

---

# Tackling the Opportunity Gap for Young Children: NAEYC Presidents Forum

Presentation by:

Joan Lombardi, Ph.D.

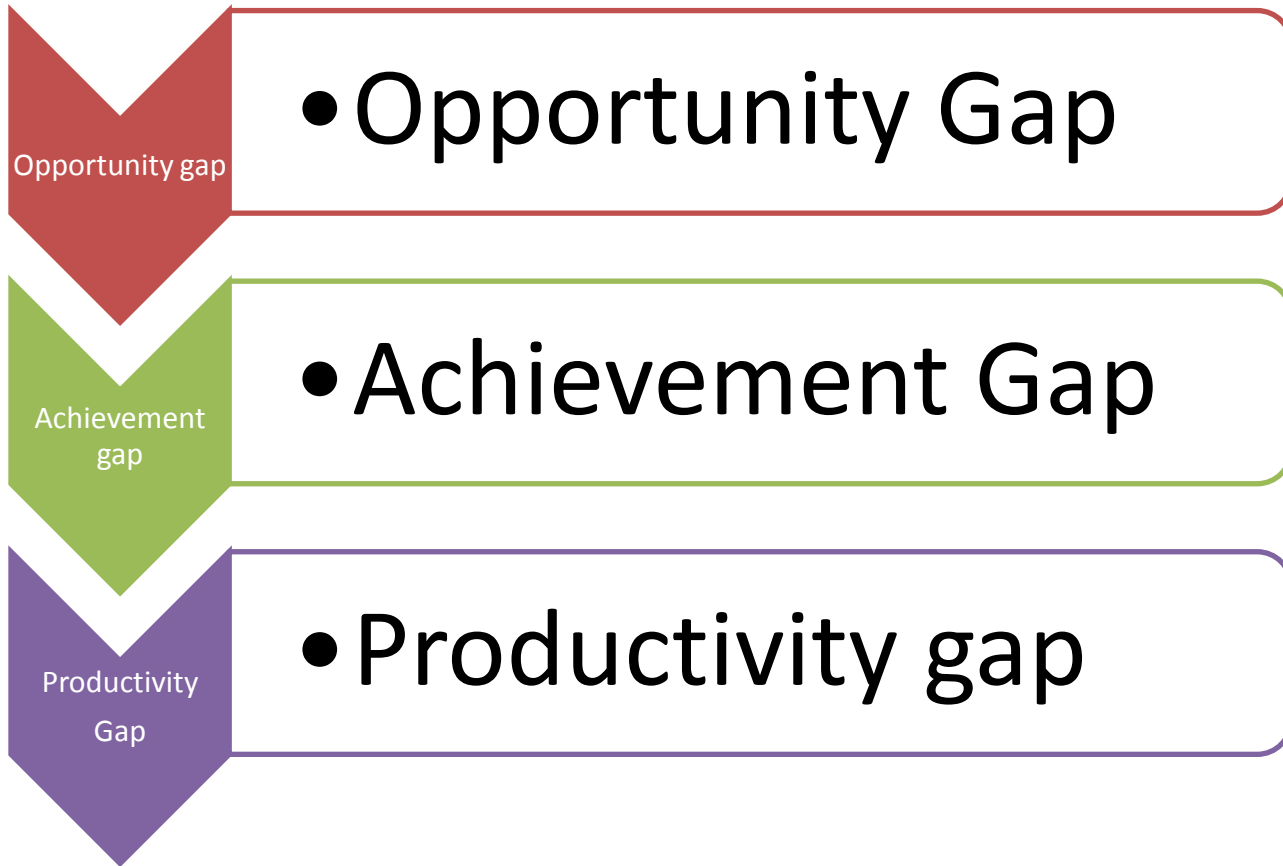
The challenge, the policy gap, the need for action...



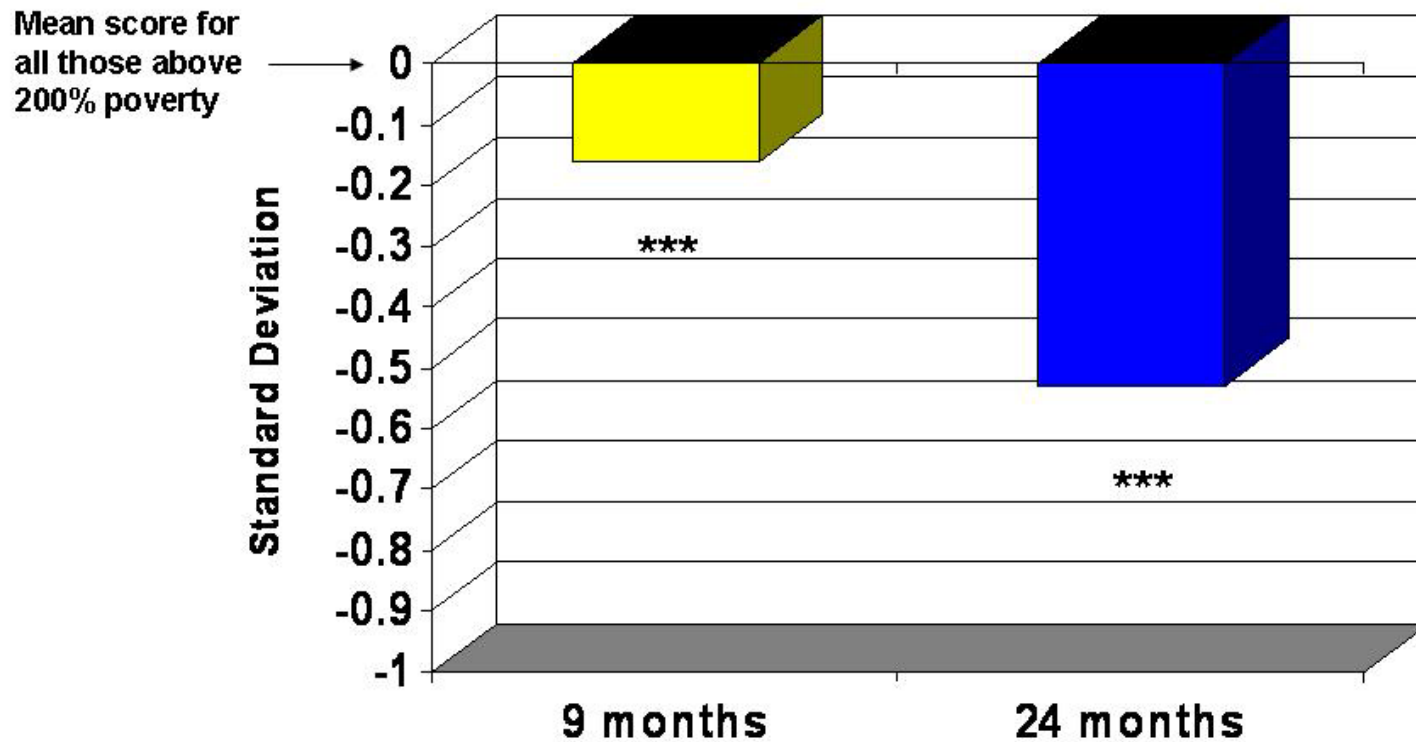
# Early Childhood in the U.S.



