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Introduction

- 2006: 36.5 million foreign born in U.S., 14.4 million naturalized
- Nativity effect = naturalized less likely to vote than native citizens
- Baseline estimates from 1996 Current Population Survey (CPS) from Bass and Casper (2002).
- Since 1996, more than 5 million new naturalized citizens. Total population has increased by roughly 21 million.
- Political debate on immigration and naturalization policy has grown heated
- Expands Bass and Casper's 1996 analyses from 1998-2006.

Research Questions and Hypotheses

- RQ 1. Net of other predictors of voting behavior, are naturalized citizens less likely than native citizens to register and to vote in elections over the past decade? - Hypothesis: As found in 1996, nativity effect will exist from 1998-2006.
- RQ 2: Has the magnitude of the nativity effect changed across the last
- Hypothesis: With increasing and diversifying naturalized citizen population, nativity effect will decrease over time.
- RQ 3: Does nativity status have the same effect across election type? - Hypothesis: Nativity effect will be stronger in congressional elections since disengaged populations register and vote

less frequently.

Data

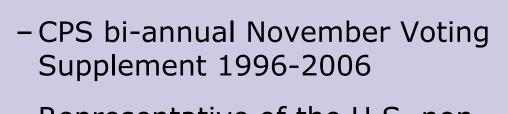
- Supplement 1996-2006 - Representative of the U.S. non-
- 77,000 and 89,000 for each year.
- November election of survey year:
- 2. Voted
- Independent variables
- Demographic control variables

- Logistic Regression
- RQ 1: Estimate effect of nativity status for each survey year
- RQ 2: Compare nativity coefficients across election years within election
- RQ 3: Compare nativity coefficients

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, November Voting Supplement: 2006

DATA AND METHODS

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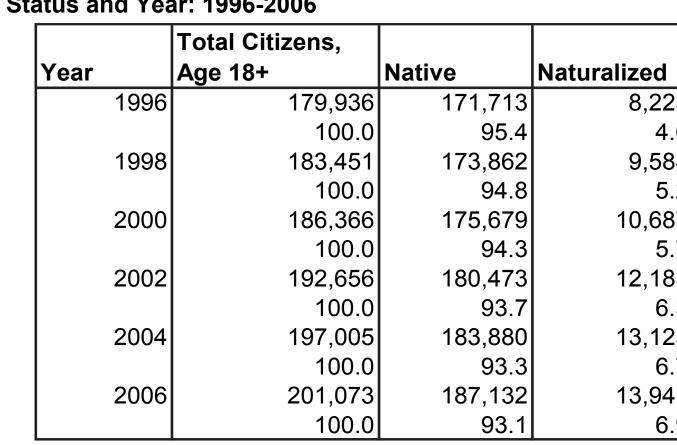


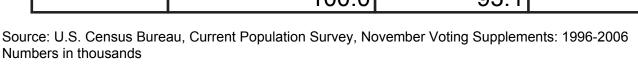
- institutionalized civilian population - Analytic sample sizes between about
- Dependent variables
- Two dichotomous voting behaviors for 1. Registered to vote
- Nativity status
- 1=naturalized, 0=native

