OFFICE OF THE STATE DEMOGRAPHER

Included in this Brief:

- Texas and California are the primary destination states for recent immigrants from Mexico.

- Recently in Texas, the numbers of Asian immigrants, especially from India and China, are increasing.

- The persistence of recent immigration trends will lead to greater population diversity in Texas.

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ORIGINS OF IMMIGRANTS TO TEXAS

Beginning in 2005, Texas has outpaced all other states in population growth. While natural increase (i.e., the excess of births over deaths) is a major source of this growth, the number of people moving to Texas has also been strong. Close to half of the state's growth from 2000 through 2013 has come from people migrating to Texas. Understanding how this influx of migrants will impact the future size and composition of the state's population is important for public and private sector decision-makers. A first step in understanding the impacts of migration on Texas is to identify from where these recent movers originated.

Movers come to Texas from other states (domestic migration) and from other countries (international migration). Because of their diverse origins, domestic and international migrants can differ substantially in educational attainment, work skills, family status, English language proficiency, and a variety of other characteristics. In this report, we focus exclusively on the origins of international migrants.

International Migrants in the U.S.

Historically, international migrants or immigrants have been an important source of population growth in the United States. Figure 1 shows the numbers of immigrant admissions to the United States from 1820-2012 (derived from U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 2013). In this figure, we see that after the historically low immigration levels of the 1930s Great Depression era, immigration began an upward trend which continues today. Between 2000 and 2012, the U.S. received an annual average of more than one million immigrants. Projections by Shrestha and
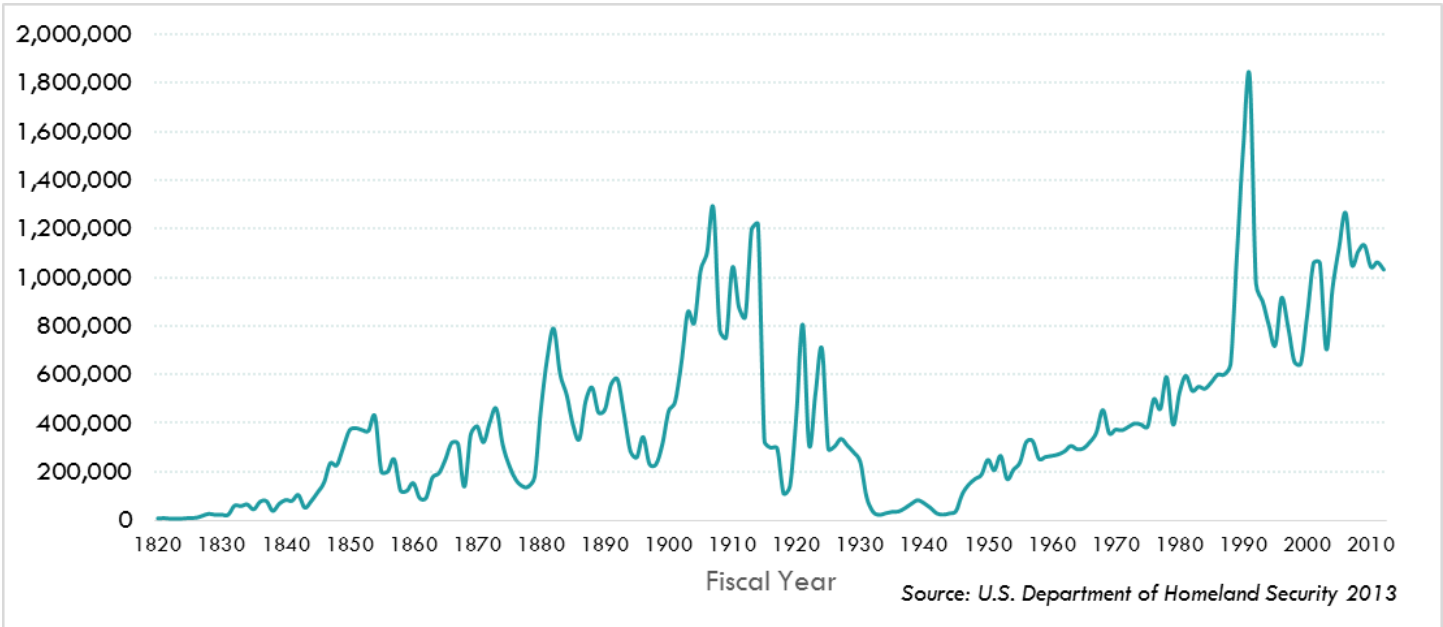
Natural Increase Versus Migration

Natural Increase

Population gain from natural increase is fairly simple to characterize – it is the excess of births over deaths. Thus, by definition, all persons added to the Texas population through natural increase in a given year are under one year of age and 'originated' in Texas. It will be years before this year's natural increase population will go to school, enter the workforce, form families, or retire.

Migration

By contrast, migrants are of all ages and can originate anywhere in the world. Many migrants are young adults who enter the state's workforce when they arrive. Some migrants come as family units while others arrive as retirees. As such, the impacts of migration can be much more rapid and much less predictable than those for natural increase.

Figure 1: Number of Annual Immigrants Admitted to the United States, FY 1820-2012[1]

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security 2013

Heisler (2011) suggest that if current trends continue, by the year 2027 immigration is expected to account for more population growth in the United States than natural increase. As such, our contemporary and future population changes are closely tied to immigration patterns.

In this report, we focus on recent immigrants. These are persons living in the United States that resided in another country one year ago. We look at immigrant origins in two ways. In the first, origin is based on the world area where the immigrants were born. In the second, origin is based on the immigrants' country of residence one year ago.

Origins and Destinations for U.S. States

The Figures 2 and 3 present the origins of 2013 immigrants in the top 10 immigrant receiving states in the U.S. (i.e., the 'top 10'). These data are extracted from the American Community Survey (ACS). In this survey, people are asked where they lived one year ago. If the current residence is different than the residence one year ago, the person is considered a migrant. As such, ACS migration status is based on a move made within the previous year. In Figures 2 and 3, origins are based on the immigrant's world area of birth. A review of these data reveals:

- Recent immigrants tend to move to larger states. California, Texas, Florida, New York, and Illinois are the five most populous states. In 2013, these

same states were the five largest recipients of immigrants.

- The three largest immigrant receiving states in 2013, California, Texas, and Florida, had very different patterns of immigrant origins. California's immigration was predominantly Asian while Florida's immigrants were mainly from Latin America. Texas had roughly equal numbers of Latin American and Asian immigrants. These patterns indicate a certain degree of selectivity in immigrant destinations.

- Figure 3 further illustrates geographic selectivity among recent immigrants. Among the top ten receiving states, Florida had the highest percent of Latin American immigrants, at 61.3 percent, but also had the lowest percent of Asian immigrants at 14.5 percent. Michigan had the largest percentage share of Asians, at 70.8 percent, and the smallest percentage of Latin American immigrants at 7.4 percent.

- The general immigration pattern for Texas mirrors that for the U.S. as a whole where Asians and Latin Americans account for the majority of recent immigrants. For Texas, 83.2 percent of its recent immigrants were born in either Latin America or Asia.

