

ENGAGING LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENTS

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April 14, 2014

About the Research

Part I: National survey

- ▣ N= 800 adult immigrants
- ▣ Self-identify as Legal Permanent Residents (LPRs)
- ▣ 400 Latino origin, 400 Asian origin
- ▣ Field dates: February 19-March 29, 2013

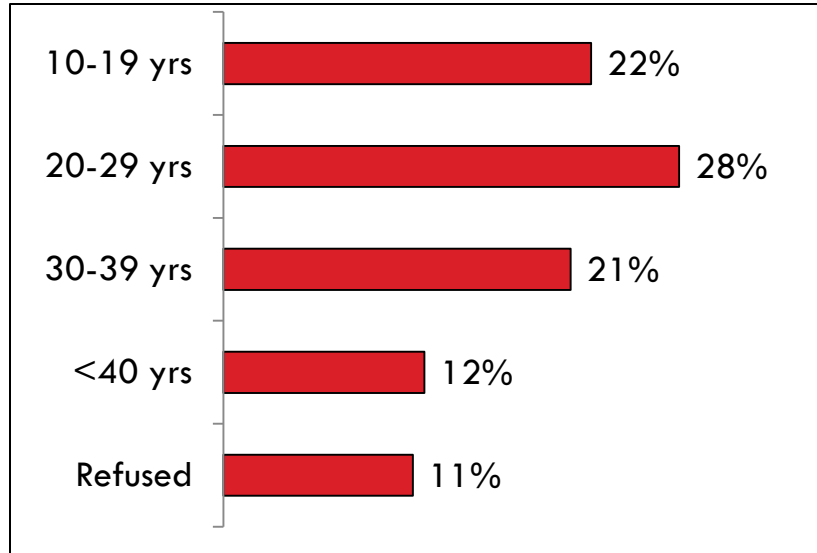
Part II: LPR focus groups

- ▣ Fremont, California (conducted in Hindi)
- ▣ Houston (conducted in Spanish)
- ▣ Los Angeles (conducted in Spanish)
- ▣ New York City (conducted in Mandarin)

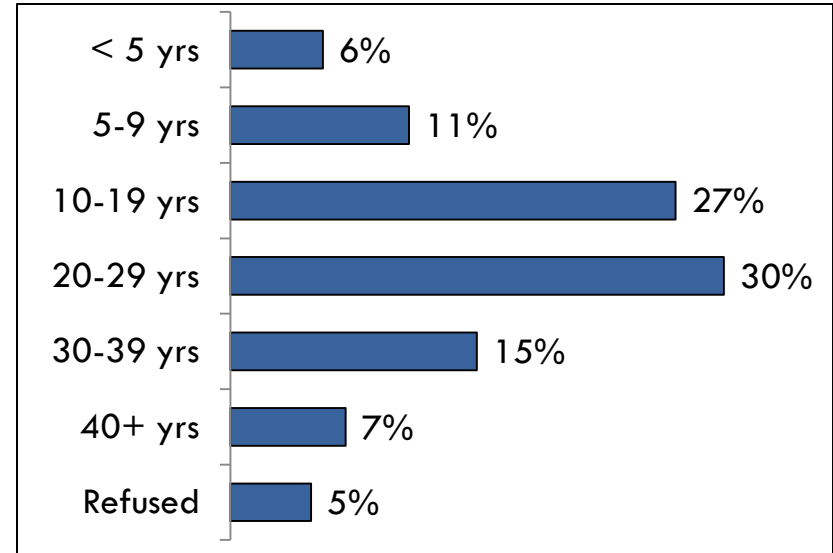
Highlights from Latino LPR responses focus of this presentation