# The Challenge

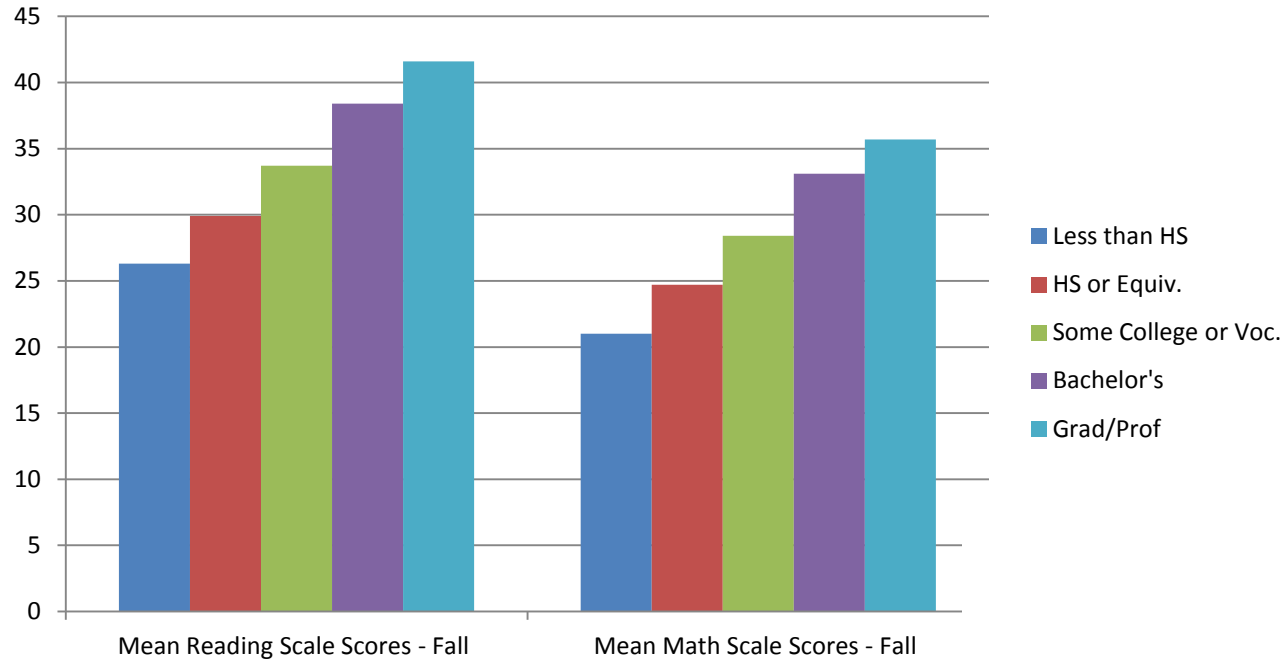


# Disparities on Cognitive Assessment Between higher and lower income infants at 9 and 24 months



Source: Halle, T., Forry, N., Hair, E., Perper, K., Wandner, L., Wessel, J., & Vick, J. (2009). *Disparities in Early Learning and Development: Lessons from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study – Birth Cohort (ECLS-B)*. Washington, DC: Child Trends.

**Mean Reading and Math Scores for Children in Kindergarten for the First Time in the  
2010-2011 School Year, by Parents' Highest Level of Education**



Source: Mulligan, G.M., Hastedt, S., and McCarroll, J.C. (2012). *First-Time Kindergartners in 2010-11: First Findings From the Kindergarten Rounds of the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 2010-11 (ECLS-K:2011)* (NCES 2012-049). U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics. Retrieved [January 30, 2013] from <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch>.

Note: The assessment scale was 0-83 for the reading assessment and 0-75 for the mathematics assessment. Estimates based on a preliminary version of the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 2010-11 (ECLS-K:2011) restricted-use data file.

