

Building Our Economy: Inclusion, Prosperity, & Planning

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UC SANTA CRUZ

Institute for
Social Transformation
INQUIRY WITH IMPACT

THE COVID SHOCK TO THE SYSTEM

- The **disease** that revealed our **illness**
- The **crisis** that illustrated our **mutuality** – and our **division**
- A **broader context** that makes **deep change** urgent



THE BOTTOM LINE

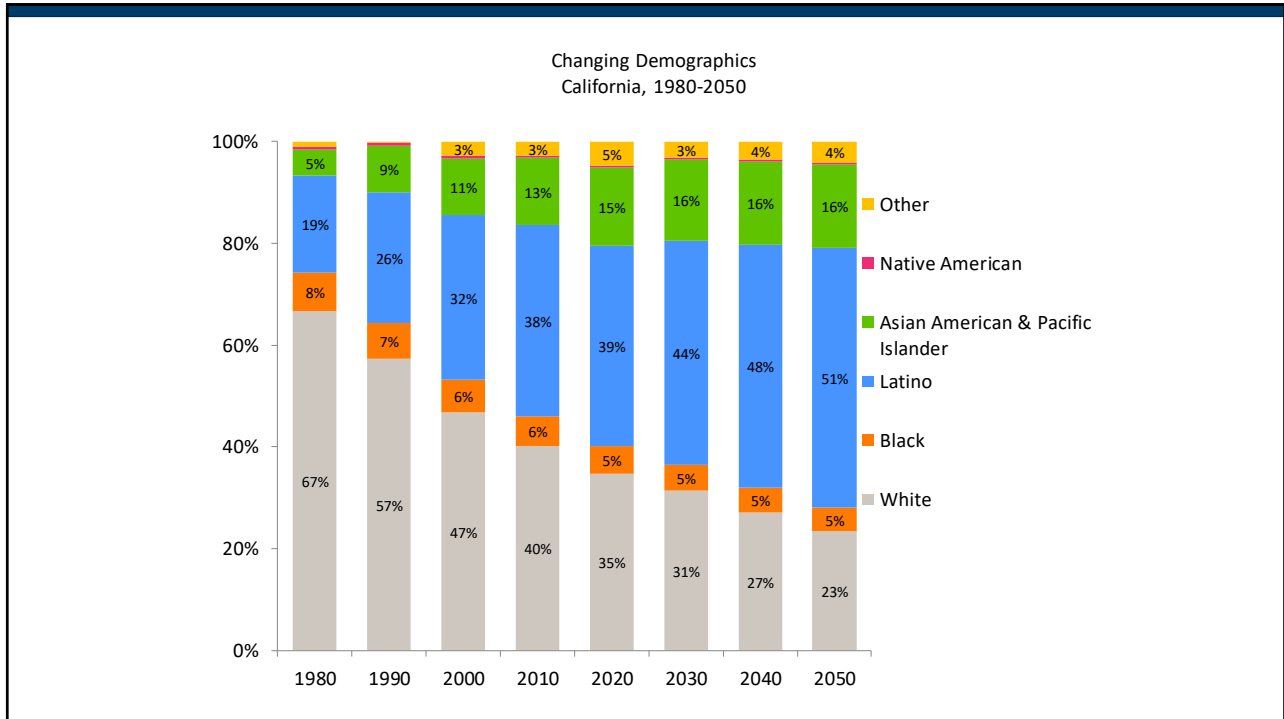
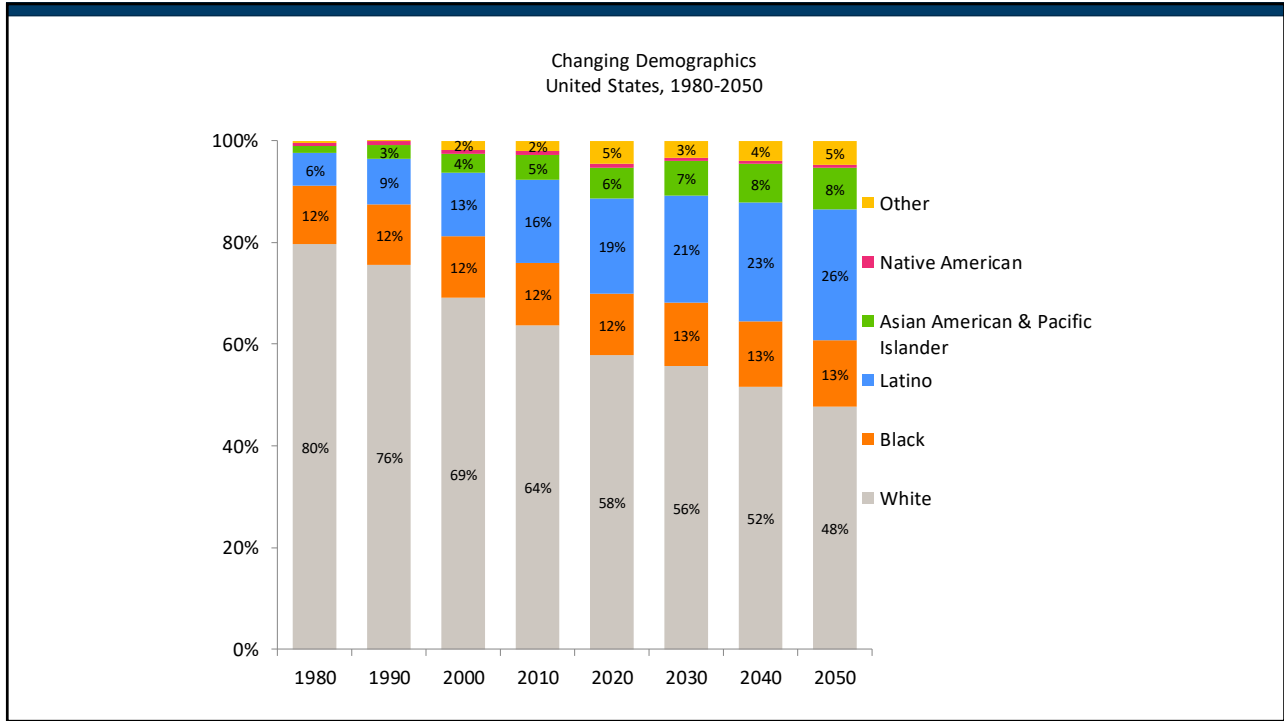
- There is **no going back** to a normal that did not work for so many
- We do not need a recovery but a **reimagination & restructuring** that challenges inequality & lifts up **commonality**

