

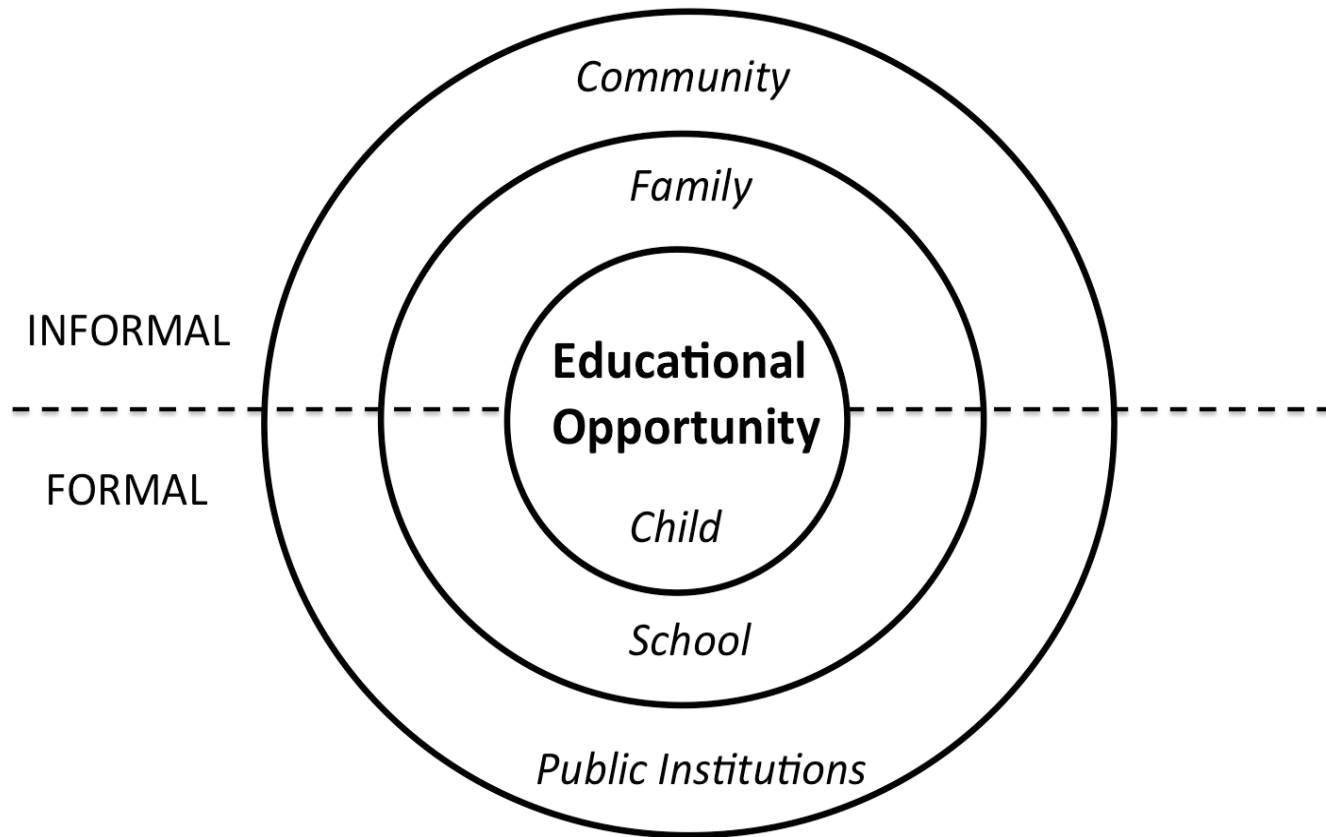
A Portrait of U.S. Children of Central American Origins and Their Educational Opportunity

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Ecologies of Educational Opportunity



Outcomes and Environment

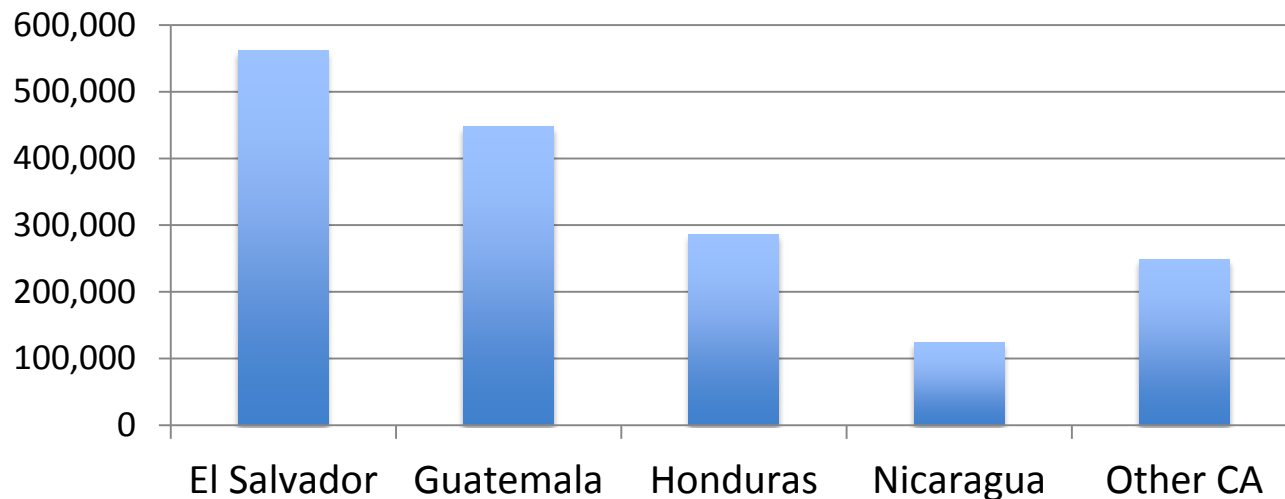
- Educational Outcomes
 - Attainment
 - Academic Achievement
- Institutional Conditions
 - Poverty rates
 - Health insurance coverage
 - Crowded housing
- Family Circumstances
 - Parent education
 - English proficiency

Data

- American Community Survey (ACS)
 - 2009-2013 single-year
 - “undocumented” imputation (Van Hook & Bachmeier, 2013)
- Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Cohort (ECLS-K)
 - K-5 estimates
 - Reardon & Galindo (2009)

Absolute Numbers

- Nearly **1.7 million children** (0-17 yrs.) of Central American origins in the United States
 - 1 in 10 of all Latino children
 - Most are U.S.-born and live in immigrant households

