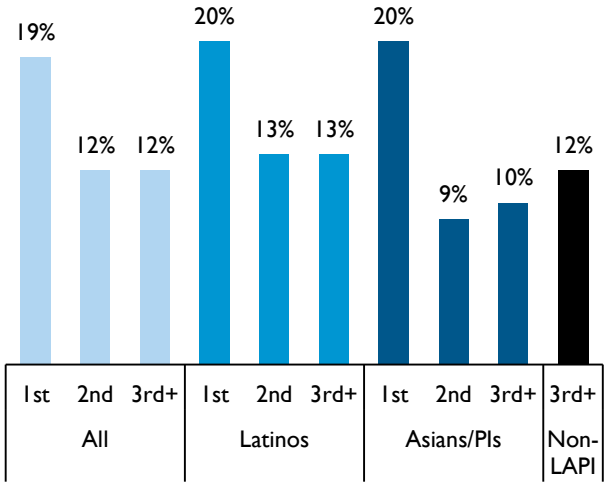


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2010 and 2012 data.

FIGURE 5

Householders or Spouses

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

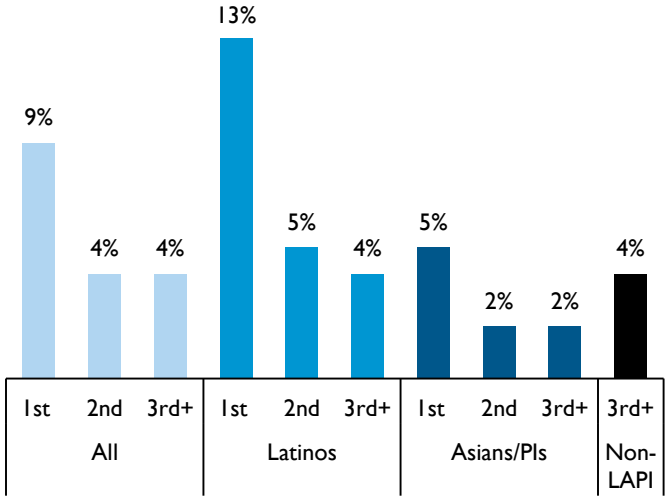


Notes: All here indicates all rcial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 6

Married Youth

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013



Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

Having a child, being married, or being the householder or spouse of the householder (instead of the child of the householder) all relate to how youth transition into adulthood by forming their own households. These outcomes also speak to assimilation as young first- and second-generation immigrants adopt the fertility patterns and household transitions of society. The first generation is more likely than nonimmigrants to be a householder, spouse of the householder, married, and have a child, and less likely to be the child of the householder.

But there is fast assimilation in these demographic outcomes. Percentages who are married, young women with at least one child, or householders or spouses of the householder drop drastically from first to second generation, reaching levels comparable with nonimmigrants.

TABLE 1

Odds of Outcomes of Immigrant Youth Relative to Nonimmigrant Youth

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22

Generation	Married	Child of the householder	Householder or spouse	Has had a live birth[a]
		All immigrant youth		
1st	3.03	0.48	1.94	1.94
2nd	ns	ns	1.08	1.03
		Latinos		
1st	4.26	0.41	2.17	3.41
2nd	1.27	ns	1.17	1.49
3rd	ns	0.80	ns	1.51
		Asians/PIs		
1st	1.69	0.45	1.90	ns
2nd	0.69	ns	0.43	ns
3rd	ns	ns	ns	0.43

Notes: Only odds ratio differentials with *p* values ≤ 0.05 are shown; ns = not statistically significant at ≤ 0.05 level. Nonimmigrant youth are third-generation non-Latino and non-Asian/PI.

[a] This characteristic applies to women only.

The odds ratios drop substantially between the first and second generation, and the differentials with nonimmigrants are often not statistically significant.

When all immigrants are considered, there is no statistical difference in the chances of being married and being the child of the householder. In the outcomes of having a child and being the child of the householder, there are no or only small differences between the second generation and nonimmigrants.

Latino youth, however, have a long road to travel to achieve parity with nonimmigrants. By the third generation, some differences remain: Latinos are 0.80 times as likely as nonimmigrants to be the child of the household and 1.5 times as likely to have a live birth as nonimmigrants.

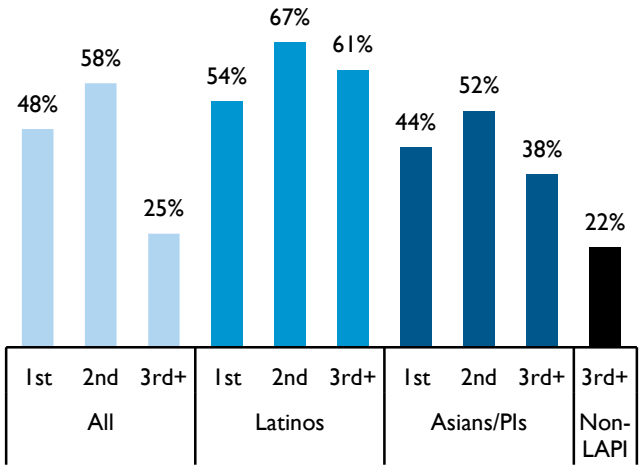
The advancement of Latinos in some demographic outcomes stalls or reverses. Progress stalls for Latinas after the second generation in the relative odds of having a child. When it comes to being the child of the householder, after the elimination of the disparities with nonimmigrants in the second generation, differences reemerge in the third.

Place

FIGURE 7

Youth Residing in California, Florida, New York, and Texas

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

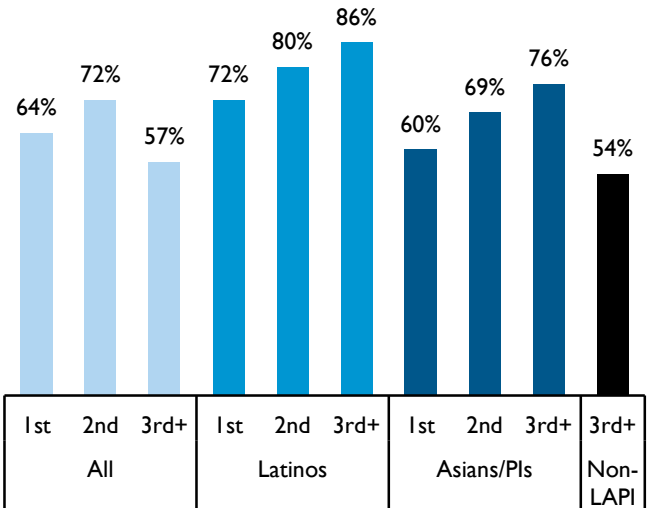


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 8

Youth Residing in the South and West Regions

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013



Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

TABLE 2

Odds of Residing in California, Florida, New York, and Texas of Immigrant Youth Relative to Nonimmigrant Youth

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22

Generation	Odds of residency
All immigrant youth	
1st	3.47
2nd	5.52
Latinos	
1st	4.48
2nd	8.22
3rd	5.99
Asians/PIs	
1st	2.75
2nd	1.76
3rd	1.29

Notes: Only odds ratio differentials with *p* values ≤ 0.05 are shown; ns = not statistically significant at ≤ 0.05 level). Nonimmigrant youth are third-generation non-Latino and non-Asian/PI.

Immigrant and nonimmigrant youth are concentrated in different regions. Fifty-eight percent of second-generation immigrant youth reside in California, Florida, New York, and Texas compared with 22 percent of nonimmigrant youth.

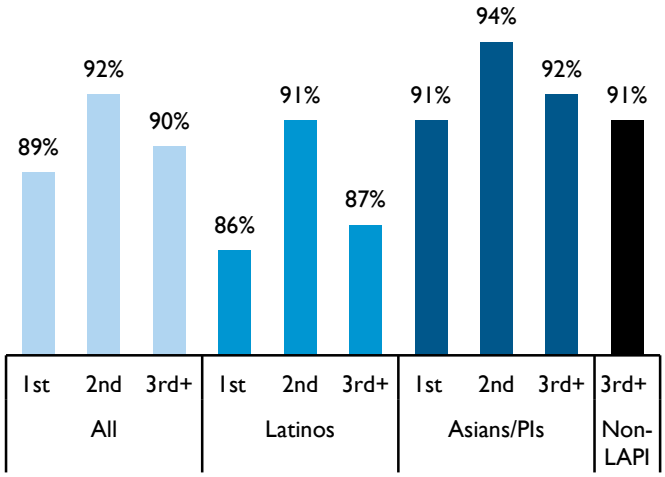
There is no spatial assimilation across generations, especially among Latinos. The first generation is 3.47 and the second 5.52 times as likely as nonimmigrants to live in these four states. Nearly 75 percent of second-generation youth reside in the South and West regions of the United States compared with 54 percent of nonimmigrants.