Migration History

Age at time of immigration

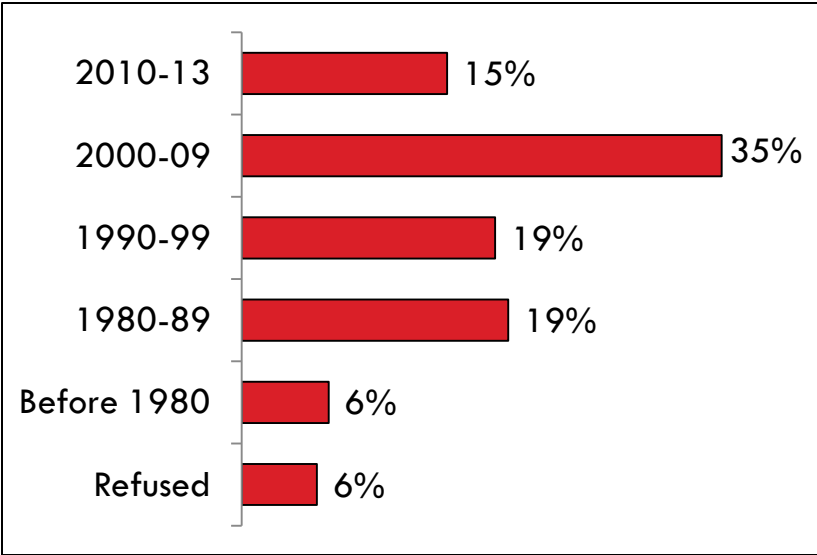


Years lived in United States

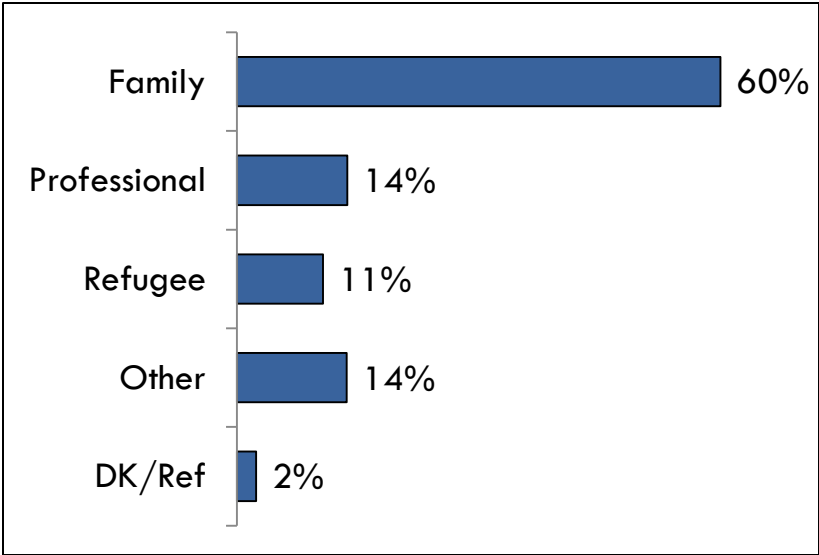


Becoming a Legal Permanent Resident

Year gained LPR status

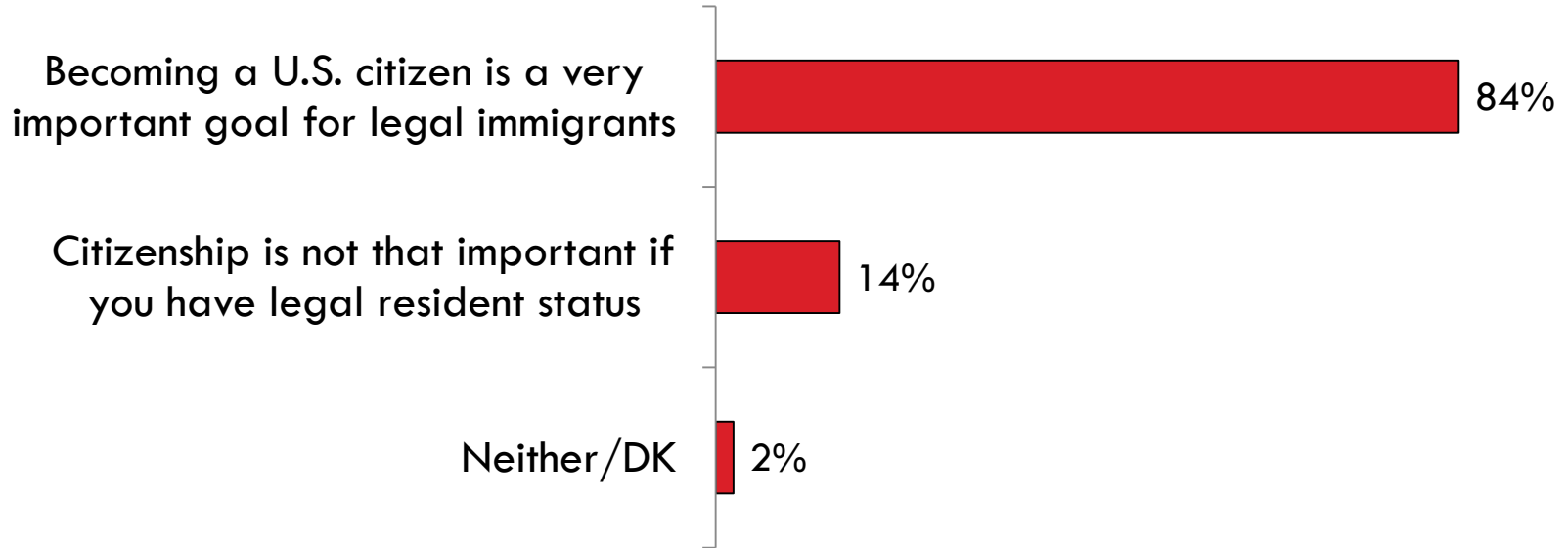


Gained LPR status by (category)



Importance of American Citizenship

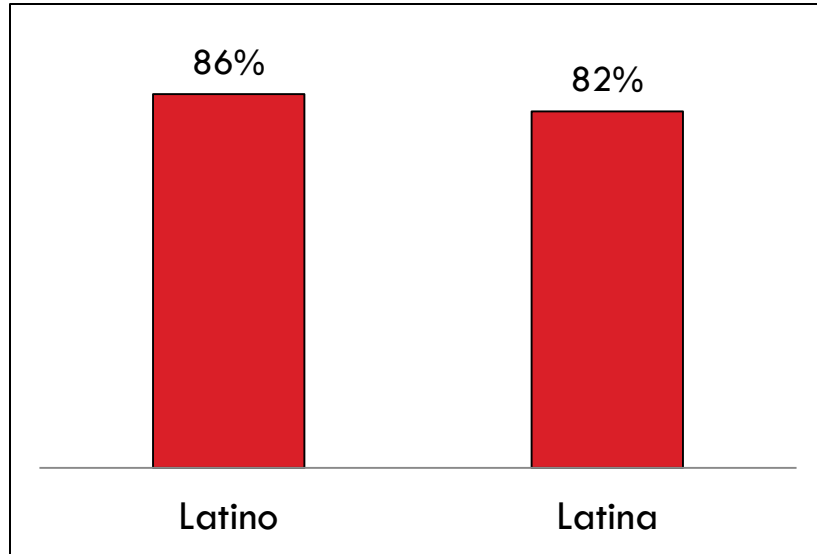
Which statement do you agree with most?



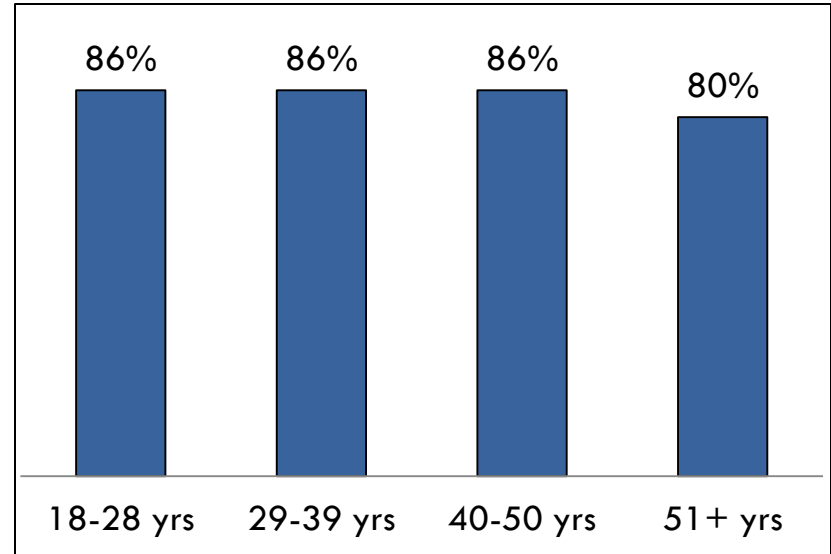
Importance of American Citizenship

(percent agree citizenship very important goal)

