

Name

Date

## Statistical Analysis of Native and Foreign-Born Americans

Survey: Selected Characteristics of the Native and Foreign-Born Populations

From the US Census Bureau, 2005 American Community Survey

From: [http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/STTable?\\_bm=y&-geo\\_id=01000US&-qr\\_name=ACS\\_2005\\_EST\\_G00\\_S0602&-ds\\_name=ACS\\_2005\\_EST\\_G00](http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/STTable?_bm=y&-geo_id=01000US&-qr_name=ACS_2005_EST_G00_S0602&-ds_name=ACS_2005_EST_G00)

The data provided in this data set compares households of native-born Americans, naturalized Americans, and foreign-born residents. Separate lists of data are given so readers can see the differences between these groups. Demographic information shows the sex, age, race, and marital status of each group. Other data describes the occupations, earnings, and education of each group. Finally, information about the housing units, utility services, and automobiles owned is supplied.

Reading through the data gives you insight into how different life in the United States can be depending on your status as a citizen. For our country to continue as a world leader, we need to use all the resources we have, most especially the human resources. This data can help teachers, social workers, and politicians realize what needs to be changed so that all Americans have equal opportunities to succeed in our country.

I think education is an important predictor of success and comfortable income levels. It is interesting to see the differences between the different groups in educational achievement:

- Foreign-born residents are almost twice as likely to drop out of high school (40%) as foreign-born citizens (23%) are and three times more likely than native-born citizens (12%) are.
- Foreign-born citizens are more likely to complete graduate and/or professional degrees (12%) than native-born citizens (9%) or foreign-born residents (9%).
- The greatest percentage of foreign-born citizens (20.7%) earns \$35,000 to \$49,999 per year while the greatest percentage of foreign-born residents (32.1%) earns \$15,000 to \$24,999, or less than half what naturalized citizens earn. In comparison, the greatest percentage of native-born Americans (22.2%) earn \$35,000 to \$49,999 per year.

This data shows the importance of citizenship for success in American society. Foreign-born residents do not do as well in any measure as US citizens, whether the citizens are native-born in the US or foreign-born naturalized citizens. Foreign-born residents are more likely to drop out of high school. This is an important factor in their lowered earnings. Although native-born Americans have higher incomes on the average, foreign-born citizens achieve a high level of success by focusing on receiving graduate and professional degrees. Paths to citizenship allow the foreign-born to participate more fully in American society. It is important for our country to develop an equitable immigration

policy so we can continue to use the talents of the foreign-born to build and develop our country.