Education

FIGURE 9A

Youth Attending School

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 18, March 2012 and 2013

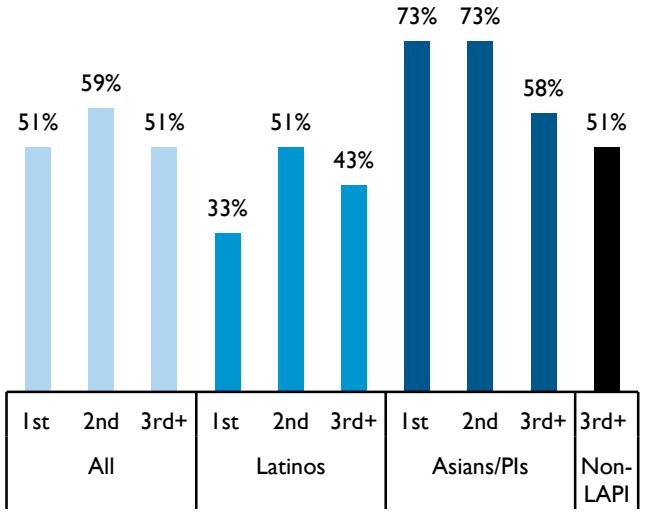


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 9B

Youth Attending School

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 19 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

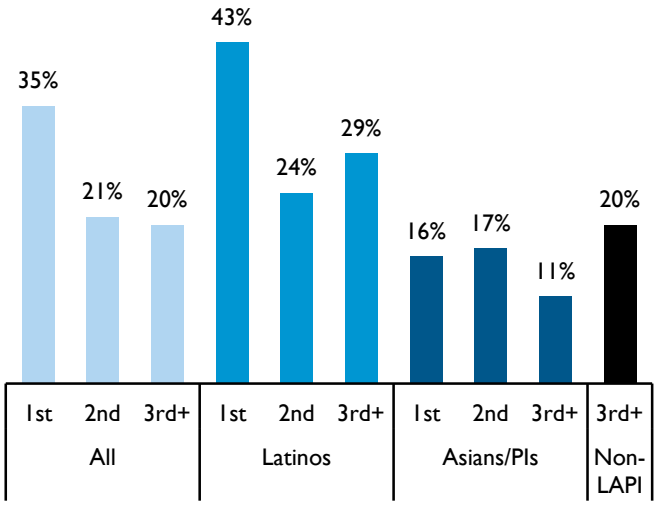


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 10A

Youth without a High School Diploma

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

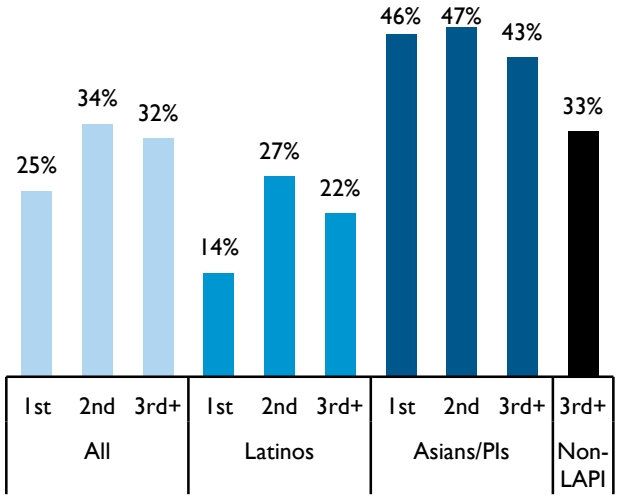


Notes: The youth examined here were not enrolled in school. All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 10B

Youth with Some College or a College Degree

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013



Notes: The youth examined here were not enrolled in school. All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

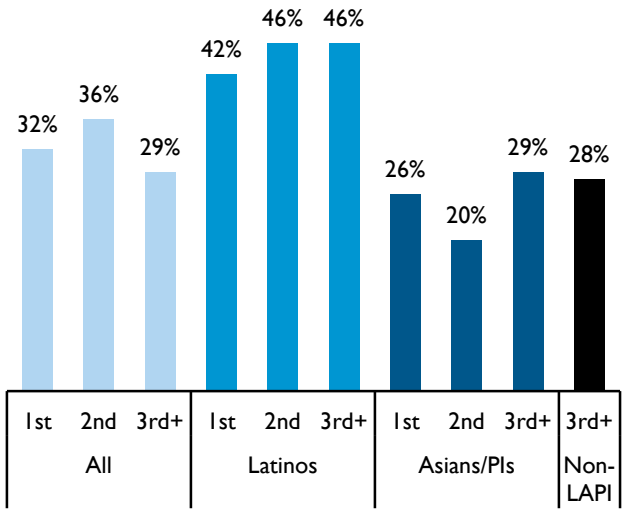
The second generation matches and even exceeds nonimmigrants in school attendance and educational attainment. Among all second-generation immigrants, 92 percent of those ages 16 to 18 and 59 percent of those ages 19 to 22 are in school. Among nonimmigrant youth, 91 percent of those ages 16 to 18 and 51 percent of those ages 19 to 22 are in school. The percentage attending school is consistently lower for Latinos than for Asians/PIs.

The percentage without a high school diploma among those not attending school drops sharply between the first and the second generation, while the percentage with college education increases. Some of the progress made between first- and second-generation Latinos in educational outcomes is lost by the third generation.

FIGURE 11

Youth Attending Two-Year Colleges

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, October 2011 and 2012

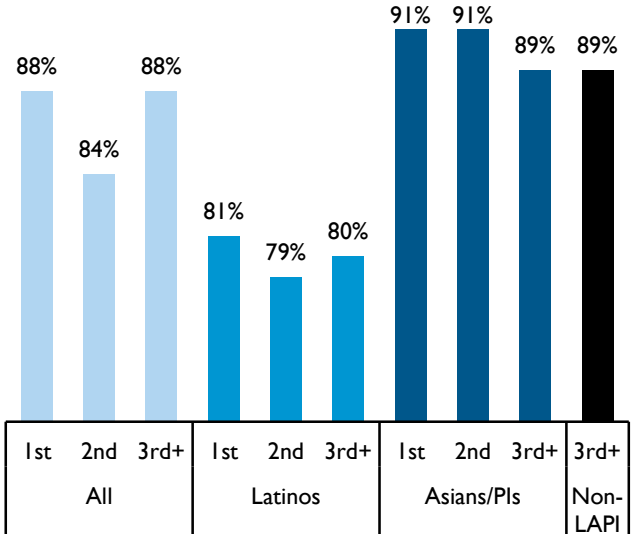


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. The data include only those attending college. Figure combines 2011 and 2012 data.

FIGURE 12

Youth Attending College Full Time

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, October 2011 and 2012

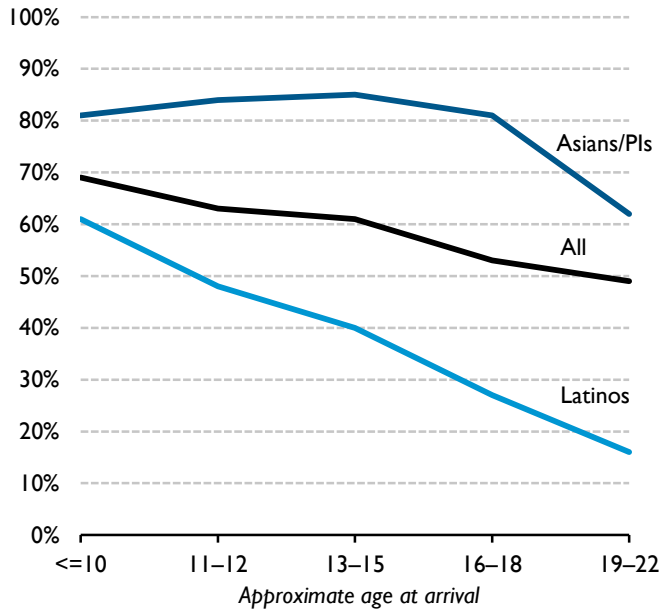


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. The data include only those attending college. Figure combines 2011 and 2012 data.

