

# Measuring International Migration- Related SDGs with U.S. Census Bureau Data

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*This presentation is released to inform interested parties of ongoing research and to encourage discussion of work in progress. Any views expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the U.S. Census Bureau.*

# Summary of U.S. Census Bureau Data on the Foreign Born

# American Community Survey (ACS)

- Implemented in 2005, estimates released annually
- Large sample size allows for studying small levels of geography
- Relevant questions: country of birth, U.S. citizenship status, year of naturalization, year of entry, residence one year ago, race, ethnicity, language spoken at home

# Current Population Survey (CPS)

- Primary data source for U.S. labor force statistics
- Began in 1940's so allows for time series analyses
- Contains most foreign born items in ACS plus parental place of birth & reason for moving

# Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)

- Longitudinal survey; each panel is about four years long
- Relevant questions: whether born in U.S., citizenship status
- Topical module contains information on immigration status upon entry to the U.S., whether and when status changed to permanent resident, country of previous home

# National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS)

- Nationally representative sample of about 90,000 households collected yearly by the Bureau of Justice Statistics
- Collects information on non-fatal personal crimes (i.e. robbery, rape, assault) and household property crimes (i.e. theft, car theft)
- Added a citizenship question in 2016

# Administrative Data

- National Center for Health Statistics
  - Register data on births and deaths by nativity status; cause of death
  - Nativity defined by country of birth
  - Needed to develop nativity-specific life tables
- Numeric Identification data (Numident)
  - Social Security Administration data linked to other administrative sources
    - Includes data on country of birth
    - Example: linked to Internal Revenue Service data to estimate the internal migration of foreign born

# Measurement of Migratory Status



# Foreign Born

- U.S. Census Bureau defines the foreign born as anyone who is not a U.S. citizen at birth
- Foreign-born population includes naturalized U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents, temporary migrants, humanitarian migrants, and unauthorized migrants
- U.S. Census Bureau identifies the foreign born in survey data based on a citizenship question

# ACS Questions

**7** Where was this person born?

In the United States – *Print name of state.*

Outside the United States – *Print name of foreign country, or Puerto Rico, Guam, etc.*

**8** Is this person a citizen of the United States?

Yes, born in the United States → *SKIP to 10a*

Yes, born in Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or Northern Marianas

Yes, born abroad of U.S. citizen parent or parents

Yes, U.S. citizen by naturalization – *Print year of naturalization* ↙

No, not a U.S. citizen

**9** When did this person come to live in the United States? *Print numbers in boxes.*  
Year

# Examples of International Migration-Related SDG Indicators Measurable with U.S. Census Bureau Data

# Sustainable Development Goal Indicators

- **1.2.1: National poverty line**
- 1.3.1: Social protection systems (utilization)
- 1.4.1: Access to basic services
- 2.3.2: Income of *small-scale* food producers
- 3.1.1: Maternal mortality data
- 3.2.1: Under-five mortality
- 3.7.2: Adolescent birth rate
- **3.8.2: Health insurance coverage**

# Indicators

- **4.3.1: Participation rate of youth and adults in formal education**
- 5.2.1 and 5.2.2: Proportion of women subjected to physical, sexual, *or psychological* violence
- 5.5.2: Proportion of women in managerial positions
- 8.5.1: Average earnings of female and male employees
- **8.5.2: Unemployment rate**

