

MAPPING AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY DATA FOR FORT BEND AND HARRIS COUNTIES, TEXAS

Bonny M. Berkner

Illustrated Paper

The Association of American Geographers
96th Annual Meeting
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (4-8 April 2000)

U S C E N S U S B U R E A U

Helping You Make Informed Decisions

What is the American Community Survey?

- A program to provide information **every year** for communities that is normally collected every ten years in the decennial census about:
 - age, gender, race/ethnicity
 - families, children, the elderly
 - income, poverty
 - education
 - work, unemployment
 - commuting patterns
 - housing

What are the Goals of the American Community Survey?

- Provide federal, state, and local governments an information base for the administration and evaluation of government programs.
- Provide an alternative to the 2010 Census long-form data collection.
- Provide data users with timely demographic, housing, social, and economic data updated every year that can be compared across states, communities, and population groups.

Stage 1: Demonstration Period 1996~1998

- 1996
 - Brevard County, FL
 - Multnomah County, OR (Portland)
 - Rockland County, NY
 - Fulton County, PA
- 1997 ~ added
 - Franklin County, OH (Columbus)
 - Douglas County, NE (Omaha)
 - Ft. Bend and Harris Counties, TX (Houston)
 - Otero County, NM
- 1998 ~ added
 - Broward County, FL (Replace Brevard County, Florida)
 - Richland and Kershaw Counties, SC ~ Decennial Census Dress Rehearsal counties

Stage 2: Comparison Study 1999-2002

- Understand and measure differences between the traditional census long form and the American Community Survey.
- Provide a bridge to interpret changes between Census 2000 and the 2003-04...2003-07 American Community Survey.
- 31 sites, including eight from the 1996-1998 Demonstration Period.

1999-2002 Sites

- 1-percent household sample in:
 - Harris and Fort Bend Counties, TX
- 3-percent household sample in:
 - Broward County, FL
 - Bronx, NY
 - Lake County, IL
 - San Francisco, CA
 - Franklin County, OH
- 5-percent household sample in:
 - Pima County, AZ
 - Jefferson County, AR
 - Tulare County, CA
 - Upson County, GA
 - Black Hawk County, IA
 - Miami County, IN
 - DeSoto Parish, LA
 - Calvert County, MD
 - Hampden County, MA
- 5-percent household sample in:
 - Madison County, MS
 - Iron, Reynolds, and Washington Counties, MO
 - Flathead and Lake Counties, MT
 - Douglas County, NE
 - Rockland County, NY
 - Otero County, NM
 - Multnomah County, OR
 - Fulton County, PA
 - Schuylkill County, PA
 - Sevier County, TN
 - Starr County, TX
 - Zapata County, TX
 - Petersburg, VA
 - Yakima County, WA
 - Ohio County, WV
 - Oneida and Vilas Counties, WI

Stage 3: Full Implementation 2003 and Beyond

- Begin national sample of 3 million addresses across all counties.
- Provide a yearly profile for communities of 65,000 or more, beginning in 2004 and each year thereafter.
- 2- to 5-year accumulations for communities of less than 65,000 population.

How does the American Community Survey Work?

- A large, continuous demographic survey which:
 - Uses a Master Address File (MAF), a complete listing of all residential address and group quarters in the country, for sample selection
 - Mails questionnaires each month to a new sample of households
 - Conducts telephone interviews for those who did not mail back the questionnaire
 - Selects a 1:3 sample of addresses still not interviewed and conducts personal interviews
 - Completes data collection for each sample in three months

Using the 1998 American Community Survey to Address the Changing Immigrant Population in Fort Bend and Harris Counties, Texas

- Purpose: provide an example of the type of analysis for which the American Community Survey data can be used.
- Why choose Fort Bend and Harris County?
 - These two counties were the largest 1998 site
 - These two counties are part of the large Houston metropolitan area which is dynamic in nature

Data and Methodology for the 1998 American Community Survey ~ Fort Bend and Harris Counties, Texas

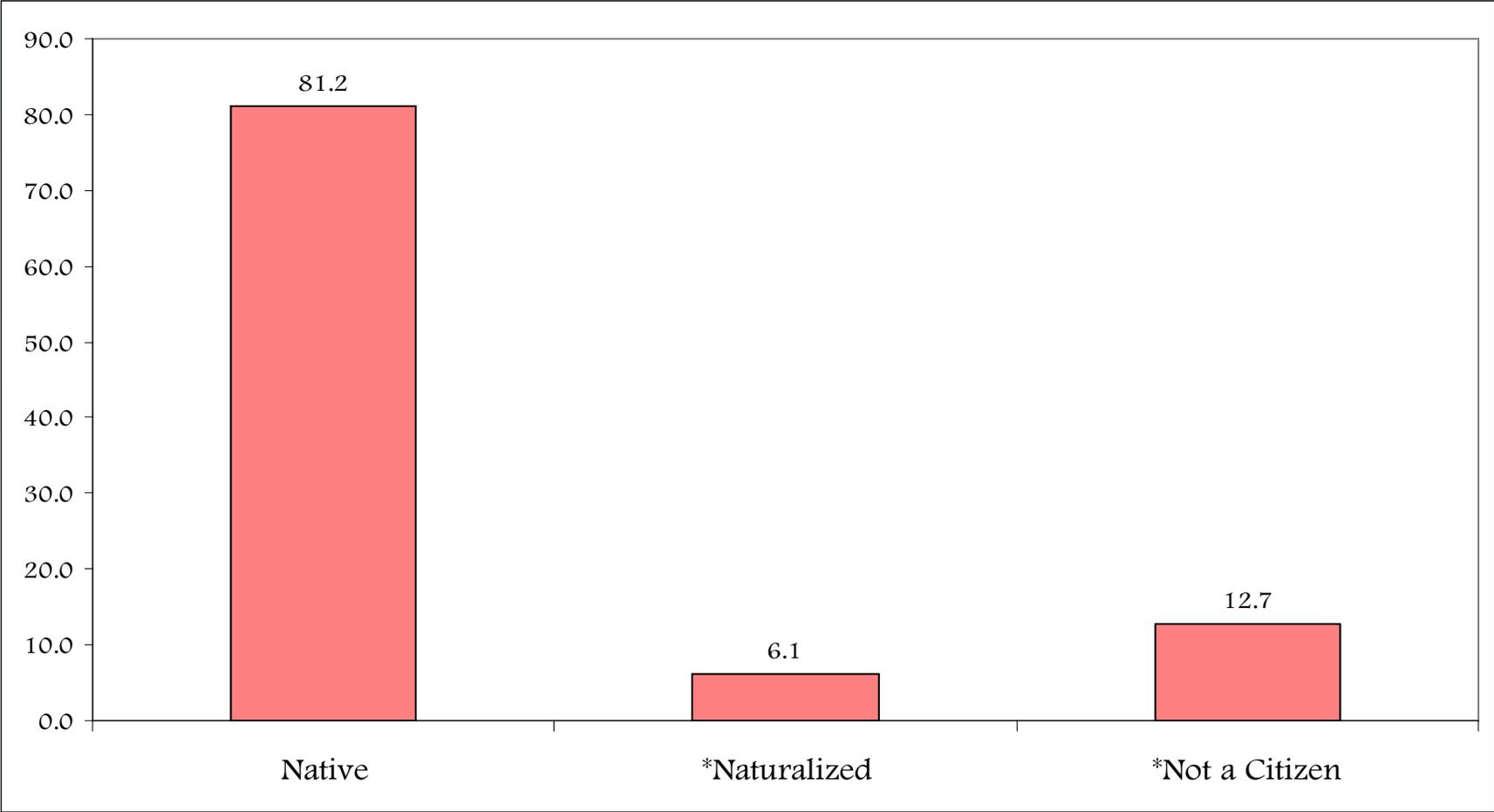
- The primary sampling unit was the housing unit, including all occupants. Group quarters were not included in the sample.
- Sampling rate was 3 percent for each Texas county.
- Confidentiality edits were applied to the data to assure that published data do not disclose information about specific individuals, households, or housing units.

