

*2008 ACCE Annual Conference
Palm Springs*

Immigrants and Boomers

*Forging a New Social Contract
for the Future of America*

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The Big Questions

How can the problems of aging and immigration be better understood?

Is there a way to turn the problems into solutions for each other?

How can we rekindle a sense of common purpose and foster a new civic integration?

Defining Social Contract

the underlying shared social understandings that structure cooperation within a world of self-interested people possessing unequal resources. — Beth Rubin, 1996.....

A. *shared social understandings*

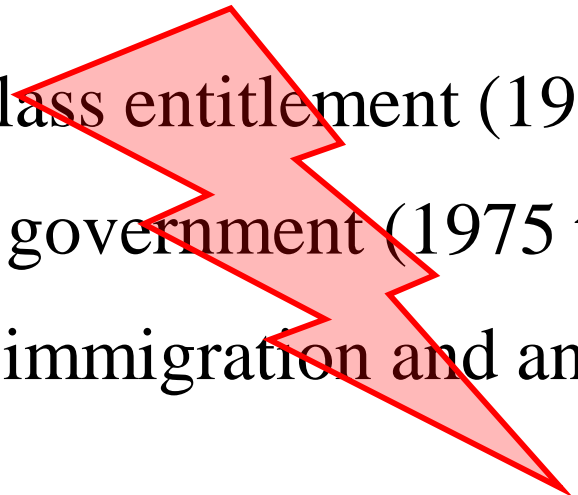
B. *structure cooperation*

C. *self-interested people*

D. *unequal resources*

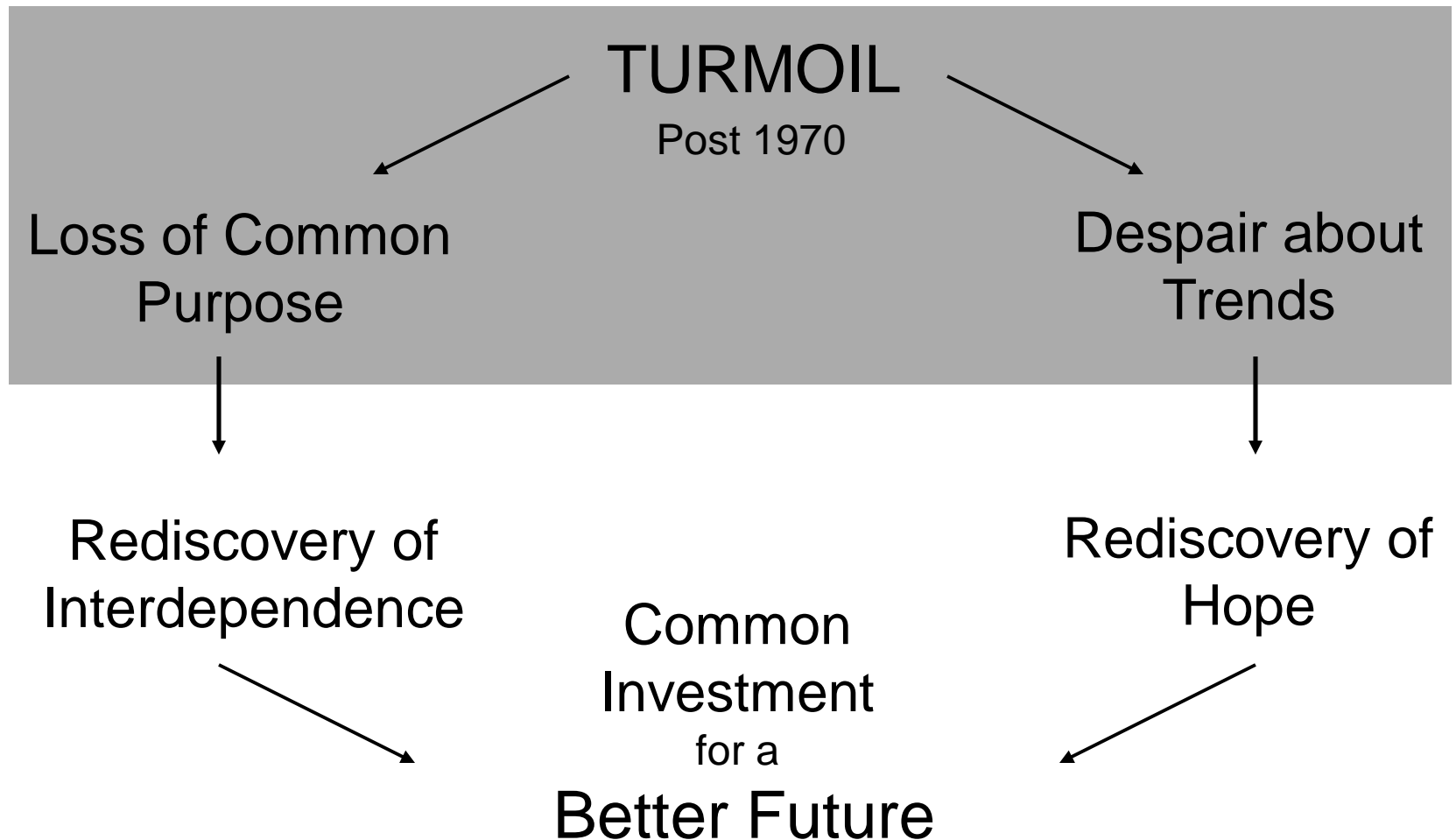
Our Evolving Social Contract

Five Eras

1. Rugged individualism and immigrant incorporation (pre-1930)
 2. The New Deal and World War II (1930 to 1950)
 3. Middle class entitlement (1950 to 1975)
 4. Limiting government (1975 to 2010)
 5. The new immigration and an aging society (2010–?)
- 

The Politics of Discouragement

Our Historic and Future Transition



Turmoil and Dismay

1. Economic disappointment post-1973
2. Vietnam and Watergate--loss of trust
3. Cultural fragmentation
 - counter-culture; multiculturalism; and more
4. Concentrated calamities in California, 1990-94
 - natural disasters
 - social disruptions
 - deep recession & house price collapse

and now

the Crisis of the Two Demographic Challenges

5. Revival of immigration
 - amplifies all the other fears
6. Baby boomer retirements
 - fiscal and economic disaster

illegal

Unauthorized

Undesirable

Not invited

NOT WANTED

**How can we reframe this
outlook on our social
changes?**

IN JEOPARDY

**Without which
support for public services
for all,
both Young and Old is**

Immigrants a Burden or a Benefit?

Percent of White Voters who Believe Immigrants a Burden

	1998	2004	Change
Liberals	40	29	-11
Conservatives	54	64	+10
Gap (L – C)	-14	-35	+21

Source: PPIC Statewide Survey; Immigrants and Boomers, Chapter 7 & Table B.3

Perceived Immigrant Burden Undermines Tax Support for All

Prop 55 Statewide School Bond Issue in 2004

If Conservative rather
than Liberal

18% LESS support

plus

If believe taxes are
wasted a lot

8% even LESS support

plus

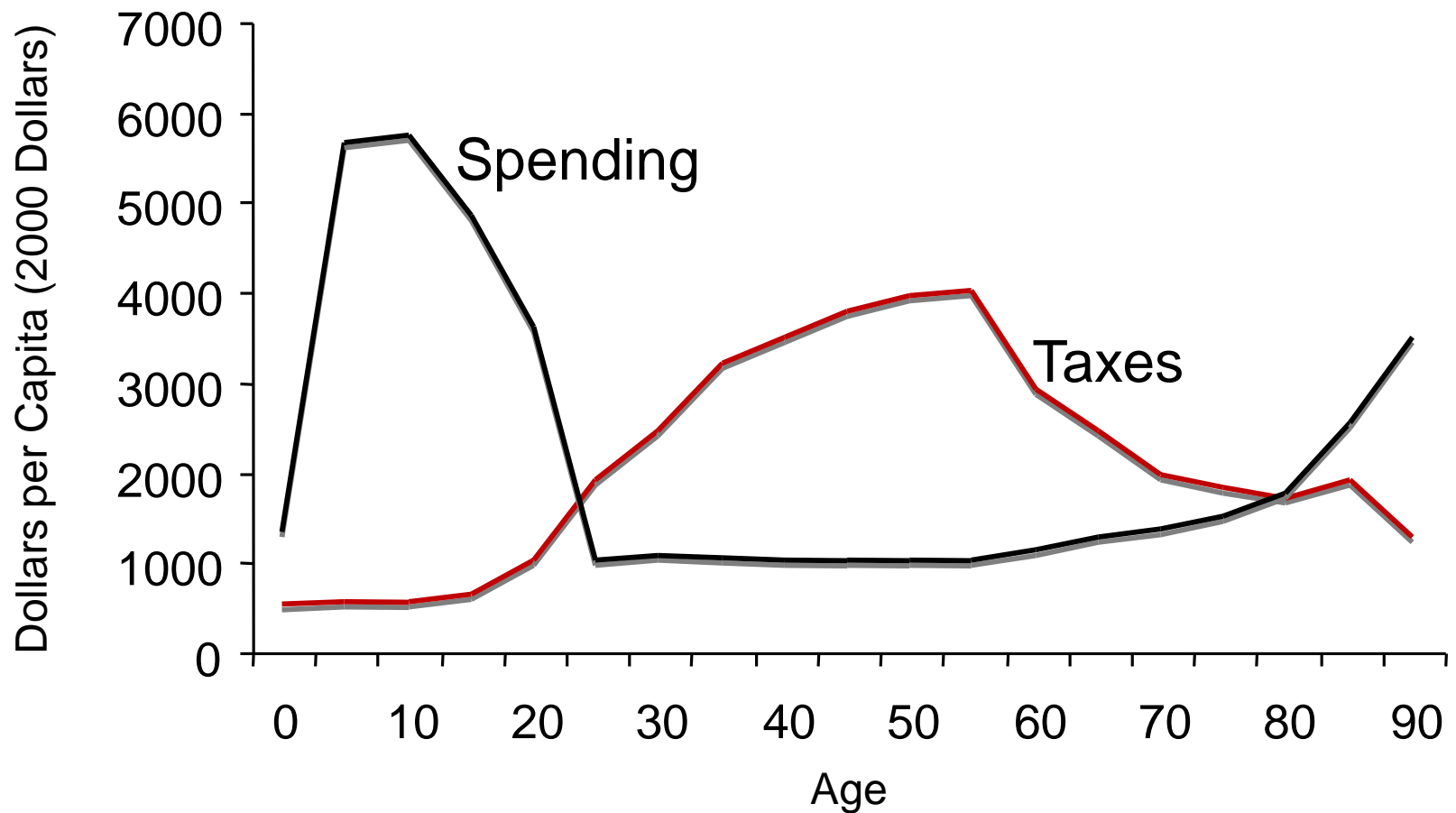
If believe immigrants
a burden

9% even LESS support

Holding all other factors equal: controlling for differences in race, age, gender, children presenting the family, nativity, education, income, and homeownership
Source: *Immigrants and Boomers*, Chapter 7, Table B.5

Spending and Taxes in California

By Age, 2000



Source: Immigrants and Boomers, Figure 9.1; Ron Lee et al. (2003)

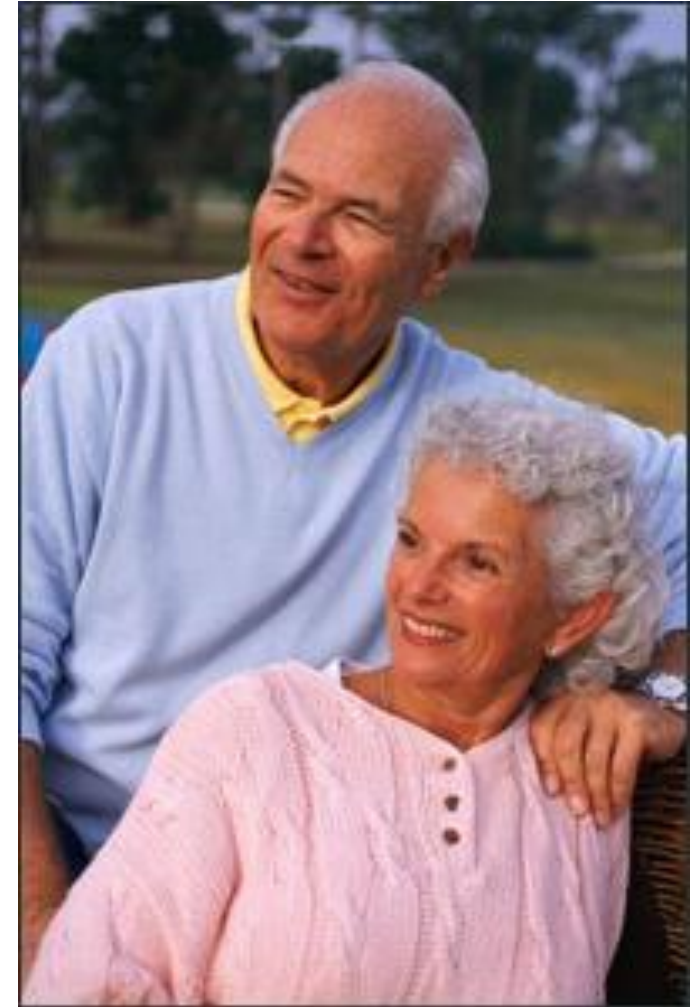
Surviving The Baby Boomer Tsunami

Double decades of **30% increase**





.....?



