### Immigration, Innovation, and Growth

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#### Motivation

- Immigration may cause innovation, economic dynamism, and income growth through theoretical channels including new ideas, more effort, or rising demand.
- Immigration is also the focus of major political controversies in many countries.
- ▶ Does immigration in fact cause local innovation, dynamism, and income growth?

A key challenge for identification:

Omitted factors jointly determine immigration, innovation, dynamism, and growth.

#### Our approach:

▶ Isolate plausibly exogenous immigration shocks using 130 years of data from the U.S. census.



### Main Findings

- 1. Plausibly exogenous immigration causes an increase in local innovation, local economic dynamism, and local wage growth.
- 2. The impact of immigration on innovation increases significantly with immigrants' schooling level.
- 3. The impact of immigration spills over positively across local areas but weakens with distance.

Literature

#### Outline

#### Data

Identification and Historical Background

The Impact of Immigration

**Education and Spillovers** 

#### Data

#### Immigration and Ancestry

▶ IPUMS datasets from US Census, 1880-2010:

```
I_{o,d}^t = \# individuals in US county d born in foreign country o who immigrated between t and t-1. A_{o,d}^t = \# of individuals in d with o ancestry at time t
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#### Innovation

▶ USPTO Patent Microdata 1975-2010: number of successful patent applications in county d between time t-1 and t

#### Dynamism

- Census Business Dynamics Statistics, 1977-2015: employment reallocation, destruction, creation, & growth rates
- Census County Business Patterns, 1985-2015: skewness of employment growth rates across industries

#### Wages

▶ BLS Quarterly Census of Empl. and Wages, 1975-2010: wages per worker in county *d* at time *t* 

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#### Identification: The Problem

#### Equation of interest:

$$Y_d^t - Y_d^{t-1} = \delta_t + \delta_s + \beta Immigration_d^t + \epsilon_d^t$$

- ▶ Migrants are likely drawn to places that are innovative.
  - $\rightarrow$  OLS biased:  $cov(Immigration_d^t, \epsilon_d^t) \neq 0$ . Need instrument!
- Could use Altonji and Card (1991)-type instrument.

$$\textit{Immigration}_{o,d}^t = \alpha + \gamma \textit{Ancestry}_{o,d}^{t-1} \times \textit{Immigration}_o^t + \nu_{o,d}^t$$

- ▶ But: Ancestry patterns likely correlated with unobserved factors linked to innovation (e.g.: Indian engineers in Silicon Valley).
- ⇒ Combine Altonji-Card-type instrument with an instrument for ancestry composition of US counties (Burchardi, Chaney, Hassan, 2018).

# Construct an Instrument for $I_d^t$ in 3 steps

 $\hat{A}_{o,d}^t$ 

- Step 1 Construct an instrument for ancestry o in US county d at time t exclusively using historical push-pull factors.
- Step 2 Use this exogenous variation in Ancestry to fit a recursive model of migration (similar to Altonji-Card shift-share).
- Step 3 Sum predicted immigration across origins to isolate an exogenous immigration shock to county d at time t.

