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Building Belonging: The Role of Local Services in California Immigrant Integration

More than one in four Californians are immigrants, more than any other state in the country. The United States is a country built by and for immigrants since its inception. We welcome well over a million immigrants annually and are often referred to as a “melting pot” of immigrant cultures. While we welcome so many immigrants, our care for them once they arrive frequently falls short. A sizable piece of this is the local infrastructure available to them to settle and succeed in our culture. This will be the focus of my research: How does the availability and breadth of immigrant services affect immigrant integration at the county level? More specifically, I will ask whether counties with more accessible and developed immigrant services, across a multidimensional scale, experience greater integration and success within their immigrant communities. To answer these questions, I have compiled an index made of five different immigrant integration services and created an index score based on the average of those scores for each of the twelve counties with the highest percentage of immigrants in California. The service parameters I used are: Office of Immigrant Affairs, Language Access, Free Adult ESL Programs, Workforce Development Programs, and Legal Aid Services. I collected this data from the current county sites. Then, I collected three measures of integration outcomes in the form of naturalization rates, employment rates, and linguistic isolation to compare with the county index scores. These integration outcomes capture multidimensional integration across civic, linguistic, and economic criteria, all markers of leading a successful life in their new country.

Context and Significance

California is home to more immigrants than any other state, over 10.5 million, representing roughly one in four residents (California Immigrant Data Portal, 2025). Because immigrant communities contribute substantially to the state's economy, workforce, and civic life, policymakers increasingly view immigrant integration not only as a social priority but also as an economic imperative. Additionally, it is important to distinguish between integration and assimilation for this study. While many people believe that the measure of success for immigrants is assimilation, this study importantly distinguishes that assimilation requires shedding your home country's culture and practices to adapt to the host culture, while integration is a measure of how successful and fulfilled immigrants are in their host country by way of civic, political, and economic factors and does not require shedding of their home culture to integrate successfully (N. Harder, et al.). This is evident in the California Immigrant Integration Scorecard, which highlights that integration is multidimensional, encompassing linguistic, economic, civic, and social aspects (Pastor et al., 2020). Counties, as frontline implementers of social programs, play a pivotal role in shaping these integration outcomes across the state.

Significant county-level variation exists in the availability, breadth, and quality of immigrant services across California. Some counties have well-developed institutional infrastructures like Offices of Immigrant Affairs, robust ESL programming, multilingual access systems, and funded legal aid, which directly support immigrant participation in the labor market, local institutions, and civic life. Others provide minimal or inconsistent services, resulting in substantial disparities in immigrants' opportunities to integrate. Ramakrishnan and Colbern (2015) characterize this divergence as part of California's evolving "subnational

citizenship,” in which local governments meaningfully influence immigrants’ rights, access, and belonging.

Understanding this variation is essential because immigrant integration is closely linked to statewide policy goals. Language access programs, for example, reduce linguistic isolation and improve access to health care, education, and public benefits. Workforce development programs contribute to higher earnings and increased tax revenue. Legal services influence naturalization rates, which expand political participation and social stability. Across these dimensions, integration outcomes have tangible impacts on California’s economic performance, democratic representation, and community cohesion.

The significance of the proposed research lies in its focus on measuring how county-level differences in these services affect real integration outcomes. While prior studies document the importance of local institutional support, relatively few examine how counties within the same state compare to each other. By analyzing counties with the highest percentages of immigrants and comparing the breadth of available services, this study will help illuminate whether investments in immigrant-serving infrastructure translate into measurable improvements in immigrant integration.

This question matters for California policymakers because the state continues to invest in immigrant inclusion through initiatives such as the California Immigrant Justice Fund, expanded language access mandates, and funding for local immigrant affairs offices. But without clear evidence on whether and where local service capacity drives outcomes, policymakers lack a grounded basis for allocating resources equitably across counties. Identifying which services matter most, and which counties may be under-resourced, has the potential to inform statewide

strategies that enhance integration, maximize economic contributions, and promote equitable access to opportunity across all California communities.

Literature Review

A growing body of research shows that immigrant integration is shaped not only by federal policy but by the local contexts, institutional supports, and service infrastructures that mediate immigrants' everyday experiences. Scholars consistently find that local governments play a pivotal role in determining whether immigrants can access resources, participate socially and civically, and achieve long-term stability. The four studies reviewed here contribute to this understanding by examining barriers to service access, the importance of institutional and educational supports, how integration should be conceptualized, and how California counties differ in integration outcomes. Together, they demonstrate the centrality of local service ecosystems while highlighting a gap in research on how specific county-level services influence integration within a single state.