Native and Foreign-Born Populations, as Defined by the U.S. Census Bureau

- **Native population** includes individuals born in the United States or an outlying area of the United States, and individuals who were born in a foreign country, but who had at least one parent who was a U.S. citizen.
- **Foreign-born population** is all individuals born in a foreign country except those who had at least one parent who was a U.S. citizen. This includes all foreign-born individuals residing in the United States, regardless of their legal status.
- **Foreign-born population** is the sum of the naturalized people and the non-citizens.

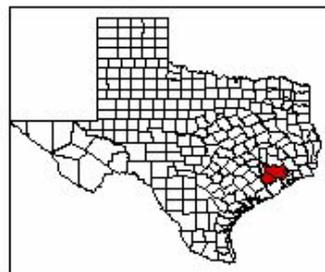
All Graphs and Maps are for Fort Bend and
Harris Counties, Texas, using the 1998
American Community Survey

Percent Native and Foreign-Born Population: 1998



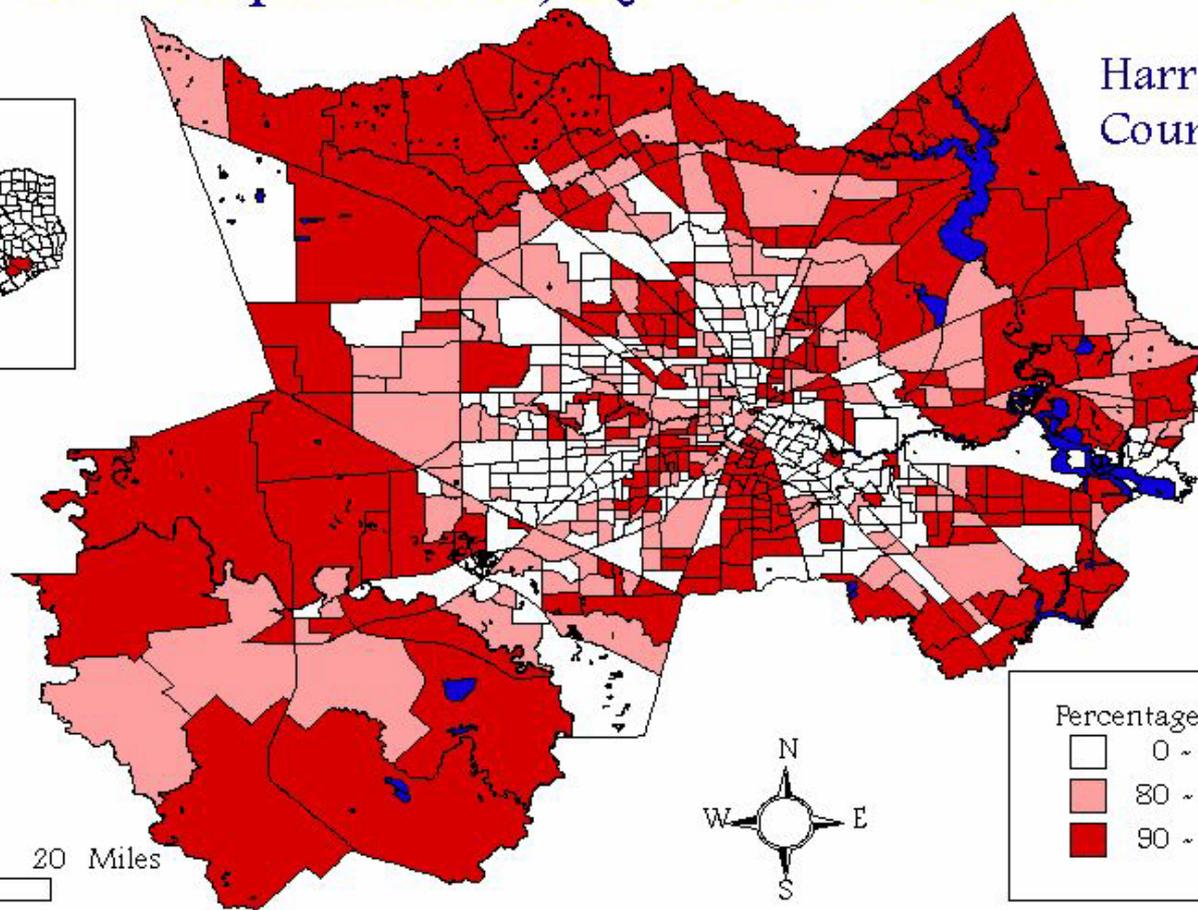
*Naturalized and not a citizen sum to foreign-born population.