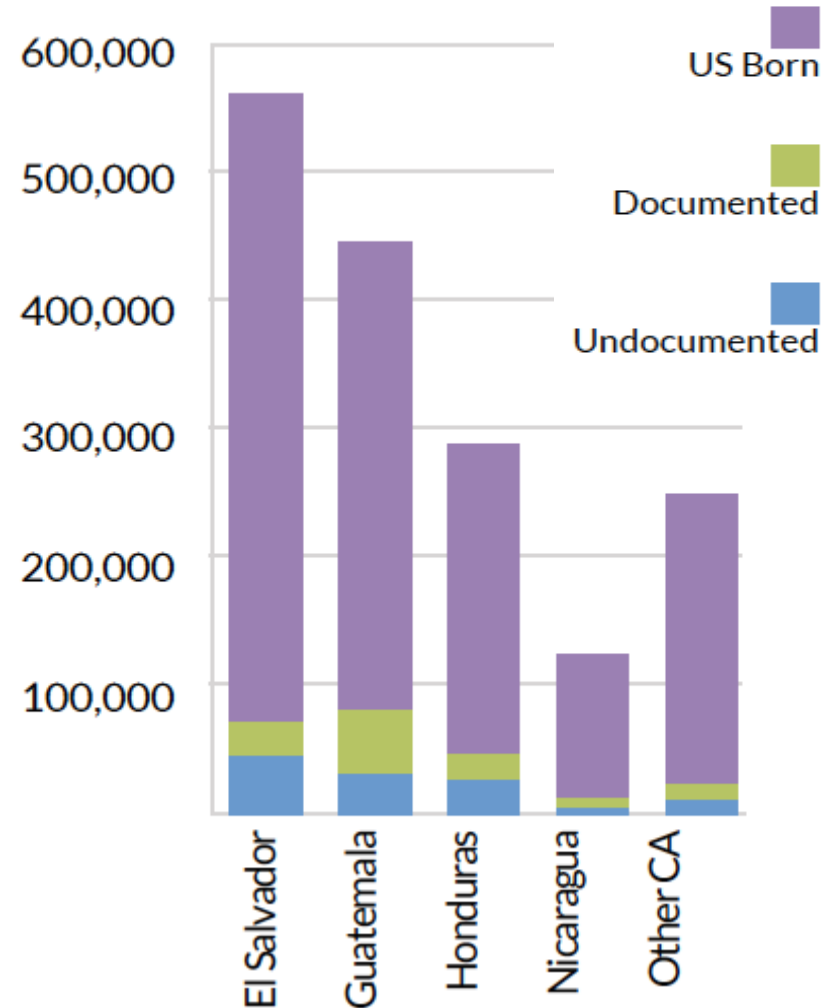


Some Demographic Considerations

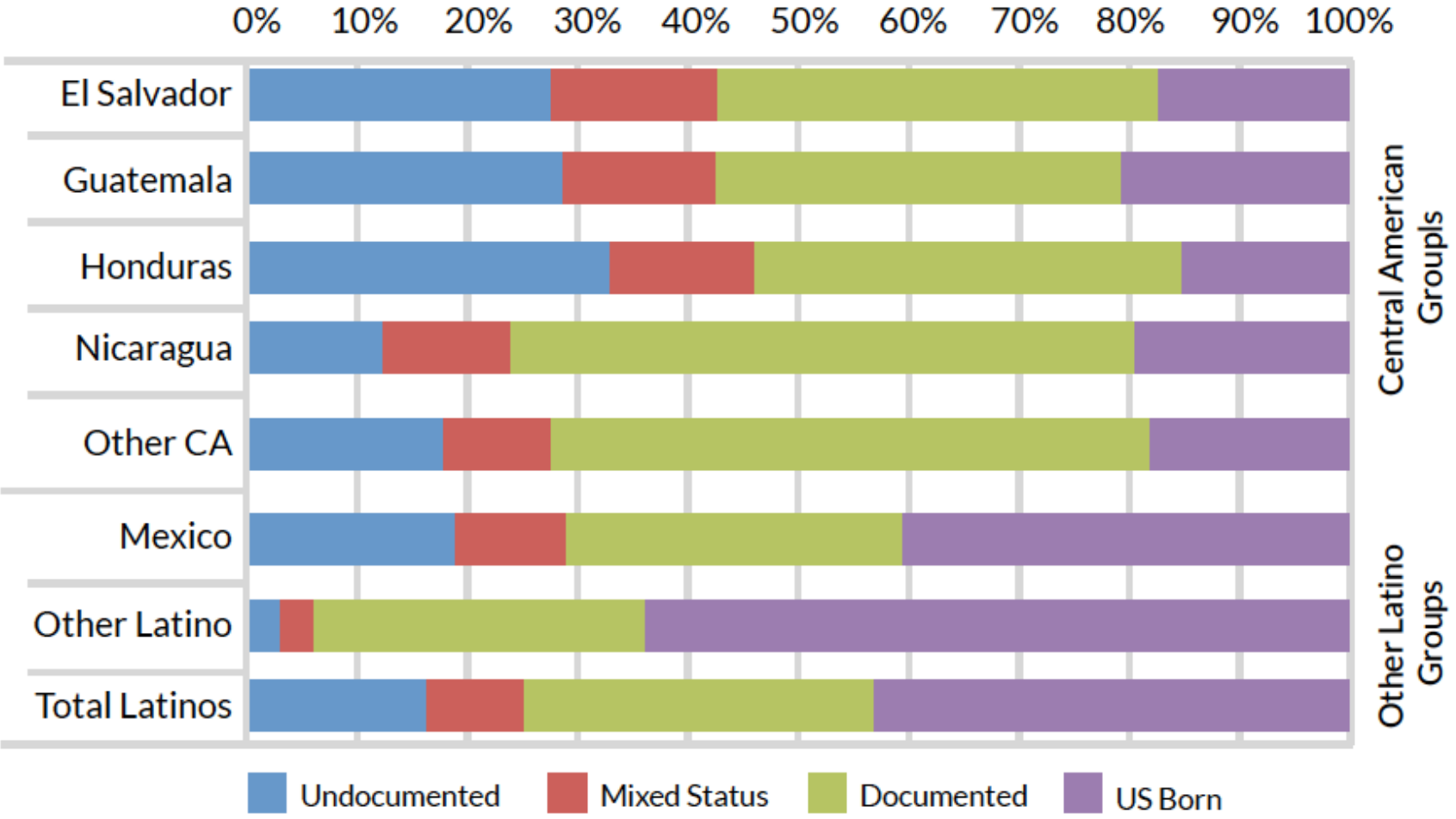
- Out-migration indices vary by CA country
 - 1 in 15 Guatemalans are in the U.S.
 - 1 in 5 Salvadorans are in the U.S.
- Honduran migration is the most recent – half arrived since 2000
- Nicaraguan migration is the most “selective”
(Feliciano, 2005)
- Destinations are widespread. Pacific, South Atlantic, and West South Central are the largest – particularly California, Florida, and Texas

Immigrant and Documentation Status (Children)

