

Planning for Demographic Diversity: The Case of Immigrants and Transportation in California



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On the Road to Sustainability: From Research to Practice
California PATH-University Transportation Centers
First Annual Conference

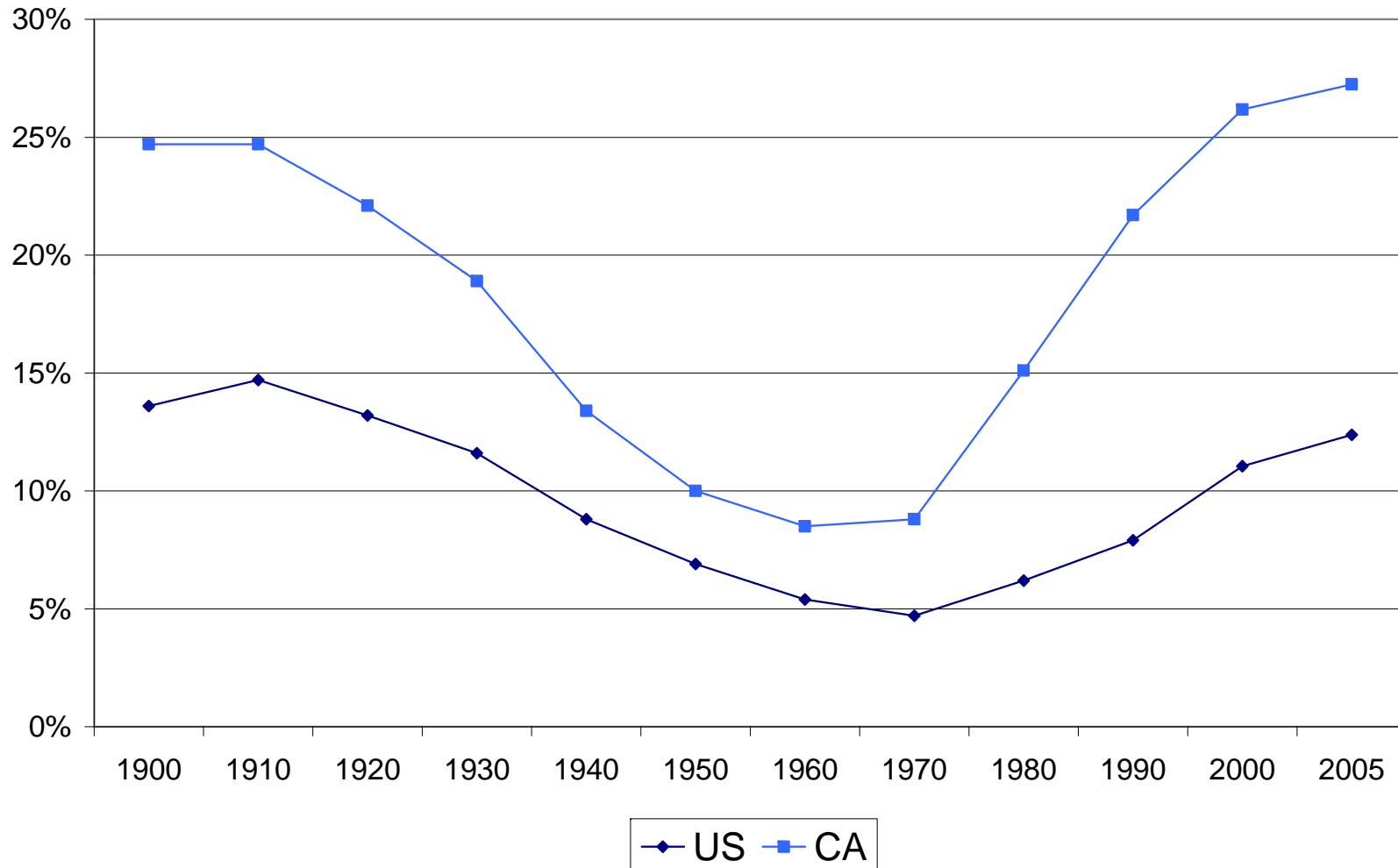


Institute of Transportation Studies

The Project: Understanding Travel Behavior for Diverse Population Groups in California

- **Client:** California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)
- **Purpose:** examine the travel patterns of immigrants in California
- **Investigators:** Susan Handy (UC, Davis), Caroline Rodier and Susan Shaheen (UC, Berkeley), Evelyn Blumenberg (UCLA)
- **Components:** (a) analysis of public data (b) focus groups with Mexican immigrants (c) interviews with staff of community-based organizations

% Foreign-Born – U.S. and CA 1900 to 2005



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

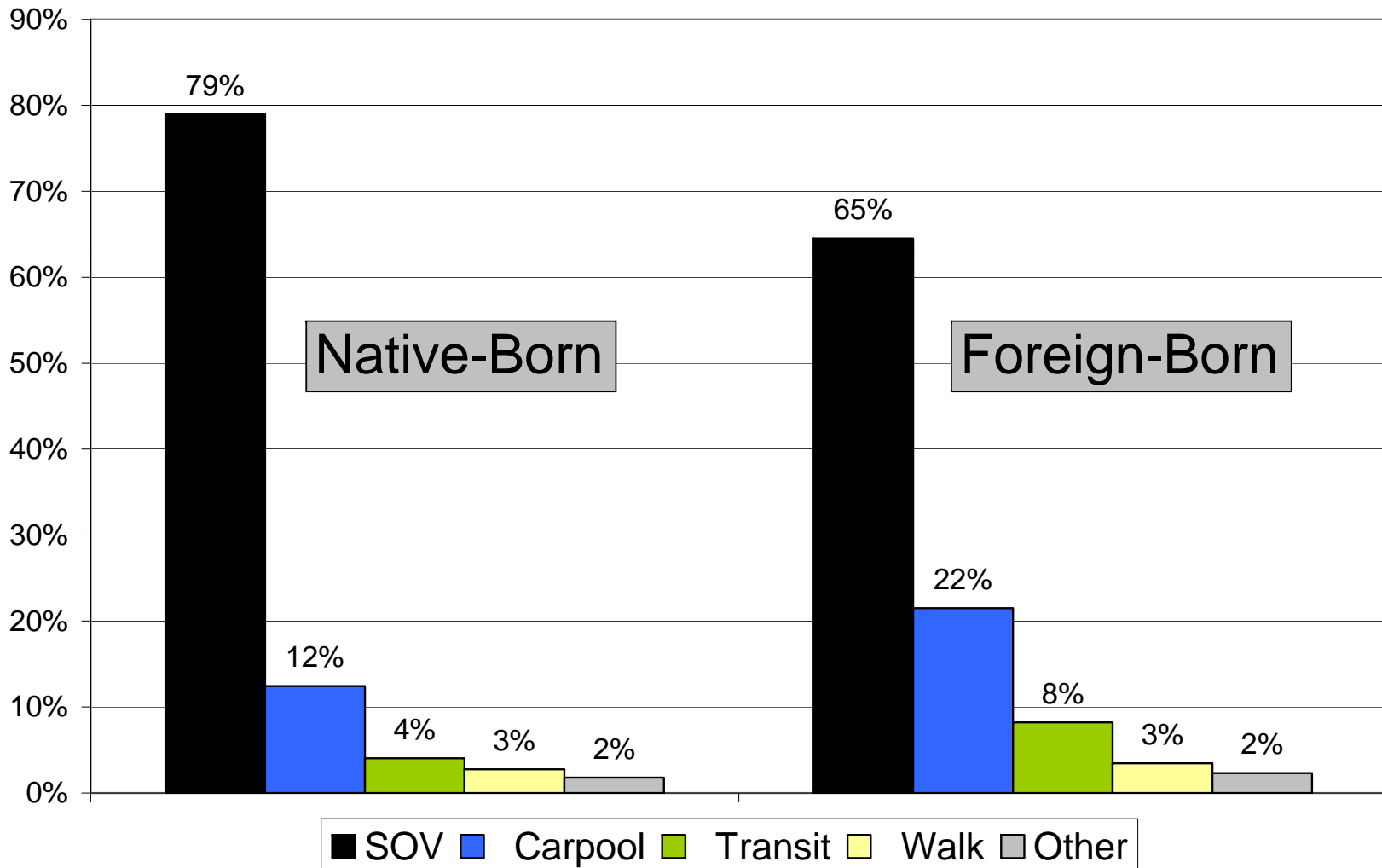
Immigrants, Location, and Travel in California

