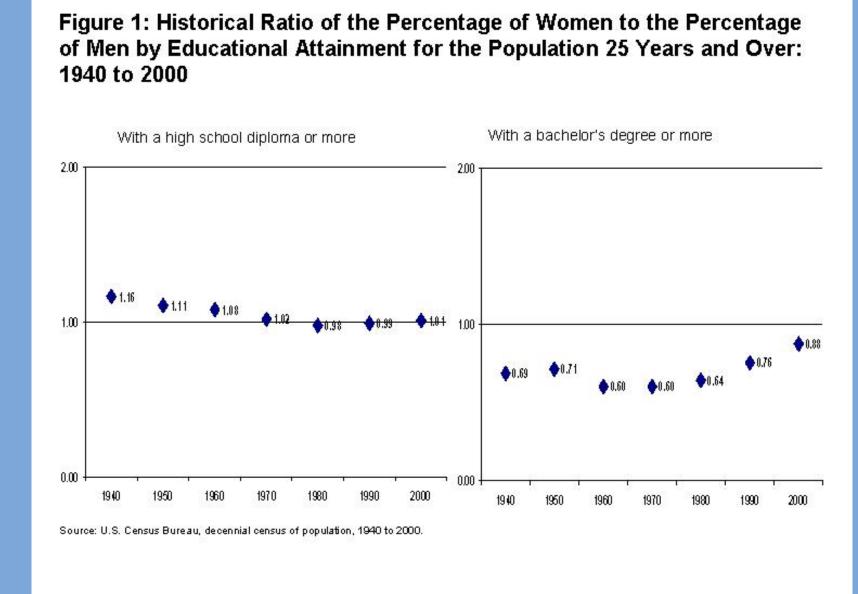
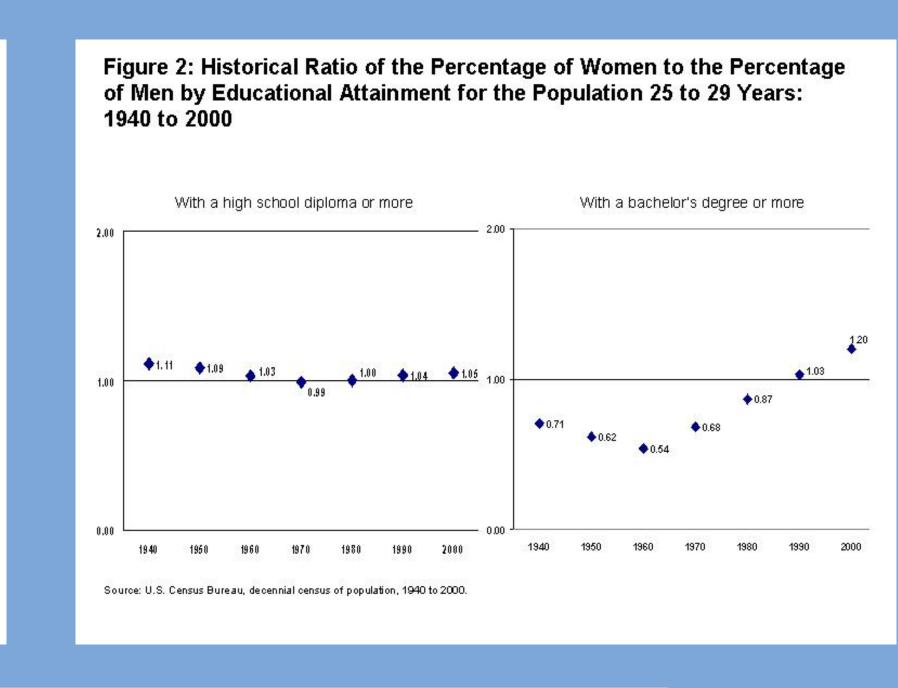
The Gender Gap in Educational Attainment: Variation by Age, Race, Ethnicity, and Nativity in the United States