FIGURE 13

Youth Attending School by Age of Arrival in the United States

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013



Although they are more likely to be attending college than nonimmigrants, second-generation immigrants are more likely to attend two-year colleges and less likely to attend college full time. Thirty-six percent of second-generation youth in college attend a two-year institution compared with 28 percent of nonimmigrant youth. Almost one in every two young Latinos (46 percent) attends a two-year institution, and this percentage remains high through the third generation.

Age at arrival makes a big difference for the educational attainment of first-generation immigrants. The likelihood of attending school declines as the age at arrival increases; this decline is sharp among Latinos. Only 40 percent of Latinos who arrived between the ages of 13 and15 were attending school in 2012–13. There is also a sharp contrast between Latinos and Asians/PIs. Among Latinos arriving at ages 19 to 22, only 16 percent were attending school in 2012–13 in contrast with 62 percent of Asians/PIs. This pattern suggests that most Latinos entering the country in their late teens and early twenties do so for work and most Asians/PIs do so for schooling.

TABLE 3

Odds of Educational Attainment of Immigrant Youth Relative to Nonimmigrant Youth

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22

		Not in school		In college	
Generation	In school	No high school diploma	College education	Two-year institution	Full-time student
		All immigrant youth			
1st	0.72	2.13	0.65	ns	ns
2nd	1.13	ns	ns	1.55	0.66
		Latinos			
1st	0.45	2.77	0.34	2.04	0.59
2nd	ns	1.21	0.83	2.46	0.47
3rd	0.77	1.48	0.69	2.25	0.58
		Asians/PIs			
1st	1.45	ns	1.69	ns	ns
2nd	1.75	ns	1.82	ns	ns
3rd	ns	0.53	1.37	ns	ns

Notes: Only odds ratio differentials with *p* values ≤ 0.05 are shown; ns = not statistically significant at ≤ 0.05 level. Nonimmigrant youth are third-generation non-Latino and non-Asian/PI.

Asians/PIs of all generations surpass nonimmigrants in obtaining a college education. Latinos, however, nearly always fall behind nonimmigrants in educational attainment. The second-generation Latino has the best standing and is still 0.83 times as likely as nonimmigrants to attend college.

Immigrant youth in college are 1.55 times as likely as nonimmigrant youth to attend two-year institutions. Thirty-six percent of immigrant youth in college attend two-year institutions compared with 28 percent of nonimmigrant youth. Latinos, when they do attend school, are more to attend two-year colleges, a trend that continues through the third generation.

Second-generation Latinos are also less likely to attend college full time. All generations of Latinos are about 50 percent less likely to be attending college full time than nonimmigrant youth.

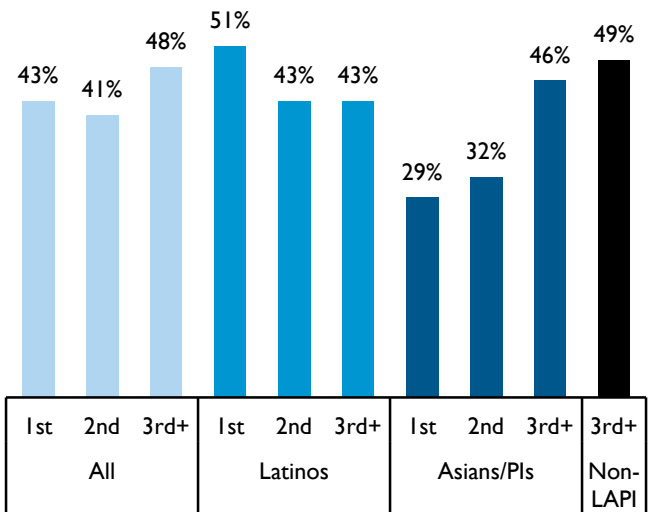
Latinos make a U-turn in school attendance and educational attainment. The data show progress among Latinos in the chances of attending school; they achieve parity with nonimmigrants by the second generation. But this progress reverses in the third generation. Third-generation Latinos are 0.77 times as likely as nonimmigrants to be attending school. There is also a reversal in progress in educational attainment.

Work

FIGURE 14

Youth in the Labor Force

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

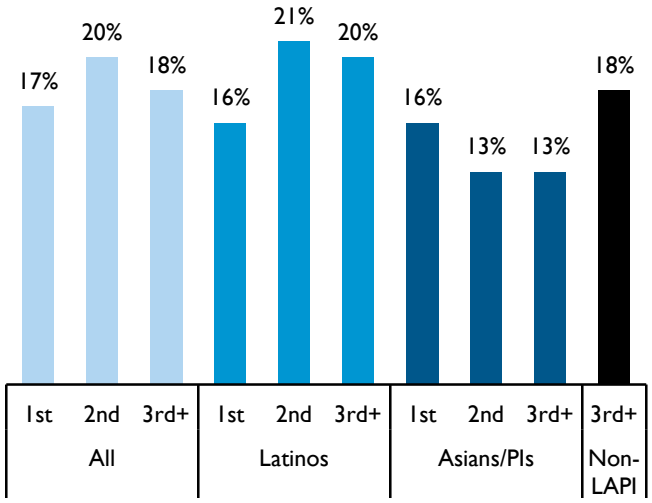


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 15

Youth Unemployment Rate

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

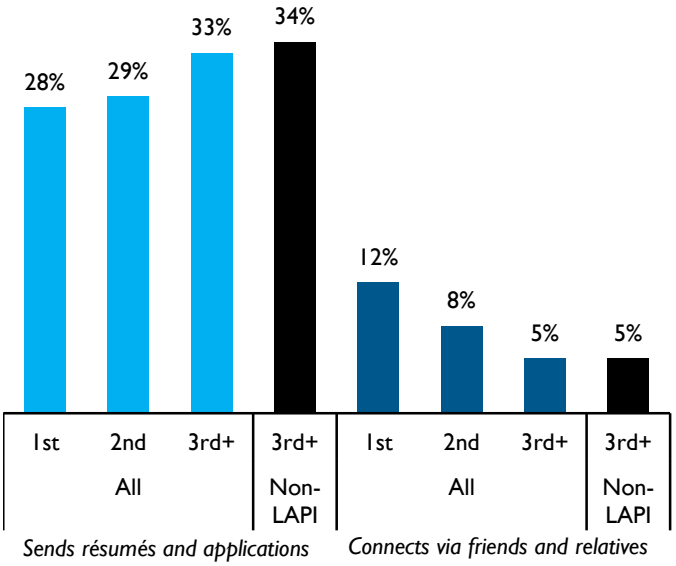


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 16

Unemployed Youth Job Search Methods

By generation, ages 16 to 24, March 2012 and 2013



Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

The labor force participation rate—the share of youth who are either working or looking for work—of nonimmigrant youth is 49 percent, higher than that of all first- and second-generation immigrant youth. The Asian/PI labor force participation rate shows assimilation across generations. The Latino labor force participation, by contrast, starts high and close to that of nonimmigrants but drops after the first generation, remaining stagnant thereafter.

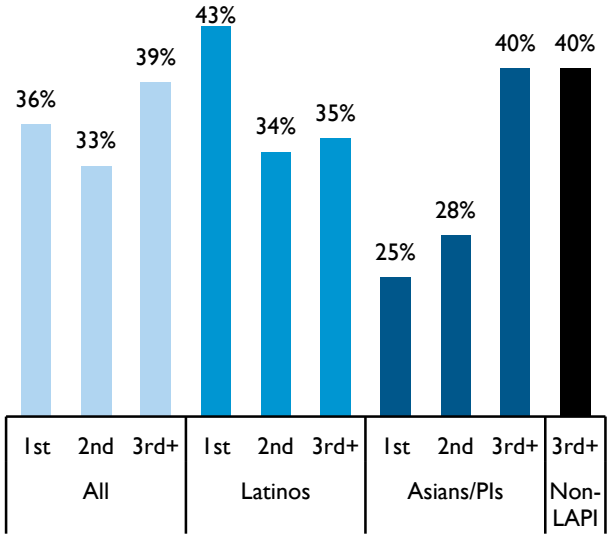
First- and second-generation Asians/PIs are less likely than nonimmigrants to be unemployed.

