



PRESENTATION
November 6, 2013 Meeting

DATE: October 25, 2013
TO: Children and Families Commission of Orange County
FROM: Christina Altmayer, Executive Director 
SUBJECT: California's Diminishing Resource: Children

As the Commission recognizes the fifteenth anniversary of the passage of Proposition 10, the Commission has directed staff to consider accomplishments to date and strategies necessary to continue to promote our vision for the future. Keeping with this direction, Dr. Dowell Myers will be presenting a demographic forecast for young children in California and Orange County.

Over the last decade, Orange County lost close to 57,800 in the number of children under the age of 10, second in California only to Los Angeles County. Orange County's percentage decline of 12.8% far exceeds the state-wide loss of 3.4%. By comparison, the United States as a whole experienced a 2.1% increase among children ages 0 to 9. Dr. Myers has studied these changes and will provide information on his findings, and how they may apply to Orange County, at the Commission meeting.

Dr. Dowell Myers is a demographer and professor in the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California, where he directs the Population Dynamics Research Group. Dr. Myers is the author of the award-winning 2007 book *Immigrants and Boomers* and numerous studies promoting the intergenerational perspective in planning and policy making. In addition, Dr. Myers' recently published report "[California's Diminishing Resource: Children](#)" focuses on the impact the significant decline in children will have on the future of the State of California.

The report is available at:
http://www.usc.edu/schools/price/research/popdynamics/pdf/2013_Myers_Californias-Diminishing-Children.pdf

Attachment:
Presentation

Commissioners

Executive Director

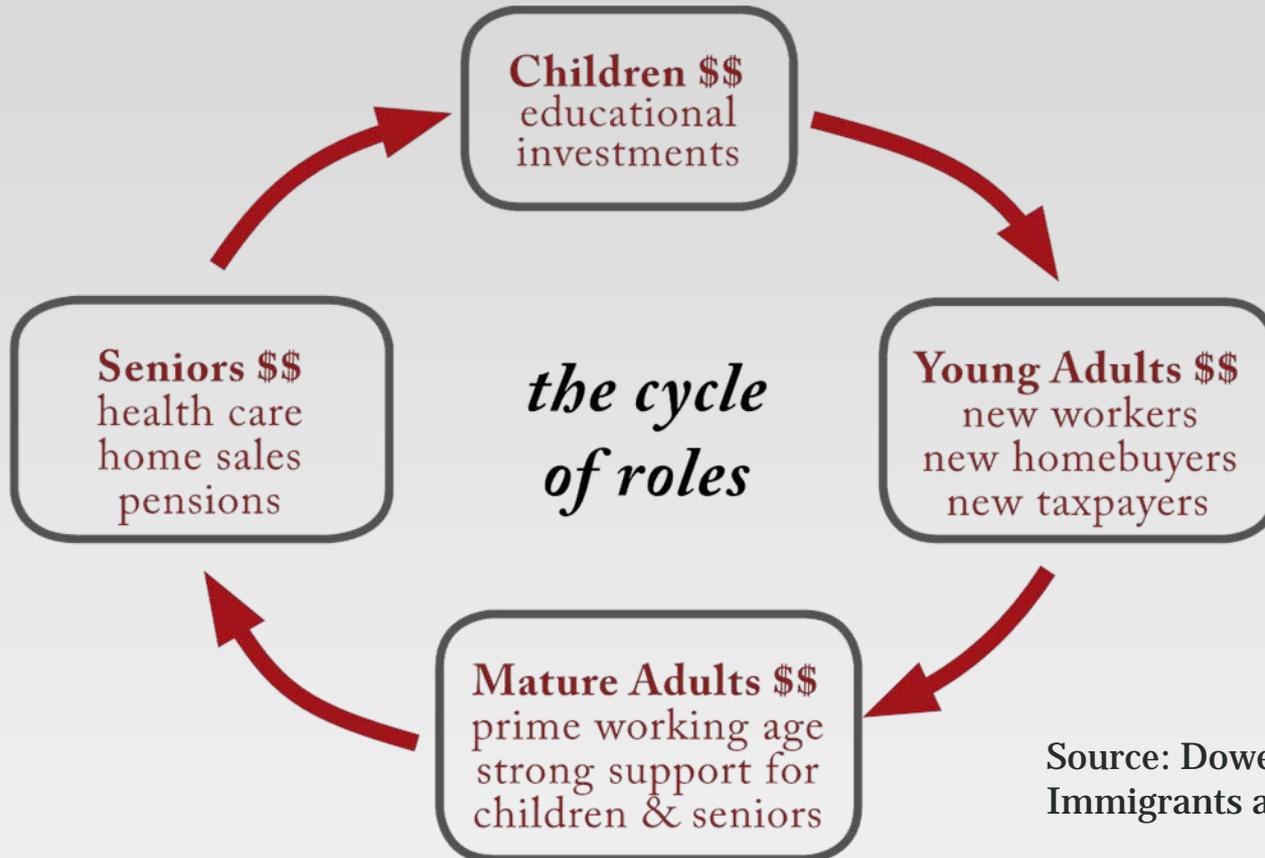
Preparing for California's New Generational Future

How New Trends Are Reversing
Old Assumptions Based on the Past

Dowell Myers

USC Sol Price
School of Public Policy

The Intergenerational Partnership



Source: Dowell Myers,
Immigrants and Boomers

Demographic Assumptions

are Core to Public Beliefs about
Services and Taxation
and
Priorities for California Policy

**Are the Old Assumptions an
Accurate Guide for the Future?**

Reversal of Outlooks

1990 Outlook

Growth booming out
of control

Runaway immigration

High fertility, too many kids

Growth coming from outside
foreign lands and other states

2010 and beyond

Slow steady increase

Diminished immigration,
even during good economy

Reduced fertility, and a
shortage of children

Growth from native
Californians: **homegrown**

Four Revolutions

Much Slower Population Growth

Immigration Turnaround:

Foreign Born Peaked or Declining

Generation Transformation:

Declining Number of Children

A Soaring Senior Ratio

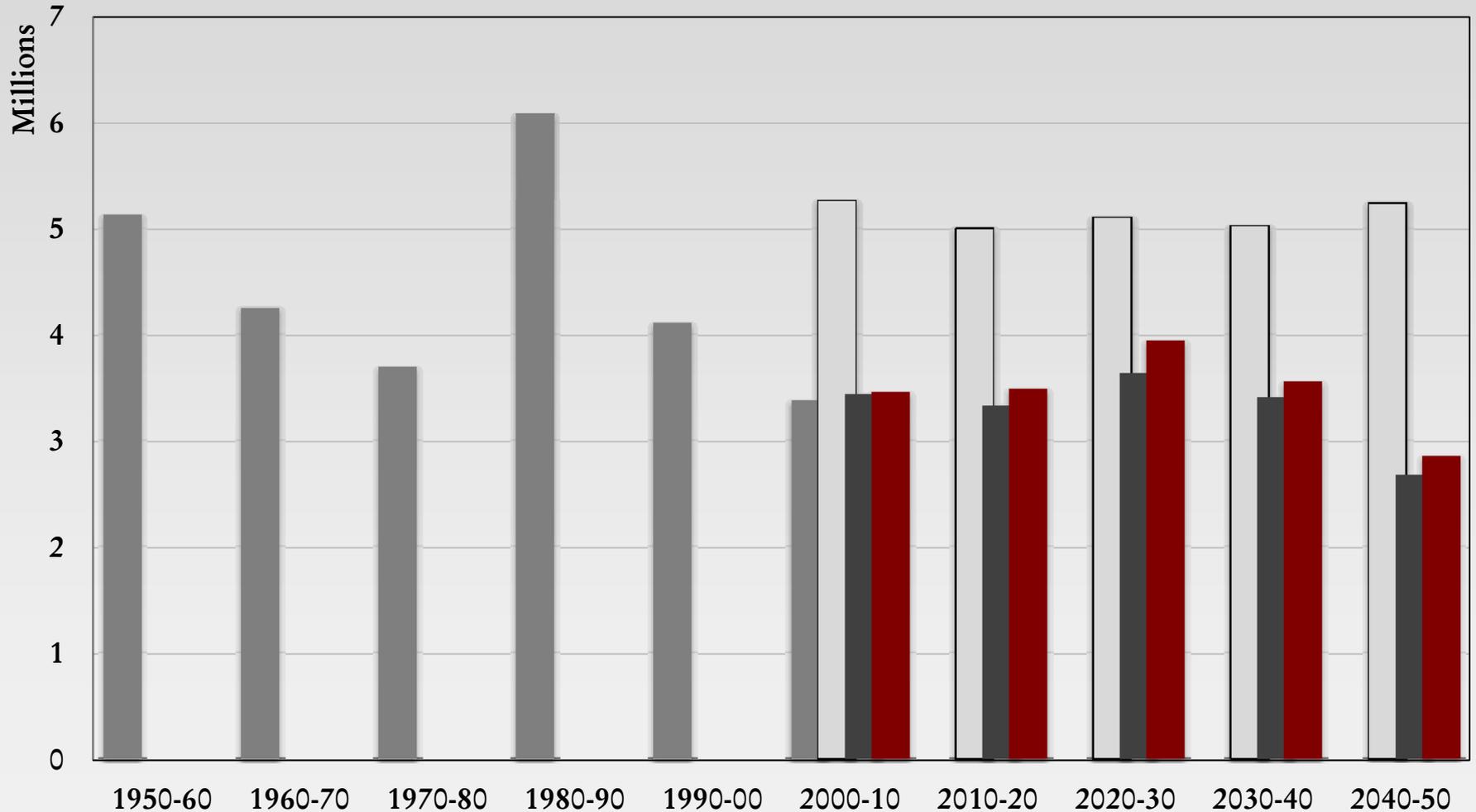
Homegrown Revolution:

New Importance of Investing in Children

Slower Population Growth

Observed and Expected Population Growth In California Each Decade from 1950-2050

■ Census □ DOF-07 ■ DOF 13 ■ Pitkin-Myers CDF 12

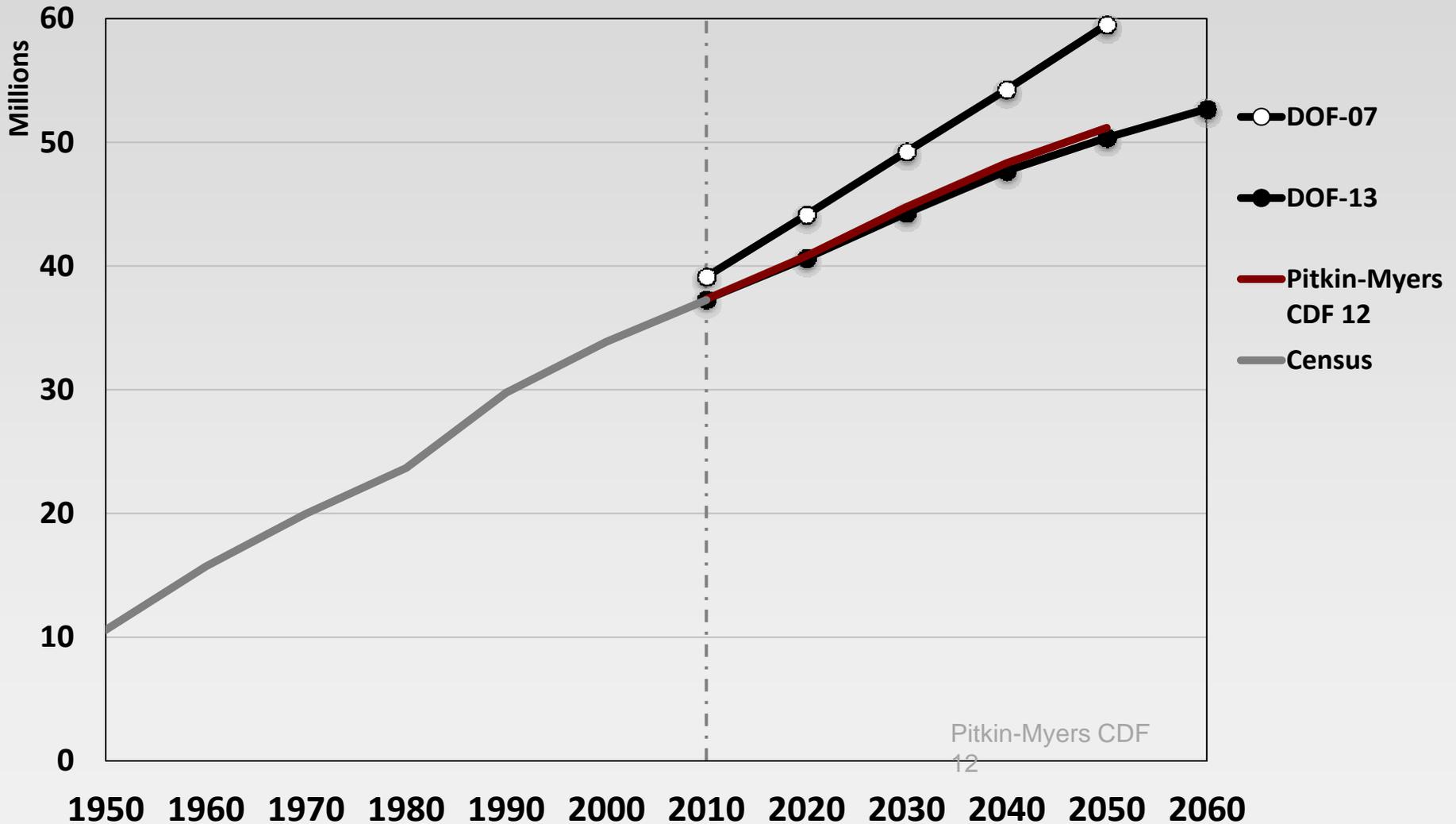


Source: US Census Bureau, CA Department of Finance, Pitkin-Myers
2012 CA Generational Projections

Dowell Myers, USC Price

Total Population of California

How Much Will Growth Resurge?