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Introduction and Methods

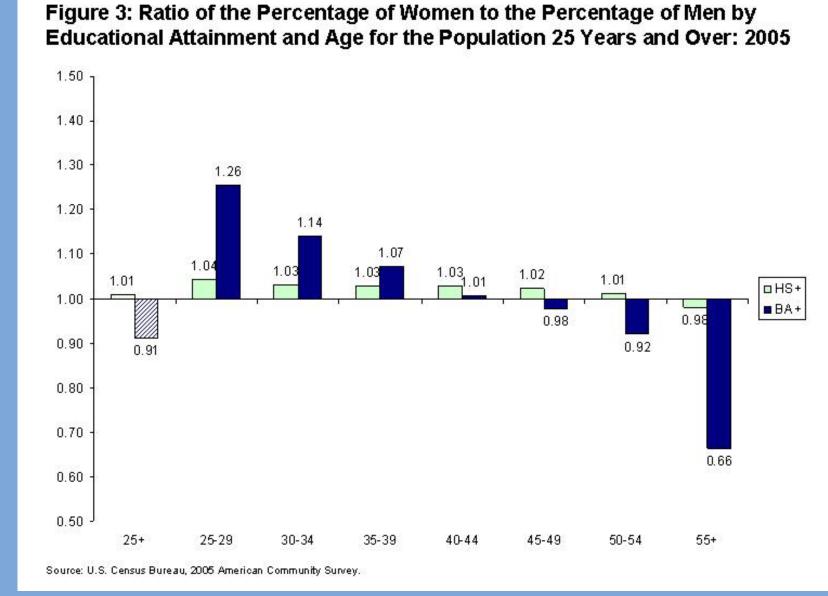
Introduction The gender gap in educational attainment has been changing in recent decades • Compared to men, women are more likely to have completed high school and are almost as likely to have completed college. · Variation in educational attainment by age, race, Hispanic origin, and nativity may contribute to differences in the gender gap across these characteristics • Compute the ratio of the percentage of women to the percentage of men for two attainment levels: high school & bachelor's degree. • Compare this ratio across: age, race, Hispanic origin, nativity, place of birth, and year of entry. • Assess whether there are variations in the gender gap based on these demographic characteristics. Data—2005 American Community Survey (ACS) Annual sampling frame of approximately 3 million addresses • Detailed social, housing, economic, and demographic data for geographic areas with populations of 65,000+ Most current source of demographic data on this scale Race and Hispanic Origin Data are shown for four race groups and by Hispanic origin. The groups are: Non-Hispanic White Non-Hispanic Black Non-Hispanic Asian - Non-Hispanic Other (includes those who selected more than one race) - Hispanic (may be of any race) • Information on place of birth and citizenship status are used to divide the native and foreign-born populations. • The native population includes anyone who was a U.S. citizen at birth. It also includes those born in the U.S., Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Marianas, or the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as those born abroad of at least one American (U.S. citizen) parent. • The foreign-born population includes anyone who was not a U.S. citizen at birth. This includes respondents who indicated they were a U.S. citizen by naturalization or not a Place of Birth • In the ACS, respondents born outside the U.S. are asked to report their place of birth according to current international boundaries. • The foreign-born population is grouped into six world regions based on their reported place of birth. Other (includes Oceania and those born at sea) **Educational Attainment** Highest degree or level of schooling completed: • High school graduate or higher—this category includes people whose highest degree was a high school diploma or its equivalent; people who attended college, but did not receive a degree; and people who received an associate's, bachelor's, master's, or professional or doctorate degree. People who reported completing the 12th grade but not receiving a diploma are not included. • Bachelor's degree or higher—this category includes people whose highest degree was a bachelor's, master's, or professional or doctorate degree