The share of unemployed youth searching for jobs by sending out résumés and job applications increases across generations, approaching the level of nonimmigrant youth. Using relative and friend connections in job searches becomes less common with successive immigrant generations. The first generation stands out with the highest rate of youth using friends and relatives to find work.

FIGURE 17

Employed Youth

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

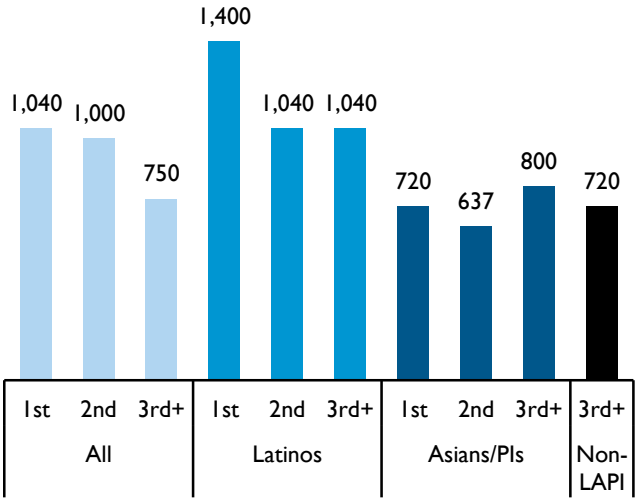


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 18

Number of Hours Youth Worked in a Year

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013



Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

TABLE 4

Odds of Work Outcomes of Immigrant Youth Relative to Nonimmigrant Youth

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22

Generation	In the labor force	Working	Unemployed	Search for work through friends and relatives
		All immigrant youth		
1st	ns	ns	ns	2.79
2nd	0.78	0.80	1.03	1.84
		Latinos		
1st	ns	1.12	0.84	3.64
2nd	0.85	0.84	1.12	ns
3rd	0.88	0.87	ns	ns
		Asians/PIs		
1st	ns	ns	0.64	ns
2nd	ns	ns	0.66	ns
3rd	ns	ns	ns	ns

Notes: Only odds ratio differentials with *p* values ≤ 0.05 are shown; ns = not statistically significant at ≤ 0.05 level. Nonimmigrant youth are third-generation non-Latino and non-Asian/PI.

First-generation Latinos are the most likely to work and, when employed, work the most hours of all groups examined.

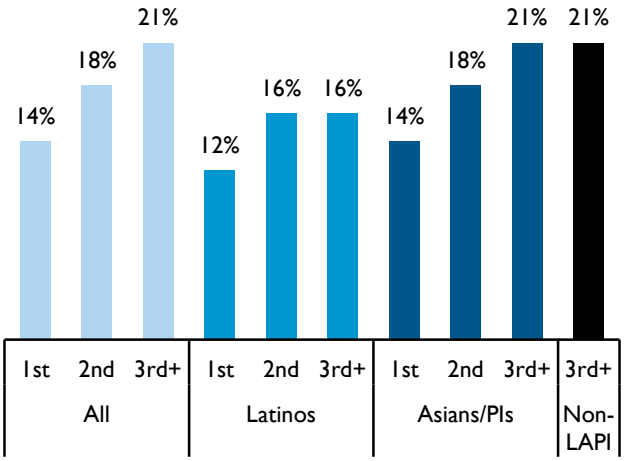
Differentials in job search methods between immigrant and nonimmigrant youth remain even among the second generation. The second generation is 1.84 times as likely as nonimmigrants to look for work through friends and relatives, possibly because they are able to tap into the job networks of their immigrant parents.

Disconnectedness

FIGURE 19

Youth Working while in School

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

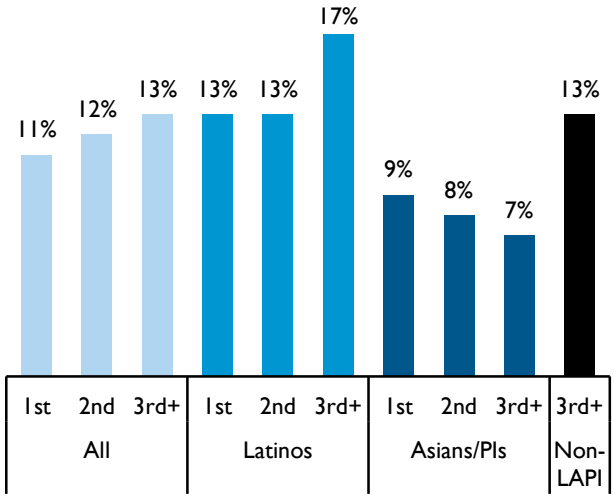


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 20

Male Youth Neither Employed nor in School

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

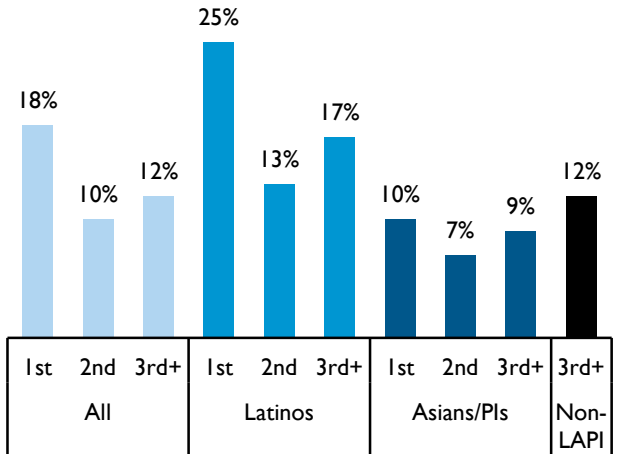


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 21

Female Youth Neither Employed nor in School

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013



Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

TABLE 5

Odds of Disconnectedness of Immigrant Youth Relative to Nonimmigrant Youth

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22

Generation	Working and in school	Disconnected men	Disconnected women
	All immigrant youth		
1st	0.62	ns	1.73
2nd	0.79	0.89	0.88
	Latinos		
1st	0.52	ns	2.54
2nd	0.73	ns	ns
3rd	0.71	1.27	1.37
	Asians/PIs		
1st	0.64	0.65	ns
2nd	0.76	0.55	0.60
3rd	ns	ns	ns

Notes: Only odds ratio differentials with *p* values ≤ 0.05 are shown; ns = not statistically significant at ≤ 0.05 level. Nonimmigrant youth are third-generation non-Latino and non-Asian/PI.

Disconnectedness increases somewhat in successive generations of young men. Asian/PI men, however, are less likely to be disconnected than nonimmigrant men. These data also show high rates of disconnectedness among some groups of young immigrant women. While only 12 percent of nonimmigrant young women are disconnected from school and work, 18 percent of all first-generation young women and 25 percent of Latinas are disconnected. First-generation young immigrant women are 1.73 times as likely as nonimmigrant women to be disconnected.

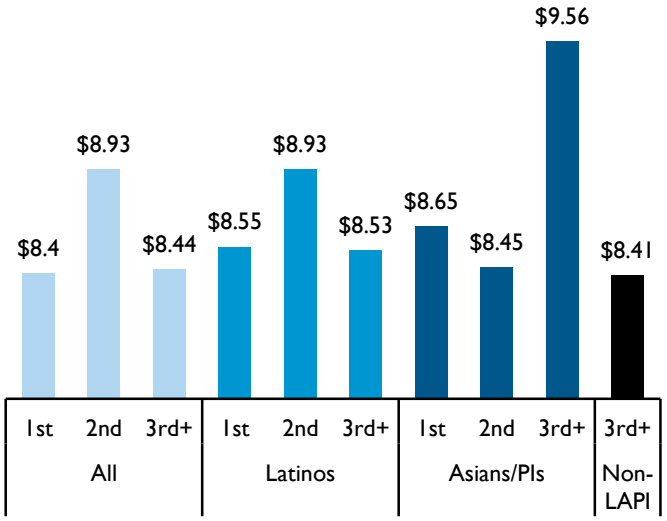
The percentage of youth working while going to school increases across immigrant generations. There is a U-turn in disconnectedness among Latino men and women. Disparities between Latino youth that had disappeared by the second generation return in the third generation; third-generation Latino men are 1.27 times as likely and Latina women are 1.37 times as likely as nonimmigrants to be disconnected.