In the next section we discuss Asian and Latin American immigrants in more detail. We focus on non-citizen, foreign-born persons who resided abroad one year ago. While about 5.5 percent of foreign-

Figure 2:   Number of Recent Non-Citizen Immigrants by World Area of Birth in the Top 10 Immigration
Receiving States, 2013

Source: 1-Year ACS PUMS 2013
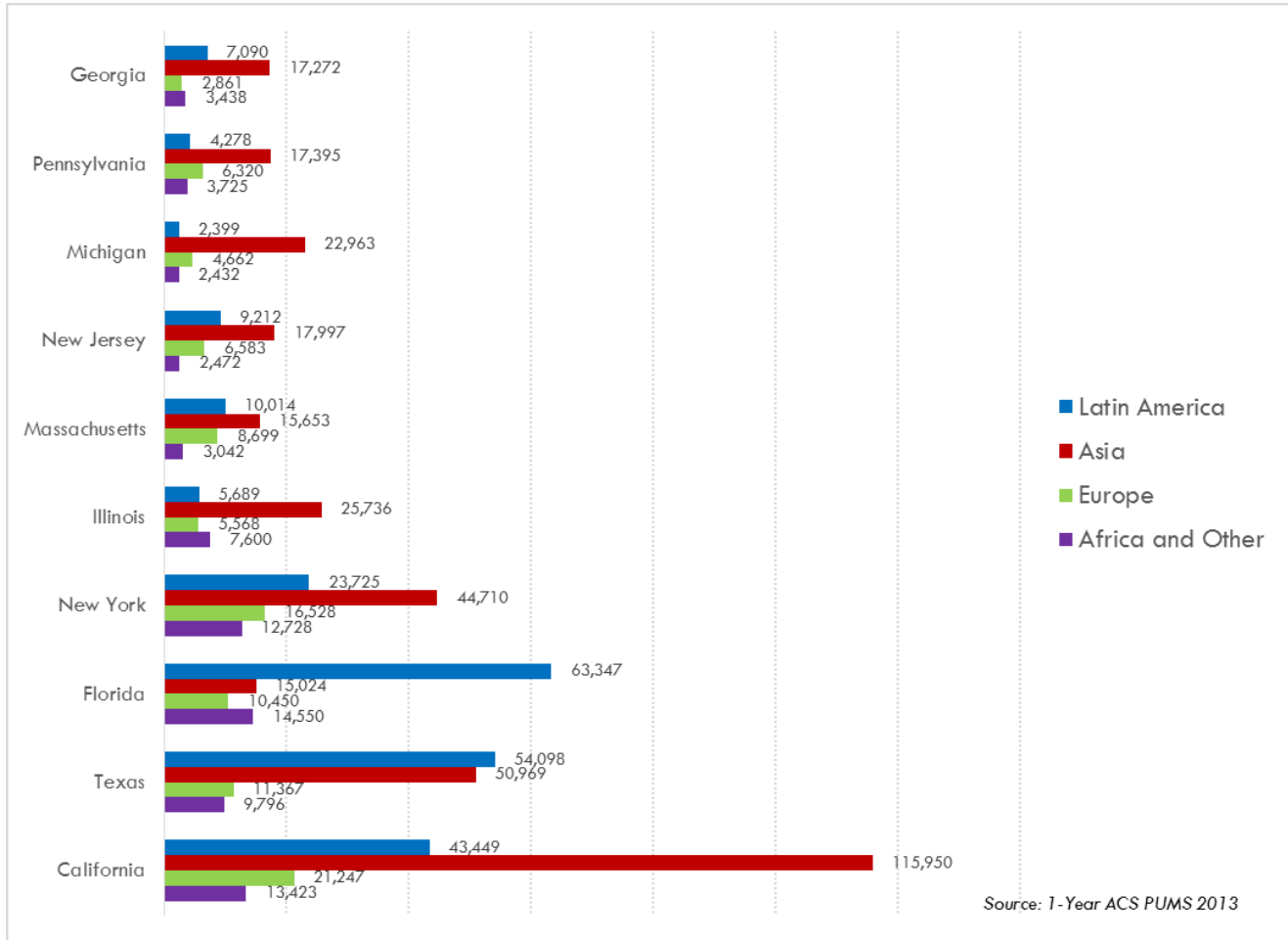
Figure 3:   Percent of Non-Citizen Immigrants by World Area of Birth in the Top 10 Immigration
Receiving States, 2013

Source: 1-Year ACS PUMS 2013
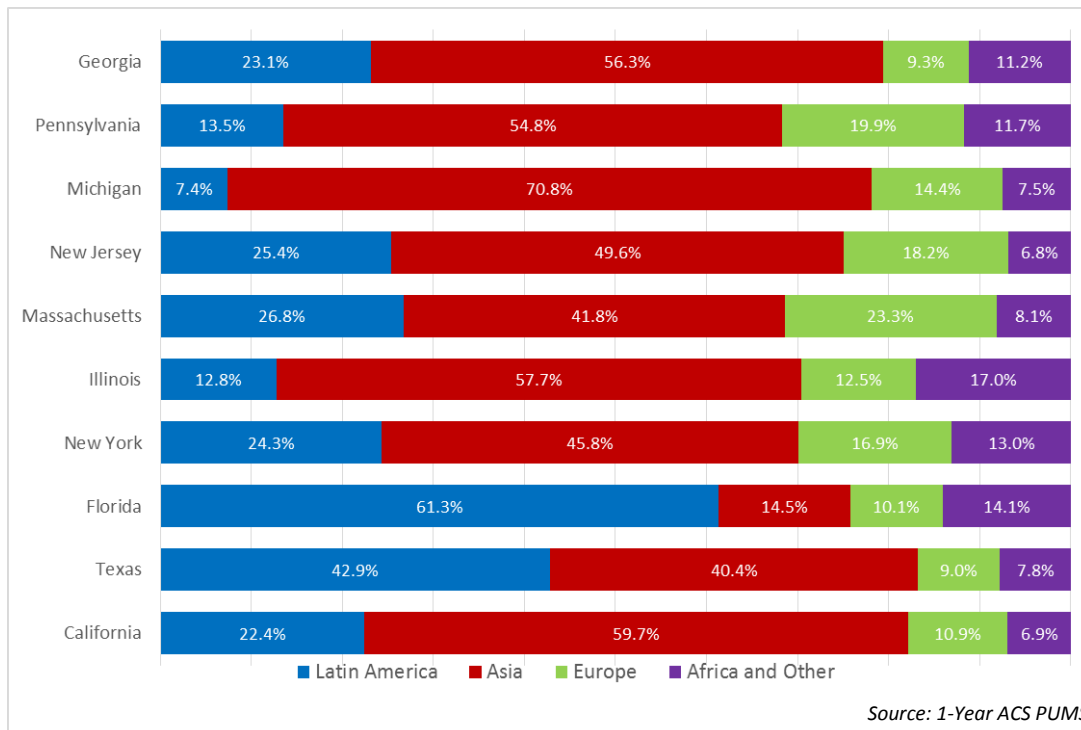
Figure 4: Numbers of Non-Citizen Immigrants from Mexico in the Top 10 Receiving States, 2013