1. Immigrants and their travel behavior
2. What are the implications of demographic diversity on travel and transportation planning?
3. What should we be doing?

**What do we know about immigrants
and their commute travel?**

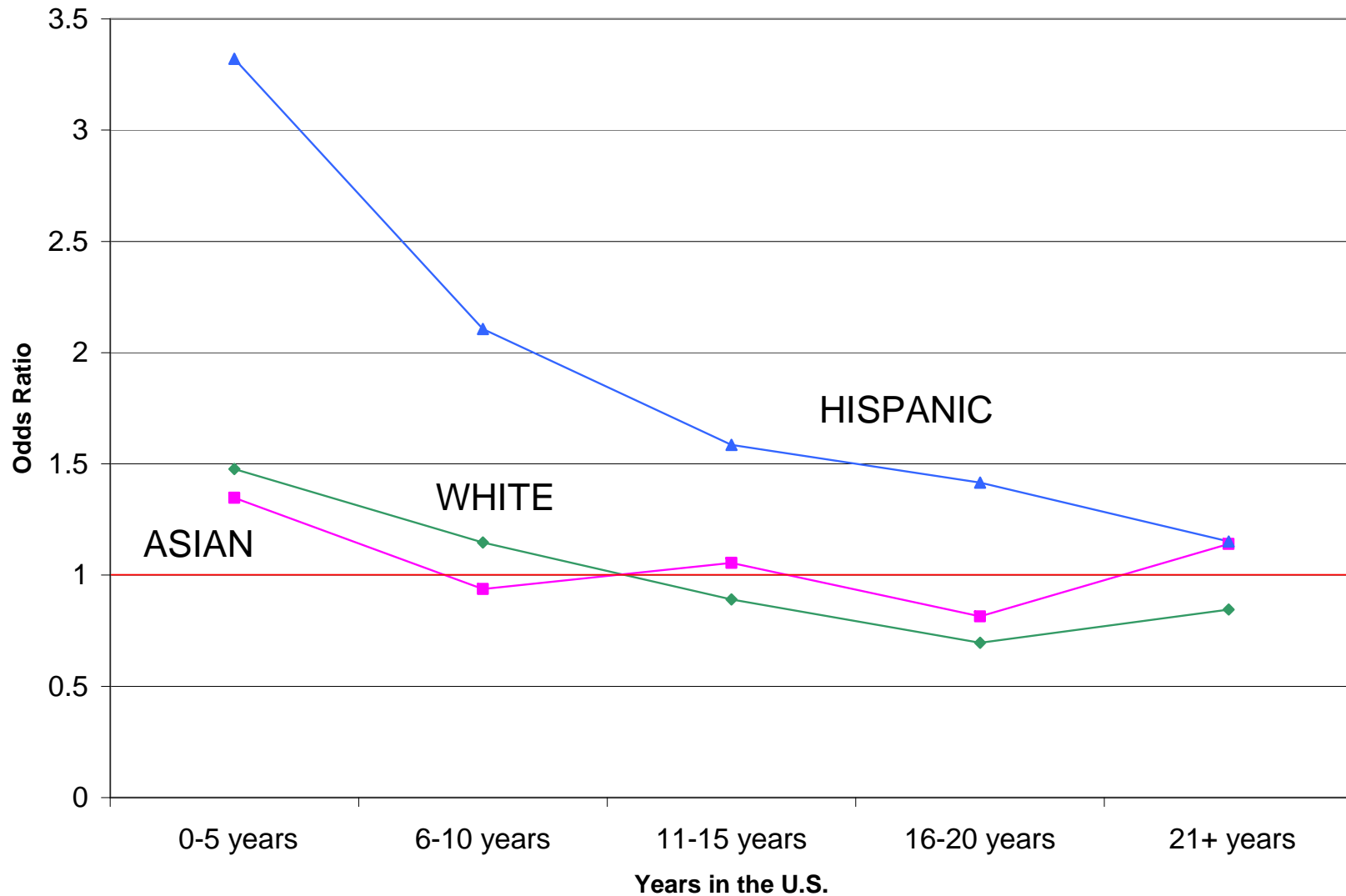
1. Immigrants commute by public transit and by carpool at rates approximately twice that of native-born commuters

Commute Mode by Nativity California (2000)

