



Bridging Refugee Youth & Children's Services

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The Demography of the U.S. Children of Immigrants

By Randy Capps

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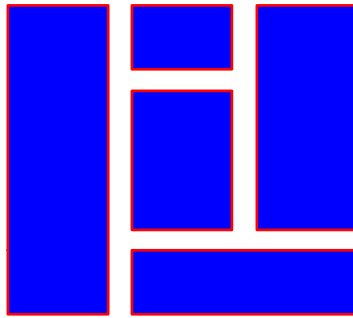


BRYCS is a project of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops/Migration and Refugee Services (USCCB/MRS)

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The Demography of U.S. Children of Immigrants

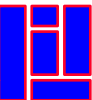


**Annie E. Casey Foundation *Consultative Session on
Immigrant and Refugee Issues in Child Welfare***
Costa Mesa, CA, July 28, 2005

***Acknowledgments to Jeffrey S. Passel (Pew Hispanic Center)**

Today's Presentation

- ***Immigration trends***
- ***Citizenship and legal status***
- ***Countries of origin, languages***
- ***Indicators for children of immigrants: poverty, health, family structure***
- ***Implications for child welfare systems***

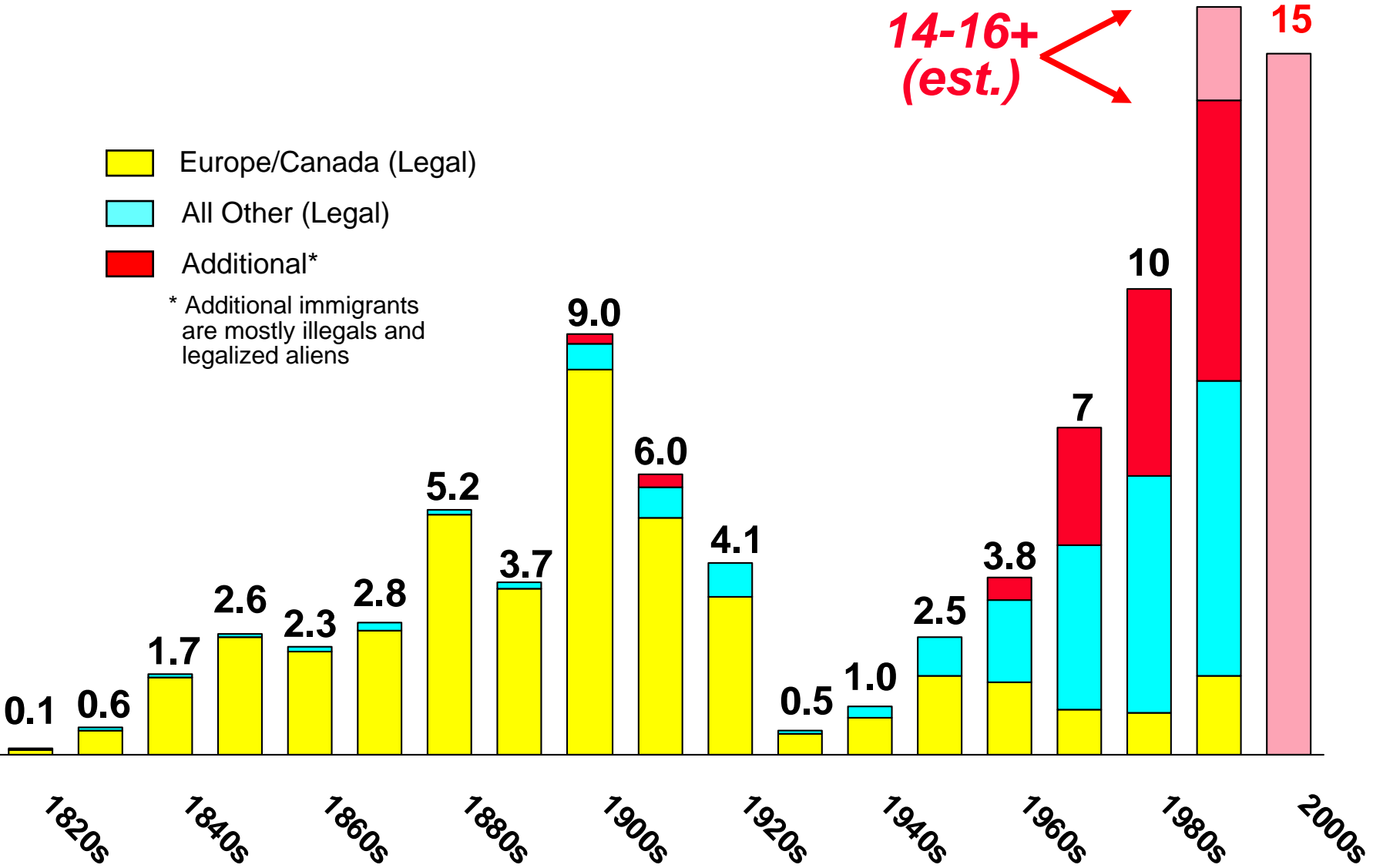


Current In-Flows are Very High

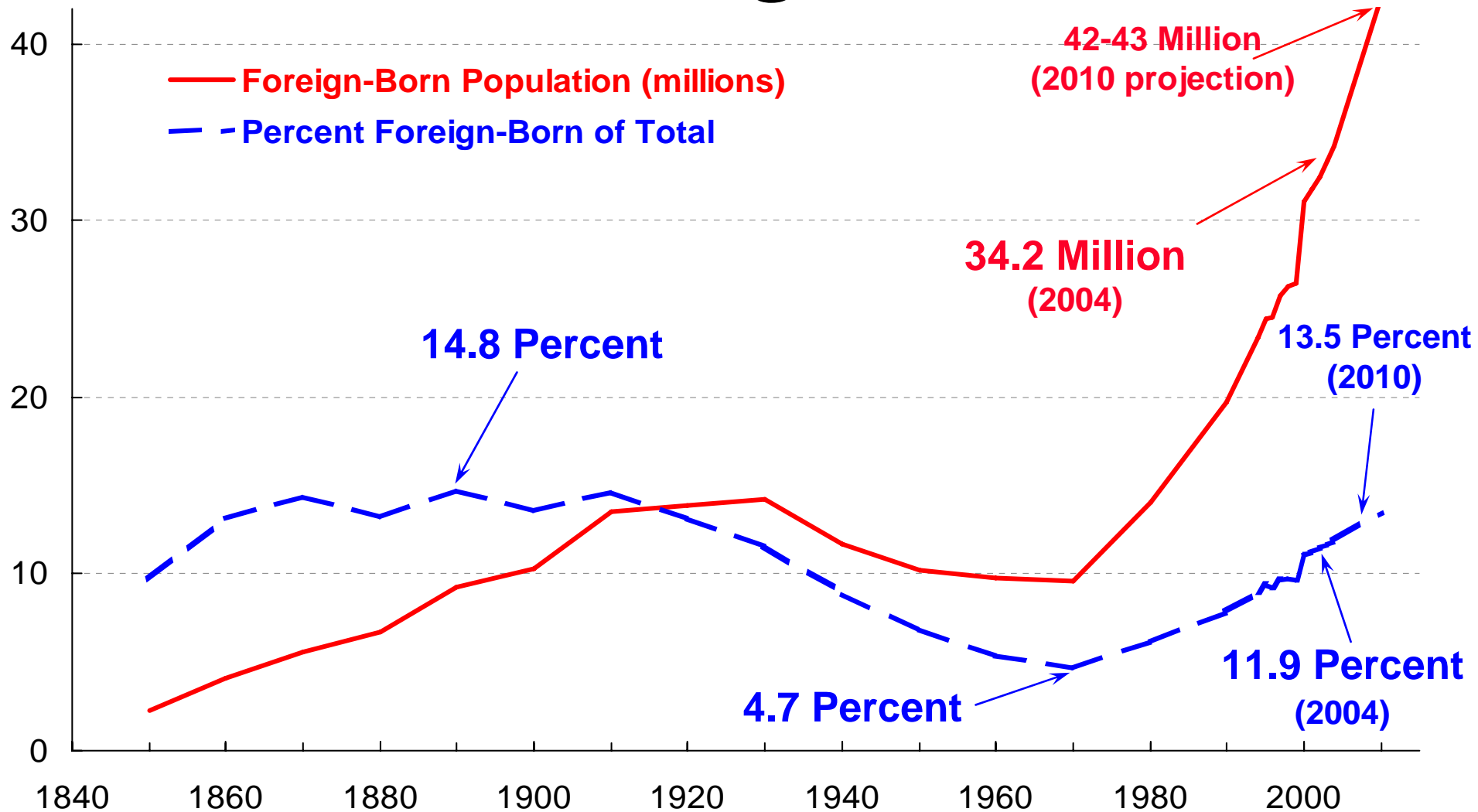
- Europe/Canada (Legal)
- All Other (Legal)
- Additional*

* Additional immigrants are mostly illegals and legalized aliens

14-16+
(est.)