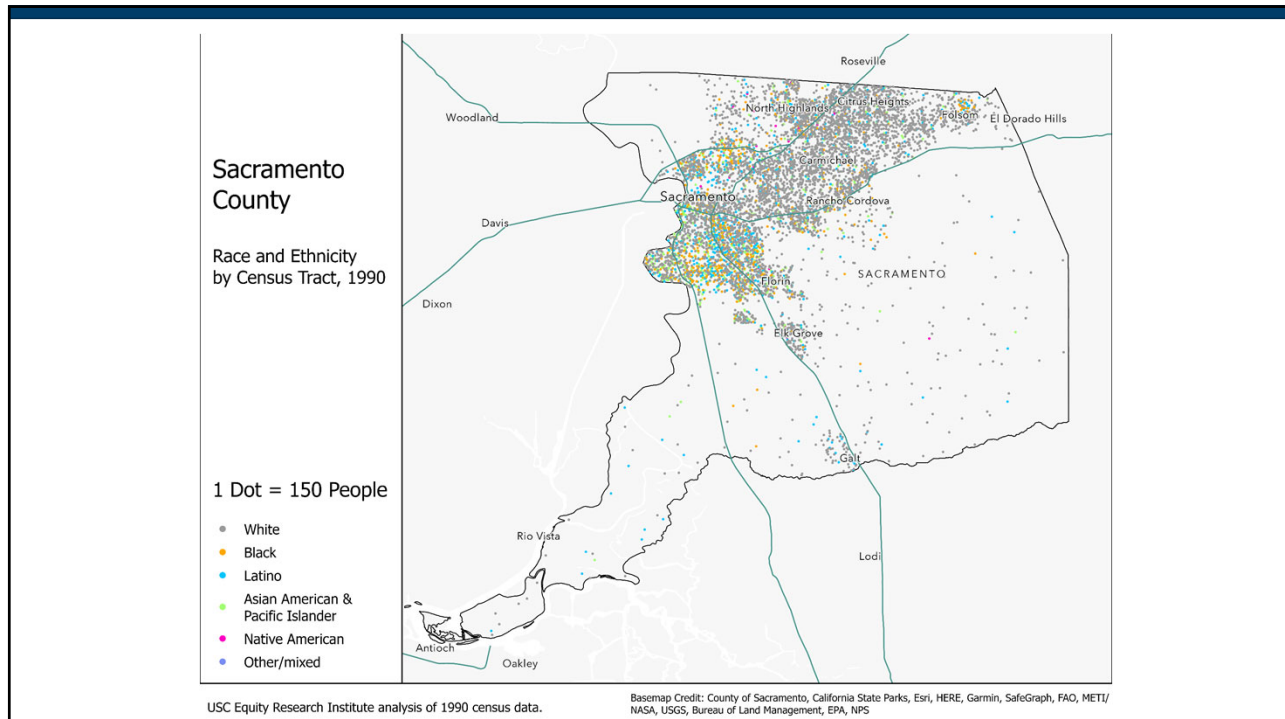
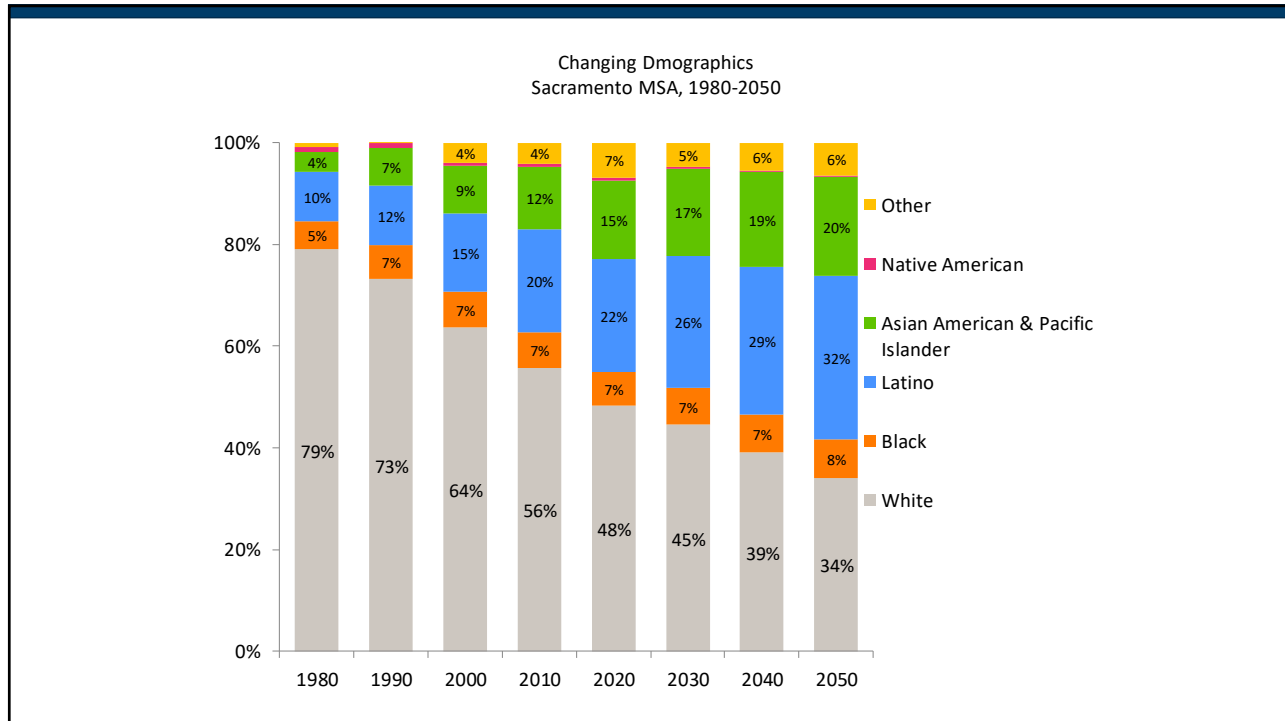