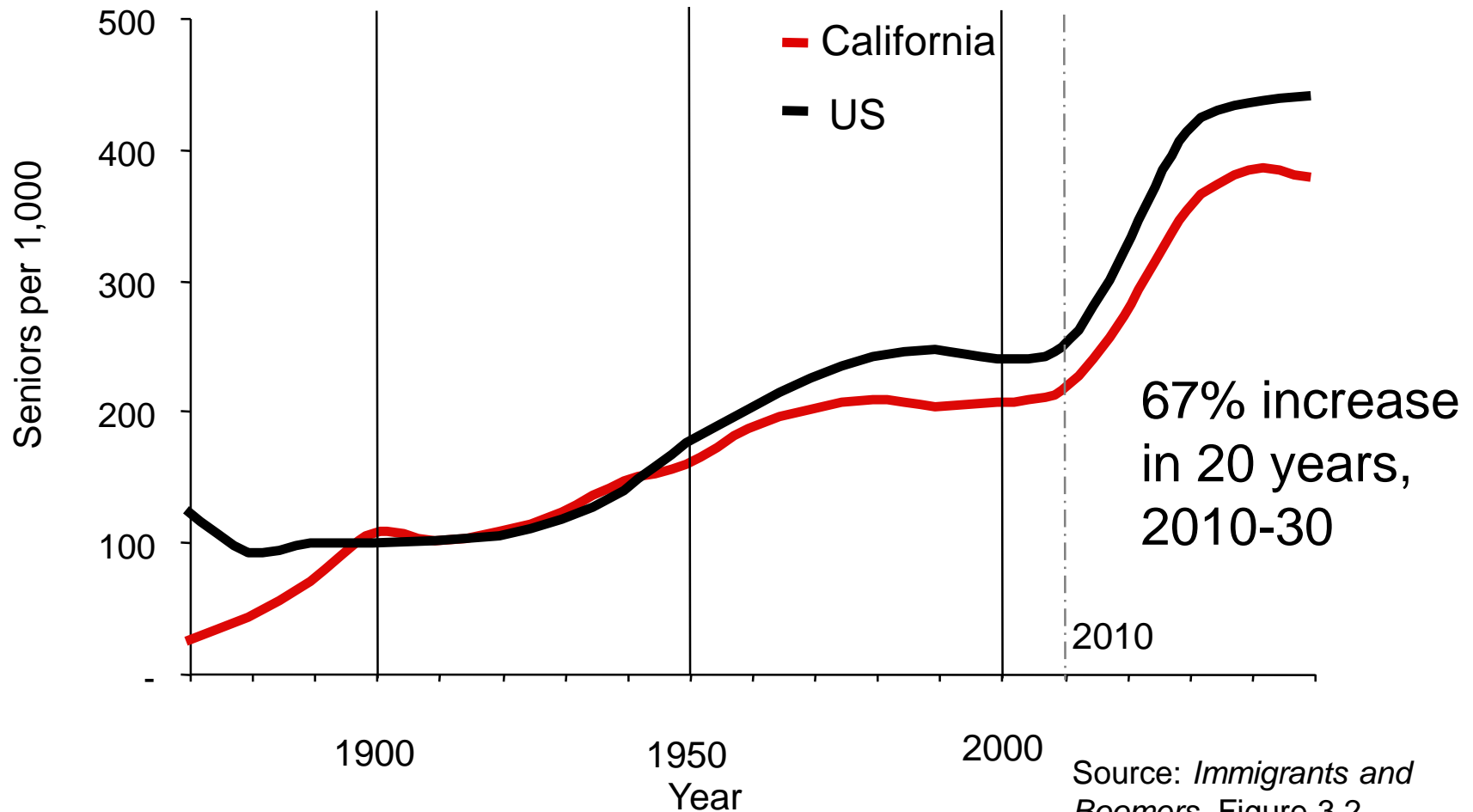
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE!

56 million
still kicking in
2030

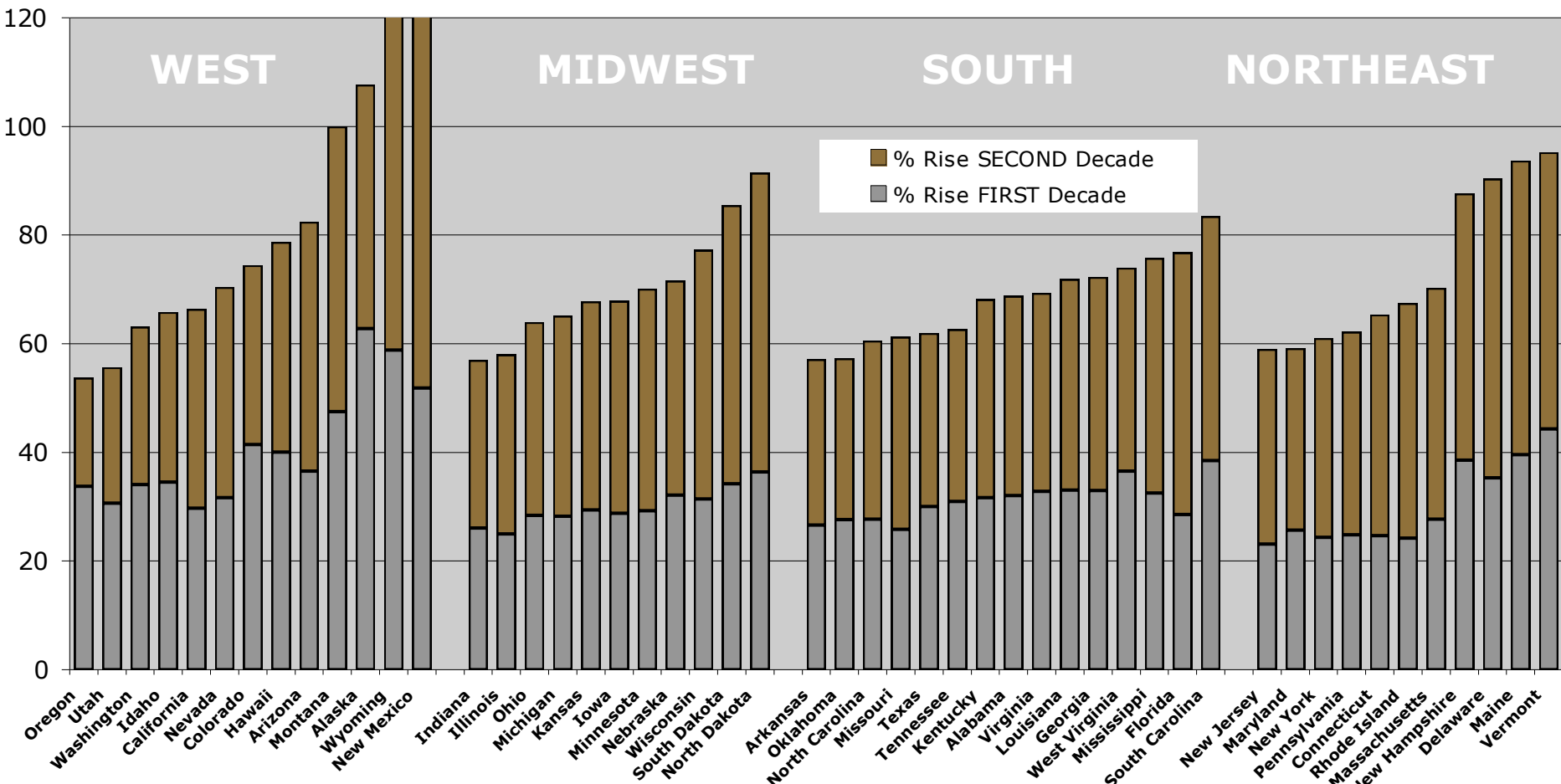


The Growing Weight of Seniors

Ratio of Seniors per 1000 Working-Age Residents, ages 25-64



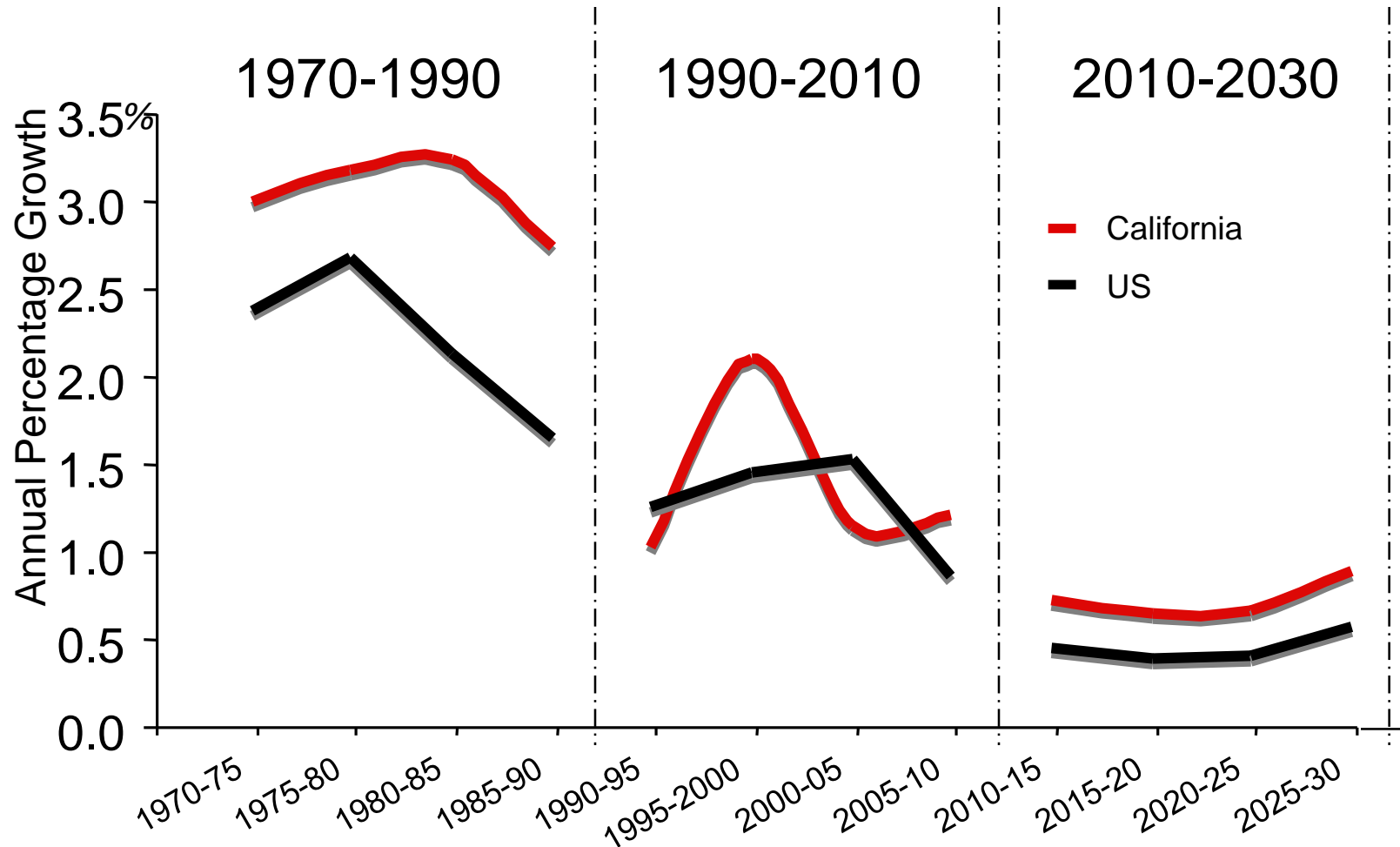
Percent Rise in Senior Ratio in Next Two Decades, by State