Immigrant Numbers at Peak -- Percentage Is Not

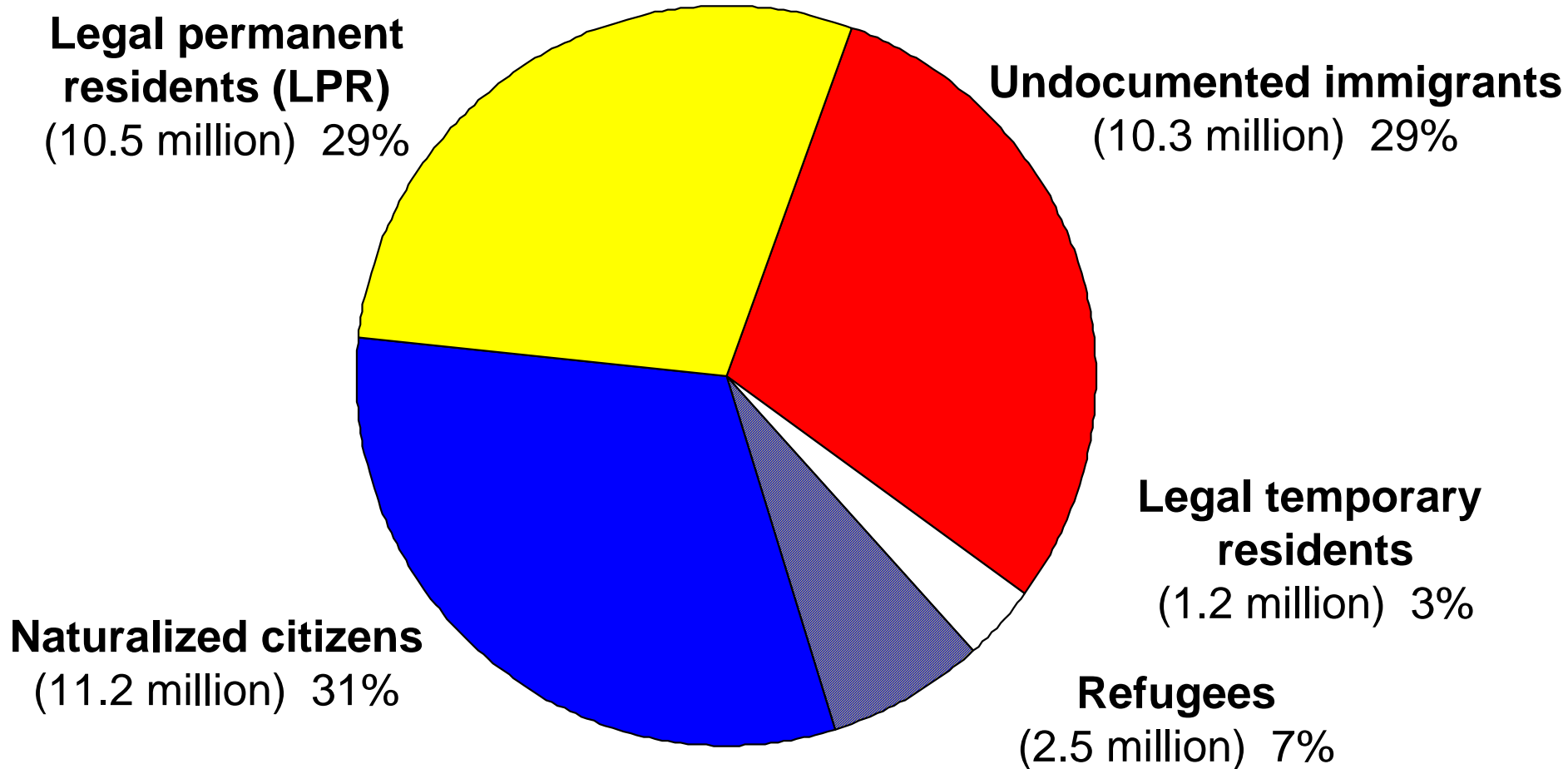


Who Comes to the U.S.?

- **Legal:** 600,000-900,000+/year
- **Refugees:**
70,000-125,000 down to 27,000
- **Undocumented:**
Early '90s — 200-300,000 per year
Late '90s — 500-800,000 or more
Current — ???

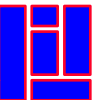


U.S.: Undocumented over One Quarter of Immigrants

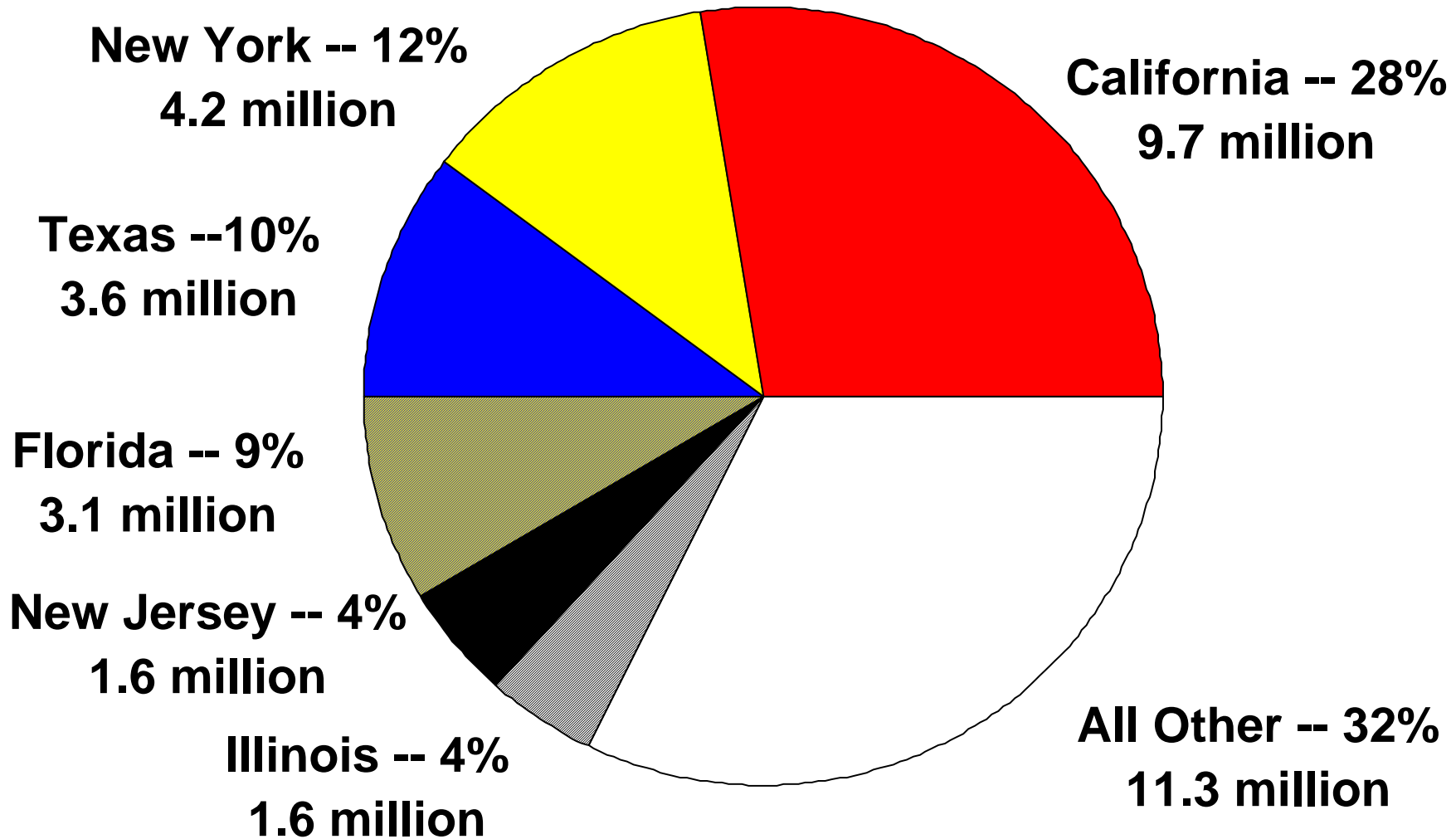


35.7 Million Foreign-Born in 2004

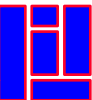
(Passel 2005)