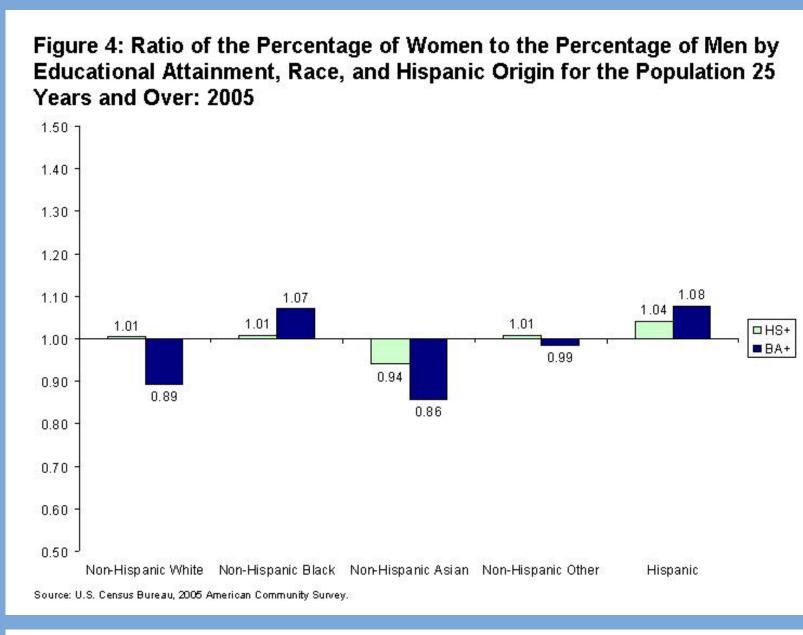


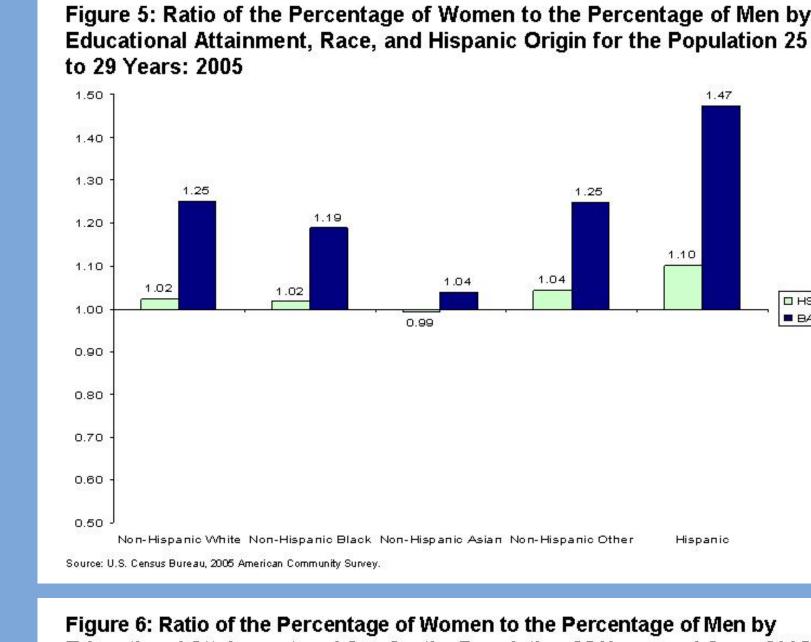


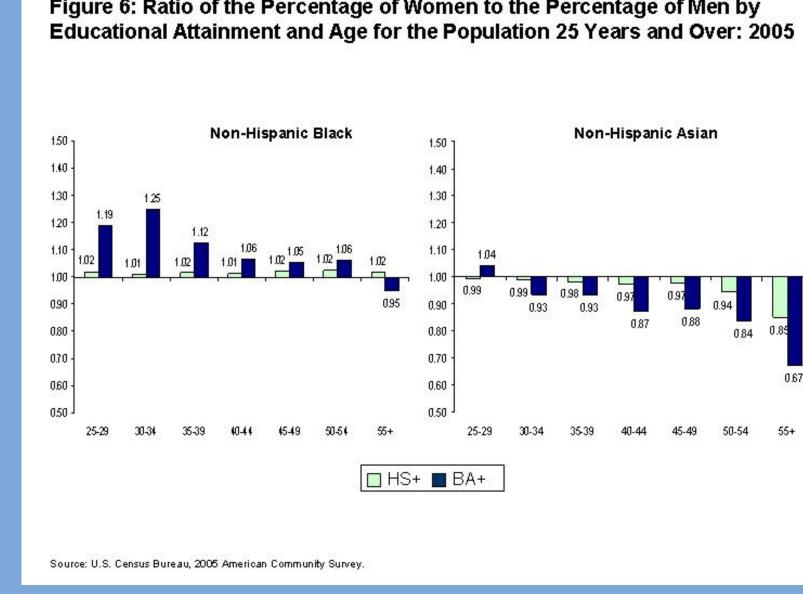
How does this gender gap in educational attainment vary across the diverse U.S. population?