Source: Dowell Myers, USC

Labor Force Slow Down

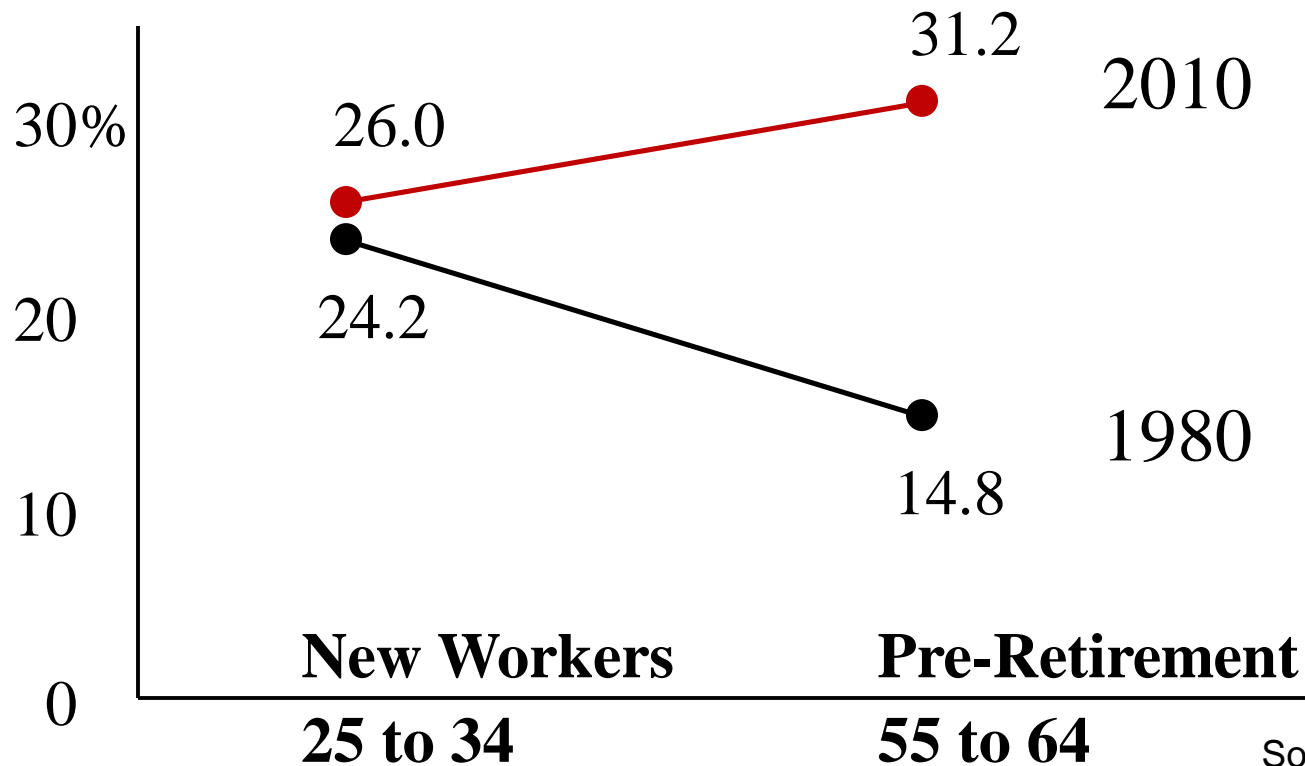
Annual Percentage Growth



Source: Immigrants and Boomers, Figure 3.3

A Coming Decline in the Skilled Workforce

Percent of Residents with a BA or Higher in California



Source: *Immigrants and Boomers*, p. 210

Three
Presumed **Solutions**
and One
that *Works*

Alternative Solutions

- Do nothing different—let decline happen
- Encourage higher **non-Latino** achievement to offset the growing numbers of Latinos
- Poaching workers from other states and nations
- Homegrown investment in California's school children and adult education

Share with a BA Among Each Racial and Ethnic Group

Among all adults ages 25 to 64

Non-Hispanic Whites 37%

Non-Hispanic Blacks 18%

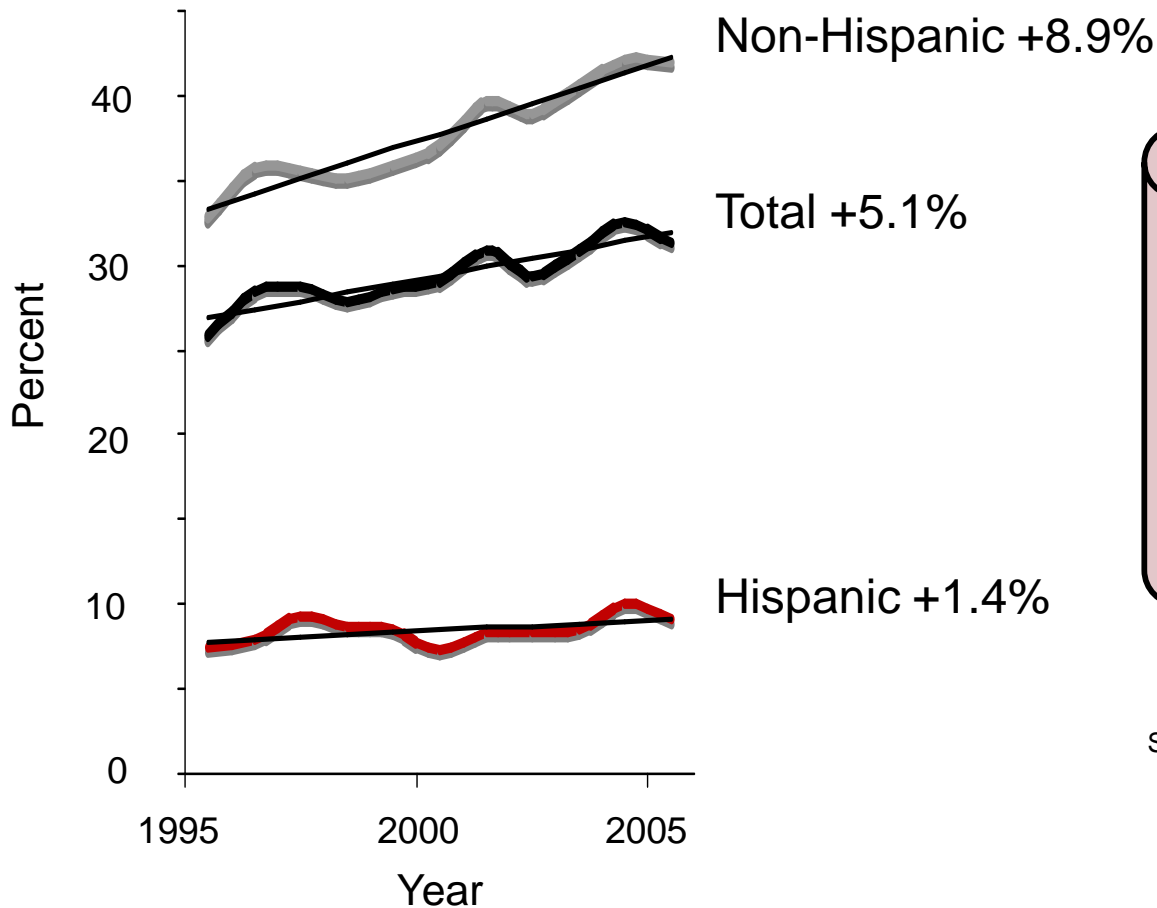
Latinos 8%

Asian & Pacific Islanders 45%

Source: *Immigrants and Boomers*, Table 10.1

Growing Achievement Gap in Percent with BA or Higher Degree

Ages 25 to 64, California. 1995-2005



Widened Gap to 45 points in 2020 from 25 points in 1995

Source: *Immigrants and Boomers*. Figure 10.1. Current Population Survey data.

California-Born Share of the College-Educated Workforce

Old pattern	Age 55-64	26%
New pattern	Age 25-34	40%
Future pattern	Age 25-34	70% ??

Source: Immigrants and Boomers, Table 10.2

Financial *Sense*

Returns on Educational Investment to Public Sector

Rand Corp. (2000) 2-to-1

**Goal of doubling BA share
Among Latinos in US**

UC Berkeley (2005) 3-to-1

**Henry Brady et al for the
Campaign for College
Opportunity**

**+ \$3 billion lifetime
per HS grad class;
payback by age 35**

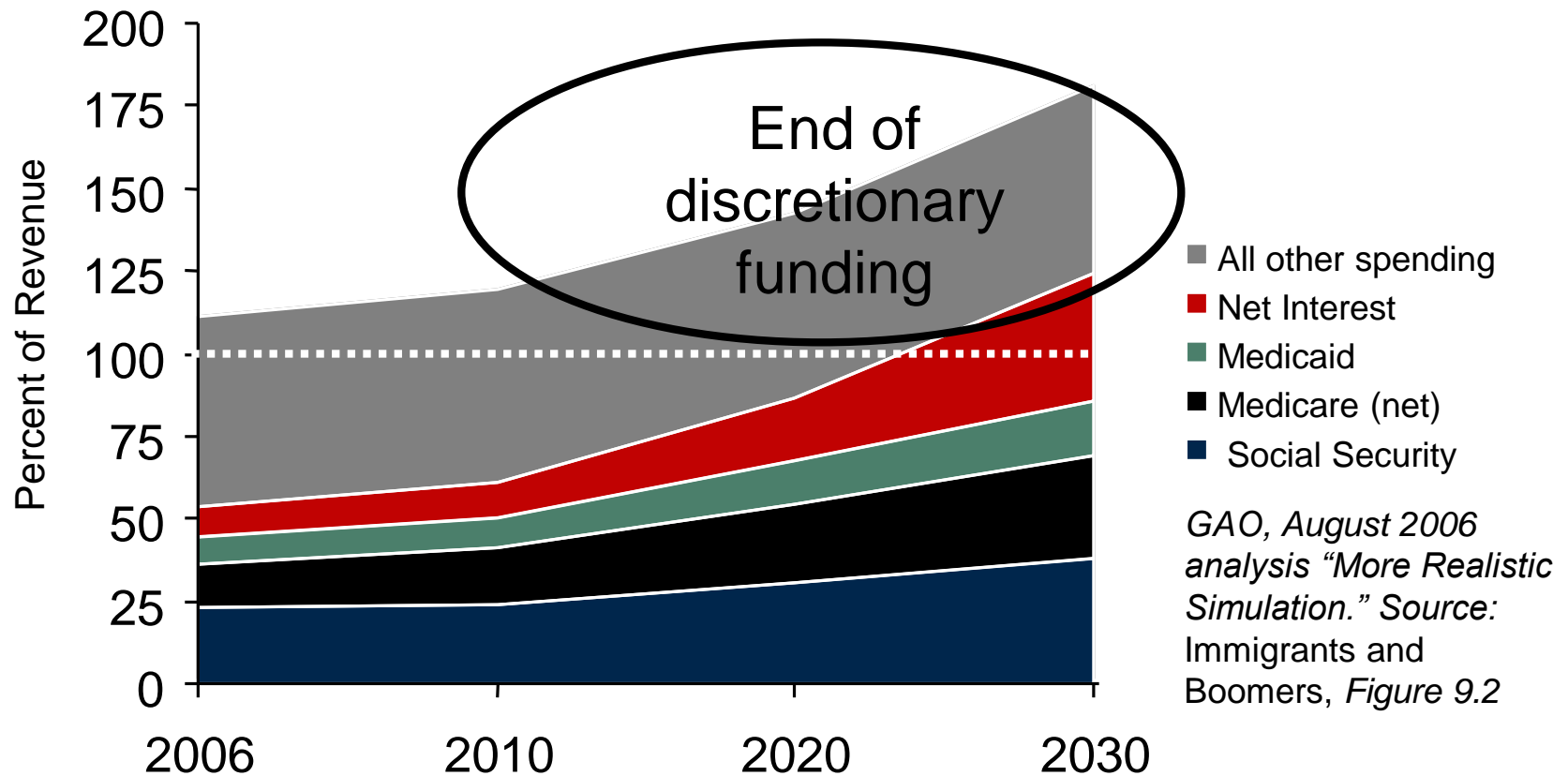
*Source: Immigrants and
Boomers, Chapter 10*

Aging – Trigger of Many Crises

- Social Security Crisis
- Medicare/Health Insurance Crisis
- Workforce Replacement Crisis
- Taxpayer Replacement Crisis
- The Home Seller Crisis
- Community Investment Crisis

Growing Federal Deficit Reflects Old Age Burdens

Federal Budget Allocation as a Percentage of Projected Federal Revenue



Community Investment Replaced by Retirement Entitlements

End of housing subsidies (beginning 1980s)

End of environmental programs

End of transportation funding

Forget infrastructure--more bridges dropping

End of education support for workforce
development

End of wars -- no funding for defense

(Okay -- maybe that's not going to happen)

The Rediscovery of Hope
about
Immigration
and the
Future

The Ultimate Question is What Future Do We Believe?