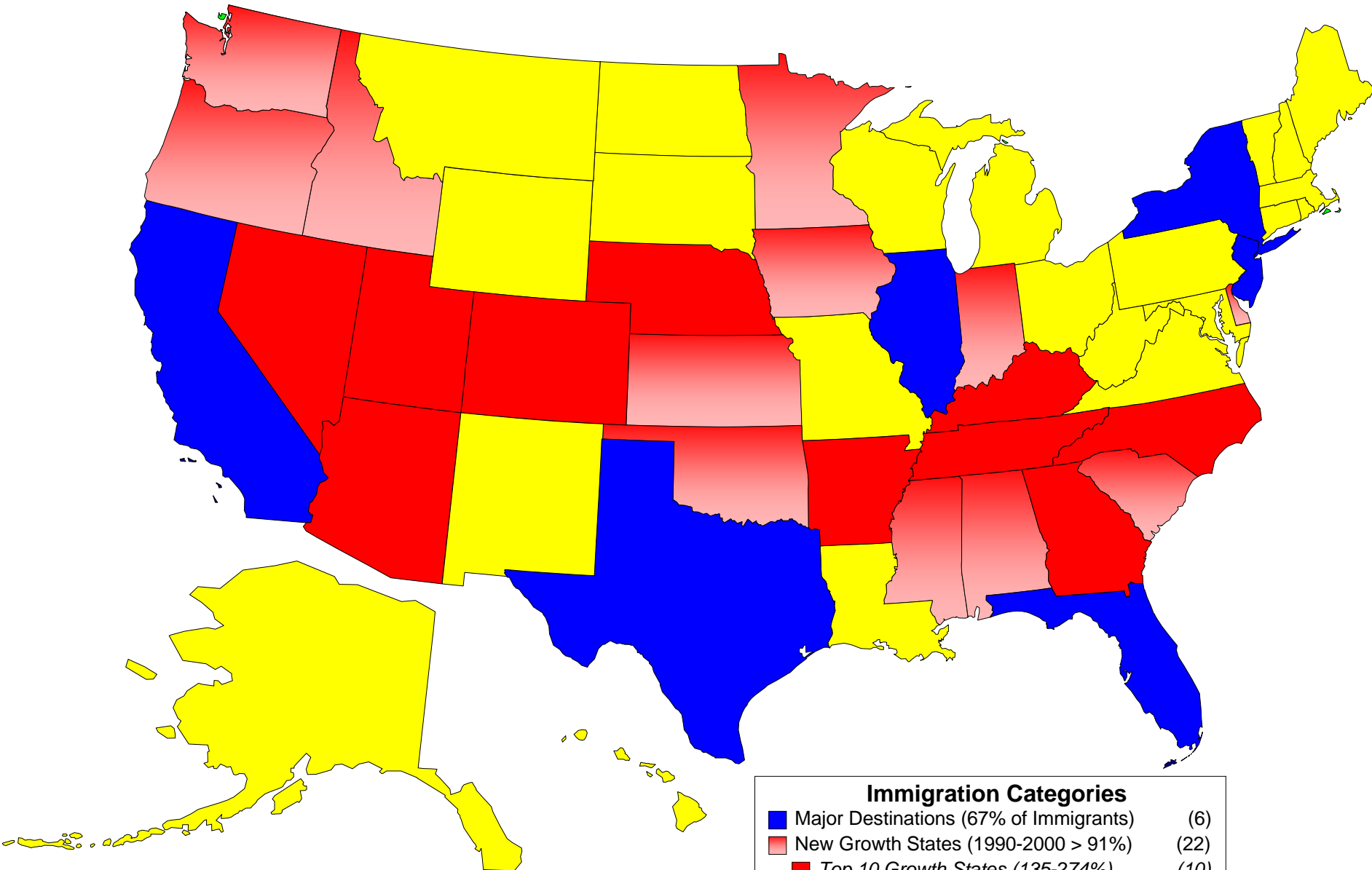
Two Thirds of Immigrants Live in 6 States



35.0 Million Foreign-Born
(Based on March 2003 CPS)

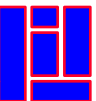
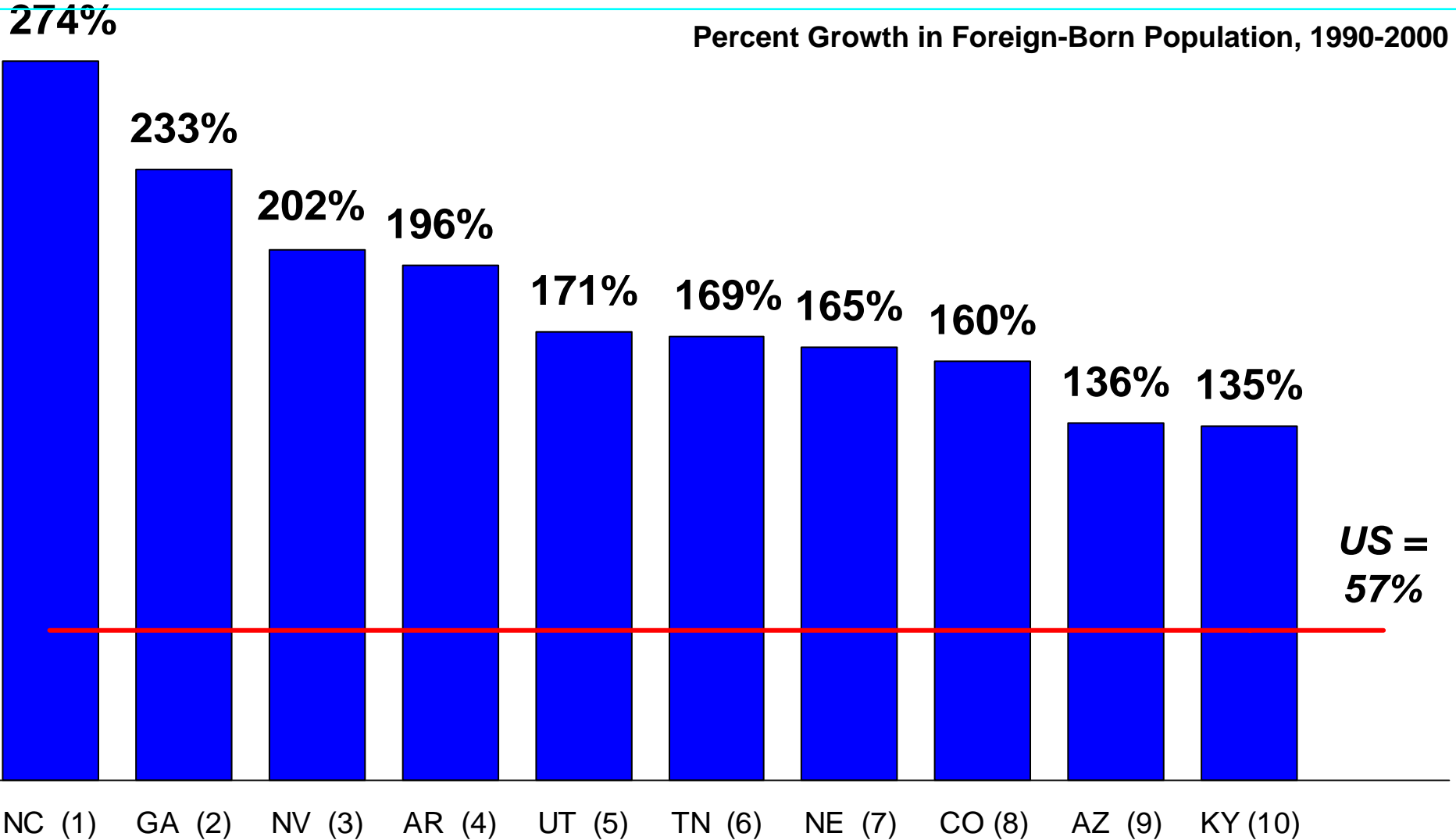


