

Migration Trends:
Analyzing the Top 10 U.S. States with the Highest Immigrant Inflow

Allen Xavier Hernandez, Laleh Saadatmand, Samuel Akinboyo, Vinay Kumar

EPPS 6356.501 Fall 24

The University of Texas at Dallas

Dr. Karl Ho

Introduction

In 2010, the United States had almost one in five of the 220 million international migrants from all around the world. This huge number proves the country's importance regarding global migration trends (UN Population Division 2013). Immigration in America has defined its history and structured economies, culture, and social life. From the beginning of the 20th century, United States became a land of dreams for immigrants who came in search of safety from devastation and economic uplift along with better living conditions. The waves of migration have not only promoted and caused an industrial impact but also have enriched the country in terms of culture and innovation abilities (Peri 2009). Between the years 2010 and 2022, migration trends in the U.S. underwent radical changes owing to economic and policy transformations as well as state-specific factors. Historically, states such as California, Texas, Florida, and New York have served as leading destinations for immigrants because of their successful economic and extensive immigrant networks. However, other states such as Arizona, Georgia, and Massachusetts have emerged as prominent destinations for broader socioeconomic advancement. This study examines immigration patterns in the top 10 U.S. states for immigrant settlement—Arizona, California, Texas, Florida, New York, New Jersey, Illinois, Massachusetts, Georgia, and Washington—analyzing the socioeconomic factors and policies shaping these trends.

These states show the many factors among which immigrants reported their reasons for settling down, including economic opportunities, affordable housing, access to high-quality public services, and immigration-friendly policies at the state level. Realizing these key factors gives us a perfect perspective on assessing the impact of immigration on local economies and communities and its broader implications for the nation.

Historical Context of Migration in the U.S.:

The leading causes of immigration to the United States have been different reasons, such as economic globalization, wars, conflicts, and environmental challenges. In the late 20th century and early 21st century, the foreign-born population within the U.S. increased, especially immigrants, which usually drove productivity and innovation for various sectors (NIH, 2016; Peri, 2009). Immigrants contributed a lot to the U.S. labor market, filling gaps in high- and low-skilled occupations, fostering economic specialization, and promoting technological advancement (HHRG-118-JU01-2024). These are among some significant reasons that immigration to the United States continues and keeps transforming its economic and social evolution.

Socioeconomic and Demographic factors

Immigration to the United States has been influenced by a wide variety of socioeconomic factors and policy decisions. Employment opportunities, housing affordability, access to education and healthcare, and the legal landscape are considered as the most significant factors of migration causes to the land of the United States.

1. Employment and Wage Levels

California, Texas, and Florida remain significant states of immigrant attraction because they have such diverse economies, but mostly because they offer relatively easy access to jobs in technology, agriculture, services, and other sectors. Findings have shown that immigration increases overall employment without replacing native workers and enhances productivity through task specialization and innovation (Peri 2009; HHRG-118-JU01-2024). This applies primarily to states that have industries with growing demand for both skilled and unskilled labor.

2. Housing Affordability

Housing affordability can greatly influence settlement patterns. States like Arizona and Georgia, for instance, attract migrants due to their less expensive housing as compared to the New York metropolitan area; they have become the main destinations for immigrant populations, demonstrating the difference in living conditions between these states and such costly urban centers (A.P, 2023). These disparities in housing affordability influence the broader economic trends that guide migration shifts.

3. Accessibility of Education and Healthcare

Education and health care are very important reasons for immigrant families to move from one area to another. Good public services in states like Massachusetts and Washington attract longterm immigrants who make such decision to move for the welfare and opportunities offered to their children (NIH, 2016). Access to these health and educational services not only helps individual families but is also supported to develop at the community level.

4. Legal Status and Policy

Both federal and state immigration policies mainly play a decisive role in shaping migration trends. For instance, one of the important policies is the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy, introduced in 2012, which provides temporary protection from deportation and work authorization for certain eligible undocumented immigrants who came to the United States as children. Indeed, it is one of the major hallmarks of this nation's immigration history and is often referred to as the "Dreamers." Some of the conditions include a clean criminal record, continuous residence in the United States since childhood, and commitment to educational or military service (HHRG-118-JU01-2024). DACA has helped integrate young immigrants into the labor force, giving them educational opportunities while allowing them to contribute to their communities. States with policies supportive of DACA recipients, such as California and Illinois, tend to see higher inflows of young, skilled immigrants, while states with more restrictive immigration

provisions will usually deter immigrants from relocating to these areas. Such policies significantly impact immigrant settlement patterns and contribute to the broader socioeconomic dynamics of migration in the U.S (NIH 2016; HHRG-118-JU01-2024).

5. Urban vs. Rural Patterns

Most immigrants formerly find their way into some urban centers, such as Los Angeles, New York City, and Miami, where the economic fortunes combined with established networks provide support to immigrants. However, increasing living costs in big cities flow immigrants to suburban and rural areas, such as Georgia and Arizona, where new housing and emerging job opportunities are available in the less populated areas (A.P 2023, International Migrants Attracted to Urban Counties). This is one of the factors which the immigration settlement patterns change over the years in the United States.

Literature Review:

In 2010, out of the 220 million international migrants in the world defined as individuals residing outside their country of origin, nearly 20% were living in the United States (UN Population Division, 2013). Nonetheless, immigration is probably the most distinctive characteristic of American identity. Immigration has significantly influenced the demographic growth, ethnic variety, culture, and character of American society. Recent immigrants adjust and integrate into American society, just as quickly as previous waves of immigrants. Integration is not immediate for adult foreign-born; the process is gradually ongoing. For their native-born children and those who immigrate to the United States as young children, assimilation occurs naturally through immersion in American educational institutions and culture.

Welcoming large numbers of immigrants has both costs and benefits. The costs are immediately obvious, whilst some benefits take further time to become obvious. Therefore, public and private institutions such as schools, hospitals, and social groups may need to provide translation services and other specialized initiatives for newcomers. The current presence of immigrants has declined compared to the early 20th century. Throughout most of the 19th and 20th centuries, foreign-born individuals comprised approximately 14 to 15 percent of the American populace, in recent decades, the resurgence of immigration has led to a significant increase in the foreign-born population, at over 40 million. (Charles Hirscham, 2014).

The United States is a competitive society that prioritizes growth and achievement, a characteristic partly shaped by the influx of immigrants, which has caused the nation to emphasize talents and abilities over social status. It is essential to note that American institutions, including schools, universities, businesses, and athletic organizations, are meritocratic and pursue brilliance from any source. The evaluation of the socio-economic integration of immigrants reveals that they and their kids are recognized for several accomplishments, including the Nobel Prize, science, and other contributors to the creative arts, thereby transforming the face of American art and culture. Charles Hirscham (2014) concludes that there is much evidence that immigrants positively contribute to the American economy and society. Although, there is little evidence that immigrants harm the wages and employment of native-born Americans.

Immigrant Demographics

In 2019, the United States was home to over 44.9 million immigrants, making it the highest number ever recorded in U.S. history based on U.S. Census data. Immigrants made up 13.7 percent of the total population that year, slightly below the historical peak of 14.8 percent recorded back in 1890. (Census 2020).

Again In 2019, Mexicans constituted the majority group of immigrants in the United States, with 24 percent of the overall foreign-born population. This represented a decrease from 30% in 2000, indicating changing immigration trends over time. China, and India constituted the subsequent largest demographics, each with approximately 6% of the immigrant population. (Migration Policy Institute, 2022).