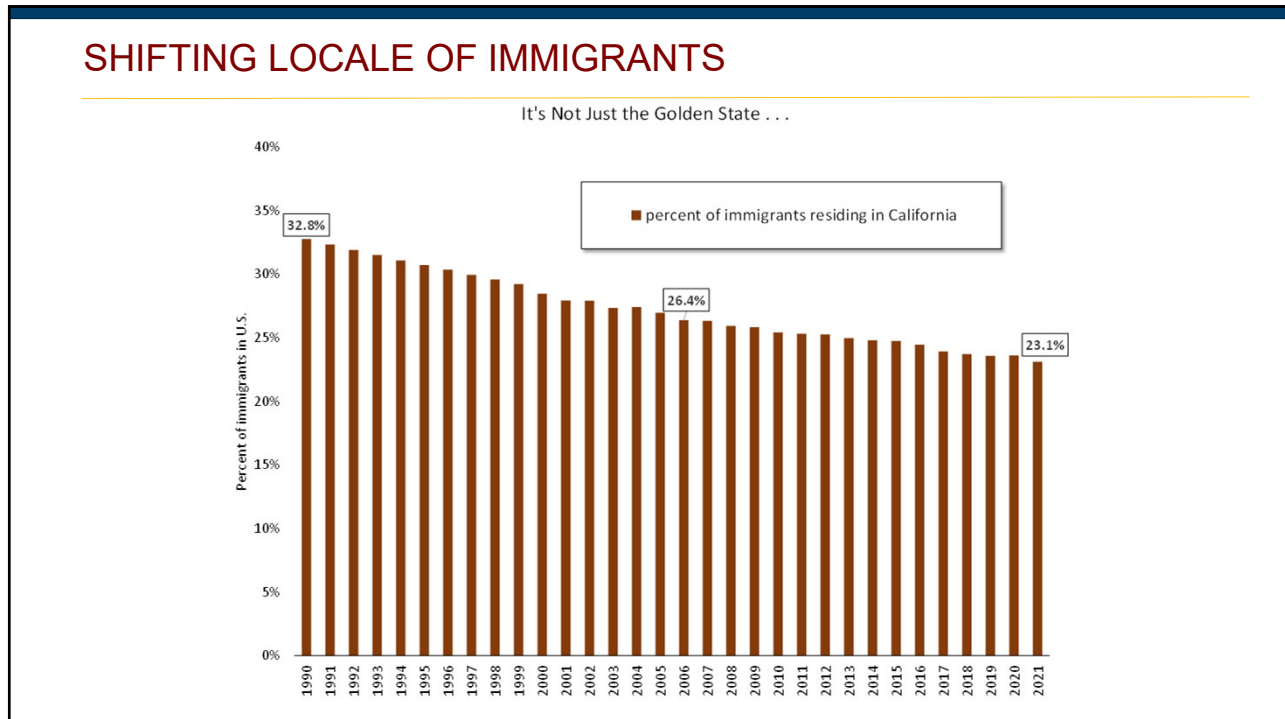
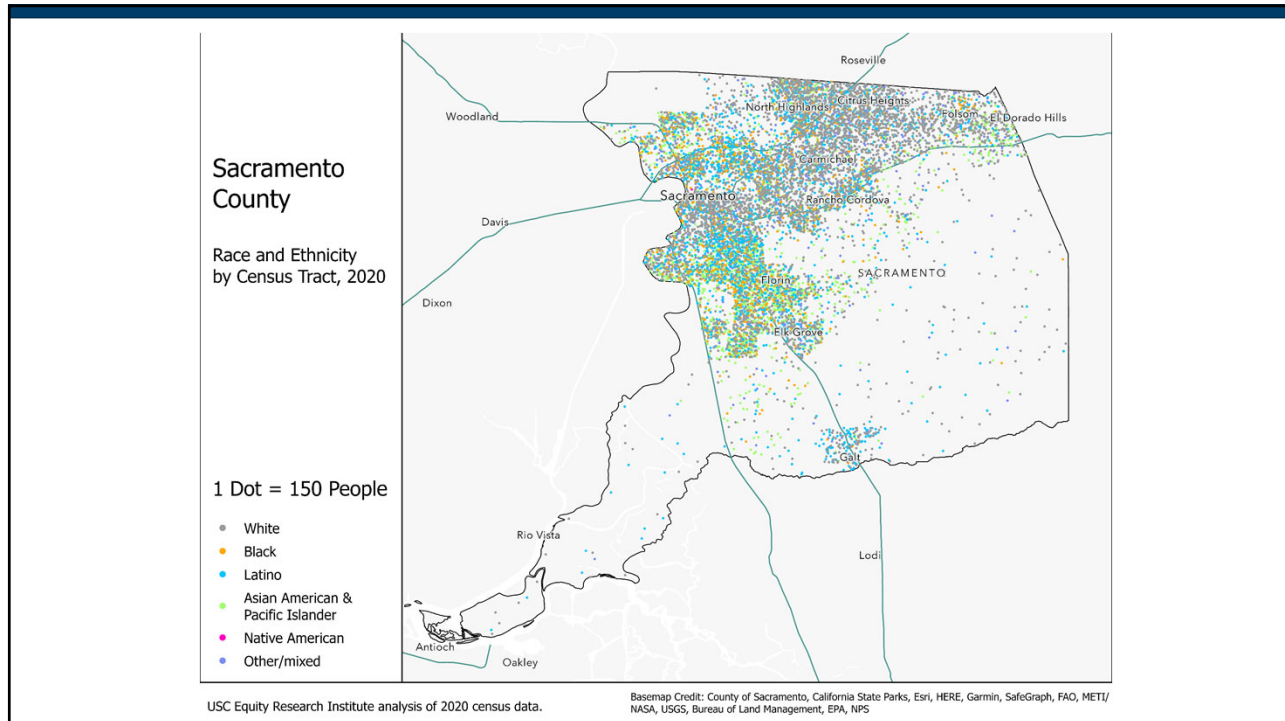
SO WHAT DOES THAT LOOK LIKE?