Source: 1-Year ACS PUMS 2013
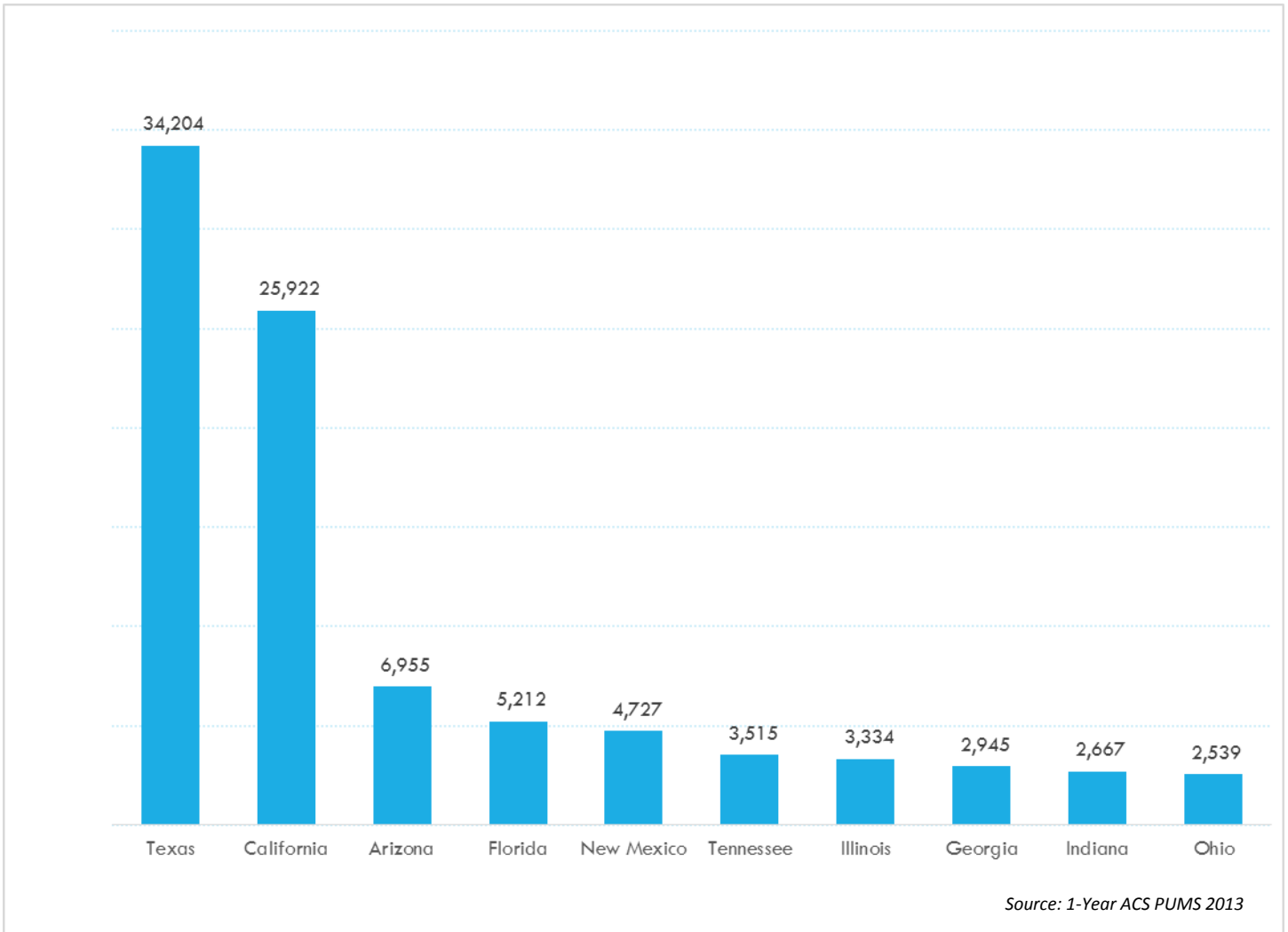
born immigrants are U.S. citizens, these were not included because it is likely that many of these persons are not recent immigrants in the usual sense. For example, the ACS PUMS data indicate that, on average, Latin-American born citizen immigrants entered the United States 24.6 years ago and had been U.S. citizens for an average of 15.2 years. Thus, it is likely many of these foreign-born citizen immigrants were either visiting abroad in the previous year or were return migrants rather than first-time immigrants.
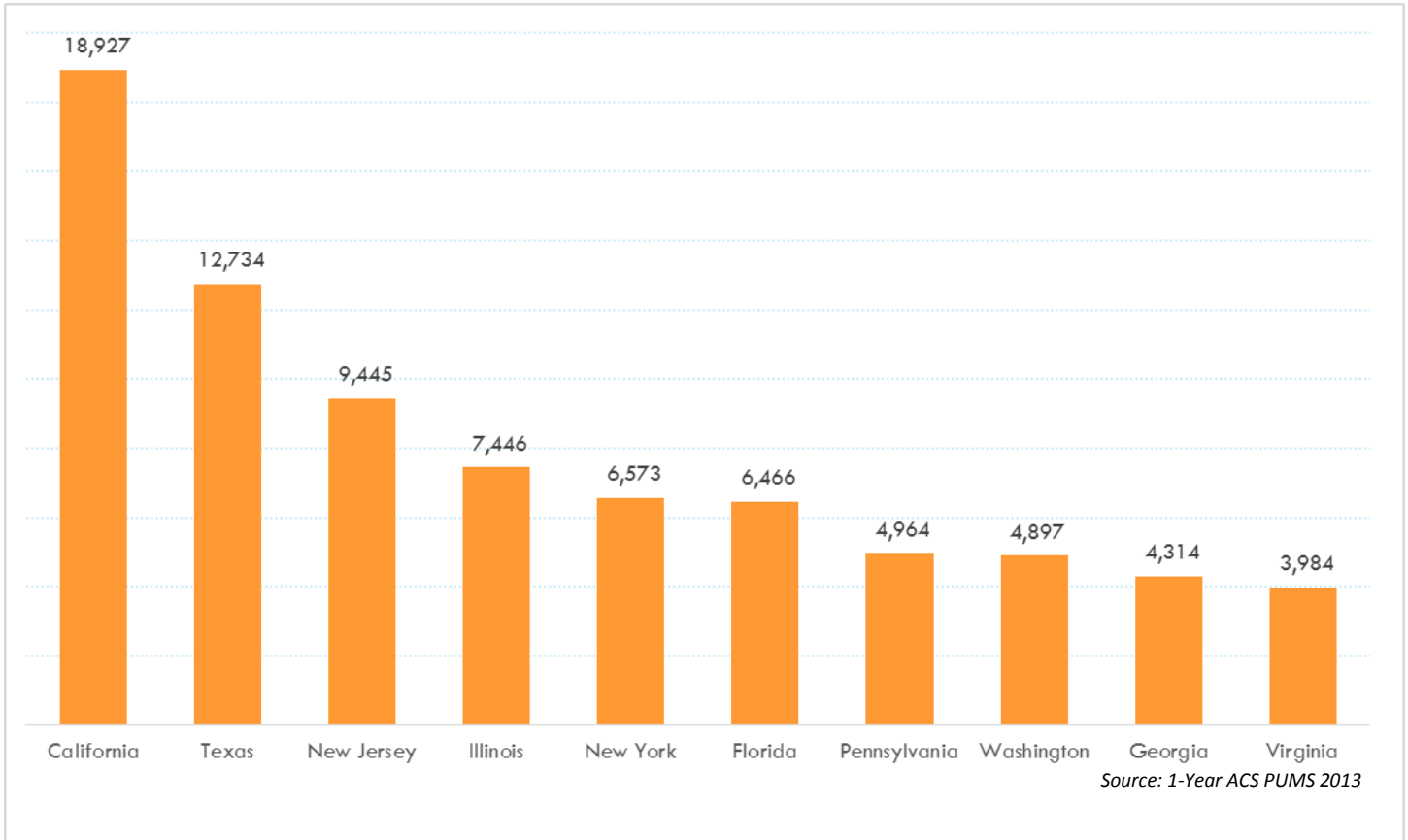
Asian and Latin American Immigrants in U.S. States