F. Born Growing Faster Elsewhere

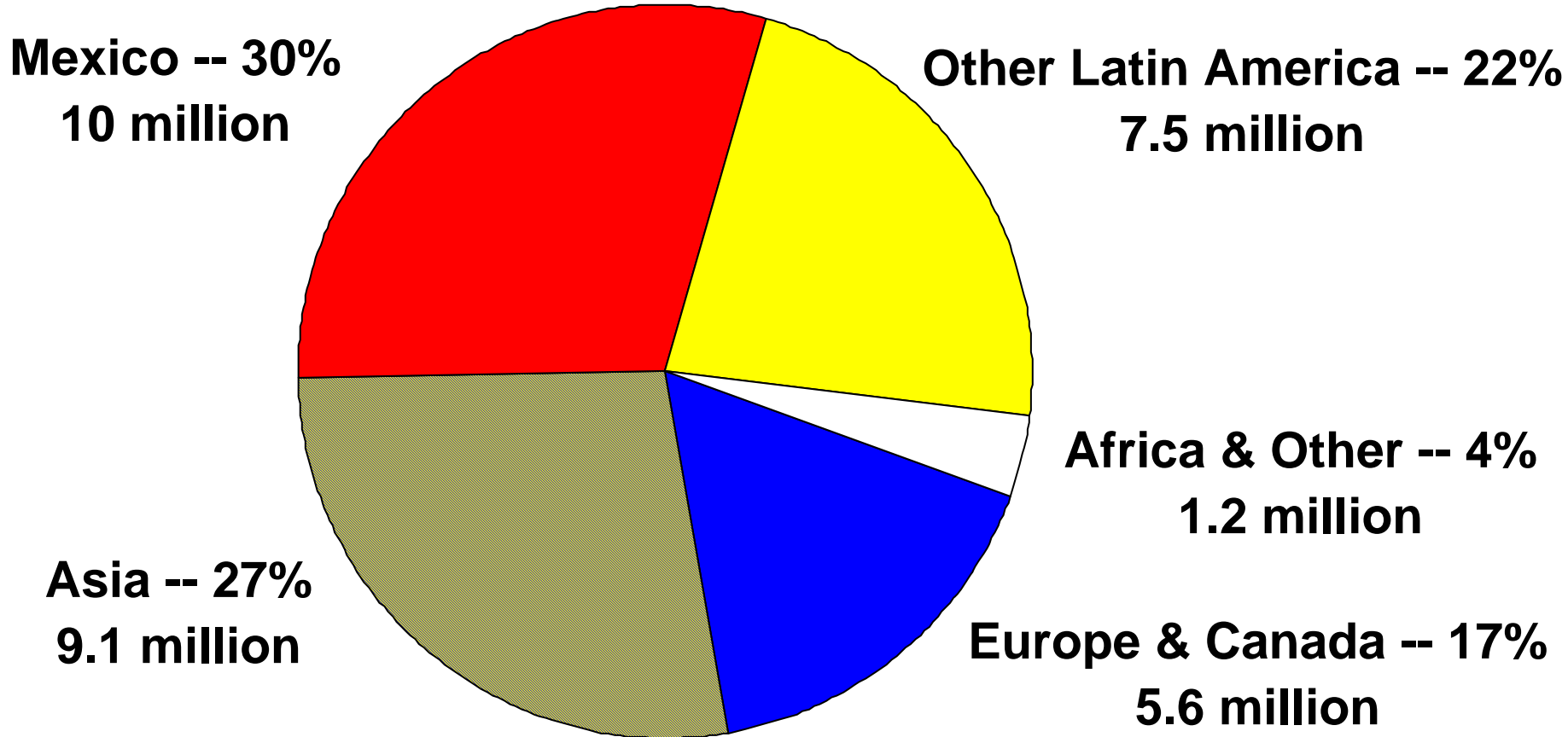


Immigration Categories		
Major Destinations (67% of Immigrants)	(6)	
New Growth States (1990-2000 > 91%)	(22)	
Top 10 Growth States (135-274%)	(10)	
All Other States	(23)	

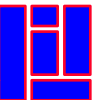
States with the Fastest Growing Immigrant Populations



U.S.: 1/2 of Immigrants from Latin America (30% Mexico), 1/4 from Asia

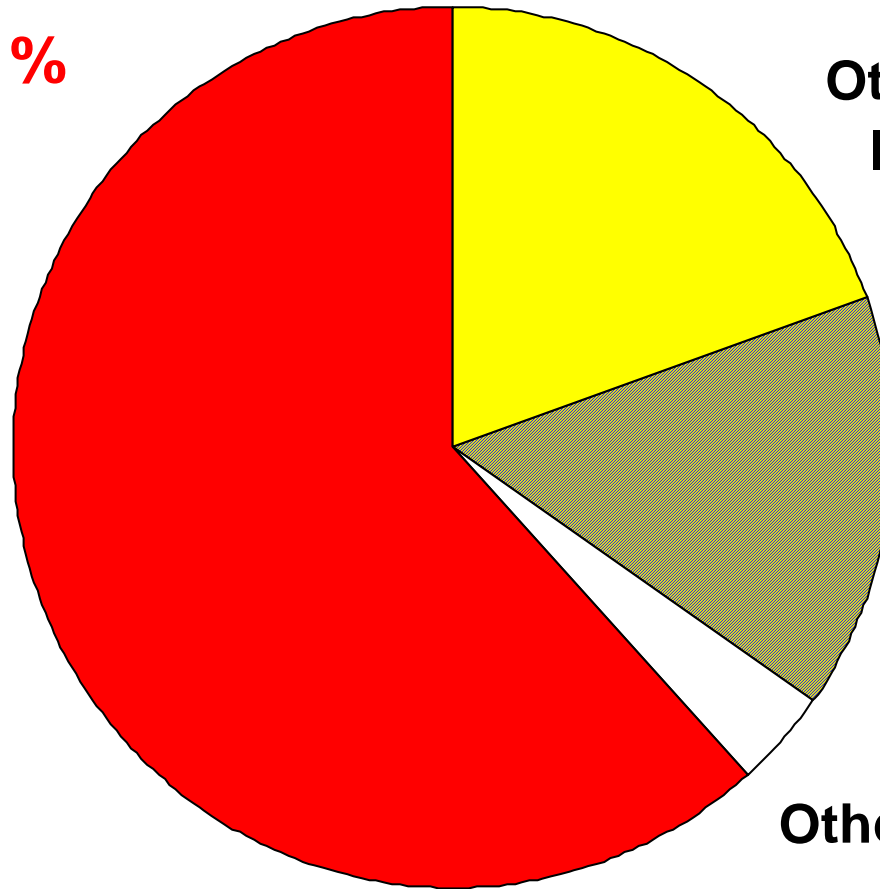


33.5 Million Foreign-Born
(2003 American Community Survey)



U.S.: Spanish Predominates among non-English Speakers

**Spanish -- 61%
30 million**

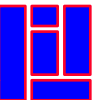


**Other Indo-European
languages — 20%
9.5 million**

**Asian and Pacific
Island languages
— 15%
7.4 million**

**Other languages — 4%
1.8 million**

**48 Million Non-English Speakers Ages 5 and Over
(2003 American Community Survey)**

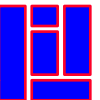


Demographics and Poverty in Immigrant Families

Children of Immigrants:

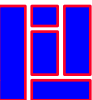
- 23% of all children in 2004***
- 28% of low-income children in 2004***
- Over 25 % of all children by 2010***

Three quarters are U.S.-born citizens.

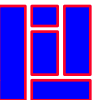
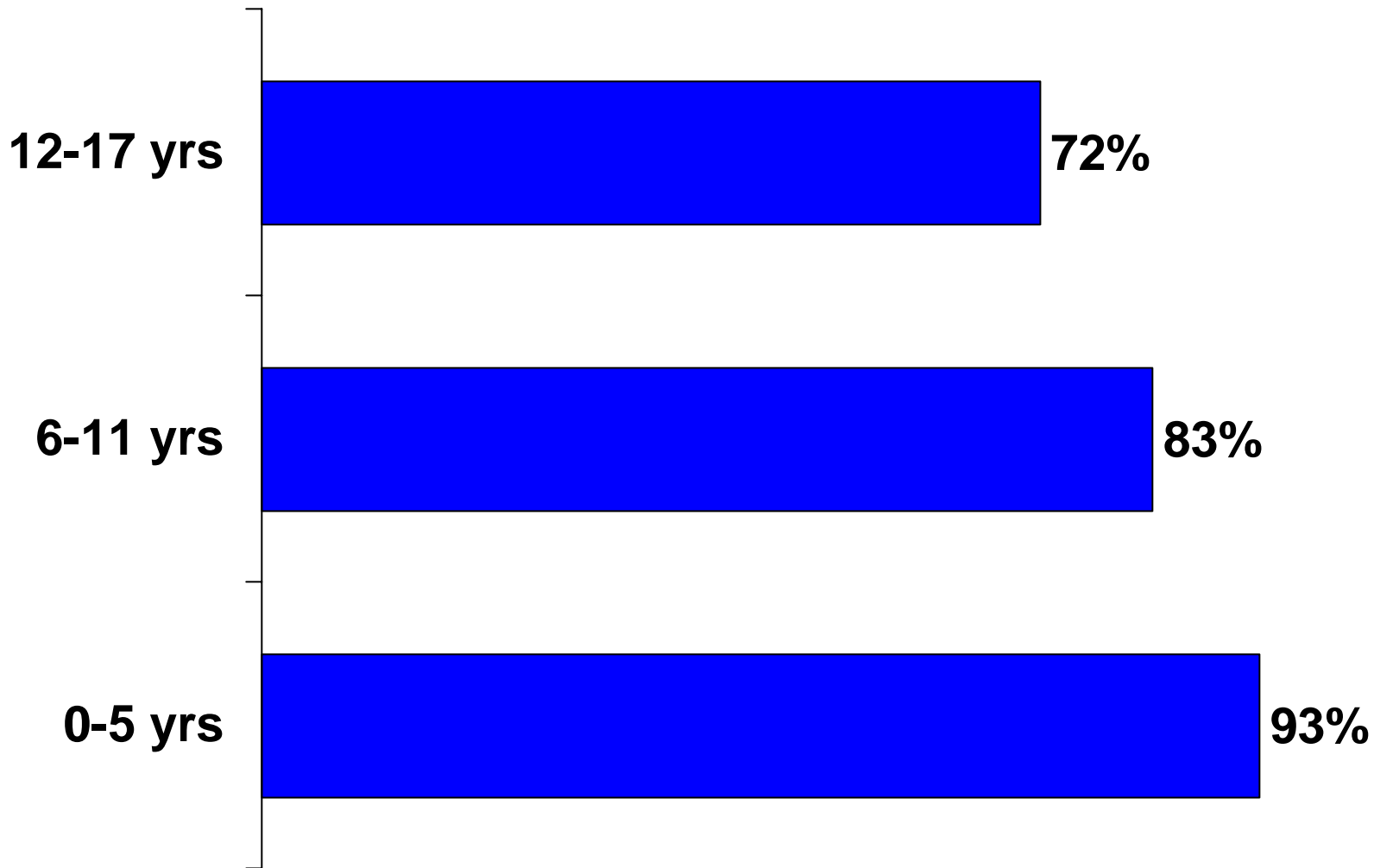