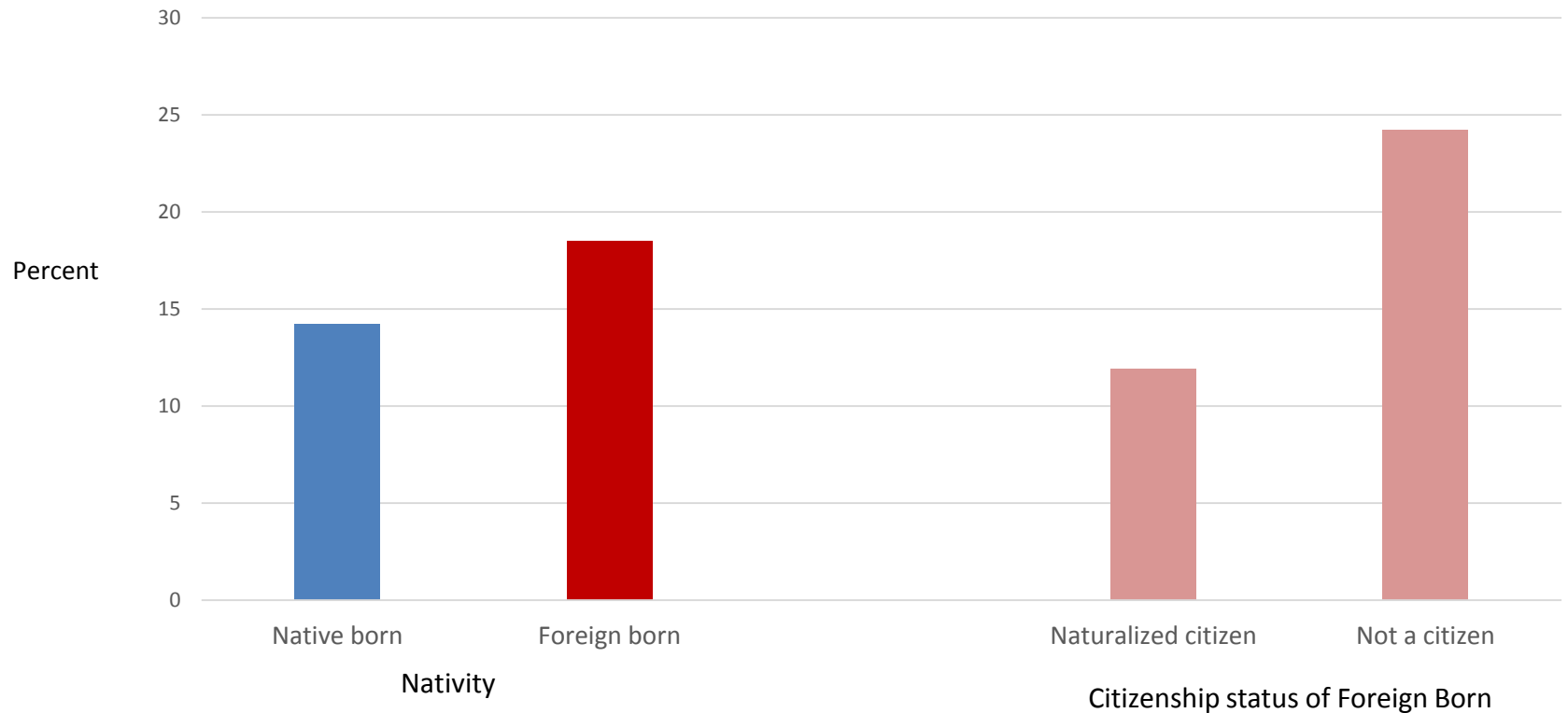
# Indicators

- 8.6.1: Proportion of youth (aged 15-24) not in education, employment, or training
- 8.10.2: Proportion of adults with a bank account (*assets from interest*)
- 10.2.1: Proportion of people living below 50 percent of median income
- 10.3.1: Proportion of population having felt discriminated against or harassed (*limited measurement*)
- 17.8.1: Proportion of individuals using the internet