Figures 4, 5, and 6 examine the two predominant immigrant groups – Asians and Latin Americans – in more detail. In these figures, migrant origin is based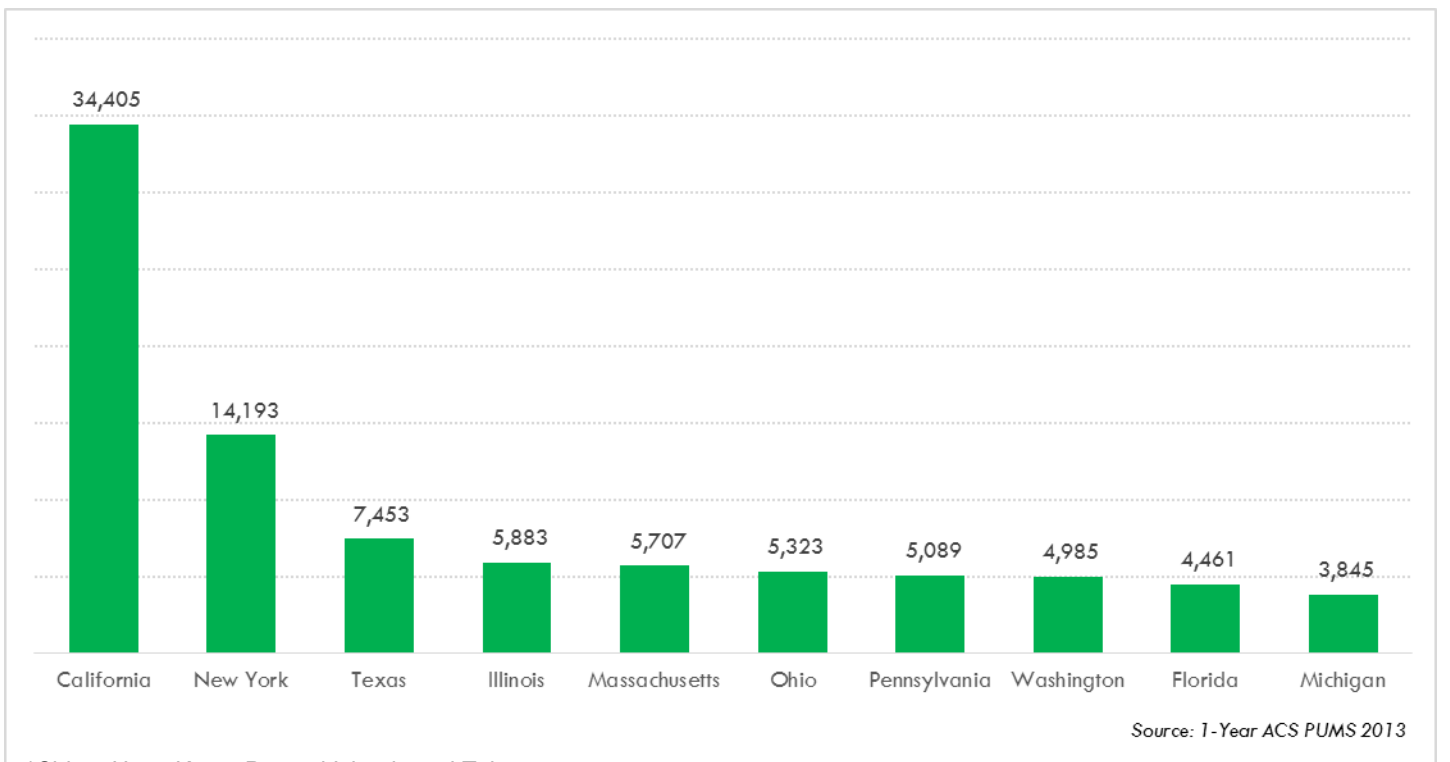 on the country where the immigrant lived one year ago. Figure 4 has the top 10 destination states for non-citizen immigrants moving from Mexico, the primary Latin American sending country. Figure 5 and 6 present the top 10 destination states for India and China, the predominant Asian sending nations.

- Figure 4 shows that Texas and California are the primary destination states for recent immigrants from Mexico. Together, these two states accounted for almost half (48.3 percent) of all Mexican immigrants to the United States in 2013.

- In Figure 5, we find that California is the state attracting the greatest number of recent Indian immigrants in 2013. Texas and New Jersey are, respectively, the second and third most popular destinations for Indian immigrants.

Figure 5: Numbers of Non-Citizen Immigrants from India in the Top 10 Receiving States, 2013

18,927	12,734	9,445	7,446	6,573	6,466	4,964	4,897	4,314	3,984
California	Texas	New Jersey	Illinois	New York	Florida	Pennsylvania	Washington	Georgia	Virginia

Source: 1-Year ACS PUMS 2013

Figure 6: Numbers of Non-Citizen Immigrants from China* in the Top 10 Receiving States, 2013

34,405	14,193	7,453	5,883	5,707	5,323	5,089	4,985	4,461	3,845
California	New York	Texas	Illinois	Massachusetts	Ohio	Pennsylvania	Washington	Florida	Michigan

Source: 1-Year ACS PUMS 2013

*China, Hong Kong, Paracel Islands and Taiwan

- When Chinese immigrants are examined in Figure 6, we see that once again California is the predominant destination. New York is the second largest recipient of Chinese immigrants and Texas is the third most common destination.

Overall, in 2013, California was the favorite destination for both Indian and Chinese immigrants while Texas was the primary destination for Mexican immigrants.

Recent Immigration Patterns in Texas

This section focuses on recent immigration to Texas. In Figures 7 and 8, we show the world areas of birth for recent, non-citizen immigrants to Texas. These data are a time-series based on the ACS PUMs 1 Year data from 2005 to 2013. Due to data compatibility issues with earlier ACS PUMs data, 2005 was chosen as the beginning year. Given the strong association between migration and economic patterns, we made sure to capture immigration data before and after the 2007-2009 recession. Unless otherwise noted, all ACS migration data are for the population 1 year of age and older. As before, immigrants are persons who moved from a foreign country within the previous year.