Additional significant countries of origin comprised the Philippines 5% along El Salvador, Vietnam, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic, each accounting for 3%. Guatemala and Korea constituted 2 percent of the entire immigrant population. Certain immigrant populations have experienced significant expansion in the last ten years. Among populations exceeding 100,000 in the U.S. in 2019, Venezuelans had the most substantial growth, increasing by 153 percent from 2010 to 2019 (Migration Policy Institute, 2023).

In 2019, the states with the largest immigrant populations was California, home to 10.6 million immigrants, followed by Texas with 5 million, Florida with 4.5 million, New York with 4.4 million, and New Jersey with 2.1 million. These states continue to serve as major hubs for immigrant settlement, reflecting their economic opportunities, established immigrant communities, and diverse cultural landscapes. (Cecilia and Jeanne 2022).

The Effect of Immigration on the Economy.

The impact of immigration on the U.S. economy and labor market has been a subject of ongoing debate among policymakers and researchers. While some policymakers have linked immigration to slowing wage growth for Americans since the 1970s, most academic studies indicate that immigration has little long-term effect on native-born wages. Instead, immigration has been found to foster innovation, create a more educated and specialized workforce, and improve job-skill alignment, ultimately enhancing overall economic productivity (Pen Wharton Budget model 2016).

From an economic perspective, immigration has a net positive impact on federal, state, and local budgets. Many immigrants contribute more in taxes over their lifetimes than they consume in public services. However, the distribution of these fiscal benefits is uneven. In states with large populations of less educated and low-income immigrants, native-born residents often bear higher tax burdens due to increased demand for public services such as education. This disparity reflects the broader challenge of balancing immediate costs with long-term economic gains.

Contrary to the common belief that immigrants take jobs from native-born workers, evidence shows that immigrants often complement the native-born labor force rather than compete directly with it. They tend to work in roles that differ from those of native-born workers, reducing direct competition in the labor market and minimizing downward pressure on wages. (Penn Wharton Budget Model 2016). Hence, immigrants expand domestic economic demand by spending their earnings on housing, goods, and services, which stimulates job creation in industries such as construction, retail, and transportation.

Immigration status in the United States

Legal Immigration in the United States

The United States attracts the largest number of immigrants in the world, who join the fabric of U.S. society through avenues such as citizenship, becoming legal permanent residents (LPRs), or seeking humanitarian protection.

In fiscal year 2020, slightly more than 707,000 immigrants became lawful permanent residents (LPRs, also known as green-card holders), the lowest number since 2003 and the first time the figure dropped below 1 million since 2013 when 991,000 people obtained green cards. The number of new LPRs in 2020 was approximately 324,000 lower than in 2019 (a decline of 31 percent), and

represented a decrease of 476,000 (a 40 percent decline) from the recent high of 1.2 million in FY 2016. Much of the decline in new LPRs in FY 2020 is due to the fewer numbers granted to individuals living outside the country, as a result of processing and other delays during the COVID19 pandemic, (Cecilia and Jeanne 2022).

Illegal Immigration in the United States.

In 2008, majority of unauthorized immigrants in the United States come from neighboring countries, with 59% from Mexico, 15% from Central America and the Caribbean, and 7% from South America, primarily entering through the U.S.-Mexico border. The remaining 19% are from Asia (11%), Canada and Europe (4%), and other countries (4%), with many entering on temporary visas and overstaying. however, over 80% of unauthorized immigrants originating from the Western Hemisphere, border management remains a key focus of U.S. immigration policy (Gordon H. Hamson 2009).

There were an estimated 8.3 million unauthorized immigrants in the U.S. labor force, up from 6.3 million in 2003 but slightly below the 2007 peak of 8.5 million. Most work in low-skilled occupations due to their immigration status and limited education—nearly half lack a high school diploma. Unauthorized immigrants make up significant portions of labor in industries dependent on low-skilled workers, including 25% of farm workers, 19% of building and maintenance staff, and 17% of construction labor. Their departure would disrupt labor-intensive industries and regions heavily dependent on their workforce, though the economy could adapt over time (Pew Research Center, 2009).

Theoretical Framework:

Ravenstein's Laws of Migration Theory

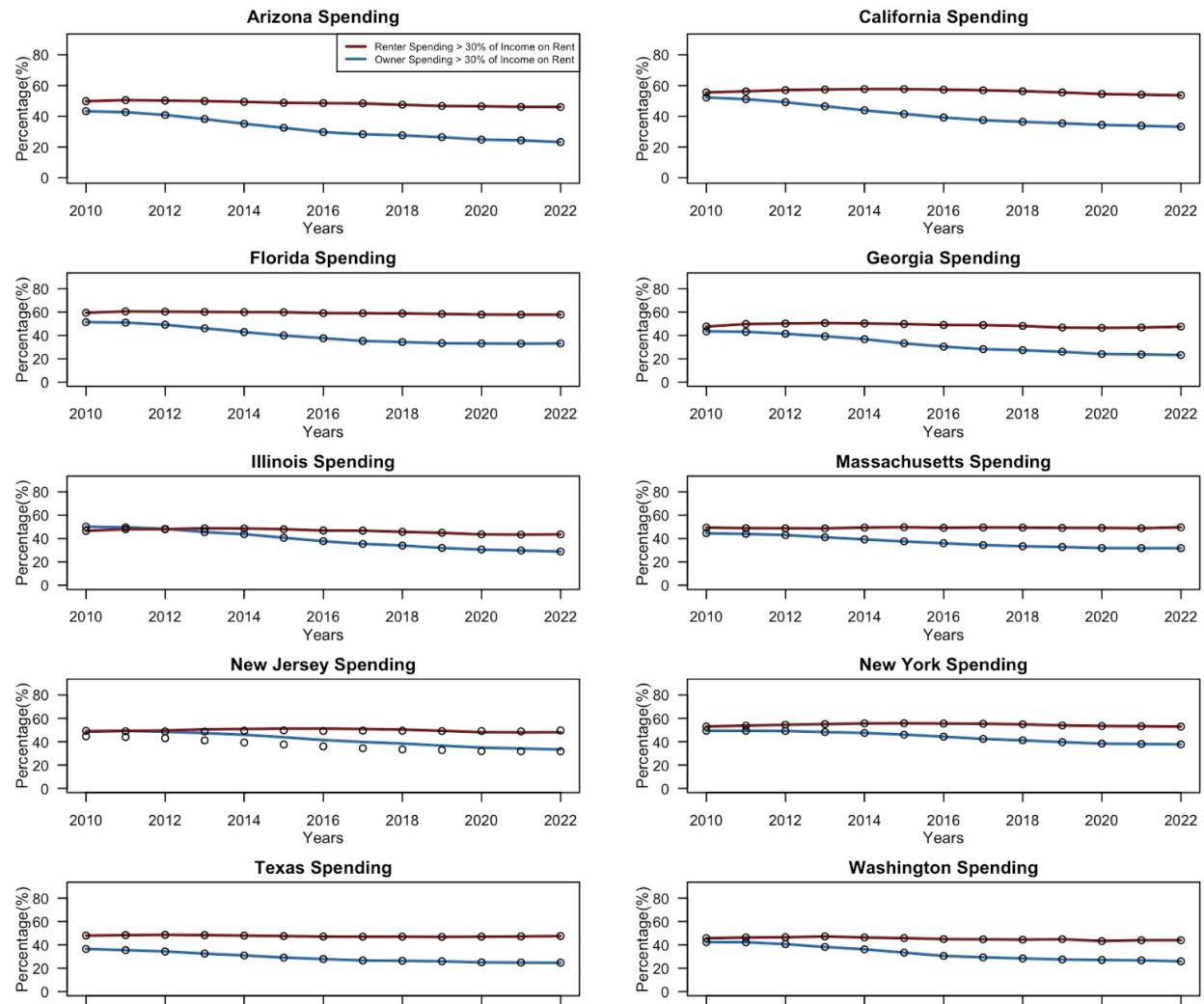
Ravenstein's law of migration theory helps us to understand migration patterns through various factors such as distance, economic opportunities, urban attractions, and how immigrants are drawn to these metropolitan regions with lots of social and economic opportunities in states like California, Texas, New York, New Jersey, Florida, etc.