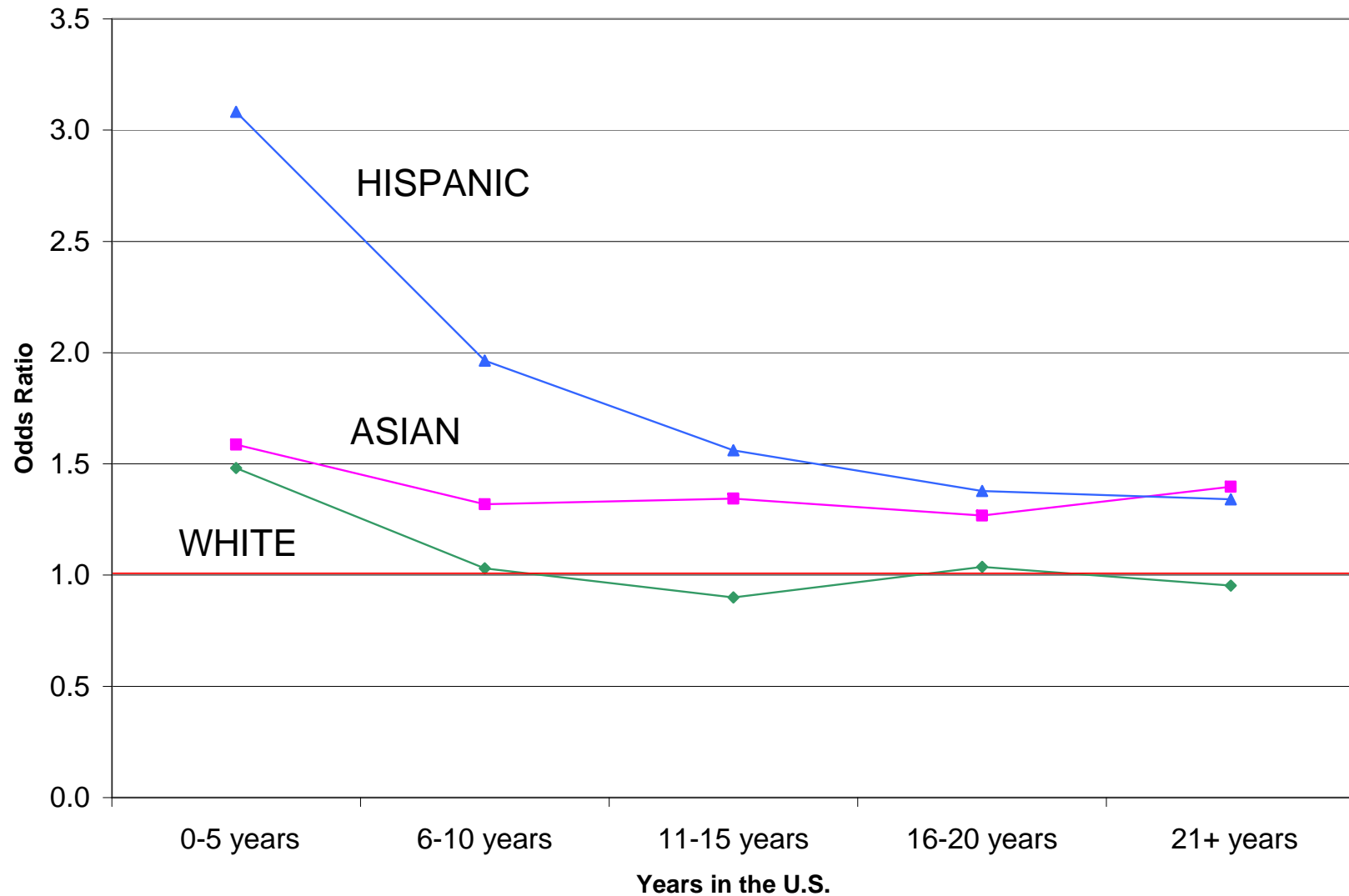


2. With time in the U.S., immigrants assimilate to auto commuting

Relative Odds of Transit Commuting (over auto) Compared to Native-Born Whites

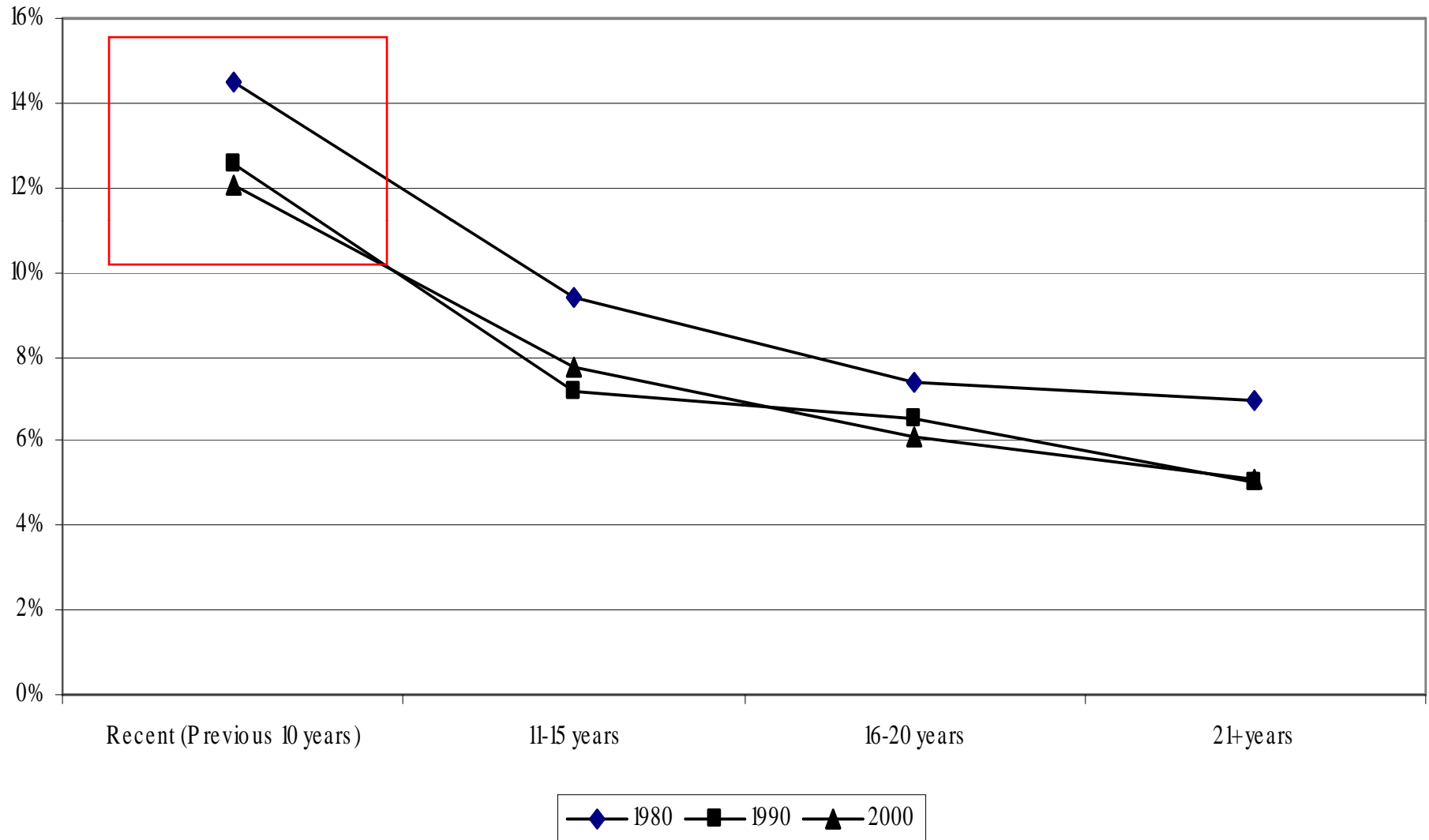


Relative Odds of Carpooling (over Solo Driving) Compared to Native-Born Whites



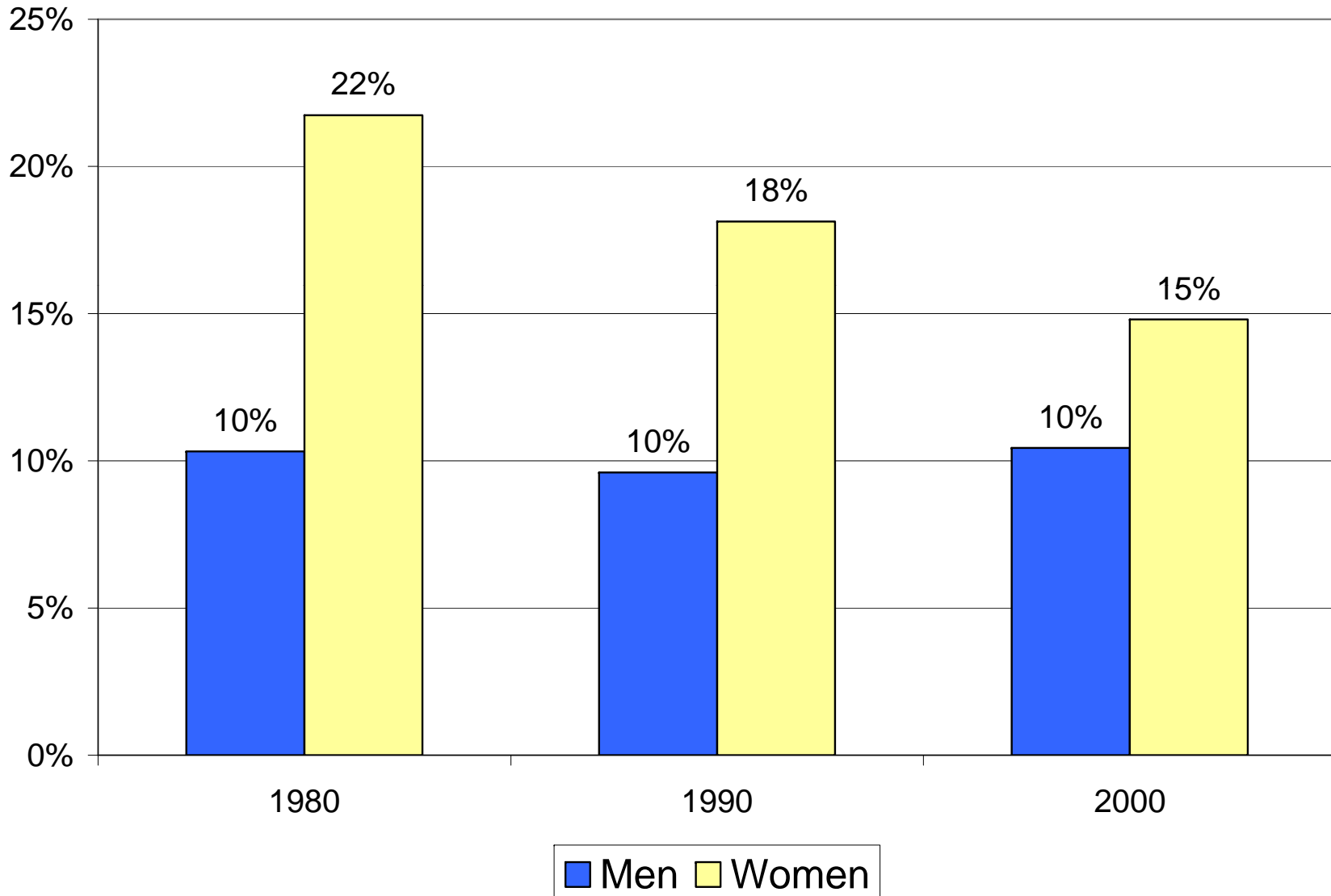