- Between 2005 and 2013, the majority of recent Texas immigrants were born in Latin America. Figure 7 indicates that immigrants born in Latin America have ranged from 87,098 in 2006 to 51,026 in 2010.

- After Though people born in Latin America are the predominant group of recent immigrants to Texas, the time-series shows a decline in both their numbers and their shares. As can be seen in Figure 7, the number of Latin American immigrants peaked in 2006, at 87,098 but declined to 54,098 by 2013. Figure 8 shows that Latin-American immigrants accounted for 69.4 percent of Texas immigrants in 2005 but declined to 42.9 percent in 2013.

Figure 7: Numbers of Recent Non-Citizen Immigrants to Texas by World Area of Birth, 2005-2013

Source: 1-Year ACS PUMS 2005-2013
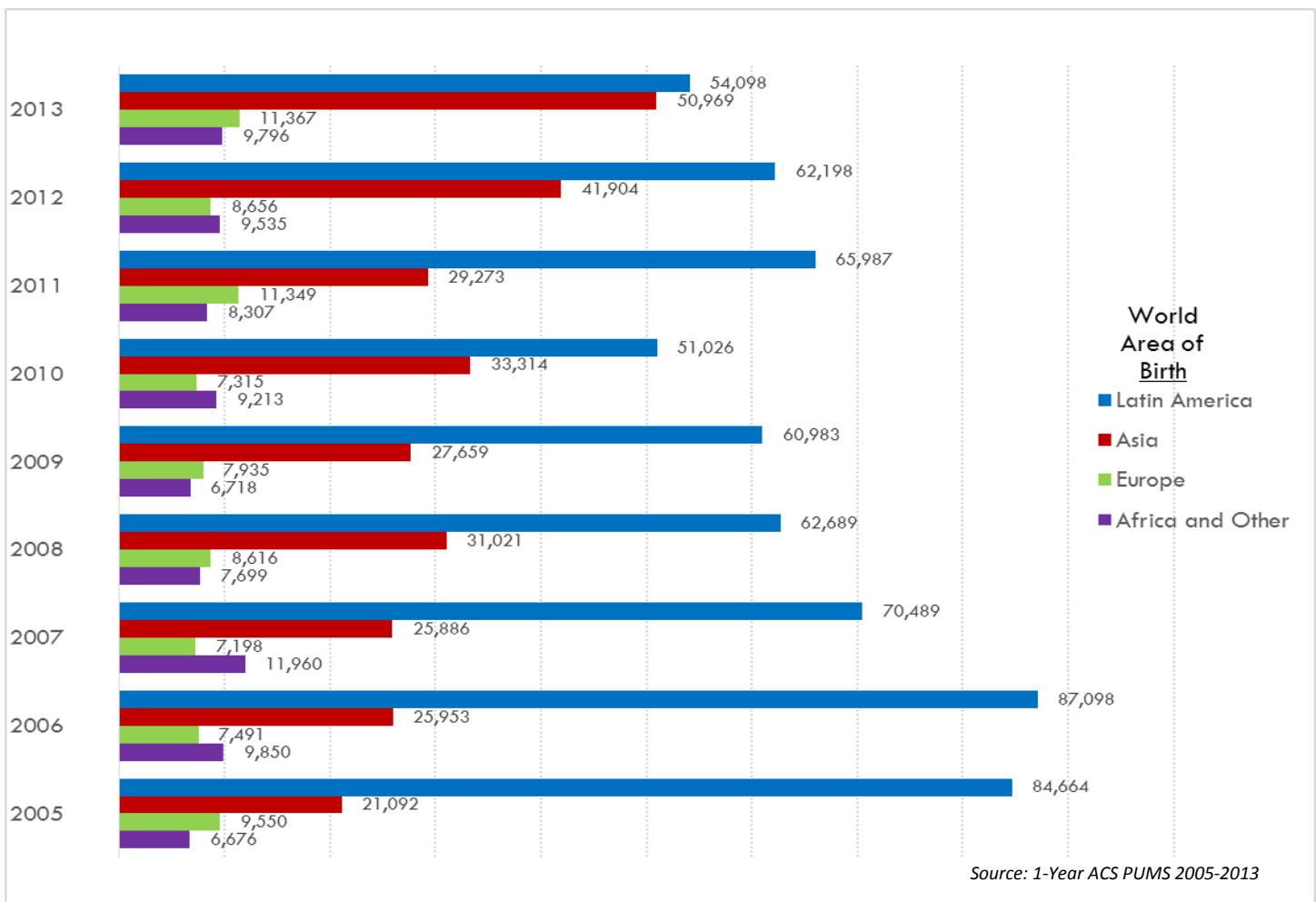
- Persons born in Asia are the second most populous group of Texas immigrants in the time-series. In contrast to those of Latin American origin, the size and percentage shares of Asians have increased in recent years. Where there were 21,092 immigrants of Asian origin in 2005, this number increased to 50,969 by 2013. With this, the Asian share of total immigration grew from 17.3 percent in 2005 to 40.4 percent in 2013.

- Of the smaller immigrant groups, those born in Europe have held relatively steady throughout this time period. Those born in the Africa and Other category have fluctuated up and down. Taken together, the largest number of European and African and Other groups occurred in 2013, with 21,163 immigrants which represented 16.8 percent of all immigration. The largest share for the European and the African and Other groups occurred in 2011 with 17.1 percent of all immigrants.

Overall, the time-series suggest that the recession of 2007-2009 coincided with a decline in total immigration to Texas. Total immigration peaked in 2006 at 130,392 persons and declined to 100,868 by 2010. In 2013, total immigration had recovered to 126,230 which is greater than the 2005 base of 121,982 but less than the peak of 130,392 in 2006. This pattern is largely attributable to changes in the immigration flows of the Latin American-origin group. Though this group experienced something of a post-recession rebound in 2011, by 2013, Latin American immigration had fallen to its lowest level in the nine year time series. The decline in the Latin American-born immigrants has been countered by the increase in Asian-born immigrants. In 2005, Latin American-born immigrants to Texas outnumbered Asian-born immigrants by 63,527 persons. By 2013, Latin American-born immigrants outnumbered Asian-born immigrants by only 3,129 persons.

