

# Coverage of the Foreign-Born Population in Administrative Records: Magnitude and Characteristics

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# Background

- Census Bureau currently evaluating the use of administrative records (AR) in census and survey operations
- Previous research has compared AR to the 2010 Census and 2010 American Community Survey (ACS)
- Motivation: Understand AR coverage of the foreign-born population
- Limited previous research on AR coverage of foreign born

# Research Questions

- To what extent do administrative records provide data on the foreign-born population?
- What characteristics are associated with administrative records coverage of the foreign-born population?

# Assimilation

- Processes through which immigrants and their offspring adapt and integrate into their host society
- We hypothesize that factors related to assimilation are tied to whether the foreign born are present in administrative records

# Indicators of the Assimilation Process

- Length of time in the country, citizenship, language proficiency
  - Attachment to labor force, eligibility and ability to navigate programs
- Socioeconomic status
  - Education, Income, and Employment
- Demographic makeup of neighborhood
  - Presence of co-ethnics

# Data and Methodology

# AR Data

- Medicare Enrollment Database
- Three files from Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Indian Health Service Patient Registration File
- Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Individual Income Returns 1040 and IRS Information Returns 1099/W2s
- Selective Service System Registration File
- Supplemental Security Income Record
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Commercial data (5 vendors)

# Survey Data

- 2006-2010 ACS data
  - Unweighted/Weighted data
  - Foreign-born based on non-imputed citizenship response
  - Restricted to persons age 25 and older



# Methodology

- Unique identifiers called Protected Identification Keys (PIKs) link persons in AR to their 2006-2010 ACS responses
- Logistic regression analysis to model factors associated with matching to AR
  - Dependent variable: match versus non-match to AR
- Limitation: Analysis restricted to foreign-born individuals in the ACS who were assigned a PIK

# Results

# Coverage by Nativity

Nativity	Number of individuals age 25+, non-imputed citizenship	Number of individuals in sample with PIKs	Number who match to AR	Percent match
Foreign-born	1.86 million	1.54 million	1.51 million	98.2 %
Native	13.4 million	12.7 million	12.6 million	99.6 %

Source: 2006-2010 American Community Survey and Administrative Records Data

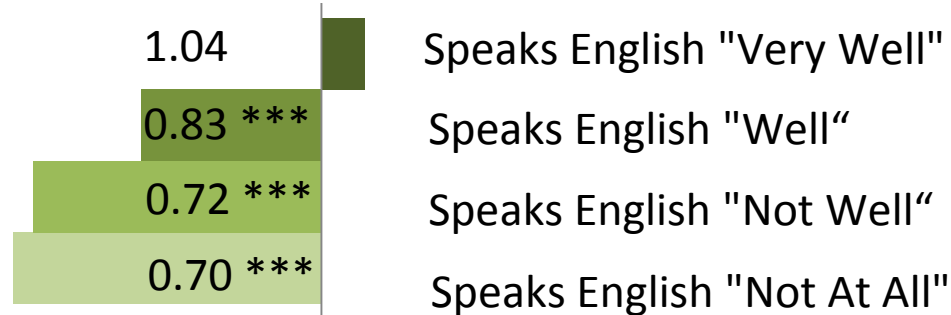
# Regression Results

# Citizenship, English Proficiency, and Time in the United States

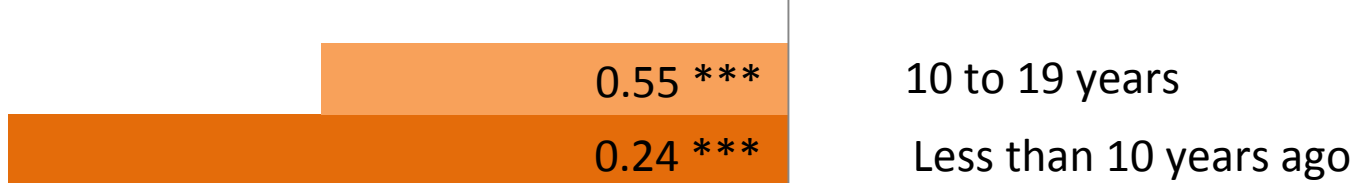
## Citizenship Status [Naturalized U.S. citizens]



## English Language Proficiency [Speaks only English at home]



## Year of Entry [More than 20 years]



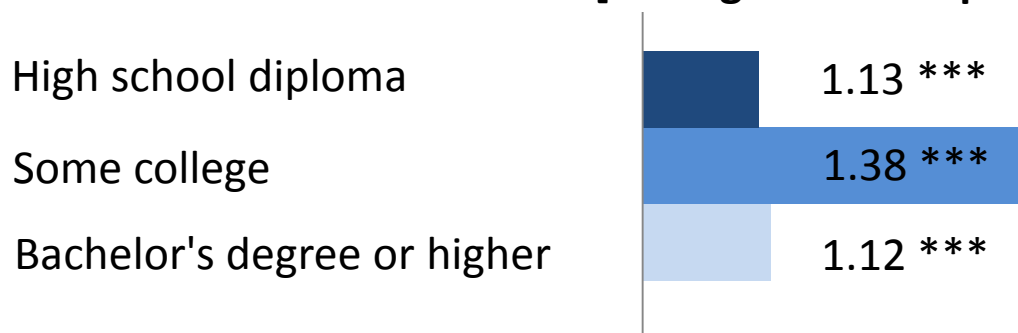
0.2      0.4      0.6      0.8      1.0      1.2      1.4      1.6      1.8