Fort Bend and Harris Counties, Texas, Native Population, by Tract: 1998



Fort Bend
County

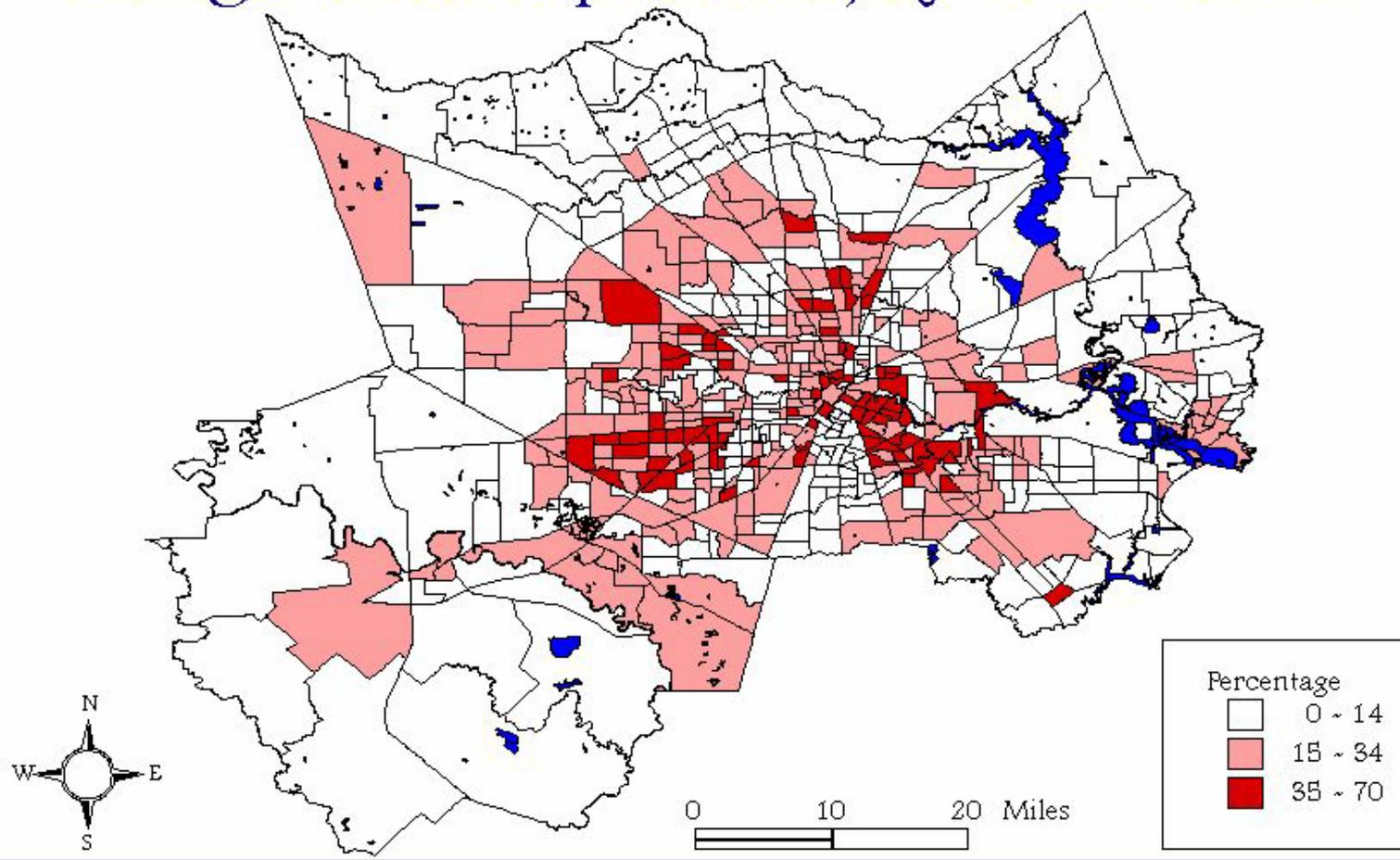
Harris
County



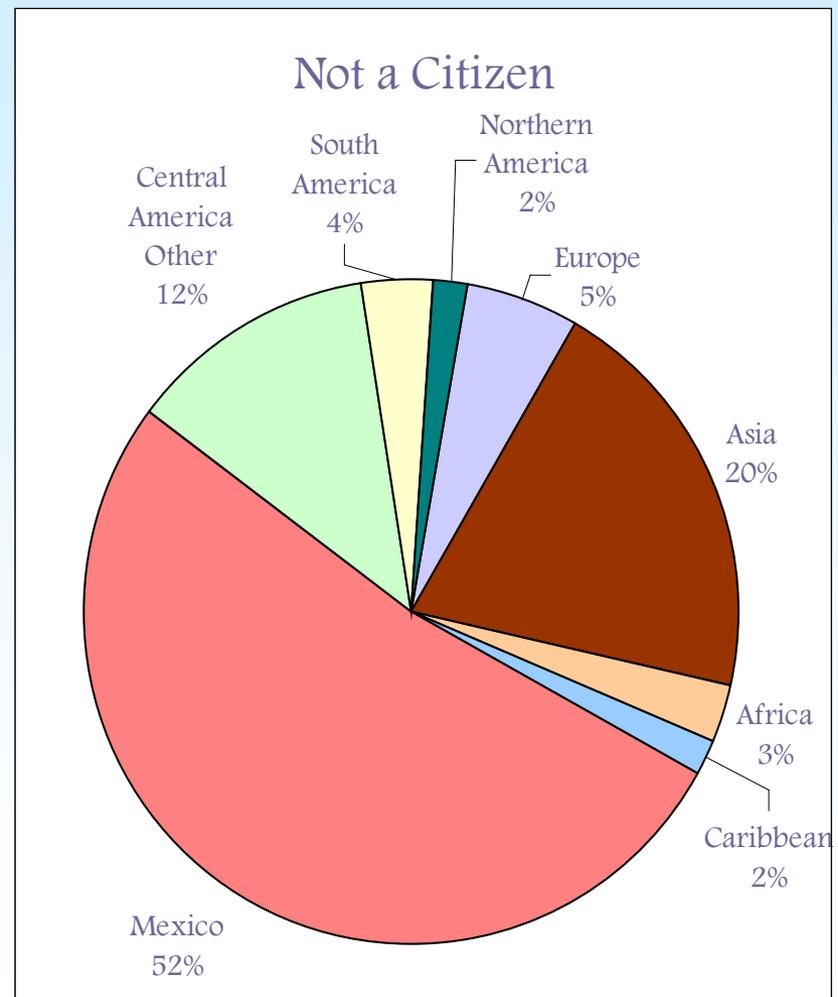
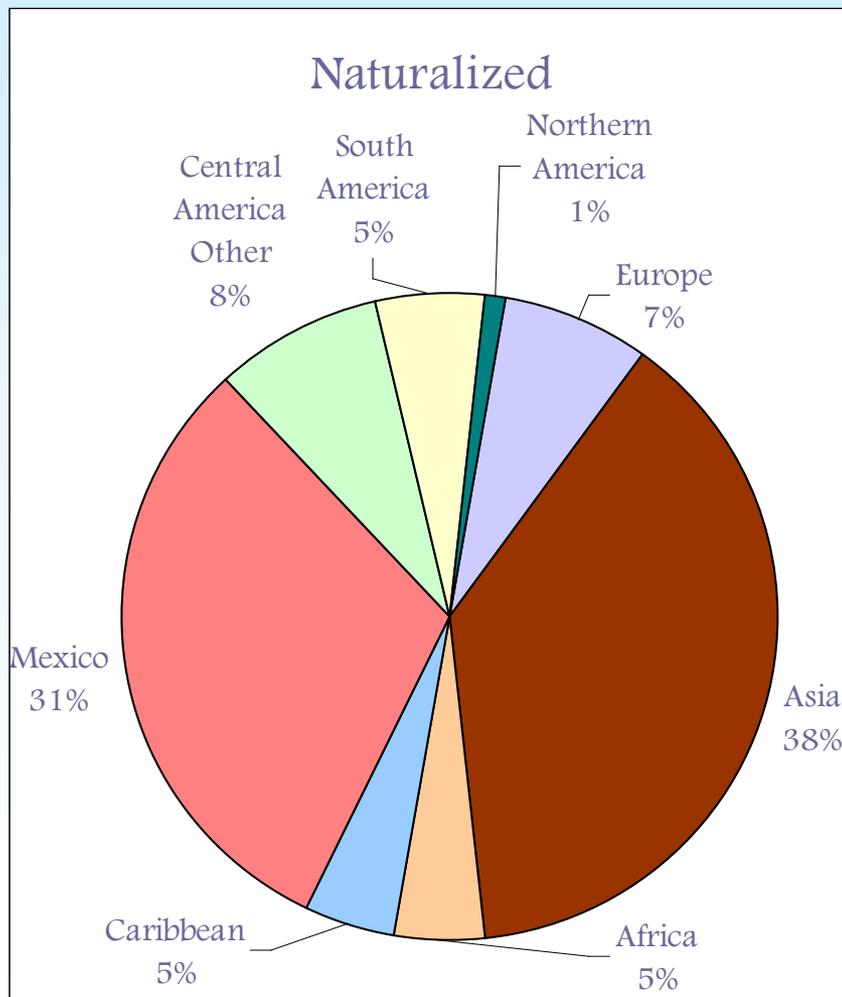
Percentage