Source: US Census Bureau, CA Department of Finance, Pitkin-Myers CA Generational Projections 2012

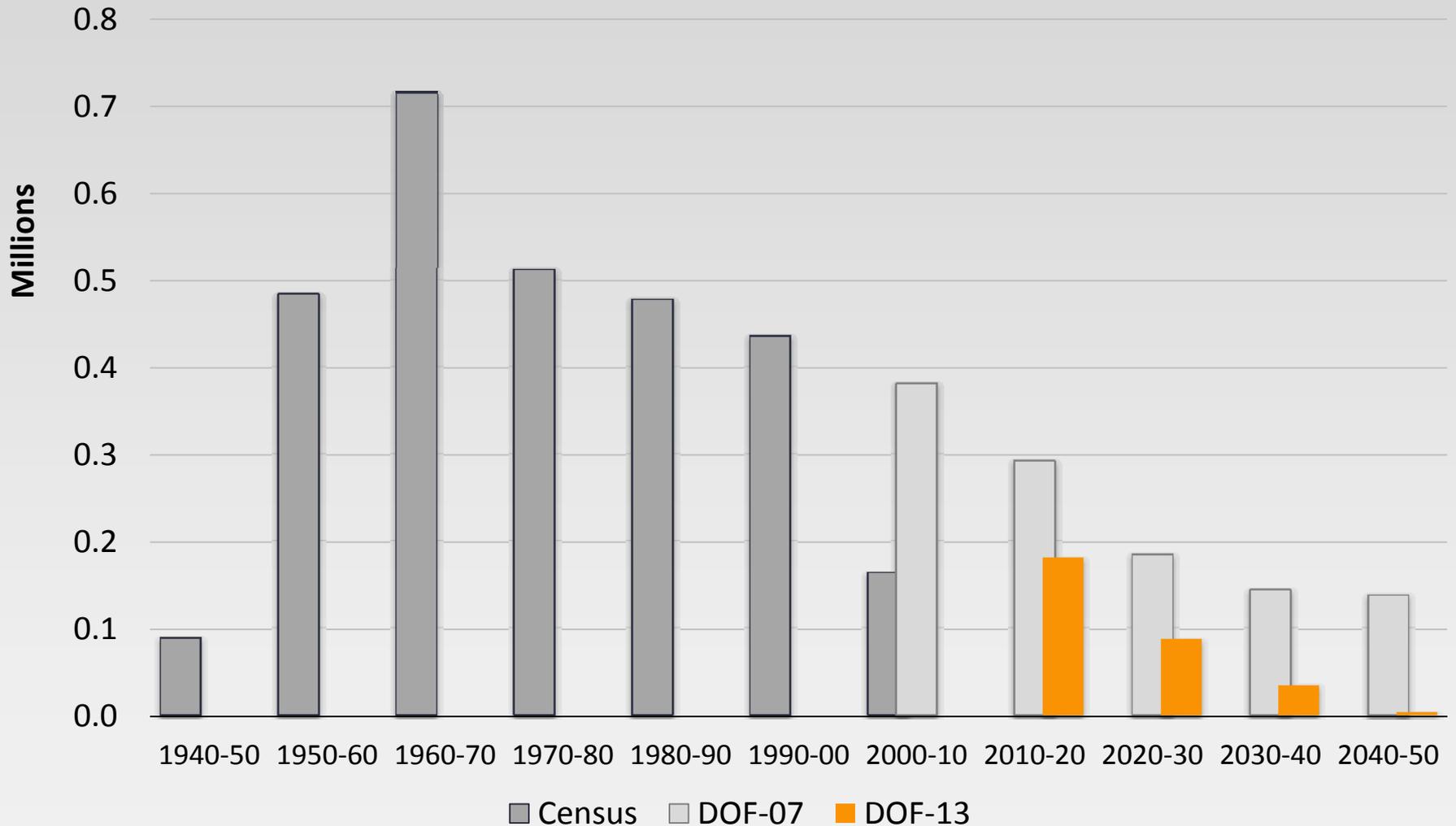
What Year Does California Reach 50 Million Population?

- Old Expectation = 2032
- New Outlook = 2049

Source:

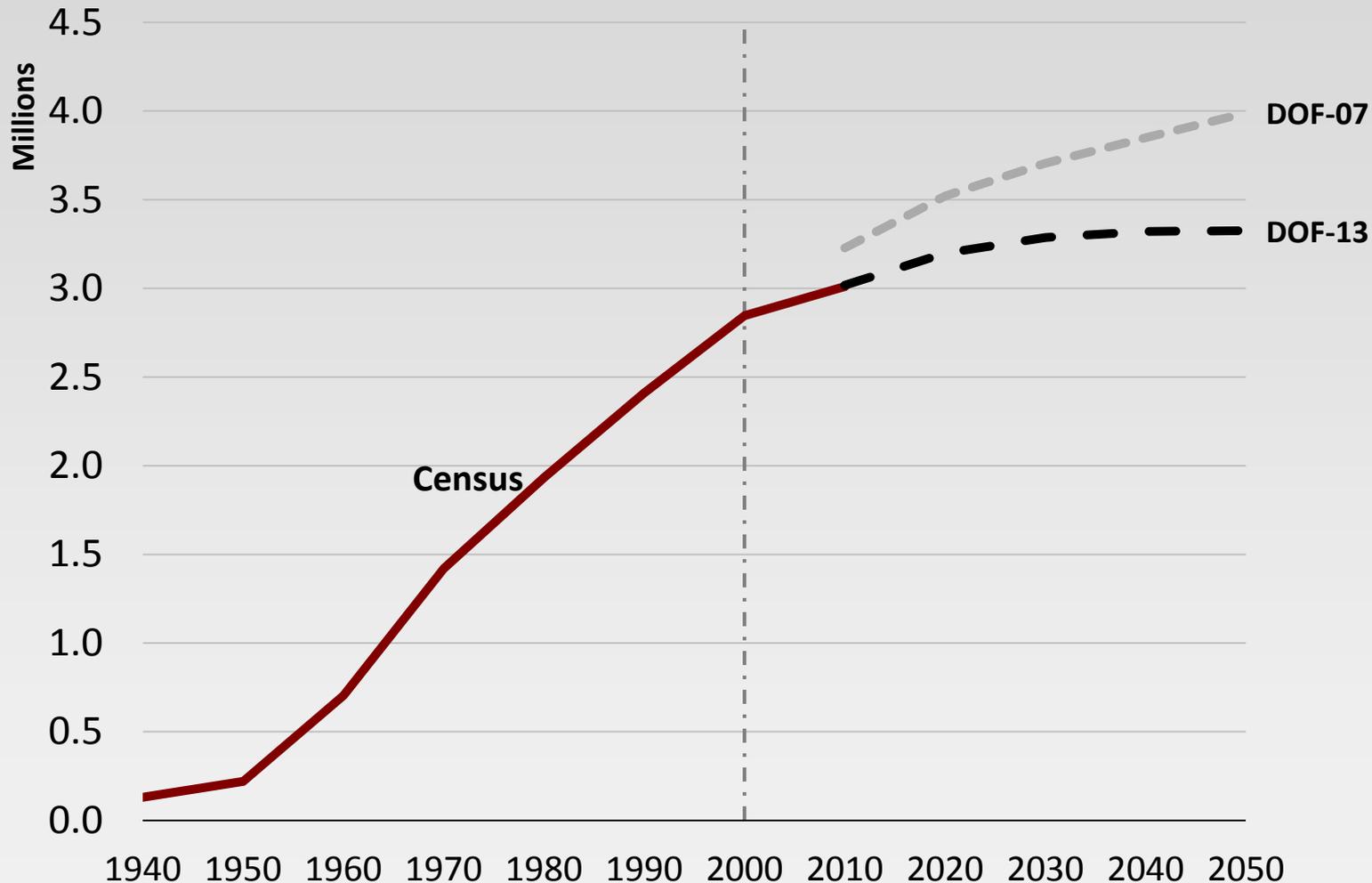
California Department of Finance, 2007 and 2013

Observed and Expected Population Growth In Orange County Each Decade from 1950-2050



Total Population of Orange County

How Much Will Growth Resurge?



What Year Does Orange County Reach 3.3 Million Population?

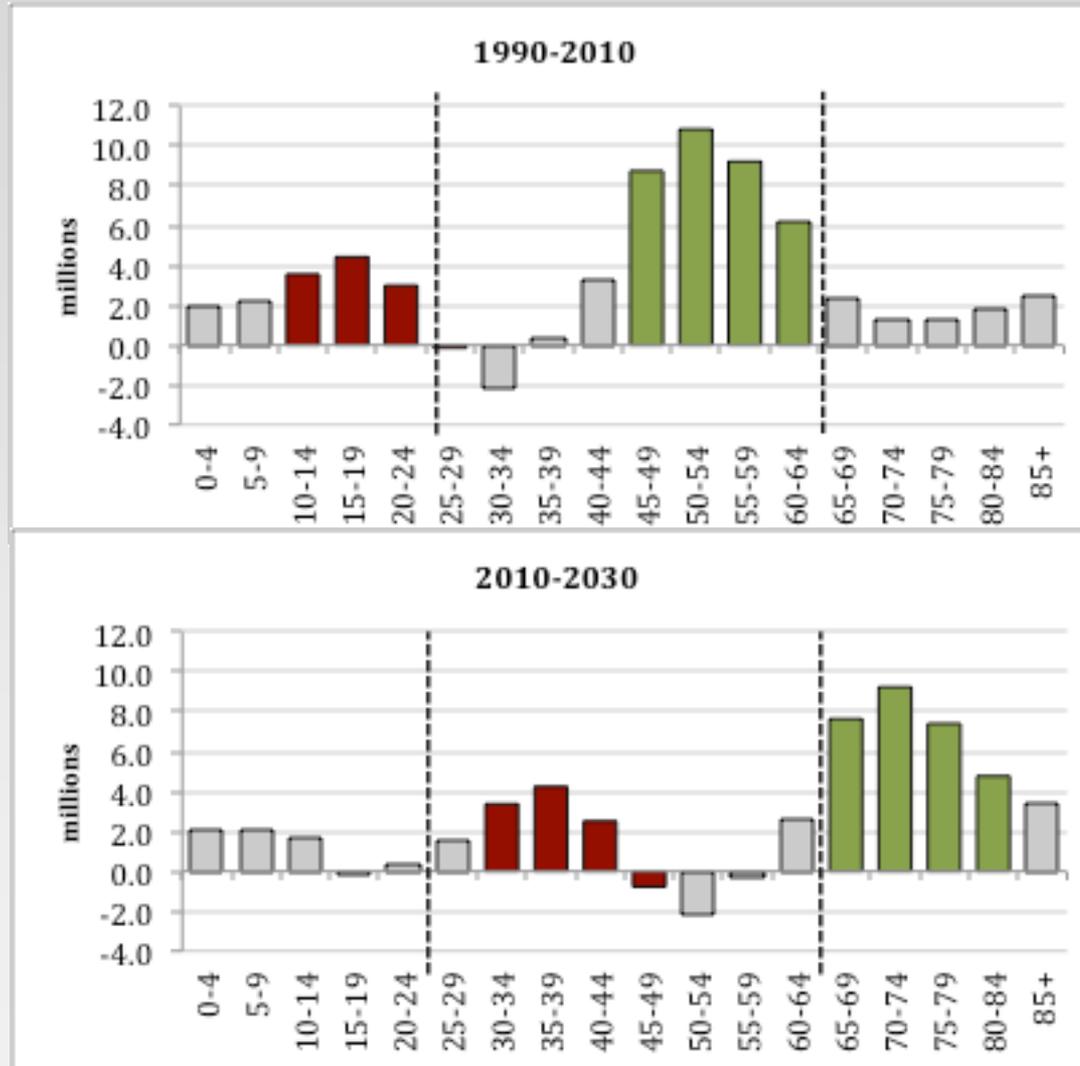
- Old Expectation = 2012
- New Outlook = 2032