Figure 8: Annual Shares of Recent Non-Citizen Immigrants to Texas by World Area of Birth, 2005-2013

Source: 1-Year ACS PUMS 2005-2013
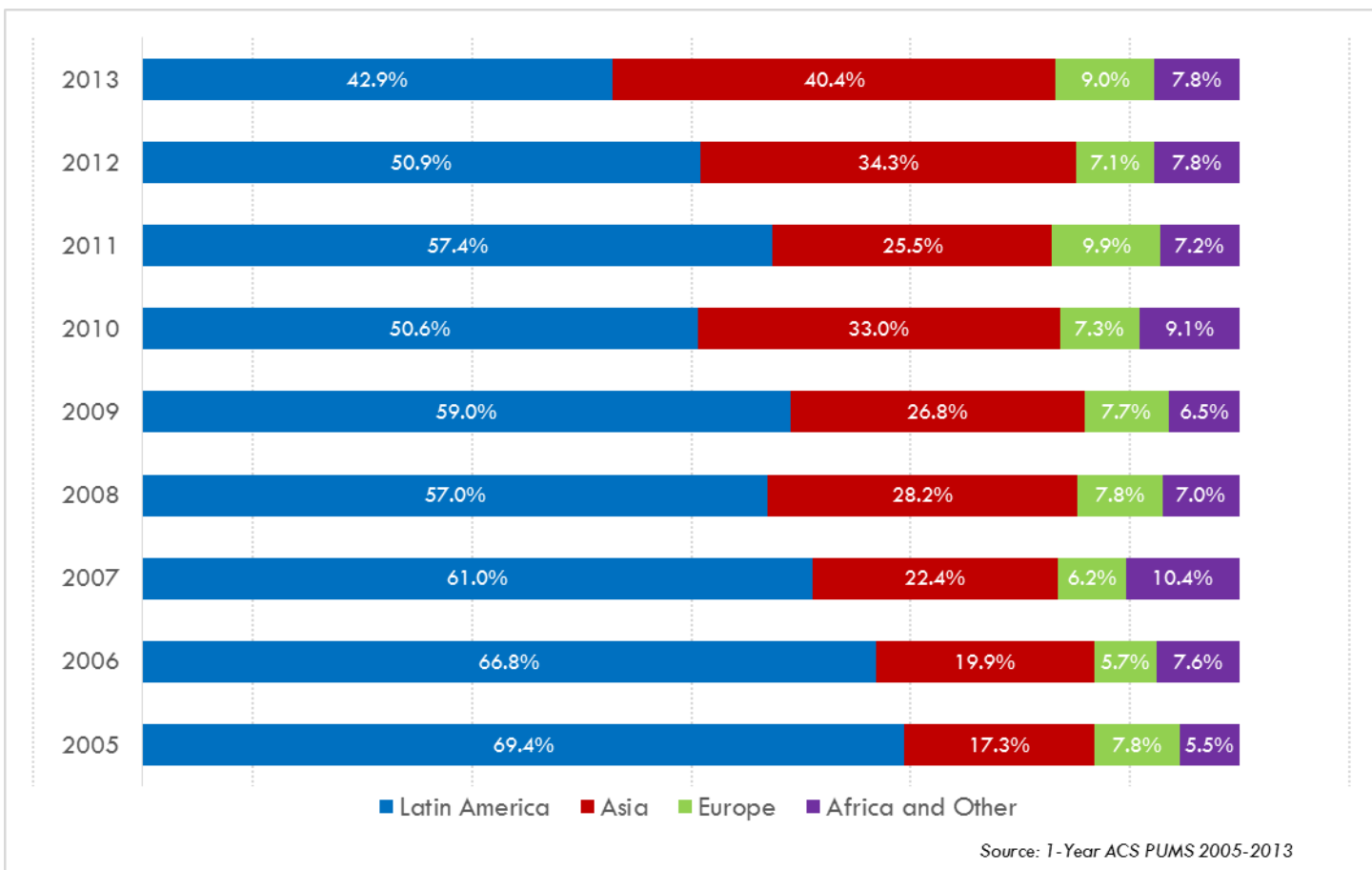
Figures 9-12 present recent immigration data for Texas based on the country of origin. These figures show the country where the immigrant lived one year ago. As before, these data are a 2005-2013 time-series derived from the ACS PUMs 1 Year data files. Figure 9 shows the top five countries of origin based on an average of the annual 2005-2013 immigration flows. Figures 10 and 11 focus in more detail on Mexico which has a long history of emigration to Texas. Figure 12 provides a gauge of diversity for recent immigrants to Texas.

- In Figure 9 we see that among the top five sending nations , Mexico is the dominant country of origin for all nine time periods, sending an average of around 6.6 times more immigrants than India, the second largest sender and 13.1 times more immigrants than China, the third largest sender.

- Two other Latin American countries, El Salvador and Honduras are the 4th and 5th largest senders among the top five countries of origin

Figure 9: Numbers of Recent Non-Citizen Immigrants to Texas from the Top 5 Countries of Origin, 2005-2013


Source: 1-Year ACS PUMS 2005-2013
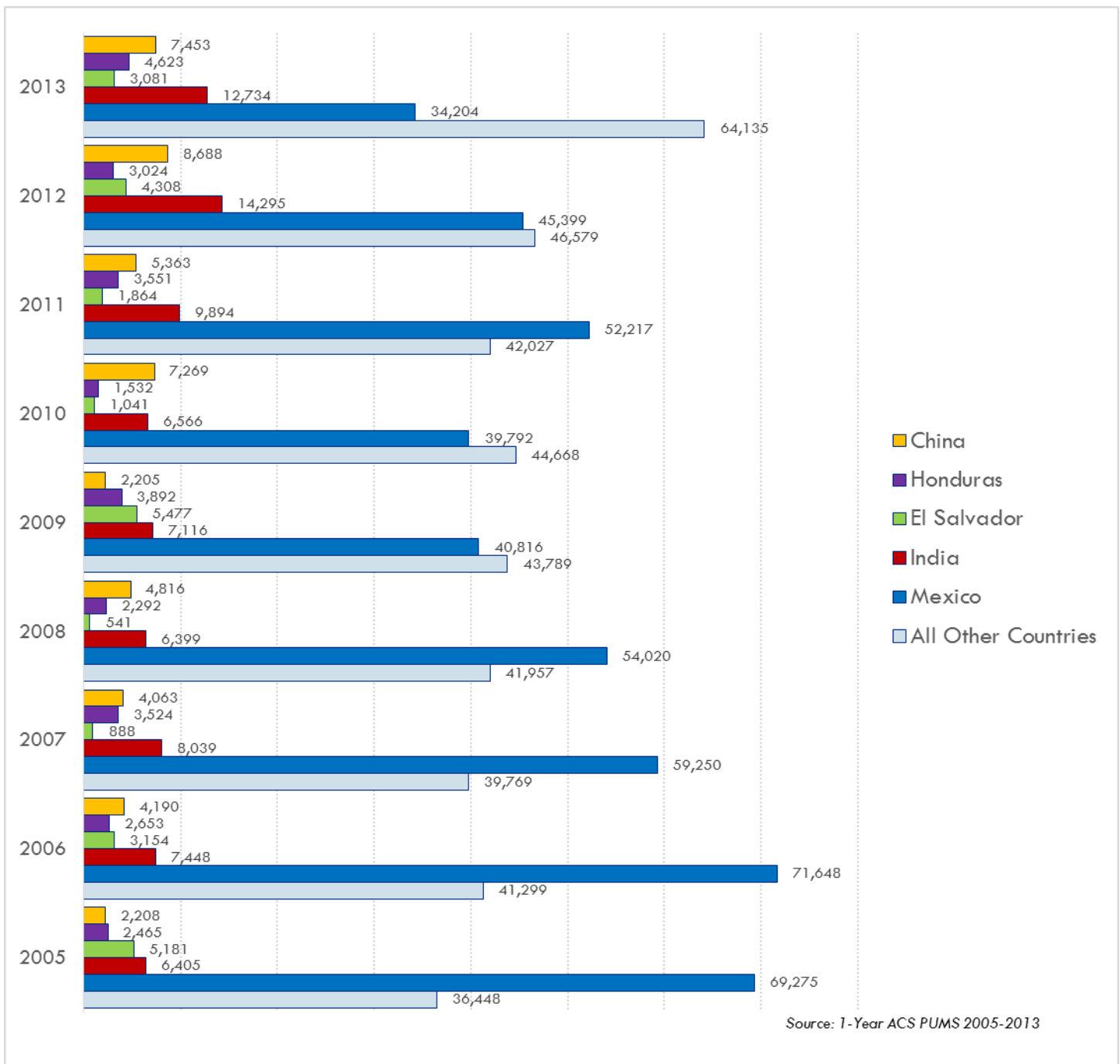
- When the All Other Countries[2] category in Figure 9 is examined, we find it has increased from 36,448 in 2005 to 64,135 in 2013. This shows that contemporary Texas immigrants have become a much more diverse group.