- 0 - 79
- 80 - 89
- 90 - 100

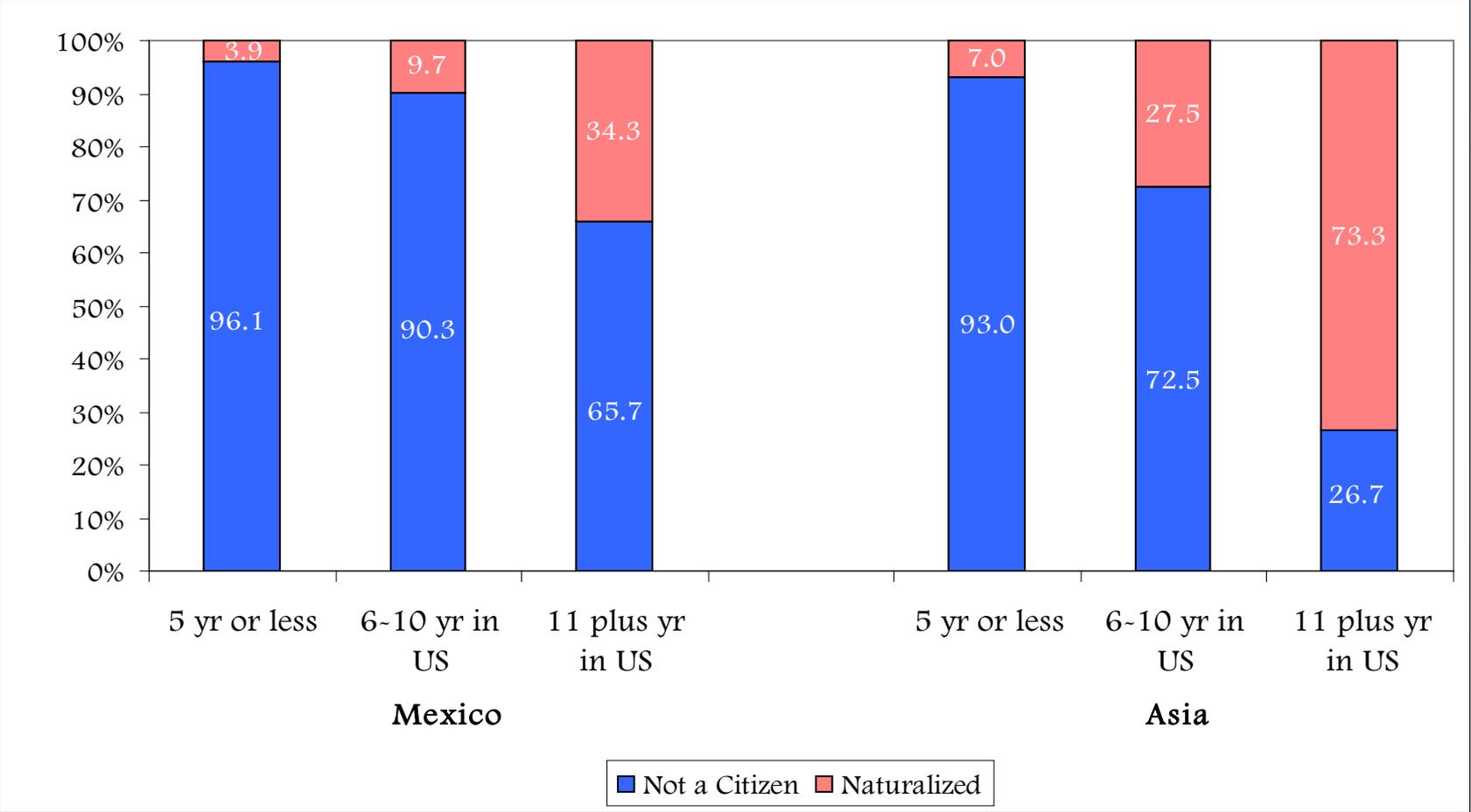
Fort Bend and Harris Counties, Texas, Foreign-Born Population, by Tract: 1998



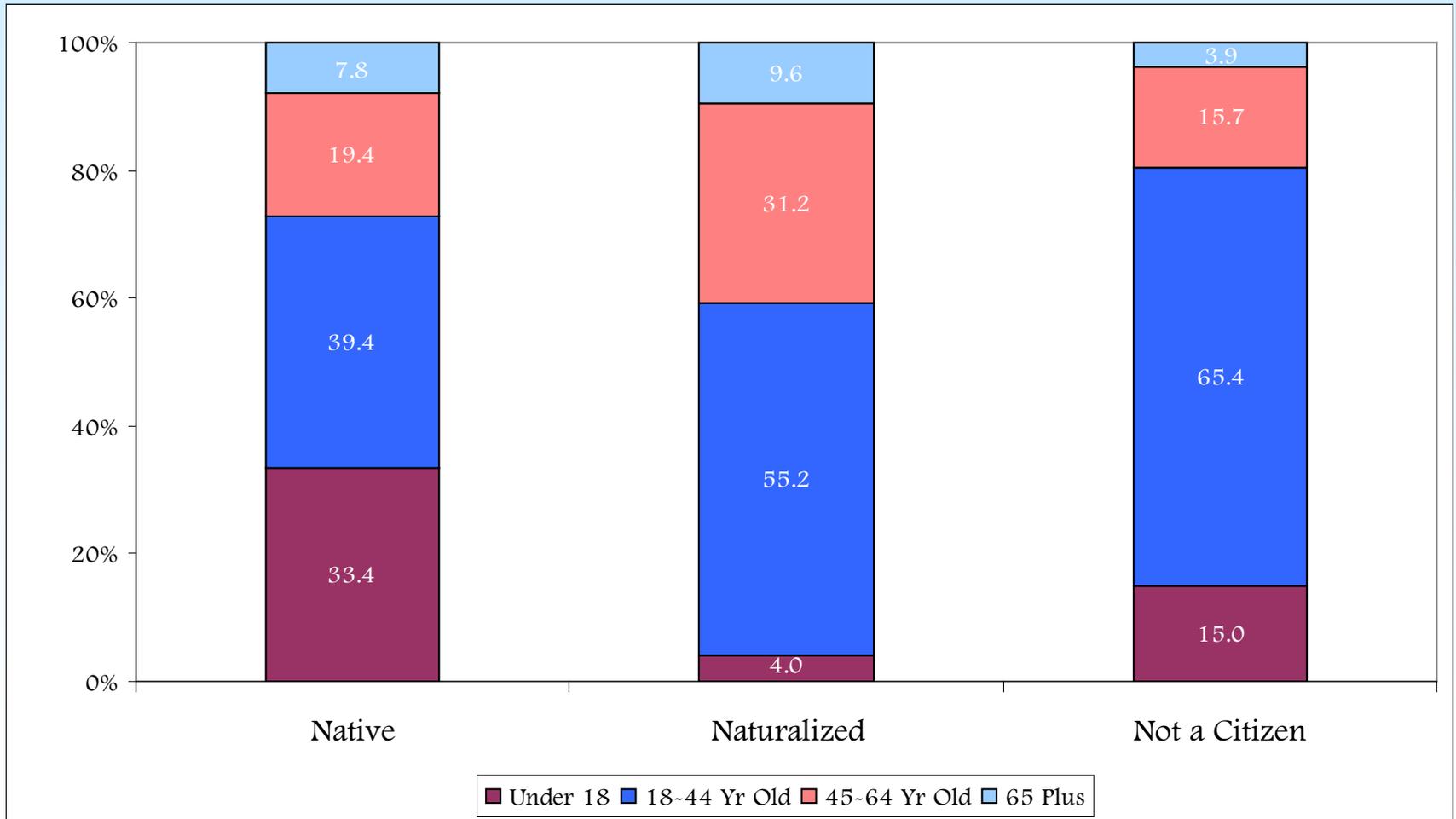
Percent Foreign-Born by Region of Birth and Citizenship Status: 1998