Source:

California Department of Finance, 2007 and 2013

U.S. Population Growth by Age Group

Last 20 Years and Next 20 Years

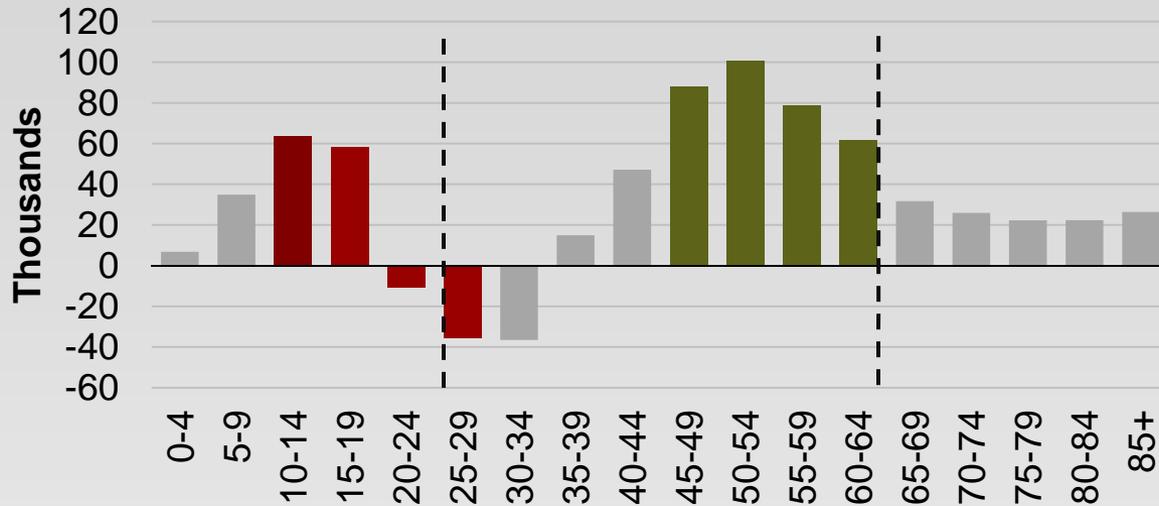


Source: Decennial Census and 2012 Census Bureau projections

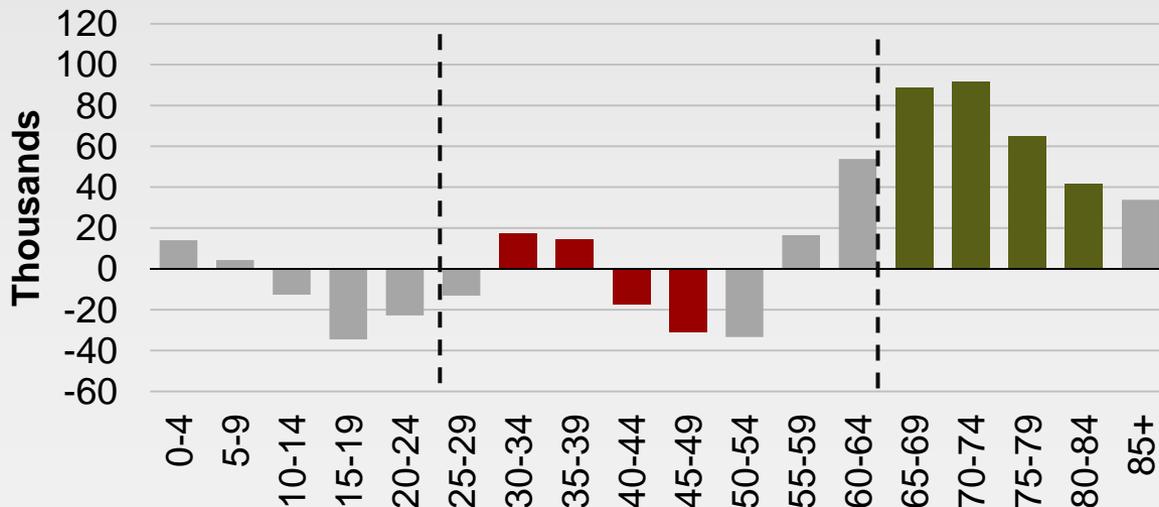
Dowell Myers, USC Price

Growth in Age Groups in Orange County

1990 - 2010



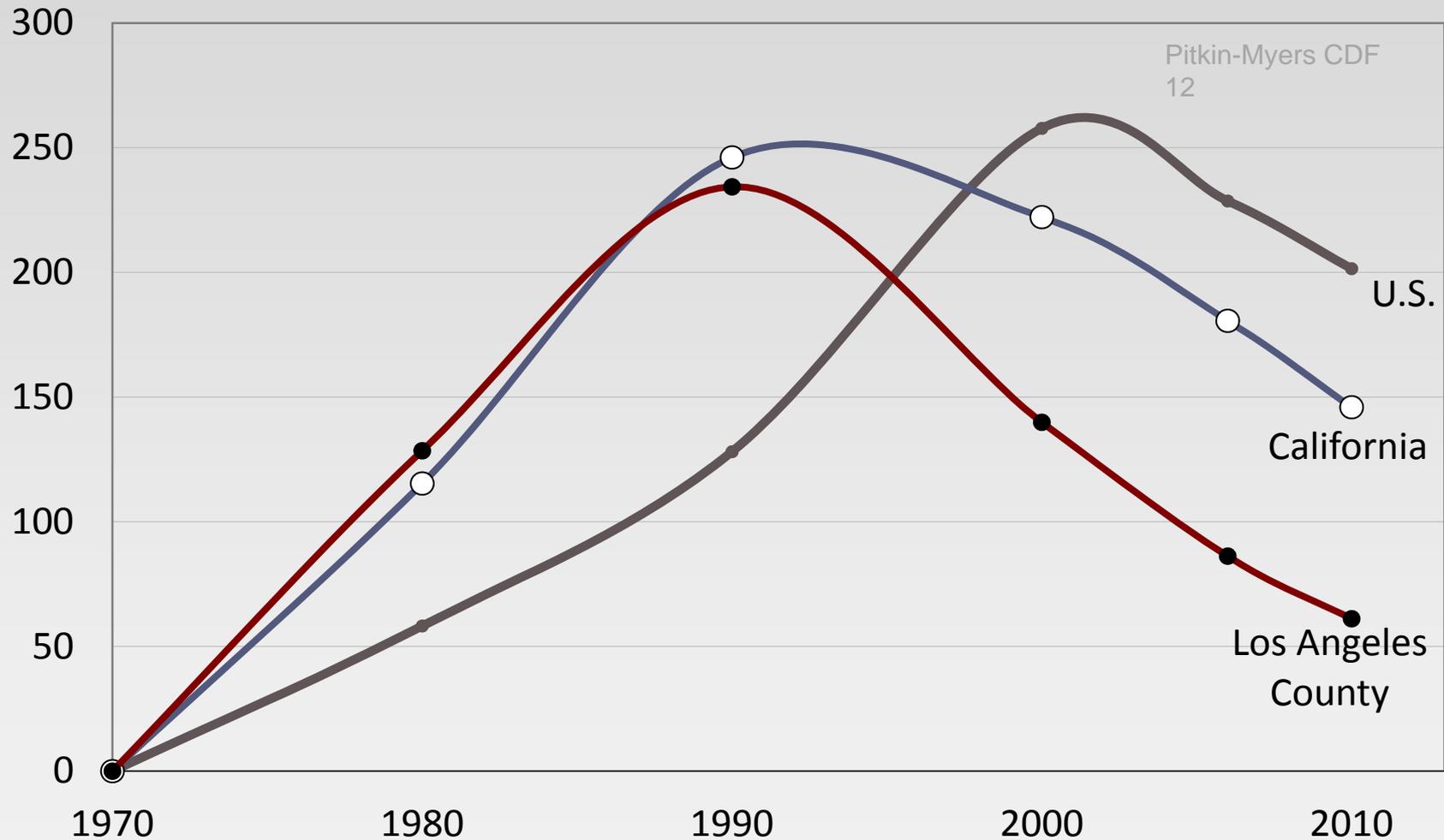
2010 - 2030



Immigration Turnaround

Annual Immigrant Arrivals

Percentage Change in Net Flow Since 1970

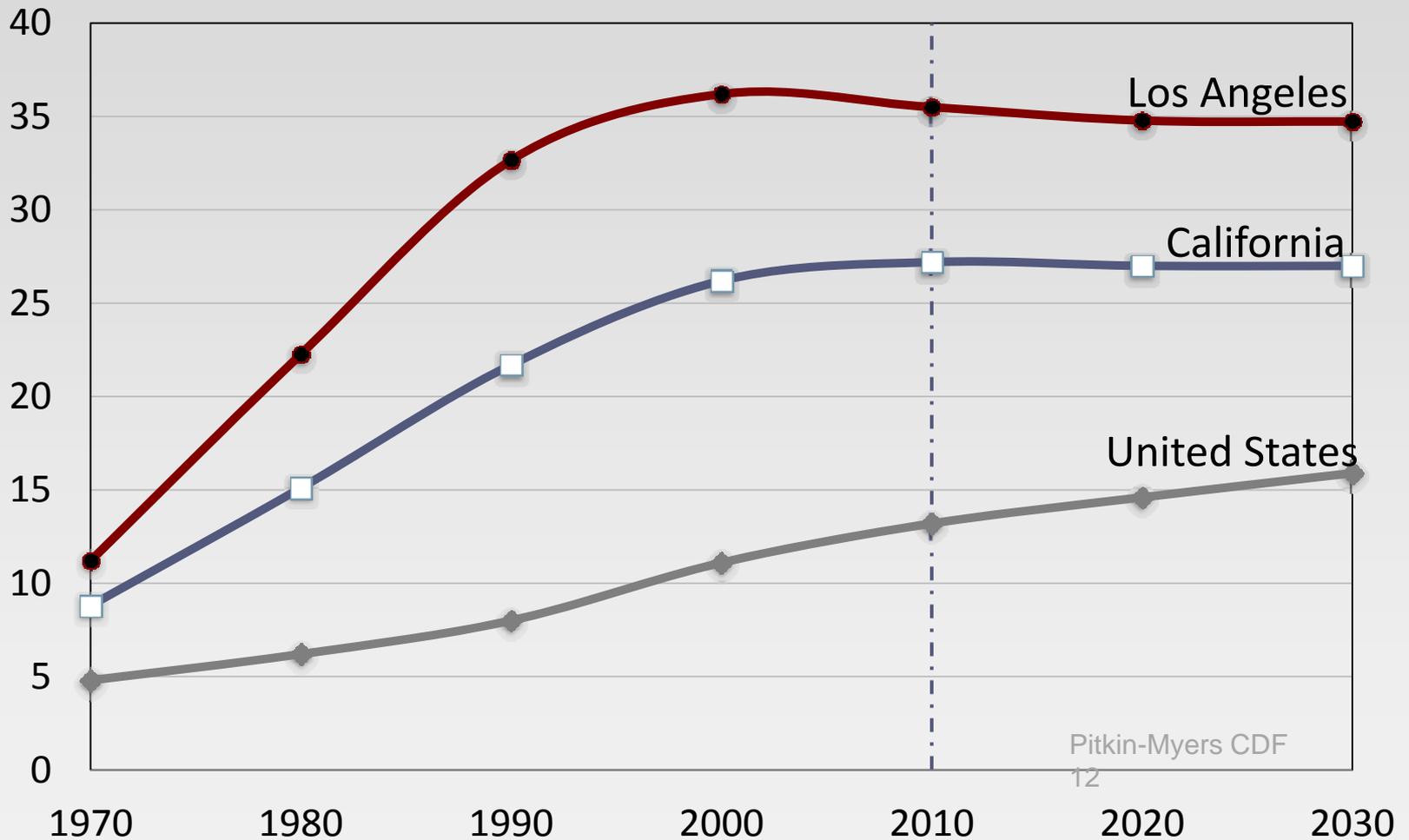


Dowell Myers, USC Price

Source: U.S. Census 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000; American Community Survey 2006, 2010