# Selected SDG Indicators by Migratory Status

# Indicator 1.2.1 Proportion of Population Living below the National Poverty Line

Percent Below Poverty Line by Nativity and Citizenship Status: 2015

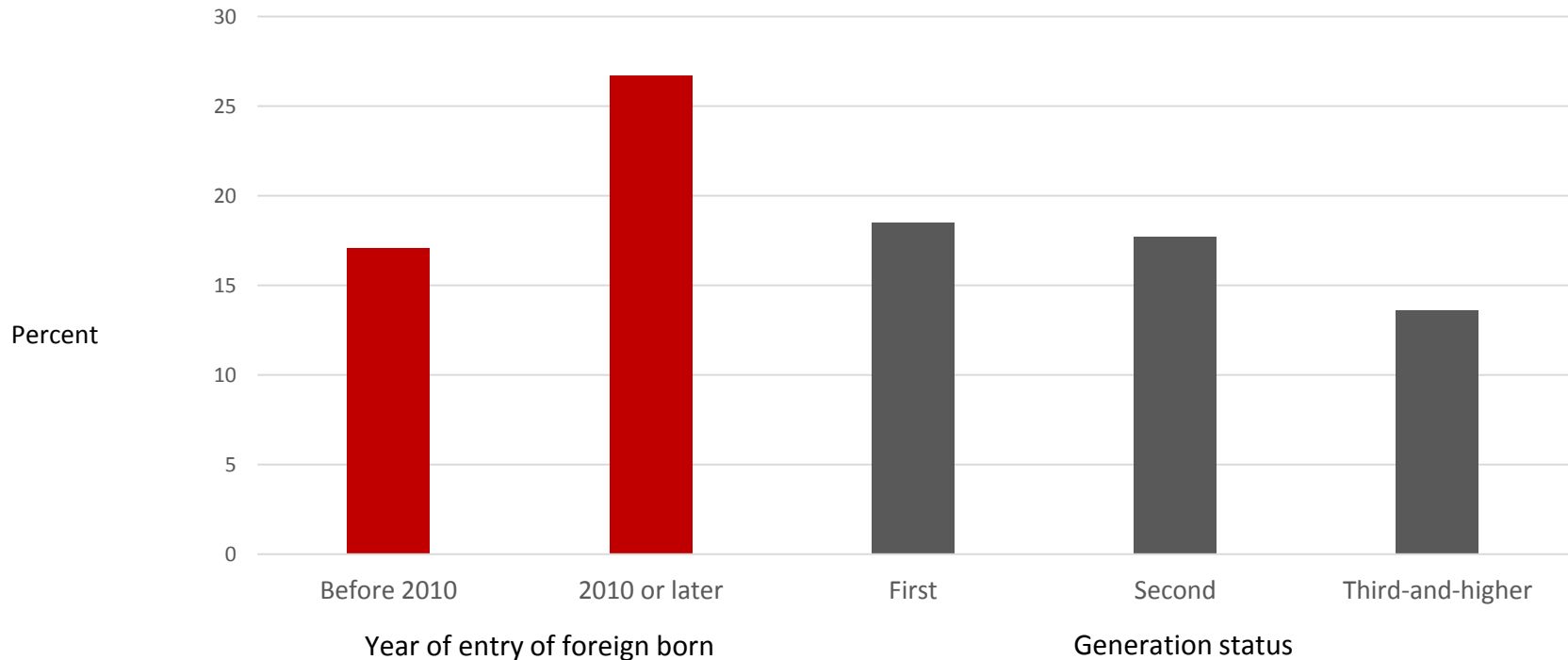


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, 2015.