Gender



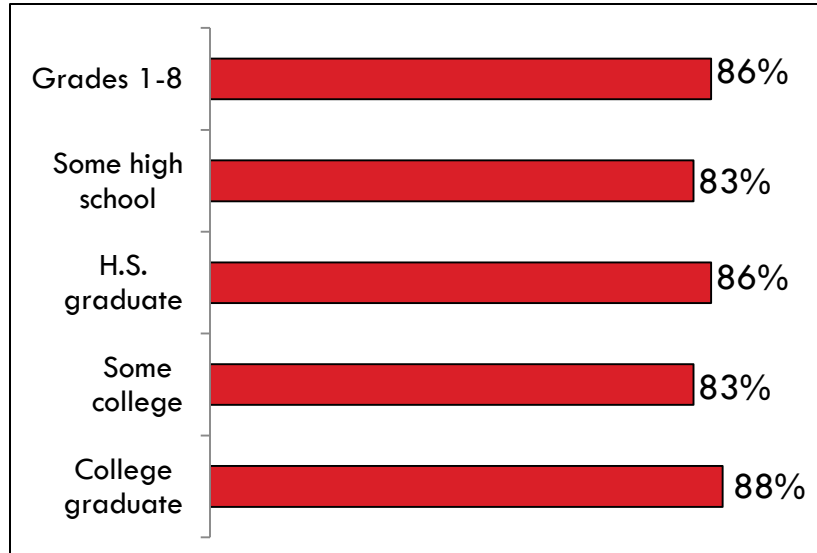
Age cohort



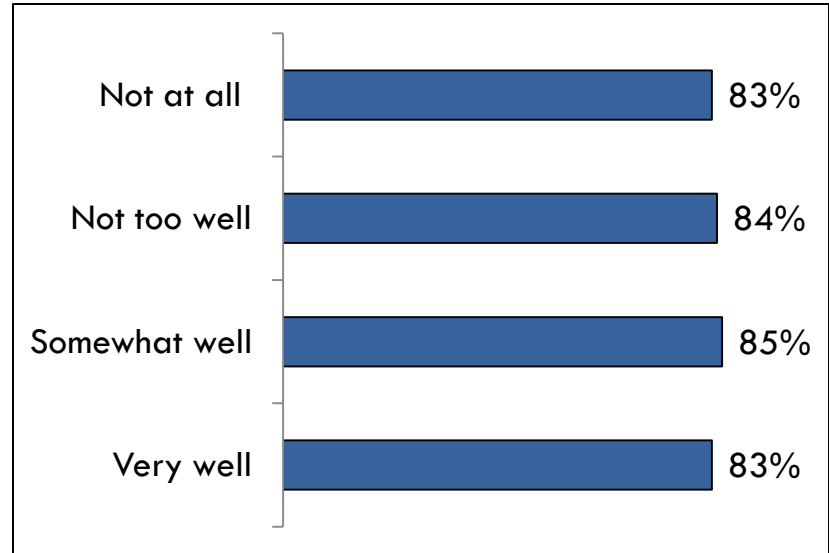
Importance of American Citizenship

(percent agree citizenship very important goal)