DESPAIR

- Accelerating Immigration
- Mostly New Immigrants
- Concentration of Newcomers' Characteristics
- Protection of Isolated Self Interest

HOPE

- Steady Immigration
- Mostly Settled Immigrants
- Concentration of Upwardly Mobile Characteristics
- Shared Destiny and Common Interest

The Key Changes....

The end of immigration acceleration

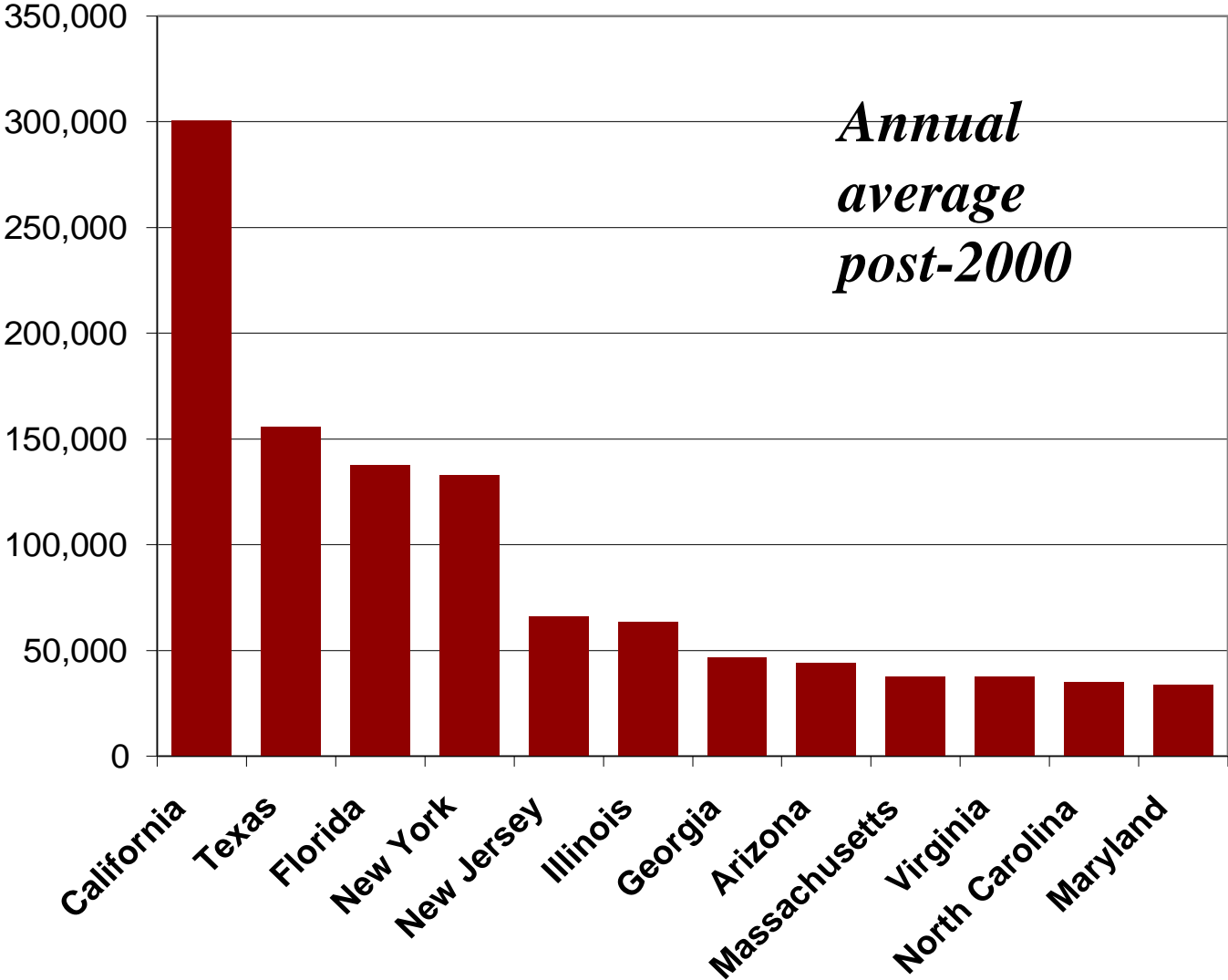
More **long-settled** immigrants

Upward mobility after longer residence

Rediscovery of immigrant contributions

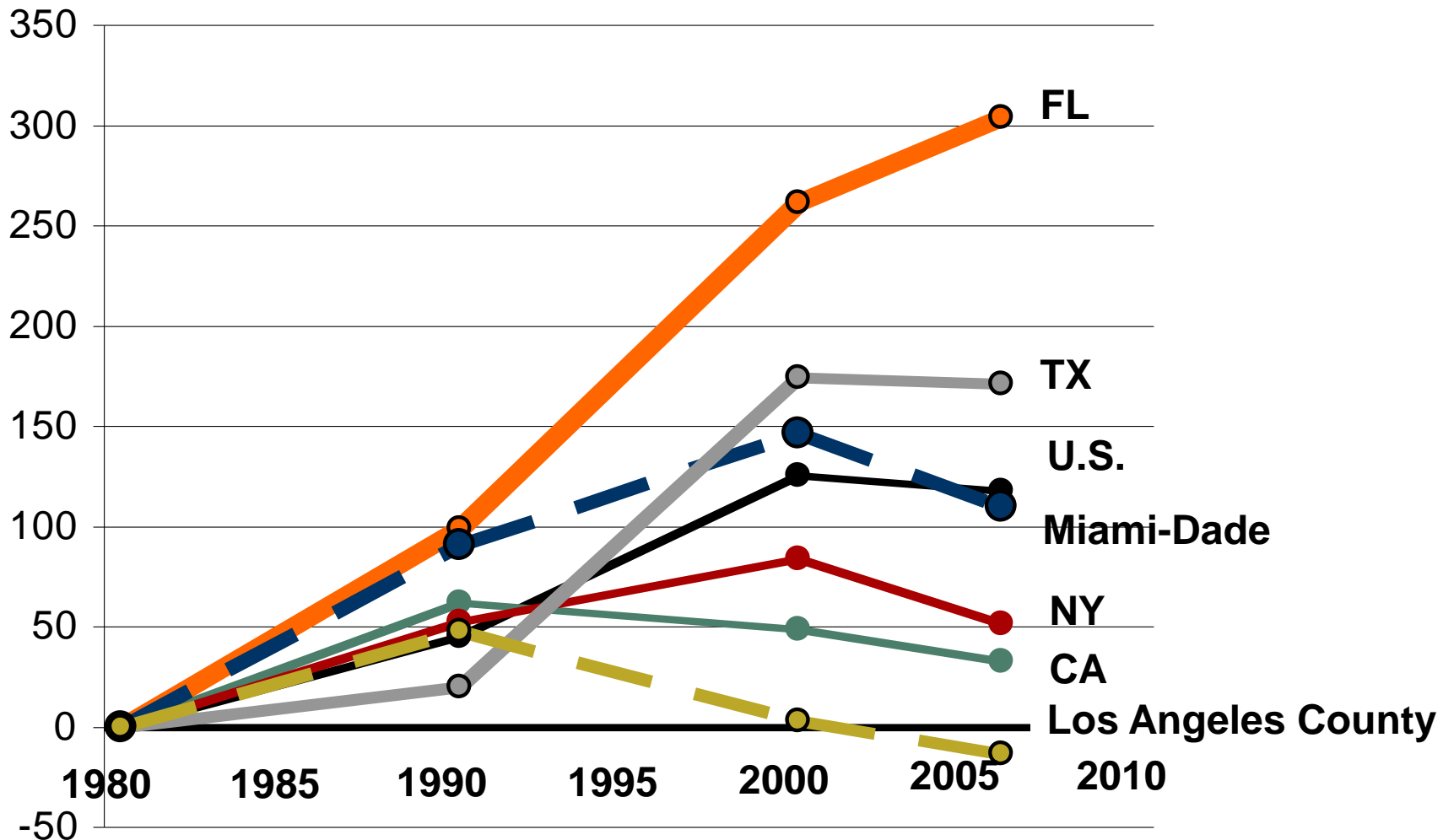
New Arrivals Finding New Homes

12 States with Largest Number of Immigrant Arrivals

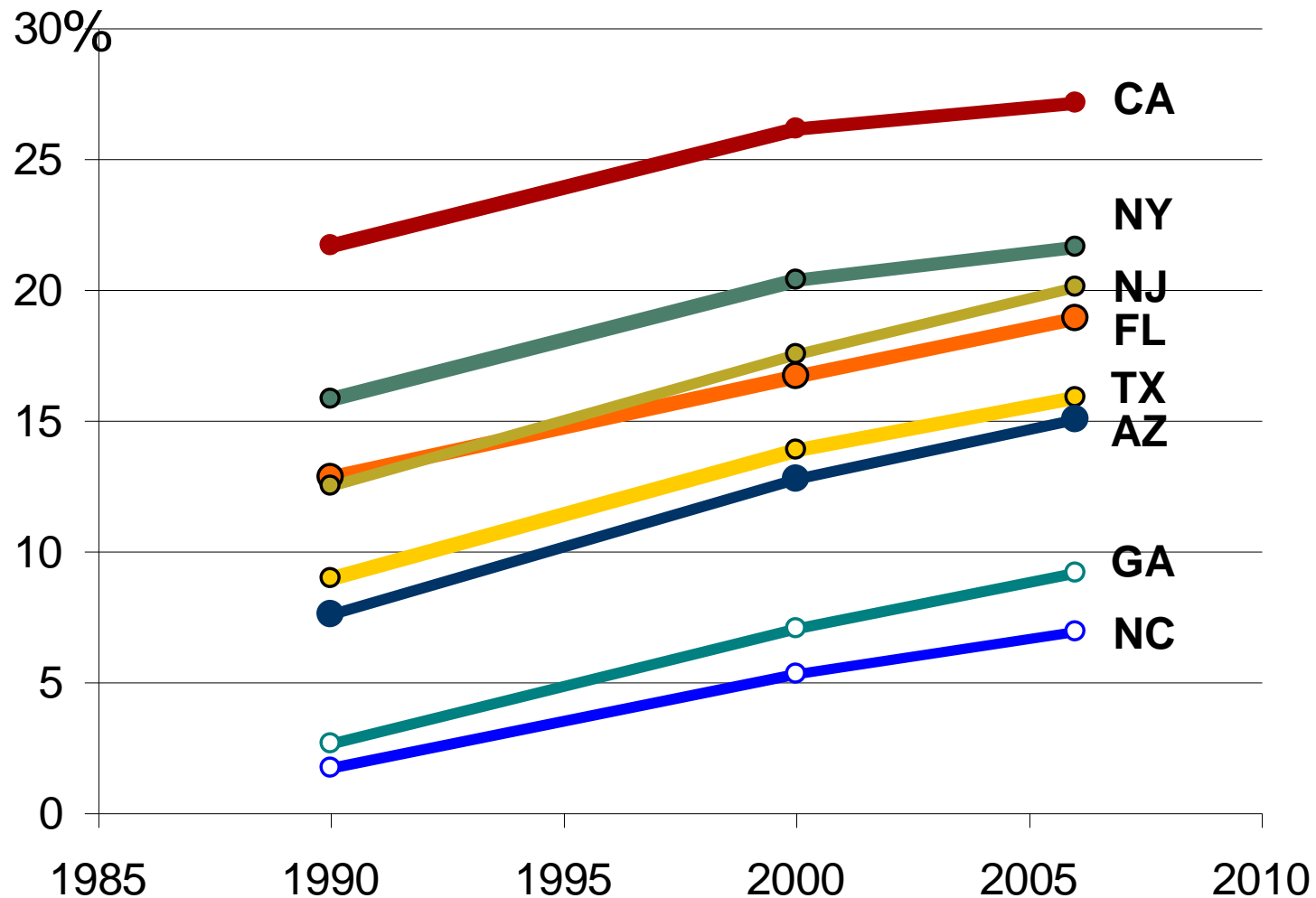


Source: 2006 American Community Survey, average annual arrivals since 2000.