**Recent immigrants today are less reliant
on public transit compared to recent
immigrants 20 years ago**

Transit Commuting by Years in the U.S. 1980-2000



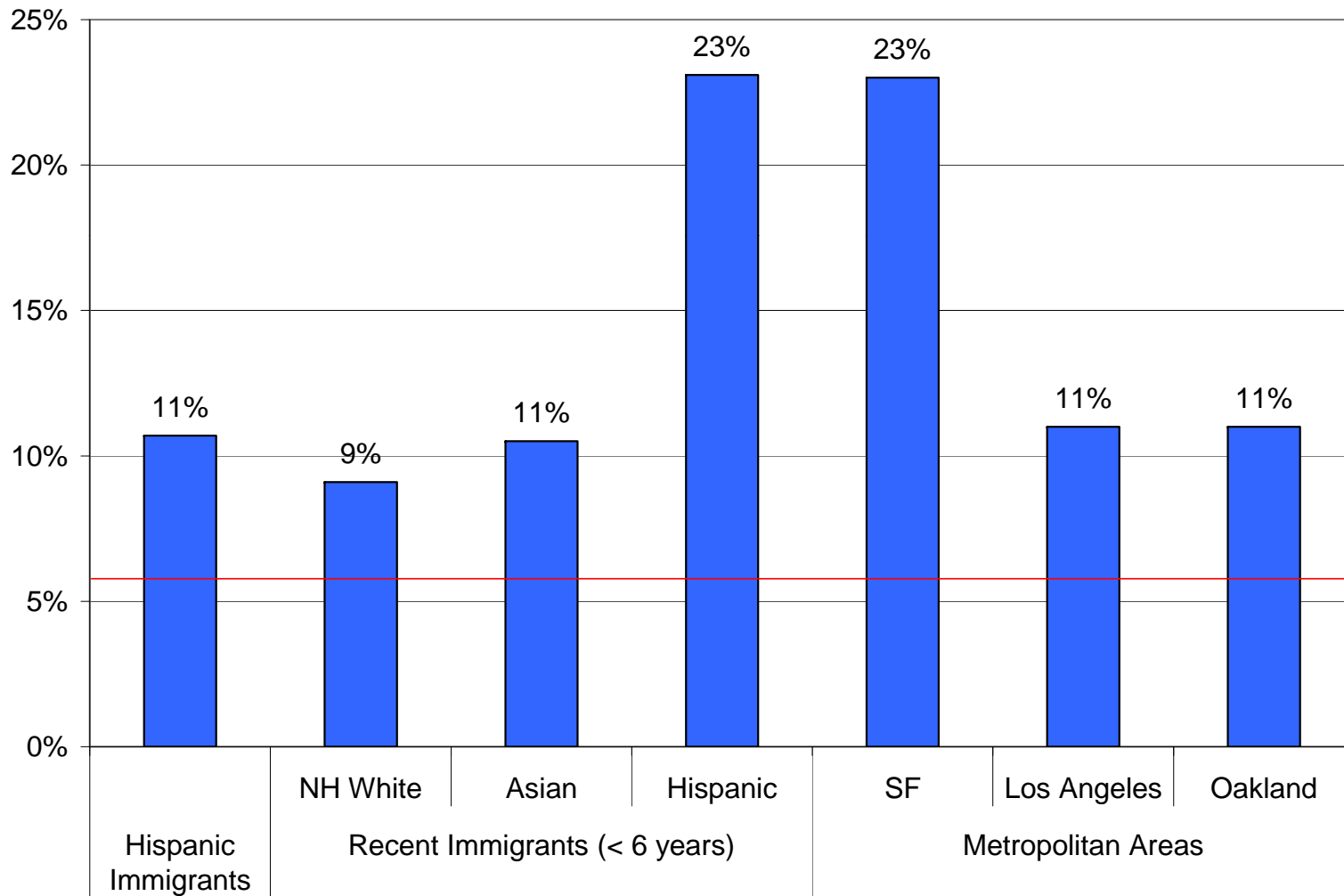
Much of the decline in transit commuting among recent immigrants can be explained by the decline in transit commuting among recent female immigrants

Transit Commuting Among Recent Immigrants by Sex (1980-2000)