Age, Race, and Hispanic Origin









Findings—Differences by Age

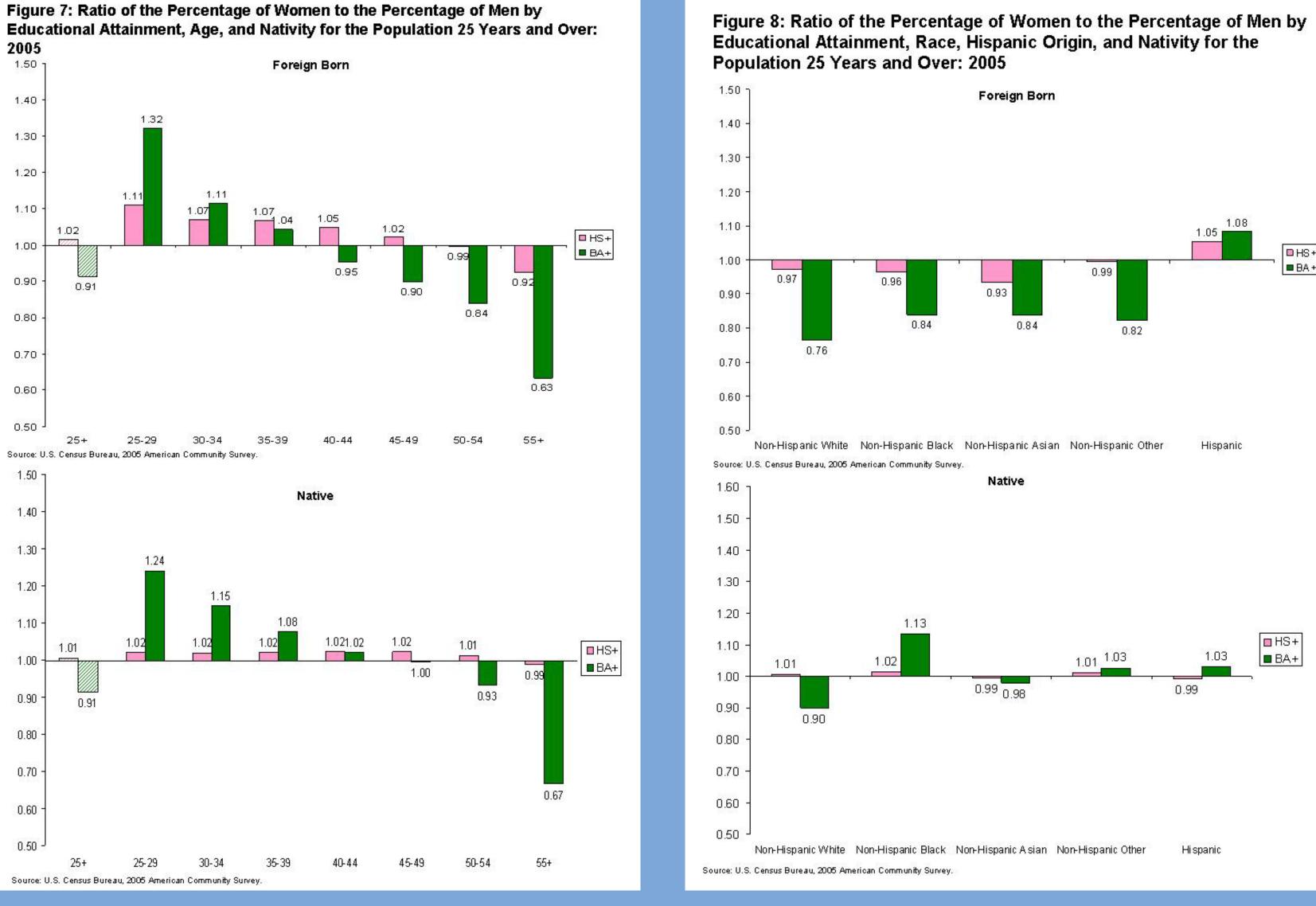
- For the population 25 years and over, the gender gap in high school attainment was smaller than the gap in bachelor's degree attainment. A larger proportion of women had a high school degree, while a lower proportion of women completed a bachelor's
- The gender gap in bachelor's degree attainment varied by age. The gap was largest for the 55 and over population, with a smaller proportion of women obtaining a BA relative to men. The gap for young adults (25 to 29 years) showed a higher proportion of women with a BA compared to men.

Findings—Differences by Race and Hispanic Origin The gender gap for both high school and bachelor's degree attainment varied by race

- The largest gap in both levels of attainment existed for Non-Hispanic Asian women,
- who had lower attainment compared to their male counterparts. Non-Hispanic Blacks and Hispanics had the highest ratio of women's bachelor's degree attainment to men's.

Findings—Differences by Race and Hispanic Origin for Young

- For young adults, 25 to 29 years, the gender gap was more pronounced at the • Across all race/Hispanic origin groups age 25 to 29, a higher proportion of women had • The gap in BA attainment was highest for Hispanic women and lowest for non-Hispanic
- Findings—Differences by Age and Race and Hispanic Origin These additional charts reveal the age patterns of the gender gap in educational
- attainment by race/Hispanic origin. • The largest gap in attainment for non-Hispanic Blacks was in bachelor's degree attainment for the 30-34 year age group (though not statistically different from the 25-29 year age group), where a larger proportion of women had a BA relative to men. • For non-Hispanic Blacks, there was little variation in the gender gap at the high school
- Conversely, the largest gap for both attainment levels for non-Hispanic Asians was for those 55 years and over, where a smaller proportion of women had a high school or a bachelor's degree relative to men.



Findings—Differences by Nativity

identical at the bachelor's degree level.

attainment than women.

a bachelor's degree compared to their male counterparts.