Methods:

This study utilized a combination of time series analysis, web scraping using API to examine immigration trends in the United States from 2010 to 2022. Time series analysis provided a year-by-year breakdown of immigration flows, using data from reliable sources such as the U.S. Census Bureau and Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to explore demographic, economic, and policy-driven changes. Web scraping was employed to efficiently gather detailed datasets on immigration, employment, and socioeconomic variables from credible platforms, with automated tools ensuring accuracy and thorough data cleaning.

Results

Graph 1: Spending on Rent by Renters and Owners



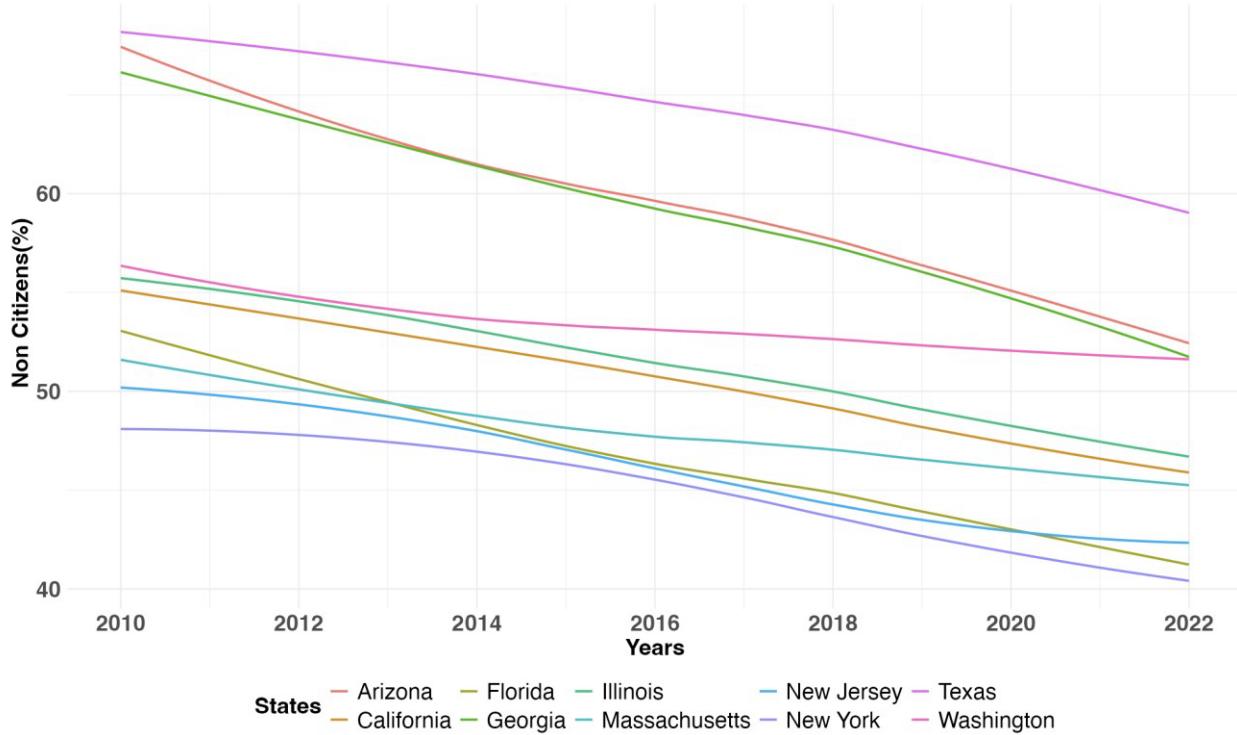
This graph illustrates the expenditure on rent by renters and homeowners across multiple U.S. states from 2010 to 2022, highlighting a substantial and persistent disparity in financial obligation. Renters consistently allocate a greater proportion of their income to rent compared to homeowners. This trend has remained consistent over the years, indicating that the economic challenges confronting renters have not substantially diminished, regardless of any economic advancements.

or policy modifications that may have transpired. The consistent stability of this trend over the years indicates that fluctuations in the broader economy, including income growth or alterations in the housing market, have not proportionately benefited renters.

In each represented state, tenants allocate significantly more than the advised maximum of 30% of their income to rent, underscoring a persistent issue in housing affordability. The substantial cost of housing undermines renters' financial stability and constrains their capacity to save and invest in other domains of personal and economic development. Homeowners, despite allocating a substantial portion of their income to housing, consistently indicate lower percentages than renters, implying they are typically more insulated from the volatility of housing market fluctuations.

The graph highlights the necessity for specific policy measures to tackle rental affordability. The ongoing elevated rent burden for tenants necessitates a comprehensive strategy that includes rent regulation, housing subsidies, and the advancement of affordable housing projects. Such measures are essential for the ongoing financial disparity between renters and homeowners, perpetuating the economic strain on a significant segment of the population. This visual representation highlights the essential areas where housing policy should concentrate to attain more equitable economic results.

Graph 2: Foreign-Born non-Citizens



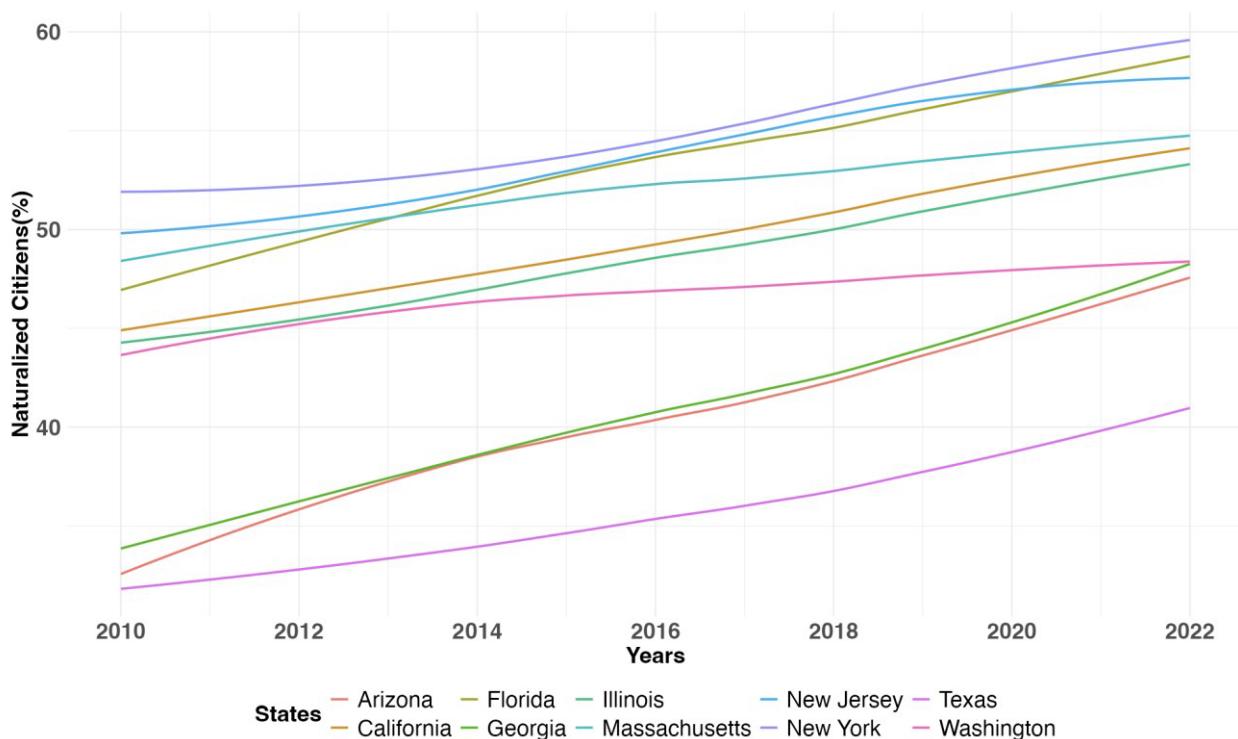
The graph illustrating the proportion of foreign-born non-citizens across multiple states from 2010 to 2022 indicates a steady decrease in all represented states. This trend may indicate that several underlying factors influence the non-citizen immigrant population in these areas. The steady decline could be attributed to the increased number of immigrants obtaining citizenship, indicating successful integration into the US societal framework and more powerful naturalization processes. This trend may mean harsher immigration policies or declining new non-citizen immigrants to these states.