Income

FIGURE 22

Median Hourly Wage of Immigrant Youth in 2011 and 2012

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

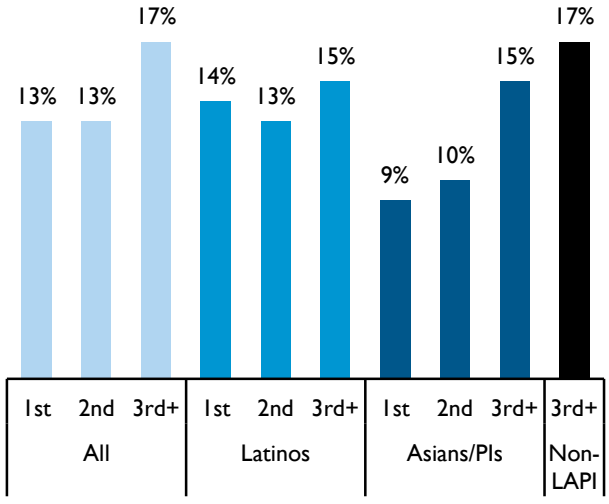


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 23

Youth with Hourly Wages at or below the Federal Minimum Wage

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

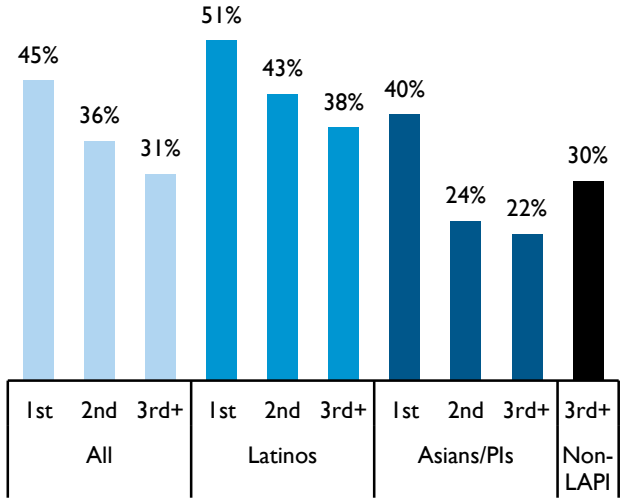


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 24

Youth with Annual Household Income at or below $40,000

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

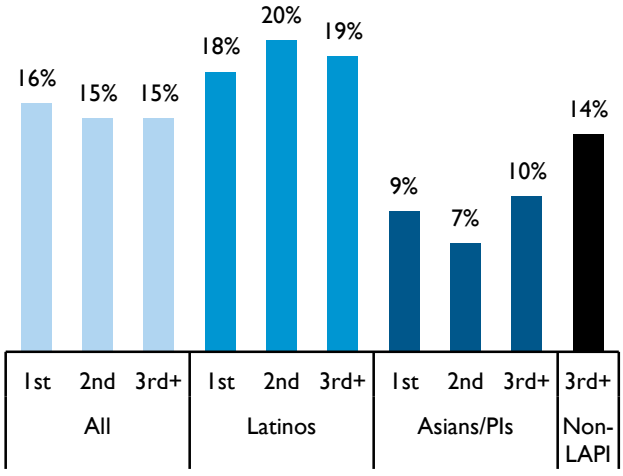


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 25

Youth Households Receiving SNAP

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013



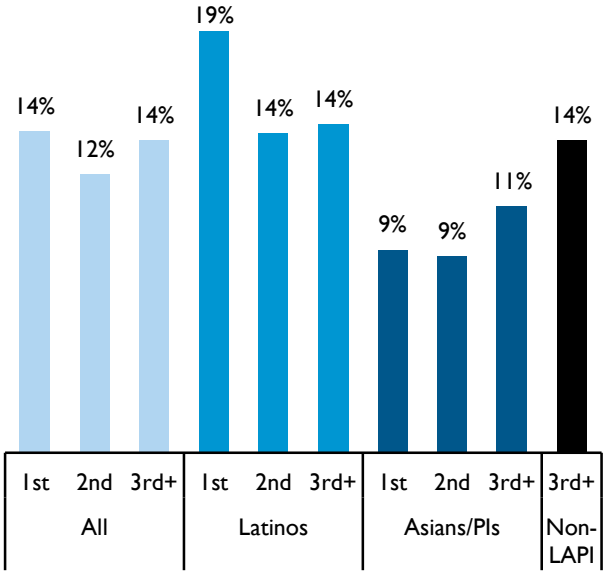
Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

Immigrant youth, including Latinos and Asians/PIs, have wages that are similar to or higher than those of nonimmigrant youth. The percentage of immigrant youth residing in households with income at or below $40,000 declines across generations. But this decline hardly makes a dent on participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Around 15 percent of all generations of immigrants reside in SNAP households. Participation in SNAP relative to nonimmigrants is the highest for second-generation Latinos.

FIGURE 26

Youth Contributions to Household Income

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

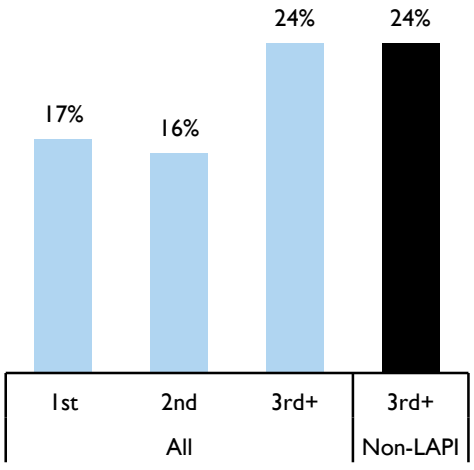


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 27

Youth Contributions to Households with Annual Incomes at or below $40,000

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013



Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

TABLE 6

Odds of Income Outcomes of Immigrant Youth Relative to Nonimmigrant Youth

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22

Generation	Hourly wage (regression)	Minimum wage	Household income ≤$40,000	Household in SNAP
		All immigrant youth		
1st	ns	0.71	1.95	1.15
2nd	1.15	0.71	1.40	1.08
		Latinos		
1st	ns	0.76	2.50	1.29
2nd	ns	0.69	1.92	1.46
3rd	ns	0.79	1.41	1.27
		Asians/PIs		
1st	ns	0.52	1.50	0.71
2nd	ns	0.56	0.71	0.48
3rd	ns	0.67	0.57	0.75

Notes: Only odds ratio differentials with *p* values ≤ 0.05 are shown; ns = not statistically significant at ≤ 0.05 level. Nonimmigrant youth are third generation and non-Latino and non-Asian/PI.

Immigrant youth contribute 12 to 14 percent of household income, a share similar to the contribution of nonimmigrant youth. First-generation Latinos contribute the most to household income at 19 percent. Asians/PIs contribute the least. The contribution of immigrant youth to lower-income households is higher, but, at 24 percent, nonimmigrants contribute more.

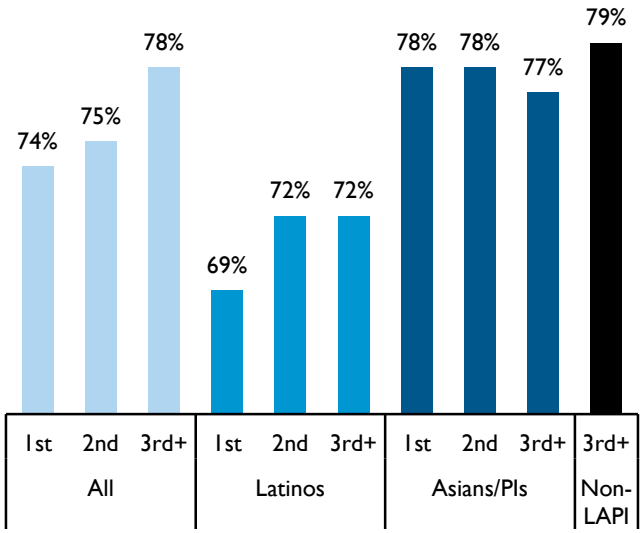
The wages of the second generation are 15 percent higher than the wages of nonimmigrants. Second-generation Latinos are 1.46 times as likely as nonimmigrants to live in SNAP households.