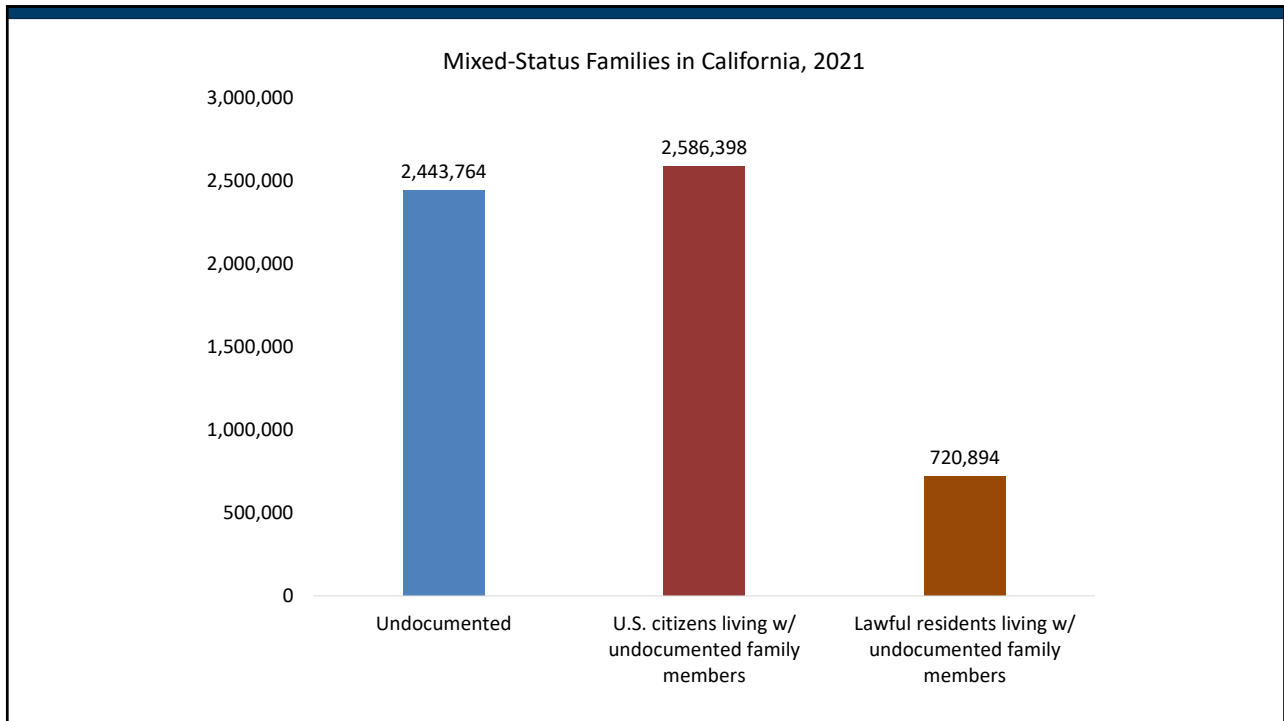
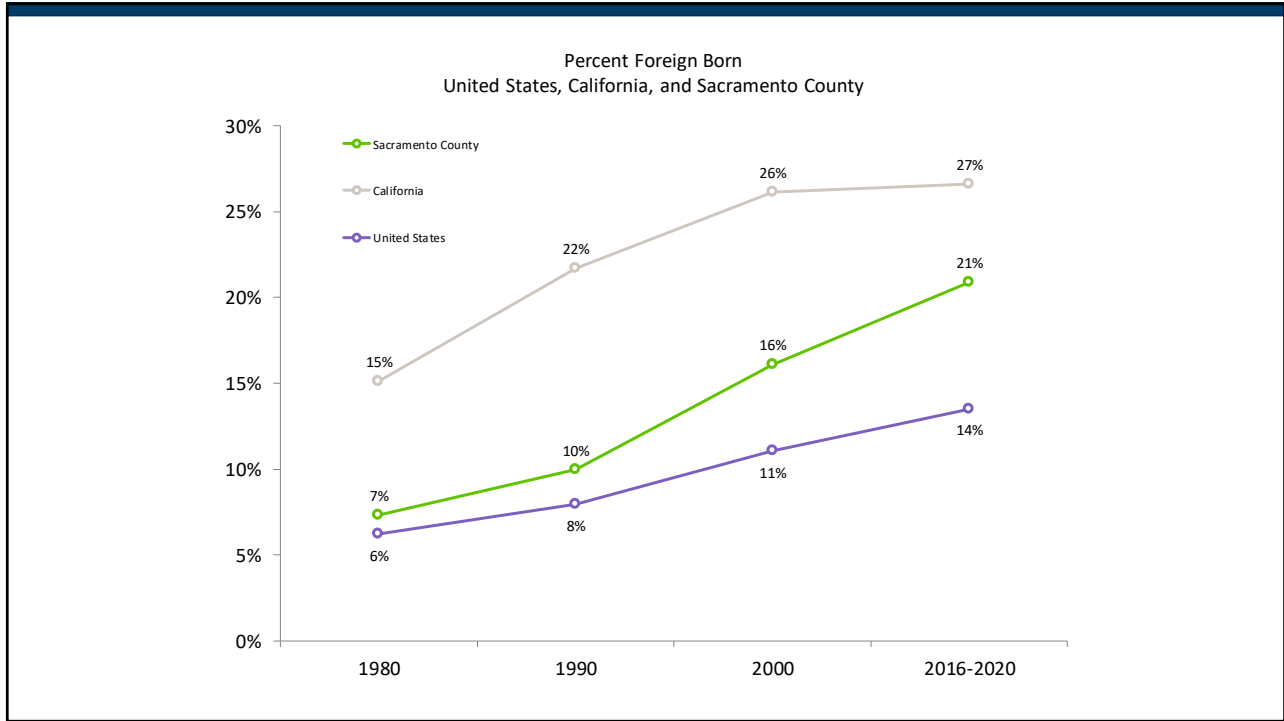