# Construct an Instrument for $I_d^t$ in 3 steps

$$I_{o,d}^t = X_{o,d}' \xi + \gamma \hat{A}_{o,d}^{t-1} \times I_o^t + \nu_{o,d}^t$$

- Step 1 Construct an instrument for ancestry *o* in US county *d* at time *t* exclusively using historical push-pull factors.
- Step 2 Use this exogenous variation in Ancestry to fit a recursive model of migration (similar to Altonji-Card shift-share).
- Step 3 Sum predicted immigration across origins to isolate an exogenous immigration shock to county *d* at time *t*.

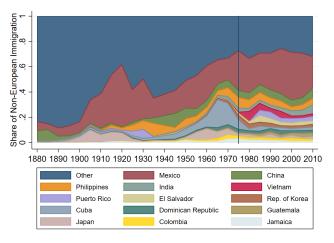
# Construct an Instrument for $I_d^t$ in 3 steps

$$\hat{I}_d^t = \sum_o [\hat{\gamma} \hat{A}_{o,d}^{t-1} \times I_o^t]$$

- Step 1 Construct an instrument for ancestry *o* in US county *d* at time *t* exclusively using historical push-pull factors.
- Step 2 Use this exogenous variation in Ancestry to fit a recursive model of migration (similar to Altonji-Card shift-share).
- Step 3 Sum predicted immigration across origins to isolate an exogenous immigration shock to county d at time t.

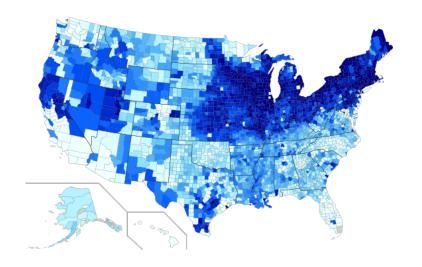
### Step 1 Push: Origins of Immigrants to the U.S.

Top non-European origin countries

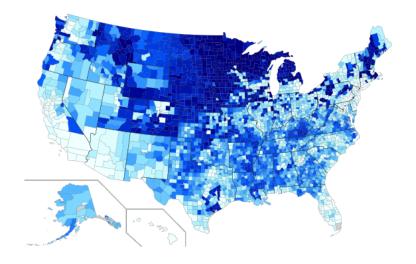


*Notes:* The figure shows the share of non-European immigration by origin country, breaking out migrants from the largest senders of migrants to the U.S. overall.

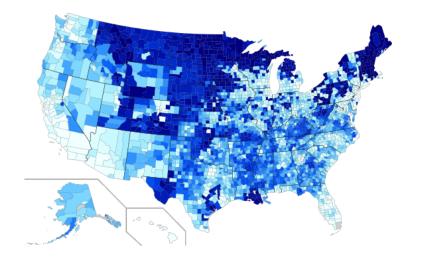
## Step 1 Pull: Destinations of Immigrants Pre 1880



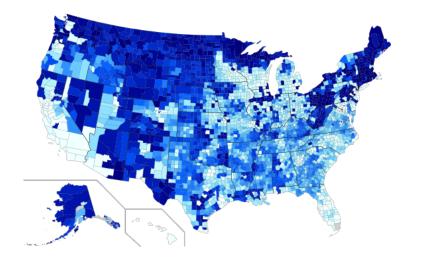
## Step 1 Pull: Destinations of Immigrants 1880-1890



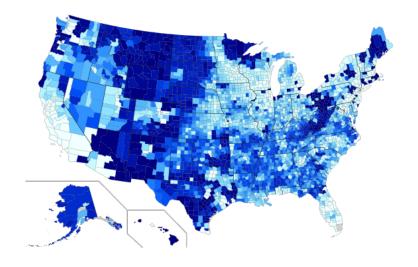
## Step 1 Pull: Destinations of Immigrants 1890-1900



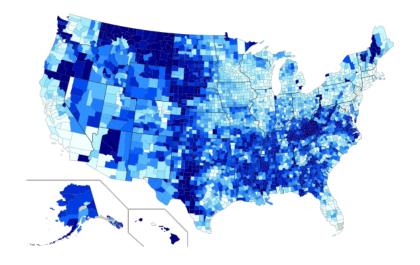
## Step 1 Pull: Destinations of Immigrants 1900-1910



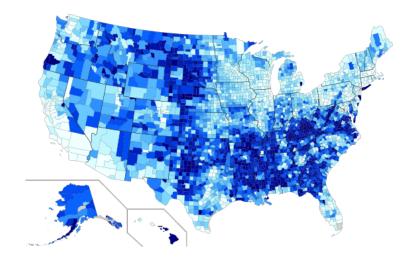
### Step 1 Pull: Destinations of Immigrants 1910-1920



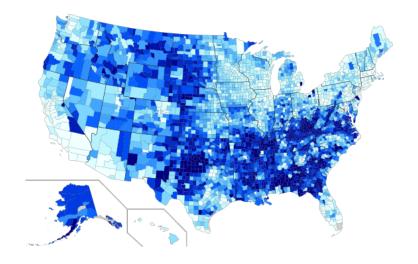
## Step 1 Pull: Destinations of Immigrants 1920-1930



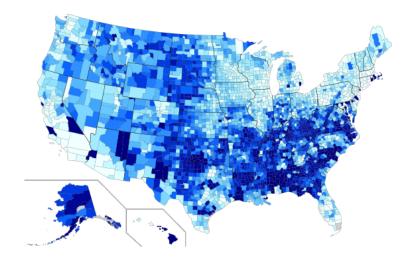
## Step 1 Pull: Destinations of Immigrants 1930-1950



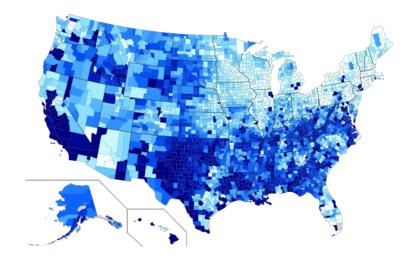
## Step 1 Pull: Destinations of Immigrants 1950-1960



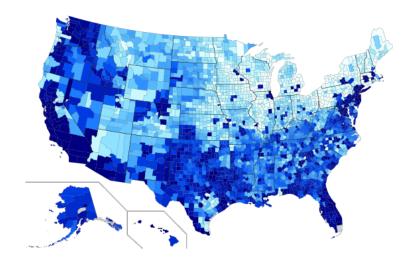
## Step 1 Pull: Destinations of Immigrants 1960-1970



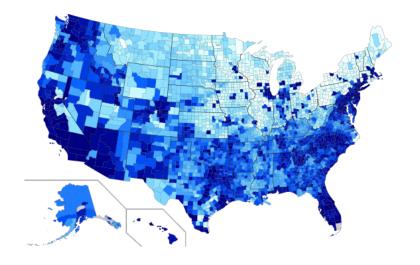
## Step 1 Pull: Destinations of Immigrants 1970-1980



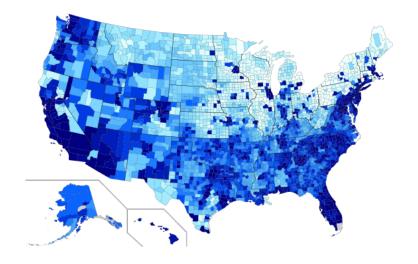
### Step 1 Pull: Destinations of Immigrants 1980-1990



## Step 1 Pull: Destinations of Immigrants 1990-2000



## Step 1 Pull: Destinations of Immigrants 2000-2010



#### Estimation + Results

#### First Stage:

$$Immigration_d^t = \delta_s + \delta_t + \kappa \hat{I}_d^t + \eta_d^t$$

where  $\delta_s$  and  $\delta_t$  are state and time fixed effects, respectively.

#### Second Stage:

$$Y_d^t - Y_d^t = \delta_s + \delta_t + \beta \widehat{Immigration}_d^t + \epsilon_d^t$$

where  $Y_d^t$  is a measure of innovation or dynamism.