Local Policy Context and Service Accessibility

Finno-Velasquez et al. (2025) show that even in welcoming jurisdictions, immigrants often face obstacles to accessing services due to structural barriers and “chilling effects.” Their work illustrates that service provision alone is insufficient: trust, accessibility, and clarity in service delivery are equally vital. This insight underscores the importance of examining not just whether services exist, but how comprehensively and coherently they are offered. This idea is foundational to studies measuring the breadth of local immigrant service infrastructures.

Institutional Capacity, Educational Supports, and Local Governance

In parallel, Islam (2023) highlights educational and institutional supports as key drivers of integration, finding that local governance structures and resource availability significantly

shape social and political engagement. His finding that educational programs, including ESL and language access, strongly correlate with integration strengthens the rationale for including these service types in county-level analyses. Taken together, Islam and Finno-Velasquez et al. demonstrate how local institutional capacity, ranging from immigrant-serving agencies to governance arrangements, influences integration outcomes, supporting the hypothesis that stronger service infrastructures yield stronger integration.

Defining and Measuring Immigrant Integration

Harder et al. (2018) shift the focus from structural determinants to conceptual clarity, arguing that integration is multidimensional, spanning economic, linguistic, political, social, psychological, and navigational domains. Their IPL Integration Index offers a standardized way to measure this complexity while distinguishing integration from assimilation, an integral part of holistically analyzing immigrant success. Their framework supports the use of diverse outcome variables in assessing county-level integration, reinforcing the importance of measuring integration across multiple domains rather than relying on single indicators.

California-Specific Patterns and County Variation

Pastor et al.'s (2020) California Immigrant Integration Scorecard applies these concepts to California, documenting significant variation across counties in mobility, civic participation, language inclusion, and perceived welcome. Their work demonstrates that local services and institutional supports matter, yet it stops short of analyzing why certain counties perform better or how specific services, such as legal aid, Offices of Immigrant Affairs, or ESL programs, shape outcomes. This lack of detail leaves an open question about which types of county-level services most meaningfully influence integration that this research hopes to address.

Synthesis and Remaining Gaps

Across these studies, the literature shows that structural barriers can limit service impact, institutional and educational supports are critical to integration, integration must be measured multidimensionally, and California counties vary widely in outcomes. However, no research systematically examines how the breadth or accessibility of specific county-level immigrant services correlates with measurable integration indicators within California. Existing work provides conceptual frameworks (Harder et al.), broad local determinants (Islam), qualitative barriers (Finno-Velasquez et al.), or county comparisons (Pastor et al.), but none link concrete service infrastructures to county-level integration outcomes. This gap motivates my study.

Theory, Hypothesis, and Causal Mechanism

For my project, I draw on two interconnected theoretical frameworks to explain why local variation in immigrant service infrastructure should shape immigrant integration outcomes across California counties. First, I rely on the framework of local governance and subnational immigration policy, which argues that integration is not solely determined by federal law but is heavily influenced by the institutional capacity, political climate, and service ecosystems of local governments. Counties function as frontline implementers of social, legal, linguistic, and economic services; therefore, the local context of reception profoundly shapes immigrants' ability to navigate institutions, access resources, and form stable lives. This framework suggests that counties with more developed and accessible immigrant service infrastructures create environments that actively facilitate integration.

Second, this project draws on multidimensional integration theory, which posits that immigrant integration is not a singular measure but a combination of linguistic, economic, civic, and social measures. Under this framework, successful integration is reflected not by cultural assimilation but by immigrants' ability to lead secure, informed, and fulfilling lives in their host

society. This view aligns with Harder et al.'s multidimensional integration index and Pastor et al.'s California Immigrant Integration Scorecard, both of which emphasize that integration requires a range of institutional supports across multiple domains. Taken together, these frameworks suggest that measuring integration outcomes across several indicators provides a more accurate and theoretically grounded picture of immigrant success.

These theoretical perspectives shape the central hypothesis of my study. Conceptually, I hypothesize that counties with more comprehensive and accessible immigrant services will exhibit stronger integration outcomes across linguistic, economic, and civic dimensions. Counties that invest in services tailored to immigrants' needs are more likely to reduce structural barriers, increase institutional trust, and create pathways for economic and civic participation. Conversely, counties with limited or fragmented service infrastructures are expected to produce weaker integration outcomes due to higher barriers to access, greater linguistic isolation, and reduced opportunities for upward mobility.