# Indicator 1.2.1, continued

Percent Below Poverty Line by Year of Entry and Generation: 2015

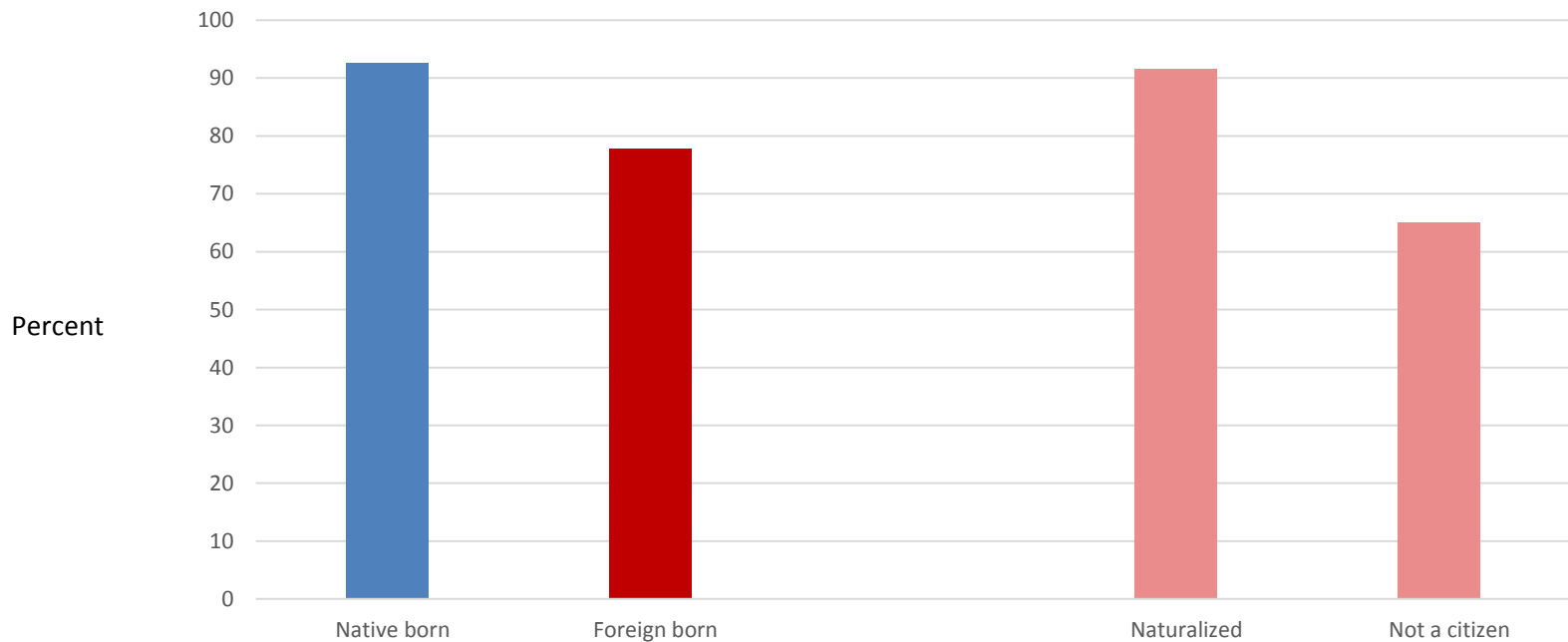


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, 2015.

Note: The before 2010 and second generation are not significantly different, and the first and second generation are not significantly different.

# Indicator 3.8.2 People covered by Health Insurance

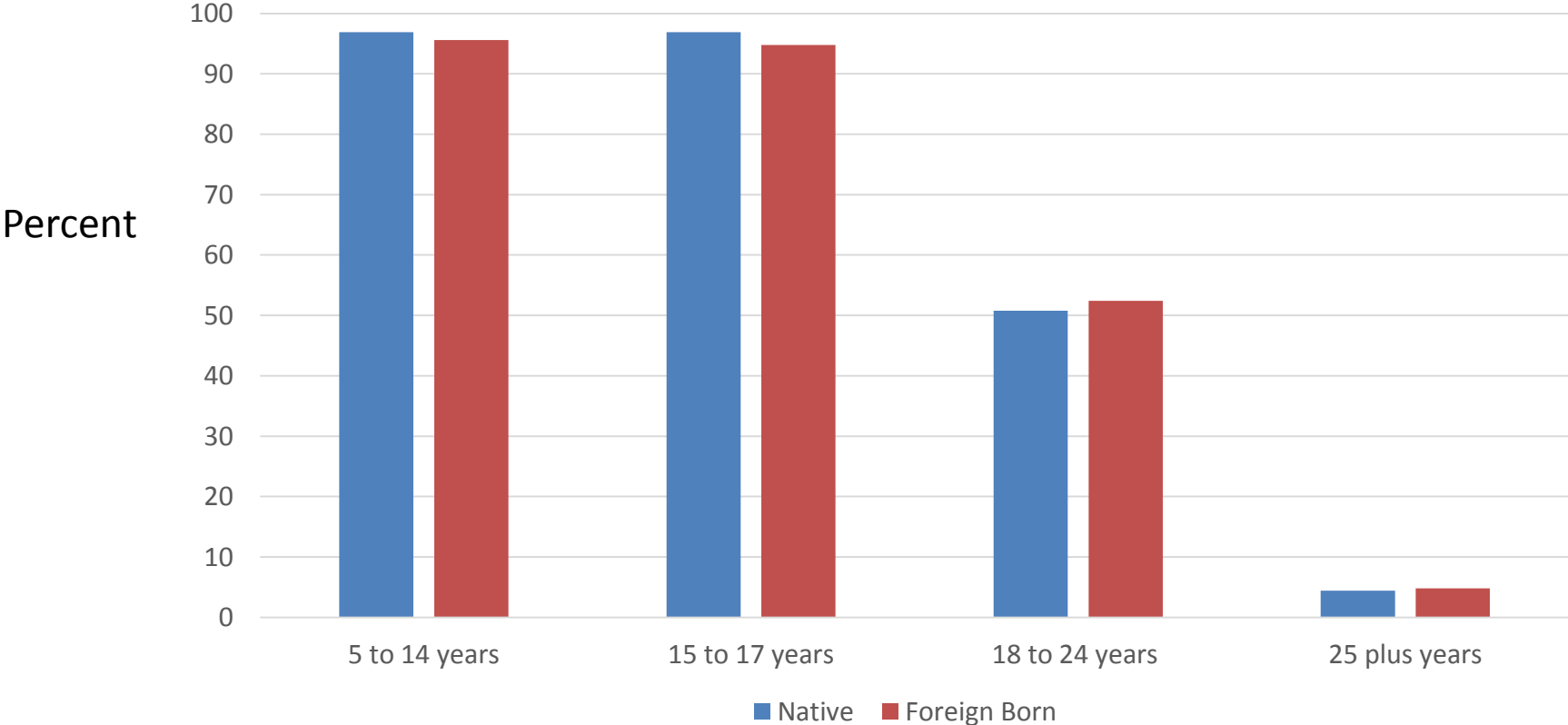
Percent Covered by Health Insurance by Nativity and Citizenship: 2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