## Child Well-Being in Rich Countries: A Comparative Overview

 TOP THIRD

 MIDDLE THIRD

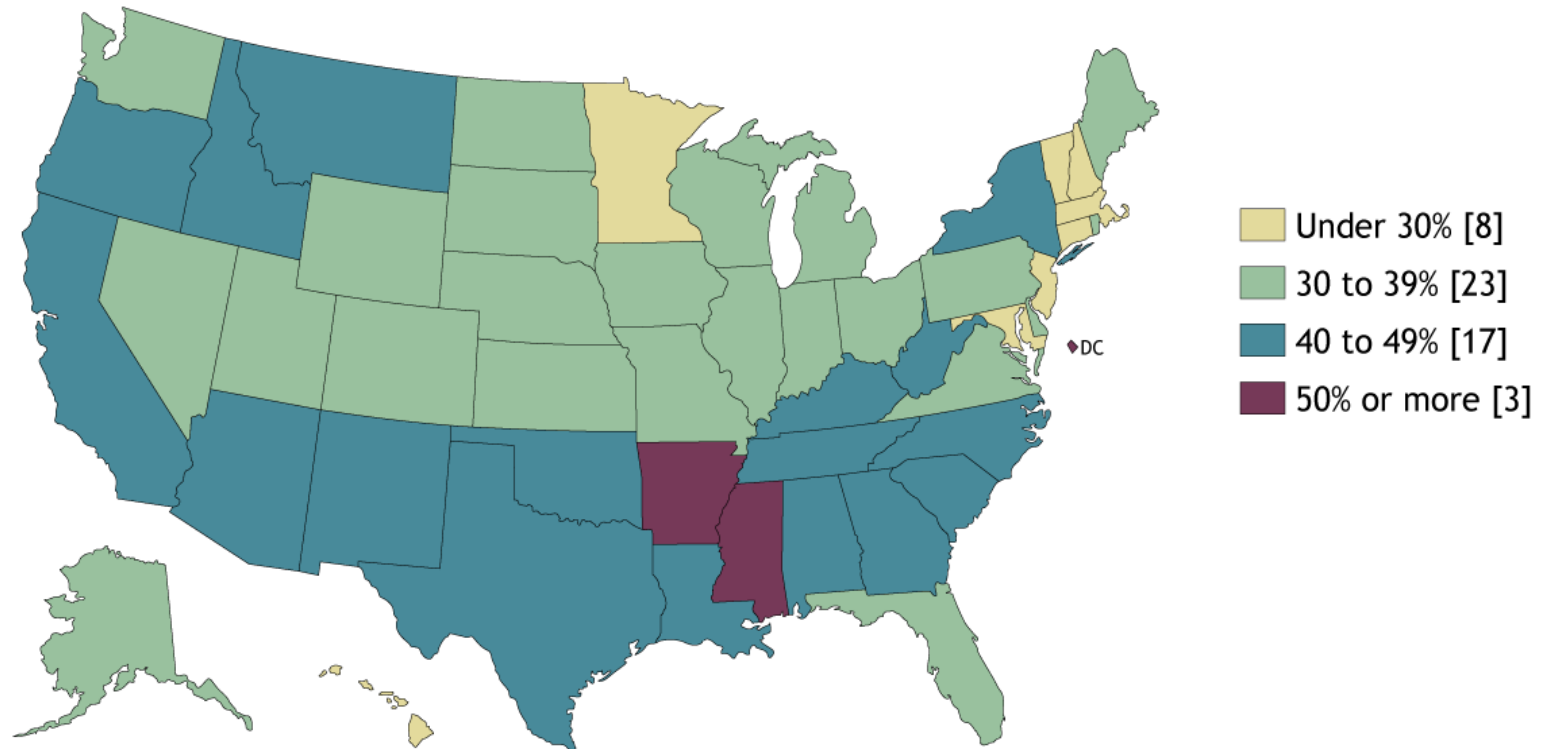
 BOTTOM THIRD

		Overall Well-Being	Dimension 1	Dimension 2	Dimension 3	Dimension 4	Dimension 5
		Average rank (all 5 divisions)	Material Well-Being	Health and safety	Education	Behaviors and risks	Housing and environment
			(Rank)	(Rank)	(Rank)	(Rank)	(Rank)
1	Netherlands	2.4	1	5	1	1	4
2	Norway	4.6	3	7	6	4	3
3	Iceland	5	4	1	10	3	7
4	Finland	5.4	2	3	4	12	6
5	Sweden	6.2	5	2	11	5	8
6	Germany	9	11	12	3	6	13
7	Luxembourg	9.2	6	4	22	9	5
8	Switzerland	9.6	9	11	16	11	1
9	Belgium	11.1	13	13	2	14	14
10	Ireland	11.6	17	15	17	7	2
11	Denmark	11.8	12	23	7	2	15
12	Slovenia	12	8	6	5	21	20
13	France	12.8	10	10	15	13	16
14	Czech Republic	15.2	16	8	12	22	18
15	Portugal	15.6	21	14	18	8	17
16	United Kingdom	15.8	14	16	24	15	10
17	Canada	16.6	15	27	14	16	11
18	Austria	17	7	26	23	17	12
19	Spain	17.6	24	9	26	20	9
20	Hungary	18.4	18	20	8	24	22
21	Poland	18.8	22	18	9	29	26
22	Italy	19.2	23	17	25	10	21
23	Estonia	20.8	19	22	13	26	24
24	Slovakia	20.8	25	21	21	18	19
25	Greece	23.4	20	19	28	25	25
26	United States	24.8	26	25	27	23	23
27	Lithuania	25.2	27	24	19	29	27
28	Latvia	26.4	28	28	20	29	29
29	Romania	28.6	29	29	29	27	29

“Child well-being in rich countries. A comparative overview.”  
UNICEF Office of Research,  
Innocenti Report Card 11