Foreign Born Share of The Population

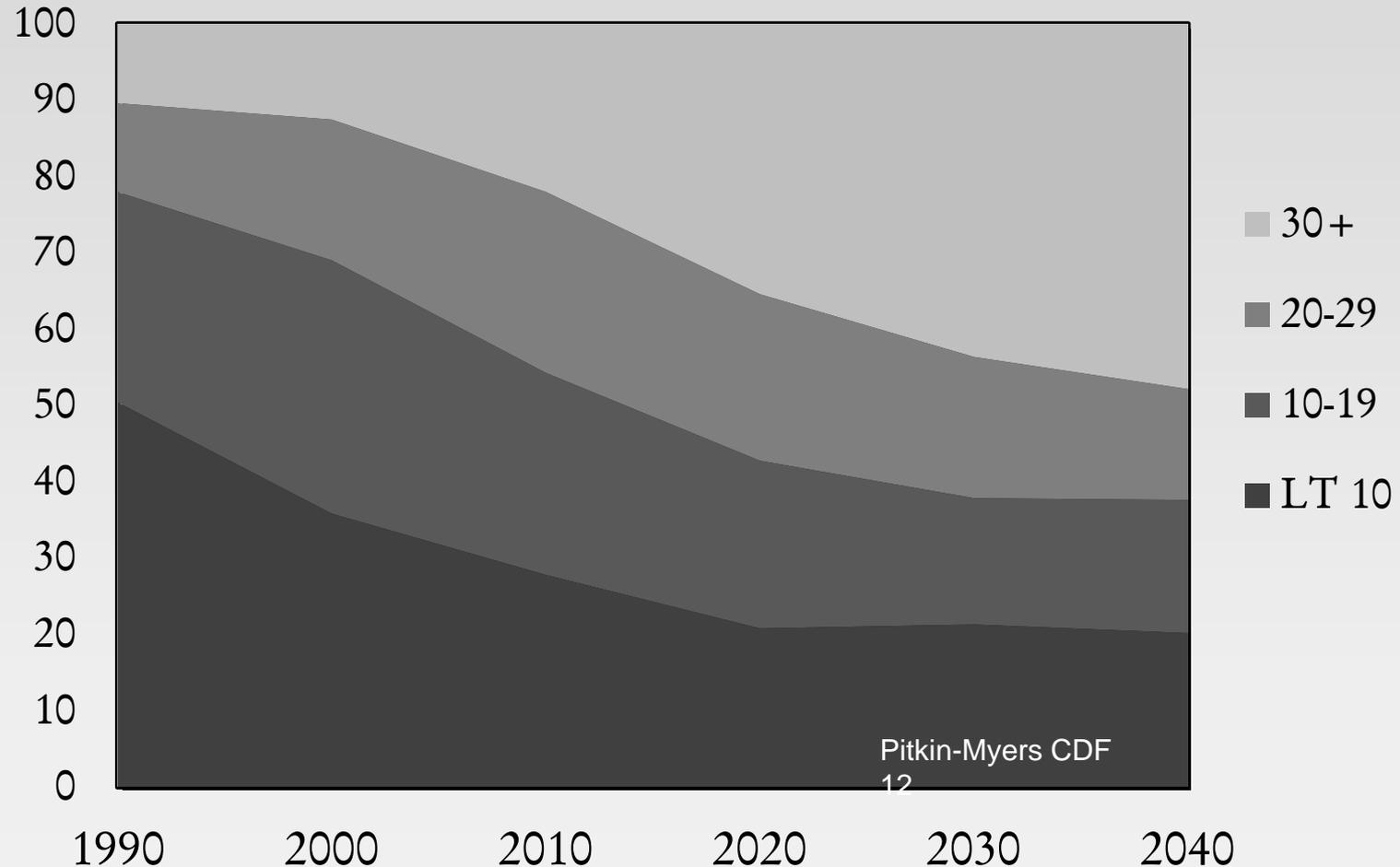
Leveling Off



Source: US Census Bureau, Pitkin Myers Generational Projections for LA, CA, and US

Longer Settled Immigrant Share Rises

Share of All CA Foreign-born Residents
By Length of Time in U.S. in Years



Pitkin-Myers CDF
12

Source: US Census PUMS, American Community Survey, Pitkin Myers 2012 CA Generational Projections

Demographic Projection Content

Conventional

Age

Gender

Race or Hispanic Origin

Pitkin-Myers Model

Age

Gender

Race or Hispanic Origin

Native or Foreign Born

Year of Entry of Foreign Born

Generation of Native Born

California vs. Other Birth State

Reversal of Outlooks

1990 Outlook

Accelerated immigration

Most immigrants are recent arrivals

Immigrant share soaring and assumed unlimited

A revolution in outlook on immigration

2010 and Beyond

Diminished immigration, even during good economy

Most are long-settled arrivals & older

Immigrant share constant and stable for the future

Generation Transformation

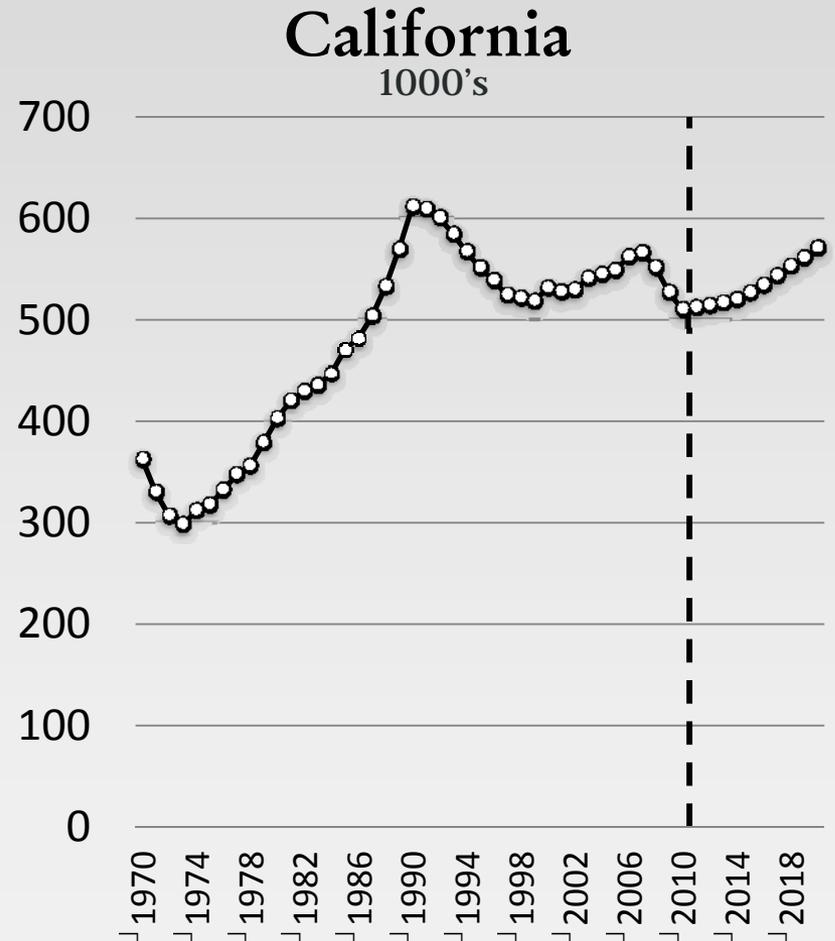
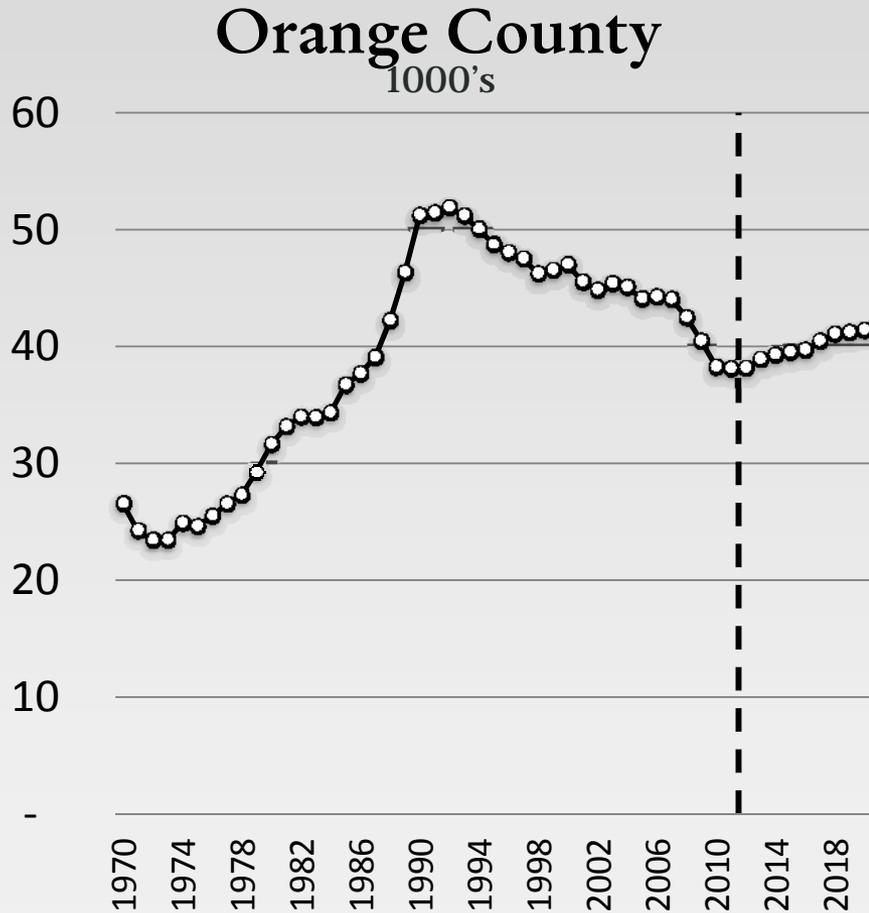
Declining Numbers of Children

Surging Numbers of Retirees

What is the Political Relation?