My hypothesis for this project is that counties with higher integration index scores will have higher levels of naturalization and employment and lower rates of linguistic isolation because higher index scores represent more accessible and available immigrant resources, which would lead to better integration outcomes across counties. In this model, service infrastructure is operationalized through variables such as the presence of an Office of Immigrant Affairs, language access scores, free ESL programs, workforce development programs, and legal aid availability. Integration outcomes are assessed through naturalization rates, linguistic isolation percentages, and employment rates.

The causal mechanism linking service availability to integration outcomes is grounded in how local institutions shape access, information, and opportunity. Counties with more robust

service infrastructures reduce barriers to participation by providing linguistic support, ensuring legal protection, facilitating employment pathways, and offering culturally responsive services. These supports build institutional trust, reduce fear and confusion associated with navigating public systems, and give immigrants the tools and knowledge necessary to integrate. In contrast, counties lacking these services inadvertently reinforce structural barriers, increase the likelihood of “chilling effects,” and limit immigrants’ ability to engage economically, civically, or linguistically. Thus, the mechanism at work is the degree to which local service ecosystems enable or inhibit immigrants’ capacity to participate fully in community life.

Research Design

For my project, the research design involves a multivariable index for the independent variable and various dependent variables to compare to the index values of the counties. The index score includes five measures, all scaled from 0-3, with zero being unavailable and inaccessible and 3 being widely available and accessible. The five measures included in the index score are: Office of Immigrant Affairs, Language Access Score, Free Adult ESL Availability, Workforce Development Programs, and Legal Aid Services. I chose these measurements to include in the index score because they represent various measures of linguistic, economic, and civic engagement, as well as a measure of institutional capacity, all of which contribute to the success of immigrants in their host country. I collected the data for the index scores by visiting each county site, as though I were an immigrant looking for resources, and scoring each service on a scale of 0-3 based on specific availability and accessibility criteria laid out in my Research Data Tracking in the appendix.

The dependent variables I am using in my project to compare the index scores to are the naturalization rate, the employment rate, and the percentage of immigrant households that are

linguistically isolated. I measure each of these variables using percentages and will be inversely correlating the linguistic isolation value because for that one, a lower percentage is better, whereas the other values are positively correlated. I chose these variables to compare the index scores to because I think they exemplify three important aspects of successful integration for immigrants on an economic, linguistic, and civic level. I collected the data for these variables from the CA Immigrant Data Portal.

The first control variable I decided on is to control for Latino or Hispanic immigrants in each county. I decided to do this because Latino and Hispanic immigrants make up the majority of immigrants in California and are an integral part of our civic life, economy, and culture. I think this control variable will affect my outcome variables by increasing the levels of linguistic isolation and bringing down the naturalization rates. I am getting this control data from the CA Immigrant Data Portal as well.

My second control variable is the average income for each county. I decided to use this control variable because I believe that counties with higher average incomes would be more financially equipped to support immigrant integration. Because of this, I think counties with higher average incomes will also result in higher index scores and outcome variable results. I gathered the data for this control variable from the National Institute of Health.

I will be conducting this study on a county level without a time-series component. This study is a large N study and covers 12 California counties, varying in geography.

Research Methods

Once I collected all of my data and created my index, I ran an ANOVA correlation to determine if the variation among services was statistically significant. The p-value came out to be 0.0002, which told me that the variation was significant. I was also able to use the results of

the ANOVA test to determine which specific service areas were most varied throughout the counties. The two service areas with the highest variance values came out to be the Office of Immigrant Affairs and Legal Aid. The reason I am including both of these in this paper is that the Office of Immigrant Affairs was a binary category, meaning that it makes sense that there would be a lot of variation because each county could only be either a 0 or a 3 in that category. The second most variant category was legal aid, which is possibly more informative for this study because it was not a binary category, and the variation shown by the ANOVA test reflects actual variation among counties, not just the results of a binary category.

Results

After compiling all of the data and analyzing it, the results of my study mostly adhered to my hypothesis. The sunburst plot (Figure 1) detailed the service areas and their strength for each of the 12 counties, revealing gaps in immigrant services in many counties. The only county with a perfect score across all service availability was Los Angeles.