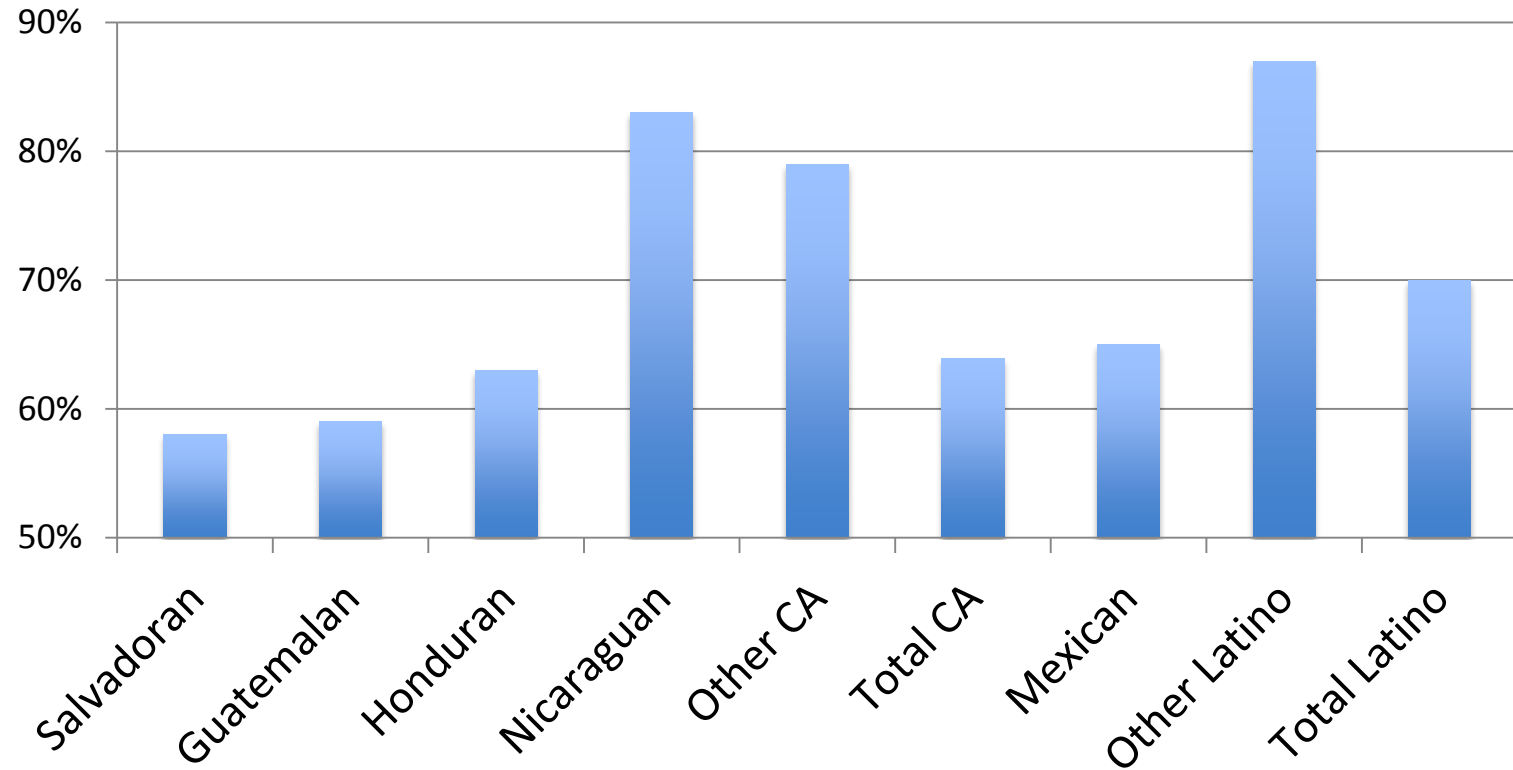
- Higher rates of foreign-born and undocumented status among CA origin children
- Guatemalan origin (18%) are most likely to be foreign-born
- Honduran origin (10%) are most likely to be undocumented



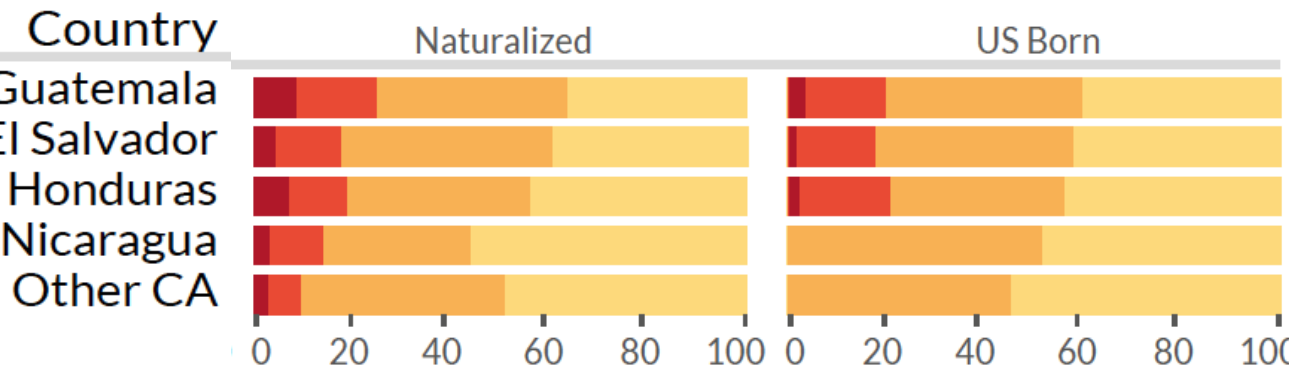
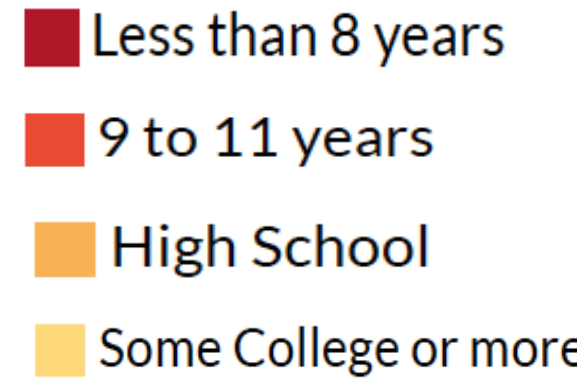
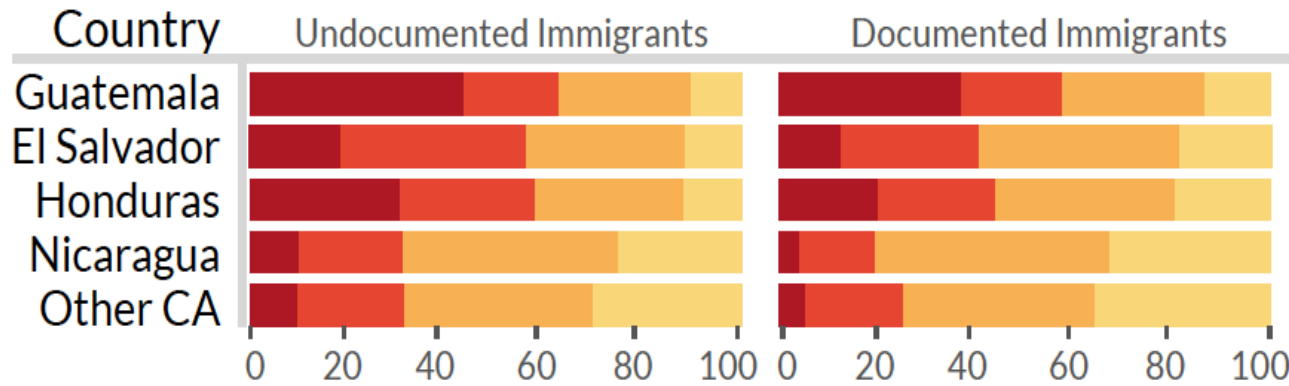
Immigrant and Documentation Status (Parents)