Annual Births

No longer on an Upswing after 1990



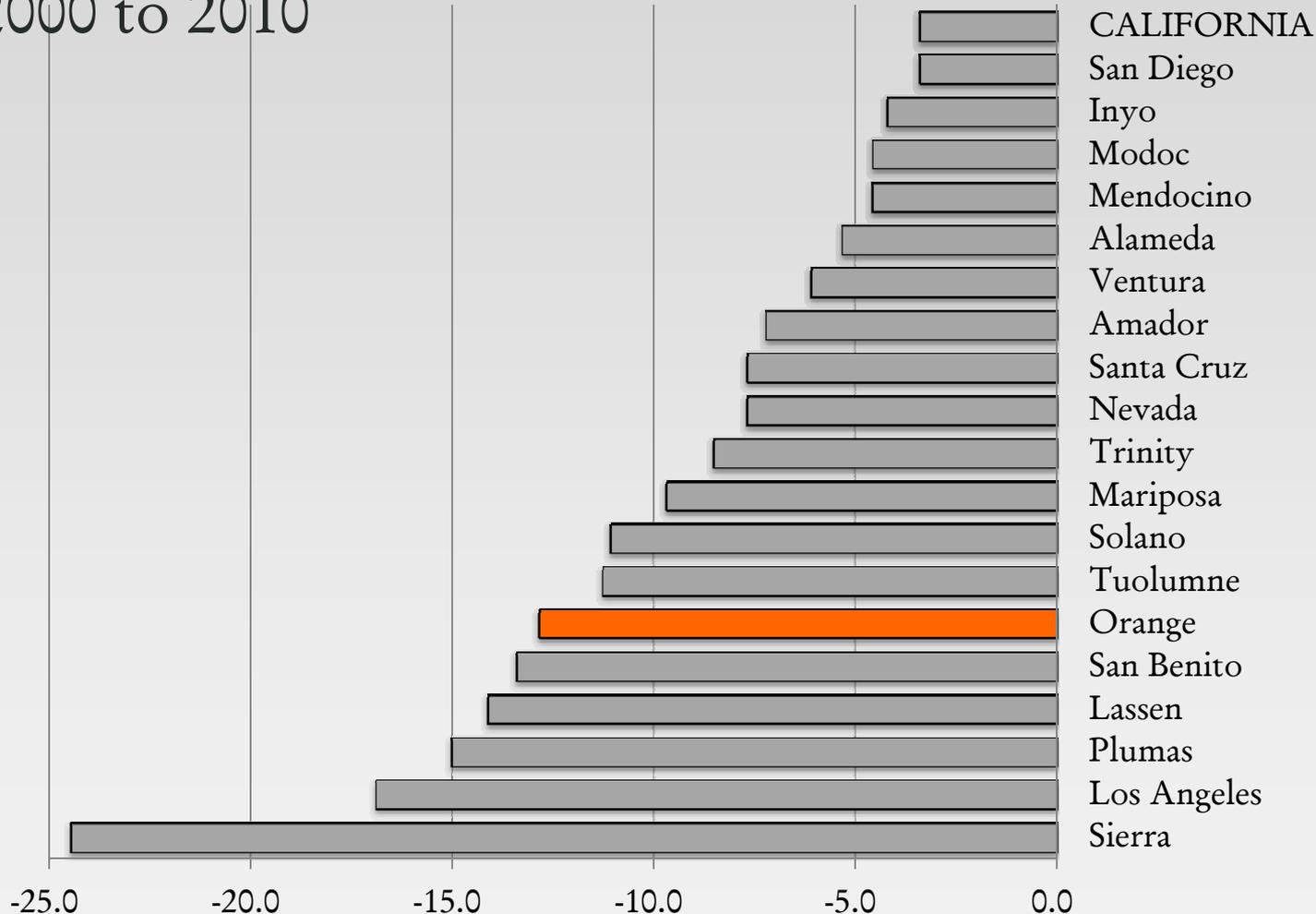
Source: California Department of Finance