### Identifying Assumption

Any confounding factors that correlate with increases in a given county's innovation or dynamism post-1975 do not also correlate systematically with past instances of the interaction of the settlement of European migrants with the total number of migrants arriving from a set of non-European origins who settle in other US census regions and modern immigration from those non-European origins to other US census regions.

So a confounding factor causing, say, Indian migration to Silicon Valley (Santa Clara County) in 2010 must also systematically correlate with

- historical Indian migration to other Census divisions
- historical European migration to Silicon Valley, repeatedly across decades and in large-enough numbers to sway averages
- ▶ 2010 Indian migration to **other** Census divisions.

#### It could also not reflect

- ▶ Silicon Valley-specific average innovation or immigration levels,
- ▶ Silicon Valley-specific trends in innovation or immigration,
- or any common shifts across counties in 2010.



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**Education and Spillovers** 

### Immigration's Effect on Innovation

	(1)	(2)	(3)	
	5-Year Difference in Patenting per 100,000 People			
${\sf Immigration}_d^t$	0.167** (0.080)	0.101*** (0.031)	0.108*** (0.033)	
N	18,846	18,846	18,846	
First Stage				
$\widehat{Immigration}_d^t$		2.100*** (0.061)	1.580*** (0.196)	
N		21,987	21,987	
F-Stat		1,202	65	
$R^2$		0.777	0.947	
Specification Geography FE Time FE	OLS State Yes	IV State Yes	IV County Yes	

Standard errors clustered by state and \*,\*\*, and \*\*\* denote statistical significance of 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

▶ 12K more migrants, about 1 SD, leads to 27% rise in innovation relative to mean growth

















### Immigration's Effect on Dynamism & Wage Growth

5-Year Difference in:	Job Creation Rate	Job Destruction Rate	Job Growth Rate Skewness	Average Annual Wage
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
$Immigration_d^t$	0.176*** (0.033)	0.152*** (0.035)	0.019*** (0.004)	0.008*** (0.002)
N	6,600	6,600	12,564	21,976
First Stage F-Stat	951	951	151	1,202
Controls: Geography FE Time FE	State Yes	State Yes	State Yes	State Yes

*Notes*: Standard errors are clustered by state and \*,\*\*, and \*\*\* denote statistical significance at the 10%, 5%, and 1% levels, respectively.

▶ 12K more migrants, 1 SD, causes rise relative to mean change of: 7% in job creation, 11% in job destruction, 3% in job growth skewness, and 5% in wages



#### Outline

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### Spillovers

	5-Year Difference in Patenting per 100,000 People			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
$Immigration_d^t$	0.130*** (0.039)	0.107*** (0.035)	0.072**	0.080** (0.037)
$Immigration^t_{\mathit{State}}$	(0.033)	0.001***	(0.032)	(0.031)
${\sf Neighbors'} \ {\sf Immigration}_d^t \ ({\sf Inverse} \ {\sf Distance} \ {\sf Weight})$		(*****)	6.600*** (1.593)	
${\sf Immigration}_{100km}^t$			(,	0.056*** (0.018)
${\sf Immigration}_{250km}^t$				0.014*** (0.005)
Immigration <sup>t</sup> <sub>500km</sub>				0.006 (0.005)
N	18,846	18,846	18,846	18,846
First Stage F-Stat d	876	1,792	2,175	6,065
First Stage F-Stat Spillover		470	162	383
First Stage F-Stat Spillover				150