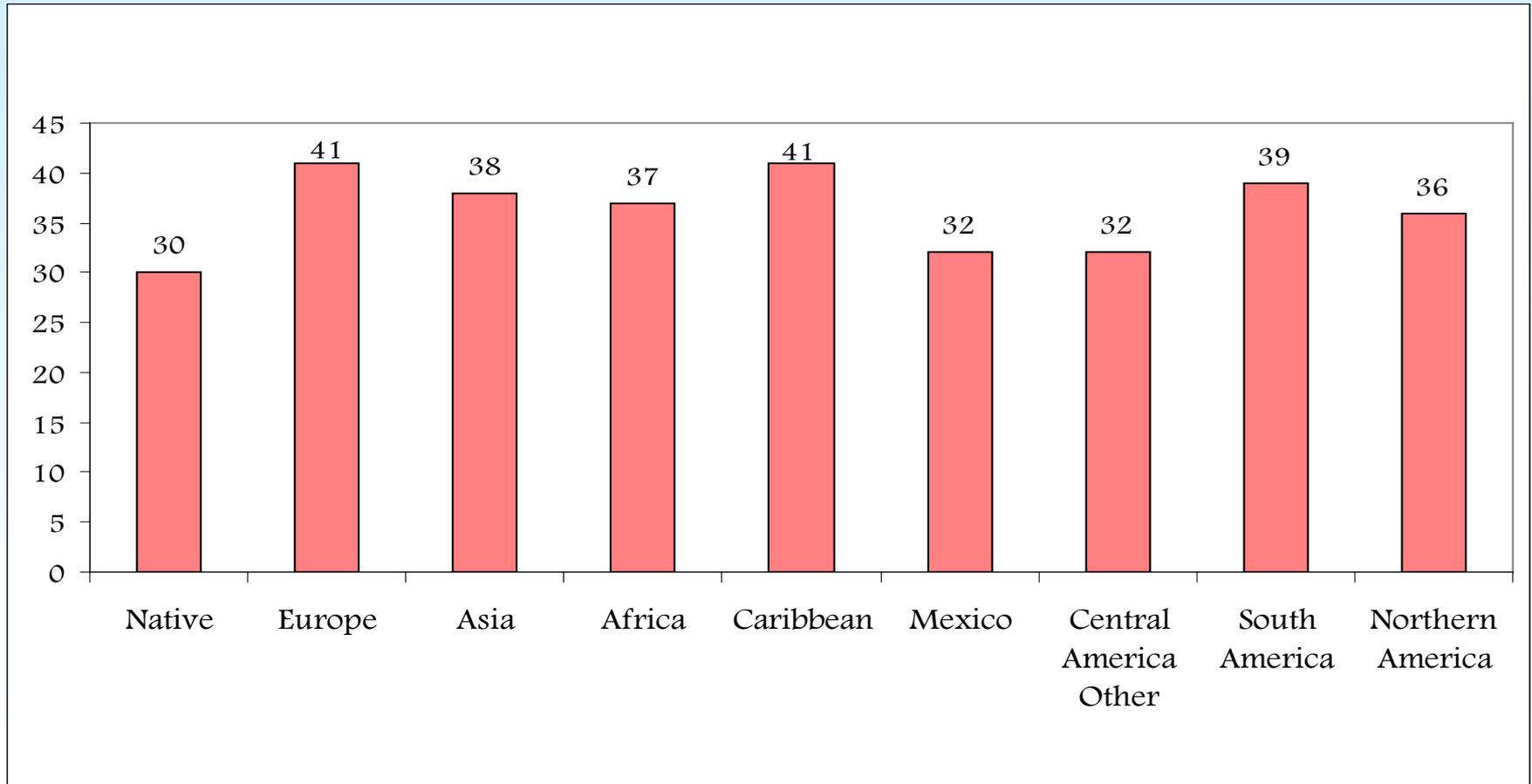
Length of Residence in the U.S. and Citizenship Status for Foreign-Born Mexicans and Asians: 1998



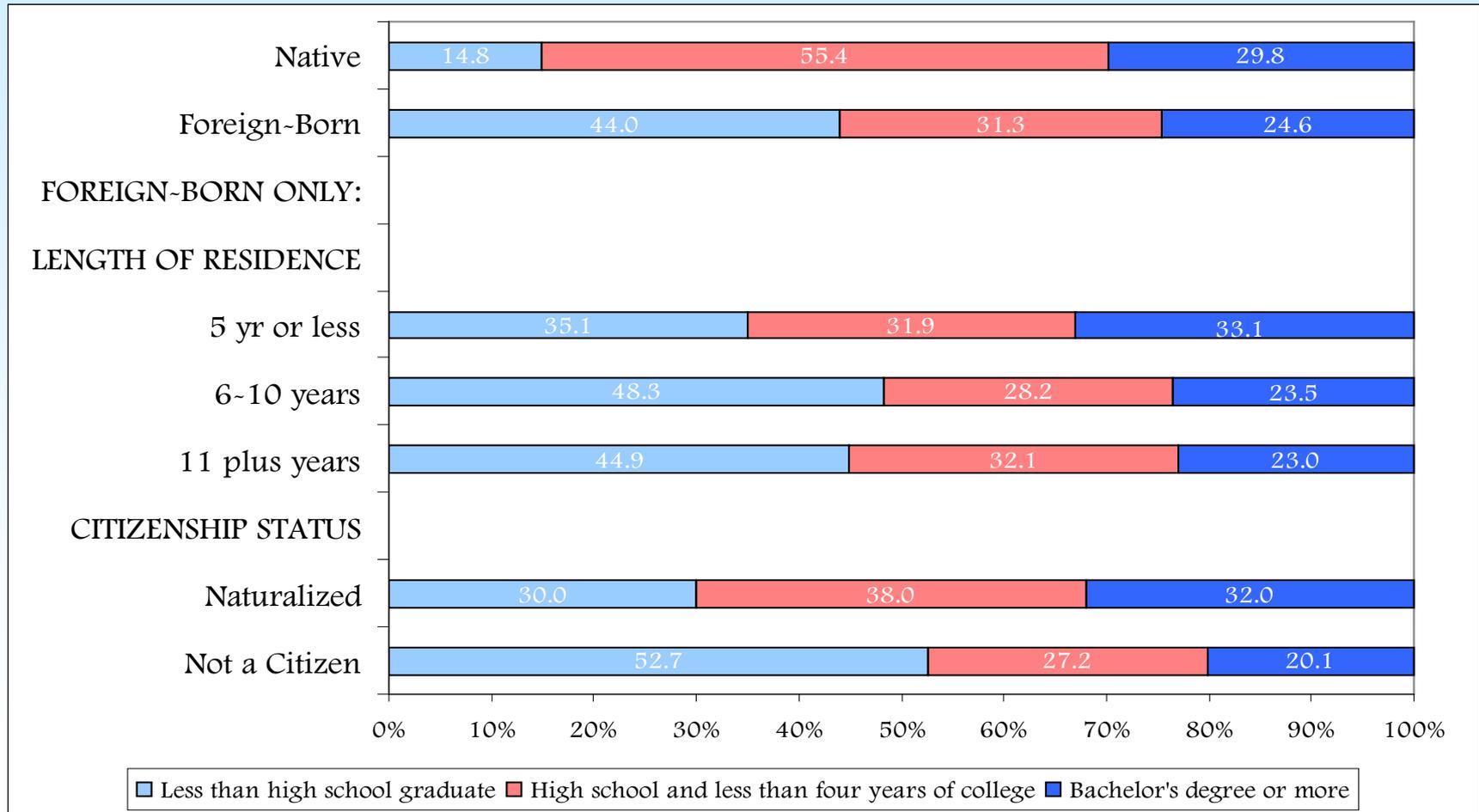
Age of the Population by Nativity and Citizenship Status: 1998



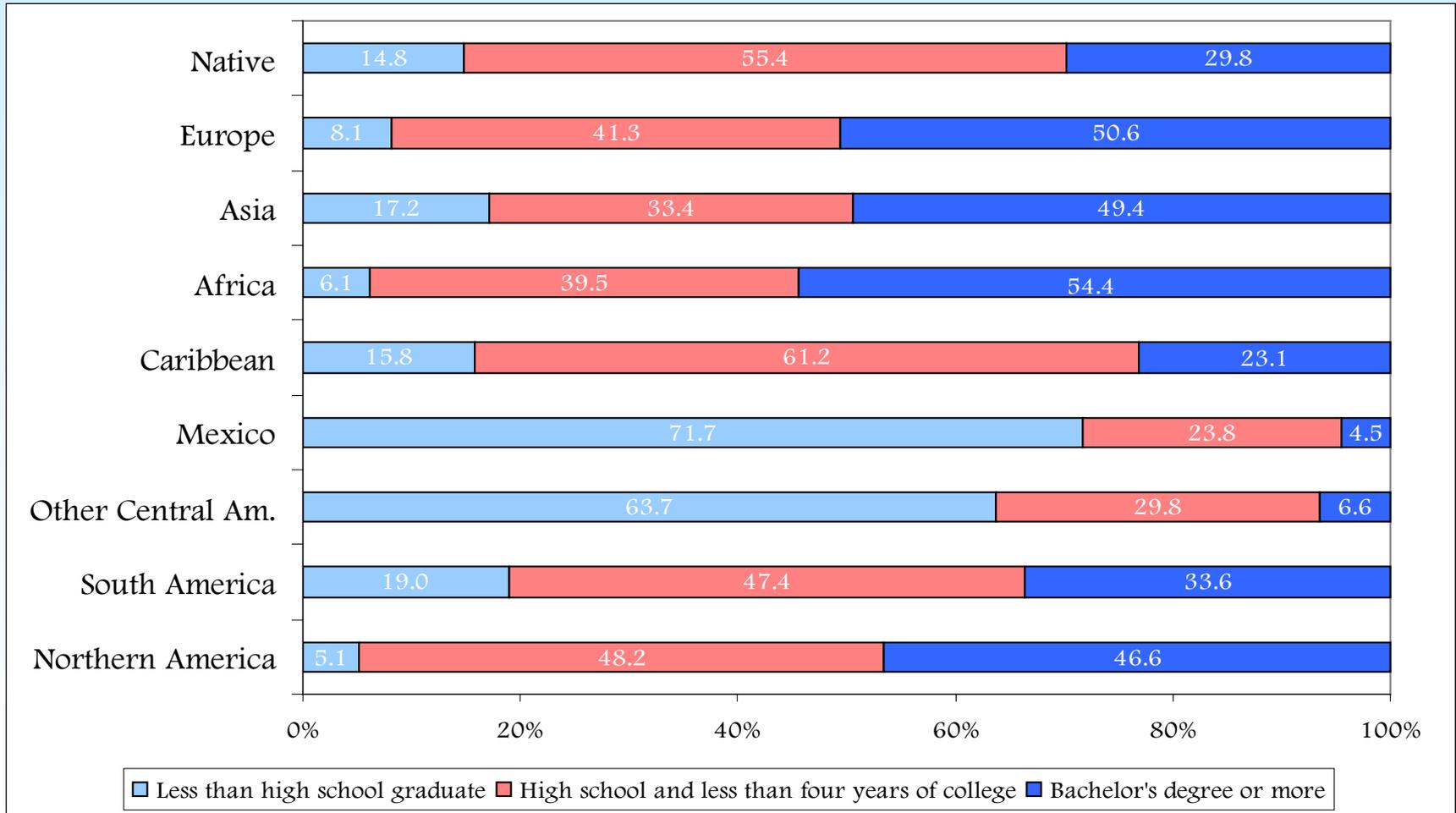
Median Age of the Population by Region of Birth: 1998