- Overall, Figure 9 shows a decline in the number of Mexican immigrants and an increase in Indian and Chinese immigrants. There were about half as many Mexican immigrants in 2013 as there were in 2005. There were about two times more Indian immigrants in 2013 as 2005 and more than three times more Chinese immigrants in 2013 than in 2005.

- Figure 10 focuses on Mexico which has historically been the primary country of origin for Texas immigrants. Here we see dramatic

declines in both the size and the proportion of Mexican immigrants. In 2005, Mexico sent 56.9 percent of all immigrants to Texas. By 2013, the Mexican share of immigration had declined to 27.1 percent. During the nine year time series, peak Mexican immigration occurred in 2006, at 71,648 persons. In 2013, there were 34,204 Mexican immigrants, the smallest number between 2005 and 2013. As such, the number of Mexican immigration to Texas in 2013 was 53.2 percent smaller than in 2006.

The ACS data indicate a shift in Texas' traditional immigration patterns where Latin American countries, principally Mexico, have been the primary sending nations. More recently, the numbers of Mexican immigrants have sharply declined. Even with this decline, the overall numbers of immigrants to Texas

Figure 10: Percent and Number of Recent Non-Citizen Immigrants to Texas from Mexico and All Other Countries, 2005-2013

Source: 1-Year ACS PUMS 2005-2013
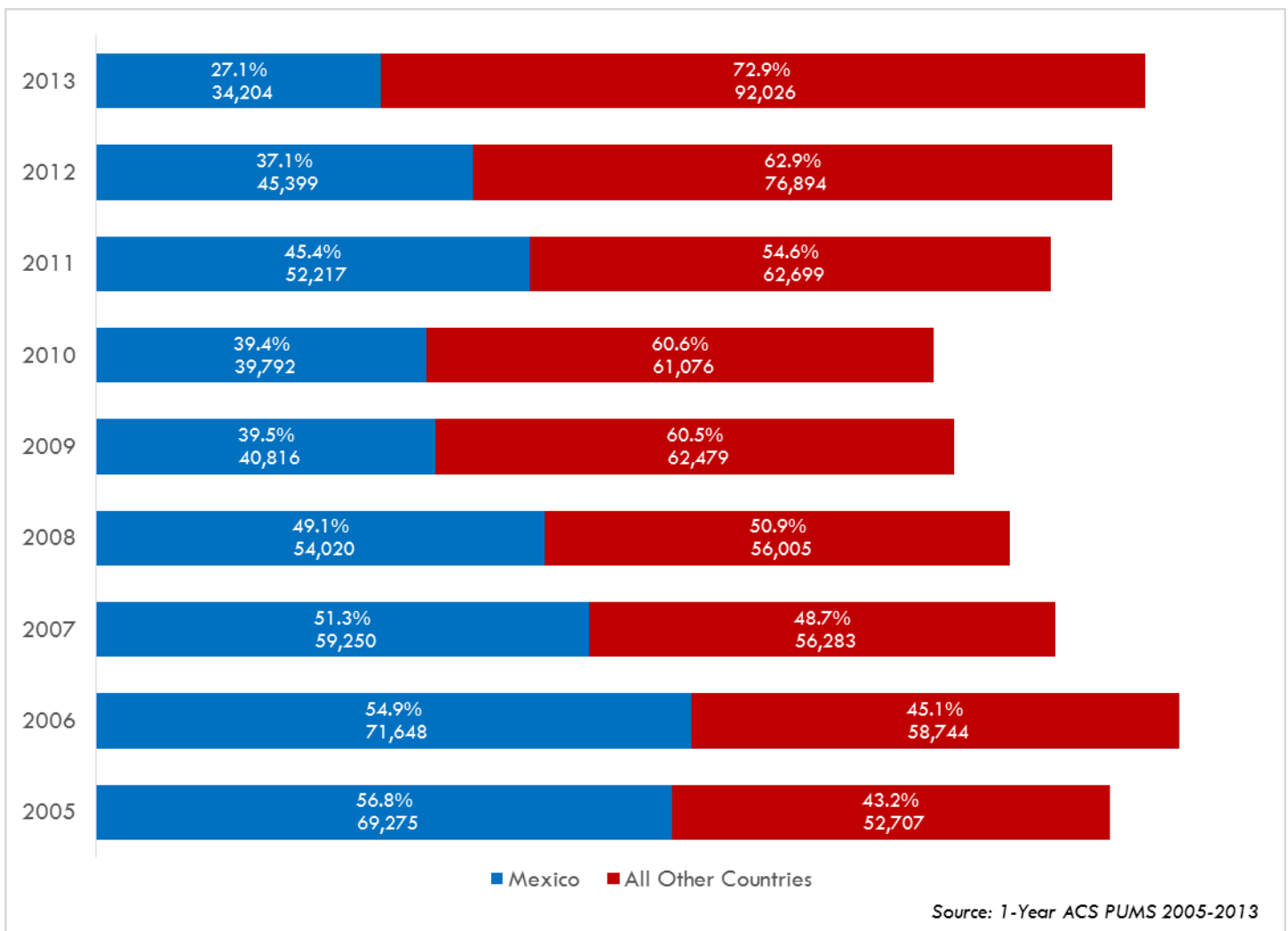
Figure 11: Diversity Index for the Country of Origin of Recent Non-Citizen Immigrants to Texas, 2005-2013