Mixed Status Families

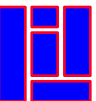
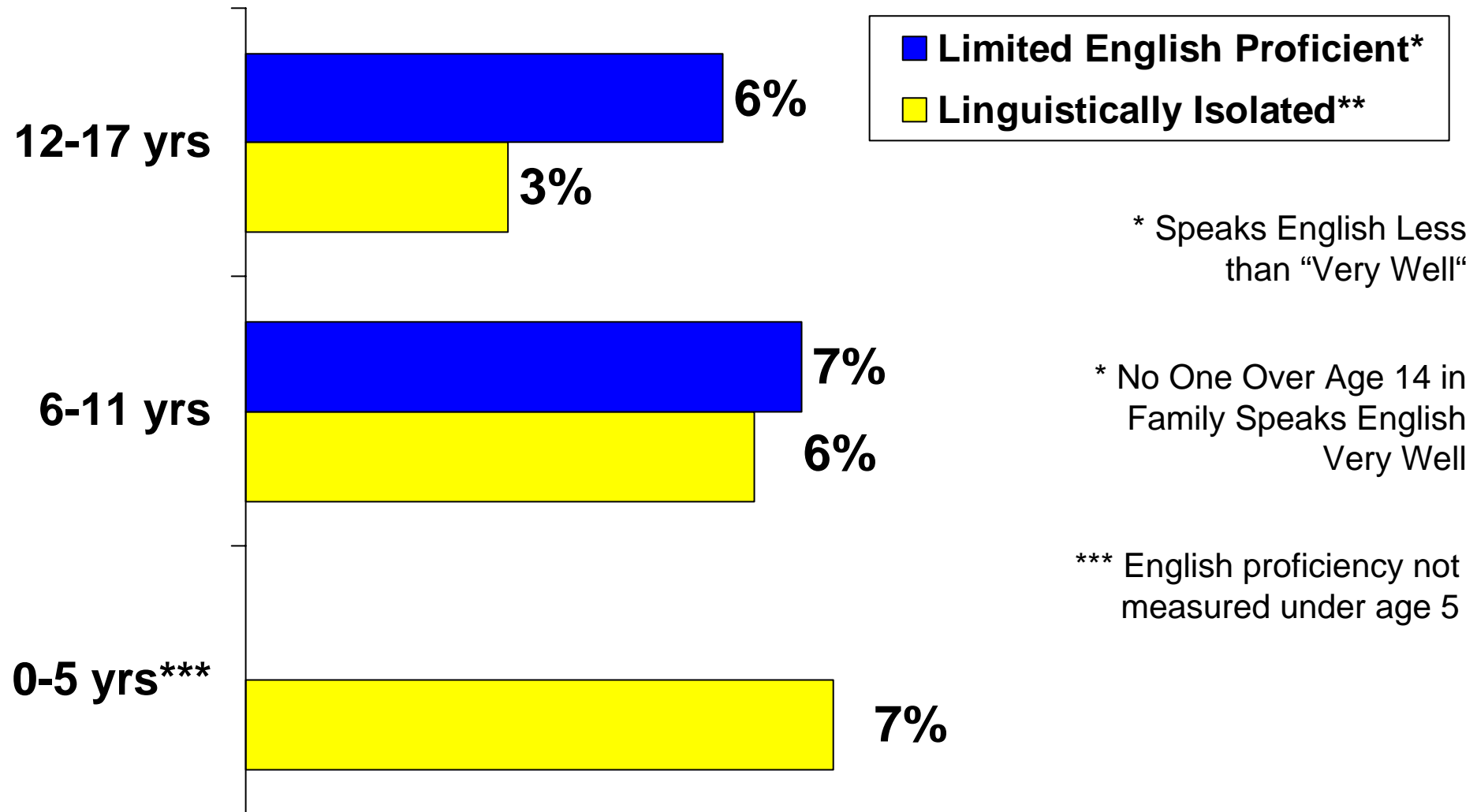
- ***1+ Non-Citizen Adults and
1+ Citizen Children***
- ***9.1 Million Children***
- ***13% of all Children***
61% of Kids in Immigrant Families
85% of Kids in Non-Citizen Families
- ***Even Undocumented Families --
2 of 3 Kids are Citizens***



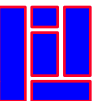
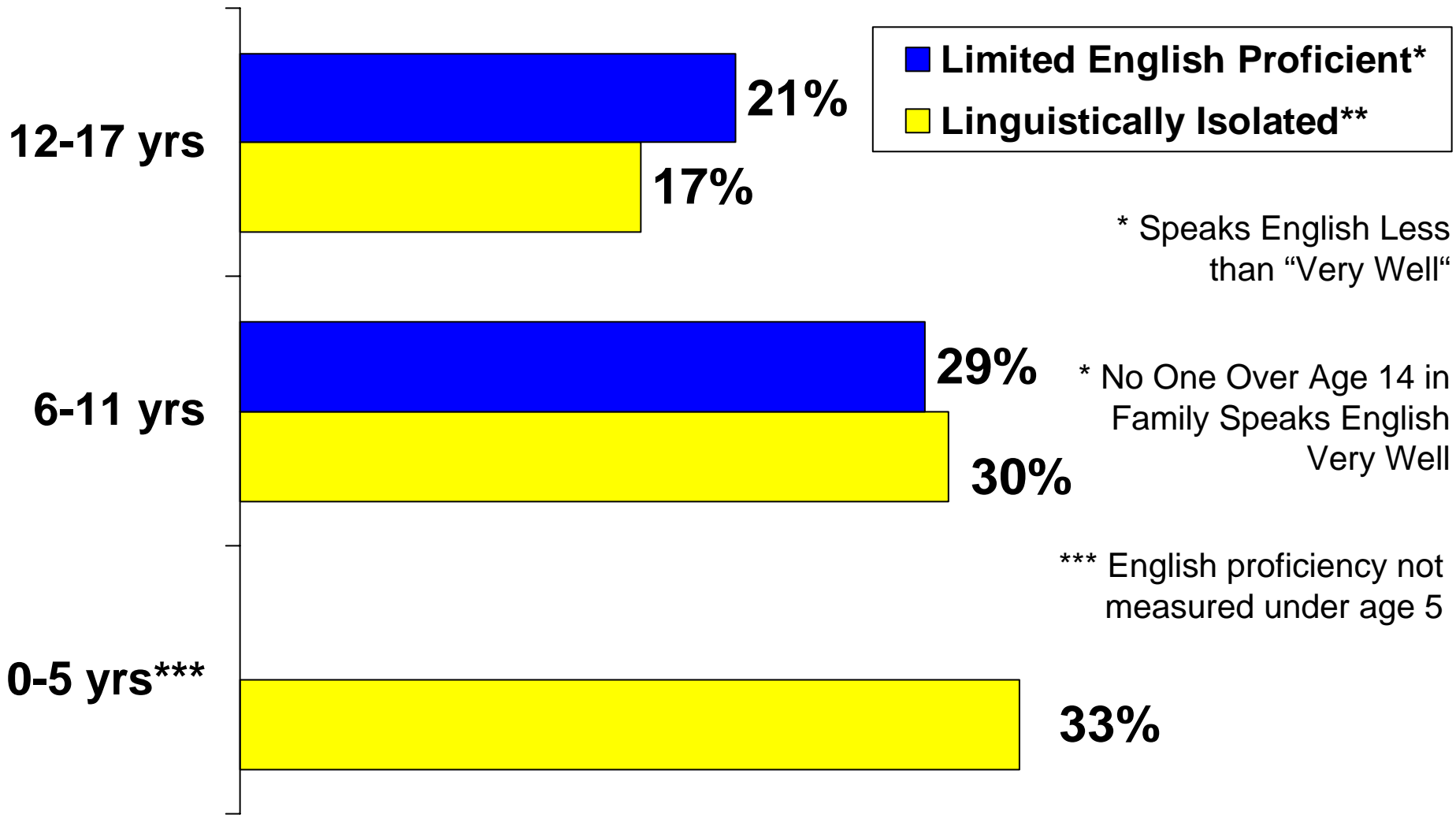
Young Children of Immigrants (0-5) Most Likely to be U.S. Citizens