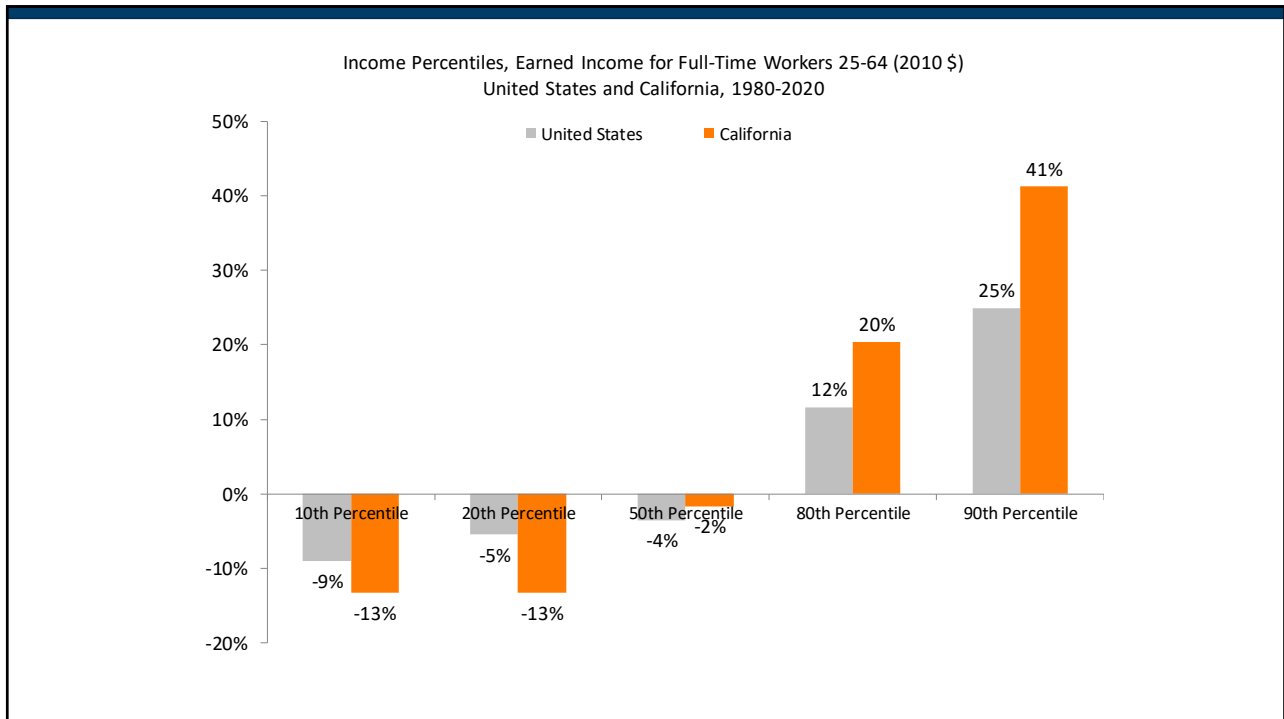
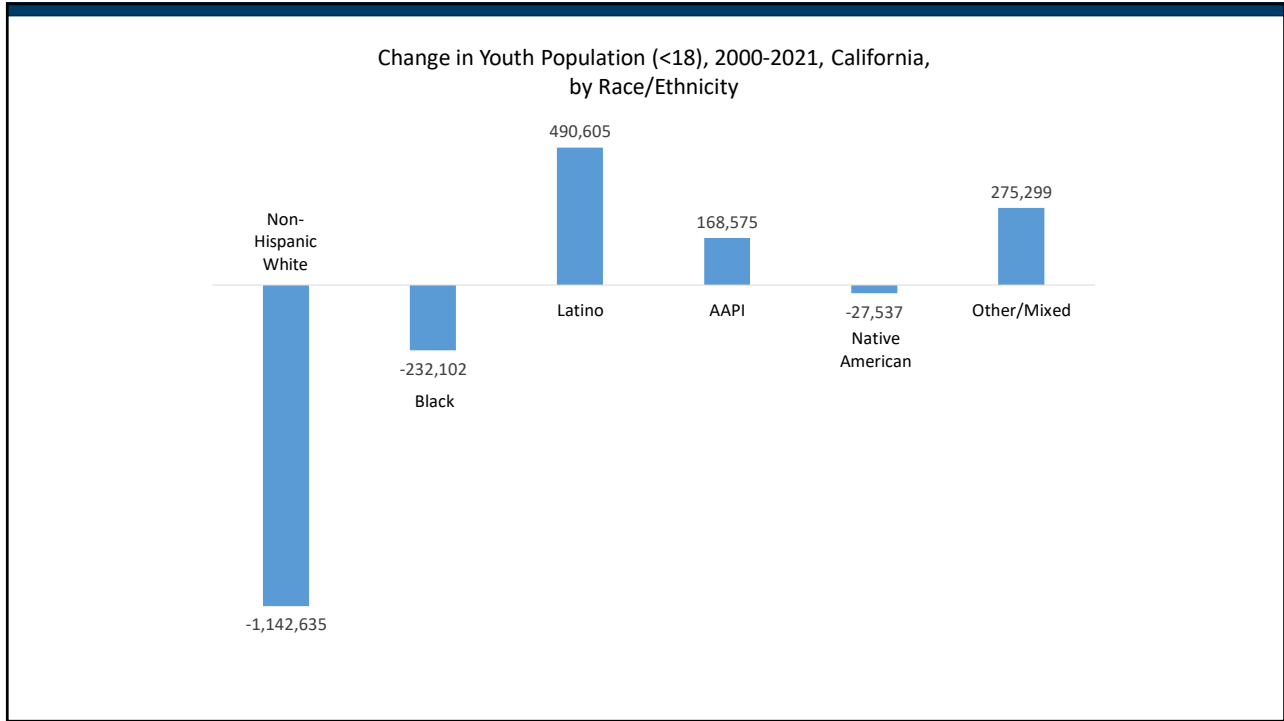
- Understanding our **demography** and centering **racial equity**
- Crafting a **new economic story** that can become “**common sense**”
- Committing to “**uncommon common ground**”