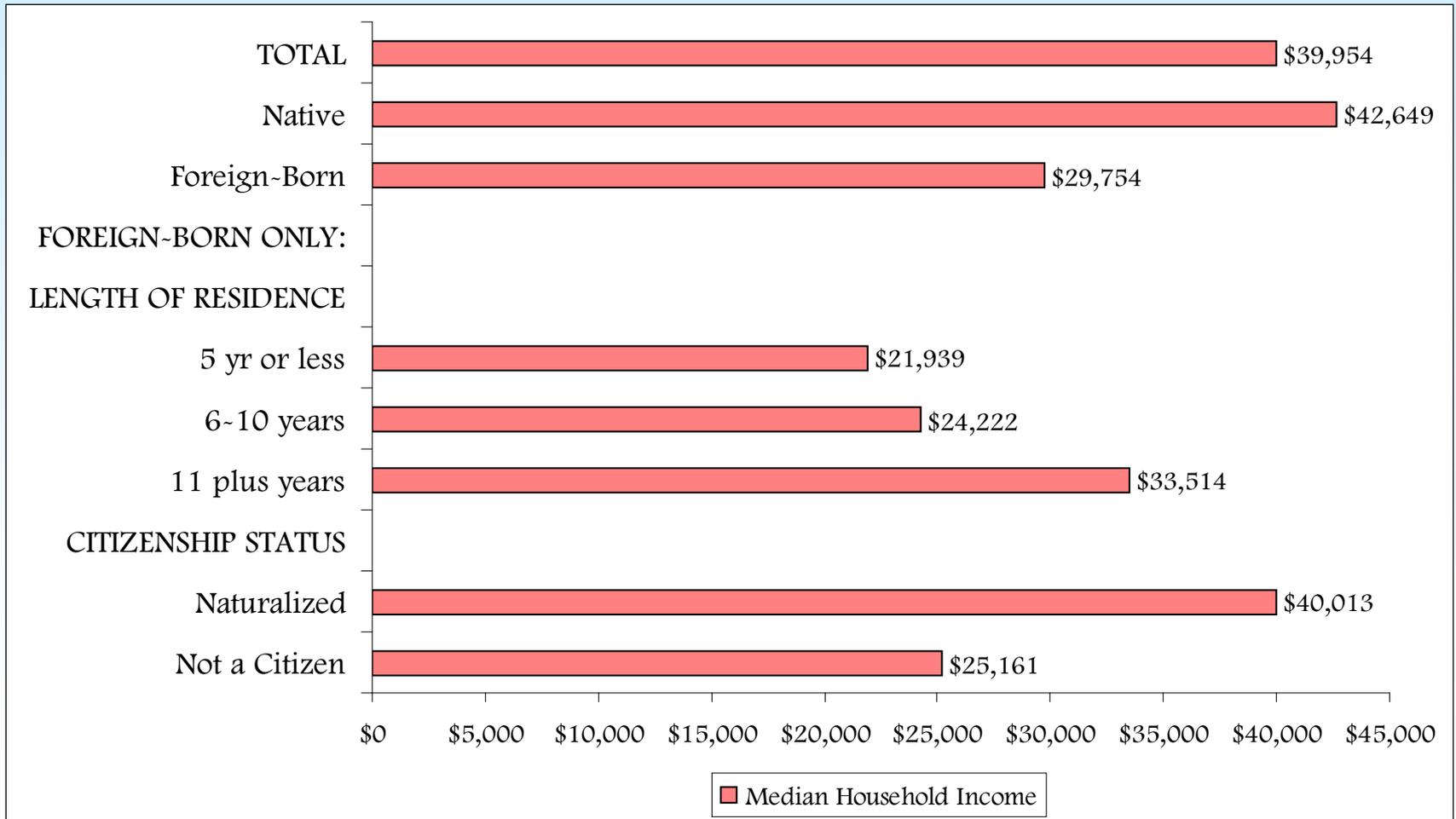
Educational Attainment of the Population 25 Years Old and Over by Nativity, Length of Residence in the U.S. and Citizenship Status: 1998



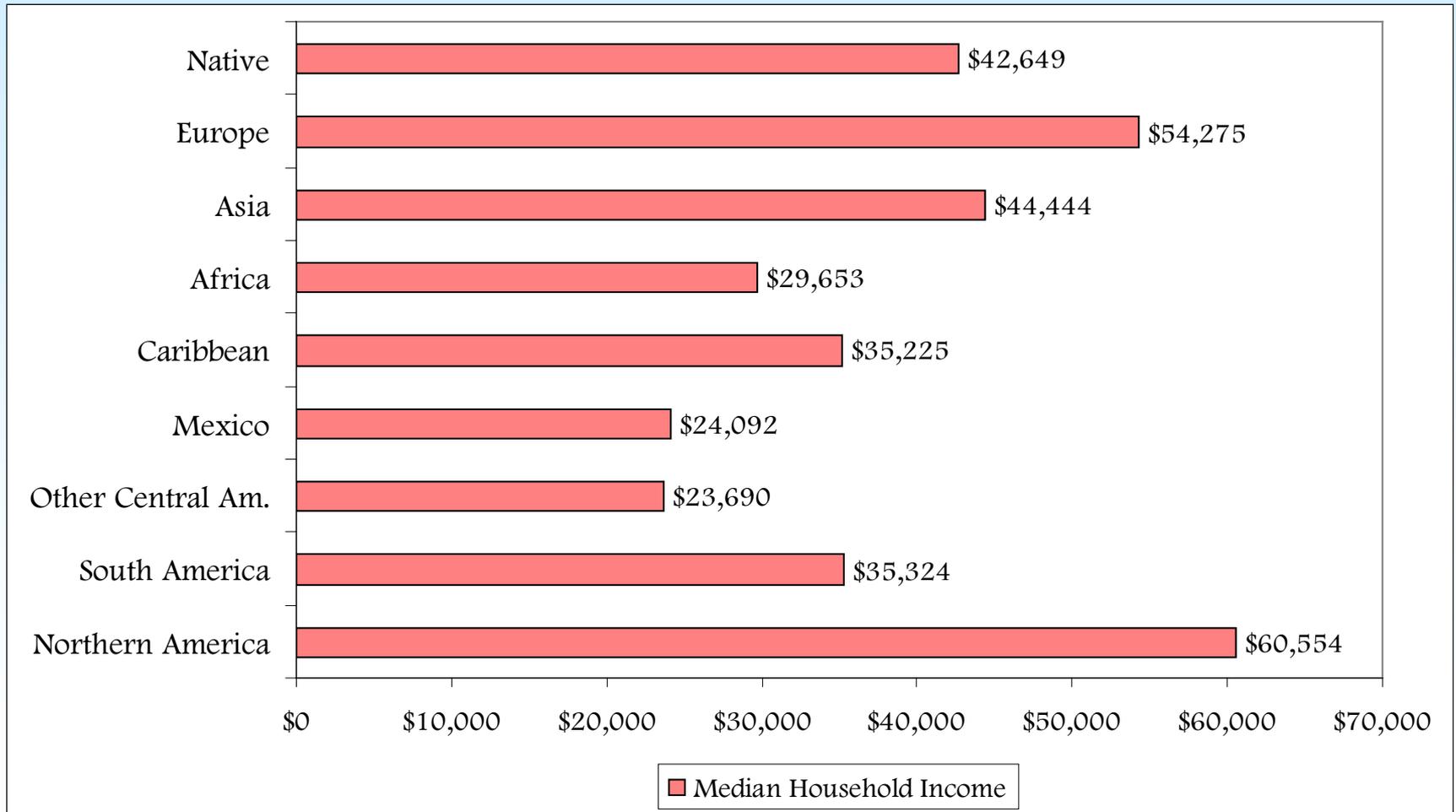
Educational Attainment of the Population 25 Years Old and Over by Region of Birth: 1998