Health

FIGURE 28

Youth in Excellent or Very Good Health

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013

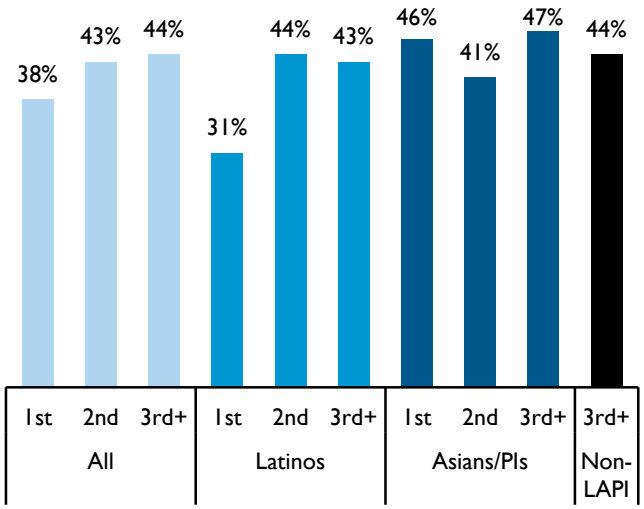


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 29

Youth without Health Coverage

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, March 2012 and 2013



Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

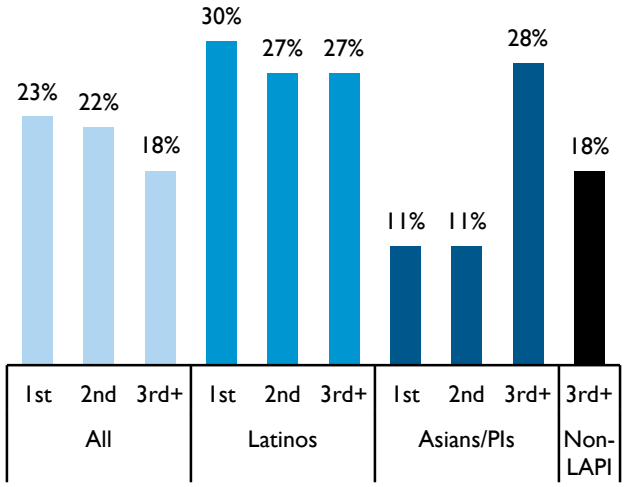
The percentage of immigrant youth reporting excellent or very good health increases across generations, starting at 74 percent and reaching 78 percent by the third generation. Asians/PIs' health status is consistently high across all generations. First-generation Latinos show the poorest health with only 69 percent reporting excellent or very good health.

Health coverage of second-generation immigrants is comparable with nonimmigrants'; coverage of the first generation is lower. These figures are for 2012 and 2013, before Affordable Care Act (ACA) enrollment began. But low coverage for first-generation youth may remain after ACA enrollment. Under the ACA, first-generation youth residing without authorization in the United States (1) remain ineligible for nonemergency Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program, (2) are not allowed to buy health insurance at full cost in state exchanges, (3) are not eligible for premium tax credits or lower copayments, and (4) are exempt from individual mandates (http://www.nilc.org/immigrantshcr.html). Under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, first-generation youth who are older than 18 and have resided legally in the United States for less than five years are subject to a five-year ban on Medicaid participation.

FIGURE 30

Youth in Households with Low or Very Low Food Security

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, December 2011 and 2012

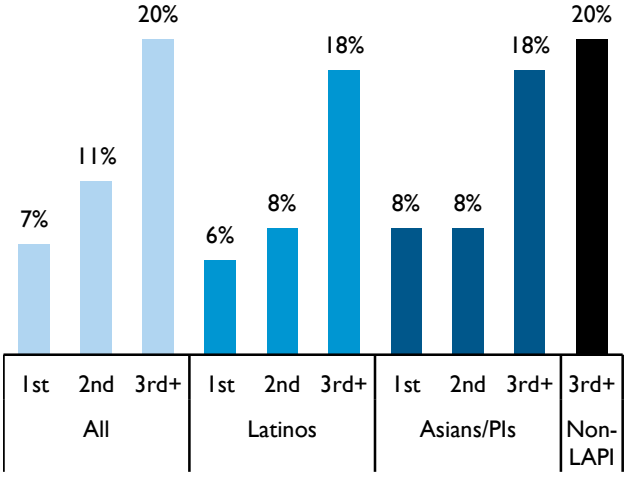


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2011 and 2012 data.

FIGURE 31

Youth Who Are Cigarette Smokers

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, 2010 and 2011



Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2010 and 2011 data.

TABLE 7

Odds of Health Outcomes of Immigrant Youth Relative to Nonimmigrant Youth

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22

Generation	Excellent, very good health	No health coverage	Low, very low food security	Cigarette smoker
		All immigrant youth		
1st	0.71	0.77	1.45	0.37
2nd	0.74	ns	1.29	0.37
		Latinos		
1st	0.58	0.58	1.85	0.33
2nd	0.63	ns	1.72	0.43
3rd	0.69	ns	1.72	0.82
		Asians/PI		
1st	ns	ns	0.74	0.43
2nd	0.83	ns	0.66	0.35
3rd	ns	ns	1.42	0.53

Notes: Only odds ratio differentials with *p* values ≤ 0.05 are shown; ns = not statistically significant at ≤ 0.05 level. Nonimmigrant youth are third-generation not-Latino non-Asian/PI.

Low or very low food security is high in the households where immigrant youth reside, particularly in Latino households. More than one in five second-generation youth lives in a household that has experienced food insecurity in the past 12 months. There is also high food insecurity among third-generation Asian/PI youth.

The odds of food insecurity of immigrants relative to nonimmigrant youth decline across generation but remain high: the first generation is 1.45 times as likely as nonimmigrants to live in a food-insecure household, and the second generation is 1.29 times as likely. The odds of food insecurity are much higher among Latinos and remain stagnant after the second generation.

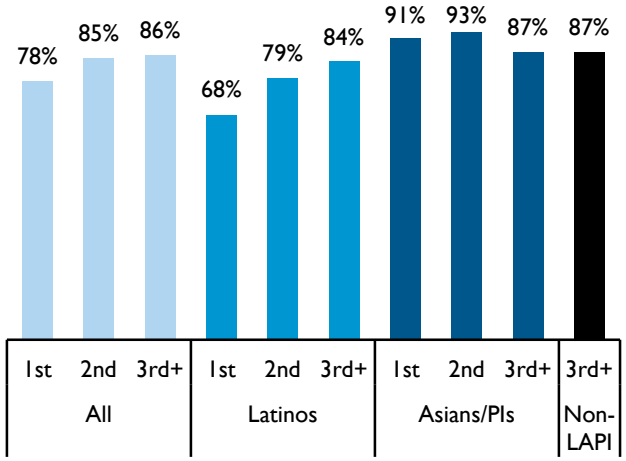
Immigrants are less likely to smoke, and the likelihood of smoking increases across generations, becoming more similar to nonimmigrants. This outcome shows how assimilation could, at times, be detrimental.

Technology

FIGURE 32

Youth with a Computer at Home

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, July 2011 and October 2012

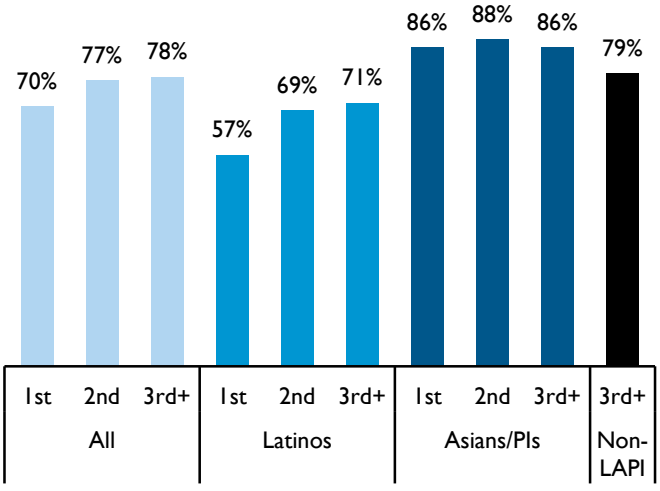


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2011 and 2012 data.