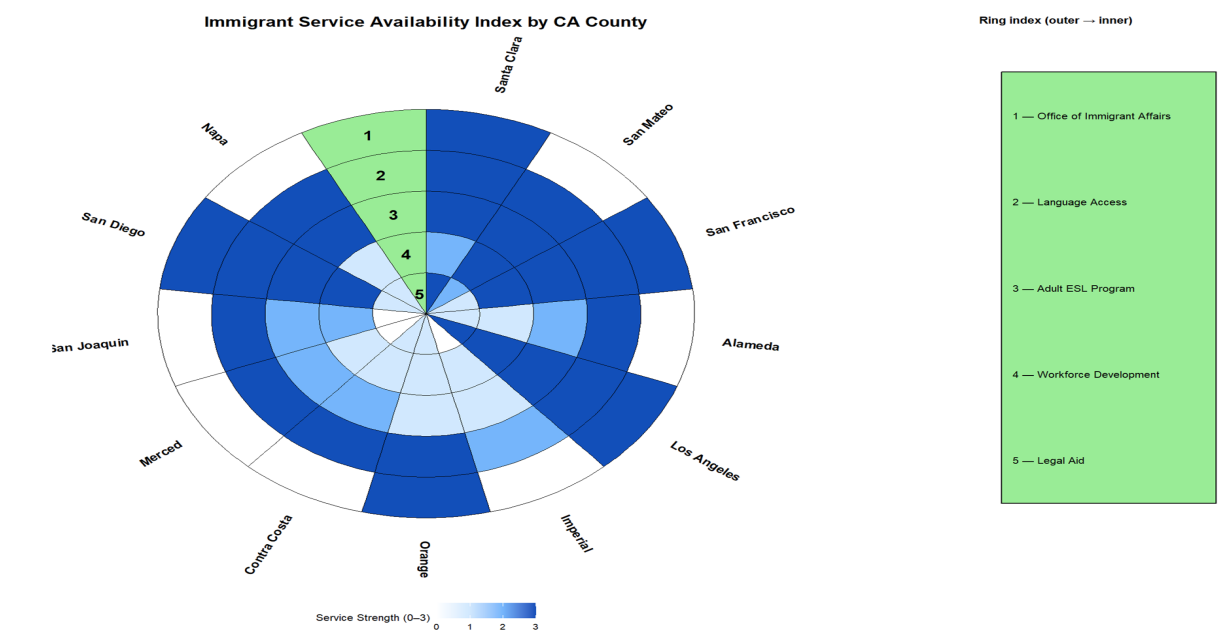


Figure 1: Sunburst Plot of Immigrant Service Availability for 12 CA Counties with the Highest Percentage of Immigrant Populations.
Source: Immigrant Service County Index

The ANOVA test (Figure 2) I conducted for the service variables showed a p-value of 0.0002, which tells me that there is statistically significant variation within the service parameters. Upon examining the ANOVA test results in more detail, I realized that the two services with the largest statistically significant variation were the Office of Immigrant Affairs, a binary variable that was expected to exhibit significant variation, and Legal Aid. The more significant variable between these two is the statistically significant variation in legal aid, as it indicates that one of the most important services available to immigrants is highly variable across counties in California, making it difficult for immigrants to access reliable legal aid depending on their location.

Anova: Single Factor						
SUMMARY						
Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance		
OIA	12	15	1.25	2.386363636		
Language Access	12	35	2.916666667	0.083333333		
ESL Programs	12	28	2.333333333	0.606060606		
Workforce Development	12	22	1.833333333	0.878787879		
Legal Aid	12	14	1.166666667	1.060606061		
ANOVA						
Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	26.23333333	4	6.558333333	6.538519637	0.000222808	2.539688635
Within Groups	55.16666667	55	1.003030303			
Total	81.4	59				

Figure 2: ANOVA Results for 12 County Service Availability
Source: Immigrant Service County Index

Once I had my index and ANOVA results perfected, I moved on to the second step of this research, which was comparing the index scores to multidimensional integration outcomes. I did this with the three integration indicators that I detailed previously in this paper: naturalization rate, employment rate, and linguistic inclusion (the inverse of linguistic isolation). To visualize these correlations, I created a scatter plot for each variable and included the control group of

Latino/Hispanic immigrants to see how demographics may affect the relationship between service availability and integration success. While all three proved my hypothesis by displaying a positive relationship between index score and integration outcome for overall immigrants, the most interesting result of these scatterplots was in the control group of Latino/Hispanic immigrants in relation to naturalization rate. Figure 3 displays the correlation between naturalization rate and county index score, with the control group of Latino/Hispanic immigrants included.