Source: 1-Year ACS PUMS 2005-2013
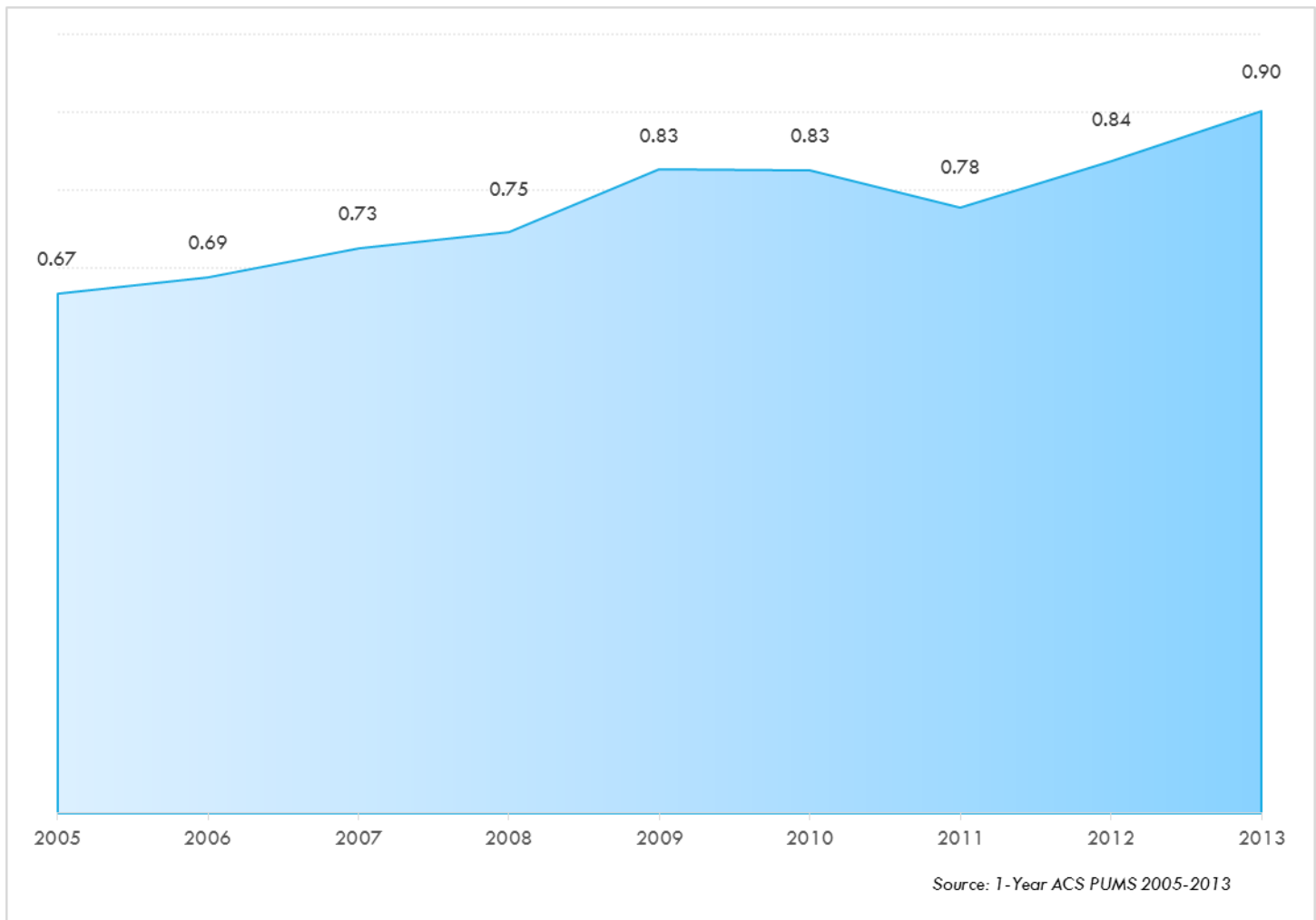
have increased each year since 2011 and the 126,230 immigrants in 2013 is the second highest number in the 2005-2013 time series. Two things have offset the decline in Mexican immigrants: (1) the numbers of Asian immigrants, especially from India and China, are increasing; and, (2) Texas has begun to attract more immigrants from a wider range of countries than in the past. Together, these trends have caused an increase in the diversity of Texas immigrants.

In Figure 11, the Index of Diversity[3] is used to demonstrate the increasing heterogeneity of Texas immigrants. With this index, 0.00 represents no diversity and 1.00 represents maximum diversity. Diversity increases as the number of sending countries increases and as the numbers of immigrants from each country become more equal in size.

- During the 2005-2013 time series, immigrant diversity was least in 2005 (0.67) and greatest in 2013 (0.90).

- Immigrant diversity steadily increased between 2005 and 2013 with the exception of 2011 when there was a post-recession resurgence in Mexican immigration.

- While Texas' immigration diversity has been relatively low in the past, the 2013 diversity index of 0.90 more closely resembles that of other high immigration states such as California (0.93), Florida (0.92), and New York (0.95).

- With the continuation of recent trends, Texas can expect to experience not only sustained growth from immigration but also an increasingly diverse immigrant population.

The Census Bureau's Asian World Area of Birth

Many of us tend to think of Asia as the countries comprising the West Pacific Rim. However, the Census Bureau's definition is more encompassing. Following are the countries the Bureau considers to be Asian:

Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, East Timor, Georgia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Korea, Kazakhstan, Kyrgystan, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Macau, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, North Korea, Oman, Pakistan, Paracel Islands, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Spratley Islands, Sri Lanka, Syria, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Yemen, Asia not specified.

(U.S. Census Bureau 2014)

Summary

Since 2005, Texas has outpaced all other states in annual population growth. Almost half of this growth occurred because of people moving to Texas. Close to one in six of these movers immigrated to Texas from another country. Texas, with the nation's second largest population, attracted the second highest number of immigrants between 2005 and 2013. Although immigration to Texas experienced a strong decline during the 2007-2009 recession, it has been on the rise since 2010. This rebound occurred even as Mexican immigration to Texas fell sharply. The recent decline in Mexican immigration has been partially offset by an increase in the number of non-Latin American immigrants, particularly those of Asian-origin. As a consequence, total immigration to Texas in 2013 reached 126,230, the second highest level during the 2005-2013 time period. Given the state's high rate of natural increase, a continuation of recent immigration trends will ensure strong population growth into the foreseeable future. Additionally, the persistence of recent immigration trends will lead to greater population diversity in Texas. In short, recent patterns suggest that 21st century immigration to Texas will increase both the size and the heterogeneity of the state's population.

Notes

[1]The data presented in Figure 1 are only for documented immigrants who receive lawful permanent residence. The years in Figure 1 represent when lawful permanent residence is granted and are not necessarily the year of entry. As a result, the 1991 peak represents a large number of earlier immigrants who were granted lawful permanent residence granted under provisions of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (Schmidley and Gibson 1999).

[2]Between 2005 and 2013, "All Other Countries" contributed a little over 40 percent of the total immigration to Texas. The primary sending places for other countries were: South Central Asia or Asia - Not Specified; Canada; Western Asia - Not Specified; Korea; Philippines; South America - Not Specified; Guatemala; Vietnam; Western Africa - Not Specified; and Eastern Africa - Not Specified.

[3]The Index of Diversity is from Gibbs and Martin's (1962) derivation based on the Simpson Index:

$$D = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{N} p_i^2$$

where ρ is the proportion of total immigrants from a particular country and N is the number of countries. An index value of 0 represents no diversity (perfect homogeneity) and an index value of 1 represents maximum diversity (perfect heterogeneity).

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