FIGURE 33

Youth Who Use the Internet at Home

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, July 2011 and October 2012

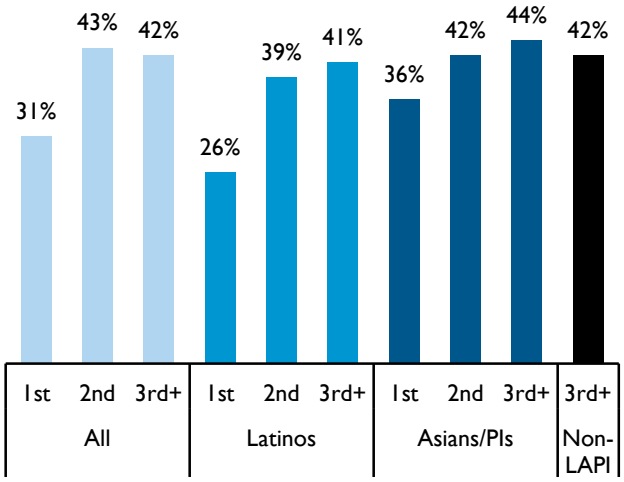


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2011 and 2012 data.

FIGURE 34

Youth Who Use Mobile Phones to Access the Internet

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, July 2011



Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI.

TABLE 8

Odds of Technology Outcomes of Immigrant Youth Relative to Nonimmigrant Youth

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22

Generation	Computer at home	Use Internet at home	Uses cell, mobile for Internet
	All immigrant youth		
1st	0.50	0.59	0.66
2nd	0.85	0.83	ns
	Latinos		
1st	0.28	0.34	0.51
2nd	0.53	0.55	0.87
3rd	0.56	0.60	ns
	Asians/PIs		
1st	ns	1.52	ns
2nd	1.91	1.62	ns
3rd	ns	1.40	ns

Notes: Only odds ratio differentials with *p* values ≤ 0.05 are shown; ns = not statistically significant at ≤ 0.05 level. Nonimmigrant youth are third-generation not-Latino non-Asian/PI.

The percentage of immigrant youth with home computers and Internet access increases across generations, getting close to the levels of nonimmigrants. Seventy-eight percent of first-generation immigrants and 85 percent of the second generation have a computer at home, compared with 87 percent nonimmigrant youth. Second-generation Asians/PIs are the most likely to have technology access, with higher levels than nonimmigrants.

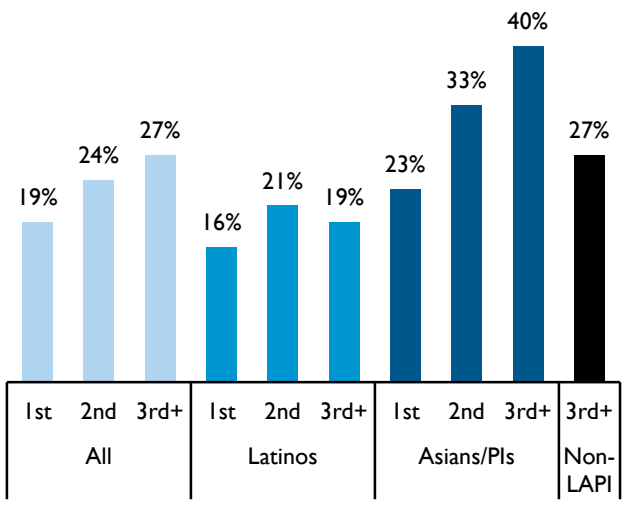
A digital divide between Latino and non-Latino youth carries over through generations. Only 79 percent of second-generation Latinos have a computer at home and only 69 percent access the Internet from home. Internet access through mobile phones may reduce some technology limitations of first-generation Latino youth, but still only 26 percent of them access the Internet through cell phones. First-generation Latinos are 0.51 times as likely and the second generation 0.87 times as likely as nonimmigrants to access the Internet though a cell phone.

Civic Engagement

FIGURE 35

Youth Who Participate in a Civic, Sport, Religious, or Community Organization

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 18 to 24, November 2010 and 2011

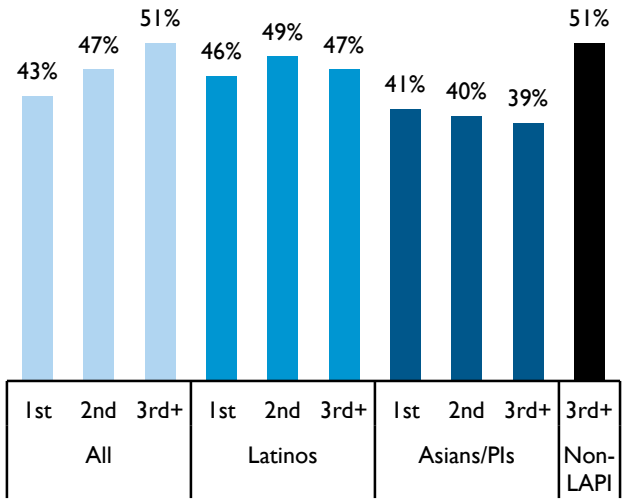


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2010 and 2011 data.

FIGURE 36

Youth Who Trust and Engage with Neighbors

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 18 to 24, November 2011

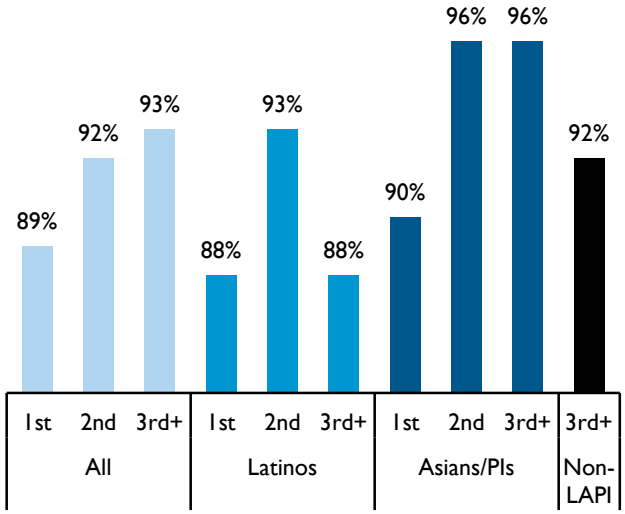


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI.

FIGURE 37

Youth Who Trust Media, Corporations, and Public Schools

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 18 to 24, November 2011

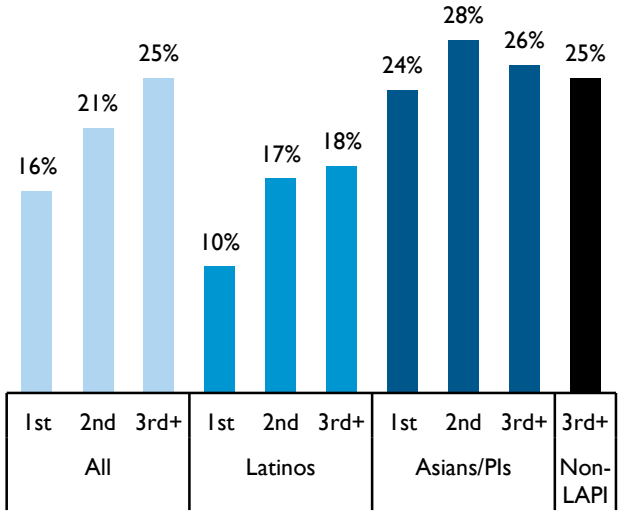


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI.

FIGURE 38

Youth Who Perform Volunteer Work

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22, September 2012 and 2013

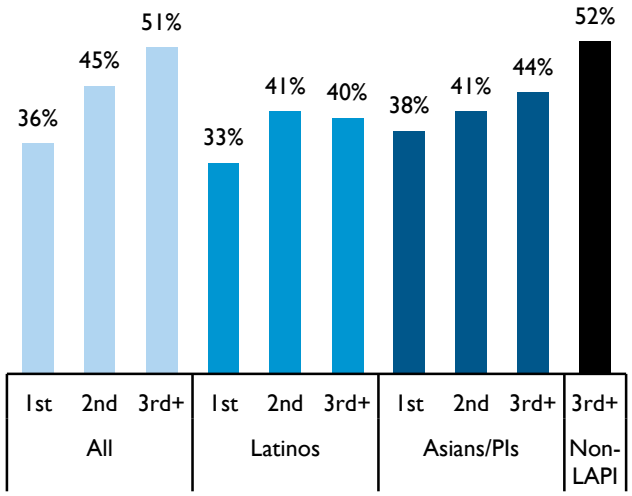


Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2012 and 2013 data.

FIGURE 39

Youth Who Are Registered to Vote

By generation, race and ethnicity, ages 18 to 24, November 2010 and 2012, citizens



Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2010 and 2012 data.