# Children from low income families

## Low-income rates for all children across the states, 2006

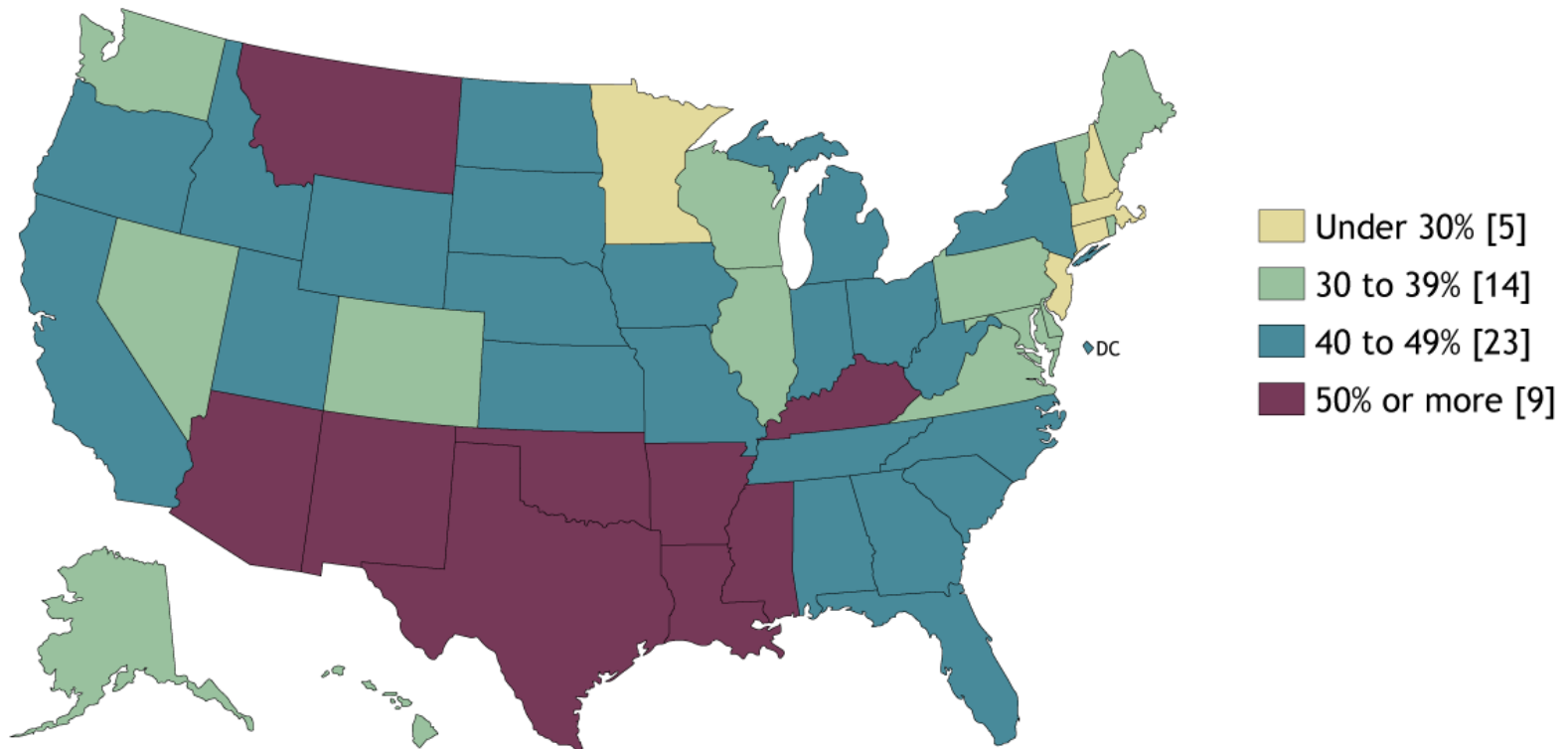


Source: *Low-Income Children in the United States: National and State Trend Data, 1996-2006*. (2007). National Center for Children in Poverty, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University.



# Children under six in low income families

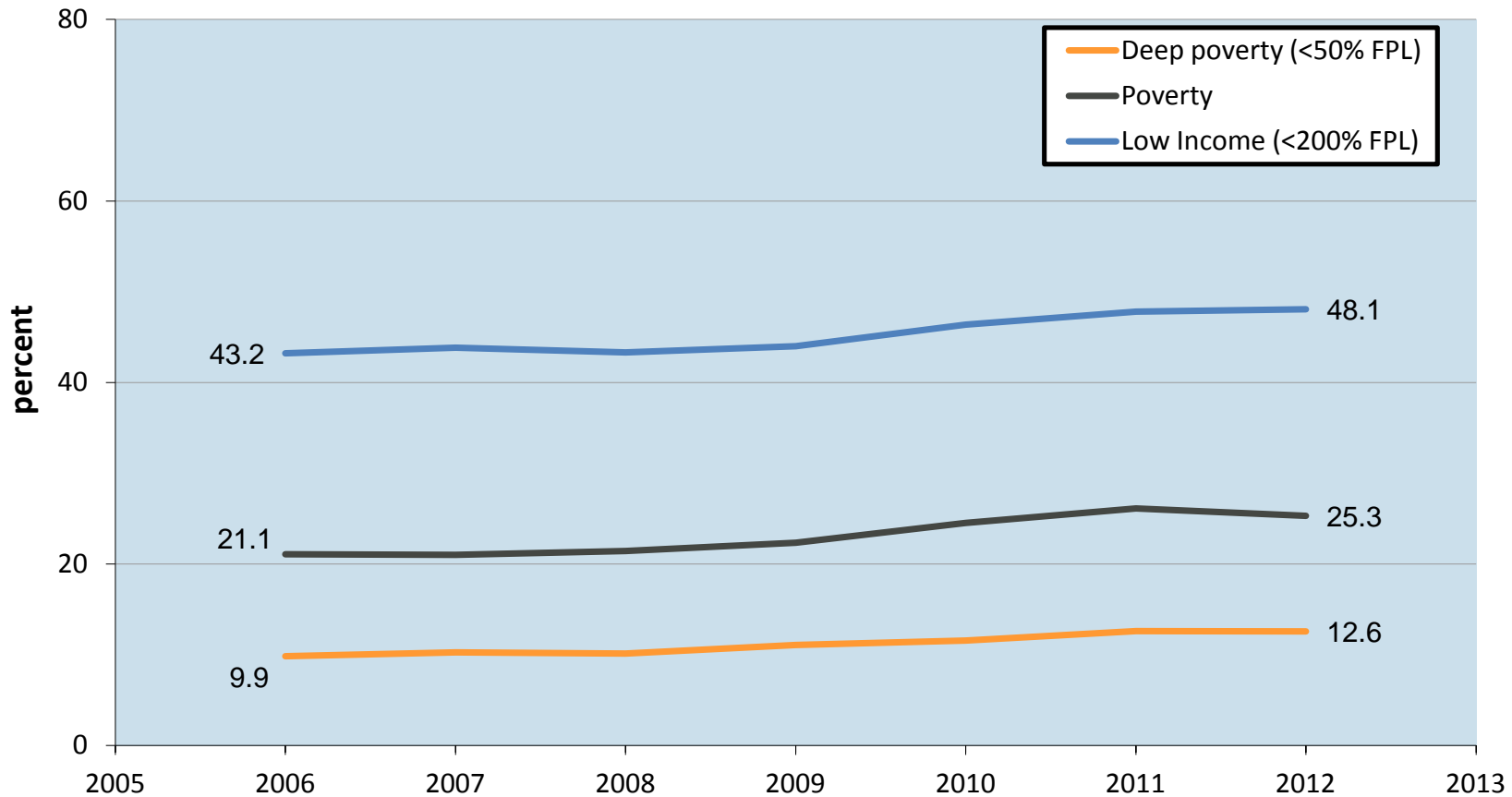
## Low-income rates for young children across the states, 2006



Source: Data prepared by the National Center for Children in Poverty, based on U.S. Current Population Survey, March Annual Social and Economic Supplement, 2005-2007.