It is significant to note that although all states exhibit a declining trend, the initial and final points differ, suggesting diverse demographic characteristics and potentially varying state policies or economic prospects that attract or prevent non-citizen residents. States such as California and New

York, recognized for their substantial immigrant demographics, start at higher percentages yet follow the declining national trend. This may reflect both states' immigrant policies and political climates.

The reduction in non-citizen proportions may yield considerable socio-economic consequences for these states. A declining non-citizen population may affect labor markets, particularly in sectors that typically hire more immigrants. Moreover, alterations in state demographics may influence electoral politics and educational systems. This graph offers a clear visual depiction of evolving immigration patterns, facilitating a more profound examination of these trends' underlying causes and consequences at both state and national levels.

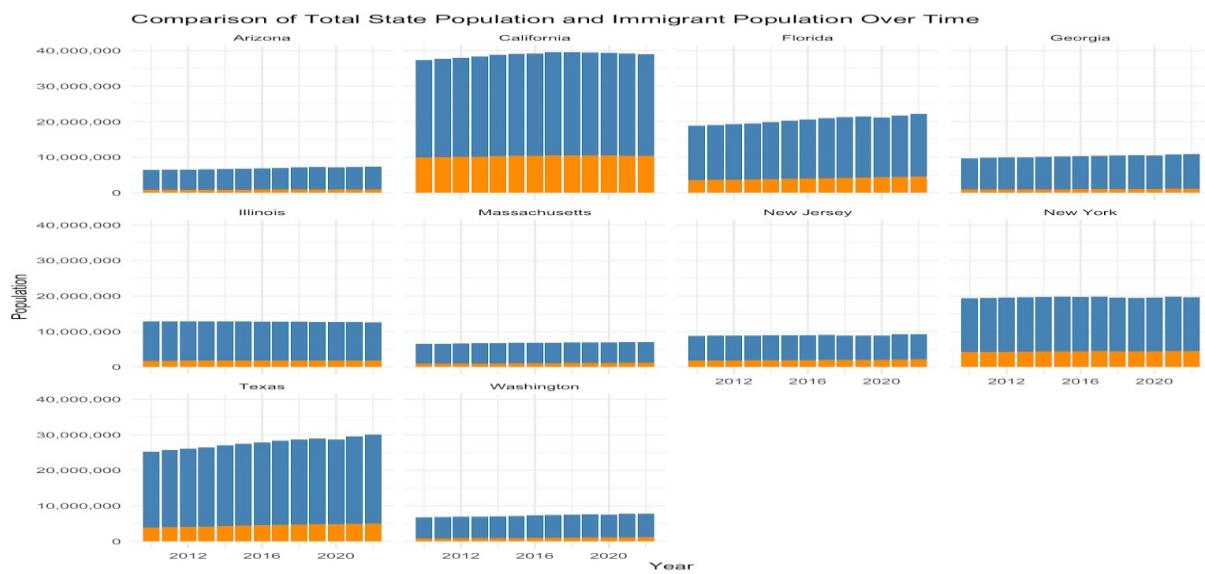
Graph 3: Foreign-Born Naturalized Citizens



This graph illustrates the percentage of naturalized foreign-born citizens in various states from

2010 to 2022, revealing a significant upward trend that underscores an increasing portion of the foreign-born population choosing U.S. citizenship. This pattern is observable across numerous states, signifying an ongoing trend rather than separate instances. Several variables may be contributing to the rise in naturalization rates. In the beginning, increased initiatives by local and national organizations to provide resources and assistance for naturalization will likely boost these rates. Demographic changes also play a significant role. As immigrants who meet residency requirements age, many choose for naturalization to enhance employment opportunities, engage in voting, or access benefits exclusive to citizens. Political transformations, encompassing disputes regarding immigration reform and citizenship rights, may also drive naturalization among foreignborn residents. Also, the consistent increase in states with significant immigrant populations, including California, New York, and Texas, indicates powerful community networks that assist new citizens. These states possess robust infrastructure and community support that enhance naturalization.

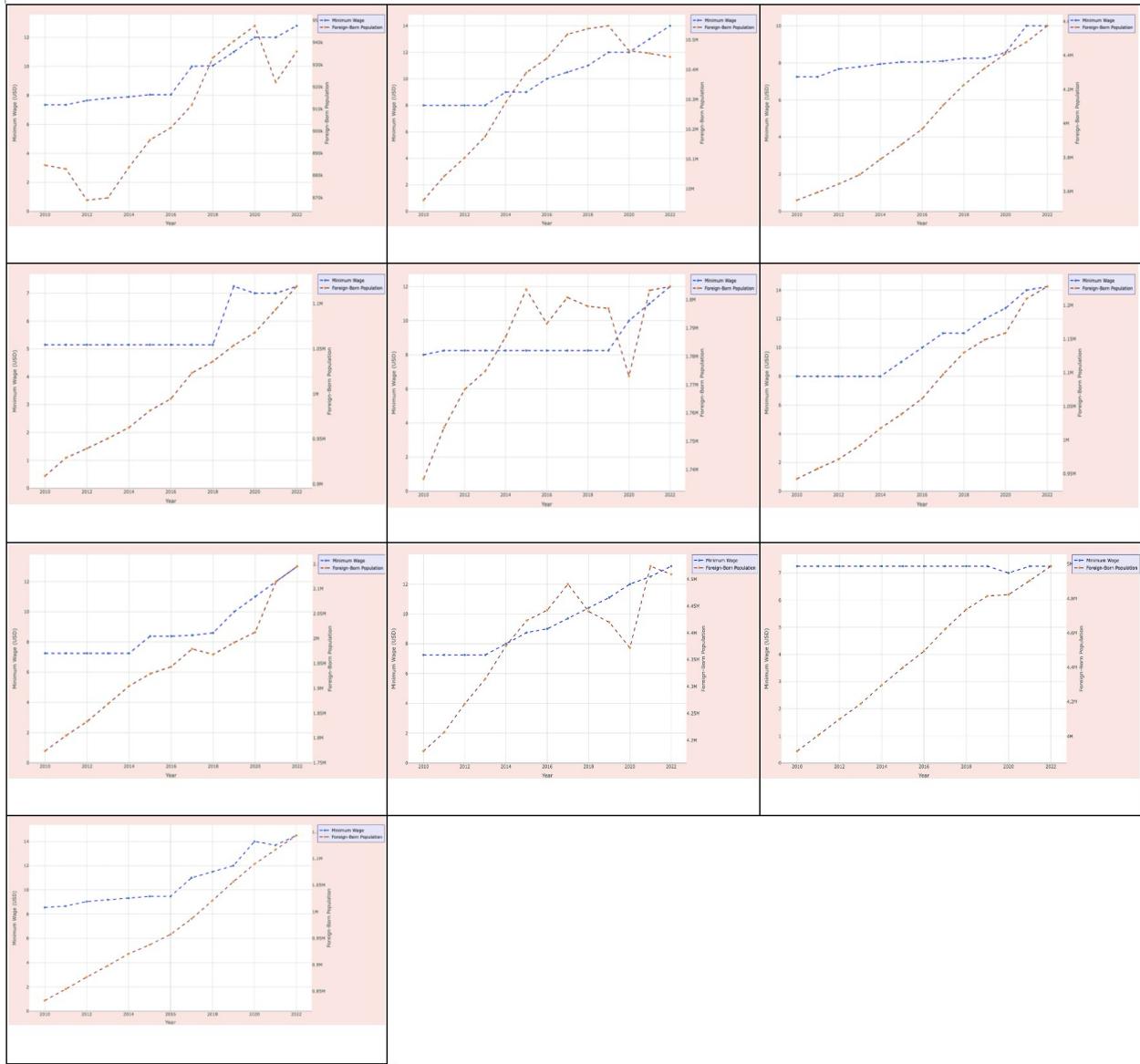
Graph 4: Comparison Total Population vs Immigrant Population