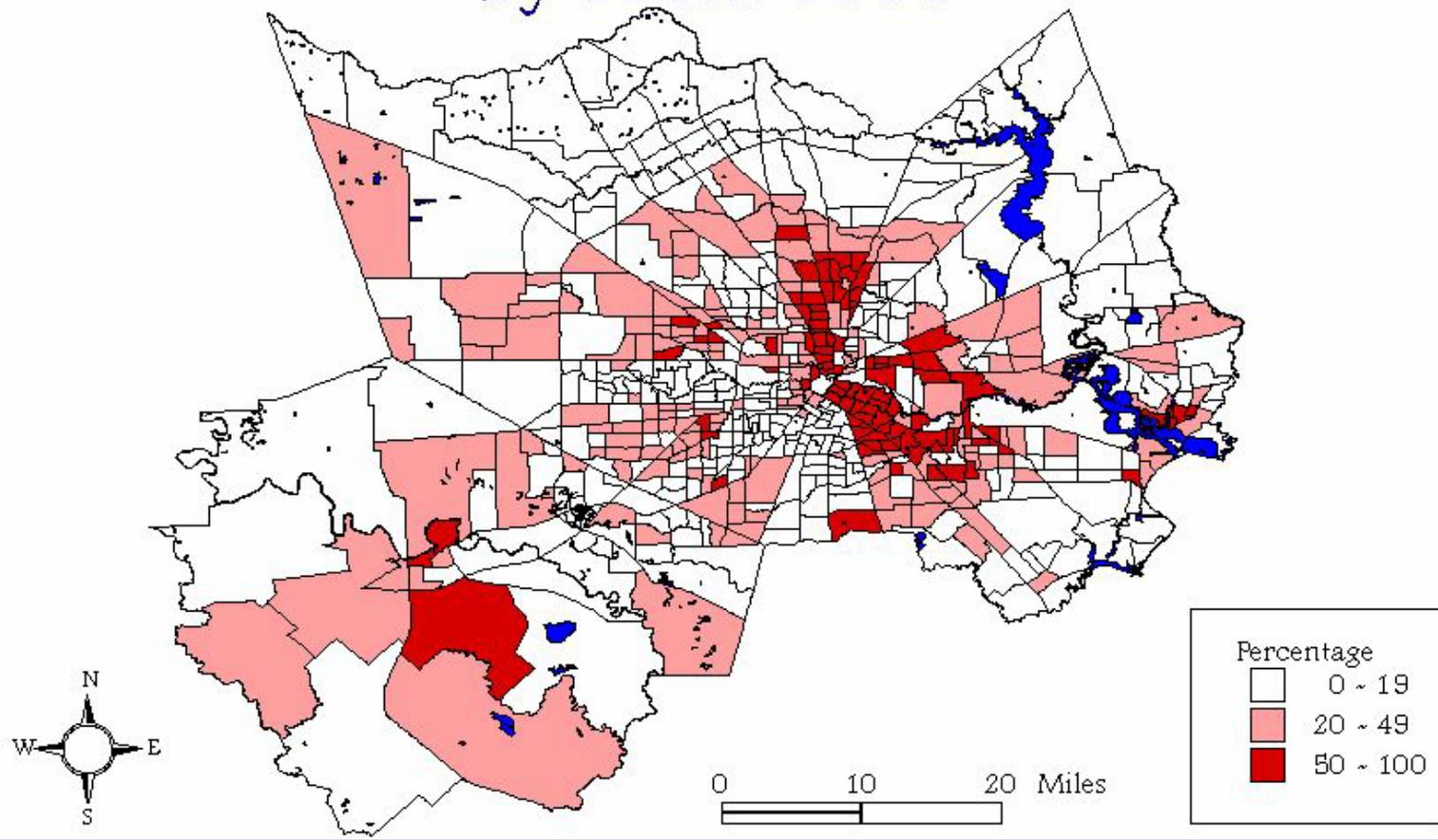
Median Household Income by Nativity, Length of Residence, and Citizenship Status: 1998



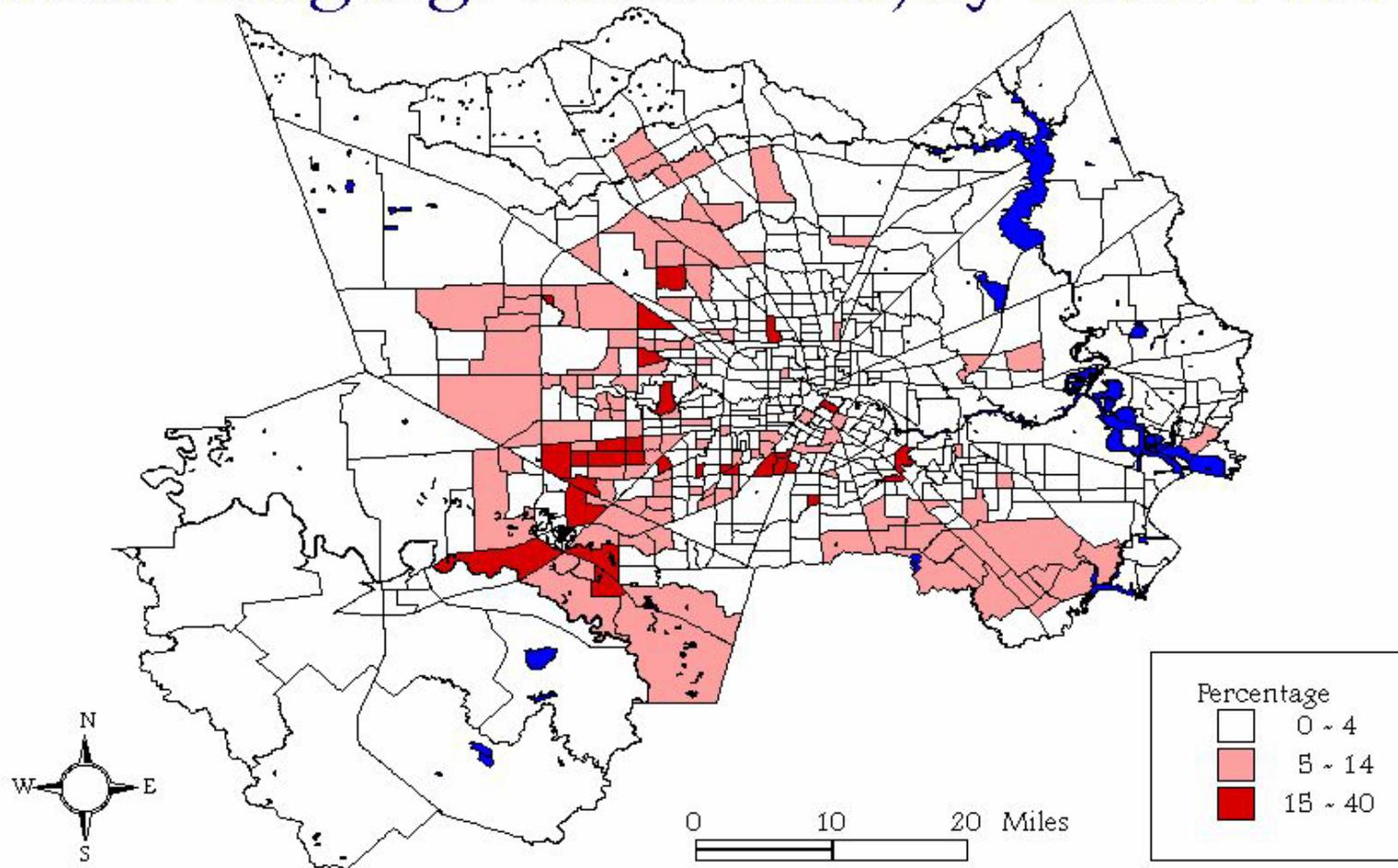
Median Household Income by Region of Birth: 1998