First Stage F-Stat Spillover				66
Controls: Division, Year FE				

Standard errors clustered by state and \*,\*\*, and \*\*\* denote statistical significance at the 10%, 5%, and 1% levels, respectively.

- 1 SD more migrants increase innovation relative to mean by:
  - ▶ 29% for local migrants (within county)



### Education & Immigration's Effect on Innovation

	5-year Difference in Patenting per 100,000 People			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
$Immigration_d^t$	0.165***	0.200***	0.415***	
Average Years Education $_d^t \times Immigration_d^t$	(0.002)	(0.070) 0.221*** (0.068)	(0.076)	
Average Years $College_d^t \times Immigration_d^t$		, ,	0.887***	
40 4 37 51 3 3 4 4 4 4			(0.166)	
1{Low Avg. Years Education} $\times$ Immigration $_d^t$				1.863
1{Medium Avg. Years Education} $\times$ Immigration $_d^t$				(4.539) 0.084*
T(Wediam 70g. Tears Education) × minigration <sub>d</sub>				(0.044)
1{High Avg. Years Education} $\times$ Immigration $_d^t$				1.401*
				(0.792)
N	18,846	18,846	18,846	18,846
First Stage F-Stat	1,000,642	871,892	154,901	1,041
First Stage F-Stat		49,425	4,563	1,242,524
First Stage F-Stat				3,242
Controls: State, Year FE				

Standard errors clustered by state and \*,\*\*, and \*\*\* denote statistical significance at the 10%, 5%, and 1% levels, respectively.

#### 10K more migrants increase patenting per person by

- 2 patents per 100K people if mean education (11 yrs)
- ▶ 9 patents per 100K people if 1-SD higher education (14.5 yrs)





#### Conclusion

- ► We study the impact of immigration on innovation, dynamism, and growth at the local level.
- ▶ Plausibly exogenous shocks to immigration at the county level in the US over 1975-2010 provide substantial power for examining overall immigration flows during this period.
- We find that more immigration leads to
  - More innovation or patents per person
  - More dynamism or creative destruction
  - Higher wages per person
- ▶ More highly educated immigrants boost innovation by more.
- Immigration causes positive spillovers to other nearby areas.

#### **BACKUP SLIDES**

#### Contribution

- ► Endogenous growth & innovation mechanisms Aghion & Howitt 1992, Romer 1990, Peretto 1998, Young 1998, Jones 1995, Jones, et al. 2017
  - ightarrow Test short-term reduced-form predictions at county level
- ► Empirical work on declining dynamism in the US economy Decker, et al. 2014, Hathaway and Litan 2014, Alon, et al. 2018, Hopenhayn, et al. 2018, Karahan, et al. 2016
  - $\,\rightarrow\,$  Bring an identification strategy and a link to immigration
- Empirical work on the effects of immigration Altonji & Card 1991, Borjas 1999, Sequeira, Nunn, & Qian 2018, Akcigit, et al. 2017, Peters 2017
  - ightarrow Identify effects on local innovation, dynamism, and income growth.



### Step 1: An Instrument for Ancestry

Regress ancestry on interacted push and pull factors

$$A_{o,d}^{t} = \delta_{o-r(d)} + \delta_{c(o)-d} + X_{o,d}' \xi + \sum_{s=1880}^{t} \beta_{r(d)}^{s} \tilde{I}_{o,-r(d)}^{s} \frac{I_{Euro,d}^{s}}{I_{Euro}^{s}} + u_{o,d}^{t}$$

To make sure all o - d specific variation is purged:

- Broad leave-out categories:
  - Measure pull factor to *d* at time *t* with the share of migrants arriving at the same time from Europe in *d*.
  - Measure push factor from o at time t with the number of migrants leaving at the same time from o to other census regions (-r(d)).
- Interacted fixed effects.
- Orthogonalize predicted ancestry with respect to controls.

# Construct an Instrument for $I_d^t$ in 3 steps

Step 1 Construct Instrumented Ancestry as

$$\hat{A}_{o,d}^{t-1} = \sum_{\tau=1880}^{t-1} \hat{\beta}_{\textit{r}(d)}^{\tau} \left( \tilde{\textit{I}}_{o,-\textit{r}(d)}^{\tau} \frac{\textit{I}_{\textit{Euro},d}^{\tau}}{\textit{I}_{\textit{Euro}}^{\tau}} \right)^{\perp}$$

Step 2 Use this exogenous variation in Ancestry to fit a recursive model of migration (similar to Altonji-Card shift-share).

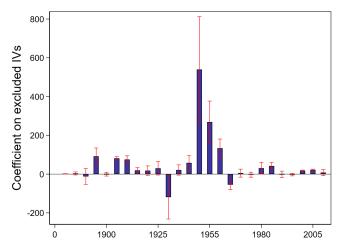
$$\textit{I}_{o,d}^{t} = \textit{X}_{o,d}'\beta + \gamma[\hat{\textit{A}}_{o,d}^{t-1} \times \tilde{\textit{I}}_{o,-\textit{r(d)}}^{t}] + \nu_{o,d}^{t}$$

Step 3 Sum predicted immigration across origins to isolate an exogenous immigration shock to county d at time t.

$$\hat{I}_d^t = \sum_{o} \hat{\gamma} [\hat{A}_{o,d}^{t-1} \times \tilde{I}_{o,-r(d)}^t].$$



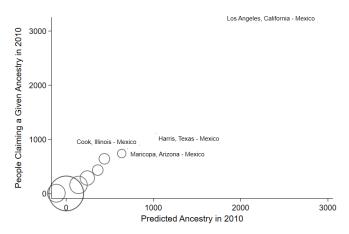
### Step 1: Effect of historical push-pull on Ancestry today



 $\it Notes: {\it Red lines give 95\% confidence intervals. Standard errors are clustered at the origin country level. (F-stat 32,645.9)}$ 



### Step 1: Fit of Predicted Ancestry



*Notes:* This figure plots actual ancestry in 2010 against predicted ancestry, with the size of each circle indicating the log number of observations in a given bin of predicted ancestry. The labeled counties are those with the highest number of individuals declaring a given ancestry in 2010.



### Step 2: Predicting Origin-by-Destination Immigration

	$Immigration_{o,d}^t$					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
$\hat{A}_{o,d}^{1975} \times \tilde{I}_{o,-r(d)}^{1980}$	0.0036***	0.0036***	0.0035***	0.0035***	0.0035***	
	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	
$\hat{A}_{o,d}^{1980} \times \tilde{I}_{o,-r(d)}^{1985}$	0.0016***	0.0016***	0.0016***	0.0016***	0.0016***	
	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	
$\hat{A}_{o,d}^{1985} \times \tilde{I}_{o,-r(d)}^{1990}$	0.0018***	0.0018***	0.0018***	0.0018***	0.0018***	
-,- o, /(o)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	
$\hat{A}_{o,d}^{1990} \times \tilde{I}_{o,-r(d)}^{1995}$	0.0005***	0.0005***	0.0005***	0.0005***	0.0005***	
5,5 5, 7(5)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	
$\hat{A}_{o,d}^{1995} \times \tilde{I}_{o,-r(d)}^{2000}$	0.0004***	0.0004***	0.0004***	0.0004***	0.0004***	
	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	
$\hat{A}_{o,d}^{2000} \times \tilde{I}_{o,-r(d)}^{2005}$	0.0002***	0.0002***	0.0002***	0.0002***	0.0002***	
	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	
$\hat{A}_{o,d}^{2005} \times \tilde{I}_{o,-r(d)}^{2010}$	0.0002***	0.0002***	0.0002***	0.0002***	0.0002***	
0,5 0,-7(0)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	