In this graph, we see three different time periods: 2012, 2016, and 2020; this graph shows several U.S. states' overall population and foreign population. Each state is shown by blue bars that show the total population and orange bars that show the number of immigrants. This image helps show how big and how many immigrants live in a state compared to the general population. Many immigrants live in states like California, Texas, and New York, known for their large and diverse populations. This is because these states are major hubs for business and culture variety. The immigrant population, shown by the orange bars, is smaller than the total population, but it is still a big part of some states, especially those with big cities that attract people who were not born in California.

The graph also shows trends in population growth for both the native and immigration groups from 2012 to 2020. The population sizes stay about the same or grow slowly, typical of population growth and movement patterns across the country. States like Massachusetts and New Jersey have large immigrant populations, which shows how policies and job chances can draw immigrants. The steady trend over the years also shows that even though immigration rates and population growth may change, the overall structure of the population by state stays the same. This shows that these states will continue to be popular places for foreigners seeking work in the United States.

Graph 5: Minimum Wage – Foreign Born graph



This picture we multiple graphs which consistent of minimum wage and foreign born variables, states which are included is Arizona, California, Washington, New York, Texas, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Georgia, Florida, Illinois. Between 2010 and 2022, the minimum wage and the number of foreign-born people living in different U.S. states showed a link between economic measures and changes in population. In Arizona, the data indicates a significant association between increasing minimum wages and the expansion of the foreign-born population. Up until

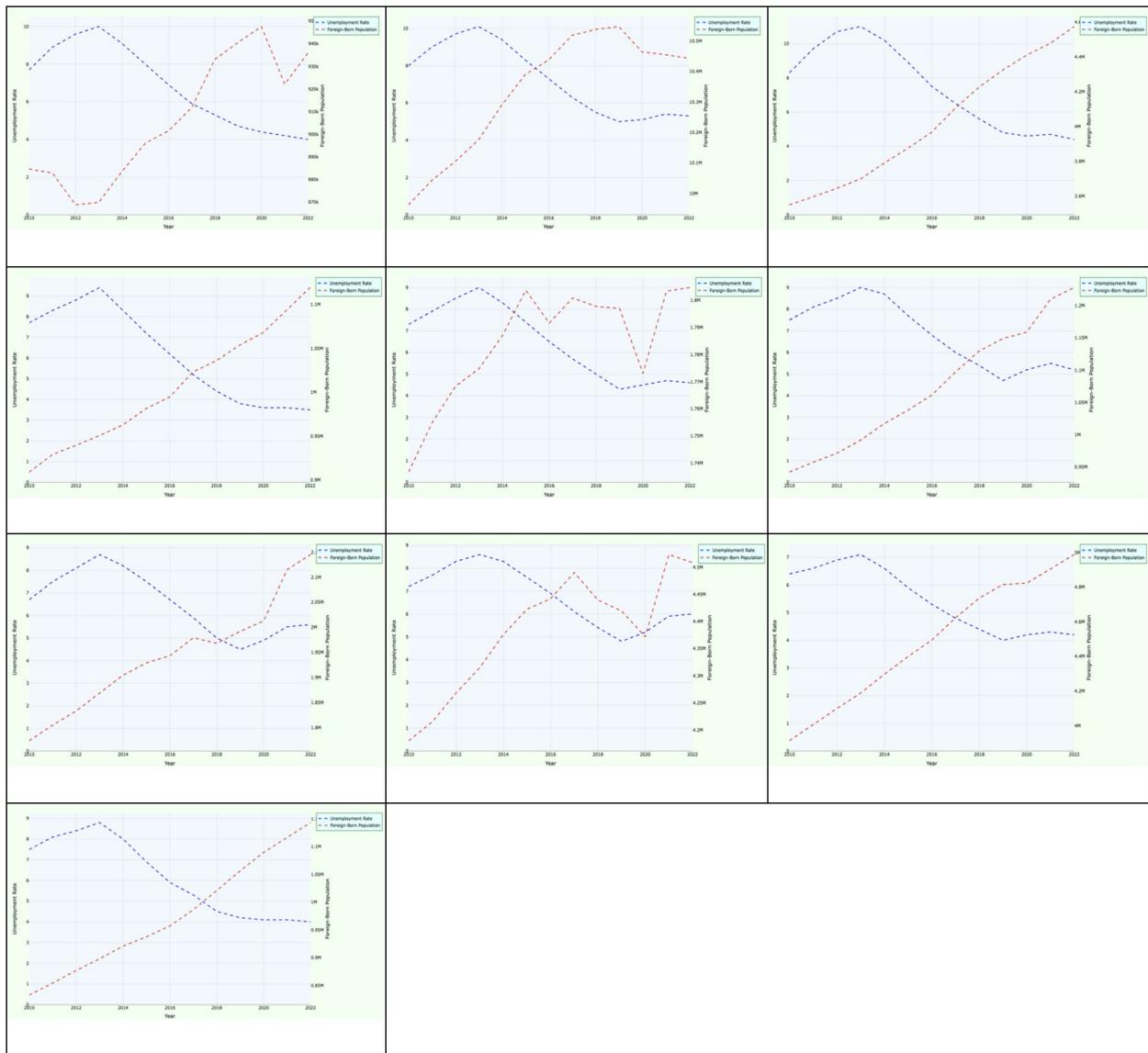
2014, the minimum wage stayed the same. After that, it increased in tandem with the number of foreign-born people, which meant that higher pay drew in more immigrants. Nonetheless, a significant decline in 2022, despite consistent earnings, highlights the possible impact of external influences like government regulations or the COVID-19 pandemic.

Washington and New York exhibit a comparable association between elevated minimum salaries and an increase of the foreign-born population. In Washington, both variables commenced a notable ascent post-2014, suggesting that salary augmentations may have contributed to attracting immigrants. Simultaneously, New York witnessed expansion in all sectors until the 2020 pandemic precipitated a transient decline in population, underscoring the susceptibility of migration patterns to global emergencies. The recoveries of both states by 2022 indicate resilience and the enduring appeal of elevated wages and economic prospects.