# Infants/toddlers living in deep poverty, poverty, and with low income

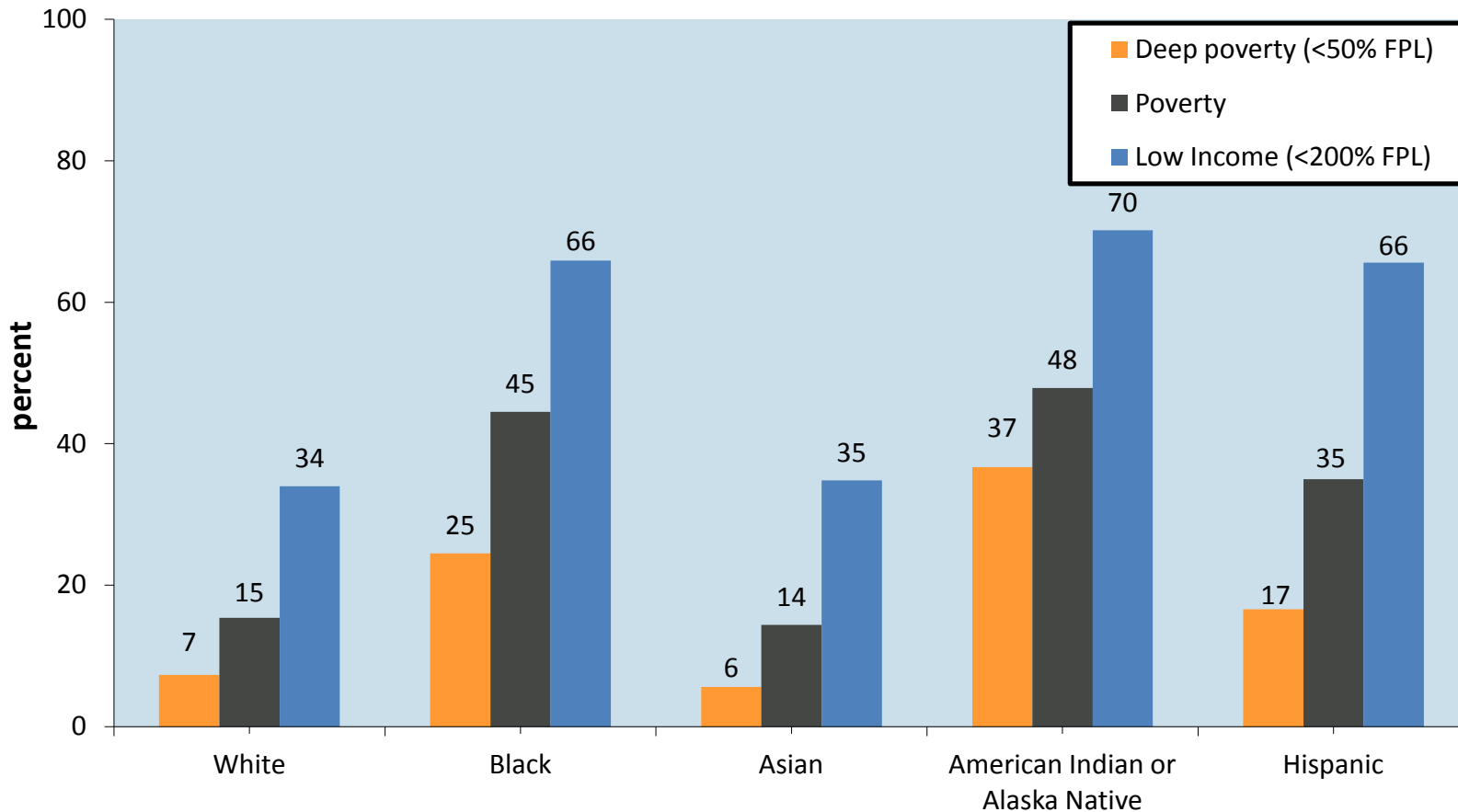
## Nearly half face economic hardship



\*Year reflects the year that the question was asked. Question was asked regarding the previous 12 months.  
Data refer to children residing with and related to the householder.