I <sup>t</sup> <sub>Euro,d</sub>	, ,	, ,	, ,	, ,	0.0109***	
					(0.0031)	
N	3,583,881	3,583,881	3,583,881	3,583,881	3,583,881	
F-Stat	1.35e+06	1.36e+06	3.55e+05	3.55e + 05	3.39e + 05	
$R^2$	0.656	0.657	0.709	0.709	0.709	
Controls:						
Distance	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	
Latitude Dis.	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	
Region-Country FE	no	no	yes	yes	yes	
County-Continent FE	no	no	yes	yes	yes	
Time FE	no	no	no	yes	yes	
Concurrent European Immigration	no	no	no	no	yes	





### Alternatives: Immigration's Effect on Innovation

Specification:	OLS Specification	Card Instrument	Baseline Instrument	Ancestry in 1975 Only	Leave-Out Correlated Counties	Leave-Out Own Continent
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	5-ye	ar Difference	in Patenting <sub>I</sub>	per 100,000 P	eople Post-19	80
${\sf Immigration}_d^t$	0.167** (0.080)	0.132** (0.055)	0.101*** (0.031)	0.093*** (0.027)	0.098*** (0.033)	0.094*** (0.027)
N	18,846	18,846	18,846	18,846	18,846	18,846
Geography FE Time FE	state yes	state yes	state yes	state yes	state yes	state yes



### Robustness: Immigration's Effect on Innovation

	5-year Difference in Patenting per 100,000 People Post-198							
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)			
Excluding:	Mexico	China	India	Philippines	Vietnam			
Immigration <sup>t</sup> <sub>d</sub>	0.080*** (0.025)	0.102*** (0.032)	0.101*** (0.031)	0.100*** (0.031)	0.101*** (0.031)			
N	18,846	18,846	18,846	18,846	18,846			
First Stage F-Stat	666	1,576	1,267	1,261	1,179			
Controls: Geography FE Time FE	state yes	state yes	state yes	state yes	state yes			



### Bad Controls: Immigration's Effect on Innovation

	5-year [	Difference in	Patents pe	r 100,000 P	eople for 1980	to 2010
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
${\sf Immigration}_d^t$	0.101*** (0.031)	0.102*** (0.032)	0.100*** (0.031)	0.092*** (0.029)	0.082*** (0.027)	0.108*** (0.033)
Population Density (1970)	(0.002)	-0.001 (0.004)	(0.002)	(0.020)	(***=*)	(0.000)
Patents per 1,000 People (1975)		,	0.089**			
Share High School Education (1970)			,	27.821** (11.059)		
Share 4+ Years College (1970)				,	103.990*** (29.961)	
N	18,846	18,846	18,846	18,846	18,846	18,846
First Stage F-Stat	911	1,658	911	945	1,017	85
Controls:						
Geography FE Time FE	state yes	state yes	state yes	state yes	state yes	county yes



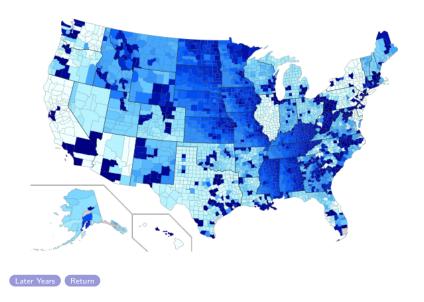
### Education & Immigration's Effect on Innovation

Generalize IV to instrument separately for effect of education.

- Use the fact that education levels vary dramatically across origins and over time.
  - Use as instruments country-county migration shocks  $(\hat{l}_{o,d}^t)$  generated in Step 2.
- ▶ Run a regression with two endogenous variables:
  - 1. **Immigration**: number of adult migrants to county d in t
  - 2. **Education**: total number of years of education of adult migrants to *d* in *t*

Results

# Step 3: Immigration Shock $\hat{\it I}_d^{1980}$



#### First-stage: County-Level Population Growth

	5-Year Population Growth							
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)				