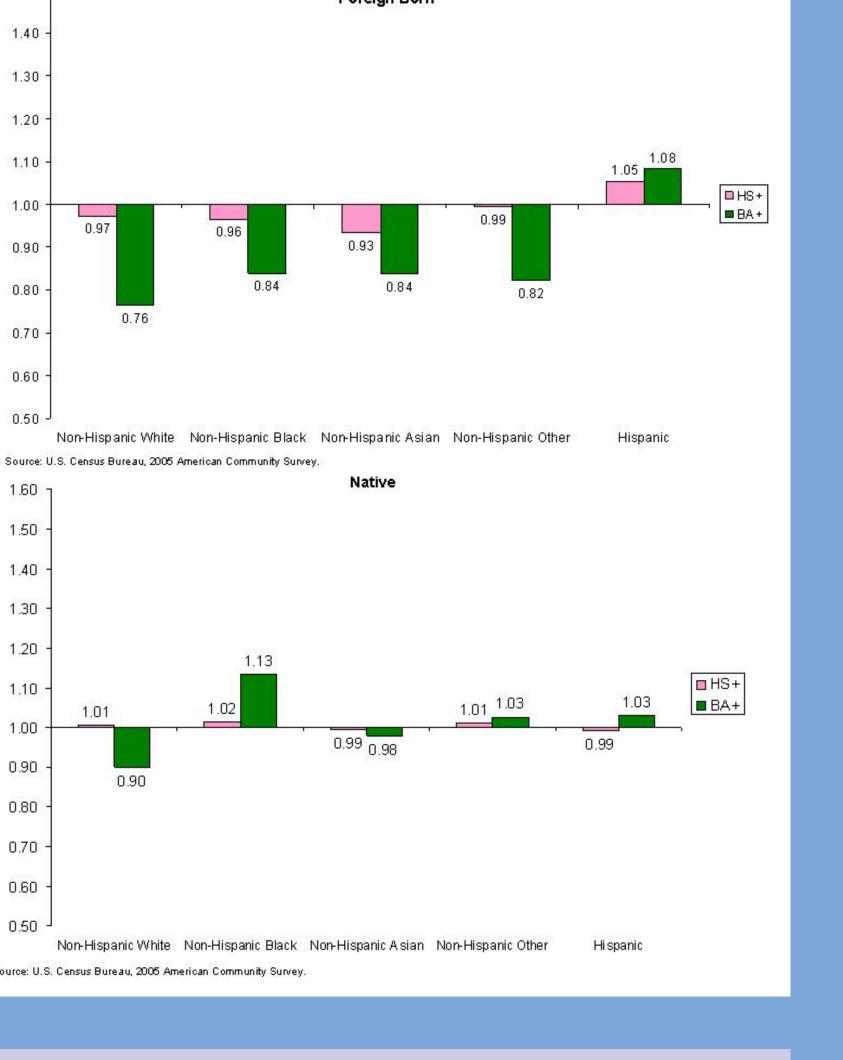
• The age pattern in the gender gap for attainment was similar for the native and

foreign-born populations. The ratios for the population 25 and over were nearly

• A lower proportion of both native and foreign-born women 25 years and over had

• The largest gender gaps in attainment for the native and foreign-born populations

existed at the bachelor's degree level. In the younger age groups, women had higher attainment relative to men. While in older age groups, men had higher