Highest level of education completed

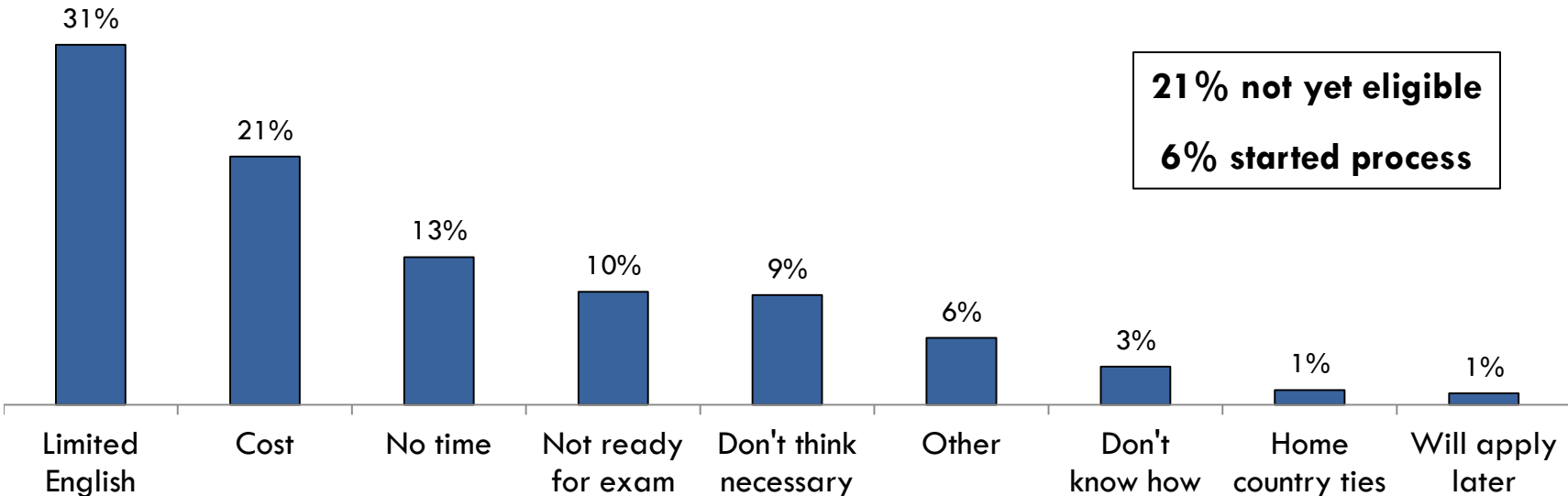


English ability

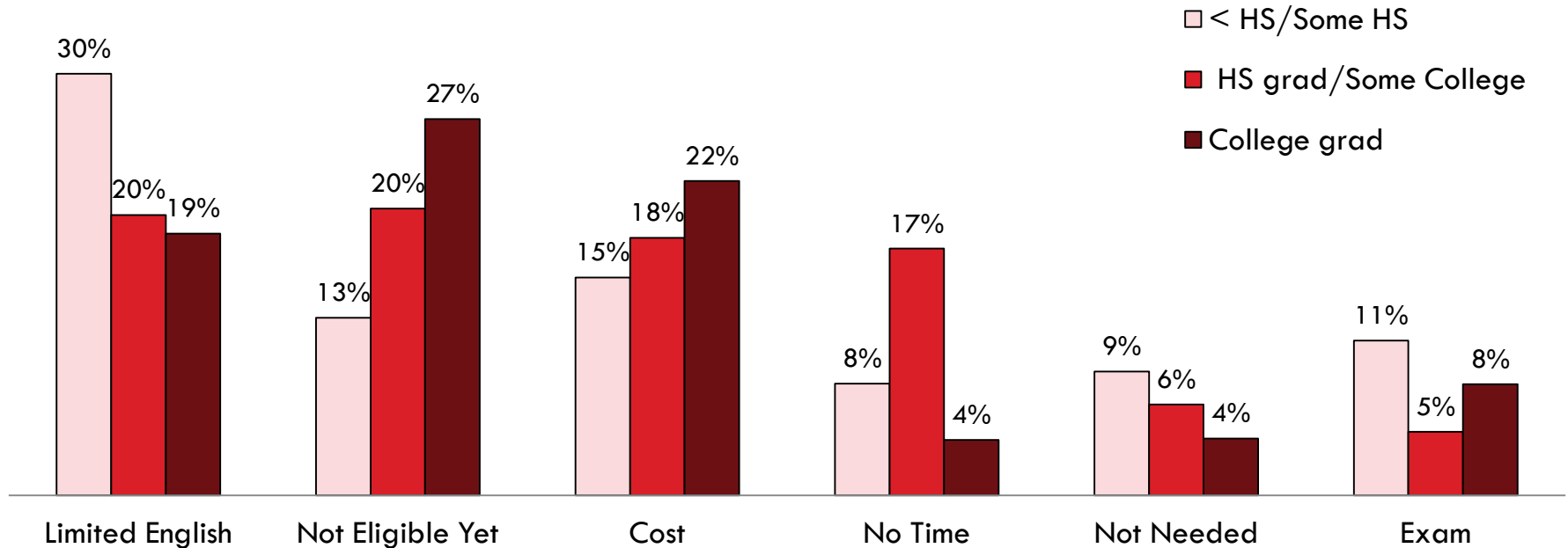


Barriers to Naturalization

Main reasons not yet applied for citizenship

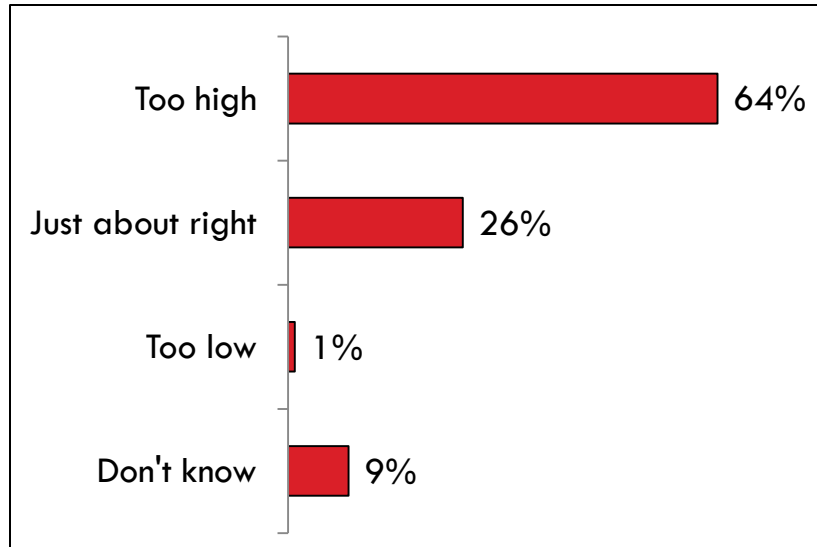


Naturalization Barriers by Education