$\widehat{Immigration}_d^t$	1.890*** (0.168)	1.890*** (0.190)	1.818*** (0.180)	1.767*** (0.157)				
N	21,986	21,986	21,986	6,600				
F-Stat	127	99	102	126				
$R^2$	0.233	0.272	0.314	0.370				
Controls:								
Geography FE	no	division	state	state				
Time FE	no	yes	yes	yes				
MSA Counties	no	no	no	yes				

# Second Stage: Effect of Immigration and Population Growth on Innovation

	,	5-year Difference in Patenting per 100,000 People Post-1980						
	(1) (2) (3) (4)							
$Immigration_d^t$	0.167** (0.080)	0.101*** (0.031)						
$\Delta$ Population $_d^t$	,	,	0.223*** (0.066)	0.113*** (0.030)				
N	18,846	18,846	18,846	18,846				
Controls: Specification	OLS	IV	OLS	IV				
Geography FE Time FE	state yes	state yes	state yes	state yes				

### Education & Immigration's Effect on Wage Growth

	5-year Difference in Average Annual Wage (\$1,000) Post-1975				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
$Immigration_d^t$	0.028** (0.011)	0.034*** (0.007)	0.053*** (0.013)		
Average Years $Education_d^t  imes Immigration_d^t$	, ,	0.029*** (0.006)	. ,		
Average Years $College^t_d  imes Immigration^t_d$			0.089*** (0.020)		
$1\{Low\ Avg.\ Years\ Education\} imes Immigration_d^t$				-0.013 (0.015)	
$1\{Medium\ Avg.\ Years\ Education\}\timesImmigration_d^t$				0.019** (0.008)	
$1\{High\ Avg.\ Years\ Education\}  imes Immigration_d^t$				0.200*** (0.066)	
N	21,976	21,976	21,976	21,976	
First Stage F-Stat	284,264	209,169	42,824	100,244	
First Stage F-Stat		31,561	7,266	192,212	
First Stage F-Stat				2,734	
Geography FE Time FE	state yes	state yes	state yes	state yes	

### Spillovers in Immigration's Effect on Wage Growth

	5-year Difference in Patenting per 1,000 People Post-1980				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
$Immigration_d^t$	0.010*** (0.002)	0.009***	0.005*** (0.001)	0.005*** (0.002)	
$Immigration^t_{\mathit{State}}$	(****_)	0.000	(****-)	(****_)	
Neighbors' Immigration $_d^t$ (Inverse Distance Weight)		,	0.560*** (0.191)		
${\sf Immigration}_{100km}^t$			,	0.006*** (0.002)	
${\rm Immigration}_{250km}^t$				-0.001 (0.001)	
${\sf Immigration}_{500km}^t$				-0.000 (0.001)	
N	21,976	21,976	21,976	21,976	
First Stage F-Stat d	1,166	2,289	3,482	7,967	
First Stage F-Stat Spillover		434	165	395	
First Stage F-Stat Spillover				157	
First Stage F-Stat Spillover				67	
Geography FE Time FE	division yes	division yes	division yes	division yes	

### Growth Models and Population Change

		n Patenting per cople Post-1980	-	per 100,000 Post-1975			Patents -1975	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
$Immigration_d^t$	0.101*** (0.031)	0.509*** (0.090)	0.501** (0.190)	2.505*** (0.268)	0.028***			
$sq(Immigration_d^t)$	, ,	-0.001*** (0.000)	, ,	-0.004*** (0.000)	, ,			
$\Delta$ Population $_d^t$		,		,		0.033*** (0.012)		
$IHS(Immigration_d^t)$						(***==)	1.723*** (0.111)	
$IHS(\Delta \ Population_d^t)$							(0.111)	2.471*** (0.510)
N	18,846	18,846	21,987	21,987	21,987	21,986	21,987	21,986
First Stage F-Stat	911	95	1,202	102	1,202	102	94	16
First Stage F-Stat		11,231		11,879				
Controls:								
Geography FE Time FE	state yes	state yes	state yes	state yes	state yes	state yes	state yes	state yes