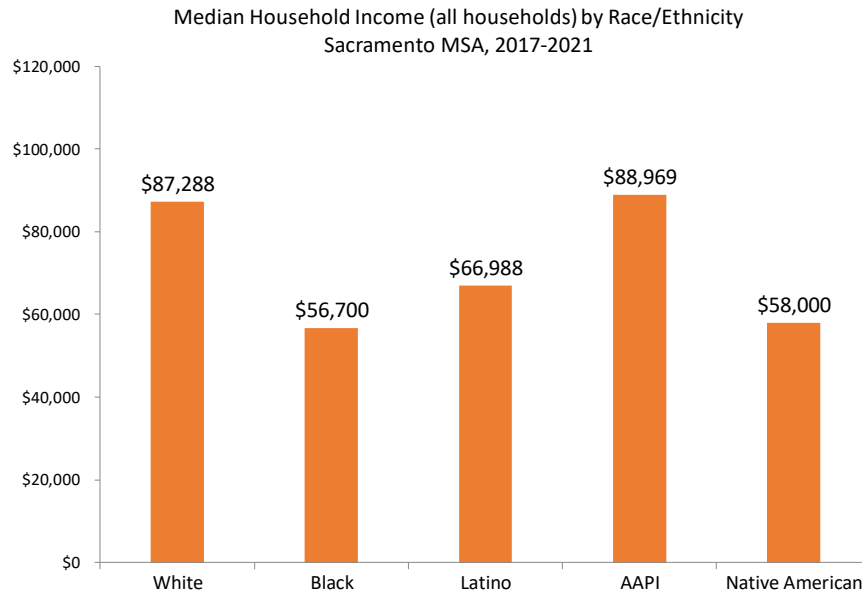




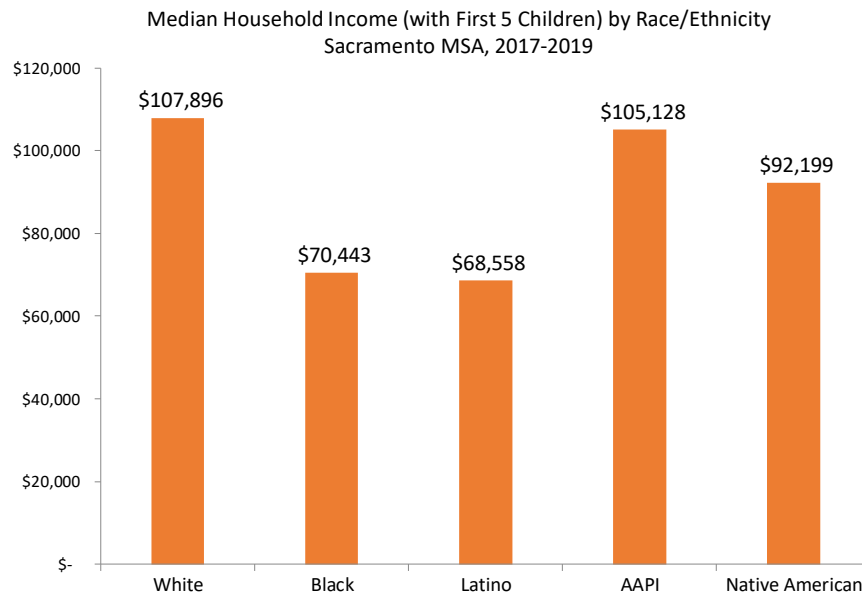




RACIAL INEQUALITY TODAY

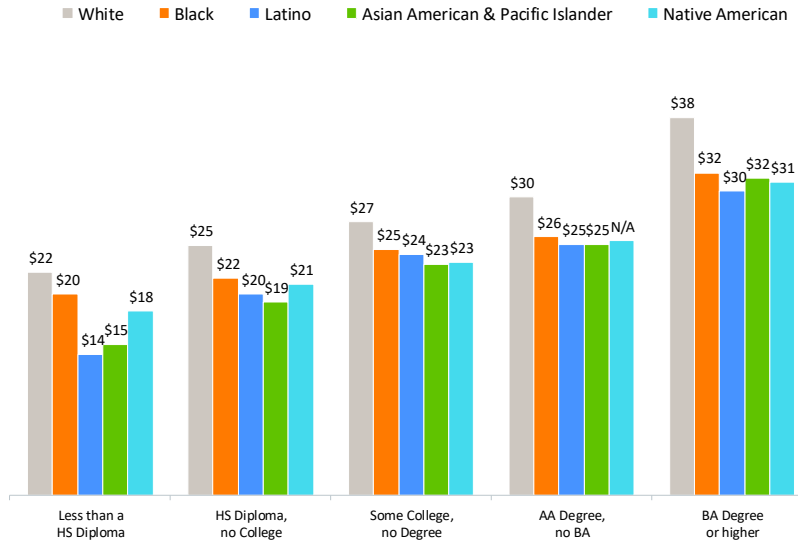


RACIAL INEQUALITY TOMORROW



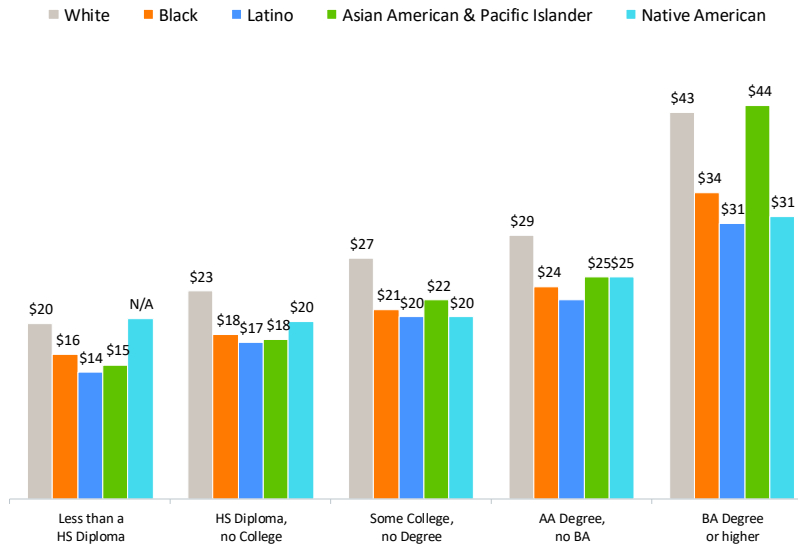
IT ISN'T JUST EDUCATION

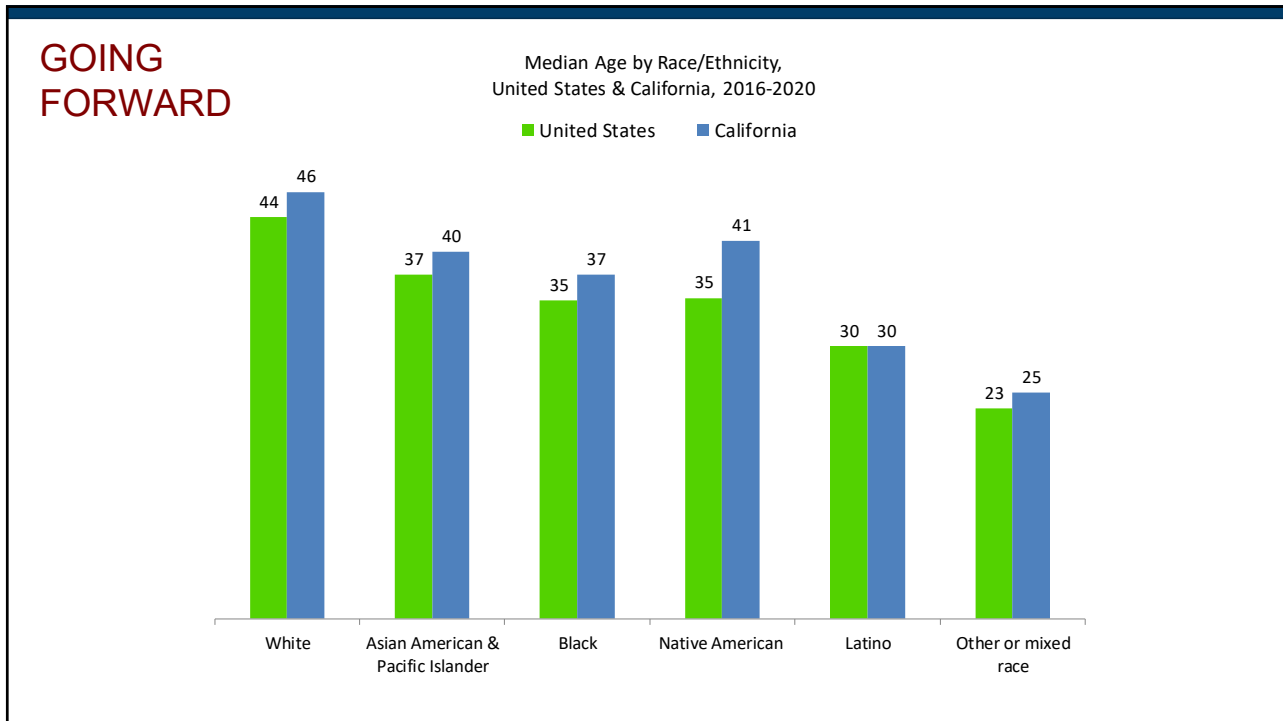
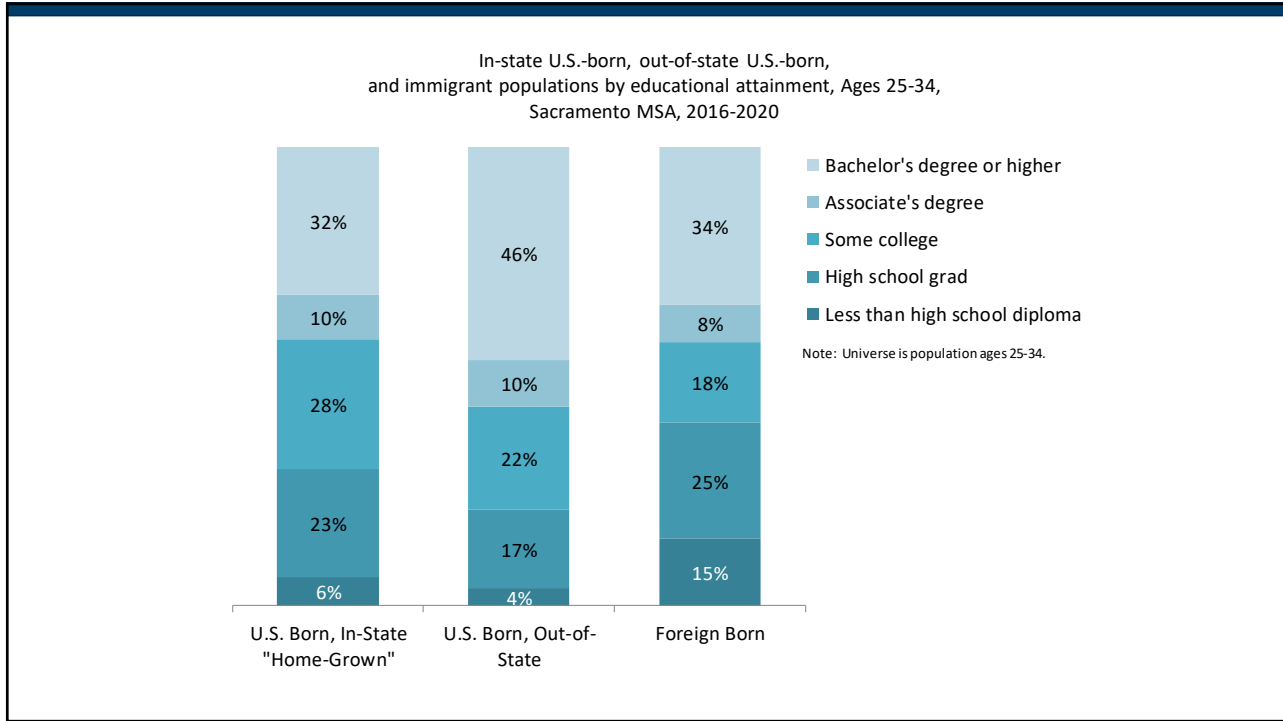
Median wages by education level (2020 \$), ages 25-64
California, 1990