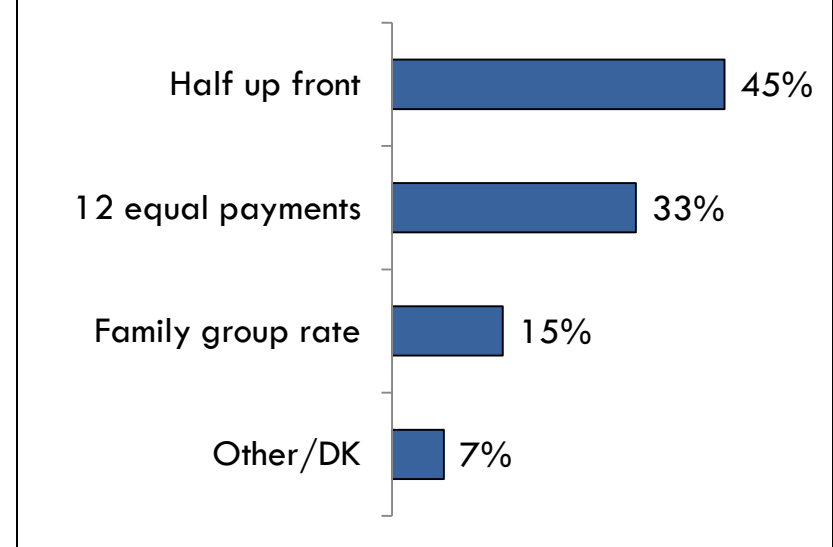


Naturalization Costs and Possibilities

Cost of citizenship application

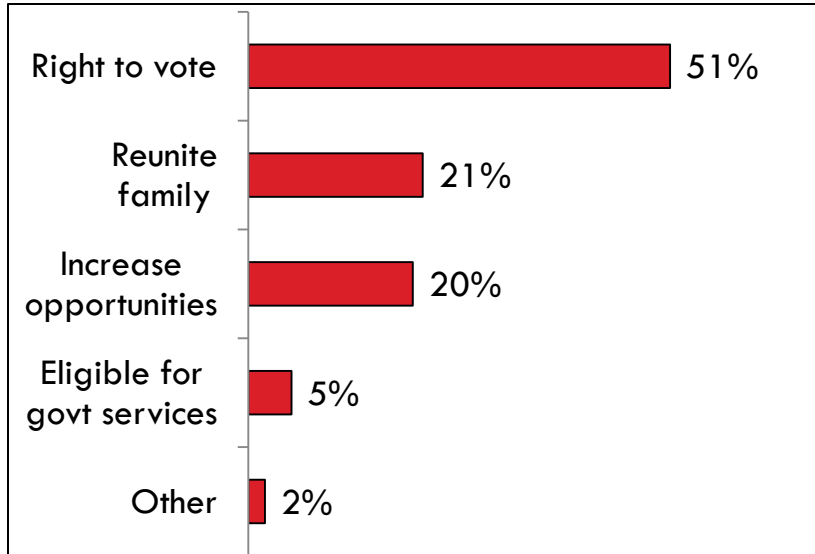


Preferred payment structure

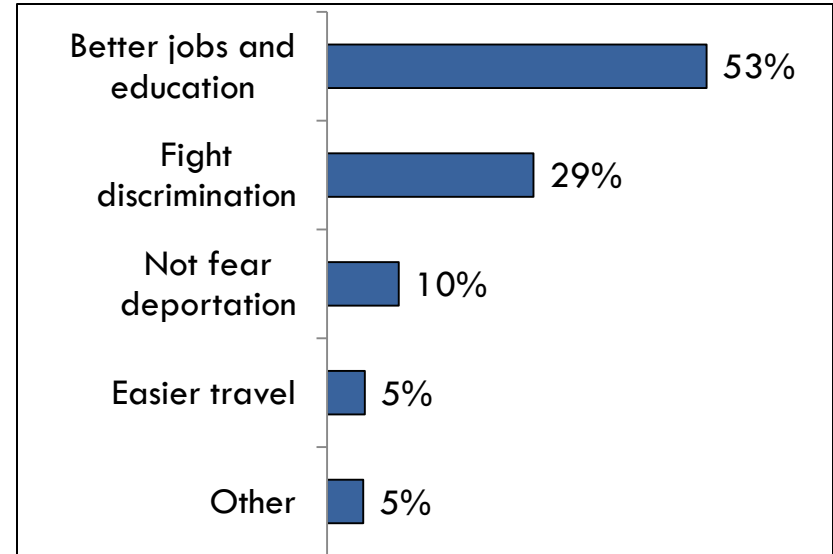


Naturalization Reasons

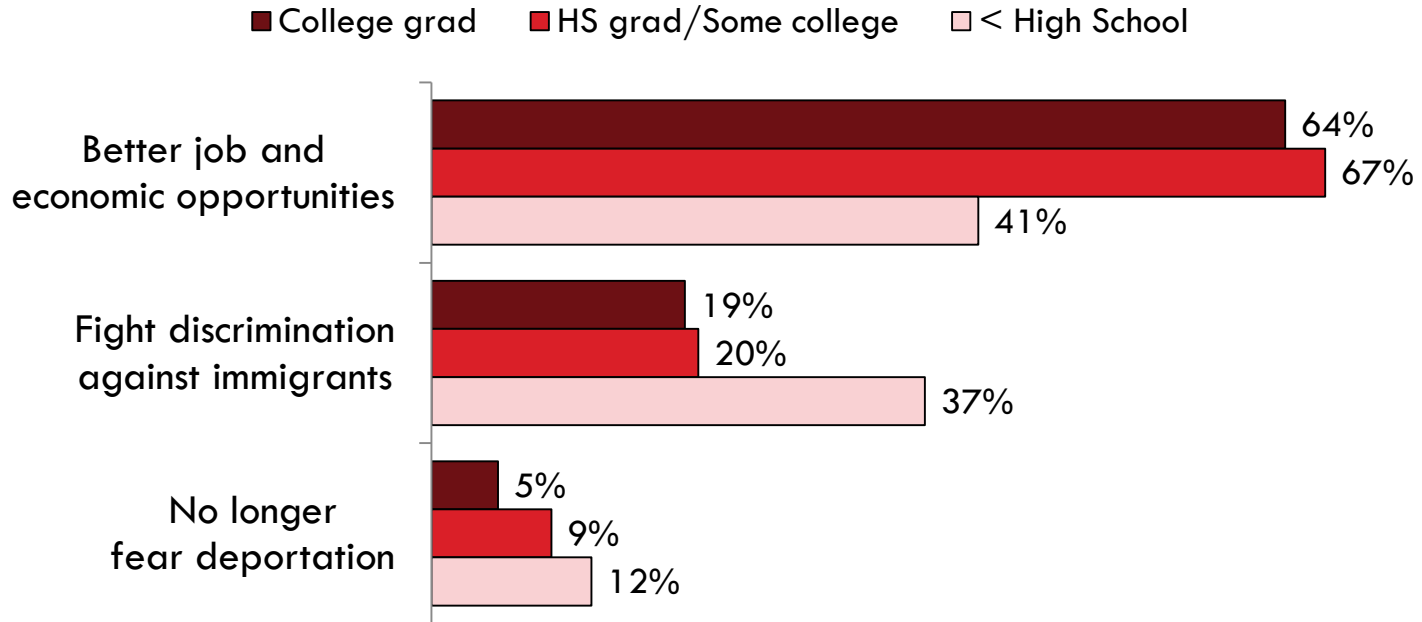
First Set of Options