Dowell Myers, USC Price

Losses of Children Under Age 10

Among Counties with Losses Greater than the State Average

2000 to 2010

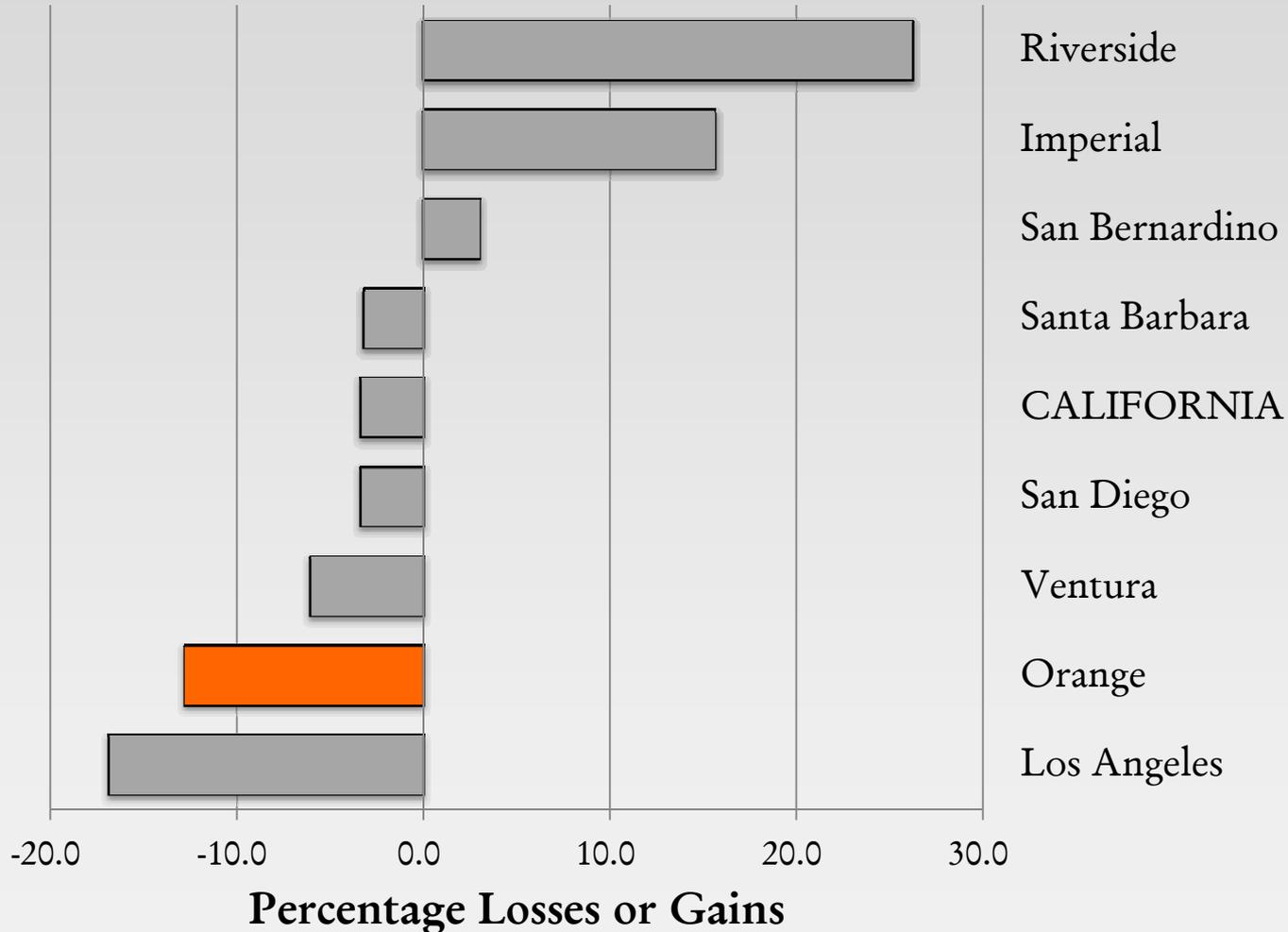


Percentage Losses or Gains

Dowell Myers, USC Price

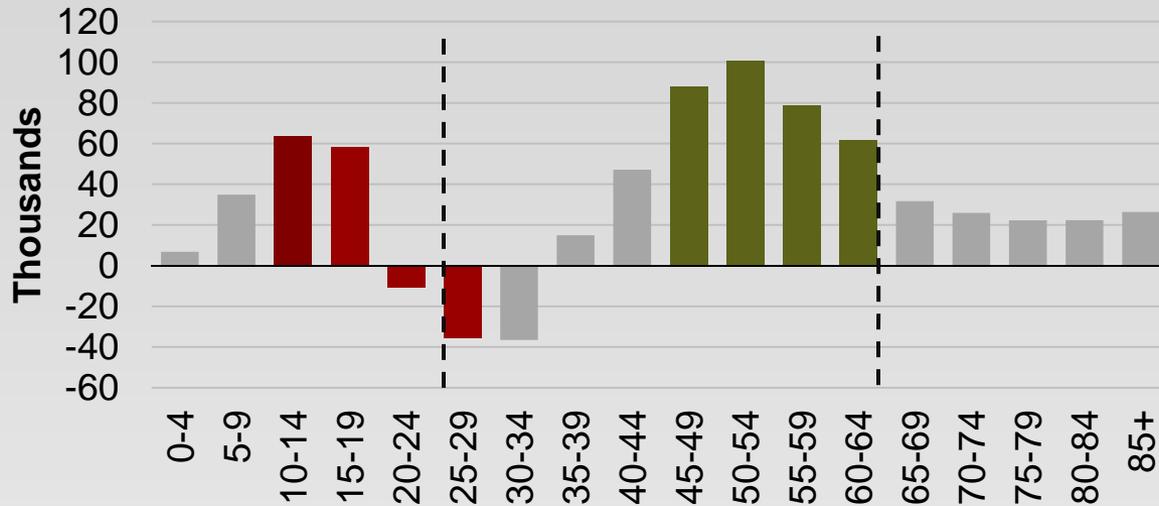
Losses of Children Under Age 10

Among Counties of Southern California
2000 to 2010

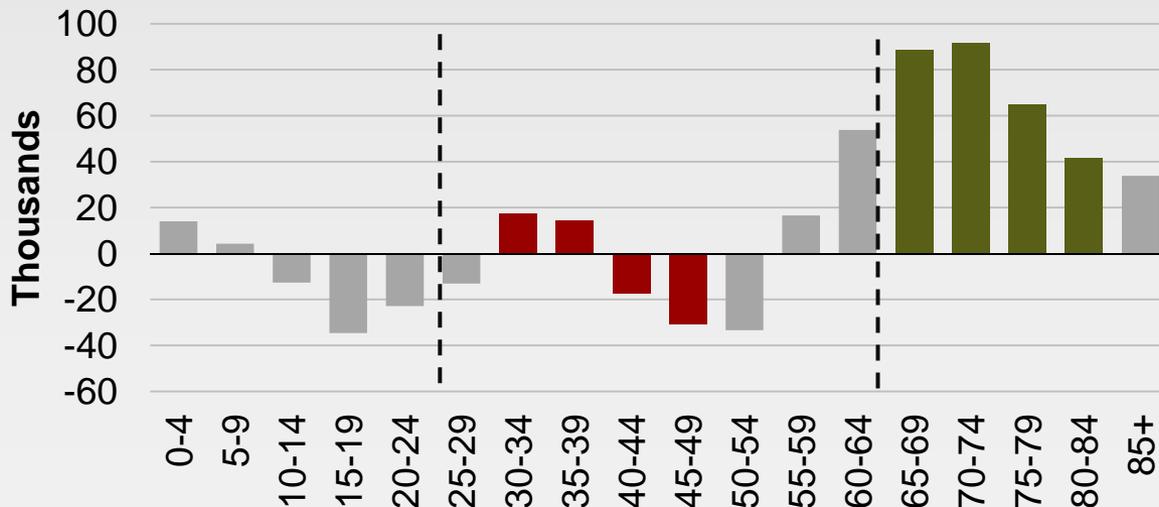


Growth in Age Groups in Orange County

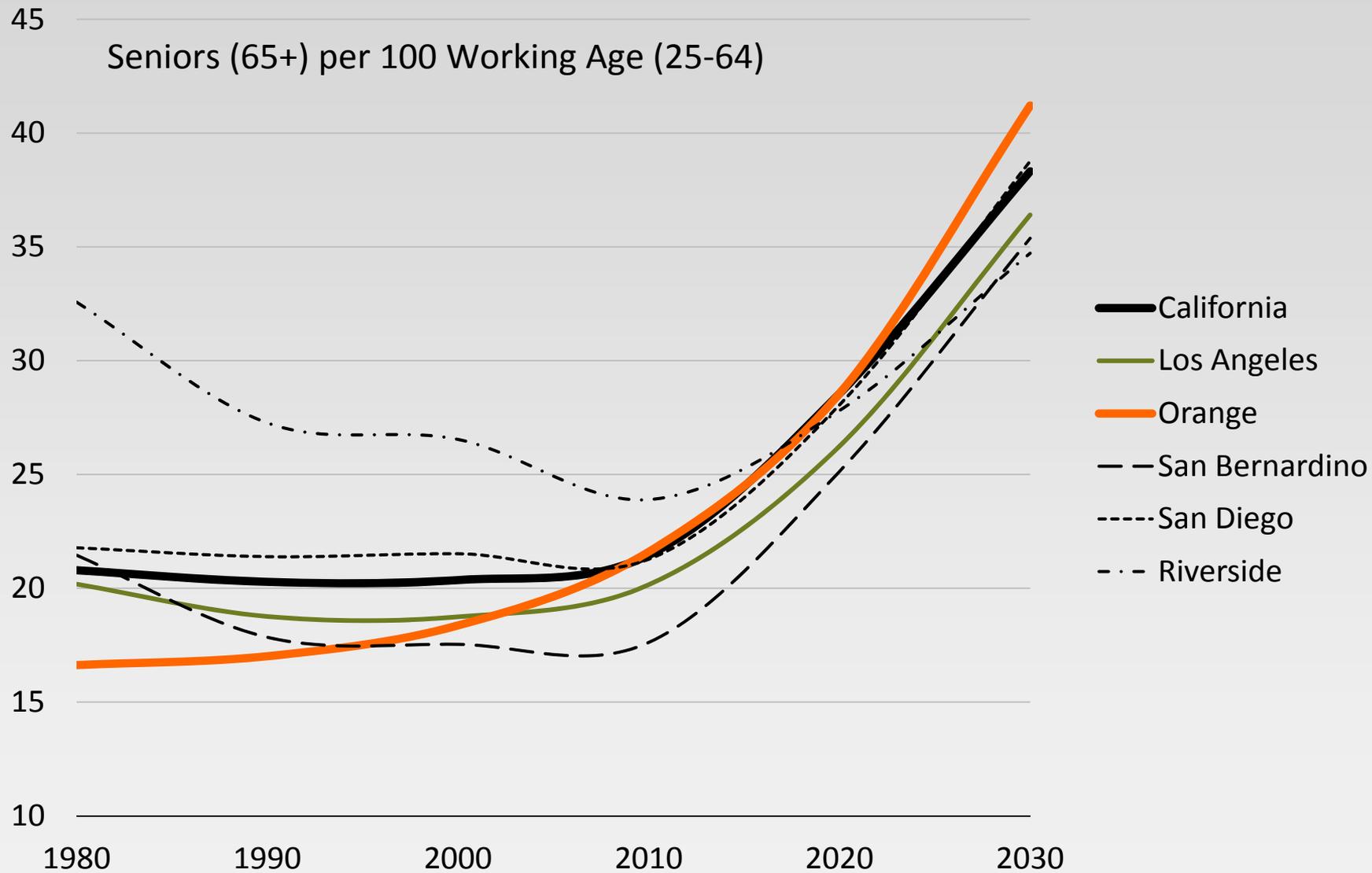
1990 - 2010



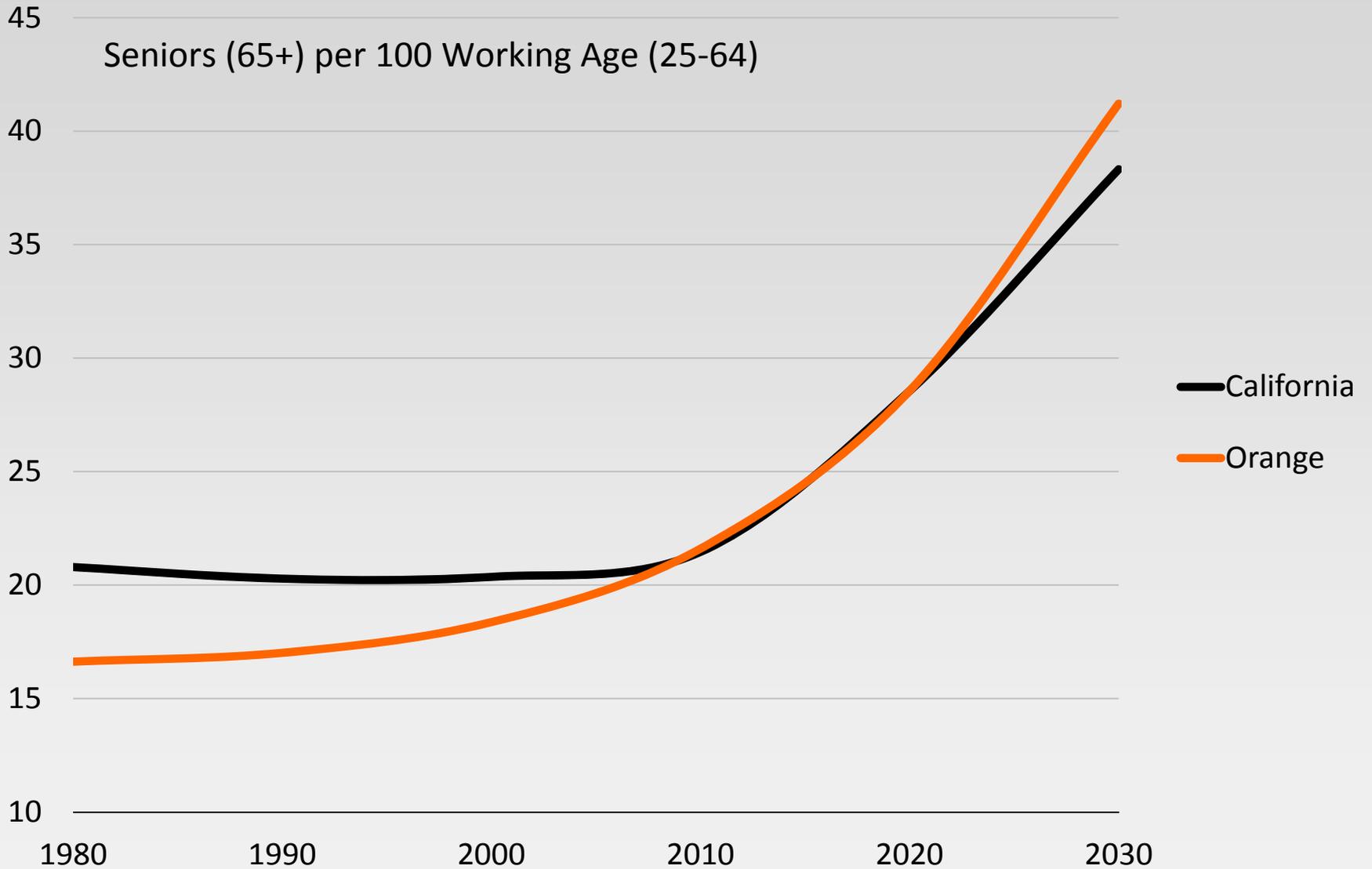
2010 - 2030

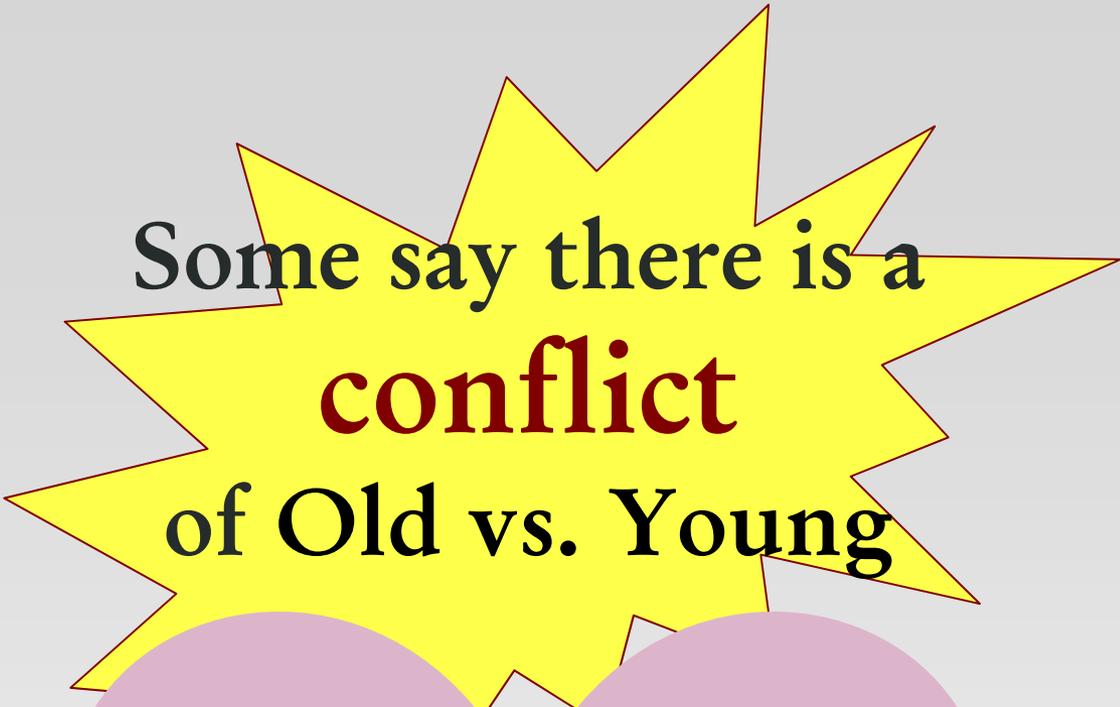


Senior Ratio Soars



Senior Ratio Soars





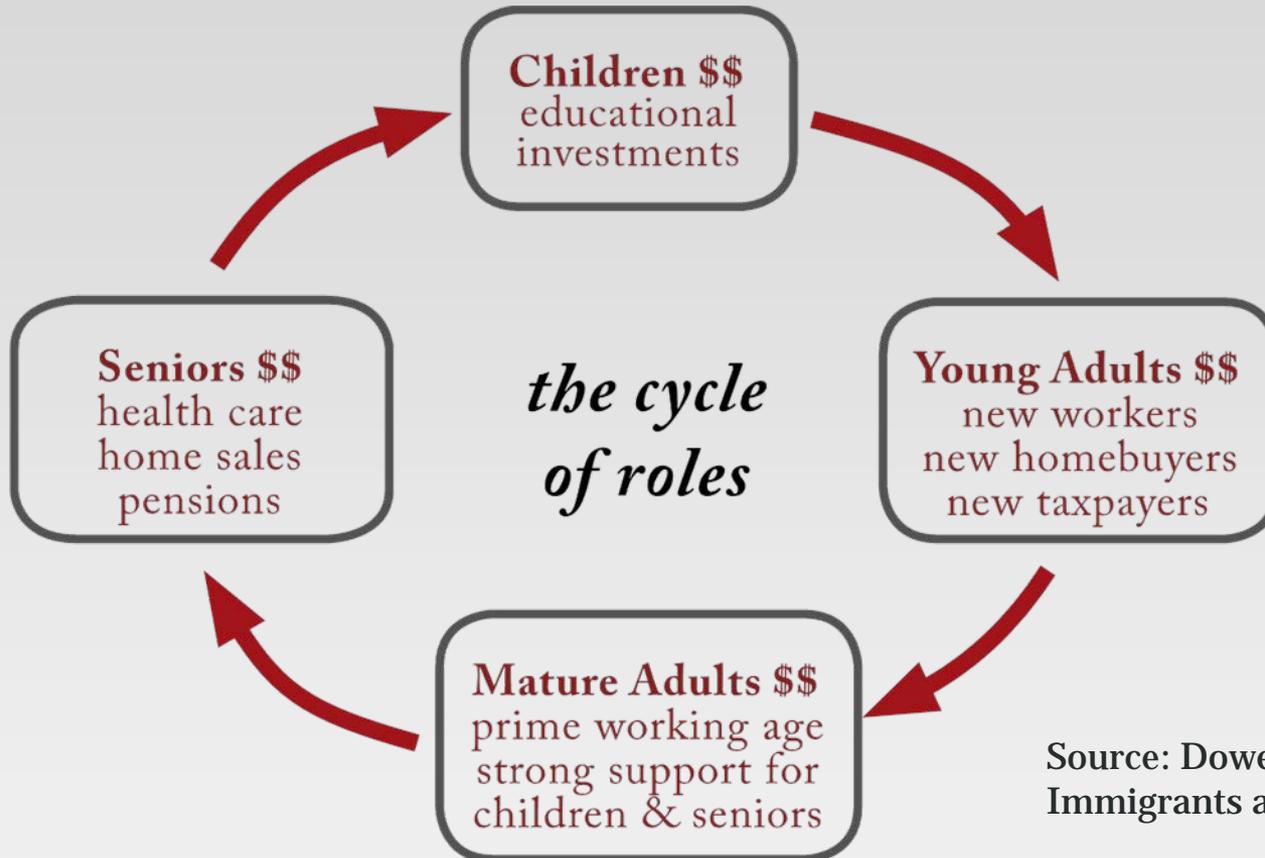
Some say there is a
conflict
of Old vs. Young