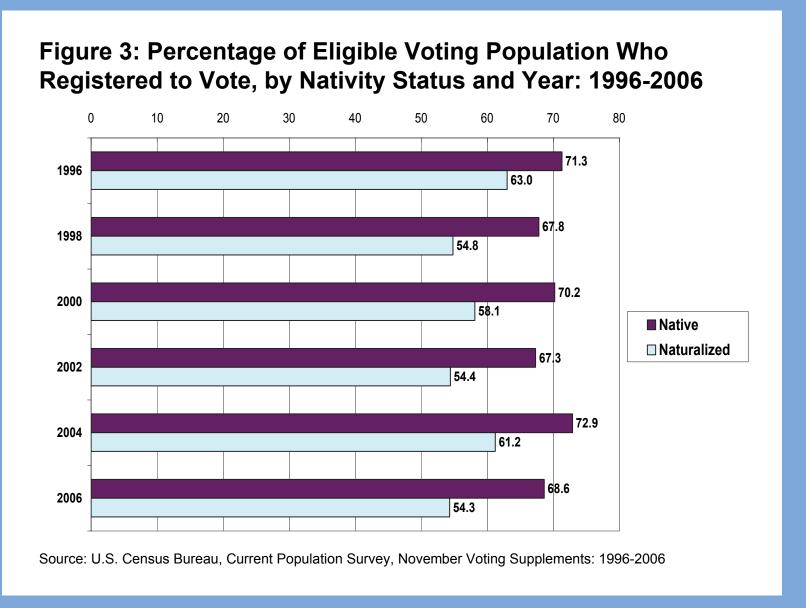
Analytical Plan

- Weighted models and standard errors adjusted for design effects
- types
- across election type with proximate years