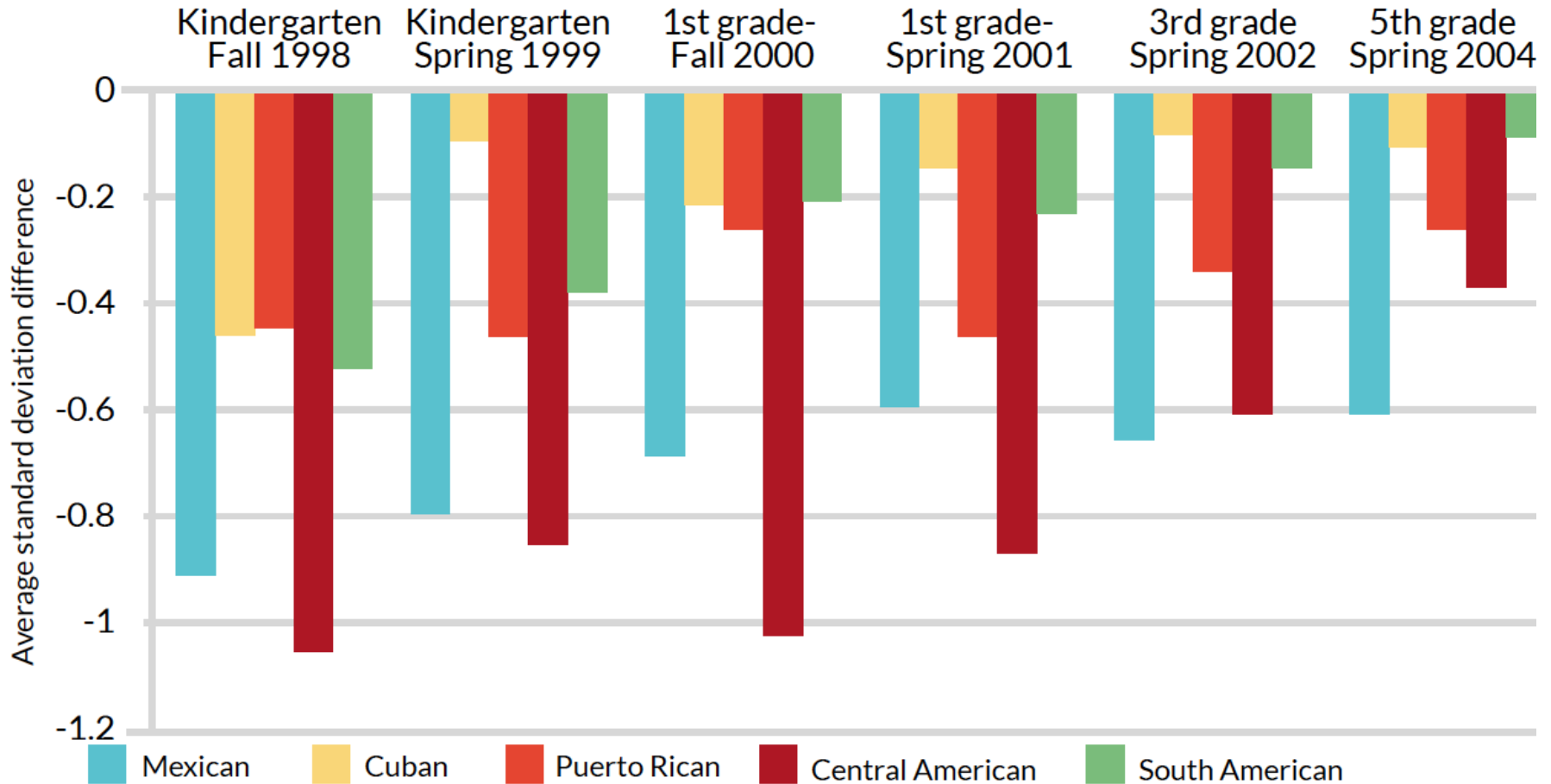
High School Graduation Rates (ages 18-24 yrs.)



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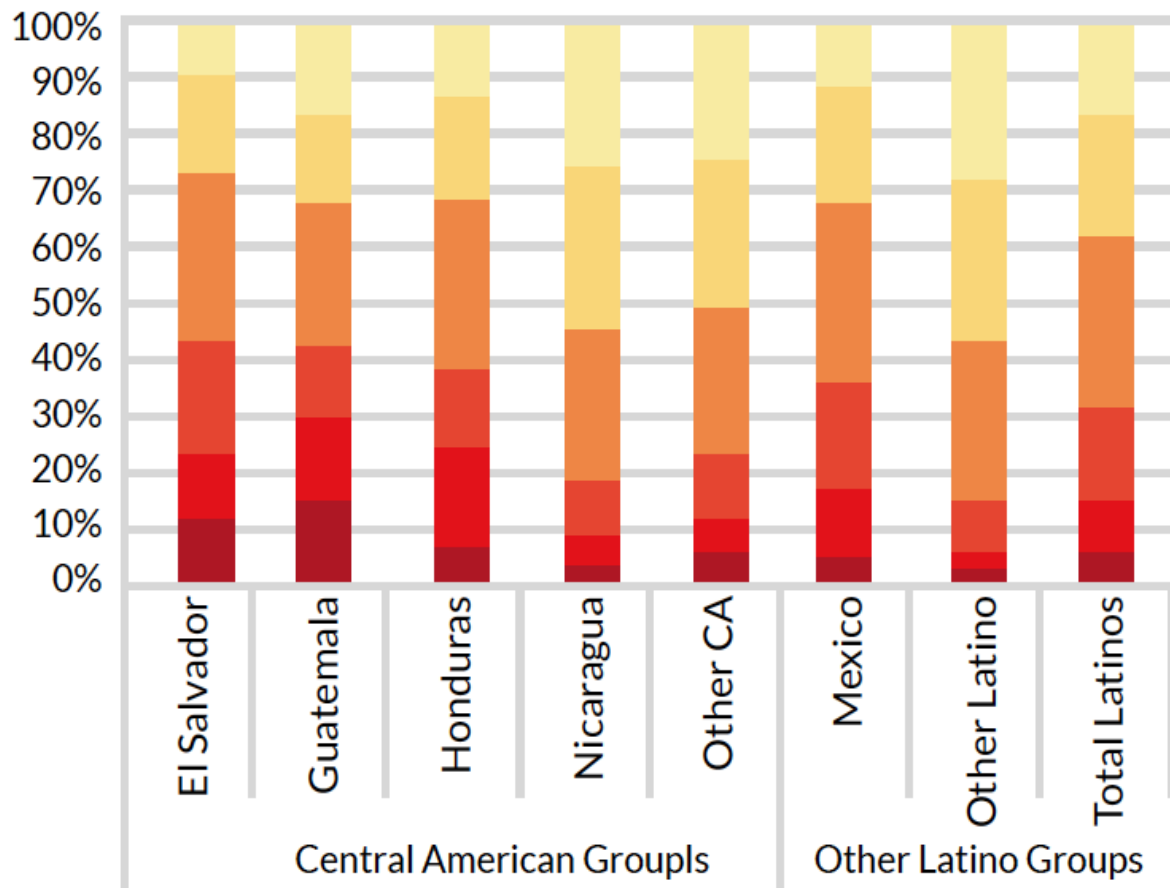
K-5 Mathematics Achievement