But others show
a Partnership
with mutual
benefits

Working together
to solve
our biggest problems

The Intergenerational Partnership



Source: Dowell Myers,
Immigrants and Boomers

Reversal of Outlooks

1990 Outlook

High fertility

Too many children

A growing tax burden

Very few elderly

A revolution in outlook on the generations

2010 and beyond

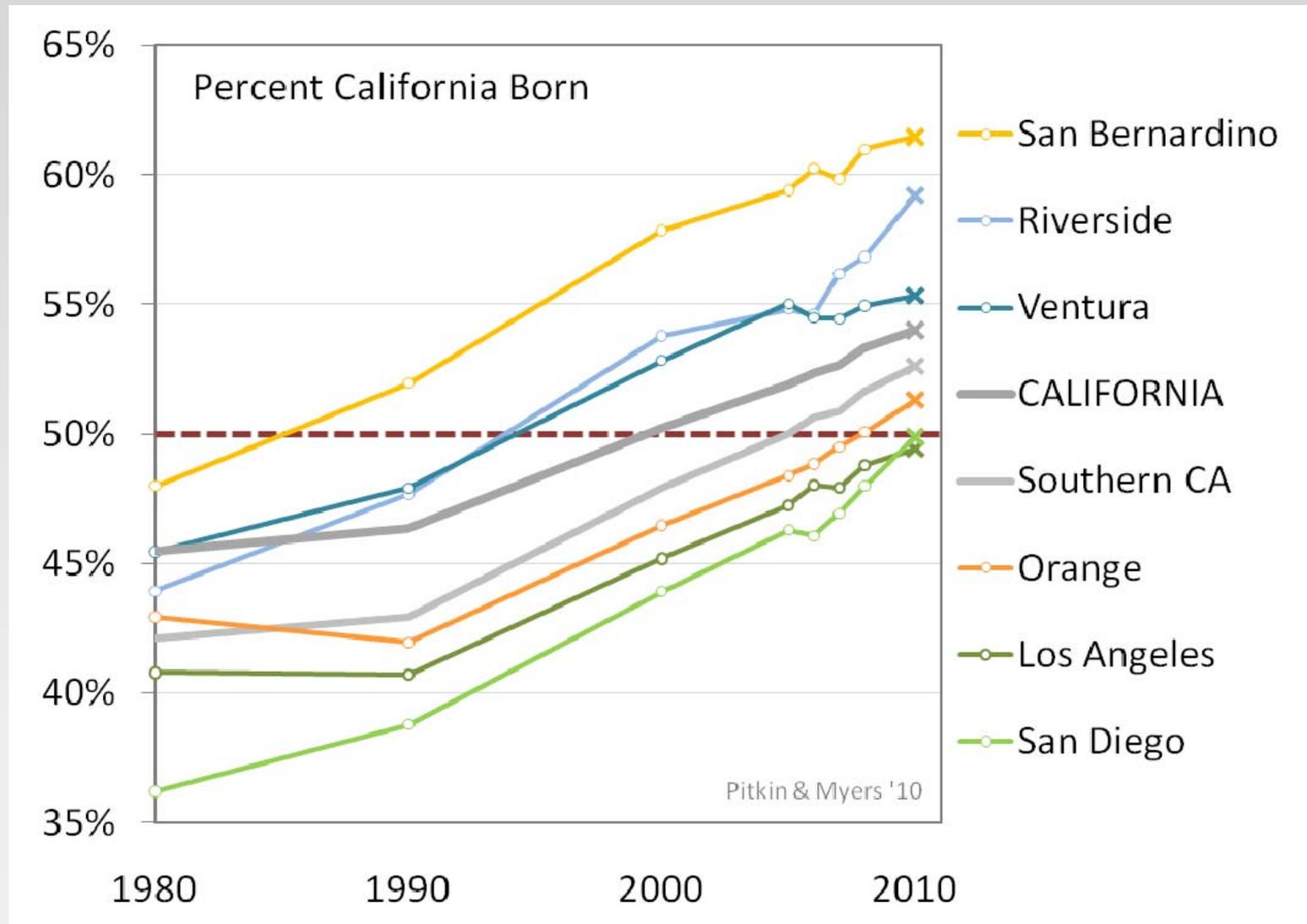
Reduced fertility, even
during good economy

A **shortage** of children; Not
enough taxpayers and workers
for the future

Baby Boomer tsunami
creates soaring senior
ratio

The Homegrown Revolution in California

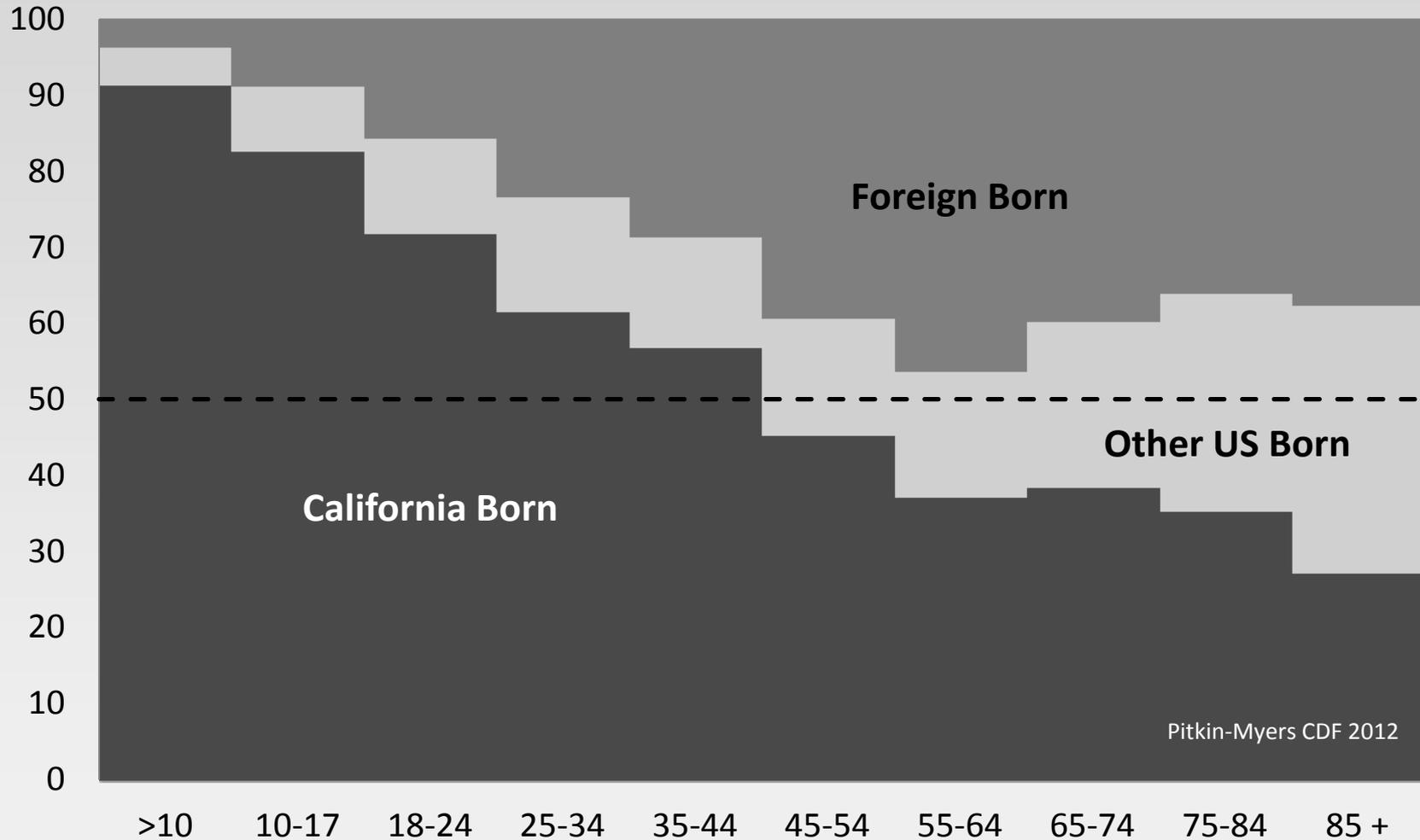
Rise of a Homegrown Majority



Source: Author's analysis of U.S. Census 1980-2000 and American Community Survey 2005-2008 data

Birthplace of Young Compared to Old

CA Residents By Age and Birthplace, 2030



Source: Pitkin-Myers 2012 CA Generational Projections

Dowell Myers, USC Price

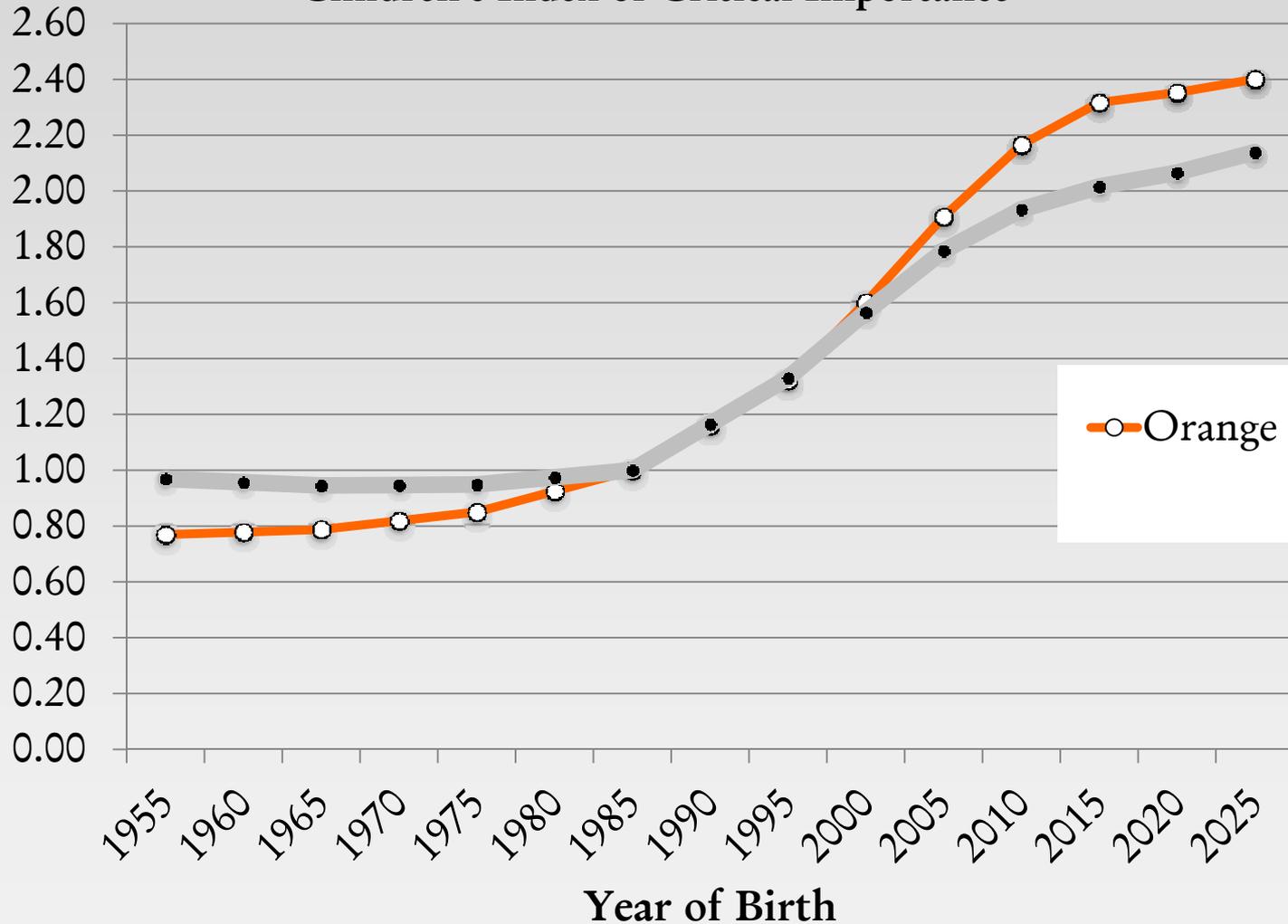
Children's Index of Critical Importance (iCi)

- Assigned at birth, the iCi is based on the increase in the senior ratio expected at the time the child reaches age 25 (number of seniors per 100 working age).
- With growth in seniors, today's children assume critical importance because of the added economic and social weight to be carried by the children when grown.
- A child born in 2010 in California is fully **twice as important** (index of 2.02) as a child who was born in 1985 (index of 1.00).