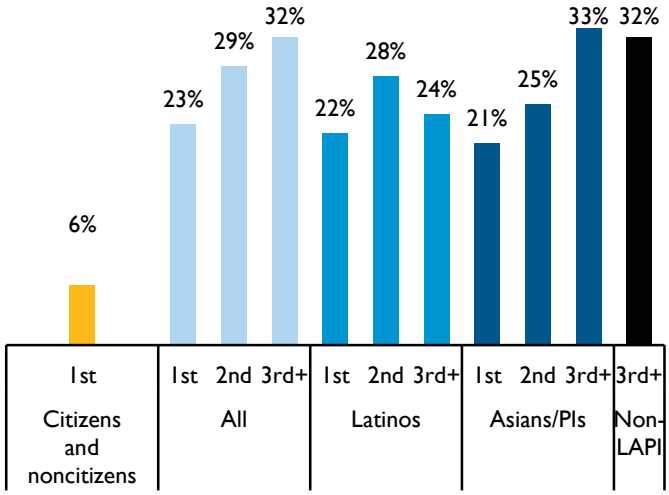
There is assimilation in outcomes of civic engagement: successive generations become more similar to nonimmigrants in registering to vote, voting, volunteering, engaging with neighbors, trusting in institutions, and participating in community organizations. Second-generation Asians/PIs show higher levels of participation in community organizations, volunteerism, and trust in institutions than nonimmigrants.

Inequalities persist over time. Though 52 percent of nonimmigrants ages 18 to 24 are registered to vote, only 45 percent of the second generation are registered. Of all first-generation, citizen and noncitizen immigrants, only 6 percent voted in the 2010 and /or 2012 national elections.

FIGURE 40

Youth Who Voted in National Elections

By generation, race and ethnicity, and immigrant citizenship status, ages 18 to 24, November 2010 and 2012



Notes: All here indicates all racial and ethnic groups. Non-LAPI = not Latino or Asian/PI. Figure combines 2010 and 2012 data.

TABLE 9A

Odds of Civic Engagement Outcomes of Immigrant Youth Relative to Nonimmigrant Youth

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22

Generation	Civic and community participation	Trusts institutions	Engages with neighbors	Volunteers
		All immigrant youth		
1st	0.60	0.74	0.72	0.54
2nd	0.81	ns	0.83	0.76
		Latinos		
1st	0.44	0.69	0.77	0.36
2nd	0.64	ns	ns	0.58
3rd	0.66	0.69	0.79	0.62
		Asians/PIs		
1st	0.77	ns	0.68	ns
2nd	ns	ns	0.69	ns
3rd	ns	ns	ns	ns

Notes: Only odds ratio differentials with *p* values ≤ 0.05 are shown; ns = not statistically significant at ≤ 0.05 level. Nonimmigrant youth are third-generation non-Latino non-Asian/PI.

TABLE 9B

Odds of Civic Engagement Outcomes of Immigrant Youth Relative to Nonimmigrant Youth

By generation and race and ethnicity, ages 16 to 22

Generation	Registered to vote (citizens)	Voted (citizens)	Voted (all)
		All immigrant youth	
1st	0.54	0.60	0.12
2nd	0.77	0.87	0.87
		Latinos	
1st	0.47	0.54	0.07
2nd	0.66	0.79	0.78
3rd	0.62	0.68	0.67
		Asians/PIs	
1st	0.60	0.61	0.16
2nd	0.64	0.71	0.71
3rd	0.62	0.79	0.78

Notes: Only odds ratio differentials with *p* values ≤ 0.05 are shown; ns = not statistically significant at ≤ 0.05 level. Nonimmigrant youth are third-generation non-Latino non-Asian/PI.

Despite the progress across generations, immigrant youth are significantly less likely to be civically and politically engaged. The second generation is 0.76 times as likely as nonimmigrant youth to have performed volunteer work, 0.77 times as likely to be registered to vote, 0.81 times as likely to participate in community organizations, and 0.87 times as likely to vote. Disparities between immigrant and nonimmigrant youth are largest with respect to the first generation. First-generation immigrants are 0.54 times as likely as nonimmigrants to have done volunteer work, 0.60 as likely to participate in civic organizations, and citizens are 0.54 times as likely to be registered to vote.

There is a generational U-turn in civic engagement among Latinos. Second-generation Latinos engage with their neighbors and trust institutions as nonimmigrants do. But neighborhood disengagement reemerges in the third generation. In addition, differentials with nonimmigrants in registering to vote and voting are larger for the third generation than the second.

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Appendix A

TABLE A.1

Current Population Survey Supplements, Questions, and Question Universe

Supplement	Variable name	Question/Item	Universe
Fertility June 2010 and 2012	PESF1	How many live births, if any, has NAME ever had?	June 2010: Civilian, noninstitutional women, ages 15–44 June 2012: Civilian, noninstitutional women, ages 15–50
Computer and Internet use July 2011 October 2012	July 2011 HESCI3 October 2012 HENET2	How many desktop, laptop, netbook, notebook, and table computers are there in use in this household?	All CPS households
Computer and Internet use July 2011 October 2012	July 2011 PEHOME October 2012 PENET8	Do you access the Internet at home? (2011) Person (NAME) uses Internet at home. (2012)	All civilian, noninstitutional people ages 3 and older
Computer and Internet use July 2011	PECELL	Do you use a cellular or smartphone to access the Internet?	All civilian, noninstitutional people ages 3 and older
School enrollment October 2010 and 2012	PEFULL PESTYPE	Is [subject] attending college full-time or part-time? Is this a 2-year or a 4-year college or university?	All civilian, noninstitutional people 3 and older
Tobacco use May 2010, August 2010, and January 2011	PEA1 and PEA3	Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life? Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?	All civilian, noninstitutional people, ages 18 and older
Voting and registration November 2010 and 2012	PES1 and PES2	Did you vote in the elections held in (November 2010 and 2012)? Were you registered to vote in the November _____ elections?	US citizens ages 18 and older
Civic engagement November 2010 and 2011	November 2010 PEQ5a–PEQ5e November 2011 PES5a–PES5e	Have you/Has (NAME) participated in any of these groups during the last 12 months: religious, sport, civic, school, or other community organization?	All civilian, noninstitutional people ages 18 and older
Civic engagement November 2011	PES15	During a typical month last year, how often did you talk to your neighbors?	All civilian, noninstitutional people ages 18 and older
	PES16	During a typical month last year, how often did you and your neighbors do favors for each other?	
	PES18	We would like to know how much you trust people in your neighborhood.	
	PES21a–PES21c	Would you say you have a great deal of confidence, only some confidence, hardly any confidence, or no confidence at all in corporations, media, corporations, and public schools?	

TABLE A.1 CONTINUED

Supplement	Variable name	Question	Universe
Voluntarism September 2012 and 2013	PES1	Since September 1st of last year, have you done any volunteer activities through or for and organization?	All civilian, noninstitutional people ages 15 and older
	PES2	Sometime people do not think of activities they do infrequently or activities they do for children's school or youth organization as volunteer activities. Since September 1st of last year, have you done any of these types of volunteer activities?	
	PRSUPVOL	Summary variable: Volunteer status.	
Food insecurity December 2011 and 2012	HRFS12M1	Summary of food security status: 12-month recall, based on responses to the 10 questions in the scale that ask specifically about food conditions among adults in the household and of the household in general.	All CPS households
Annual social and economic characteristics March 2012 and 2013	PRCITSHP, PTDRACE PEMNTVTY , PEFNTVTY, PRDTHSP,PRTAFE,YEARSINUS, A_MARTITL, A_ENRLW, A_HGA, PERRP,GEREG,GESTFIPS, A_LFSR, WKSWORK, HRSWK, WSAL_VAL, HTOTVAL, HFOODSP CAID, PRIV, A_UNCOV, AHIPER, CHAMP, OTYP_1to OTYP_5, OTYPE,OUT, HI, CARE, PCHIP, DEPRIV, OTHSTPER , HEA.	Demographic and geographic variables; household income, weeks worked last year, estimated hourly wage, and health care coverage (different types). Would you say X' person's health in general is excellent, very good, fair or poor? Does the household participate in SNAP?	All CPS households, all civilian, noninstitutional people
CPS Basic March 2012 and 2013	PELKMK1	What are all the things you have done to find work? (first method mentioned)	All unemployed and looking