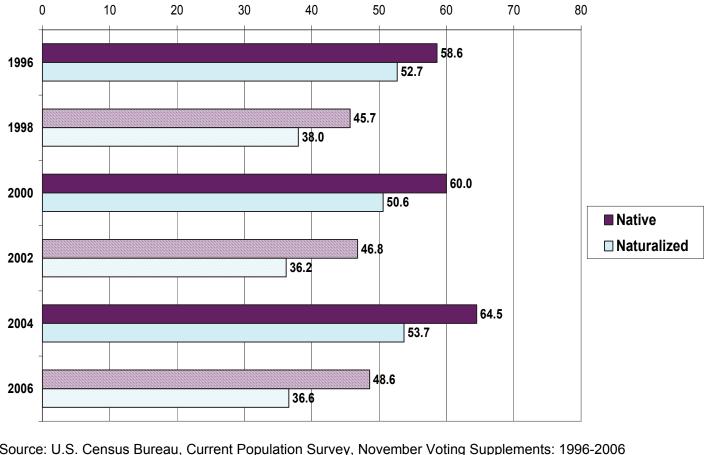
Descriptive









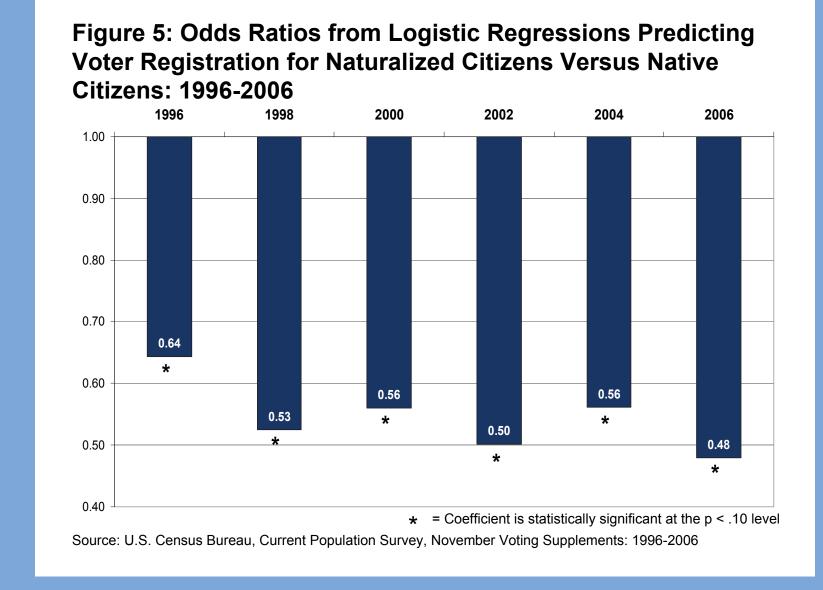


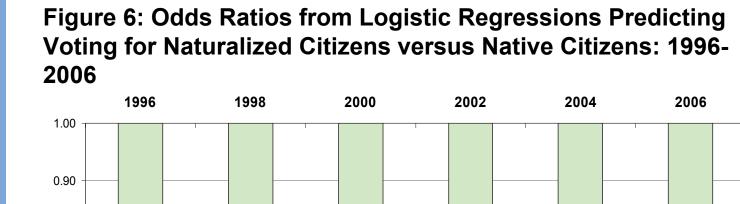
RESULTS

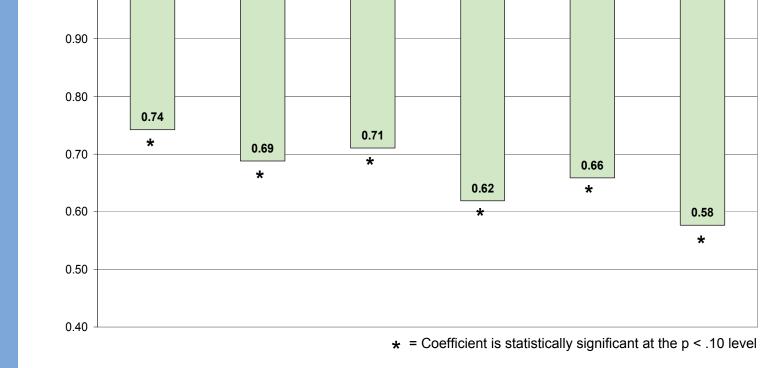
Descriptive Findings

- -<u>Table 1</u>: U.S. Citizens 18+ population grew from about 180 to 201 million between 1996-2006. Naturalized grew from 8 to 14 million
- Figure 3: In each year, percentage of native citizens who registered to vote was statistically higher than naturalized
- Figure 4: In each year, percentage of native citizens who voted was statistically higher than naturalized

RQ1







Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, November Voting Supplements: 1996-2006

RESULTS

- Multivariate Findings RQ 1
- Figure 5: Registration in Individual
- In each year, naturalized citizens are statistically less likely than native citizens to register
- In 1996, the odds of registering were about 35% lower for naturalized than native citizens
- In 2006, the odds of registering were about 50% lower for naturalized than native citizens
- Figure 6: Voting in Individual Years
- Naturalized citizens statistically less likely than native citizens to vote each year
- In 1996, the odds of voting were about 25% lower for naturalized than native citizens
- In 2006, the odds of voting were about 40% lower for naturalized than native

RQ2

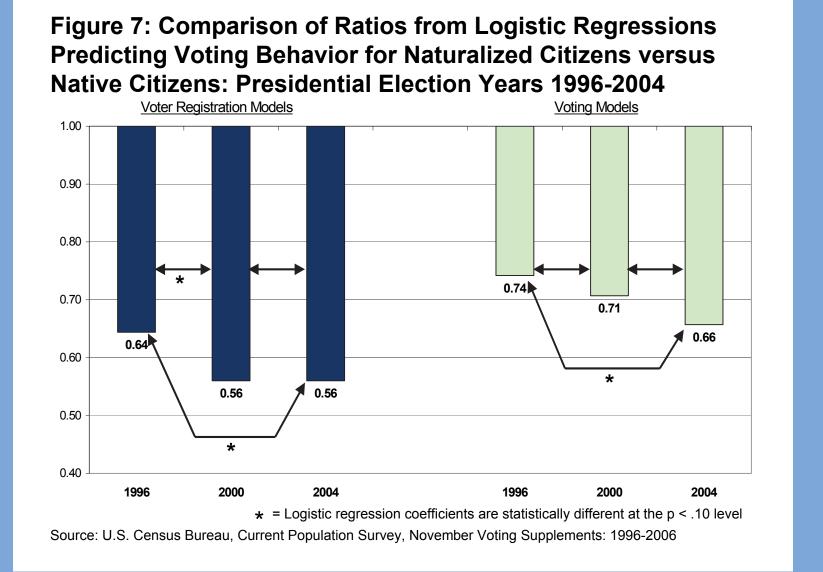
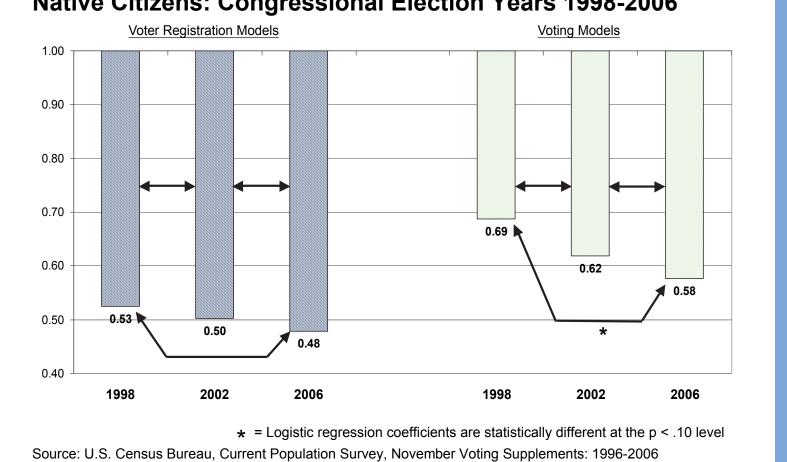


