The Social Climate Survey for Hispanic Immigration in the United States (SCSHI)

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Introduction

Population Projection for 2050: Ten Selected Countries

Country	Population (000)		
	2015	**2050**	**Change (+/-)**
Brazil	201,393	247,244	+ 45,851
China	1,410,217	1,462,058	+ 51,841
France	61,892	61,832	- 60
Germany	80,673	70,805	- 9,868
Italy	55, 239	42,962	- 12,277
Japan	127,522	109,220	- 18, 302
Russian Federation	133,314	104,258	- 29, 056
Singapore	4,756	4,620	- 136
United Kingdom	60,566	58,933	- 1,633
United States	321,225	397,063	**+ 75,838**

Demographic Projections: Age Pyramids for 2050
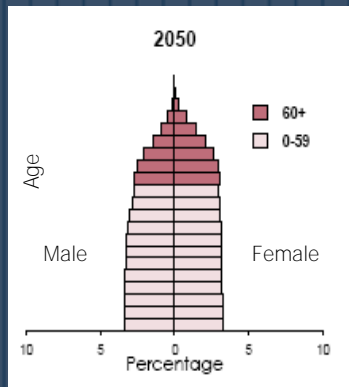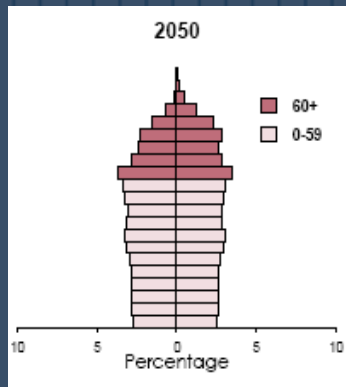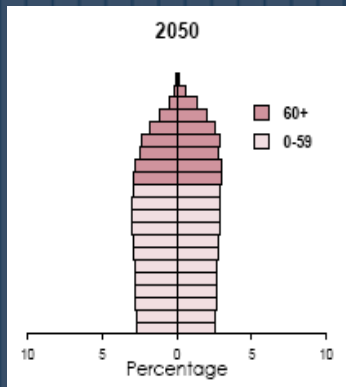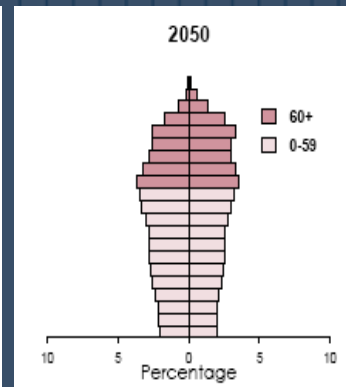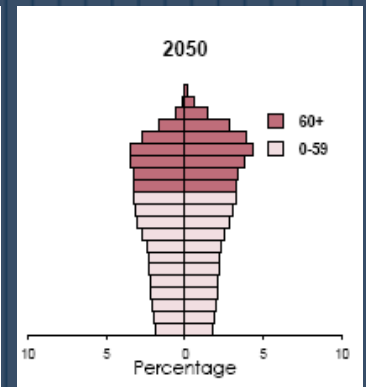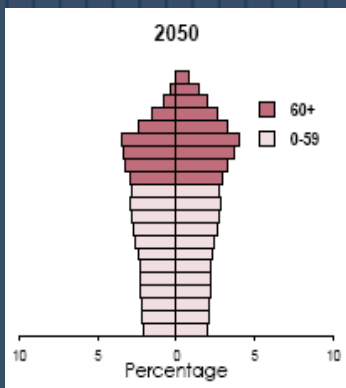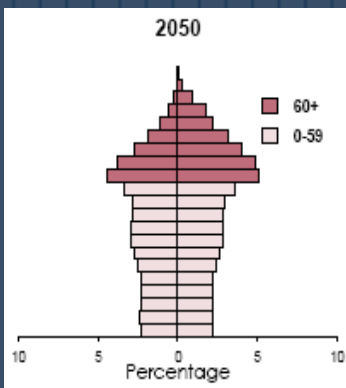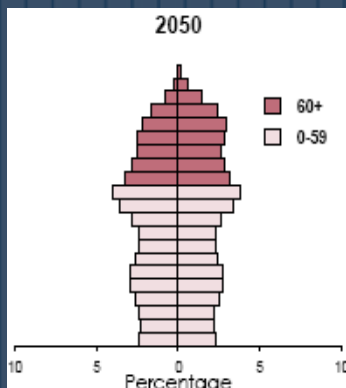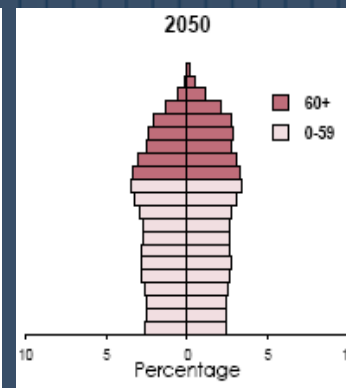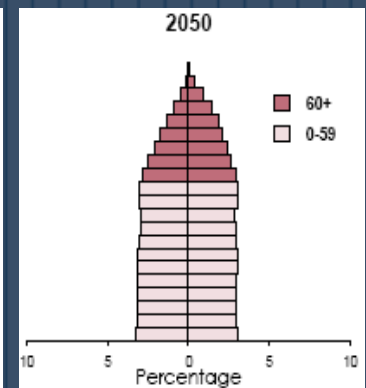
Beginning in 2008, an informal group of social scientists from Tecnologico de Monterrey, Mexico, University of Catania, Italy and Mississippi State University, U.S.A. initiated a study designed to monitor the social climate for Hispanic immigration in the United States.