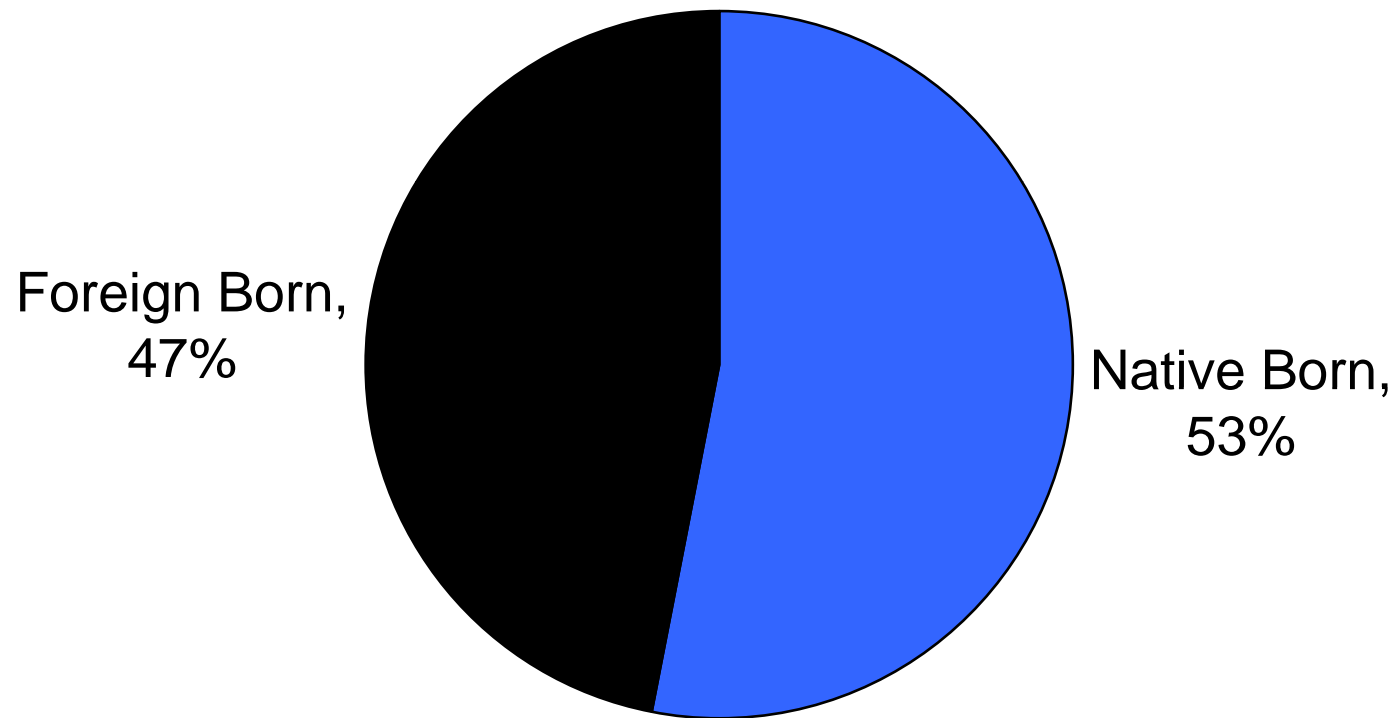
**3. Still, some immigrant groups—
recent immigrants, Hispanic
immigrants, and immigrants living in
particular locations—are heavily reliant
on public transit commuting**

High Transit Usage by Select Immigrant Population Groups

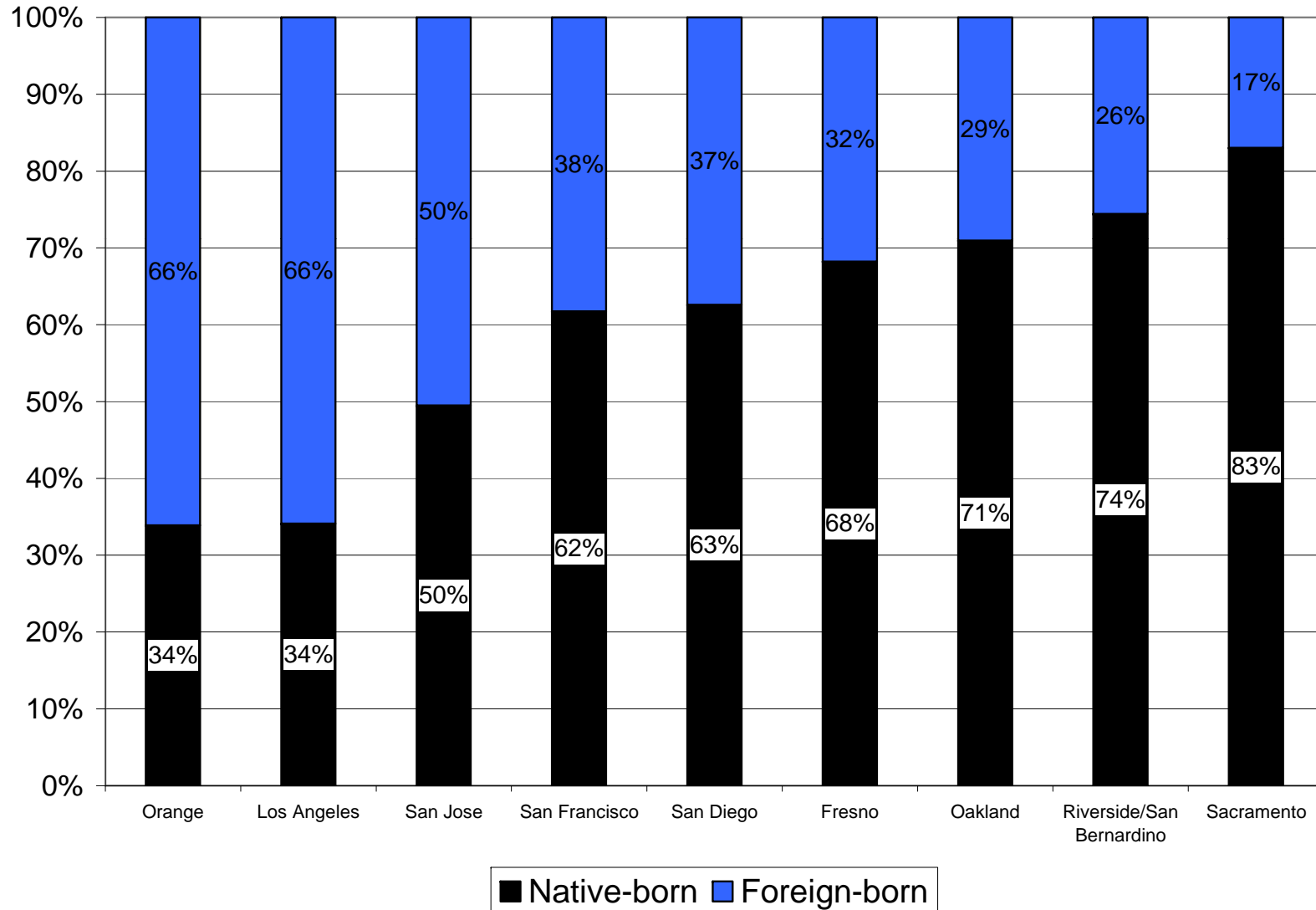


4. Immigrants comprise a disproportionate percentage of transit commuters

Composition of Transit Commuters by Nativity (California, 2000)