Second Set of Options

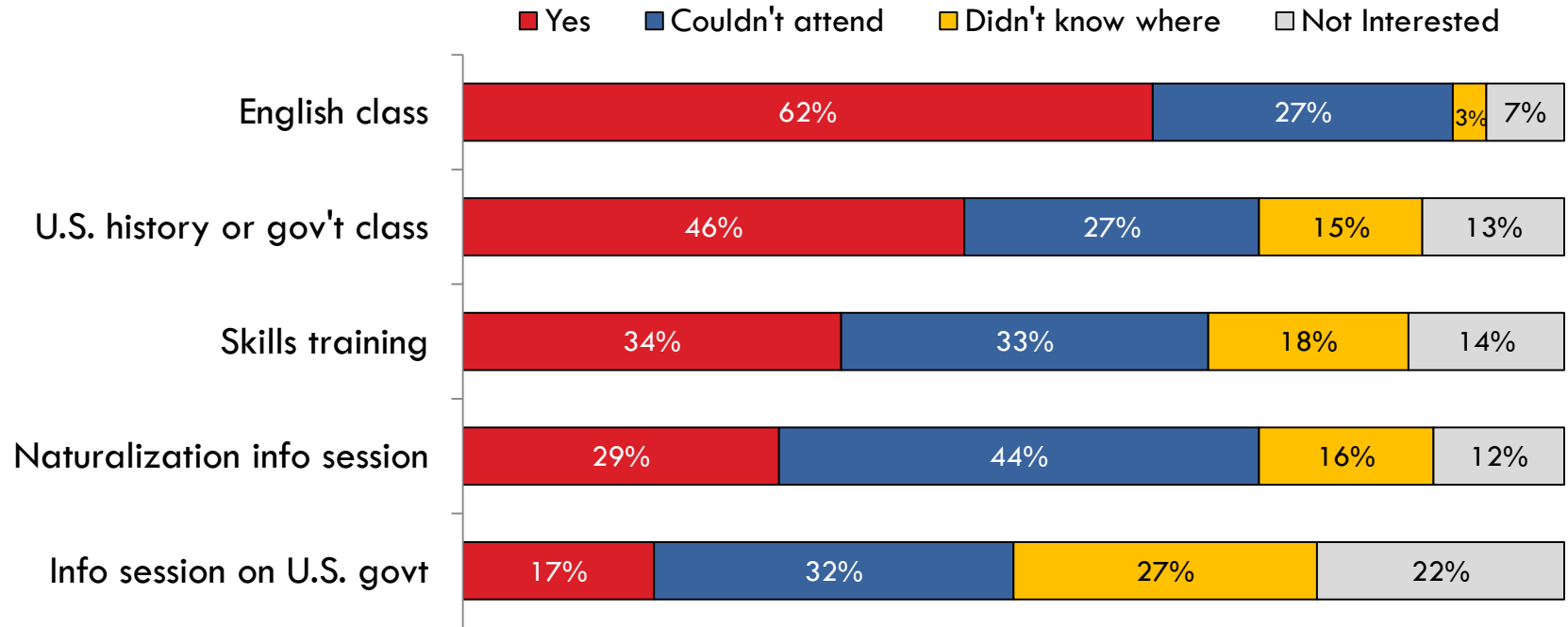


Naturalization Reasons by Education



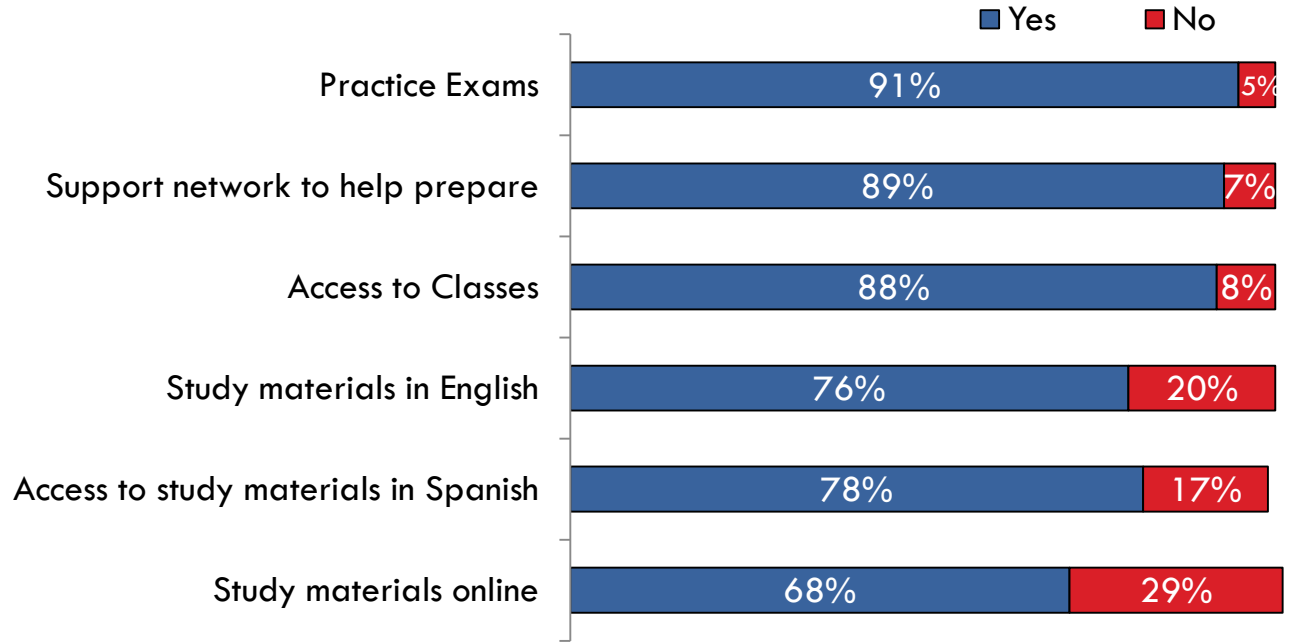
Preparing for Citizenship Exam

Have you taken or attended....



Citizenship Exam Preparation

Would _____ help you prepare for the citizenship exam?