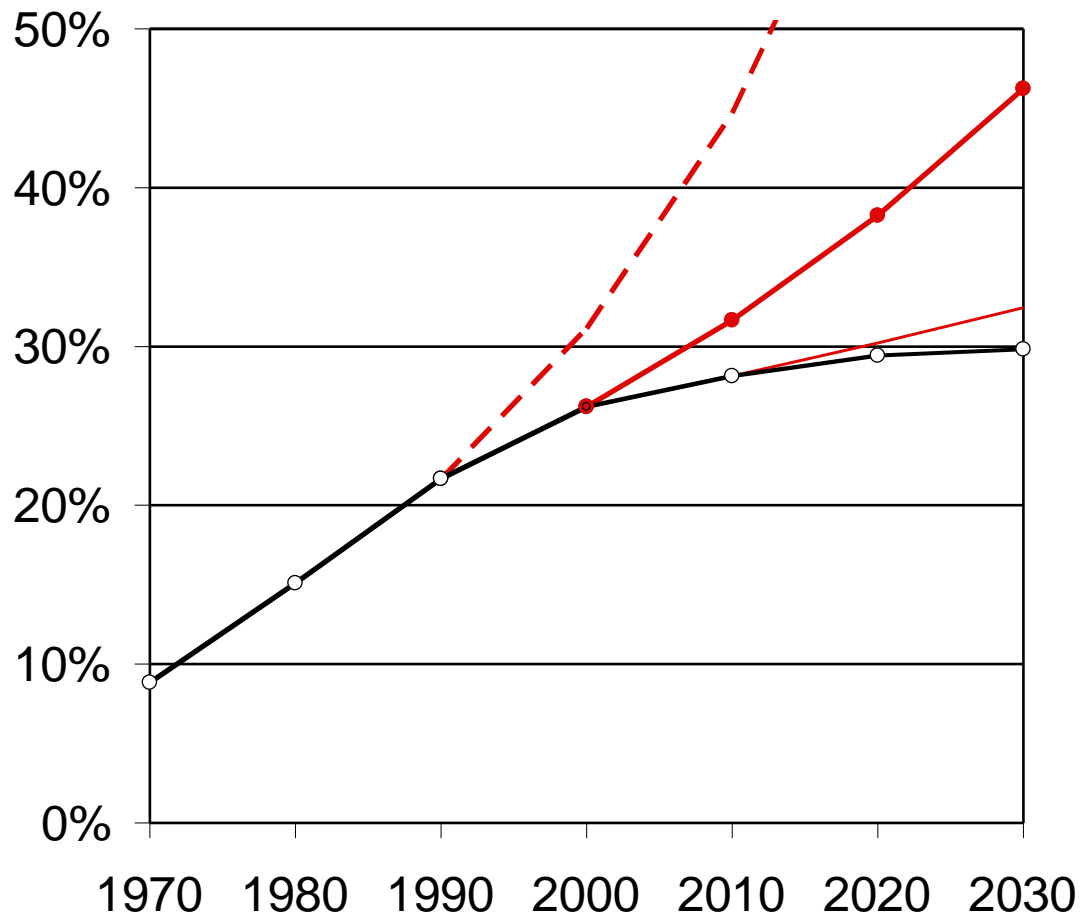
Annual Immigration Declining in Traditional Major Gateways



Foreign-Born Share of State Populations



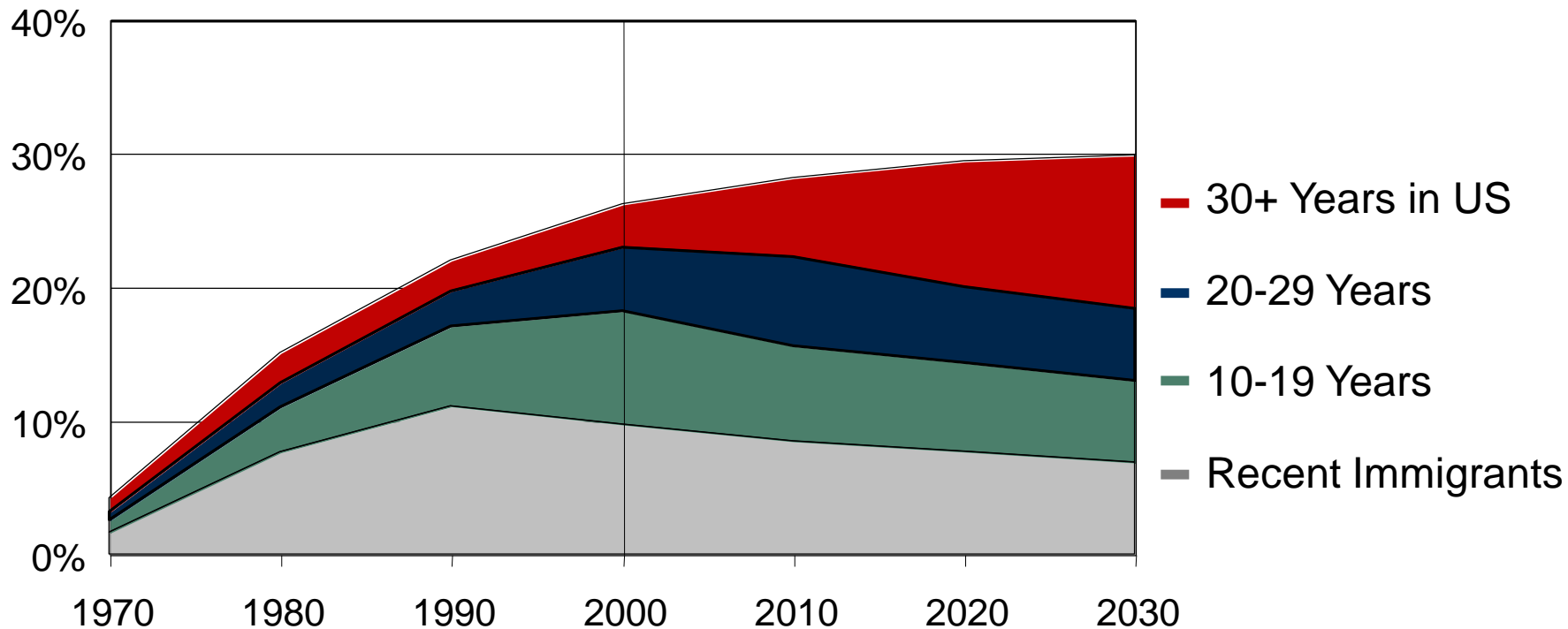
Expectations of Foreign-Born Share in California



Source: *Immigrants and Boomers*, Figure 2.2

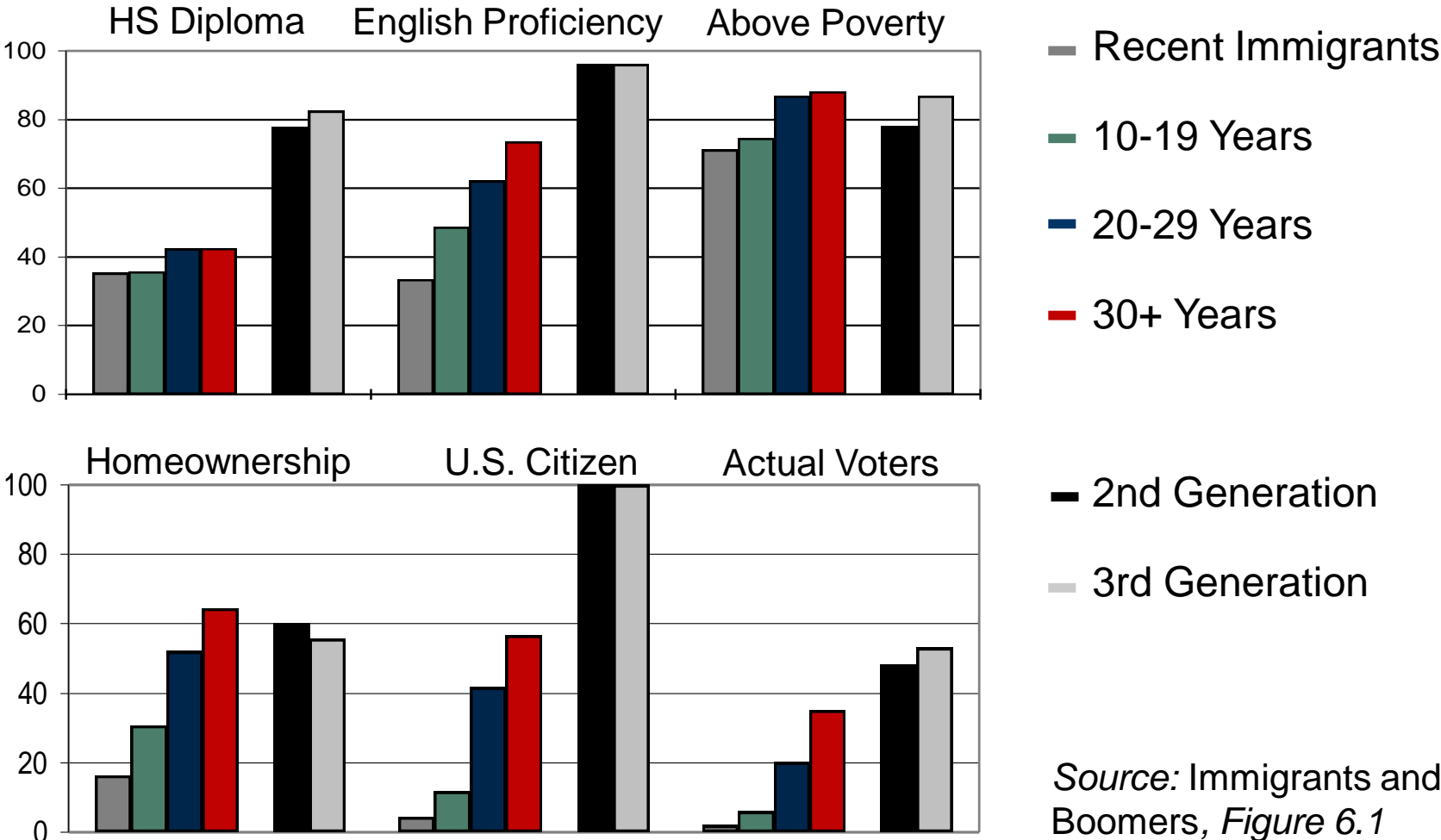
The Longer Settlement of the Immigrant Population

Percent of Total California Population



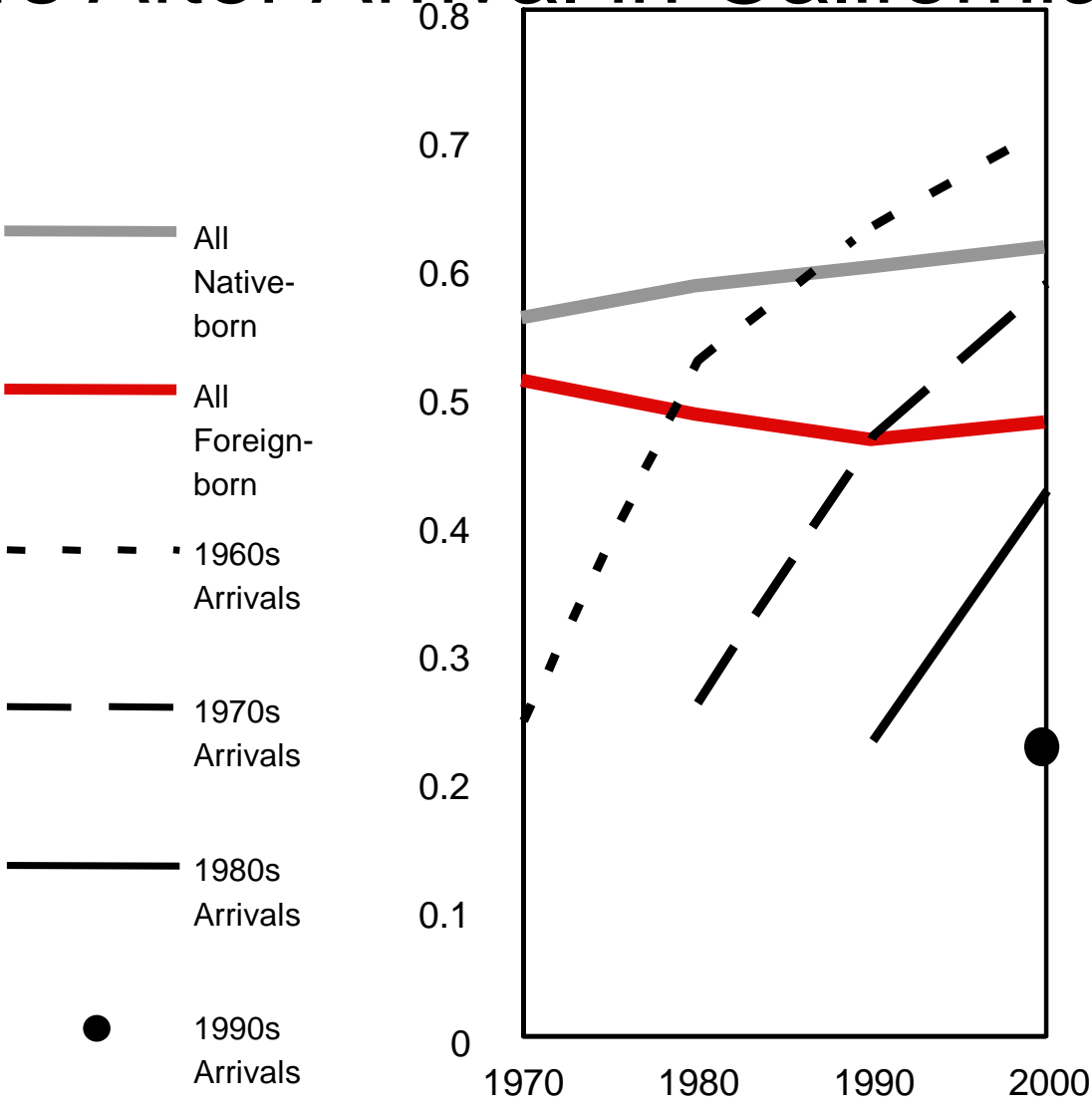
Source: Decennial census to 1970-2000; CDF 5.0 California Demographic Futures

Upward Mobility of Latinos in CA



Source: Immigrants and Boomers, Figure 6.1

Immigrants' Homeownership Rate Soars After Arrival in California



Blinded by the Concentration of Newcomers

Share of Foreign-Born Who Are Recently Arrived

Los Angeles 53% (1990)

Des Moines 61% (2000)

Atlanta 61%

Charlotte NC 64%

Los Angeles 35% (2000)

Samuel Huntington's Future America ?