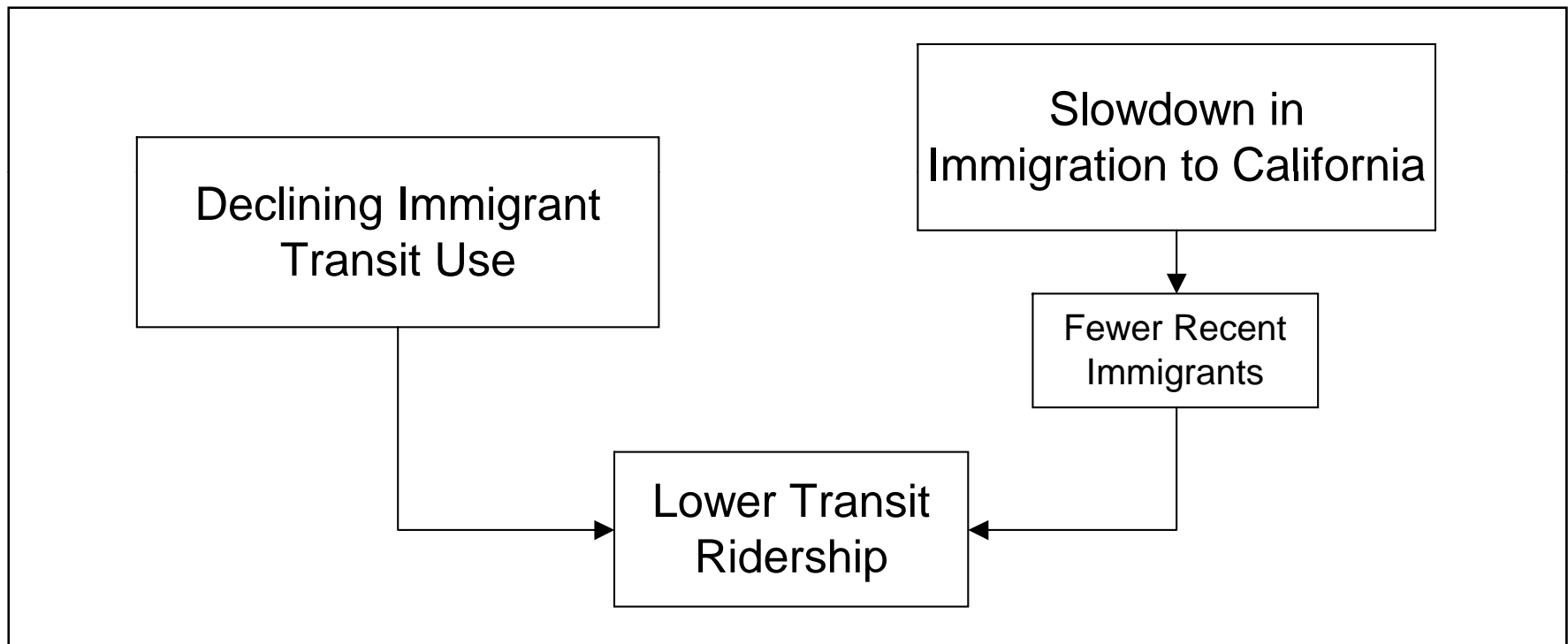


Immigrant Composition of Transit Commuters by Major MSA (2000)

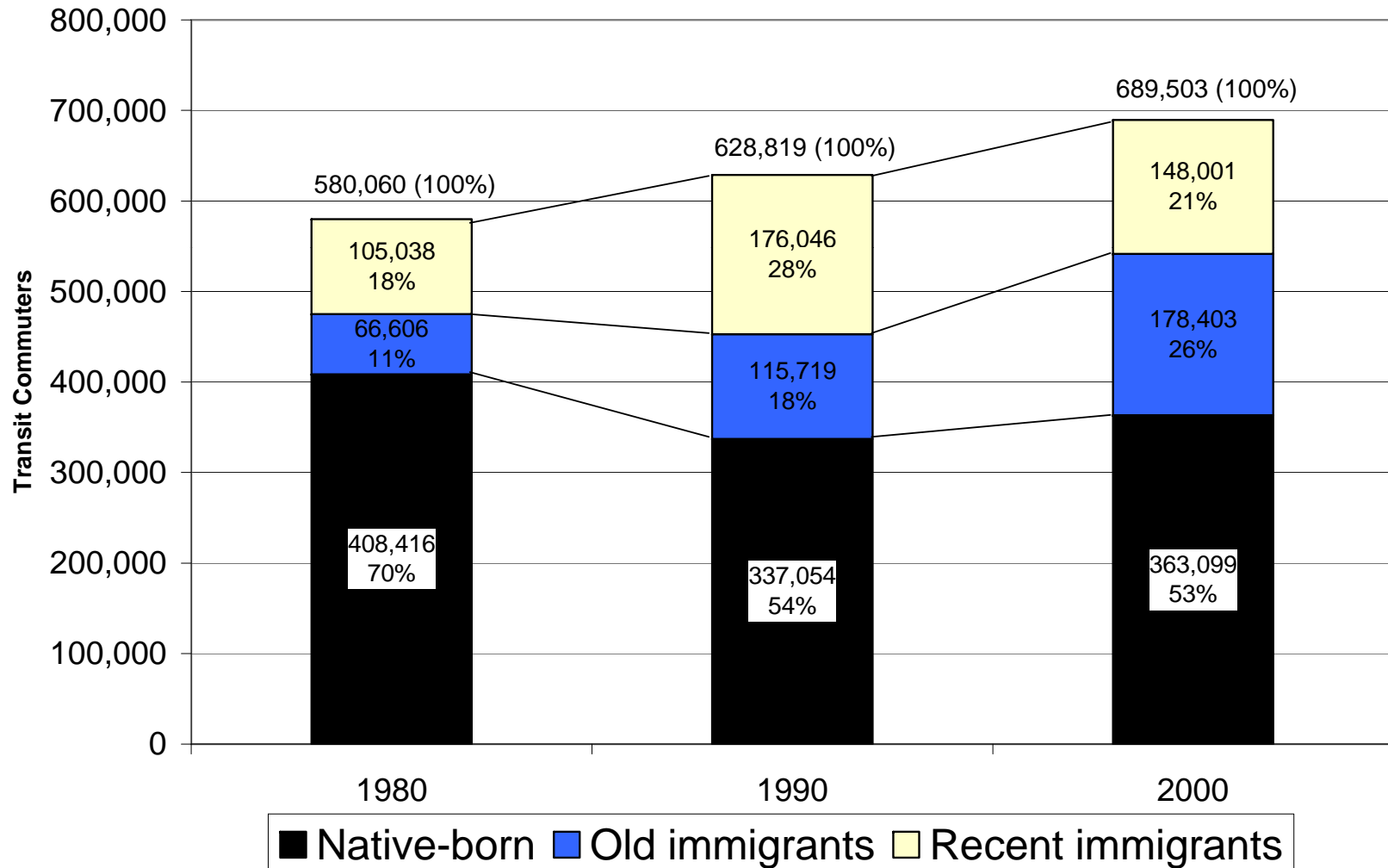


Q: What are the implications of demographic diversity on travel and transportation planning in California?