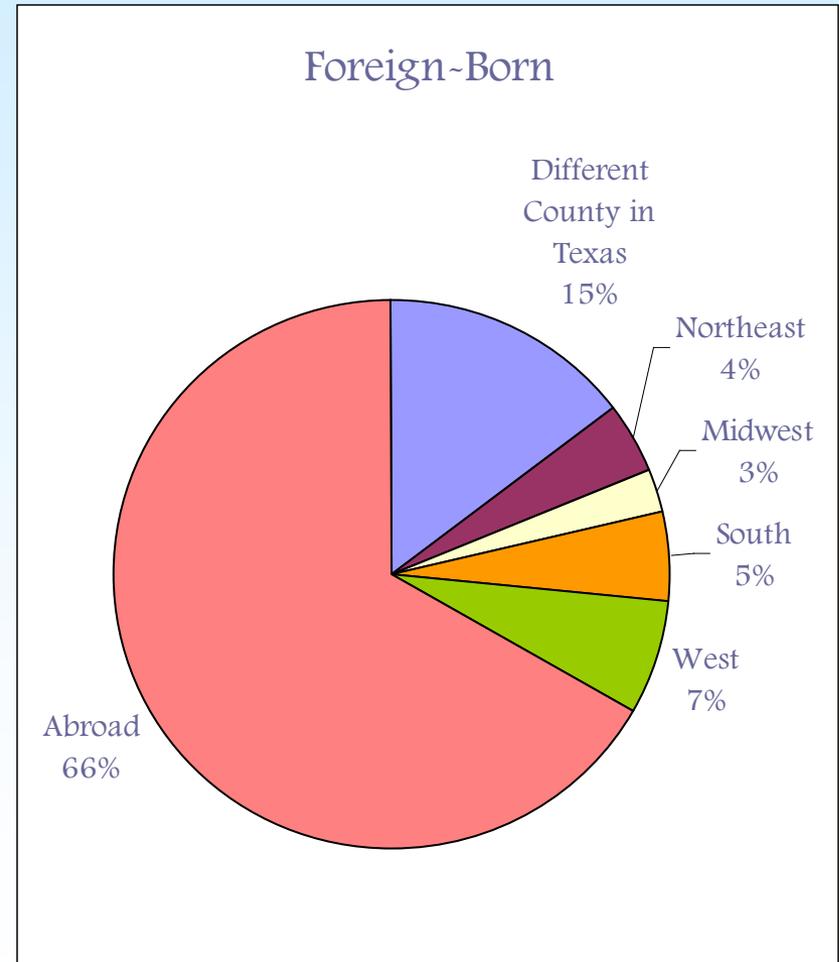
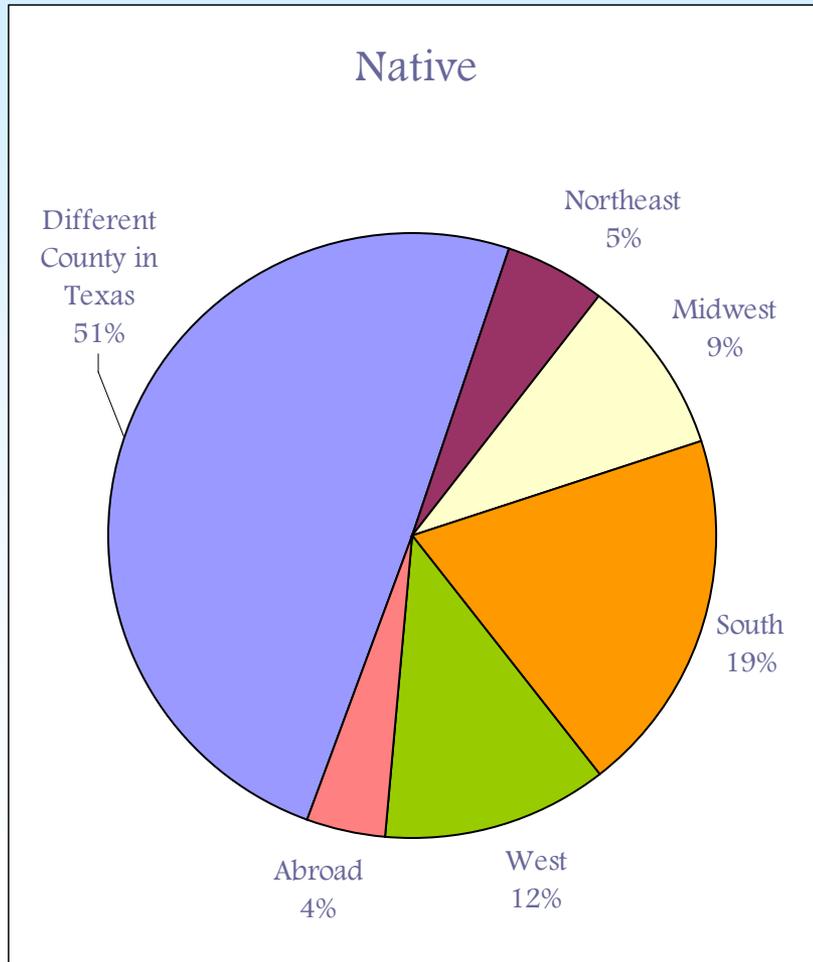
Fort Bend and Harris Counties, Texas, Spanish Language Households, by Tract: 1998



Fort Bend and Harris Counties, Texas, Asian Language Households, by Tract: 1998



Residence Five Years Ago for Native and Foreign-Born Inter-County Movers: 1998



Conclusion

- The American Community Survey also provides information for:
 - Distribution of public funding
 - Comparing your community with others
 - Identifying community problems and solutions
 - Location of highways, schools, and hospitals
 - Stimulating economic growth
 - Evaluating programs such as welfare and workforce diversification

For More Information

- American Community Survey Internet site
 - Go to the Census Bureau’s website at www.census.gov
 - Click on **Subjects A-Z**
 - Click on **American Community Survey** for information about the survey
 - Click on **American FactFinder** for data tables
 - Click on **Population and Housing Facts**
 - Click on **Detailed Tables**
- Email us at acs@census.gov
- Contact Author
 - Bonny M. Berkner, Population Division
 - 301-457-2454
 - bonny.m.berkner@ccmail.census.gov