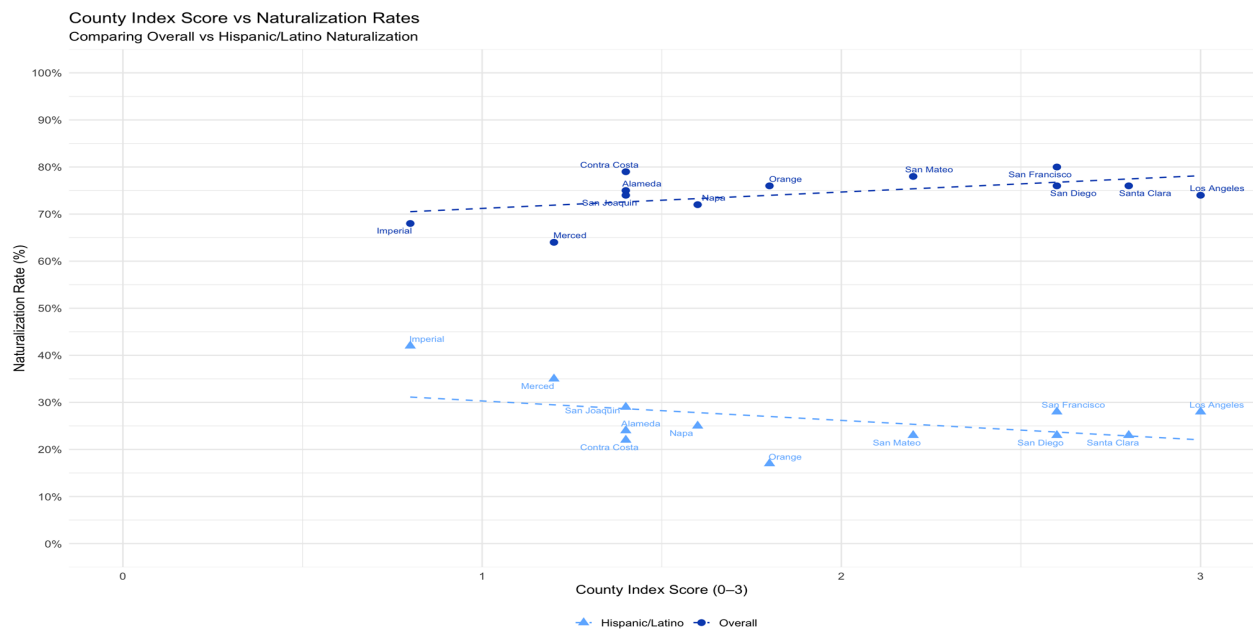


Figure 3: Scatterplot of County Index Scores vs. Naturalization Rates with Latino/Hispanic Control Group
Source: Immigrant Service County Index, California Immigrant Data Portal

This scatterplot is interesting because, despite displaying a positive overall relationship, the relationship between county index scores and naturalization rate among Latino/Hispanic immigrants actually depicts a negative relationship. While at first glance, this may look like a disproving of my hypothesis, when taking a more holistic approach, I believe it actually shows a positive phenomenon. When immigrants feel safe and secure in their host county, they may not be as desperate to gain the legal protection that comes with naturalization. This may manifest itself in the form of fewer Latino and Hispanic immigrants seeking naturalization right when

they are eligible. Based on this idea, even though there is a negative relationship between county index scores and naturalization rates of Latino/Hispanic immigrants, it may actually be depicting a very positive phenomenon among Latino/Hispanic immigrants because they feel secure enough in their host county to not feel such a rush to gain legal protection of naturalization.

Discussion and Research Implications

My study set out to answer whether California counties with more accessible and comprehensive immigrant service infrastructures experience stronger immigrant integration outcomes across civic, economic, and linguistic dimensions. Overall, my results largely support my original hypothesis: counties with higher index scores tend to have higher naturalization and employment rates and lower levels of linguistic isolation. These relationships align with the theoretical expectation that well-developed service ecosystems help reduce barriers, build institutional trust, and create clearer pathways for immigrant participation.

Across the three integration indicators, the most consistent pattern I found was that greater service availability, especially in areas such as legal aid, adult ESL, and language access, was associated with more favorable integration outcomes. This reinforces the broader literature showing that institutional capacity and local governance shape immigrants' ability to navigate public systems and engage confidently with their communities.