Trouble for Transit

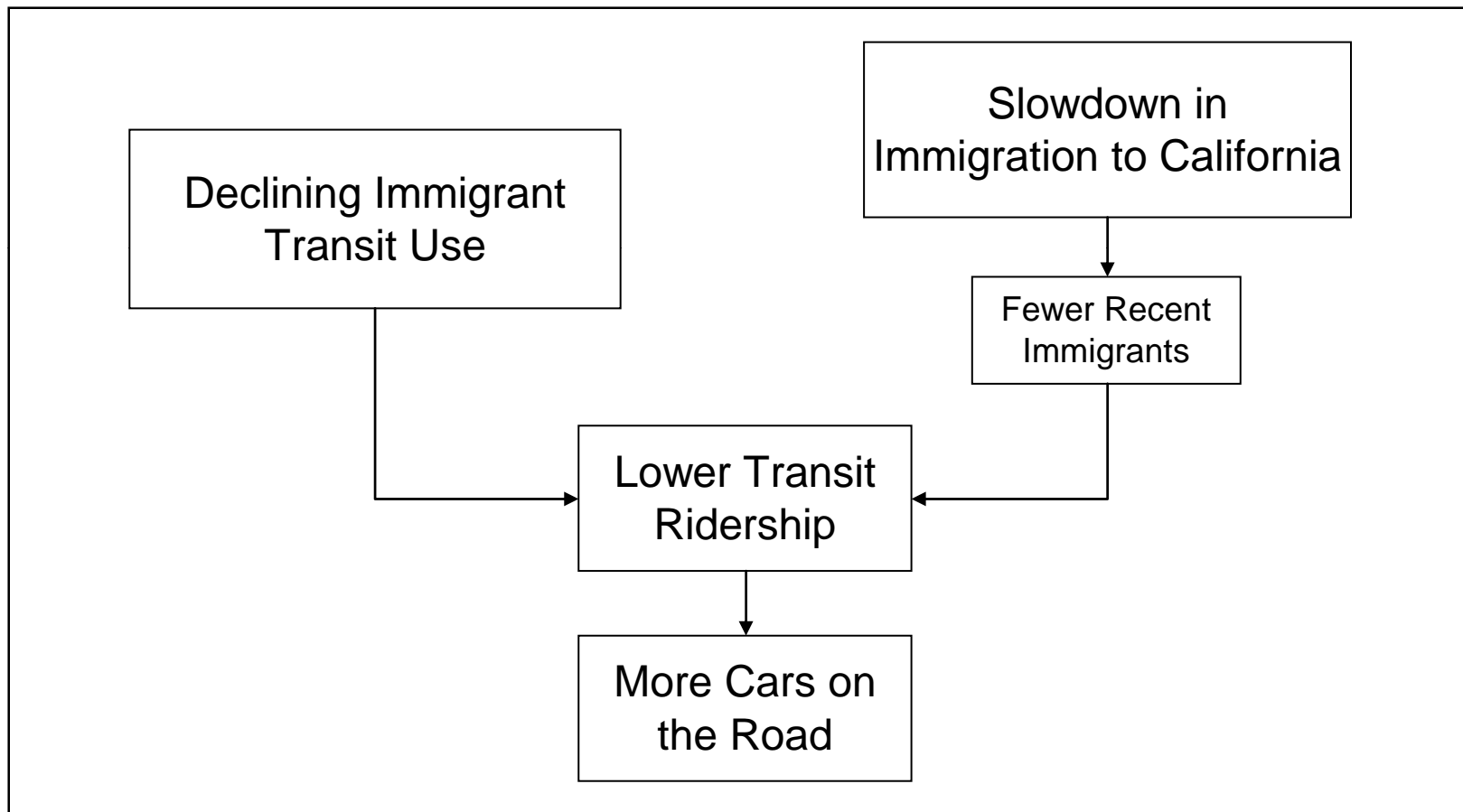


Transit Commuting in California by Nativity, 1980, 1990, 2000

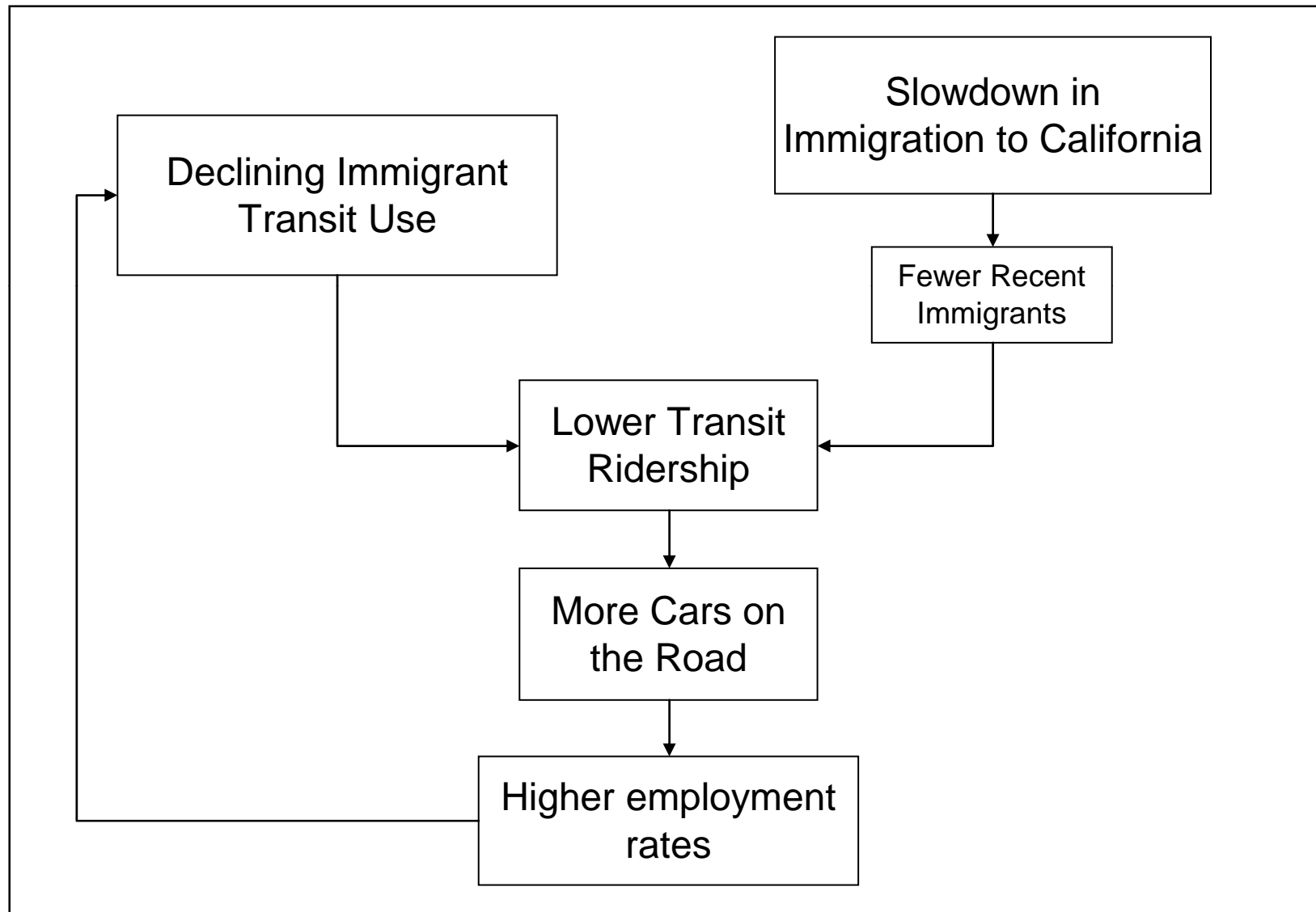


Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 1980, 1990, and 2000, Public Use Microdata Samples, California, 5% samples.