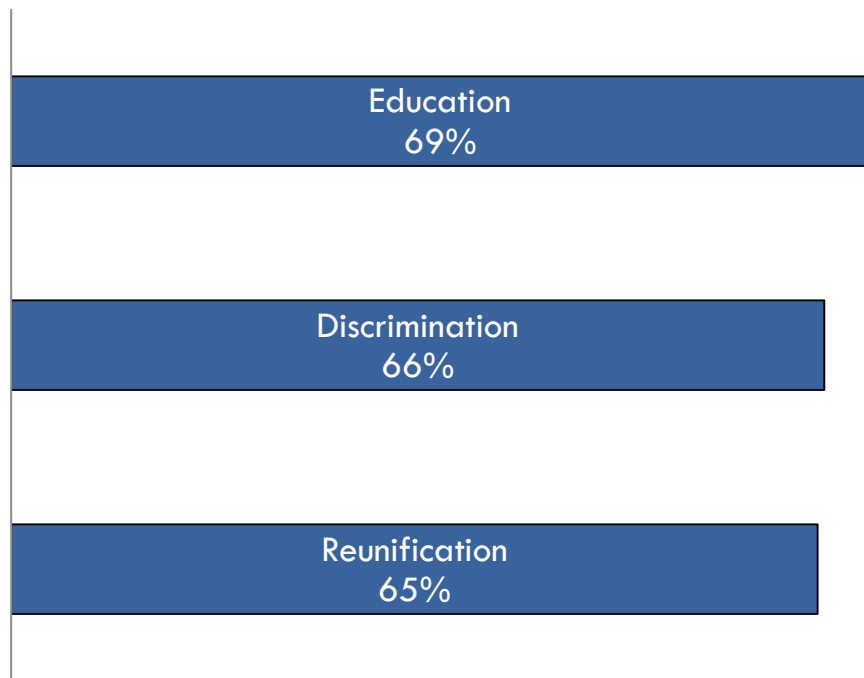
Effective Naturalization Messages

(percent responding “very convincing”)

Citizenship helps you provide greater opportunities for your children, like access to scholarships for school or college.

Some law enforcement officials are harrasing and racially profiling immigrants. We must become citizens to put an end to discrimination against immigrants.

By becoming a citizen you can help reunite your family and keep them together.



Effective Naturalization Messages

(percent responding “very convincing”)

If you don't become a citizen and take part in democracy nothing will ever improve. With citizenship we can improve our communities

Civic engagement
62%

When you become a US citizen, you no longer have to fear deportation.

Deportation
58%

Citizenship allows you to vote and elect the political leaders that represent you.

Vote
51%

Effective Naturalization Messages

(percent responding “very convincing”)

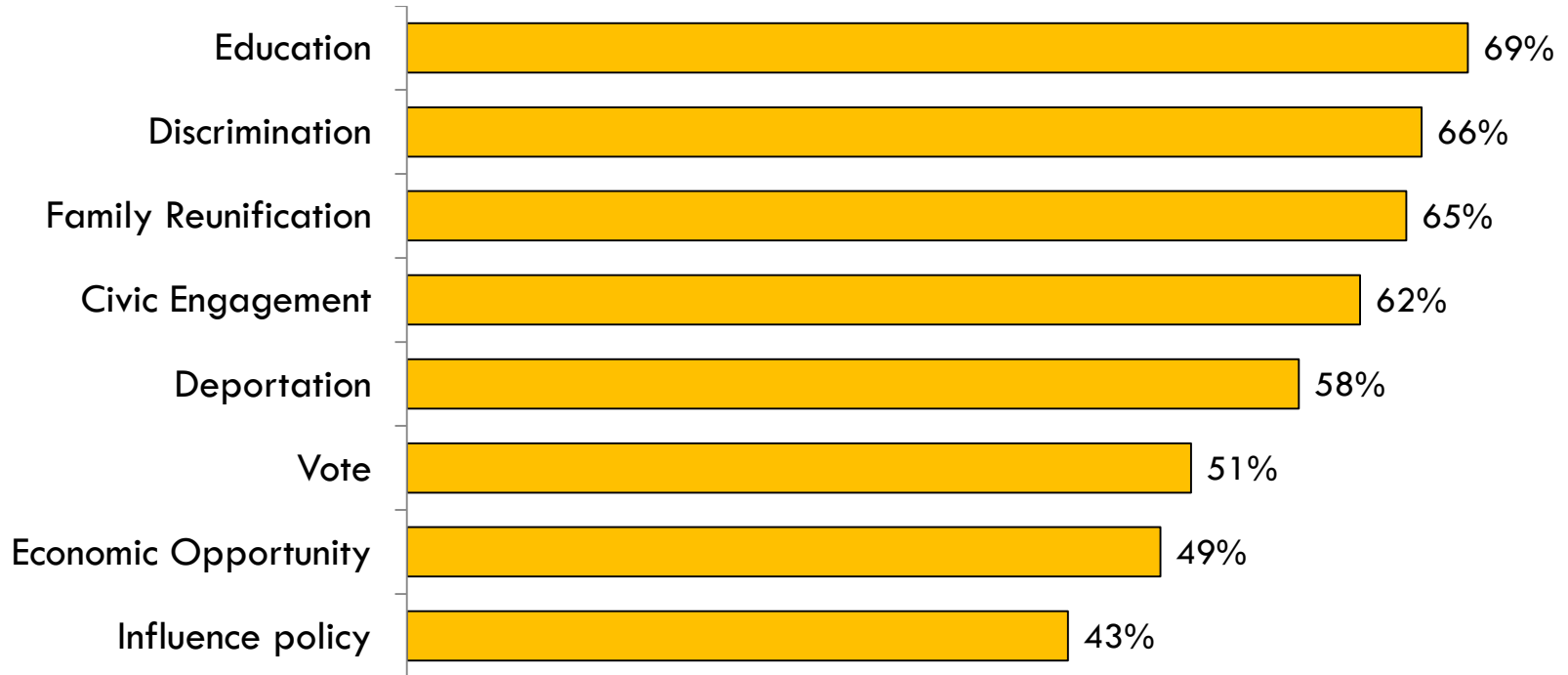
Citizenship helps you have better economic opportunities.