# Indicator 4.3.1 Participation of Youth and Adults in Formal Education

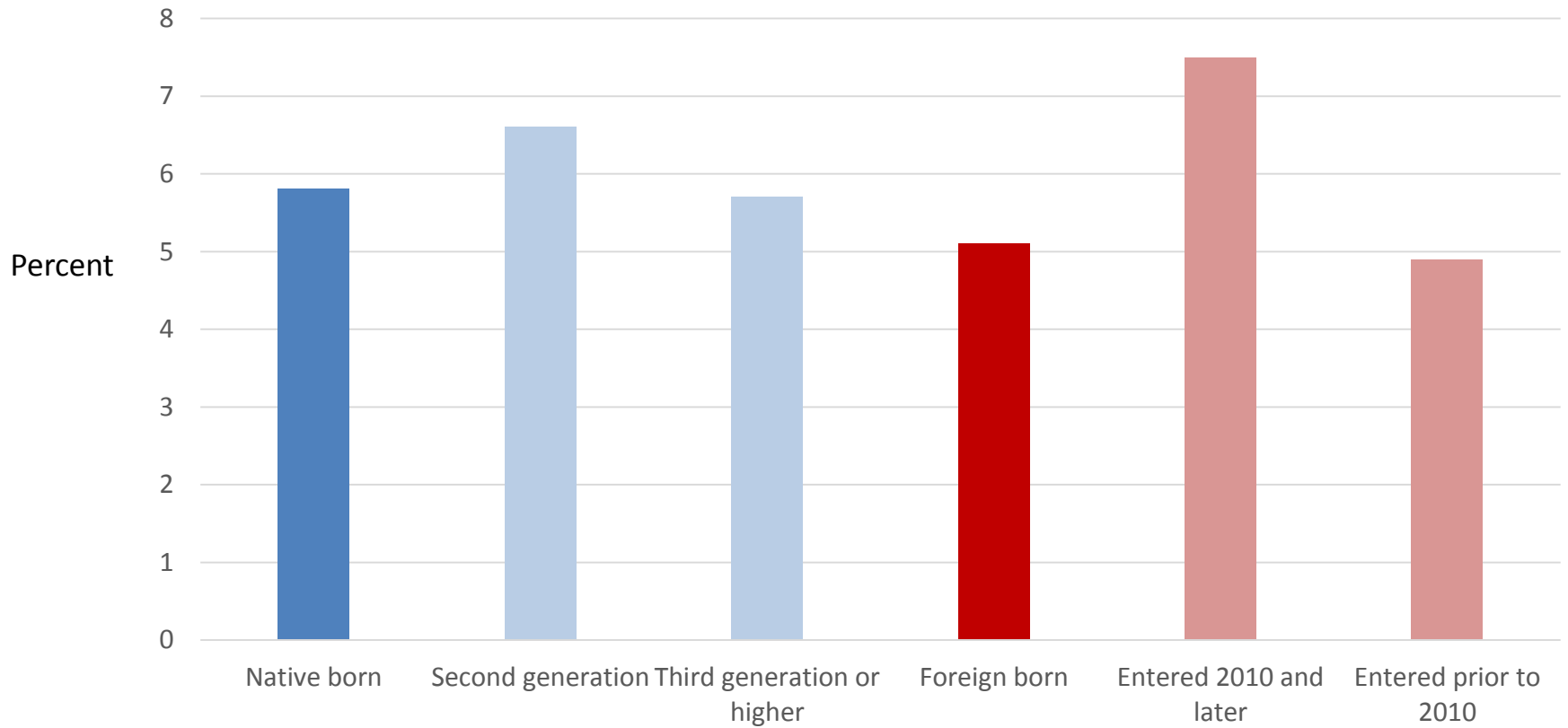
Percent Age 5 and Older Enrolled in School by Age and Nativity: 2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year data

# Indicator 8.5.2 Percent Unemployed

Percent Unemployed by Nativity, Generation, and Year of Entry, Age 16 and Older: 2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, 2015.

# Conclusions

- Migration status is measurable by Country of Birth and Citizenship Status
- Many SDG indicators are measurable using U.S. Census Bureau data, including many the UN recommends for disaggregation by migratory status
- U.S. data show the native born have lower poverty rates, higher health insurance coverage rates, higher school enrollment rates, and higher unemployment rates in 2015

# Thank you!

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