Huntington's Thesis

(from *Who Are We: The Challenges to America's National Identity*)

Fear of cultural bifurcation

Due to growing use of Spanish

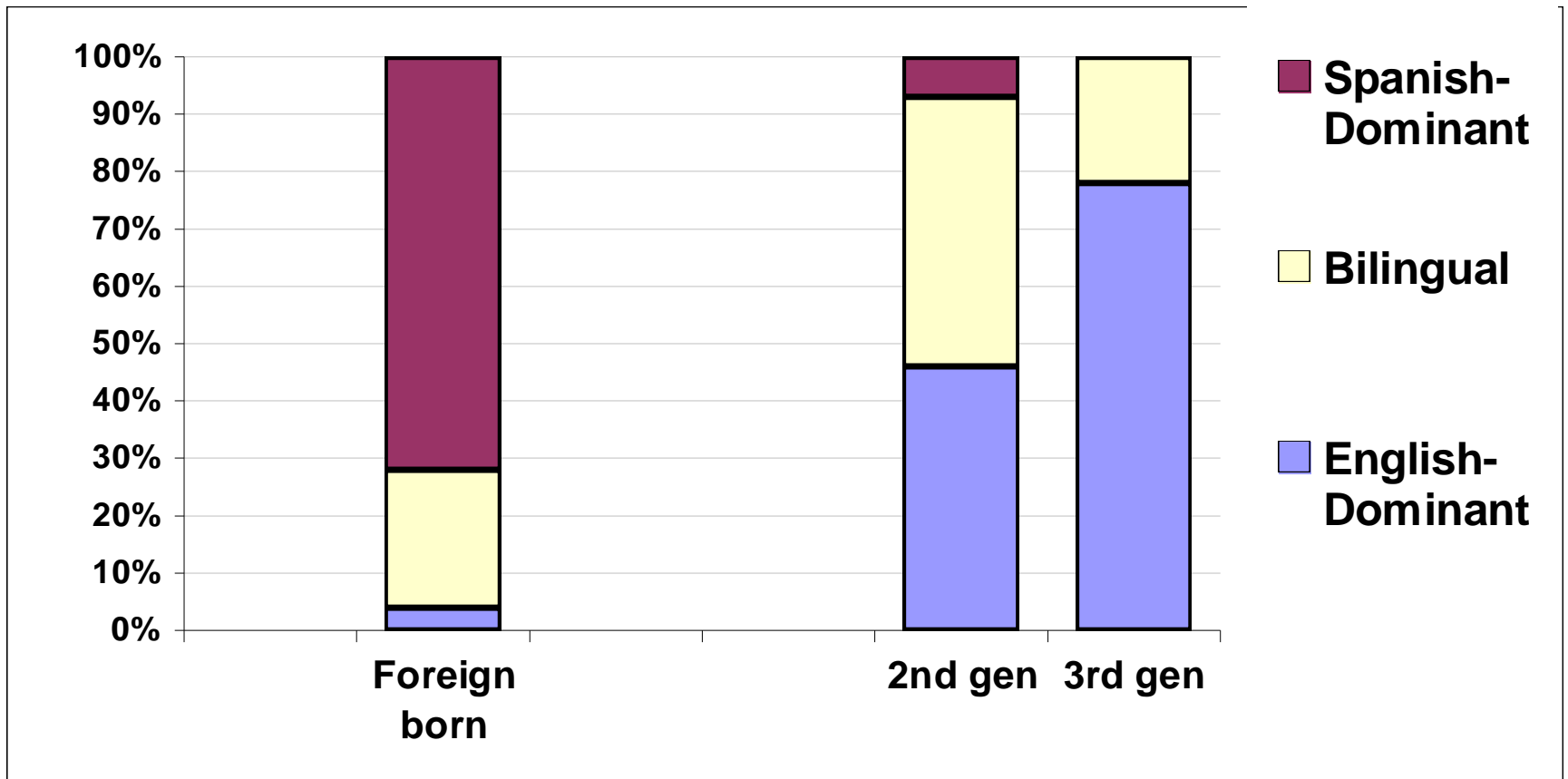
California is epicenter

**New immigrants arriving faster
than assimilation**

-
- **For assimilation, Huntington focuses on use of English instead of Spanish**
 - **He views rising Spanish use as anti-assimilation and a cultural threat to America**

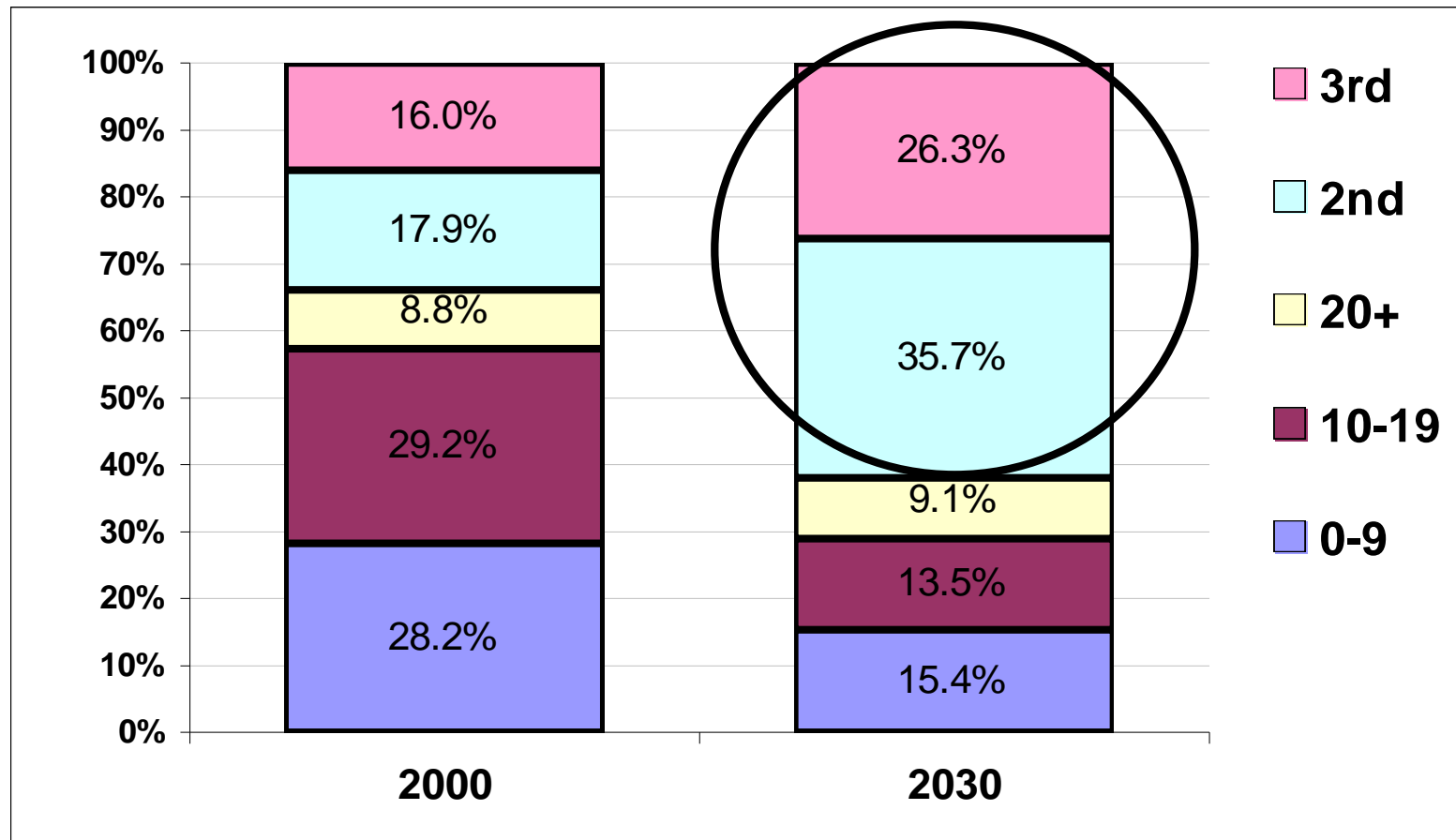
Percent Spanish Users by Immigrant Generation

(for Latinos in the U.S., 2002)



Source: Pew Hispanic Center

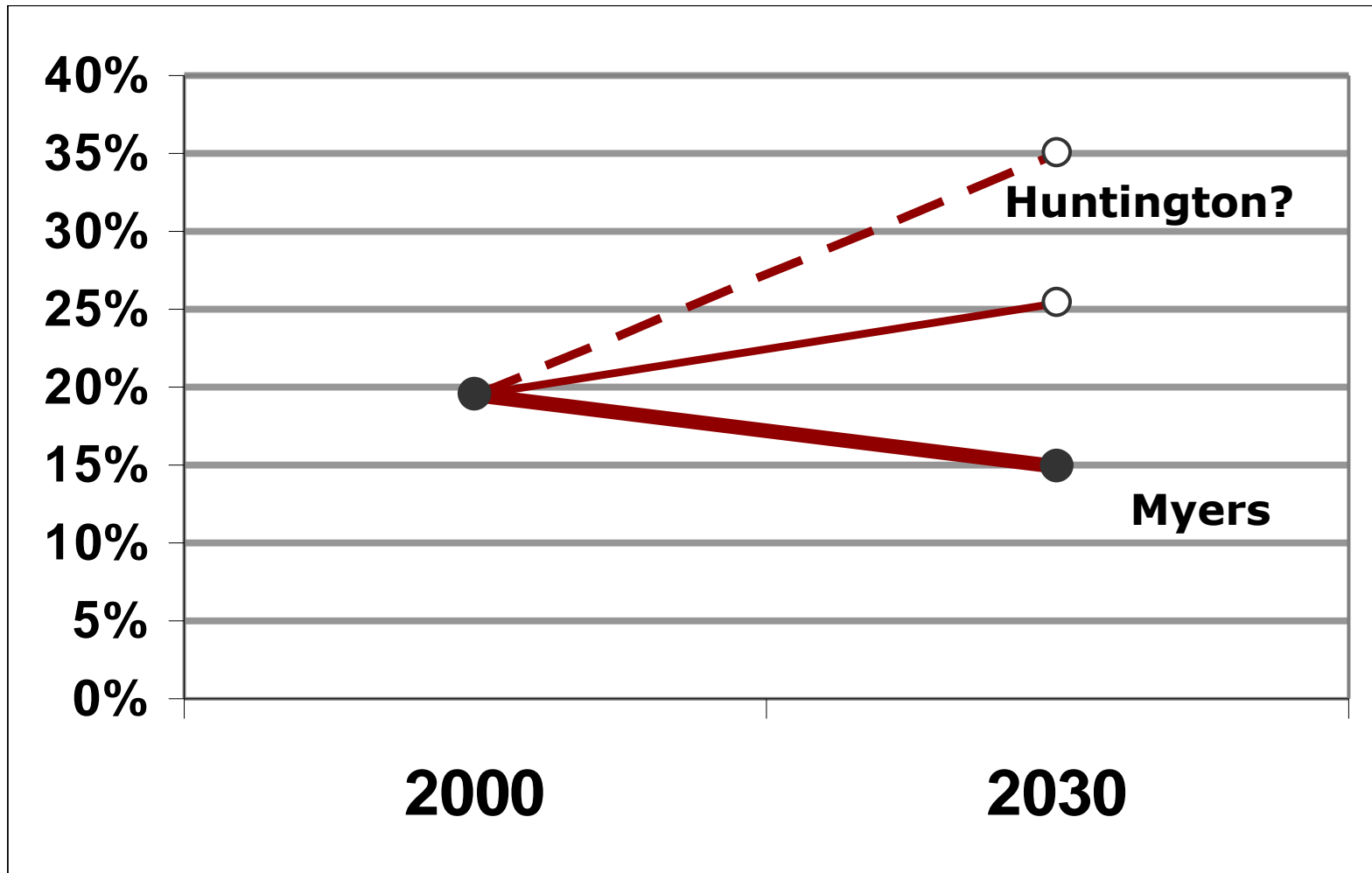
Population Composition by Years in U.S. and Generation (for Latinos age 25-34 in California)