Figure 8: Comparison of Ratios from Logistic Regressions **Predicting Voting Behavior for Naturalized Citizens versus** Native Citizens: Congressional Election Years 1998-2006



RESULTS

- Multivariate Findings RQ 2
- Figure 7: Differences over Time (Presidential Election Years)
- Odds ratio for nativity in registration models was statistically different between 1996 and both 2000 and 2004 - effect was weakest in 1996.
- Odds ratio for nativity in voting models was statistically different from 1996-2004 – effect is weaker in 1996
- Figure 8: Differences over Time (Congressional Election Years)
- No statistically significant differences across models predicting registration
- Odds ratio for nativity in voting models statistically different between 1998-2006—effect is weaker in 1998

RQ3

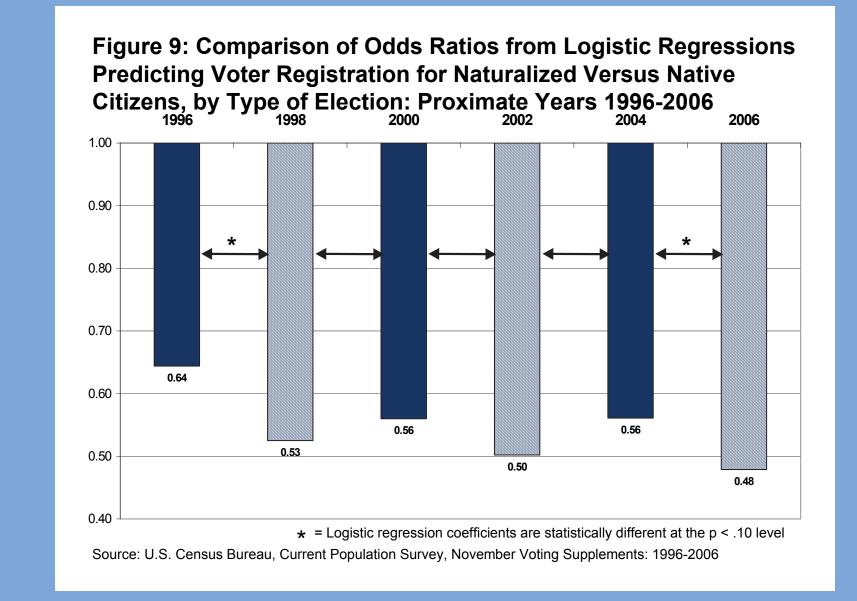
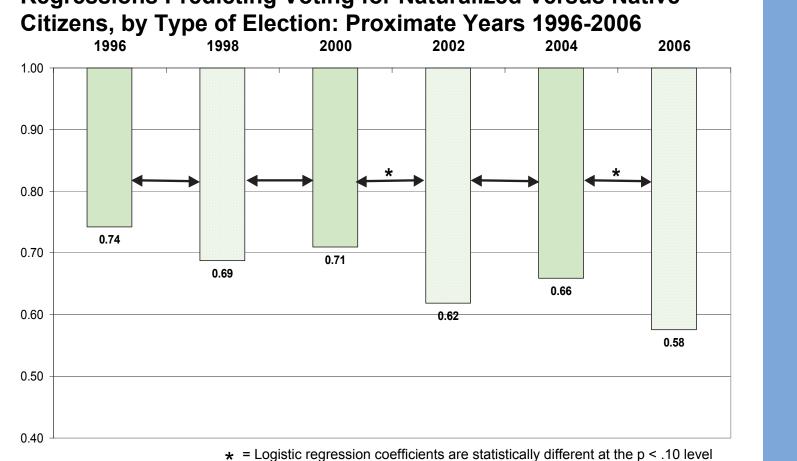