# Infants/toddlers living in deep poverty, poverty, and with low income (2012)

## Significant disparities by race/ethnicity

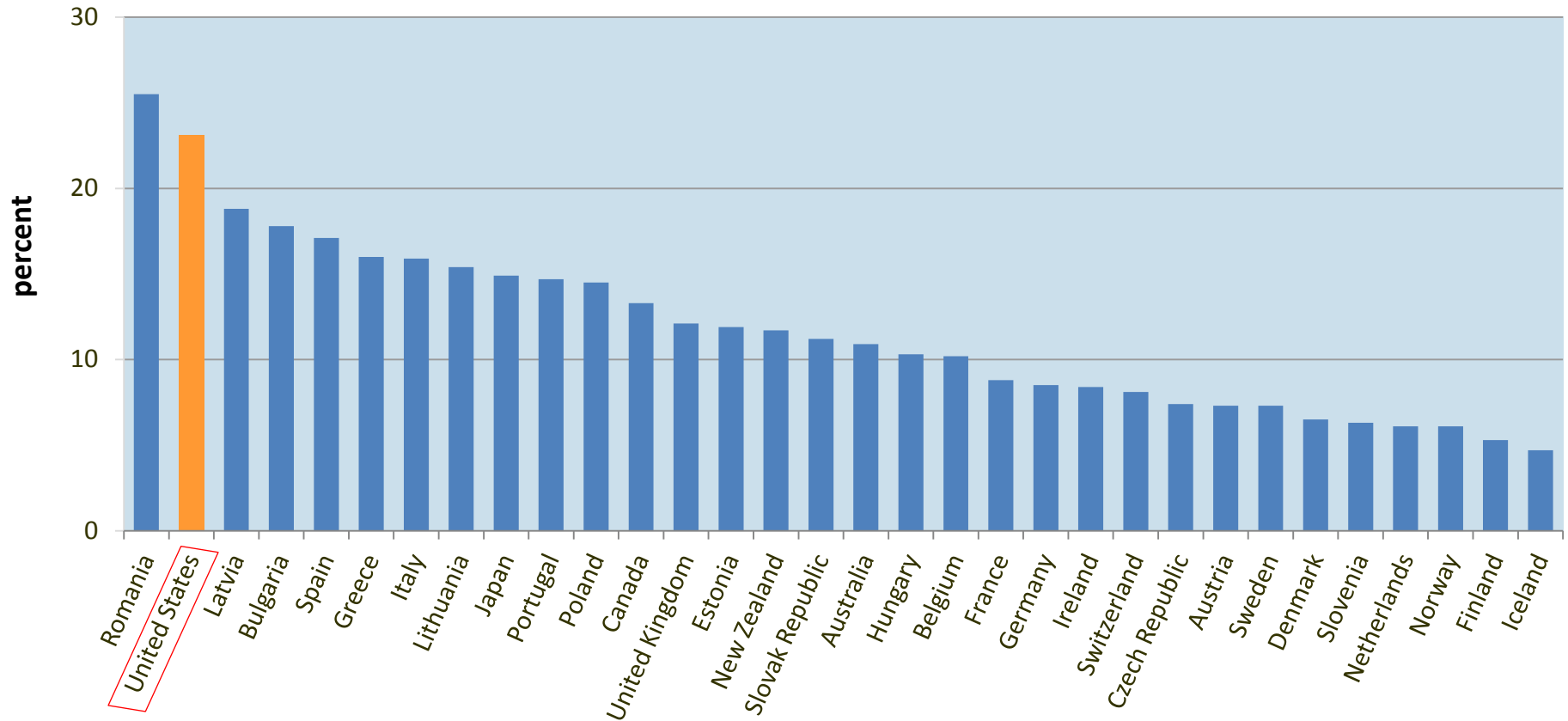


\*Year reflects the year that the question was asked. Question was asked regarding the previous 12 months.

Data refer to children residing with and related to the householder.

# Children (birth – age 17) living in relative poverty\* in 32 developed countries (2009\*\*)

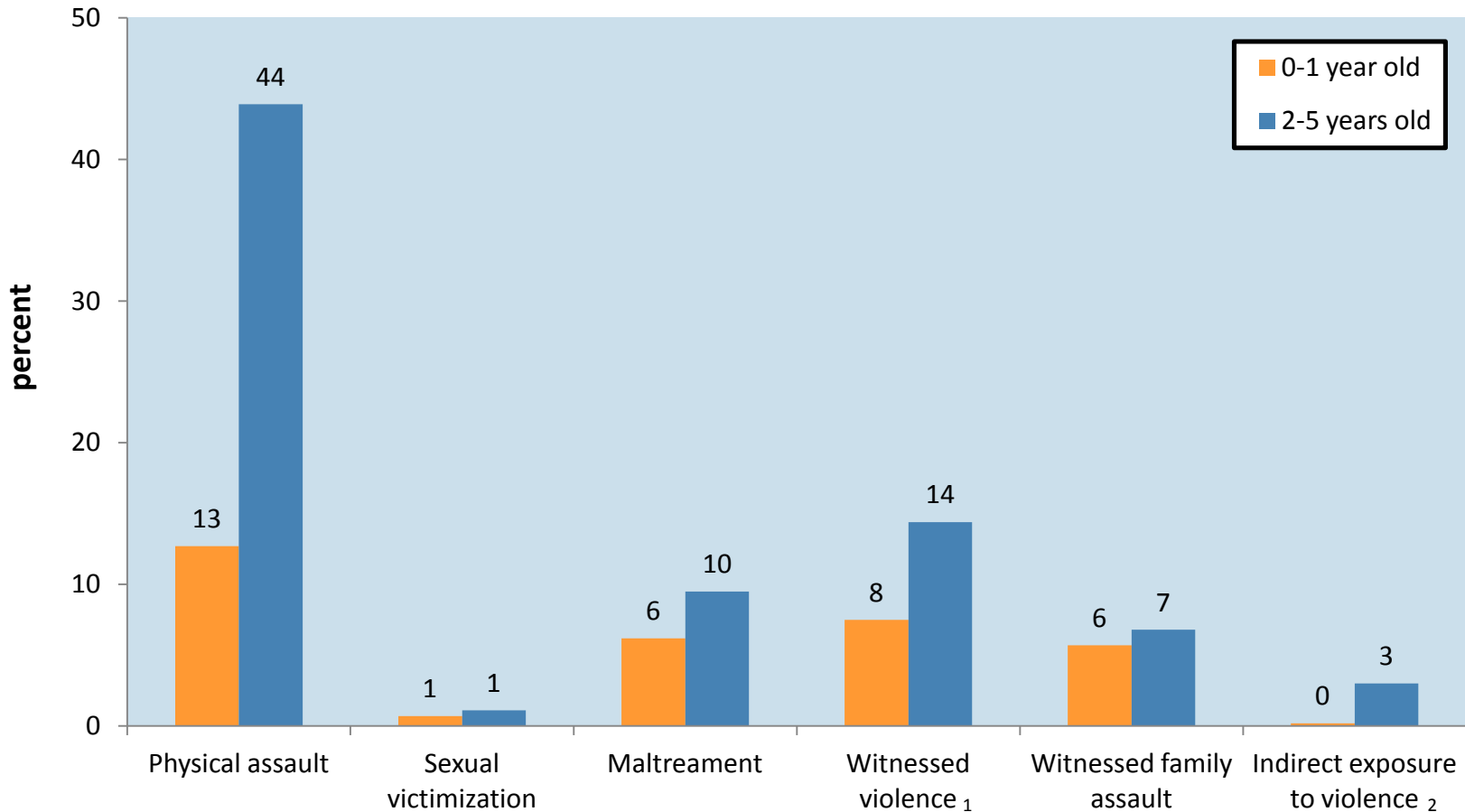
## U.S. ranks second to last



\*Relative poverty is defined as living in a household where disposable income, adjusted for family size and composition, is less than half (50%) of the national median income.