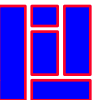
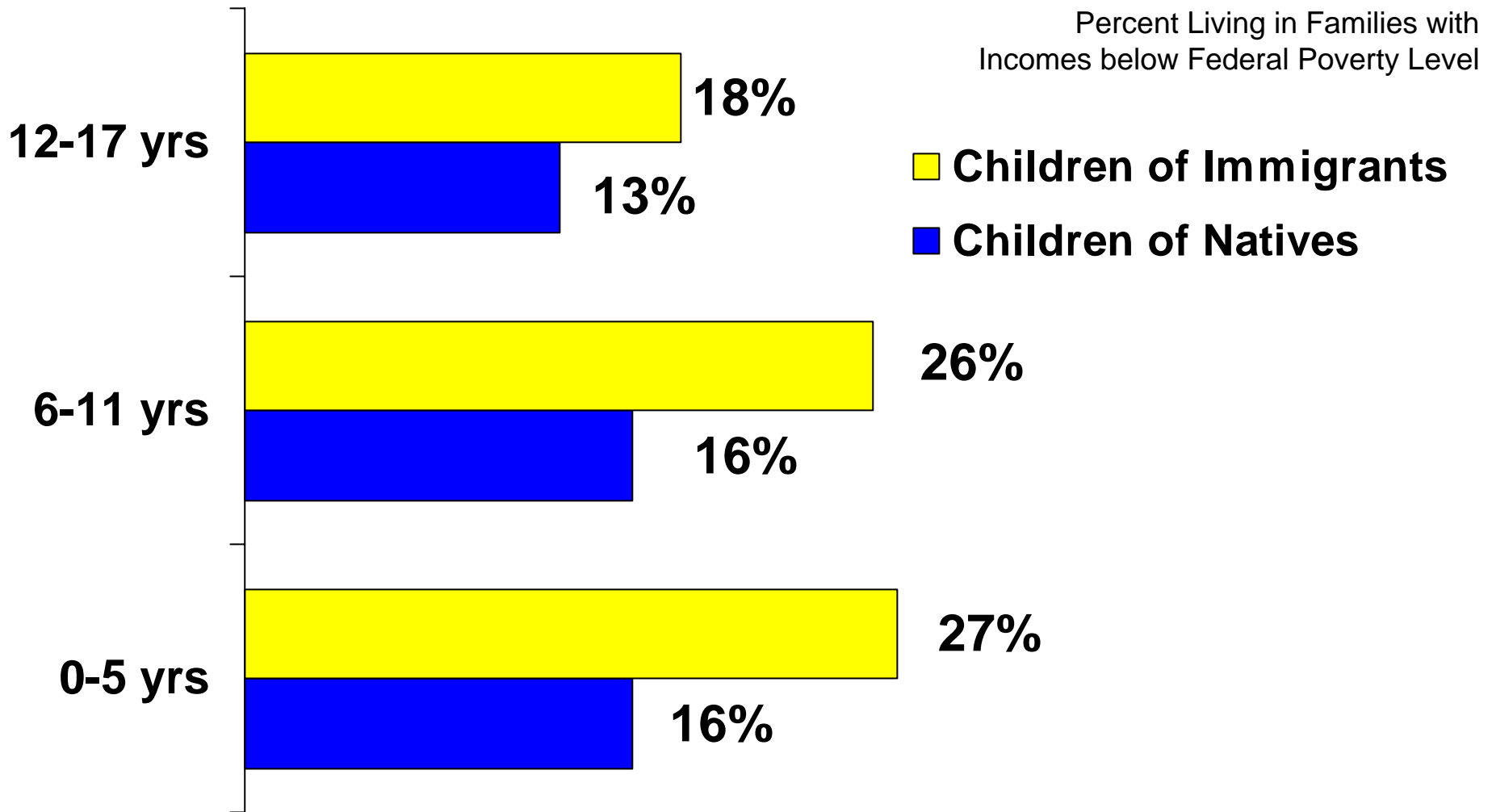
Seven Percent of All Children under Age 5 are Linguistically Isolated



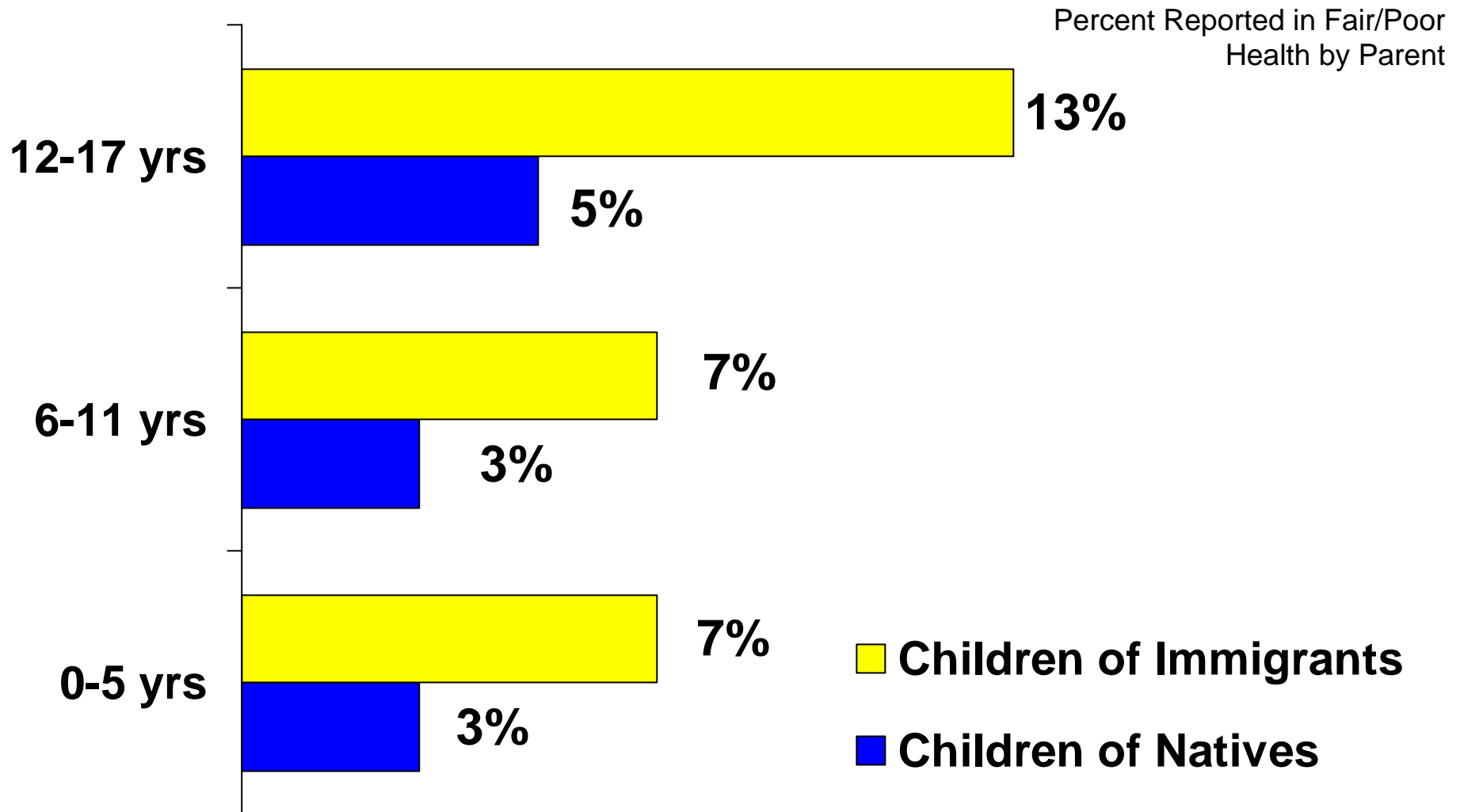
1/3 of Children of Immigrants under Age 5 are Linguistically Isolated



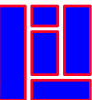
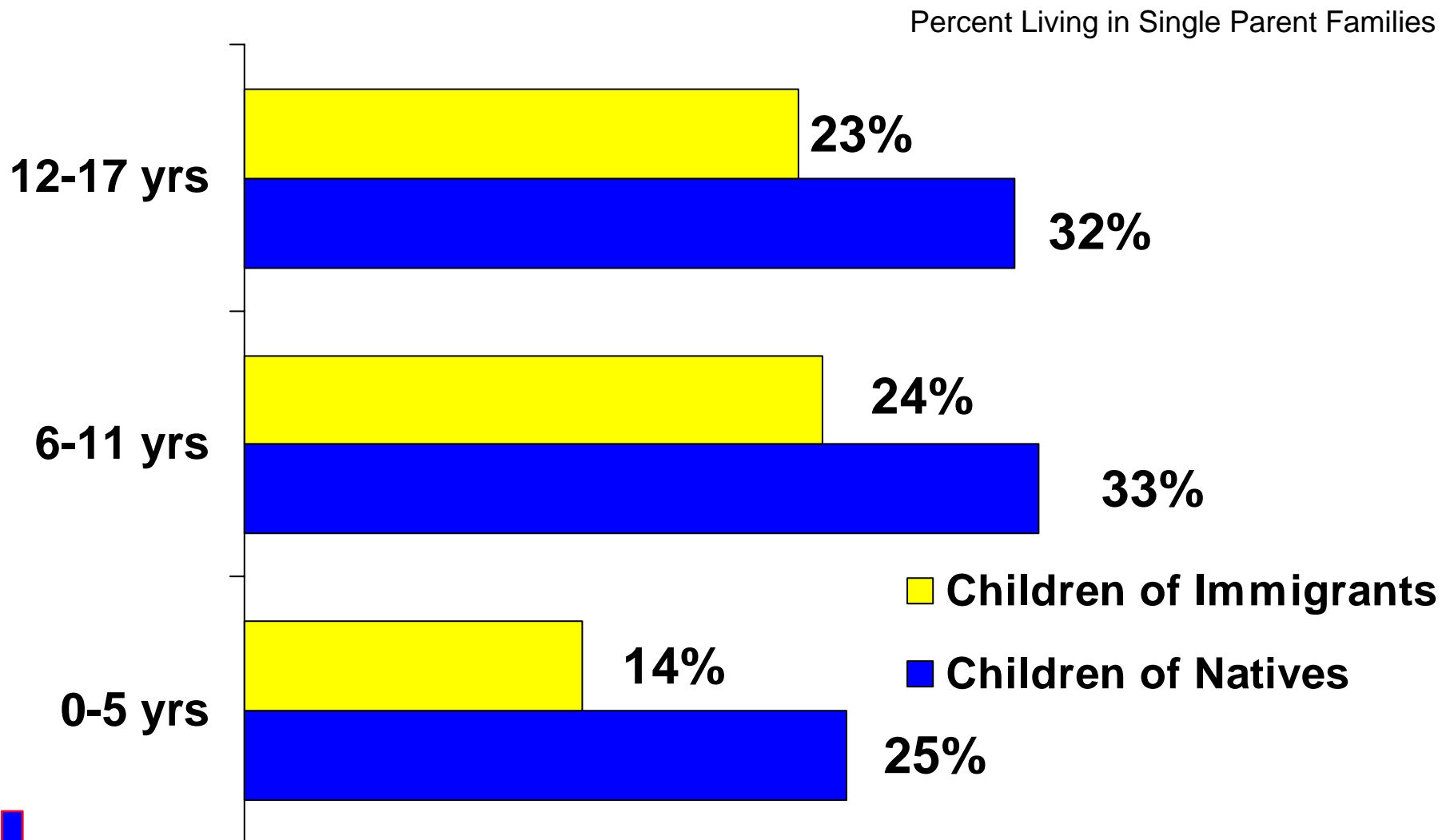
Young Children of Immigrants (0-5) Have Highest Poverty Rate