IT ISN'T JUST EDUCATION

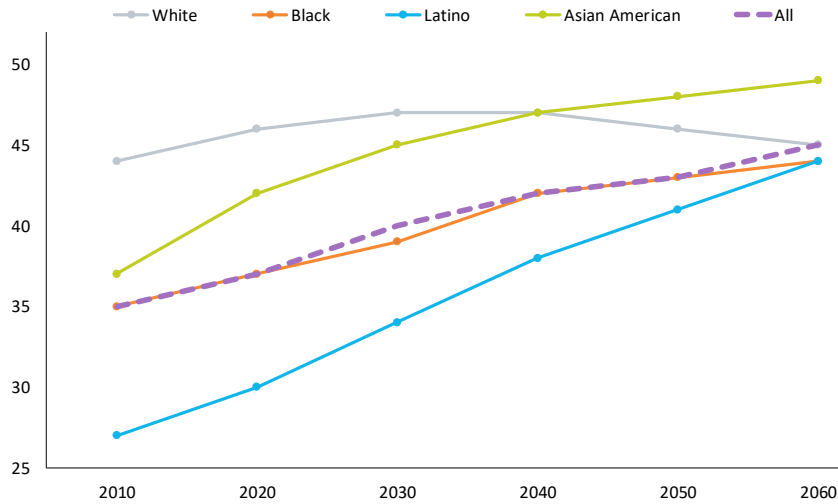
Median wages by education level (2020 \$), ages 25-64
California, 2016-2020





GOING FORWARD

Median Age Projections by Major Racial Groups, California, 2010-2060



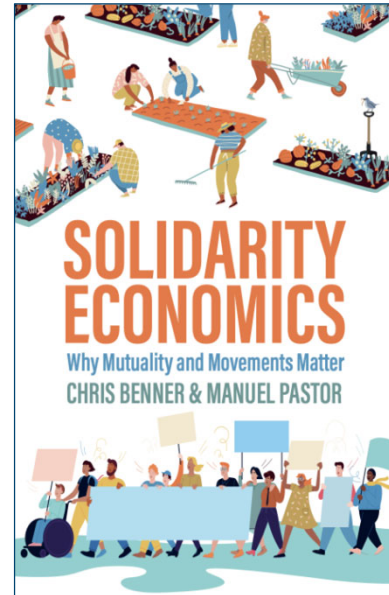
WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS?

- How do we see **social infrastructure** as important as physical infrastructure?
- How do we **center historically marginalized voices**, not just 'include' such voices?
- How do we begin to understand this approach as both **transformative** and **generative**?



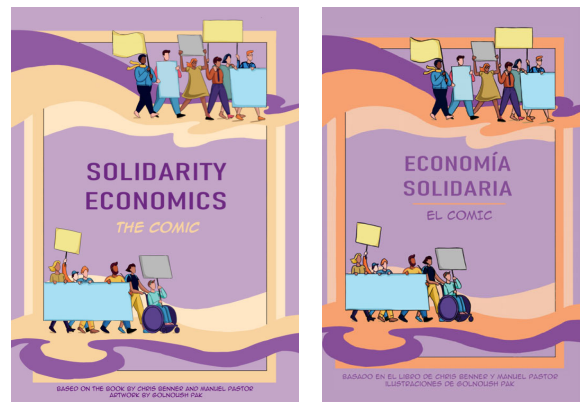
CRAFTING A NEW ECONOMIC STORY

- A new sort of narrative and policy approach we call “**solidarity economics**”



THEORY OF CHANGE—CENTERING RACIAL JUSTICE

- **Our economy**: organized by people, reflecting values and power
- **Mutuality**: recognize role in current economy, invest in for transforming economy
- **Movements**: shift power relationships, expand circles of belonging