\*\*Data for the United States are from 2007 and data for New Zealand and Japan are from 2011.

# Young children (birth – age 5) exposed to violence in the past year (2011)



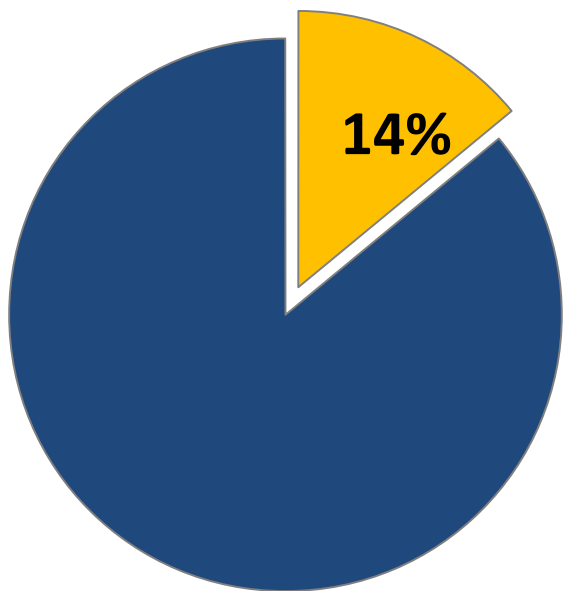
<sup>1</sup> Includes witnessing family assault, assault in the community, shooting, or war.

<sup>2</sup> Includes hearing about or seeing violence; excludes witnessing violence, household theft, and school threat of bomb or attack.