Parent Education

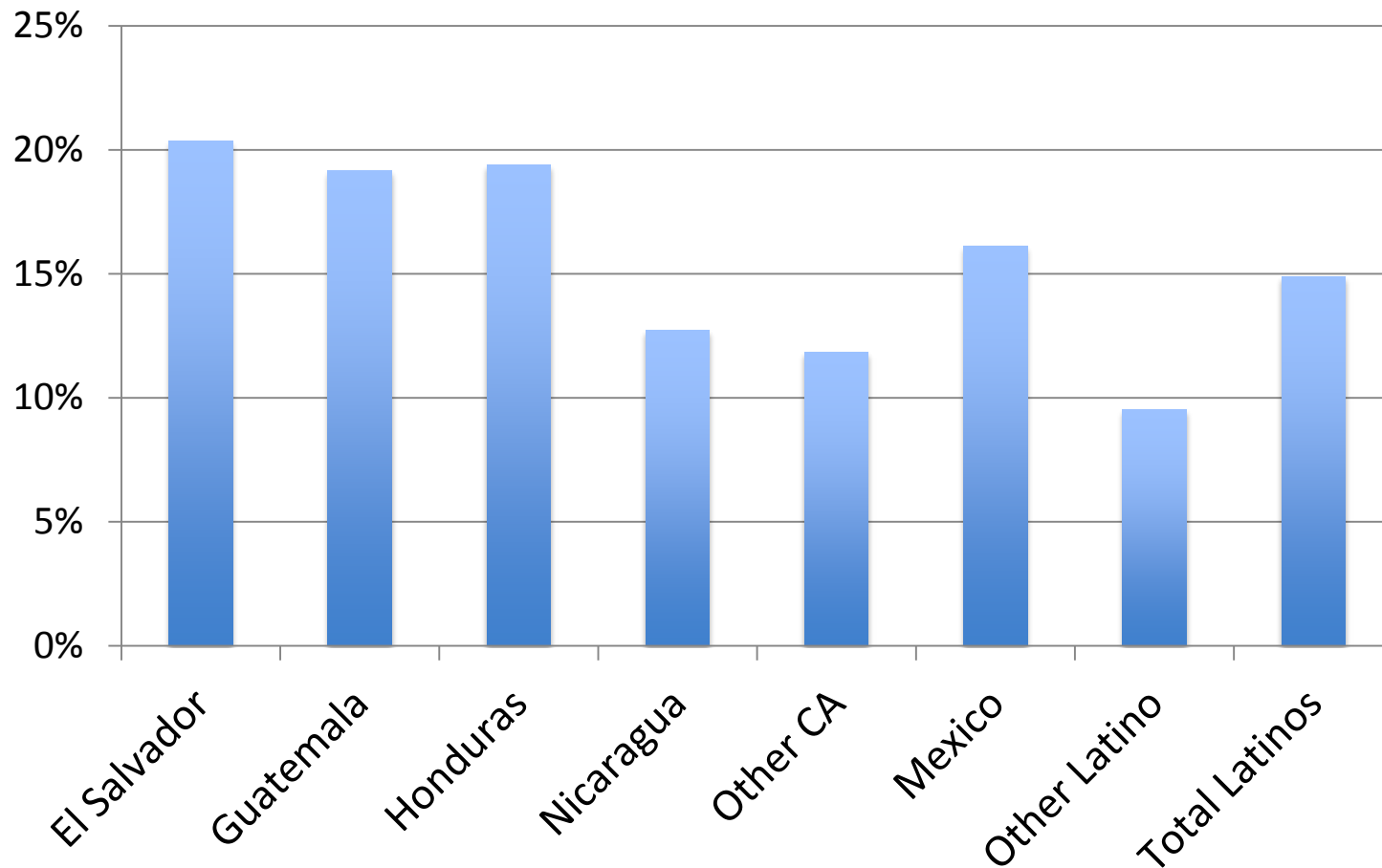
Documented immigrant parents have higher levels of formal schooling than mixed status and undocumented parents.

Mixed status parents have higher levels of formal schooling than undocumented CA immigrant parents.