In the southern states of Texas and Georgia, the minimum wage remains at the federal rate of \$7.25. Despite stable earnings, the foreign-born populations in these states expanded considerably, possibly influenced by factors such as employment opportunities, reduced living expenses, and diverse industries. The working sectors of Texas, including technology and agriculture, alongside Georgia's service and construction industries, may have attracted immigrants, indicating that factors beyond wage policies significantly impact migration.

In states such as Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Florida, where minimum salaries experienced slight increases, the foreign-born populations concurrently expanded, highlighting the possible influence of elevated earnings in creating immigrant-friendly conditions. The persistent salary growth in Massachusetts corresponds with a continual increase in its immigrant population, indicating the state's economic stability and prospects. Likewise, New Jersey's incremental wage enhancements correspond with its advantageous location and varied populations, but Florida's progressive wage modifications signify its flourishing agricultural and service industries.

Graph 6: Unemployment rate and Foreign-born population Graph



The graphs demonstrate a constant pattern in every state, with declining unemployment rates from 2010 to 2022 frequently occurring in connection with increases in the number of foreign-born people. Unemployment rates have dropped sharply in California, Florida, Texas, and Georgia. For example, in Georgia, they went from 9% to 3%, and in Florida, they went from 10% to less than 5%. As economic conditions improve, there is a regular rise in the number of people born outside

the country. This supports the idea that economic chances attract immigrants. During this time, the number of immigrants in Florida alone grew by over 800,000, showing how economically appealing the state is and how the job market is steadily improving.

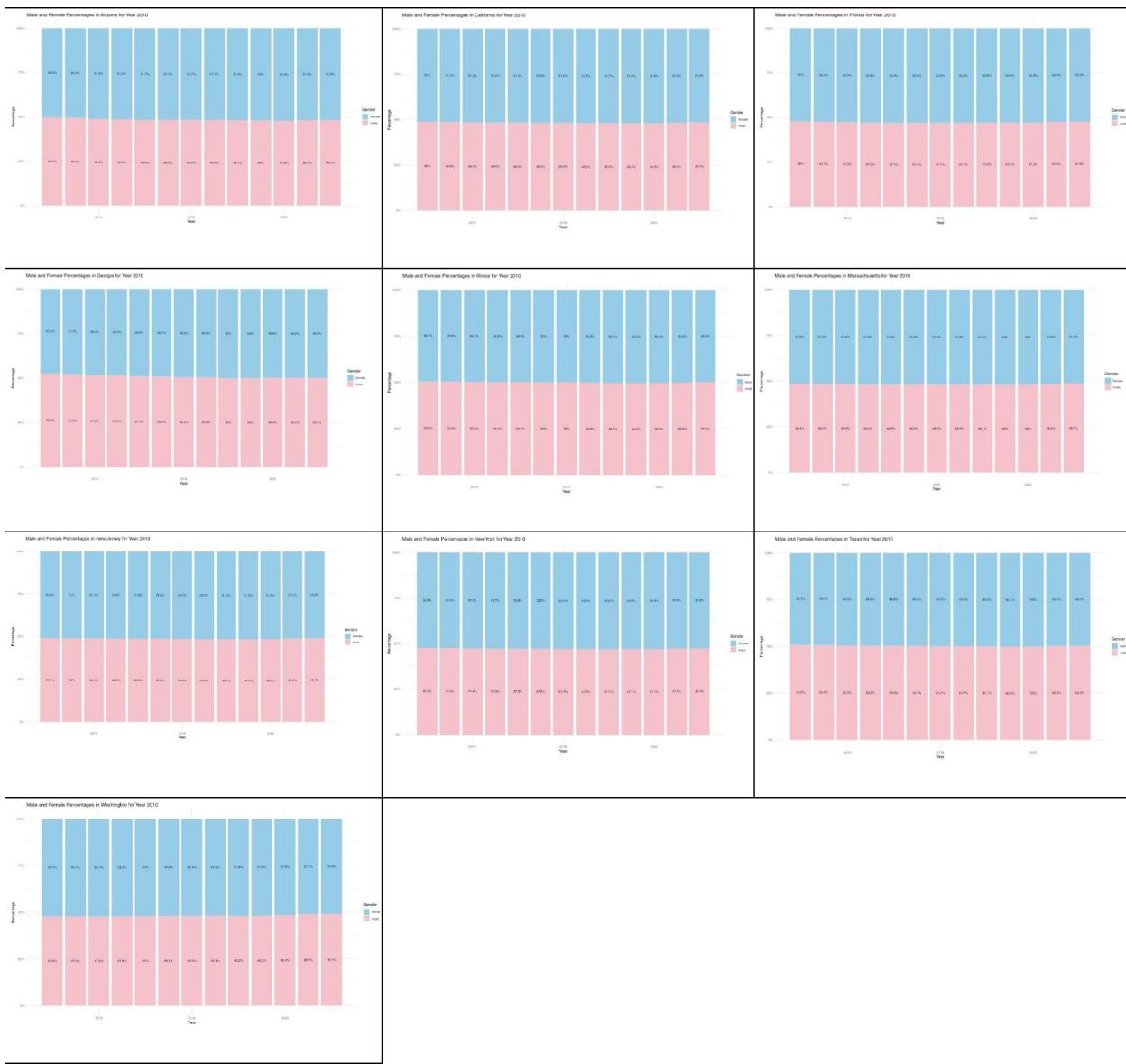
The numbers show that the economies of states like Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Washington, which have stricter wage or labor market laws, are doing well and that the number of people born outside those states is rising. Massachusetts, for example, constantly worked to improve its job market. Its unemployment rate dropped from over 9 percent to about 3 percent, and the number of immigrants rose from 1 million to 1.2 million. New Jersey and Washington also saw constant increases in foreign-born residents. This was likely because of sound economic policies and a steady supply of jobs, which shows how state-level conditions affect migration trends.

A more complicated relationship exists between unemployment rates and foreign-born populations in states like Illinois, New York, and Arizona. This relationship is affected by outside causes like the COVID-19 pandemic. Up until 2018, New York's immigrant population rose steadily. However, it dropped sharply during the pandemic, showing how global crises can cause big problems. Similarly, Illinois had a steady number of foreign-born residents until 2020, when a pandemic caused a drop, but it started to rise again. For example, Arizona's immigrant population will grow until 2020 but slightly decrease after that, even though the economy will improve. This shows that factors other than state jobless rates are at play.

Overall, the charts show the many factors that affect immigration patterns in the U.S. Although economic conditions, such as job growth and reduced unemployment, are significant factors in the inflow of immigrants, broader factors, such as the cost of living, state-specific policies, and global events (e.g., the pandemic), also play a significant role. The data shows that economic opportunity is one of the main reasons people move to other countries. It also shows how both domestic and

foreign factors can change migration trends. States with proactive economic policies, stable job markets, and a wide range of businesses seem to be the best at attracting foreign-born workers.