Figure 10: Comparison of Odds Ratios from Logistic Regressions Predicting Voting for Naturalized Versus Native



RESULTS

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, November Voting Supplements: 1996-2006

- Multivariate Findings RQ 3
- Figure 9: Registration by Election
- Comparisons were statistically different in two comparisons: - 1996-1998 - 2004-2006
- In these two cases, the effect was stronger in congressional versus presidential elections
- Figure 10: Voting by Type
- significant in two cases: - 2000-2002 - 2004-2006

Comparisons were statistically

 In these two cases, the effect was stronger in congressional versus presidential elections

Discussion

RQ 1: Effect of Nativity

- Support for hypothesis that naturalized citizens are less likely than native citizens to register and vote in elections in the past decade.
- In 2006, naturalized citizens were 52% less likely to register and 42% less likely to vote compared to native citizens.
- Provides further support for literature documenting lower electoral participation by naturalized citizens.

RQ 2: Nativity Effect Over Time

- Mixed evidence for hypothesis that effect has changed over time.
- In presidential years, effect increased between earliest and latest year.
- In congressional years, no time trend in registration but nativity effect was larger in latest year compared to earliest year for voting.
- Participation by naturalized citizens is not increasing over time, and some evidence it is decreasing compared to native citizens.

RQ 3: Nativity Effect by Election Type

- Mixed evidence for hypothesis that effect varies by type.
- For each statistically different comparison, the effect was stronger in congressional versus presidential elections.
- Potentially, naturalized citizens are less likely to participate in congressional

CONCLUSIONS

- Nativity continues to be an important social predictor of voting behavior
- Compared to native citizens, naturalized citizens are less likely to take advantage of their right to participate in the democratic process.
- Effect of nativity has not decreased in
- Effect of nativity potentially stronger in congressional elections

CONTACT INFORMATION

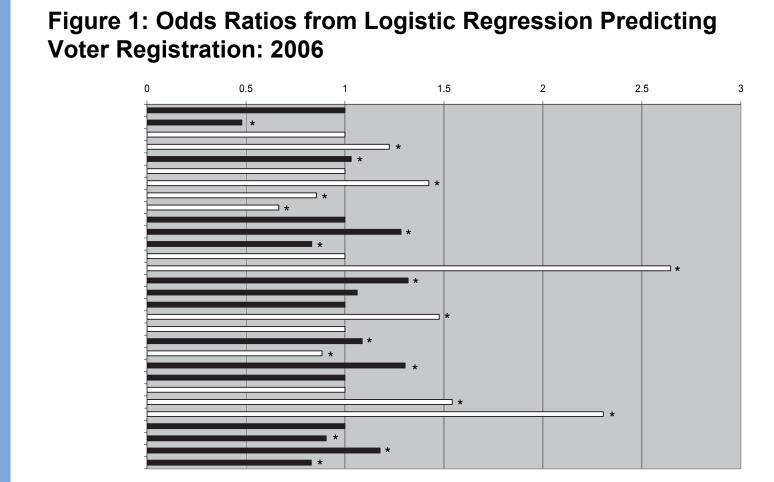
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Full Regression Model Figure 2: Odds Ratios from Logistic Regression Predicting



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, November Voting Supplement: 2006