**Odds Ratios**

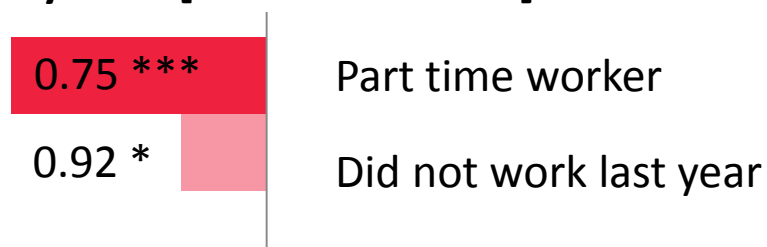
\*\*\* indicates  $p < 0.001$

# Socioeconomic Status

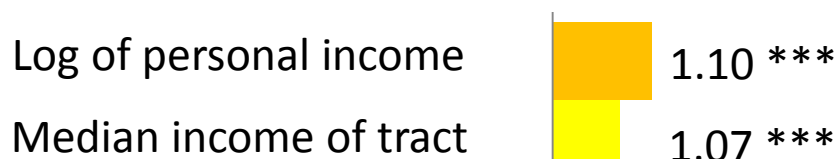
## Educational Attainment [No High School diploma]



## Type of Employment [Full time worker]



## Income



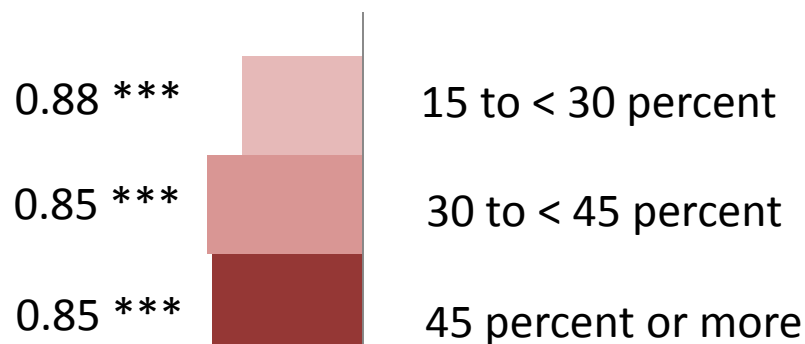
0.2      0.4      0.6      0.8      1.0      1.2      1.4      1.6      1.8

**Odds Ratios**

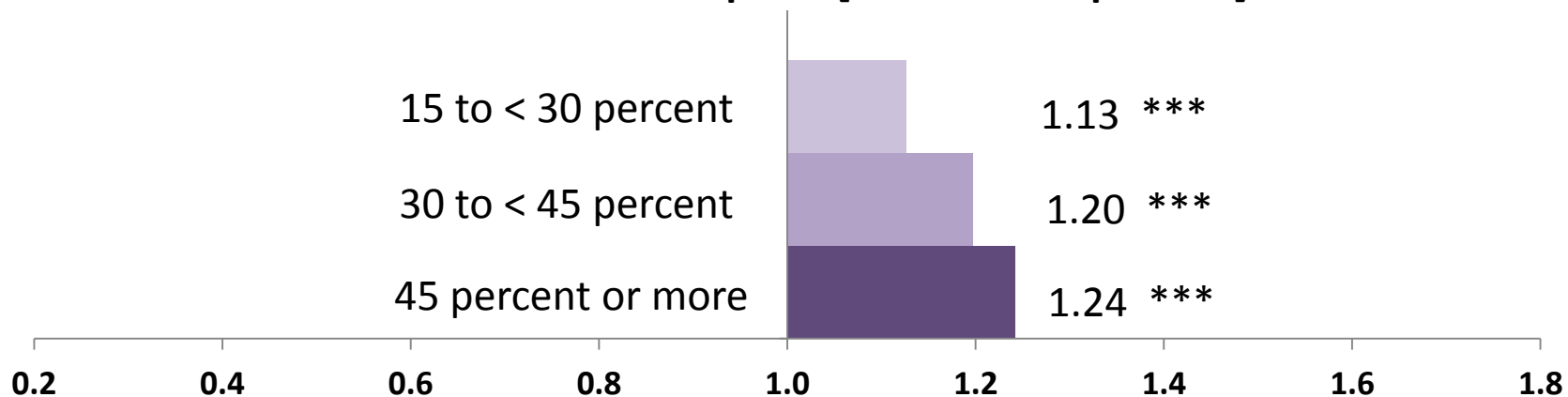
\* indicates  $p < 0.05$   
\*\*\* indicates  $p < 0.001$

# Neighborhood Characteristics

## Percent of tract that is foreign born [Less than 15 percent]



## Percent of tract that is Hispanic [Less than 15 percent]



Odds Ratios

\*\*\* indicates  $p < 0.001$

# Conclusion

- Confirm hypothesis that assimilation factors are associated with being in administrative records
- Overall, administrative records provide high coverage of foreign-born individuals in the 2006-2010 ACS



# Conclusion

- Sample is limited to foreign-born individuals in the ACS with PIKs
- Magnitude of undercoverage likely larger than what we present in this analysis

# Thank you!

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