Youth (12-17) in Immigrant Families Most Often in Fair/Poor Health

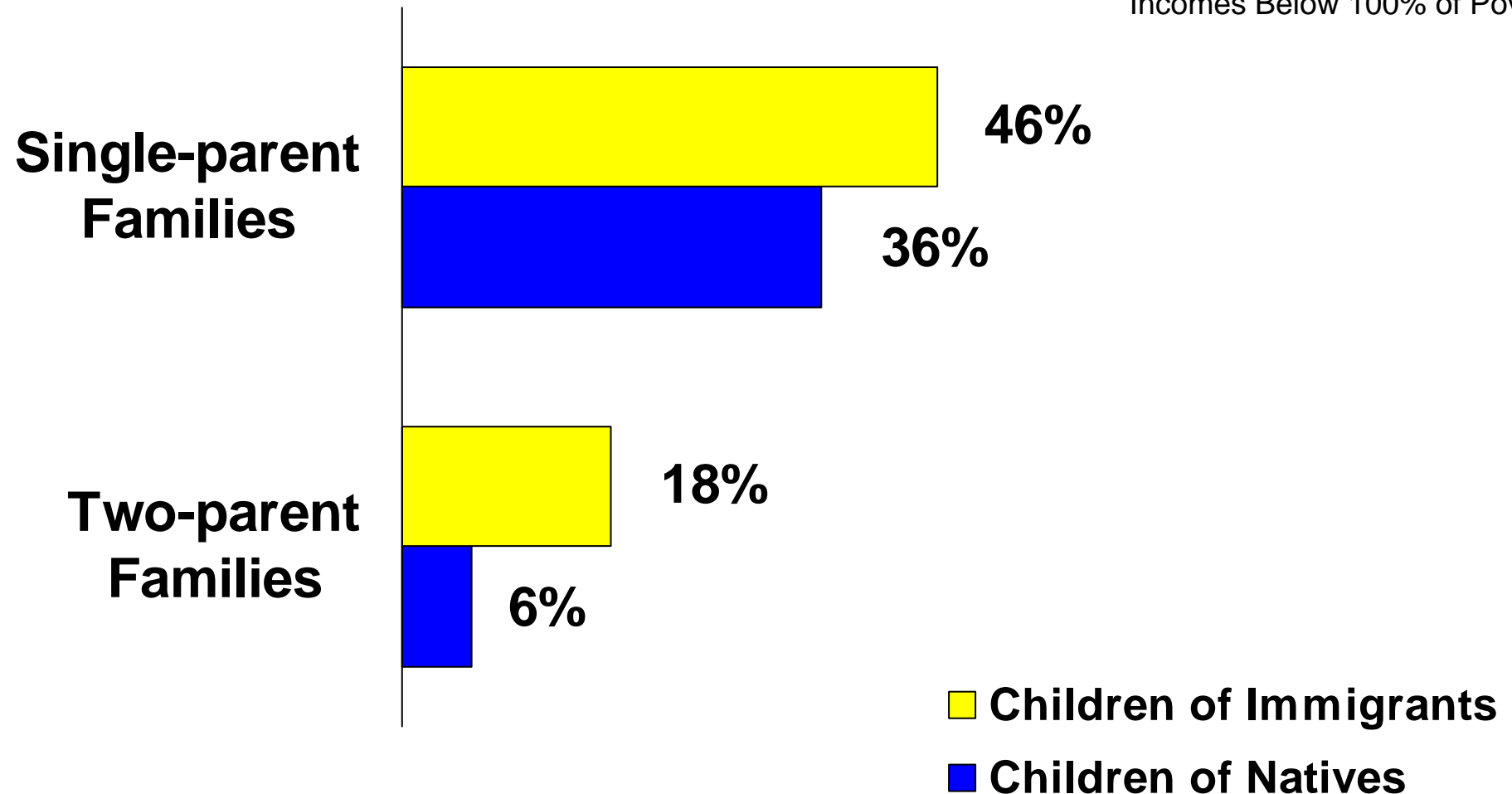


NATIVE Youth (12-17) Most Likely to Be in Single Parent Families

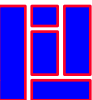
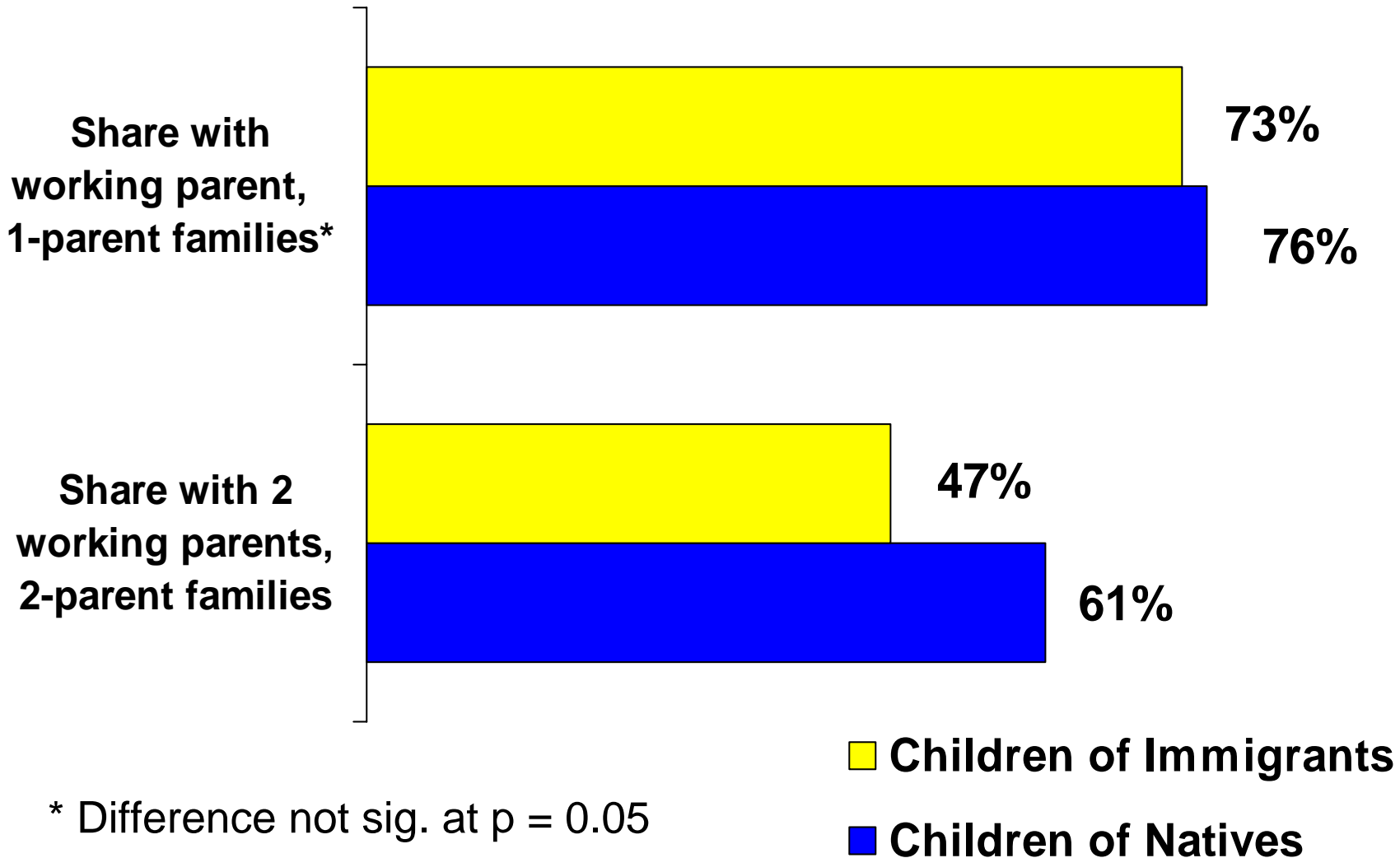