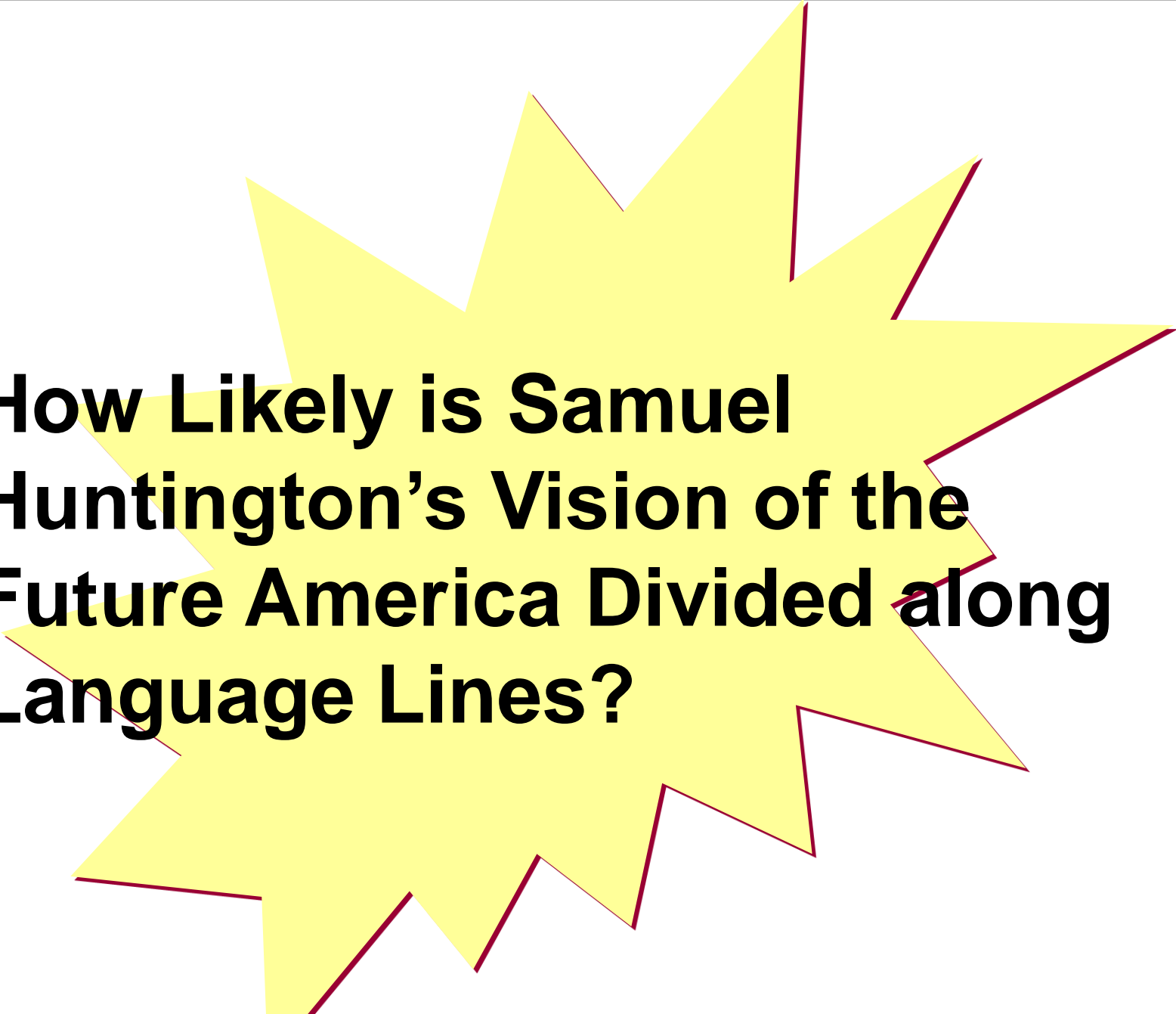


Percent of California Population that is Latino

	2000	2030
Total	32.6	46.8
Age Group 25-34	39.3	51.3

Percent Spanish Reliant Among Total Age 25-34



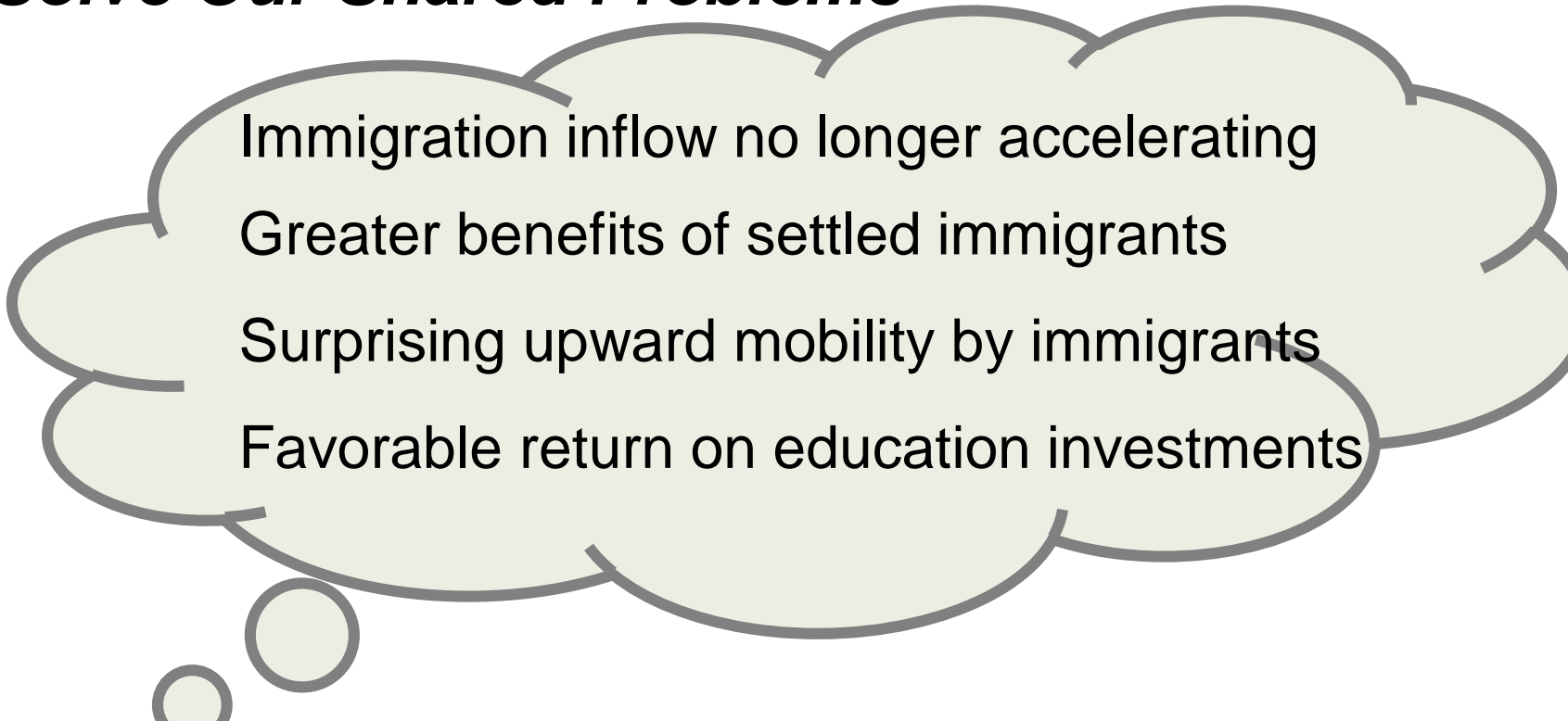
A large, yellow, multi-pointed starburst graphic with a dark red outline, centered on the page. The text is overlaid on this graphic.

