



The Association Between Nativity and Immigration Views of Latinos after the 2020 Presidential Election



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Introduction

- Latinos have grown at the second-fastest rate of any racial group, encompassing 36.2 millions voters for the upcoming 2024 elections.¹
- In the 2022 midterm election, 54% of Latinos said immigration was important for their vote.²
- In 2018, native-born Latinos were more prone to support increasing border control, building a wall, and deporting unauthorized immigrants than foreign-born Latinos.³
- In 2020, Biden obtained 59% of the Hispanic vote while Trump obtained 38%, yet the latter made gains compared to 2018 results.⁴

Research Questions

- Do Latinos that are born abroad have more favorable views towards immigrants than US-born Latinos?
- Do these opinions change when accounting for whom Latinos voted for president in the 2020 election?

Methods

Sample

- Respondents (n = 434) were drawn from the American National Election Studies (ANES) 2020 Time Series Study, analyzing respondent opinions pre- and post- the 2020 election.
- Cross-section sample was subsetted to Latino, Hispanic, or Spanish respondents who had voted for a president in the 2020 election.

Measures

- The nativity of Latinos was measured with the question: "In what state, country, or territory where you born?". US states/territories and Washington DC were coded as native born and another country as foreign born.
- An immigration views index score was created based on 8 post-2020 election survey questions that included opinions on: immigration levels, ICE agency, immigrants and jobs, immigrants and crime rate, rating of illegal immigrants, path to citizenship, deportation, and separating immigrant children. The score ranges from 0 to 8, with 0 being an unfavorable view of immigration while 8 being most favorable.
- Respondent's vote for a president was determined with the following question: "For whom did R vote for president?". Joe Biden and Howie Hawkins were coded as liberal. Donald Trump and Jo Jorgensen as conservative.

Results

Bivariate

- A linear regression and ANOVA test revealed that the nativity of Latinos was significantly associated with different views of immigration ($p = 0.0165$).
- Specifically, the immigration index score of Latinos that are born in the US decreases, on average, by 0.41 points compared to foreign born Latinos (fig. 1)

Multivariate

- A multiple linear regression showed that Latinos born abroad, regardless of presidential choice, had significant more favorable views of immigration than native born Latinos ($p = 0.0182$).
- The 2020 presidential choice of Latinos significantly affects their views on immigration. Notably, Latinos who voted for a liberal candidate and were born abroad had a more favorable view of immigrants ($p < 2 \times 10^{-16}$).
- A Latino who voted for a liberal president, had on average, an immigration index score 2.2 points higher than a Latino who vote for a conservative candidate.