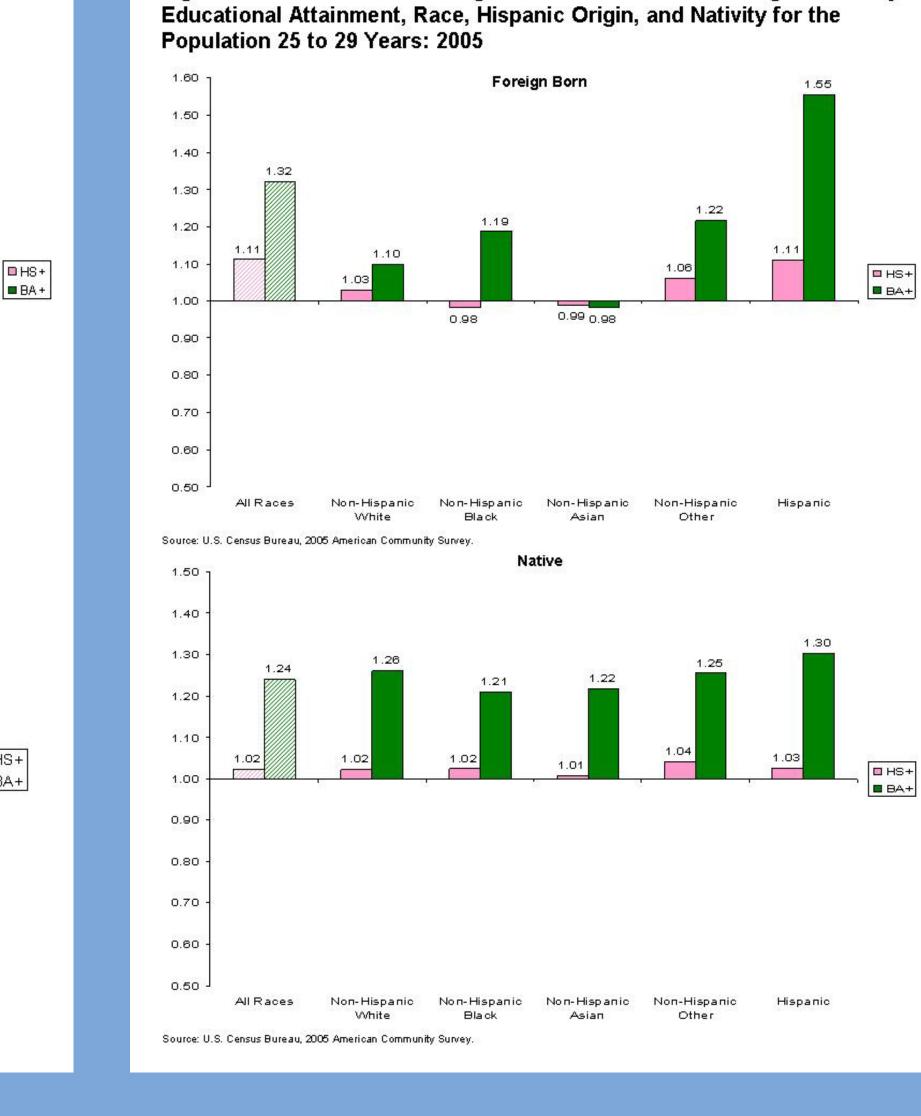


Figure 9: Ratio of the Percentage of Women to the Percentage of Men by

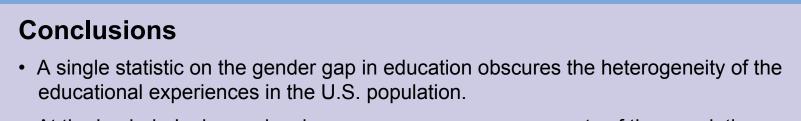
Conclusion

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educational experiences in the U.S. population. At the bachelor's degree level, women across many segments of the population appea to have an advantage relative to men. This is particularly true for younger generations of women and for most race/Hispanic origin groups. The most striking finding is the consistent gender gaps across race/Hispanic origin for native women aged 25 to 29

• Race, Hispanic origin, nativity, and age have an interactive effect on the gender gap in education. Immigration patterns, cohort effects, and school factors likely contribute to a complex pattern of gender differences in educational attainment in the U.S. population

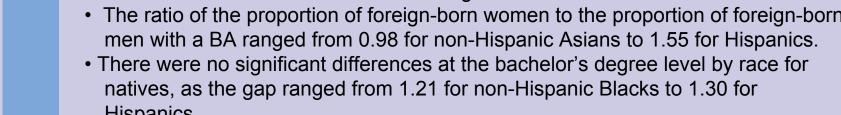
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Findings—Differences by Nativity, Race, and Hispanic Origin The gender gap in attainment by race/Hispanic origin varied by nativity. for Young Adults Among young adults, 25 to 29 years, there was race variation in the gender gap at

 Among the foreign born, non-Hispanic Whites had the largest gender gap for bachelor's degree attainment, but Hispanic women were the only group of women each attainment level between the foreign born and natives. who had a higher proportion of bachelor's degree holders compared with their There was greater gender parity among the native population by race, particularly