**How Likely is Samuel
Huntington's Vision of the
Future America Divided along
Language Lines?**

The Rediscovery of Common Purpose

Turning Demographics From Problem Into Solution

Rediscovery of the Hope Needed to Solve Our Shared Problems



Immigration inflow no longer accelerating

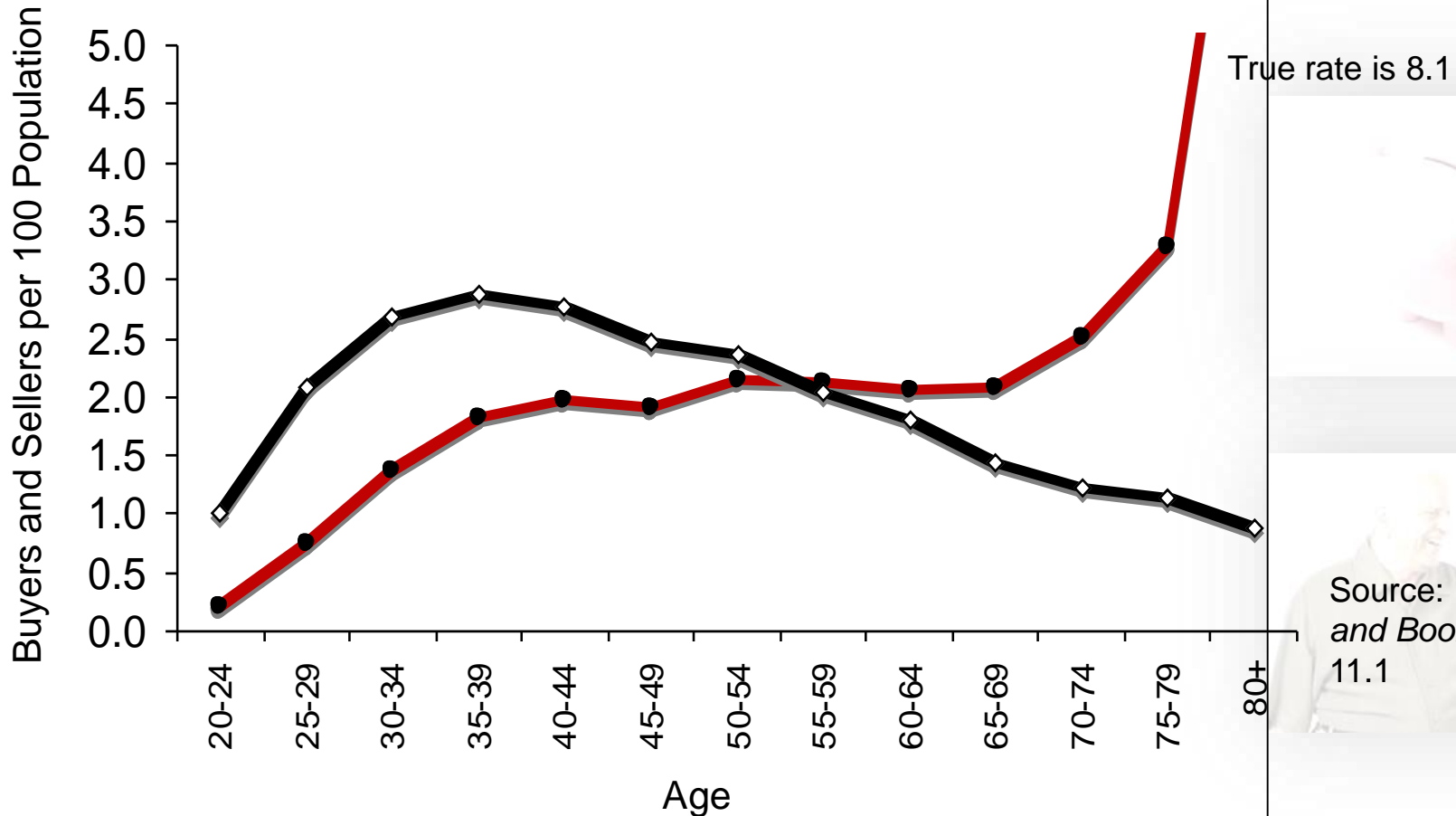
Greater benefits of settled immigrants

Surprising upward mobility by immigrants

Favorable return on education investments

Average Annual Rates of Buying and Selling

Per 100 People of Each Age in California



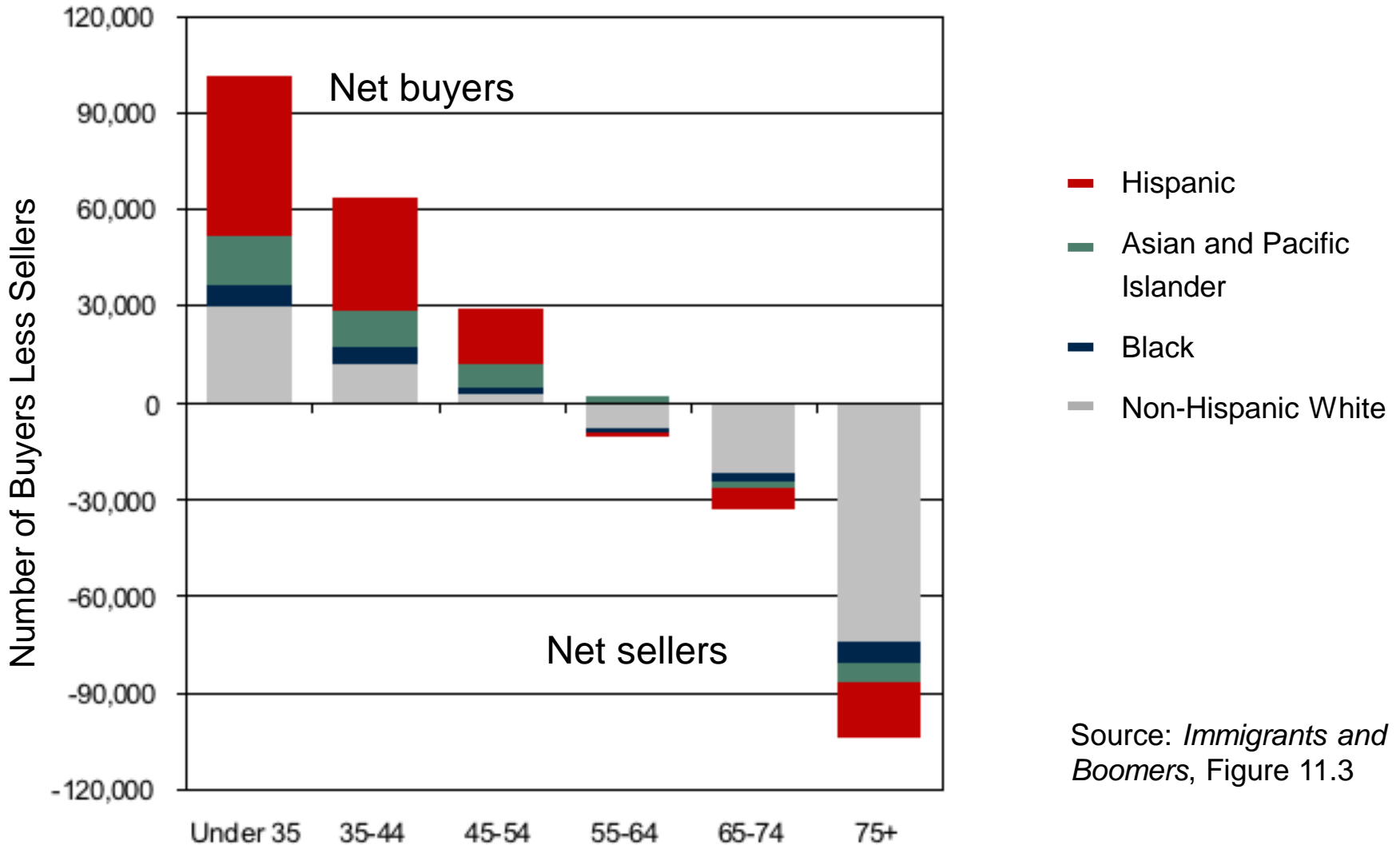
Source: *Immigrants and Boomers*, Figure 11.1

Foreign-Born Share of the Growth in Homeowners

	California	U.S.
1980s	--	11%
1990s	74%	21%
2000s	73%	40%
2010s	100% ??	70% ??

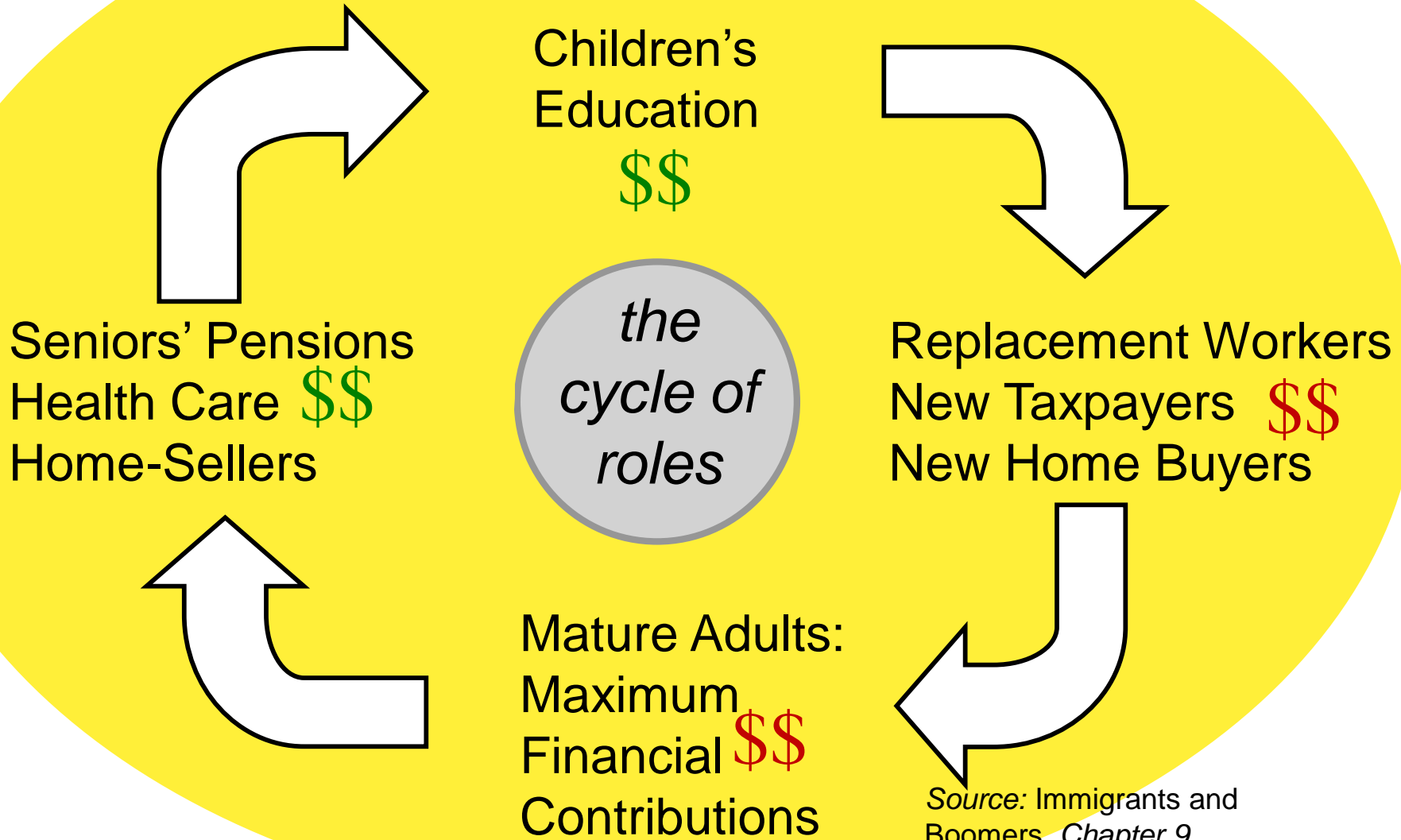
Who's Going to Buy Your House?

Myers' Projection for California in 2020



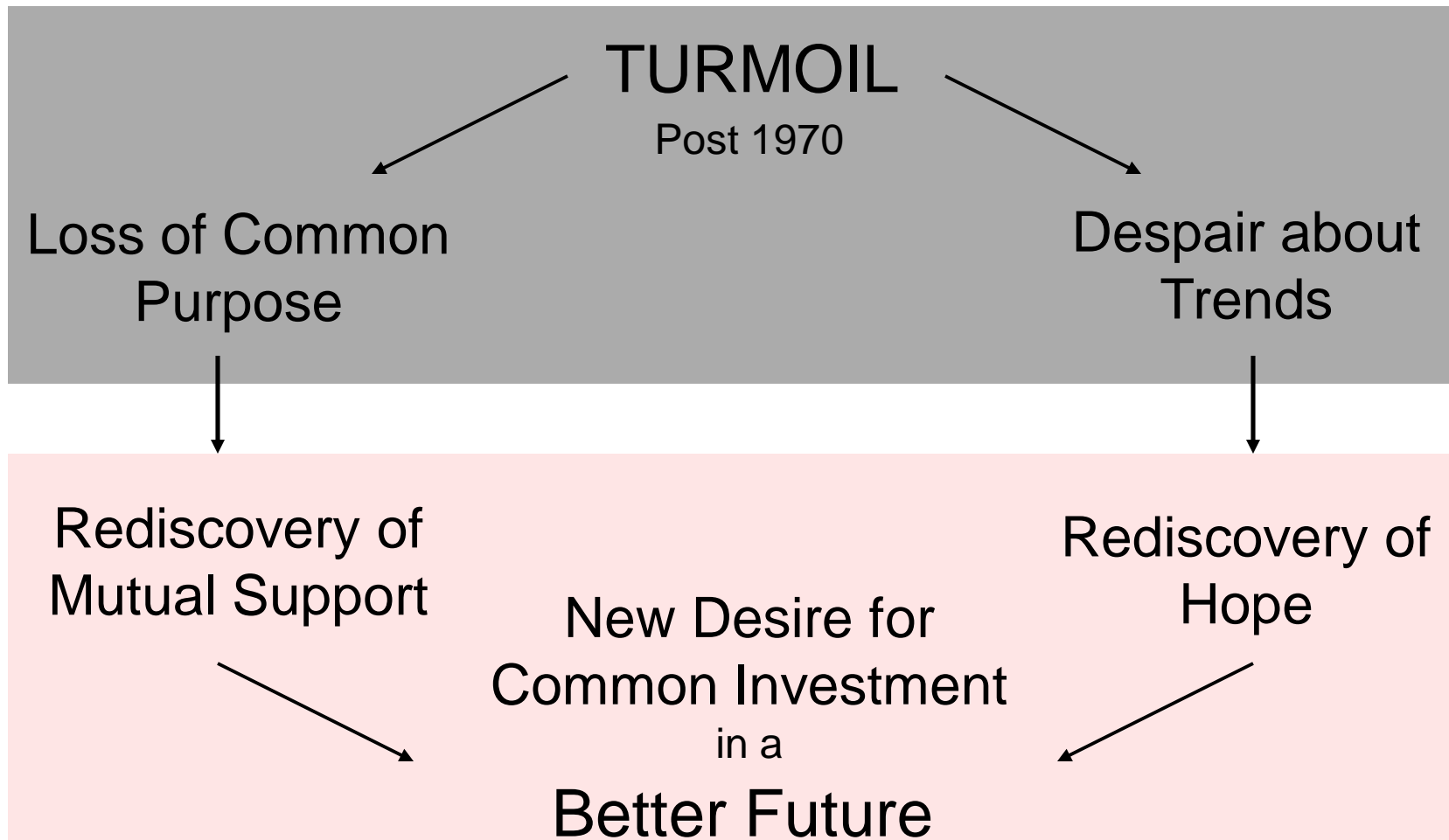
Source: *Immigrants and Boomers*, Figure 11.3

Intergenerational Social Contract



Source: Immigrants and Boomers, Chapter 9

The **New** Story



Thank You

For more information
Google “popdynamics”

Dowell Myers

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**IMMIGRANTS
and BOOMERS**



Forging a New Social Contract
for the Future of America

DOWELL MYERS

2007
Thomas & Znaniecki
Award