Graph 7: Percentage Male and Female



The picture shows a stacked bar chart showing the gender distribution, precisely the proportions of males and females, across multiple U.S. states over some time, including Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Texas, and Washington. The blue section

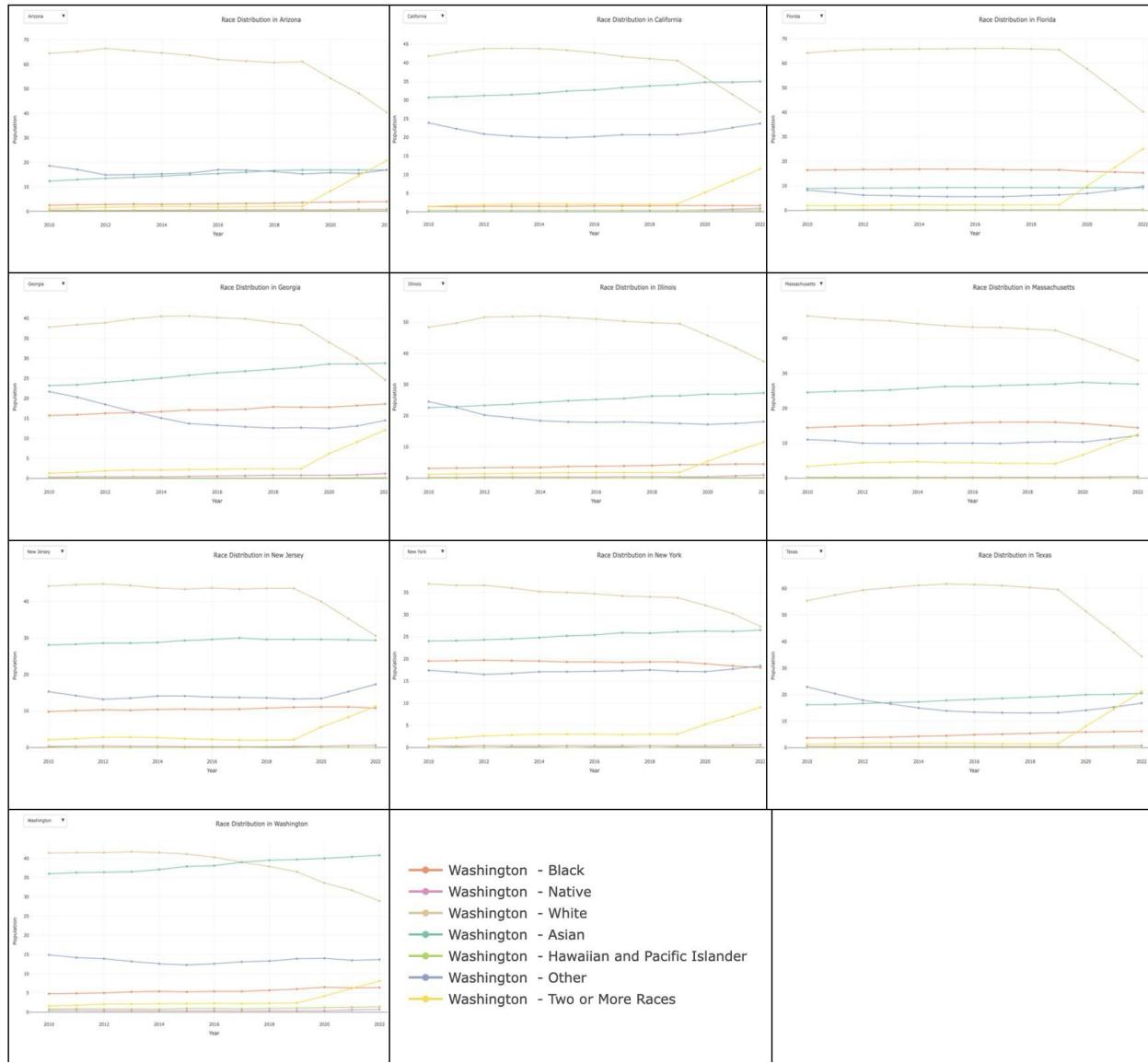
represents men, and the pink section represents women. The percentages show a nearly equal split between the two genders across all states and years.

The consistency of gender distribution over time is a significant trend seen in all states. In every state, the female population slightly outnumbers the male population, consistent with more significant demographic trends in the United States, where women typically account for 50.5% to 51% of the population. This trend reflects women's longer average life expectancy than men and other social and demographic factors.

The states' gender proportions do not vary significantly from year to year, indicating a relatively stable trend. States with slightly higher female-to-male ratios include Florida and Massachusetts, which could be attributed to the aging population and women's higher life expectancy. Texas and Georgia, on the other hand, have slightly closer male-to-female ratios, which could be attributed to their younger and more diverse populations and male-dominated migration trends.

While overall trends are stable, slight variations in male-to-female ratios between states may shed light on economic and social factors influencing gender distribution. For example, states with vital industries, like Texas and California, may attract more male migrants seeking employment opportunities. In contrast, states with older populations, such as Florida, may have higher female percentages due to demographic aging patterns.

Graph 8: Race Distribution by State



This data set shows a collection of line graphs representing racial distribution trends across various U.S. states, namely Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Texas, and Washington, from 2010 to 2022. Each chart illustrates the percentages of distinct racial groups, including White, Black, Asian, Native American, Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander, individuals identifying as multiracial, and other racial classifications. These graphs illustrate the evolving racial demographics of each state over time.

A discernible trend in multiple states is the gradual reduction in the proportion of the White population, especially in states such as California, Texas, and New Jersey. This decline corresponds with the overarching national trend of growing diversity within the U.S. population. The percentage of individuals identifying as two or more races has markedly increased in almost all states, reflecting a heightened acknowledgment and self-identification of multiracial backgrounds, likely attributable to shifting societal attitudes and demographic changes.

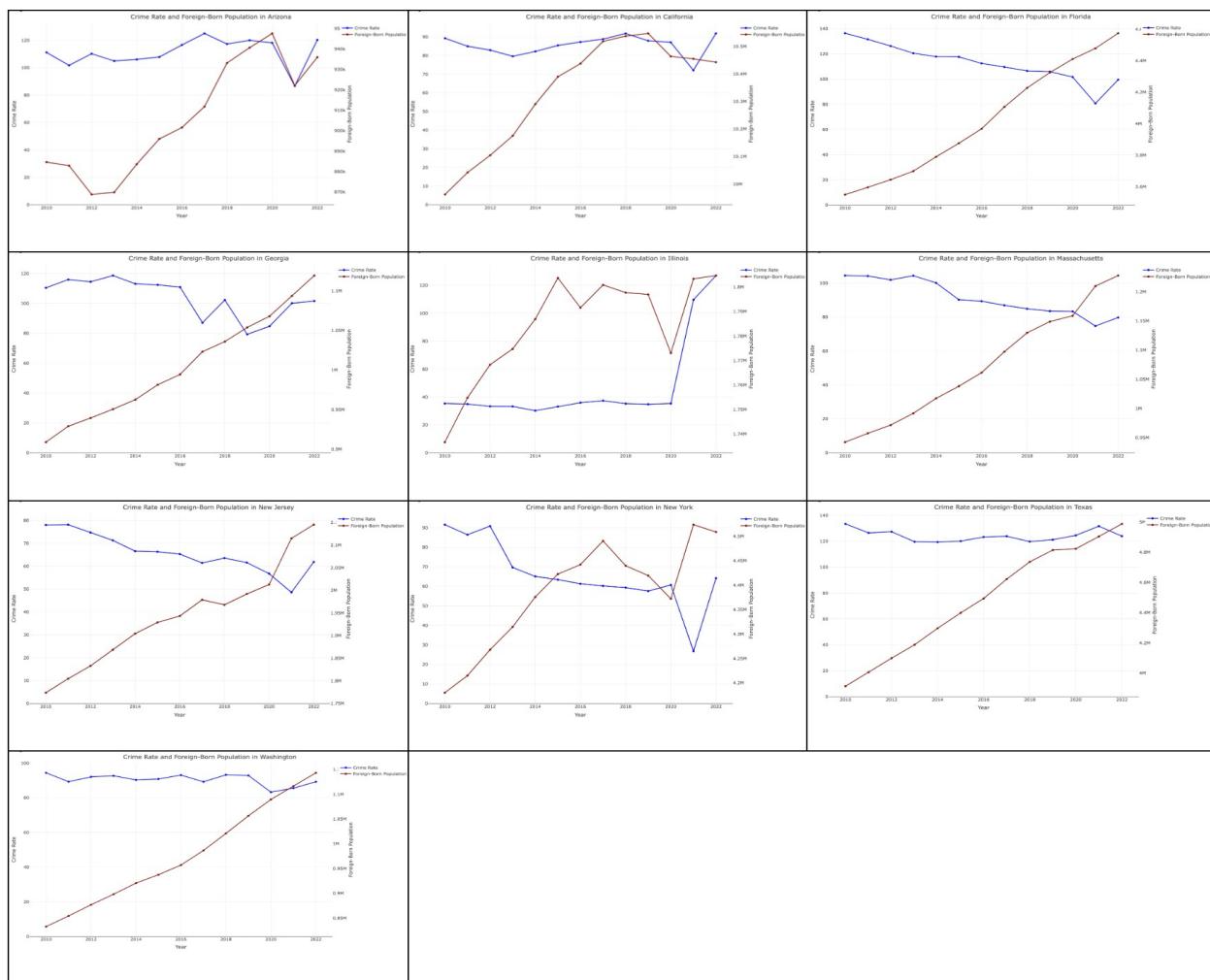
The Asian population has steadily increased in states like California, New York, and Massachusetts, indicating persistent immigration and demographic expansion. States such as Texas and Georgia have witnessed significant growth in their Hispanic and Black populations, solidifying their status as centers for minority communities and economic opportunities for these demographics. Simultaneously, Native American and Hawaiian/Pacific Islander populations remain comparatively modest and stable, although minor increases are noted in certain states.