More Cars on the Road



Improved Economic Outcomes



Public Transit

Public transit provides immigrants with an important transitional service; it enables mobility among families that do not know how to drive or do not have the resources to purchase automobiles

What Should We Do?

1. Plan for foreseeable changes in transit ridership;
2. Enhance transit services in immigrant ports of entry;
3. Develop higher development densities making alternative forms of travel more attractive relative to private vehicles; and
4. Make it easier for immigrants to access automobiles.

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Language Services

September 2003


the map™

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- Los Subways y trenes interurbanos de la MTA, y las conexiones con autobuses


MTA Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Peter S. Kalikow, Chairman www.mta.info

New York City Transit Brochure

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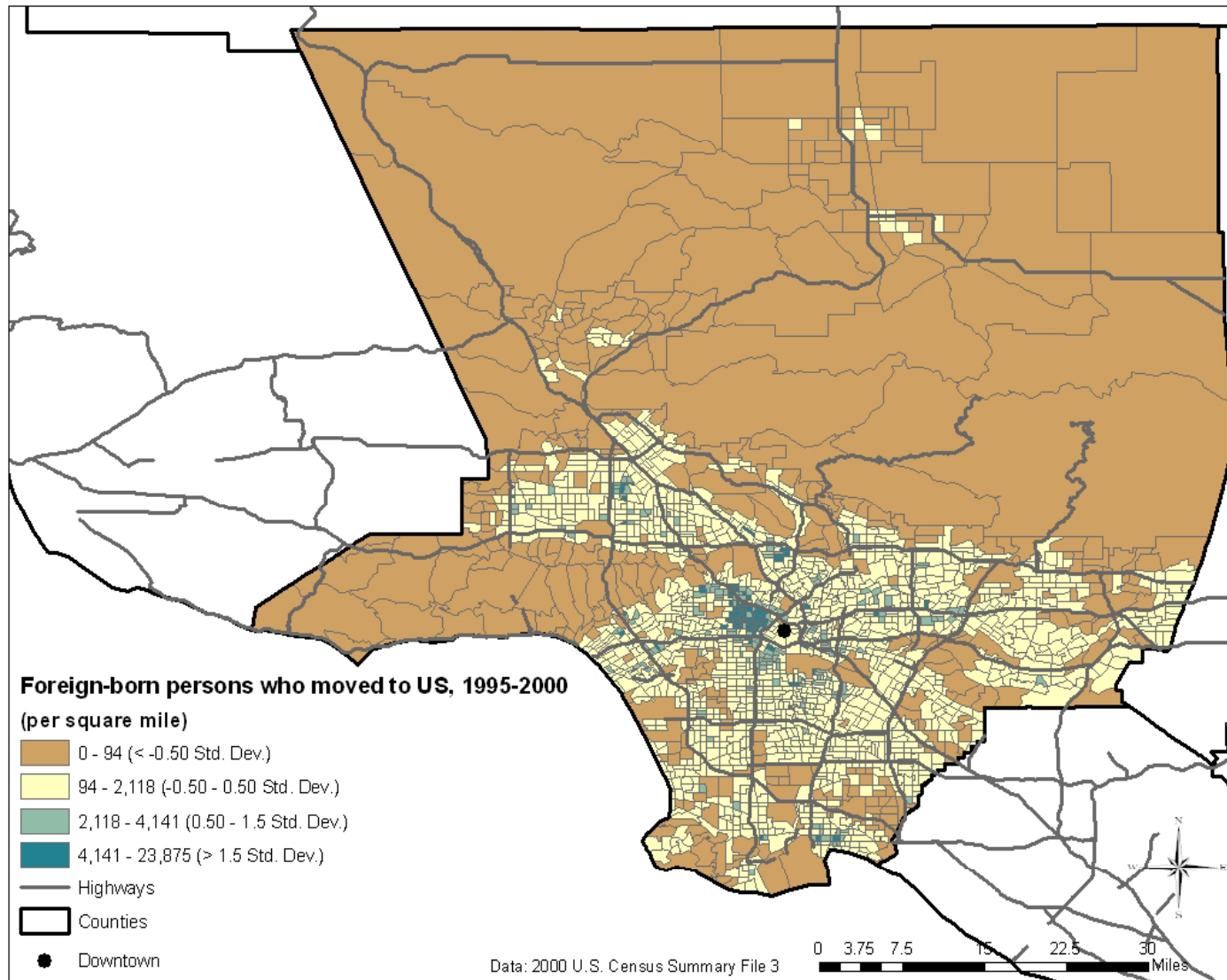
 

Effective August 31, 2003

Plan your trip on trimet.org

Tri-Met, Portland

Recent Immigrants, Los Angeles (2000)



The Chinatown Bus

- Origins: vanpools shuttling Chinese immigrants in New York between Brooklyn and Chinatown
- Today: non-stop service, transporting ethnic Chinese workers from one Chinatown to Chinatowns in other cities and to casinos in Connecticut
- Fares: Discount bus fares



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Coming in November....
A CD-Rom for Putting Research into Practice
www.innovativemobility.org/immigrant_groups/



For more information:

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ABOUT
KEY FINDINGS ON
IMMIGRANT TRAVEL
FACTS, MAPS AND FIGURES
COMMUNITIES SPEAK OUT
STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE
IMMIGRANT MOBILITY
OPPORTUNITIES FOR
FUTURE RESEARCH
LIBRARY

**TRAVEL BEHAVIOR
OF IMMIGRANT GROUPS
IN CALIFORNIA**
September 2007

www.innovativemobility.org/immigrant_groups/

The image shows the cover of a report titled "TRAVEL BEHAVIOR OF IMMIGRANT GROUPS IN CALIFORNIA" published in September 2007. The cover features a dark grey background with a white table of contents on the left side. The table of contents lists several sections: "ABOUT", "KEY FINDINGS ON IMMIGRANT TRAVEL", "FACTS, MAPS AND FIGURES", "COMMUNITIES SPEAK OUT", "STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE IMMIGRANT MOBILITY", "OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUTURE RESEARCH", and "LIBRARY". The title and publication date are prominently displayed in the center-right of the cover. At the bottom of the cover, the website address "www.innovativemobility.org/immigrant_groups/" is provided.