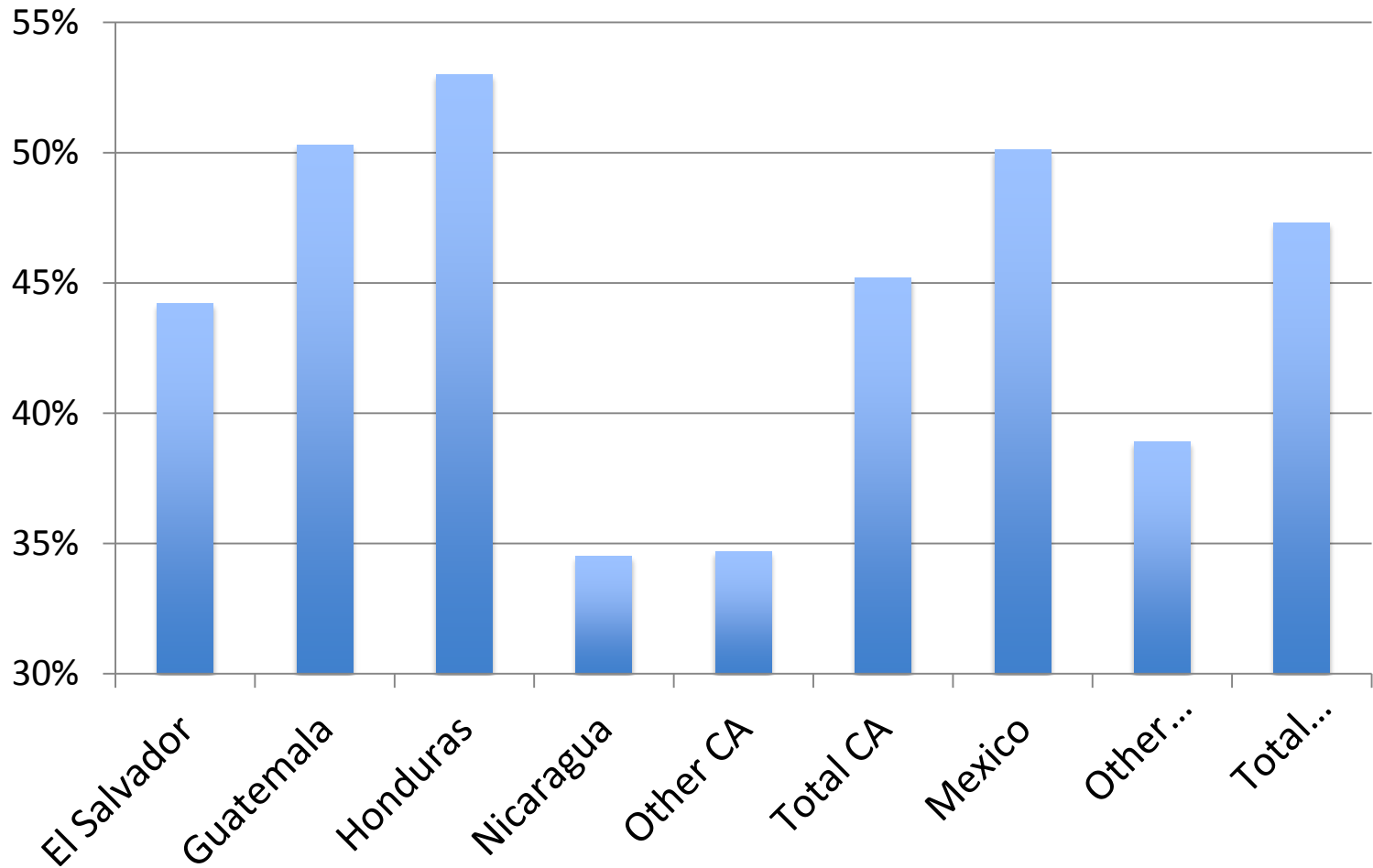


■ Uncompleted Primary ■ Some middle school ■ Some high school
■ High school ■ Some college ■ BA or more

% Limited English Proficient (LEP) (5-17 yrs.)