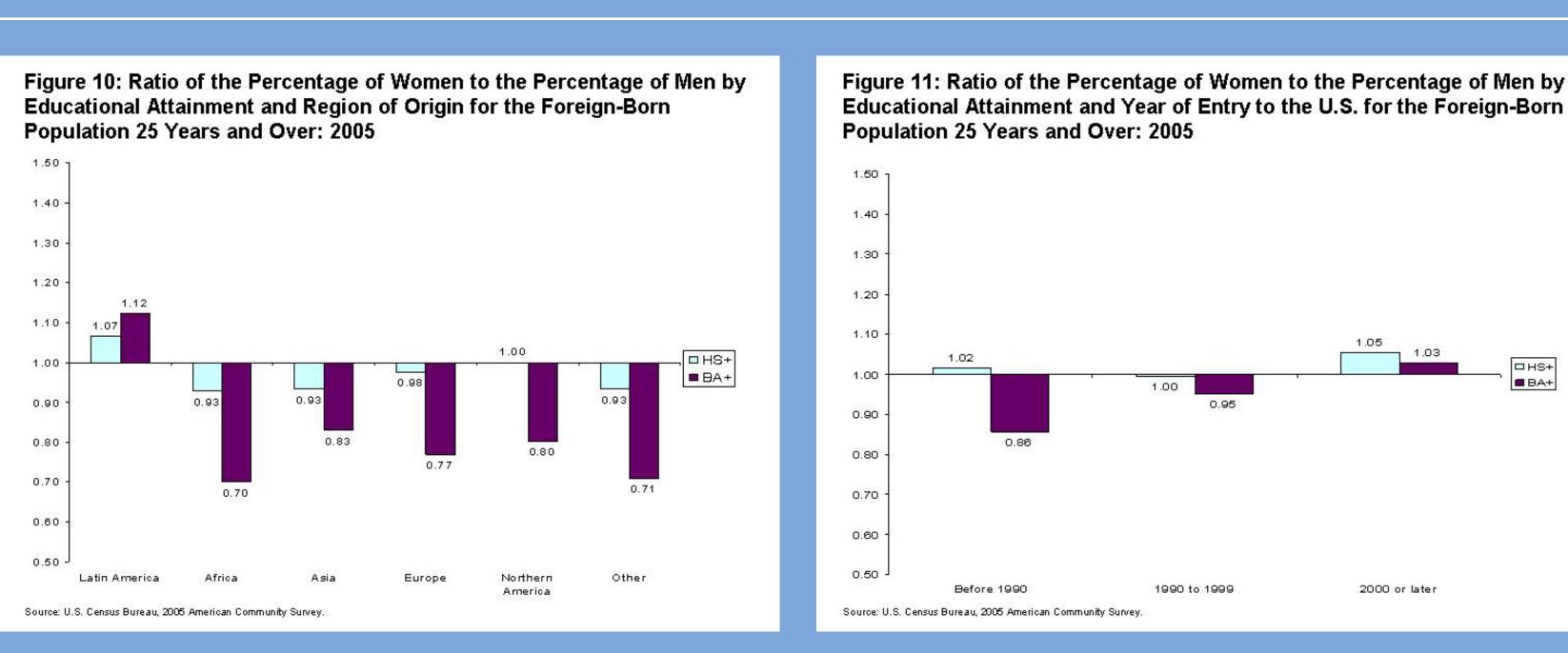
 Among natives, non-Hispanic Blacks had the highest gender gap in bachelor's degree attainment, with a higher percentage of women holding bachelor's degrees. The opposite occurred for non-Hispanic White women.

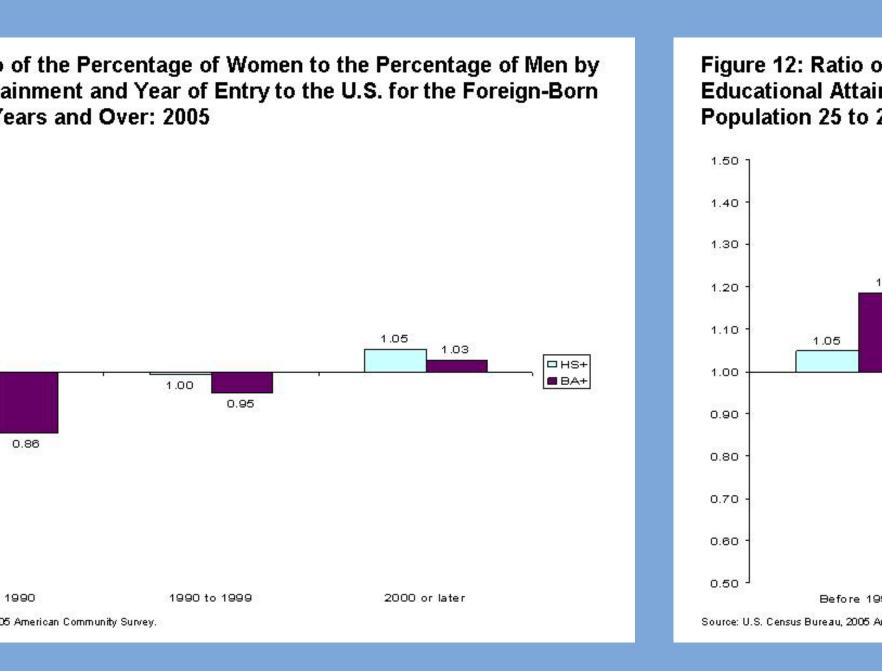
Findings—Differences by Nativity, Race, and Hispanic Origin