Economic
49%

Many states are considering passing laws that discriminate against immigrants. Only by becoming citizens can you protect your community and family

Policy Influence
43%

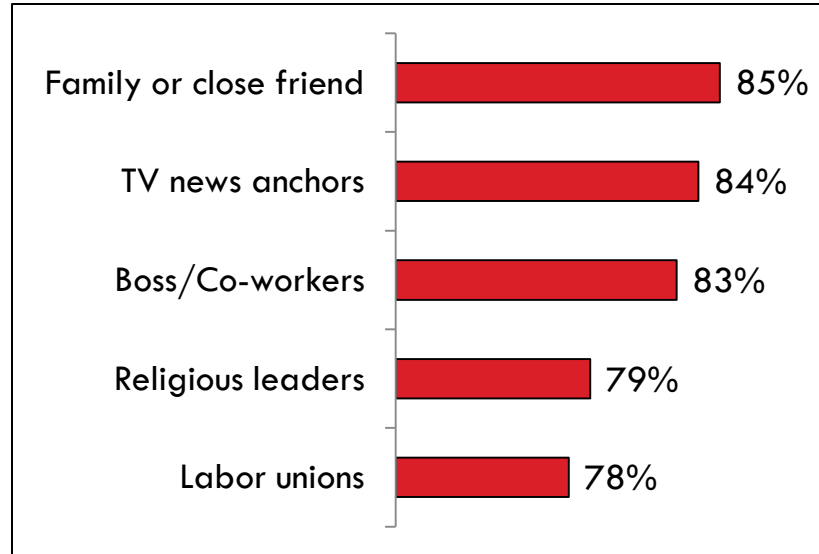
Most Convincing Naturalization Messages



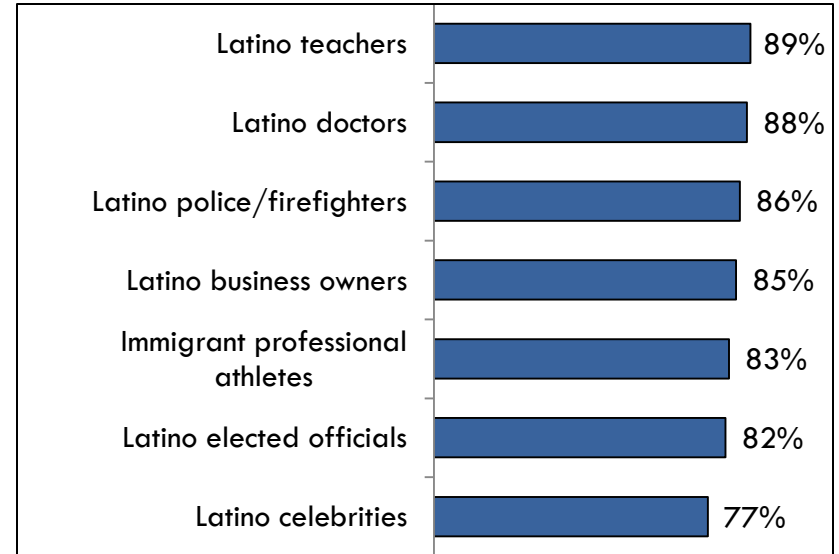
Effective Messengers

(Percent more likely to naturalize if citizenship drive endorsed by ___)

Personal and Professional Messengers

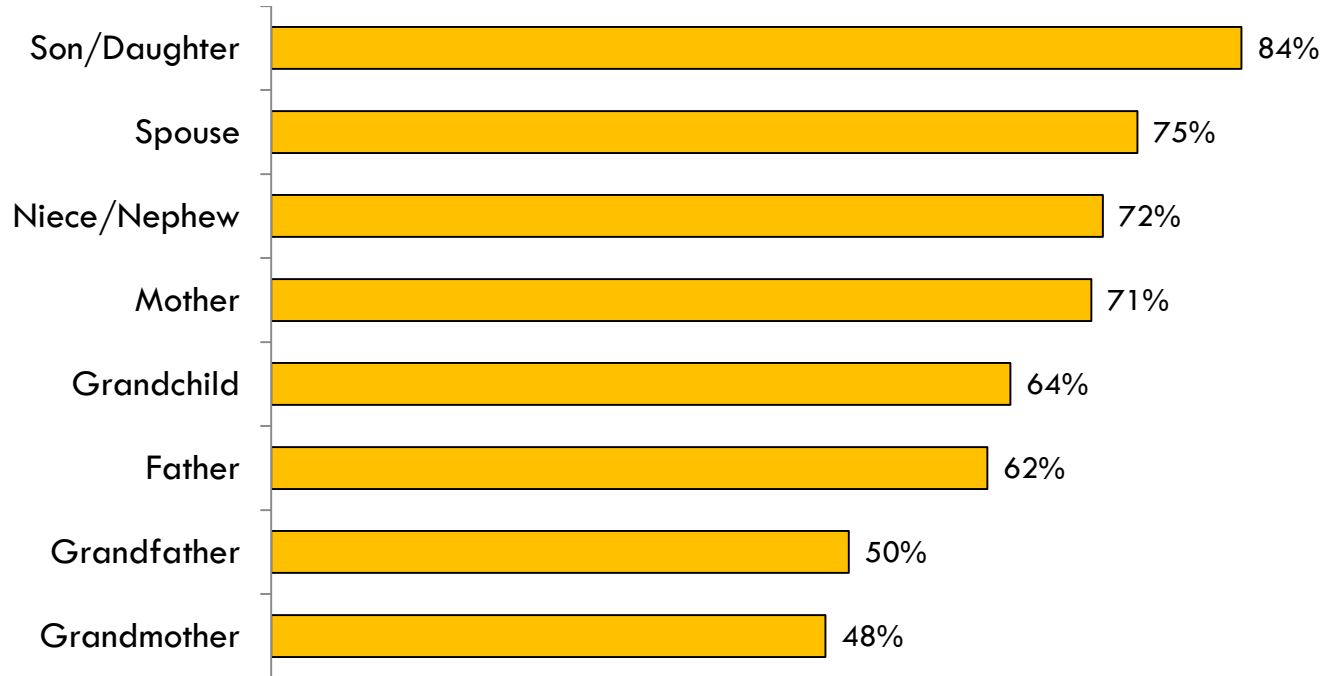


Co-Ethnic Messengers



Effective Family Messengers

If your _____ personally asked to you apply for citizenship, would that make you more/less likely to apply?



Summary

- Vast majority of Latino LPRs (84%) believe becoming a U.S. citizen is a very important goal.
- The right to vote, better jobs and education, and fighting discrimination are the most important reasons for obtaining citizenship.
- Cost and limited English Skills are biggest barriers.
- Co-ethnic messengers and family are key to outreach.

Thank you!

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