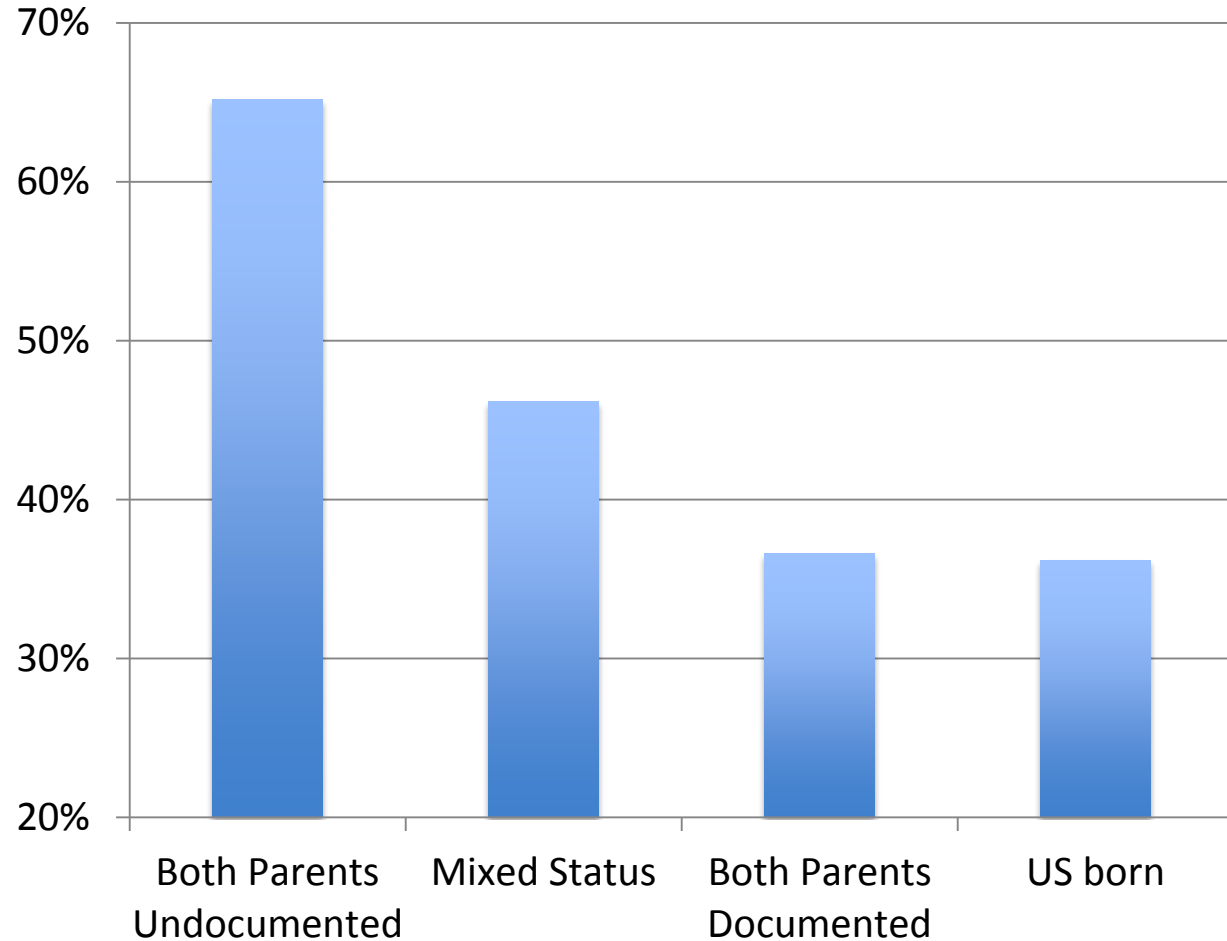


Poverty Rates

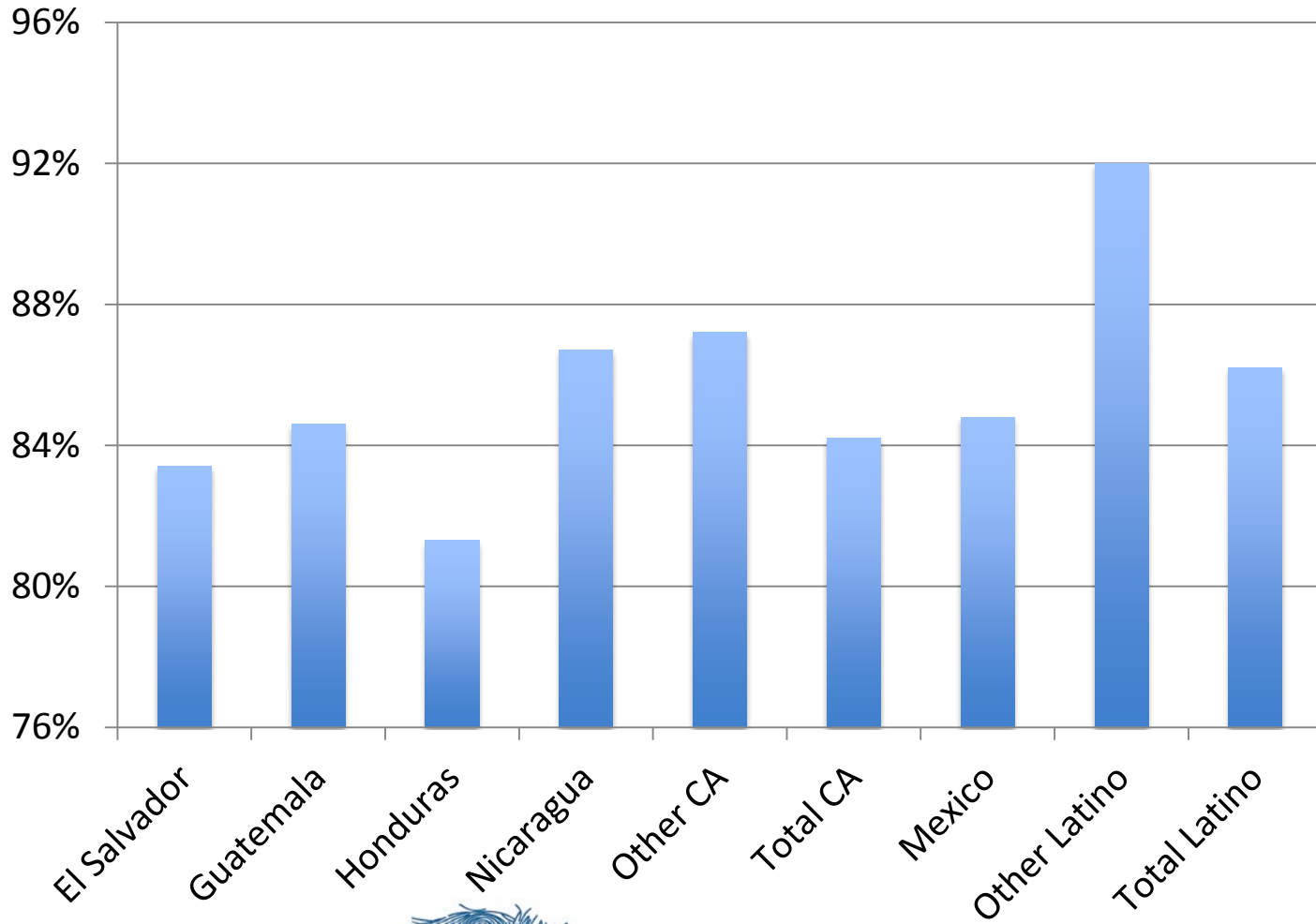


Poverty Rates

For children of Salvadoran, Honduran, and Nicaraguan heritage, poverty rates were *higher* for those with documented immigrant than US-born parents.