Certain states display distinctive racial distribution patterns that mirror their historical and demographic contexts. Washington and New York exhibit a gradual rise in racial diversity, primarily propelled by the expansion of Asian, multiracial, and Black demographics. In contrast, states such as Florida and Texas exhibit significant increases in multiracial and

Hispanic populations, highlighting the influence of migration trends and cultural dynamics on state demographics.

The data demonstrates the growing racial and ethnic diversity of the U.S. population in these states. The increasing representation of minority groups and multiracial individuals highlights the necessity of policies and programs that foster inclusion and equity. These trends underscore America's transforming landscape, with profound implications for education, housing, healthcare, and political representation as states adjust to their shifting demographics.

Graph 10: Crime Rate vs Foreign Born



In this data the graphs tell us how crime rates and the number of foreign-born people have changed in Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Texas, and Washington from 2010 to 2022. The charts display two lines: one indicating the crime rate (blue) and the other illustrating the percentage or count of the foreign-born population (brown). These trends provide insights into the correlation between immigration and crime across various states.

A significant trend observed in most states is the reduction or stabilization of crime rates over the years despite a continual rise in the foreign-born population. States like California, Texas, and New York exhibit substantial increases in their immigrant populations, whereas crime rates either decrease or remain constant. This pattern contests prevalent misconceptions associating immigration with increased crime rates, as the data indicates an inverse or unrelated correlation in these states.

Certain states, including Georgia and Arizona, exhibit a minor increase in crime rates during specific years; however, these variations do not correspond with the consistent rise in the foreign-born population. In states such as Massachusetts and Washington, the foreign-born population consistently increases, while crime rates either remain stable or exhibit only slight fluctuations over time. This underscores the idea that factors like socioeconomic conditions or law enforcement policies may substantially impact crime rates more than immigration.

Illinois and Florida display distinct trends in which crime rates fluctuate, occasionally increasing or decreasing, seemingly unrelated to variations in the foreign-born population. In Illinois, crime rates exhibit annual fluctuations, whereas the foreign-born population consistently increases. Likewise, Florida's foreign-born demographic consistently rises, whereas its crime rates exhibit intermittent declines, indicating a lack of direct correlation between the two variables.

The data indicates that the increasing foreign-born population in these states does not connect with escalating crime rates. The data underscores immigrants' potential economic and social contributions while refuting stereotypes that associate immigration with criminality. Policymakers and community leaders can utilize this information to promote inclusive policies that emphasize community integration and tackle the underlying causes of crime not associated with immigration. This analysis underscores the significance of data-driven narratives in influencing public opinion and policy.

Conclusion:

This study analyzes the socio-economic determinants affecting immigration trends in the ten U.S. states with the largest immigrant populations. It underscores the beneficial impacts of immigrants on innovation, productivity, and economic expansion. Immigrants promote the transition of native-born workers to higher-paying positions, and the long-term advantages of public investment in immigrant communities exceed the initial expenditures. The research identifies a continuous rent burden for tenants relative to homeowners, highlighting issues of housing affordability.

Immigration trends show a decrease in non-citizens and an increase in naturalized citizens, indicating an effective integrating pattern. States with robust economies, including California, Texas, and New York, undergo the most substantial population growth driven by immigration. Economic variables such as escalating minimum wages and decreasing unemployment rates are significantly associated with heightened immigration. The research removes assumptions associating immigration with criminality, demonstrating stable or decreasing crime rates in the face of increasing immigrant demographics. Finally, it underscores the growing racial and age diversity, emphasizing the necessity for inclusive policies to promote equity, integration, and stability. These findings emphasize the essential contributions of immigrants to the socio-economic prosperity of the United States while fixing significant challenges.

References:

- National Institutes of Health (NIH). 2016. *The Effects of Immigration on the United States Economy*.
- Penn Wharton Budget Model Team. 2016. The Effects of Immigration on the United States' Economy. Penn Wharton Budget Model. Retrieved November 26, 2024, from <https://budgetmodel.wharton.upenn.edu/issues/2016/1/27/the-effects-of-immigrationon-the-united-states-economy>
- Peri, Giovanni. 2009. *The Effect of Immigration on Productivity: Evidence from U.S. States*. NBER Working Paper Series No. 15507.
- United Nations (UN) Population Division. 2013. Trends in International Migrant Stock, Table 1. Retrieved October 7, 2013, from <http://esa.un.org/unmigration/migrantstocks2013.htm?mtotals>

- U.S. House of Representatives. 2024. *The Effects of Immigration on the United States' Economy*. Congressional Hearing Documents, HHRG-118-JU01-2024.
- UN (United Nations) Population Division. Trends in International Migrant Stock, Table 1. 2013. Retrieved 7 October 2013 from:
<http://esa.un.org/unmigration/migrantstocks2013.htm?mtotals>
- Frequently Requested Statistics on Immigrants and Immigration in the United States: By Cecilia Esterline and Jeanne Batalova March 17, 2022
<https://www.migrationpolicy.org/programs/migration-information-source>
- Immigration to the United States: Recent Trends and Future Prospects, Charles Hirschman 2014 University of Washington, <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25620887/>
- The Effects of Immigration on the United States 2016
<https://budgetmodel.wharton.upenn.edu/issues/2016/1/27/the-effects-of-immigration-on-the-united-states-economy>
- The Economics and Policy of Illegal Immigration in the United States
<https://economistsview.typepad.com/economistsview/2009/12/the-economics-and-policy-of-illegal-immigration-in-the-united-states.html>
- A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States, 2009.
<https://www.pewresearch.org/race-and-ethnicity/2009/04/14/a-portrait-of-unauthorized-immigrants-in-the-united-states/>