"Immigration should be looked at least from both sides of the border."

Dr. Arthur G. Cosby

The Research Team: Immigration is a Global Issue

From Mexico

- Dr. Mariana Gabarrot Arenas
- Ms. Nydia Valenzuela Salazar
- Gabriela de la Paz Melendez

From United States

Dr. Arthur G. Cosby

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From Italy

Dr. Orazio Licciardello

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Ms. Loretta Eterno

Ms. Antonella Vitale

Survey Methodology

- Sources that guided our study: Pew Hispanic, Gallup Poll and Polling Report

- Data was collected by the Wolfgang Frese Survey Research Laboratory of the SSRC at MSU. Funded by SSRC

- Random-digit-dialing (RDD) sampling procedure

- Weighted according to 2000 census figures by ethnicity, gender, age and education.

- 1,505 telephone interviews across the U.S. between Feb. 10, and Mar. 11, 2009

Main Clusters Used for Survey Modeling and Data Analysis

- ➢ Law Enforcement and National Security

- ➢ Economy

- ➢ Social Integration

- ➢ Ethnic Prejudice

Important Immigration Policies Included in the Social Climate Survey

- 1. Deportation
- 2. Penalizing Employers of Undocumented Immigrants
- 3. Border Fence
- 4. Border Patrol
- 5. Family Reunification
- 6. Access to Social Goods (education, health, welfare)

A Guide to Interpreting Social Climate Items:

Universal — 85 to 100% acceptance

Predominant — 65 to 84% acceptance

Contested — 35 to 64% acceptance

Marginal — 0 to 34% acceptance
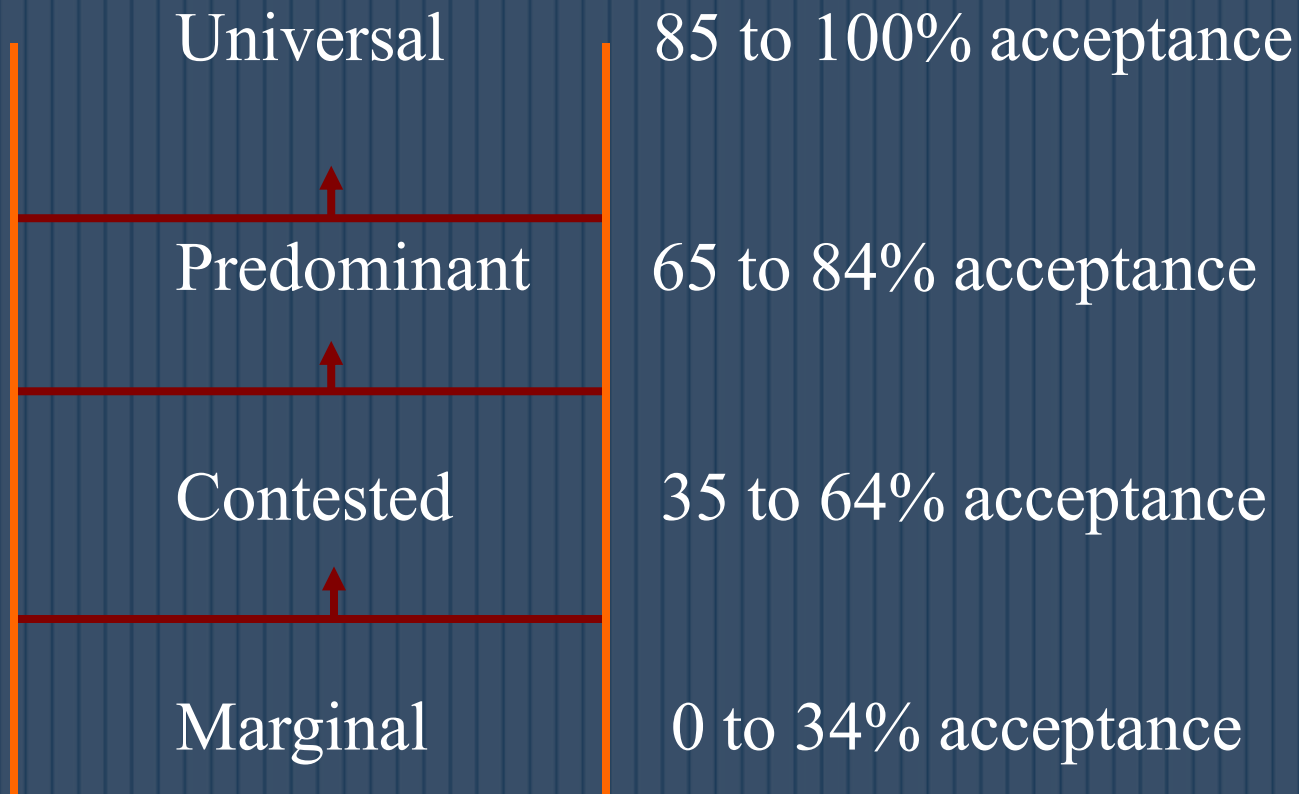
Major findings:

- SCSHI Depicts population with complex and in some cases conflicted views about Hispanic immigration.

- Citizens hold sharper negative and restrictive attitudes and beliefs for illegal/undocumented immigrants.

- Citizens believe that most Hispanic immigrants are undocumented.

- Higher restrictive measures on law enforcement and national security.

- Conflicted view's on the nation's economy.

- More positive attitudes when it comes for family values and some cultural aspects.

- More positive for legal/documented immigrants.

Demographics

Race	%
Black	13%
White	74%

Ethnicity	
Non Hispanic	89%
Hispanic	11%

Gender	
Male	49%
Female	51%

Party Identification	%
Democrat	36%
Republican	25%
Independent	33%

State Locale	
Non Border State	80%
Border States	20%

Main Source of Information	
TV	52%
Radio	7%
Printed Material	14%
Internet	18%
Other People	8%

Law Enforcement and National Security

- U- 86.0% agreed with: State governments should NOT issue driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants
- P - 82.9% agreed with: Passing laws to penalize those who employ undocumented immigrants
- P - 73.3% agreed with: Increasing raids, arrests and deportations
- P - 69.5% agreed with: Most immigrants are undocumented
- C - 53.5% agreed with: Building a border fence
- C - 42.2% agreed with: Not allowing children of undocumented immigrants to attend public schools

Economy

- U – 92.3% agreed with: Legal Hispanic immigrants in the US should have the same job opportunities as Americans

- P – 76.7% agreed with: Immigrants are taking jobs that Americans WILL NOT perform

- P – 69.3% agreed with: Immigrants strengthen the country due to their hard work and talents

- C – 57.2% agreed with: Immigrants are taking jobs that American workers WILL perform

- C – 55.4% agreed with: Immigrants decrease the average wages and salaries of native-born American workers

- C – 40.8% agreed with: The US economy is threatened by Hispanic immigrant's presence

Social Integration

- U - 94.0% agreed with: Spanish-speaking children benefit from interacting with English-speaking children in school

- P - 79.4% agreed with: English-speaking children benefit from interacting with Spanish- speaking children in school

- C - 42.0% agreed with: The government should allow other immediate family members of immigrants to join them if more than one member has already migrated

- M - 33.2% agreed with: Healthcare benefits should be provided to immigrants regardless of their immigration status

Ethnic Prejudice

- U - 92.9% agreed with: Immigrants have strong family values
- C - 62.8% agreed with: Immigrants do not pay their fair share of taxes
- C - 48.3% agreed with: Hispanic immigrants often end up on welfare
- C - 43.5% agreed with: Hispanic immigrants significantly increase
  the crime rate
- M - 34.9% agreed with: American culture is threatened by Hispanic
  immigrant's culture.
- M - 29.3% agreed with: Hispanic immigrants do not do well in school

Several Studies Underway using the Social Climate Survey

- "Public Support for Hispanic Deportation: The Effects of Ethnic Prejudice and Perceptions of Economic Competition in a Period of Economic Distress" – Cosby, Aanstoos, Matta, Porter & James (US)

- "Existential Anxiety in a Culturally Polarized World: Hispanic Immigration and the Struggle for the Envisioning of American National Identity" – Stanisevsky &Vitale (Macedonia /Italy)

- "What kind of immigrant is on our minds? How Contrasting Views of Academics, Policy Makers and Average Citizens may Influence the Odds of Immigration Policy" – Cosby, De la Paz, Gabarrot & Rosas (Mexico/US)

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Several Studies Cont'd

"The Social Construction for Hispanic Immigration in the U.S.: Implications for Policy" – Gallardo & T. Neaves (Mexico/US)

"Trans-border Beliefs: The Effect of the Catholic Church on U.S. Attitudes towards the Immigration Debate" – McThomas & T. Neaves (US)

"Selective Assimilation and Persistence of Ethnicity: The case of Hispanics in the U.S." – Vitale (Italy), Ph.D. Dissertation

Future surveys:

- The survey has possibilities of being conducted again in near future.

- Will include new themes on: drug trafficking, human trafficking, more depth on children of undocumented immigrants, Arizona and copycat laws, and political party preferences for Hispanic immigrants.

An executive report of the survey is available

email for a copy…

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Questions?

¡Gracias!