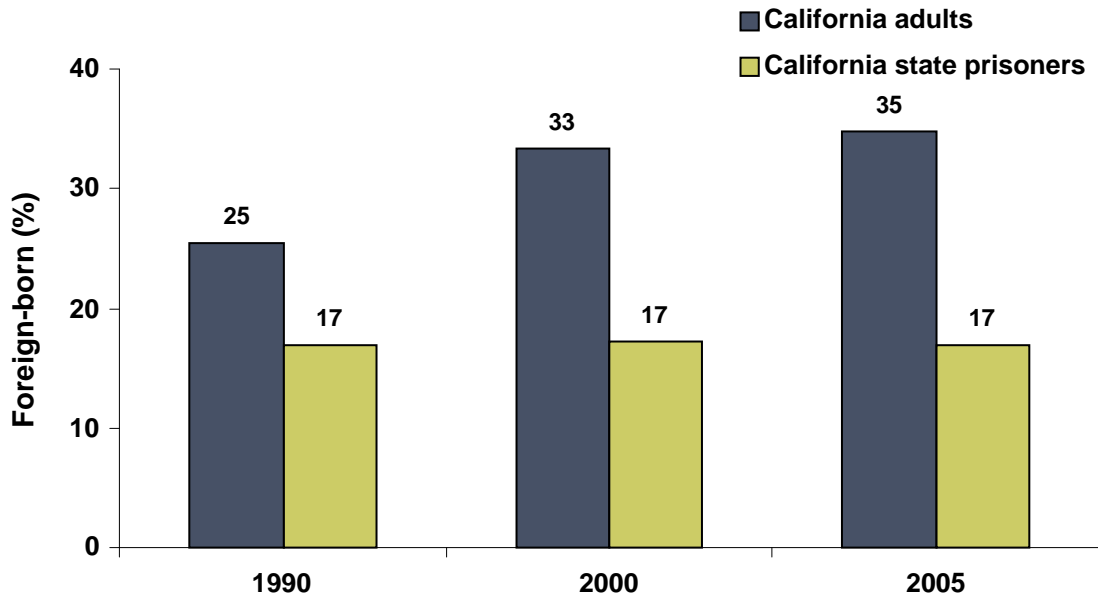
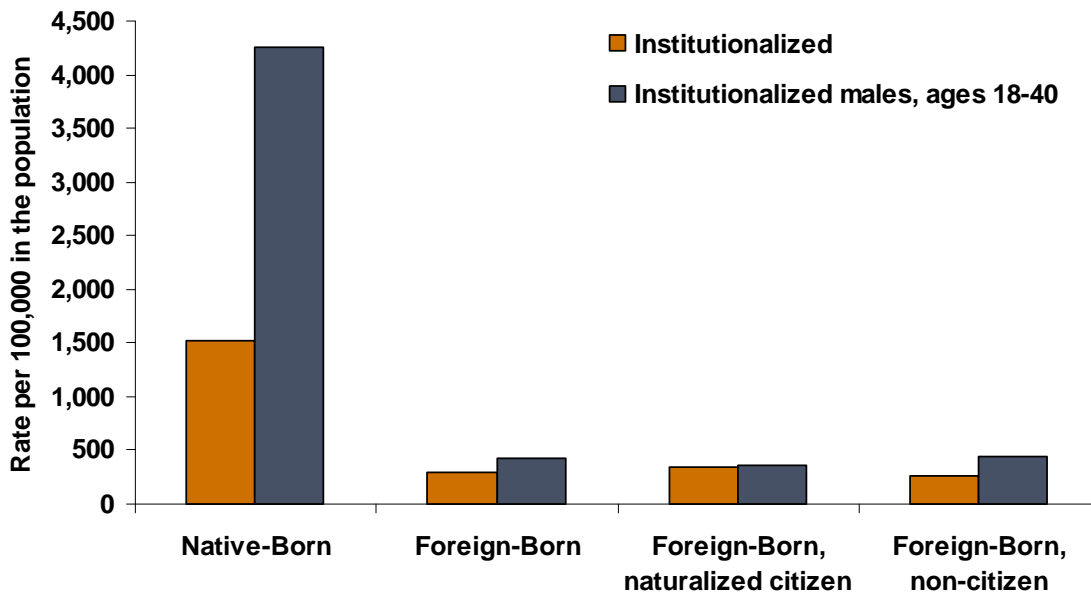


- **IMMIGRANT ADULTS HAVE LOWER INCARCERATION RATES THAN U.S.-BORN ADULTS IN CALIFORNIA ...**  
The incarceration rate for foreign-born adults is 297 per 100,000 in the population, compared to 813 per 100,000 for U.S.-born adults. The foreign-born, who make up roughly 35% of California's adult population, constitute 17% of the state prison population, a proportion that has remained fairly constant since 1990.
- **... AND MUCH LOWER RATES OF INSTITUTIONALIZATION IN OTHER FACILITIES.**  
Among men ages 18-40, the foreign-born have an institutionalization rate of 420 per 100,000 in the population, compared to 4,200 per 100,000 for the native-born. The wider institutionalized population includes those in jails, halfway houses, and similar institutions where youths and others convicted of less serious crimes are housed.
- **BUT NONCITIZENS ARE OVERREPRESENTED IN THE FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM.**  
Noncitizens make up 19% of federal prisoners, about twice their representation in the overall adult population. This is due in part to the fact that immigration violations are prosecuted under federal jurisdiction. However, the federal system houses only 8% of the nation's institutionalized population; the rest are held in state prisons or local facilities.
- **INCARCERATION RATES VARY BY TYPE OF CRIME.**  
At year-end 2005, the statewide incarceration rate of the foreign-born for violent crimes was 161 per 100,000 in the population, compared to 259 per 100,000 for the native-born. For drug crimes, these figures were 54 and 114 per 100,000, respectively.
- **HIGH IMMIGRANT POPULATIONS DO NOT APPEAR TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH HIGH CRIME RATES.**  
National studies have examined crime rates in jurisdictions with large and/or increasing immigrant populations and have found either no discernible link or a slightly negative one. A study of California cities with large populations of recently arrived immigrants showed no significant relationship between immigrant inflows and property crimes, and a negative relationship with violent crime rates.
- **PUBLIC PERCEPTION DOES NOT MATCH THE FACTS.**  
A 2006 national poll asked adults nationwide whether they thought immigrants were more or less likely than native residents to be involved in criminal activity. Most respondents (68%) replied "not much difference," while 19% replied "more likely" and 12% "less likely."

## Percentage of Foreign-Born Adults in California and in California Prisons



## Institutionalization Rates by Immigrant Status, 2000



**Note:** Foreign-born adults convicted of serious crimes in California do appear in state prison data because they serve their sentences in state prisons before being processed for deportation.

**Sources:** Bureau of Justice Statistics. California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. U.S. Census Bureau. Americas Majority Foundation. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Associated Press/Ipsos. Butcher and Piehl, *Crime, Corrections, and California: What Does Immigration Have to Do with It?*, PPIC, 2008. Bailey and Hayes, *Who's in Prison? The Changing Demographics of Incarceration*, PPIC, 2006.

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