Surging Importance of Children

iCi

Children's Index of Critical Importance



Source: Dowell Myers analysis of US Census and
DOF 2013 California projections

Dowell Myers, USC Price

Reversal of Outlooks

1990 Outlook

Growth coming from outside:
immigrants and from inter-
state

Growth is excess, too costly
and unwanted

Neglect and under-investment
in skill development of
children

A revolution in outlook on the homegrown

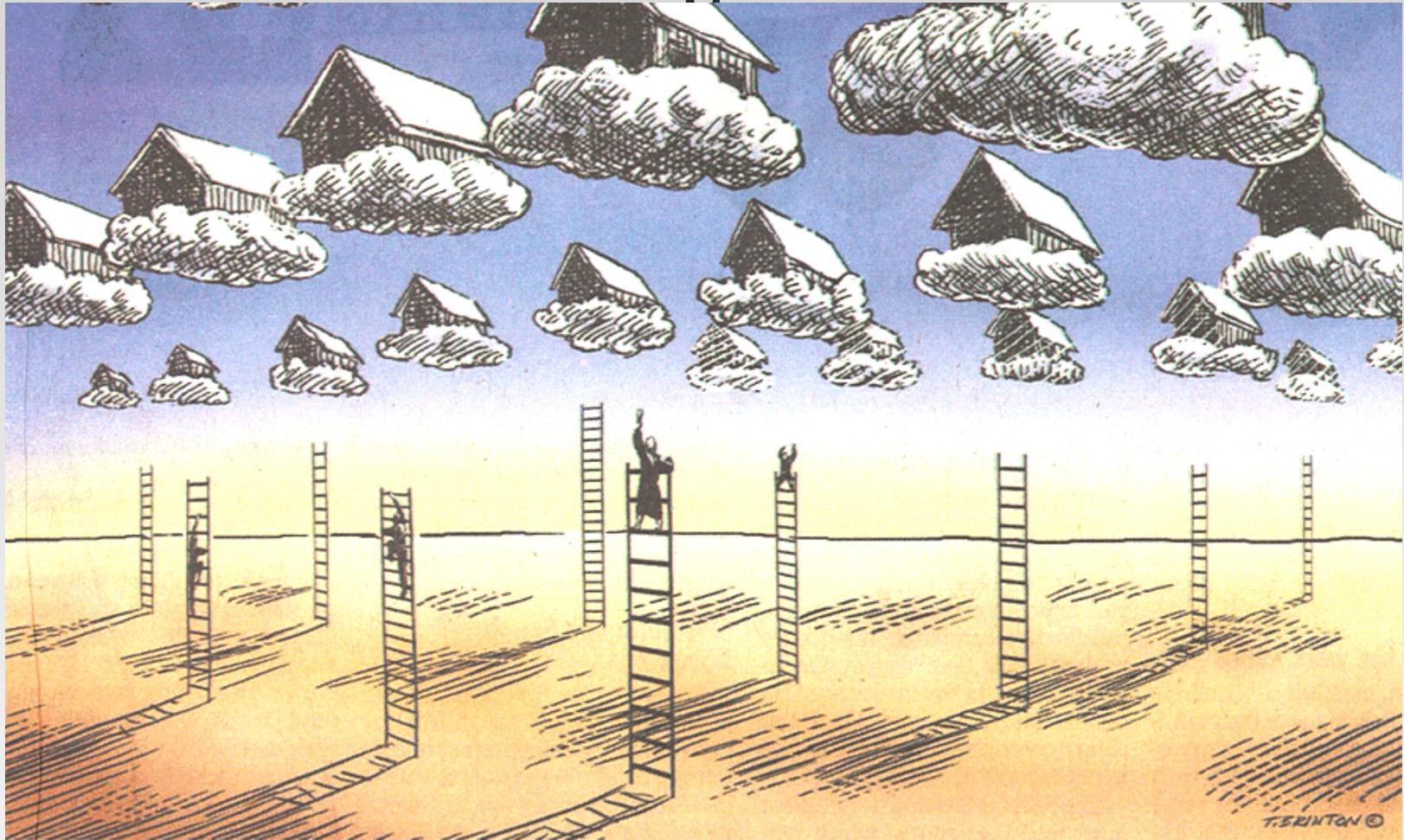
2010 and beyond

Growth from native
Californians: homegrown

Too little growth to meet the
needs of the economy and
generational support

Children deserve nurturing
for maximum productivity
and future prosperity of the
state

Old Folks Need the Young to Make It

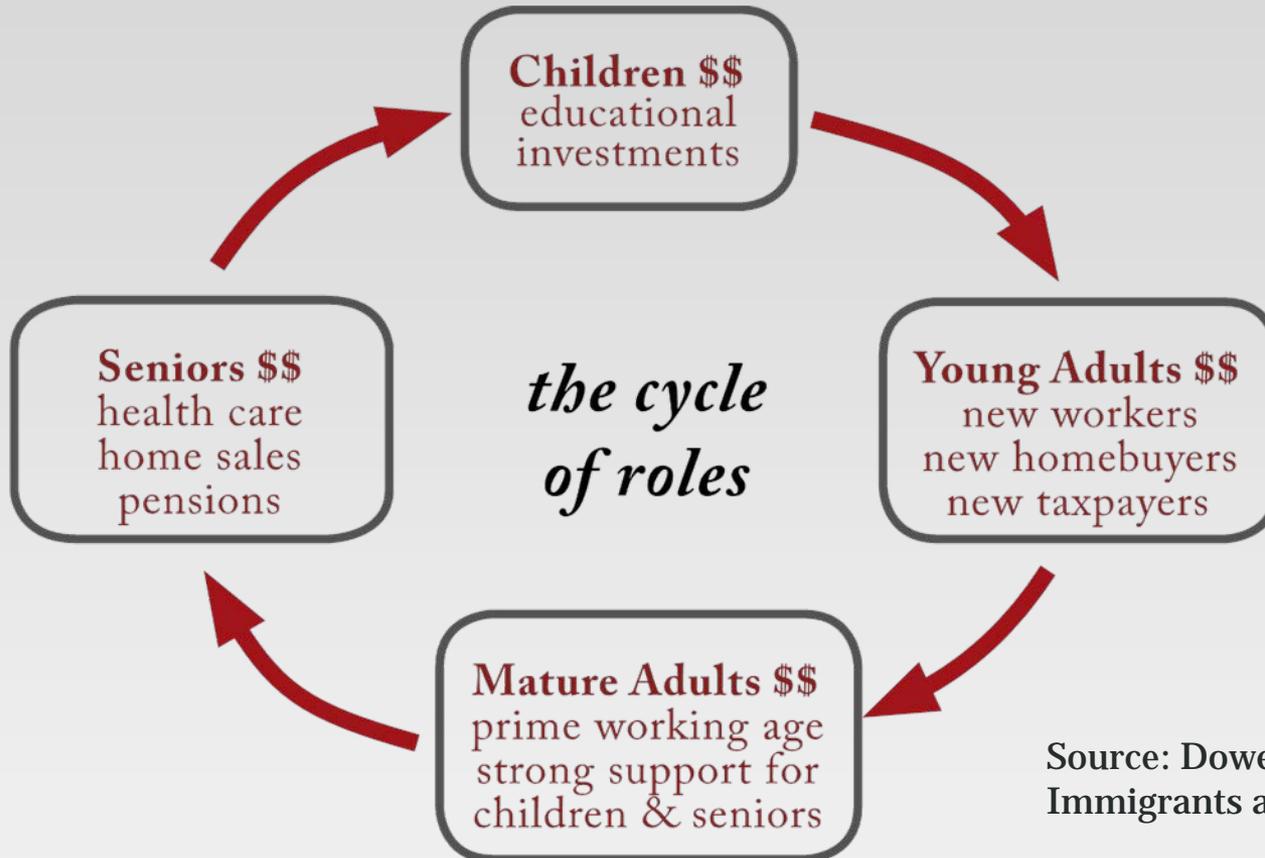


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Dowell Myers, "Housing market links older whites, young Latinos," *Sacramento Bee*, July 31, 2011

Dowell Myers, **USC** Price

The Intergenerational Partnership



Source: Dowell Myers,
Immigrants and Boomers

Conclusions

- What is the most surprising finding about the new generational future of California?

Is it the leveling off of the foreign born?

Is it the new majority of the homegrown?

Could it be the explosion of seniors?

Or is it the scarcity of children and their doubled importance?

- Maybe it's the realization that the

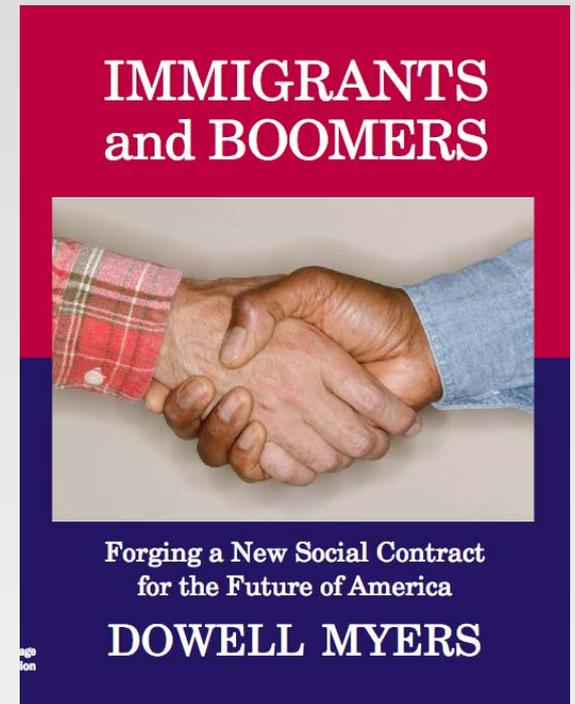
Thank you

More Information on

Generational projections California futures

Visit **USC PopDynamics**

dowell@usc.edu



Dowell Myers, **USC** Price

Publications Referenced in this Presentation

Myers, Dowell, “California Futures: New Narratives for a Changing Society,” *Boom: A Journal of California*, July 2012.

Pitkin, John and Dowel Myers, “Generational Projections of the California Population: By Nativity and Year of Immigrant Arrival,” USC Population Dynamics Research Group, April 2012.

Myers, Dowell, “California's Diminishing Resource: Children,” Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, January 2013.

Myers, Dowell, “Benefits for California and Its Growing Number of Seniors of Expanded Youth Access to Higher Education,” written testimony before the Joint Committee on the Master Plan for Higher Education, California State Legislature, February 2, 2010.

Myers, Dowell, John Pitkin, and Ricardo Ramirez, “The New Homegrown Majority in California: Recognizing the New Reality of Growing Commitment to the Golden State,” Special Report, USC Population Dynamics Research Group, April 2009.

Myers, Dowell and SungHo Ryu, “Aging Baby Boomers and the Generational Housing Bubble: Foresight and Mitigation of an Epic Transition,” *Journal of the American Planning Association* 74, 1 (Winter 2008): 17-33. (Winner of 2008 Award for Best Article in the Journal.)

Myers, Dowell, *Immigrants and Boomers: Forging a New Social Contract for the Future of America*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2007.

NOTE: most publications are available at

<http://www.usc.edu/schools/price/research/popdynamics/>