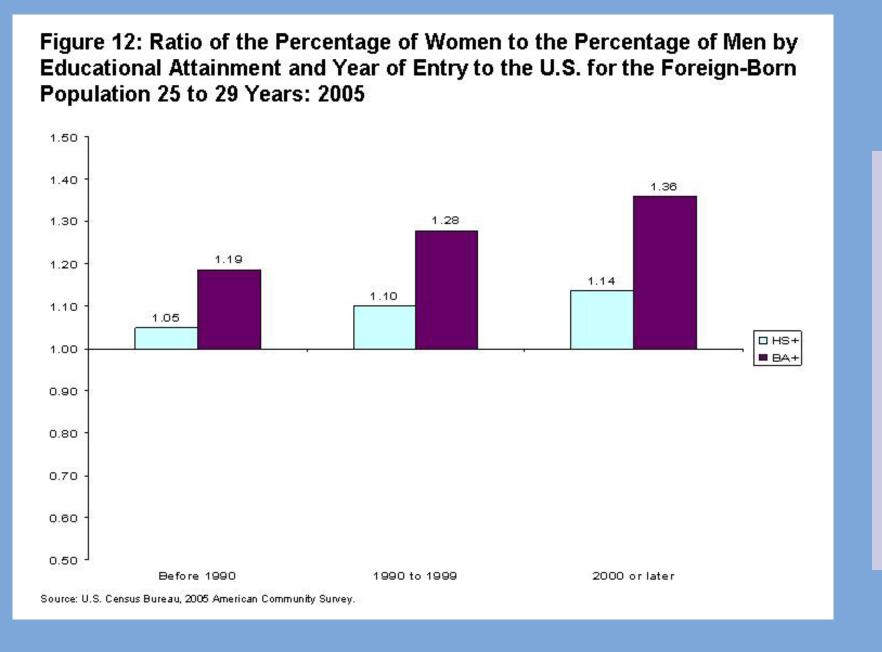


• At the high school level, there was almost no difference by race/Hispanic origin

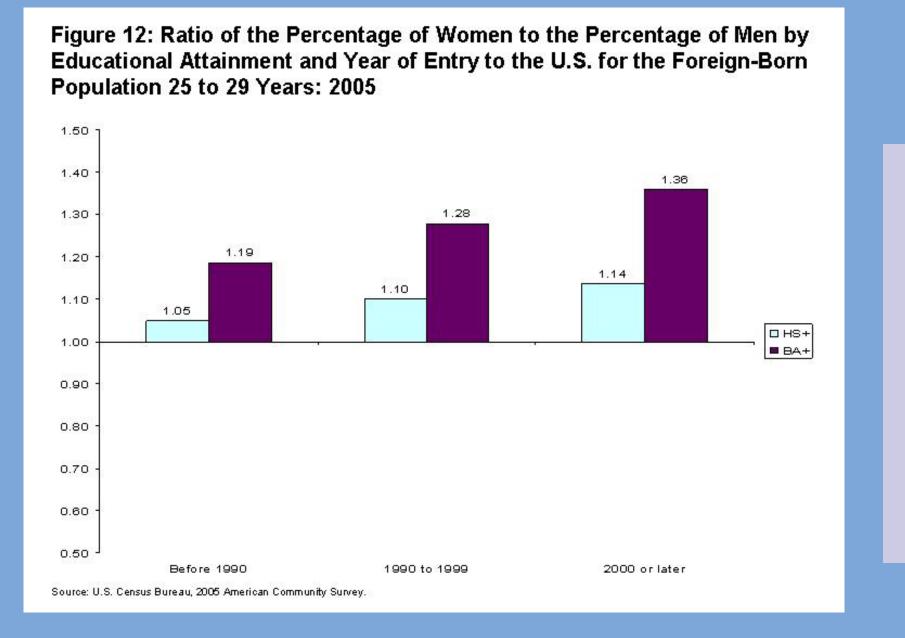
Foreign Born







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Findings—Differences by Place of Birth and Year of Entry A larger proportion of women from Latin America had a high school diploma compared

to men. Women from Latin America were also the only group to have a larger proportion of bachelor's degree attainment compared to men. • The educational attainment gap varied by year of entry. At the high school level, the group that immigrated in 2000 or later had the largest gender gap with women having a

 At the bachelor's degree level, the group that immigrated before 1990 had the largest gender gap with men having a larger proportion of BAs. However, for those who

immigrated in 2000 or later, women had a higher proportion of BAs. • In every year of entry category for the 25 to 29 population, women's educational attainment was significantly higher than men's at each attainment level. The smallest

gap was at the high school level for those who immigrated prior to 1990