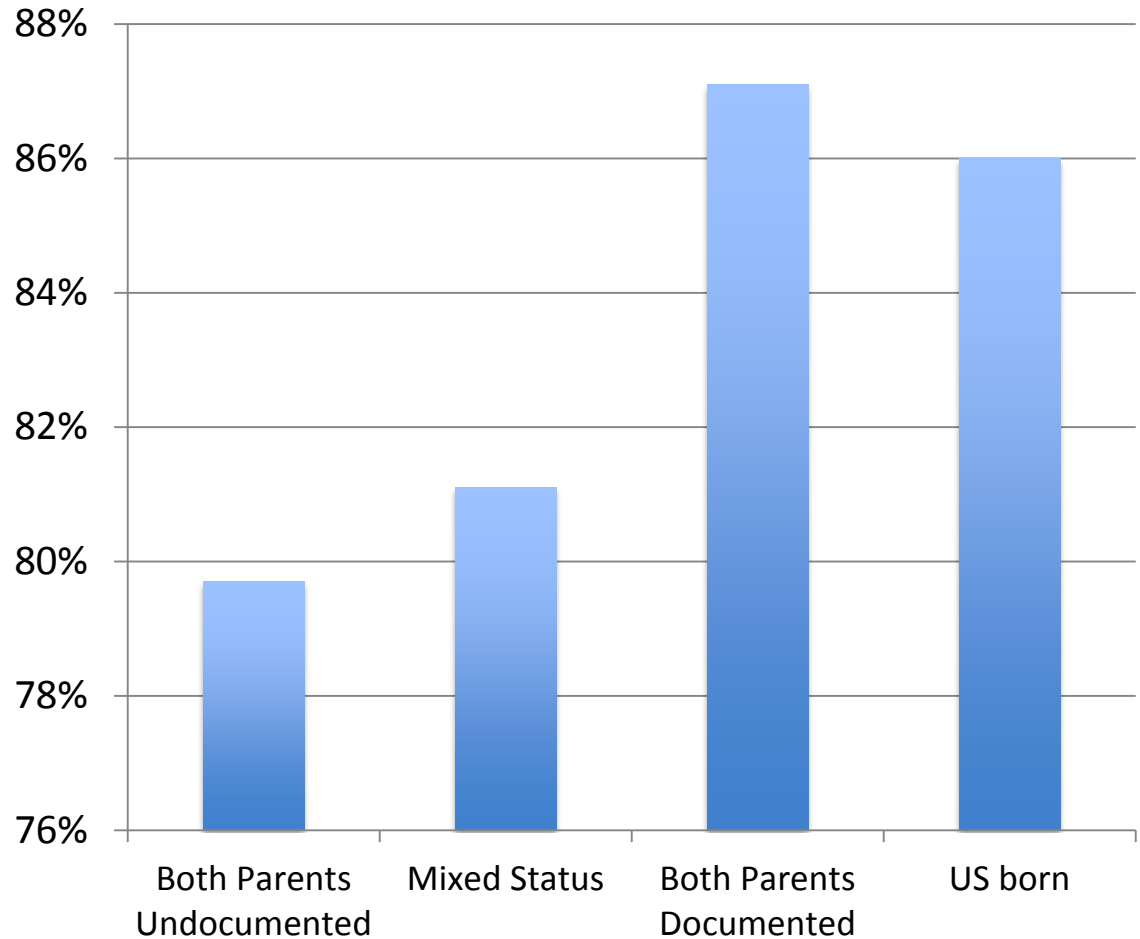


Health Insurance Coverage

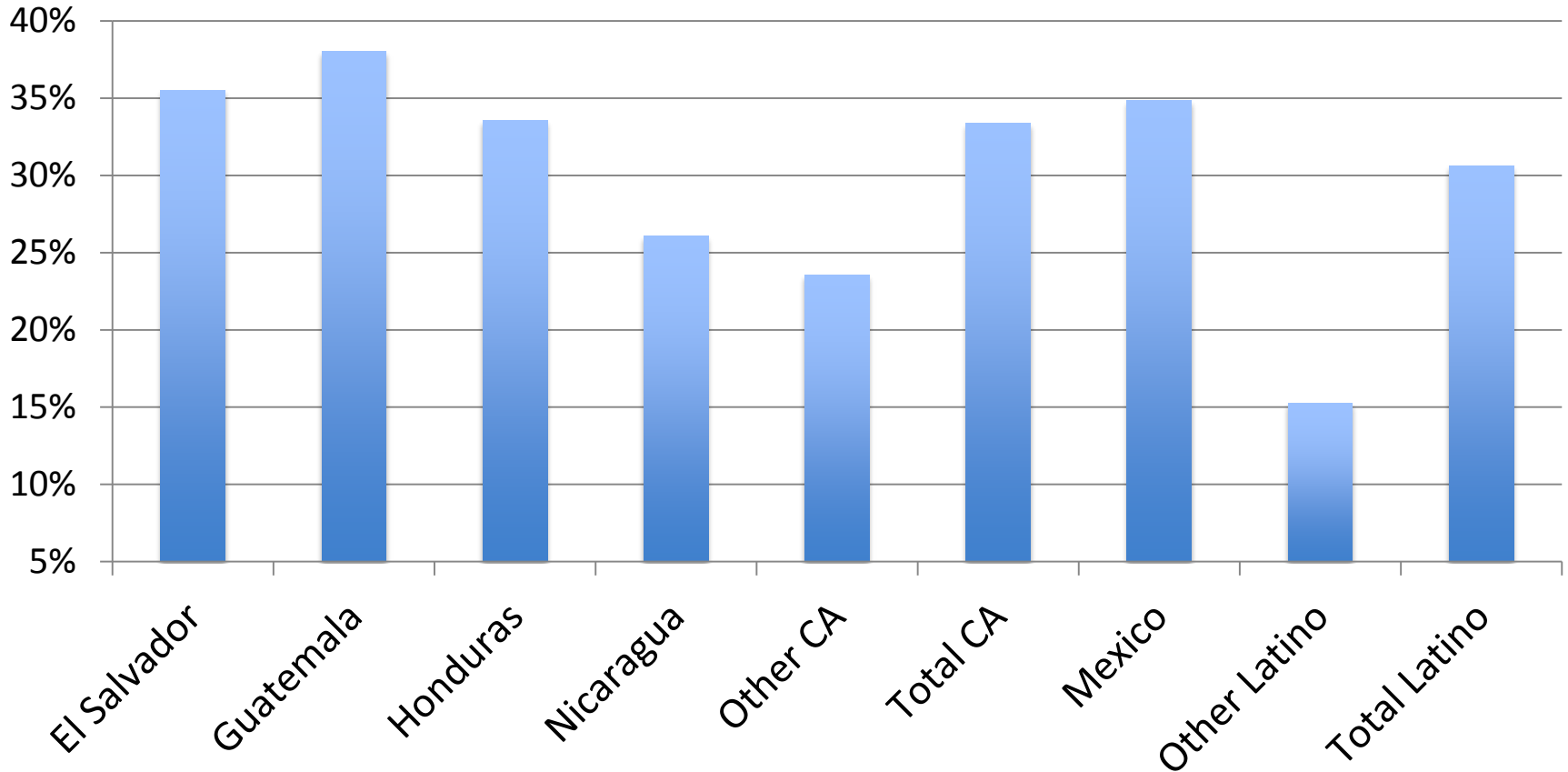


Health Insurance Coverage

Salvadoran and Honduran origins associated with the largest differences between children with US-born and those with documented immigrant parents

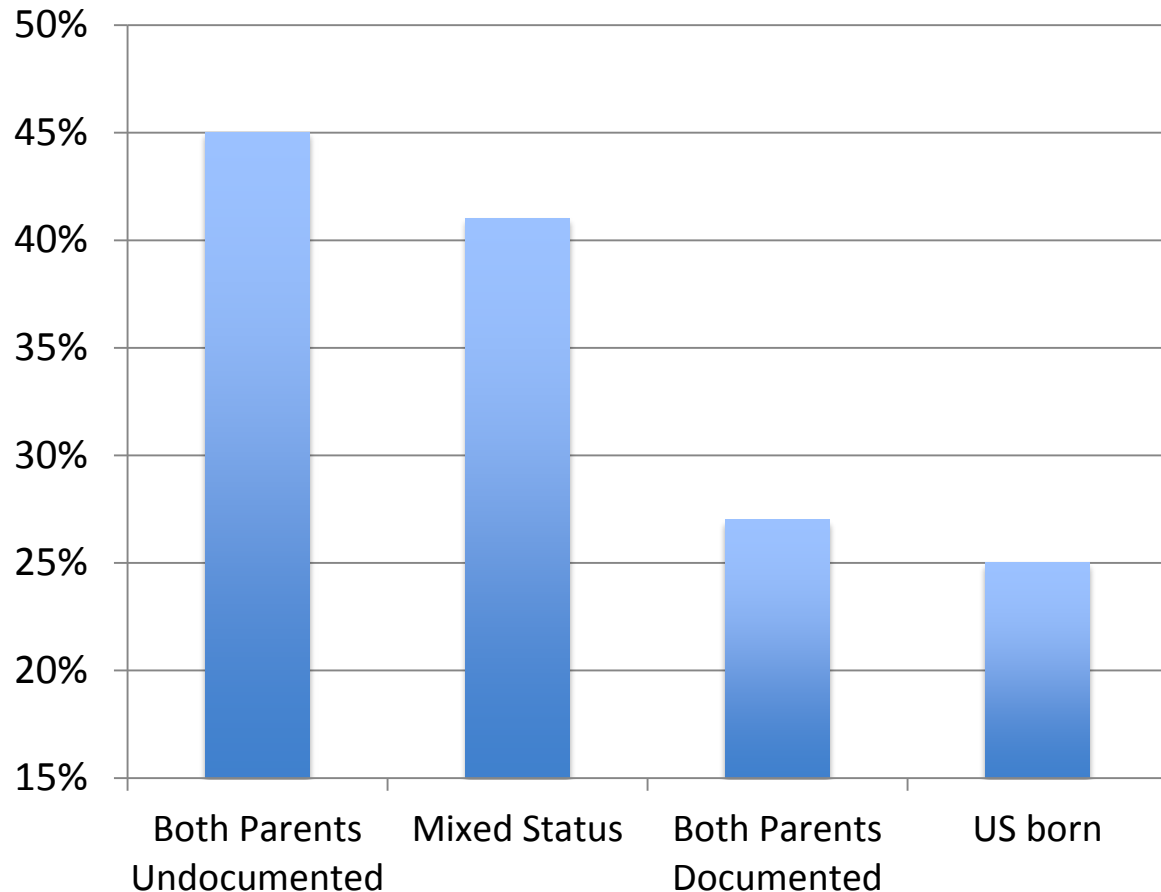


Crowded Housing



Crowded Housing

Salvadoran- and Honduran-origin children from US-born parents are more likely than those with documented immigrant parents to live in crowded housing



Some Conclusions

- Educational opportunities for CA-origin children are similar to those for Mexican-origin children, though weaker than for those from Caribbean or South American groups.
- The larger groups—from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras—have weaker opportunities than those from the other CA countries.
- Children from CA origins are more likely (40%) than any other Latino peer group to have an undocumented parent.
- Undocumented status of parents is associated with weaker educational opportunity across the board.
- By and large, CA-origin children with U.S.-born parents experience similar educational opportunities to their co-ethnic peers from documented immigrant households.

Some Recommendations

- Collaborate with authorities and education ministries in Central American nations (especially in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras) in order to understand and improve educational opportunities in migrant-sending communities.
- Use federal research funds to better understand educational opportunity for Central American-origin (and other Latino) children, and to design and test improvements.
- Incorporate the needs of children from Central American origins (and other Latinos) into the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (i.e., No Child Left Behind).
- Provide undocumented parents of children with Central American origins with a pathway to legal permanent resident status.