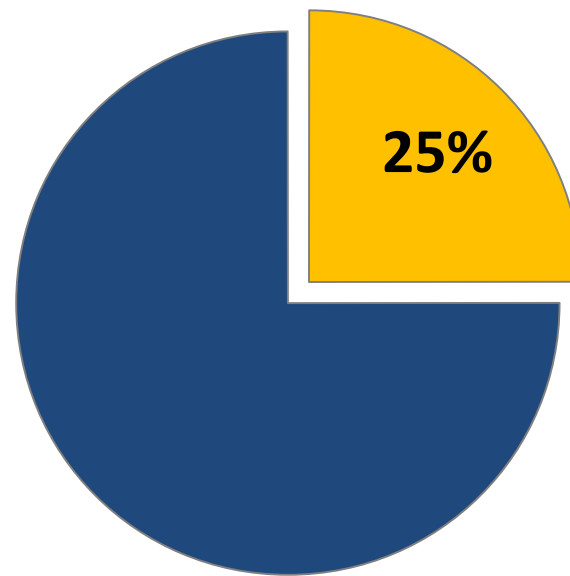


# *Young Children from Immigrant Families*

**Share of all children under 6**



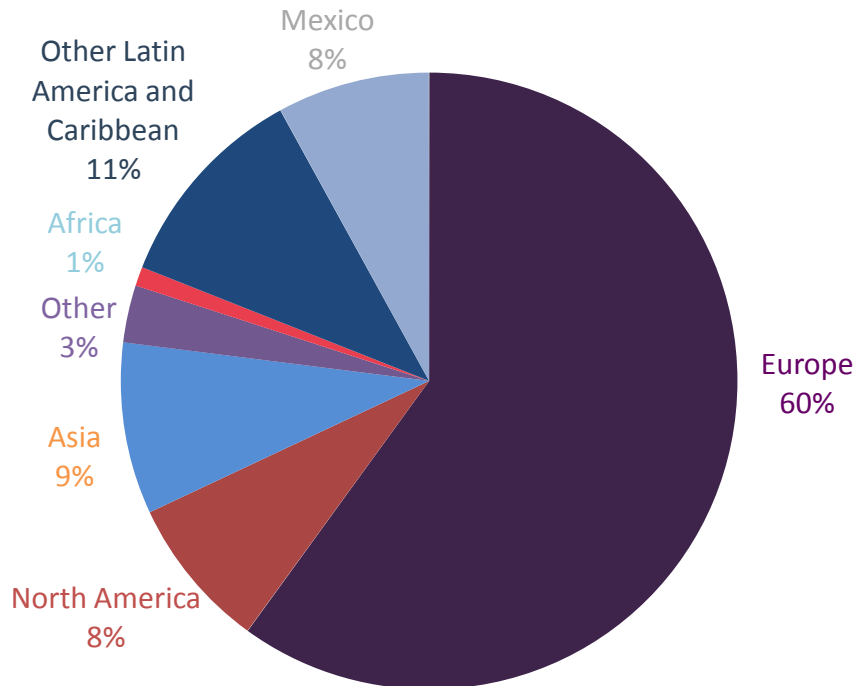
**1990**



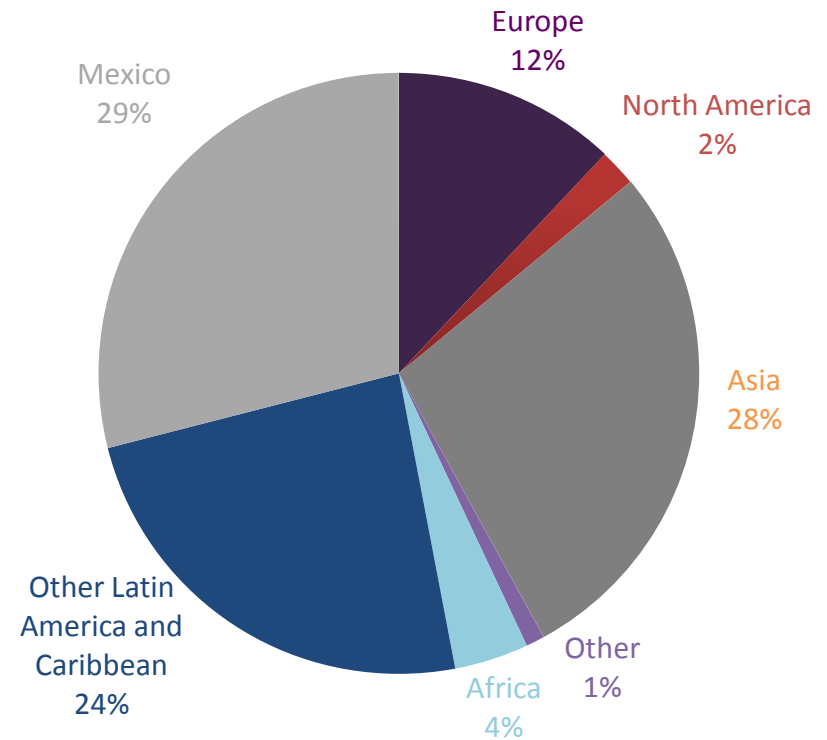
**2009**

# Immigration to the United States, by Region of Origin, 1970 and 2010

1970

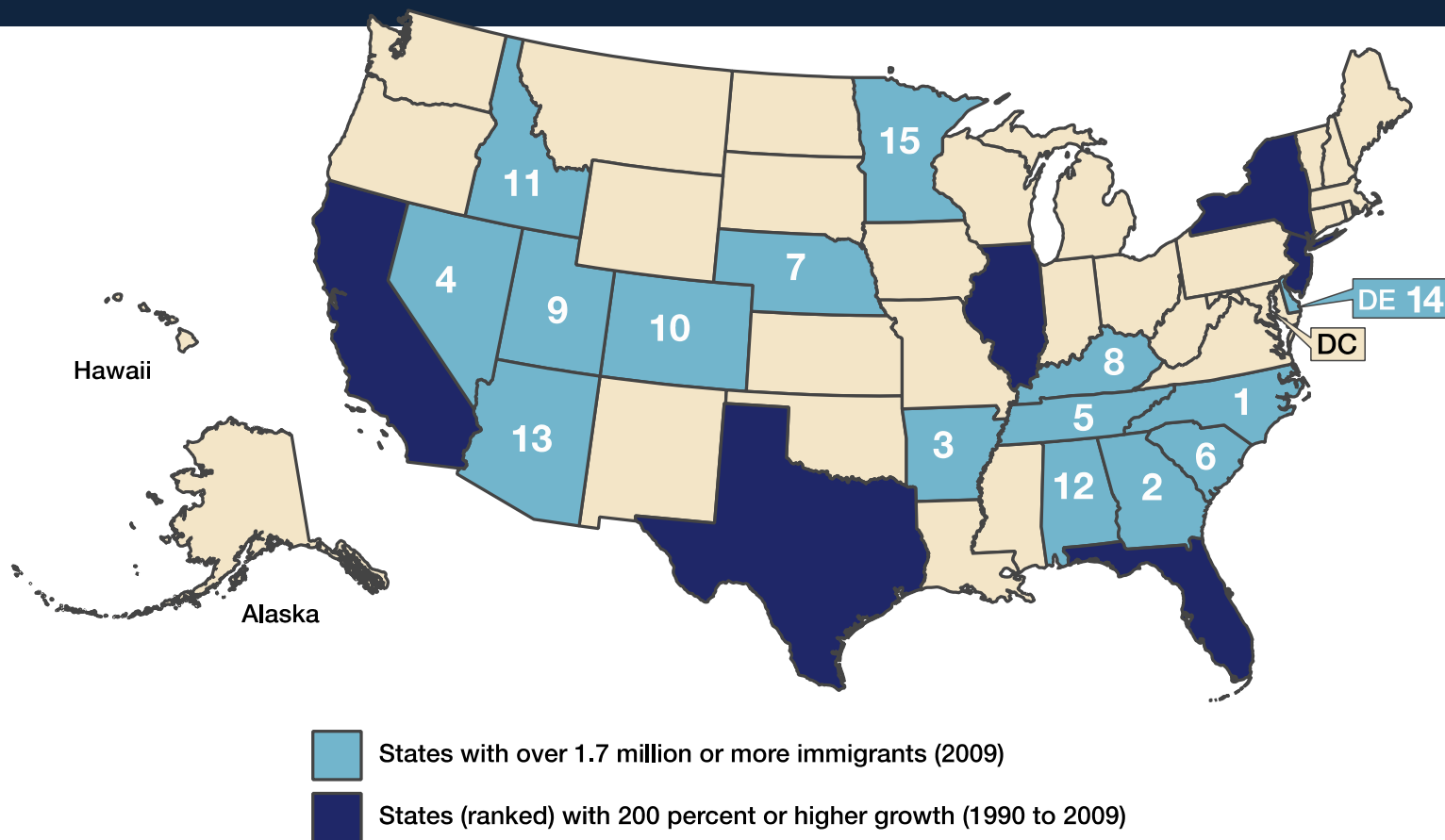


2010



Sources: Adapted from Migration Policy Institute (MPI) Data Hub, "Ten Source Countries with the Largest Populations in the United States as Percentages of the Total Foreign-Born Population: 1970" and "Ten Source Countries with the Largest Populations in the United States as Percentages of the Total Foreign-Born Population: 2010." Presented in M Jones-Correa, "Contested Ground: Immigration in the US"

# States with the Largest and Fastest-Growing Immigrant Populations, 1990-2009



Sources: 2009 American Community Survey and 1990 Decennial Census. ©2011 Migration Policy Institute. MPI Data Hub, "States with the Largest and Fastest-Growing Immigrant Populations," 2011. Figure in M Jones Correa "Contested Ground: Immigration in the United States"