<https://solidarityeconomics.org/>



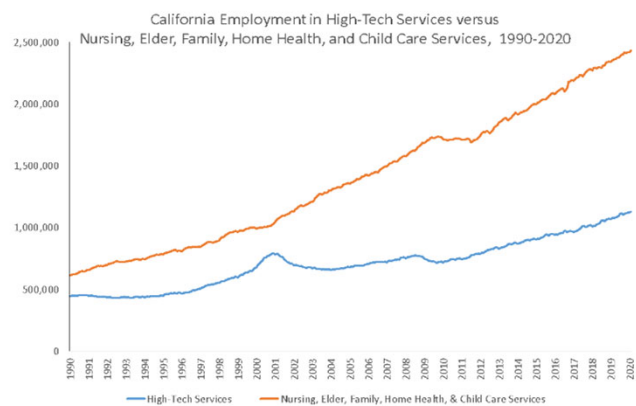
SOLIDARITY & CARING: Benefits our demography & economy

We would see:

- Importance of child and elder care work
- Aging population

And the need to challenge:

- What counts as skilled labor
- Low public funding for child and elder care



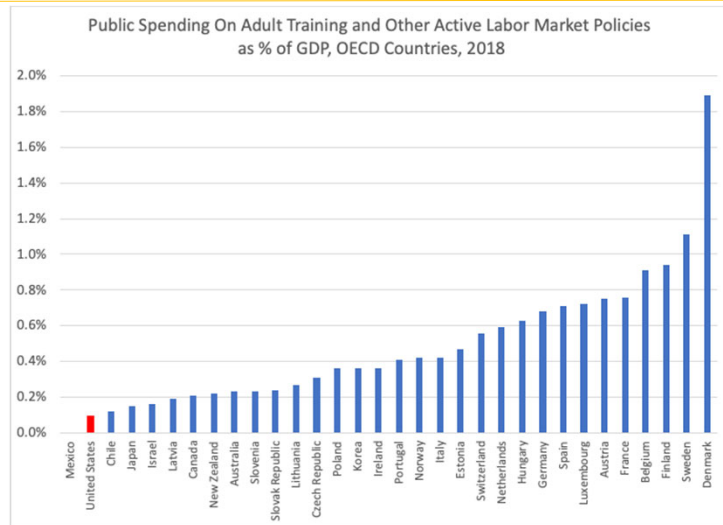
SOLIDARITY & EDUCATION: Investing in education helps economy

We would see:

- Increasing HS graduation rates creates jobs and consumer spending
- Lack of adult education spending undermines innovation and growth

And the need to challenge:

- Corporations inadequate investment in training



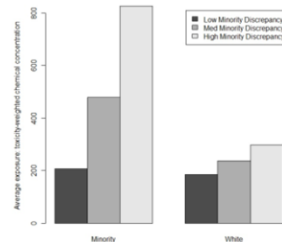
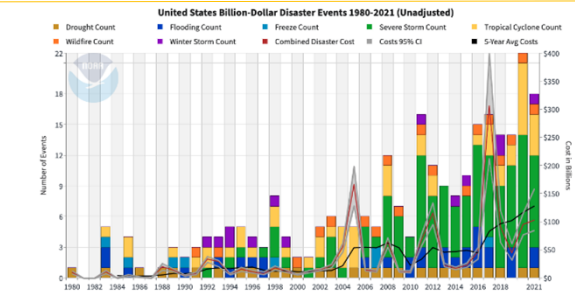
SOLIDARITY & OUR ENVIRONMENT: Going green is good economics

We would see:

- Climate change and pollution are expensive
- Higher racial disparities in exposure results in higher exposure for everyone

And the need to challenge:

- Unfair gain from using and abusing our common resources



Average exposure by race/ethnicity in Metros with low, medium and high minority discrepancy scores

Source: Michael Ash et al., *Is Environmental Justice Good for White Folks?* (Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Department of Economics, Working Paper 2010-05, July 2010).

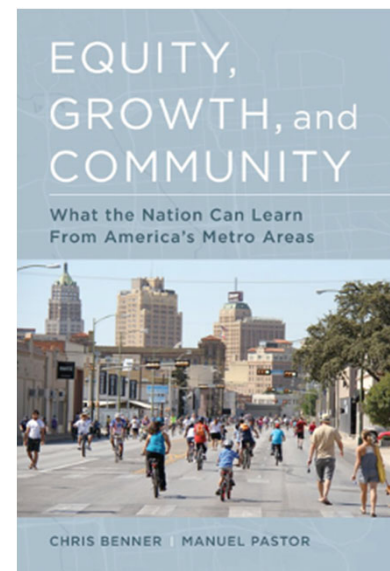
WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS FOR CERF?

- How do we prioritize **untraditional** economic development strategies?
- How do we facilitate **structural changes** in industry dynamics?
- How do we invest in **movements** for an inclusive economy?



TALKING FACE-TO-FACE, RACE-TO-RACE, PLACE-TO-PLACE

“Talk is not actually cheap; it requires effort, and it can help change hearts and minds in ways that encourage collaboration rather than zero-sum competition.”



FINDING THE DATA



Data to Build an Equitable Economy

Category	Value
1	7
2	5
3	7
4	5
5	7
6	5

Category	Percentage
1	14%
2	2%
3	4%
4	0%
5	2%

TELLING THE STORY



California Immigrant Data Portal

Indicators Data Summaries About

Tracking Progress

For a more inclusive and equitable California

USCDornsife
Equity Research Institute

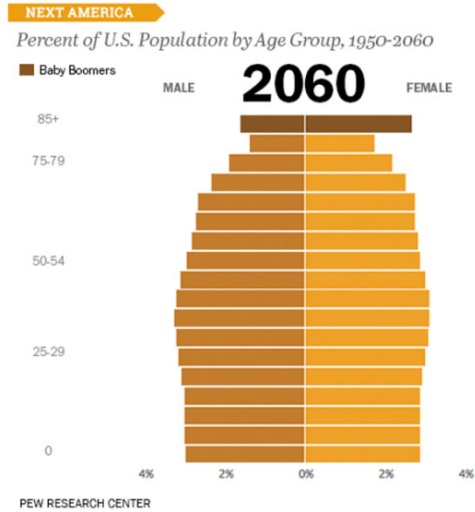
Join us for a webinar to learn more about the most recent updates [here!](#) Get a tour of the website and learn more about the updates to the California Immigrant Data Portal including:

- Two new data indicators: digital divide and languages spoken
- New interactive maps
- Updated data on refugees communities, immigrant voters, and more

CALIFORNIA IMMIGRANT DATA PORTAL WEBINAR

October 20th, 2022
10am PDT

WEAVING THE FUTURE



HOLDING OURSELVES ACCOUNTABLE



We need to center **racial** and **economic equity**; equity must be at the **forefront**, not an afterthought, **baked in** not sprinkled on

Equity also means **flipping the script** about **who** holds, generates, & **interprets data** to **inform change** and **determine success**

Expect **challenges** – the moral arc may bend toward **justice** but that comes because of **principled struggle** and **principled conflict**



THANK YOU!!!

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