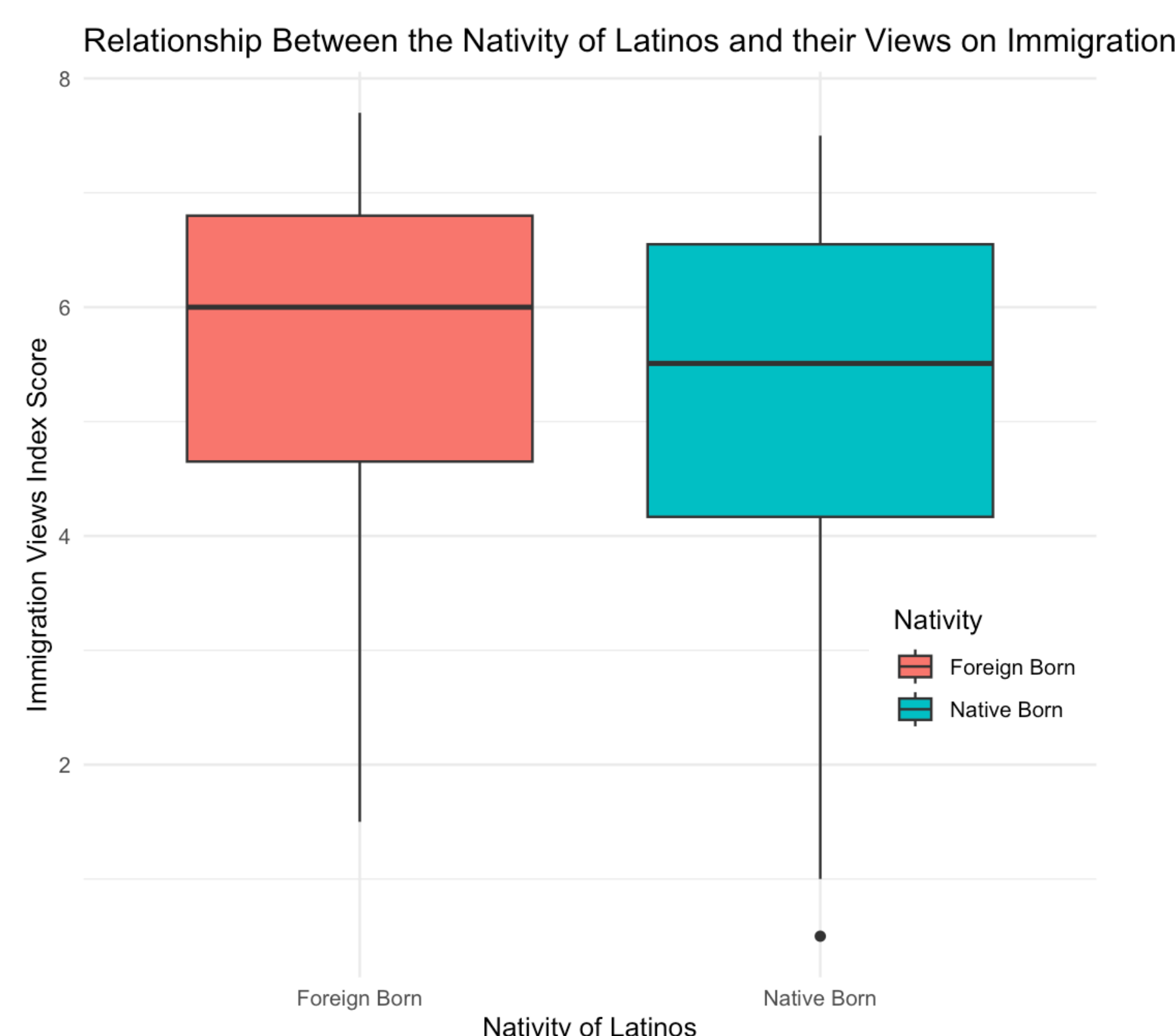


Figure 1: The relationship between the nativity of Latinos who voted for a president and the immigration views index score.

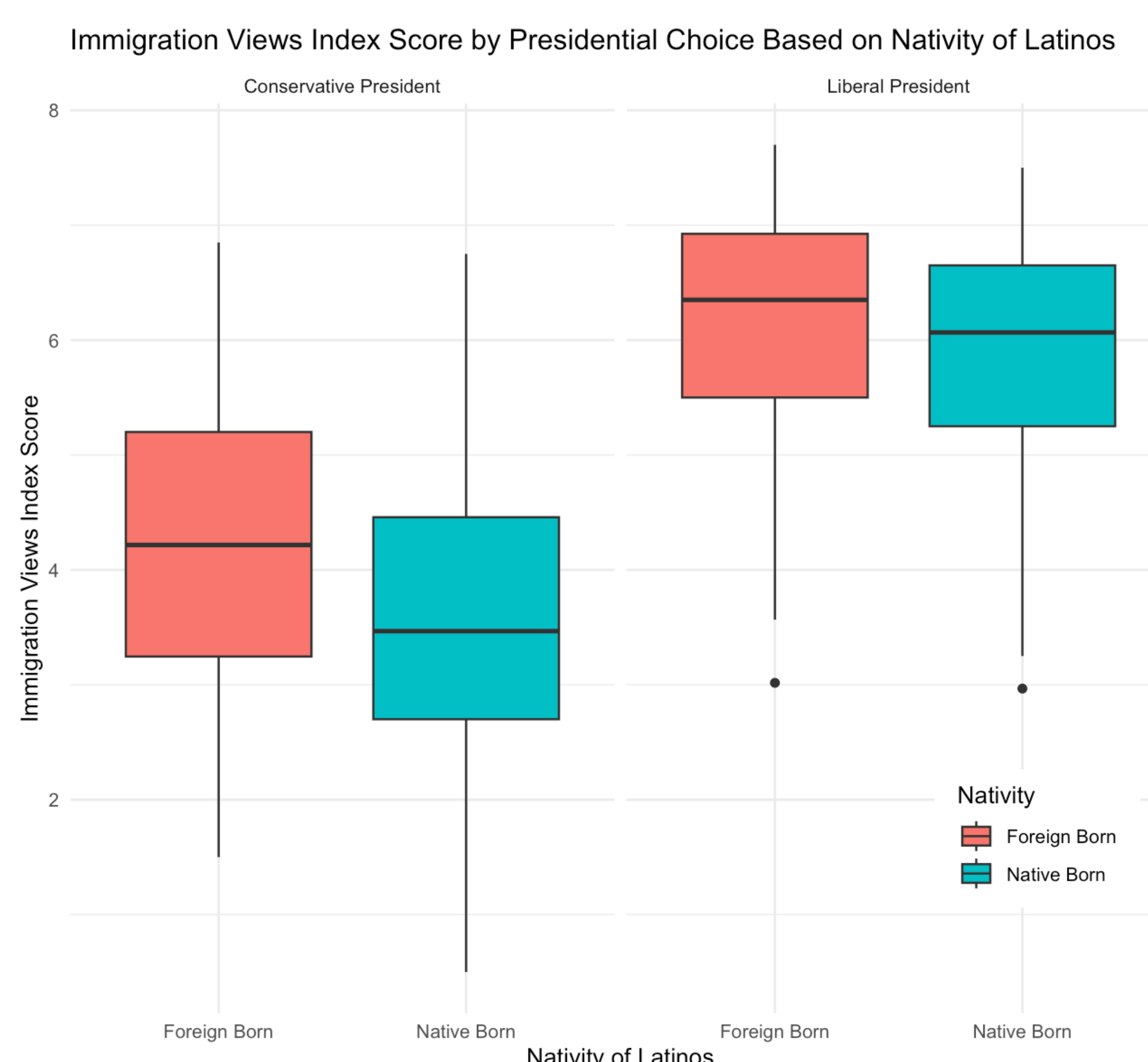


Figure 2: Immigration views index score by Latinos' 2020 presidential choice and based on nativity.

Discussion

- The analysis performed suggests that where a Latino was born has a significant effect on their views of immigration.
- This is modulated by their presidential choice in which foreign born Latinos who voted for a liberal candidate had the highest (favorable) index score.
- These findings can be used by political groups to expand their voters core and generate new immigration policies.
- Further research is warranted to determine if these opinions change when accounting for variables such as gender, region of origin, language spoken, and in the 2022 midterm elections.

References

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