Even in 2-Parent Families Immigrant Children are Poorer

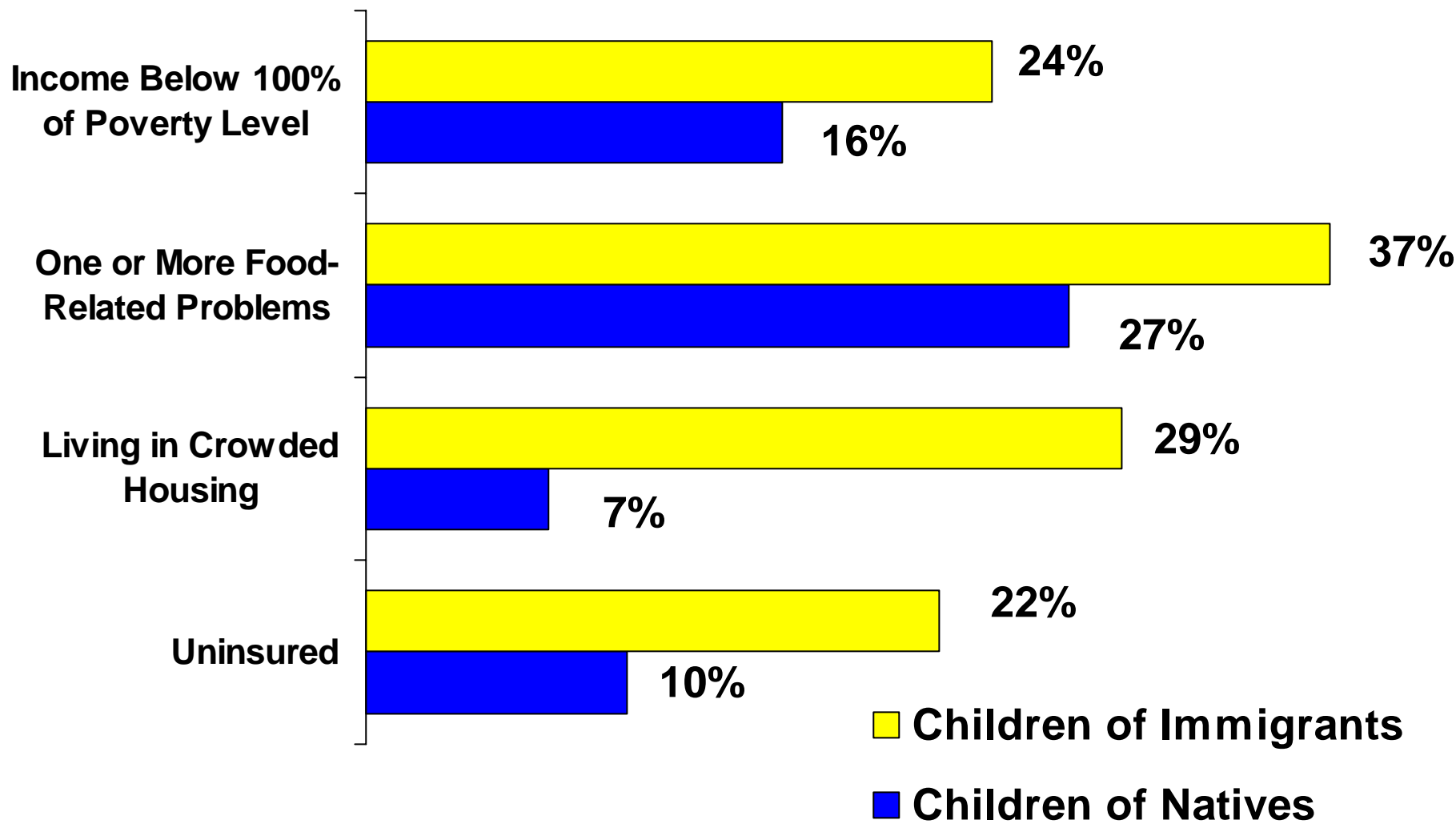
Share of Group in Families with
Incomes Below 100% of Poverty



Second parent in immigrant families less likely to work



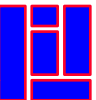
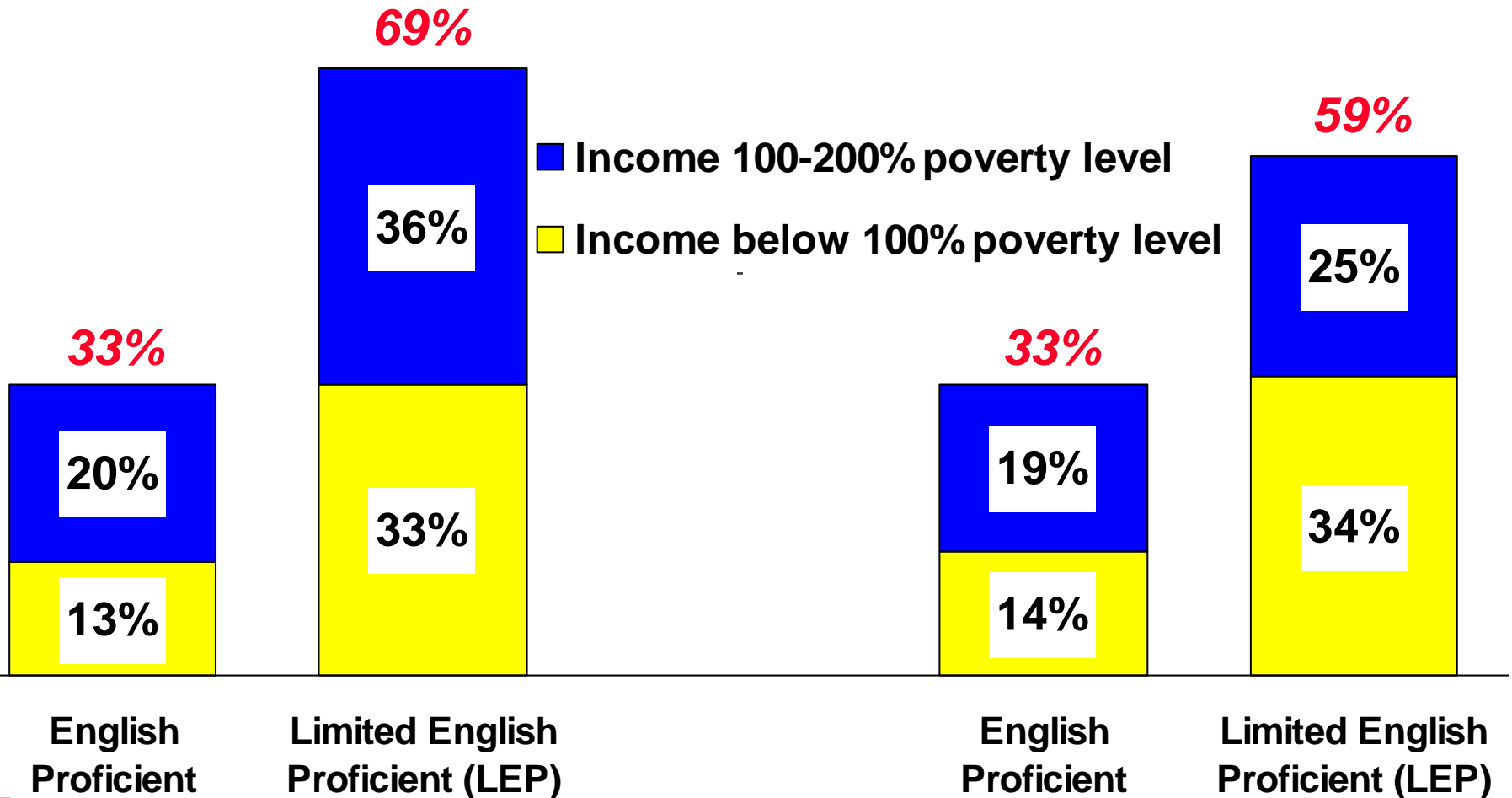
Children of Immigrants Have High Levels of Economic Hardship



Immigrant Families with Limited English Proficient Adults Are Poorer

Los Angeles

New York City



Implications for Child Welfare

- ***Immigrants growing fastest in smaller “new growth” states.***
- ***Legal status = bigger barrier for parents (very few young children are illegal).***
- ***Latino immigrants/Spanish widespread, other languages/cultures rarer.***
- ***Children of immigrants poorer, especially younger children.***
- ***Children of immigrants LESS likely to live with single parents.***



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