One of the most surprising findings in my analysis was the negative correlation between county index scores and naturalization rates among Latino/Hispanic immigrants. At first glance, this trend appeared to contradict my hypothesis. However, when interpreted in the context of the local climate of reception, it may point to a positive phenomenon: in counties with strong service infrastructures and robust community support, immigrants might feel safer and therefore less pressured to pursue naturalization immediately. In other words, higher levels of trust and stability

may reduce the urgency to naturalize right away, especially if immigrants feel they are already able to meet their needs and access services without additional legal protection. This interpretation suggests that the negative correlation may actually reflect stronger local integration conditions.

Another key insight comes from the ANOVA results. The significant variation in legal aid services reveals that one of the most essential supports for immigrants is unevenly distributed across counties. Because legal aid influences naturalization, labor rights, family stability, and general access to justice, this degree of variability indicates a major area where inequities can emerge. For policymakers, this signals the importance of standardizing or expanding legal aid access across counties to reduce disparities in immigrant outcomes.

Taken together, my findings suggest several important implications for policy. Counties with limited or fragmented service infrastructures may struggle to provide the institutional support necessary for successful immigrant integration, while counties with robust systems appear to benefit from stronger linguistic, economic, and civic outcomes. For state and county leaders, this means that strategic investments in immigrant-serving infrastructure, particularly in legal aid, language access, and ESL programming, could lead to measurable improvements in integration. My results highlight the importance of treating immigrant integration as a multidimensional process shaped by county-level decisions that influence safety, opportunity, and long-term belonging.

Research Limitations and Research Extensions

Like all research, my study has several limitations that should be acknowledged. First, my measurement of service availability relied on information from publicly accessible county websites and online resources. While this approach provides a systematic way to compare

counties, it doesn't capture service quality, funding levels, in-person accessibility, or actual immigrant experiences using these services. Some counties may offer more support than is reflected online, while others may list services that are difficult to access in practice. In future research, I would like to supplement my scoring system with interviews, outreach to county agencies, or immigrant community feedback to better capture service usability.

Second, the integration outcomes I analyzed, naturalization rates, linguistic isolation, and employment, represent only three dimensions of a much broader concept. Integration includes political participation, educational outcomes, healthcare access, housing stability, and social belonging, none of which I was able to incorporate due to data availability. Looking back, I also see the value of including additional control variables such as county political climate, budget size, immigrant age distribution, or time spent in the U.S., which may help explain variation across counties more fully.

Third, my study is cross-sectional and limited to the twelve counties with the highest immigrant populations. This focus provides depth but restricts the generalizability of the findings. A larger sample, including rural counties or a time-series analysis examining how service availability changes over time, would strengthen causal claims.

These limitations present opportunities for valuable research extensions. Future studies could compare California counties with those in other states, such as Texas, New York, or Florida, to see whether similar service infrastructures produce similar outcomes in different policy environments. I could also design a weighted service index that recognizes that some services, like legal aid or language access, may be more influential than others. Another promising extension would be to study specific immigrant groups (e.g., refugees, undocumented immigrants, or Asian immigrants) to identify whether certain services matter more for certain

populations. Lastly, a mixed-methods design incorporating interviews or focus groups could provide a richer picture of how immigrants experience county-level service ecosystems in their daily lives.

Conclusions

In this project, I set out to understand how the availability and breadth of immigrant services across California counties shape integration outcomes across linguistic, economic, and civic dimensions. My findings support the hypothesis that counties with more comprehensive and accessible service infrastructures tend to exhibit stronger integration outcomes. This reinforces the broader understanding that integration is not determined solely by federal policy, but by everyday interactions with county-level institutions that either support or hinder immigrant participation.

The unexpected negative relationship between service availability and Latino/Hispanic naturalization rates adds nuance to this conclusion and suggests that strong service ecosystems may foster a sense of stability that reduces the urgency to naturalize immediately. This finding highlights the importance of interpreting integration outcomes within the broader context of immigrant well-being and local climate of reception.

Overall, my research underscores the critical role counties play in shaping immigrant experiences and opportunities. By identifying which services vary most across counties and how those services relate to integration outcomes, I hope to contribute to ongoing policy discussions about equitable resource distribution, institutional design, and the mechanisms that foster belonging. Strengthening legal aid, expanding language access, and investing in Offices of Immigrant Affairs may be particularly effective strategies for improving immigrant integration across California.

My study demonstrates that local choices matter and that by investing in the right infrastructures, counties can help ensure that immigrants are not only present, but fully able to thrive.

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Appendix

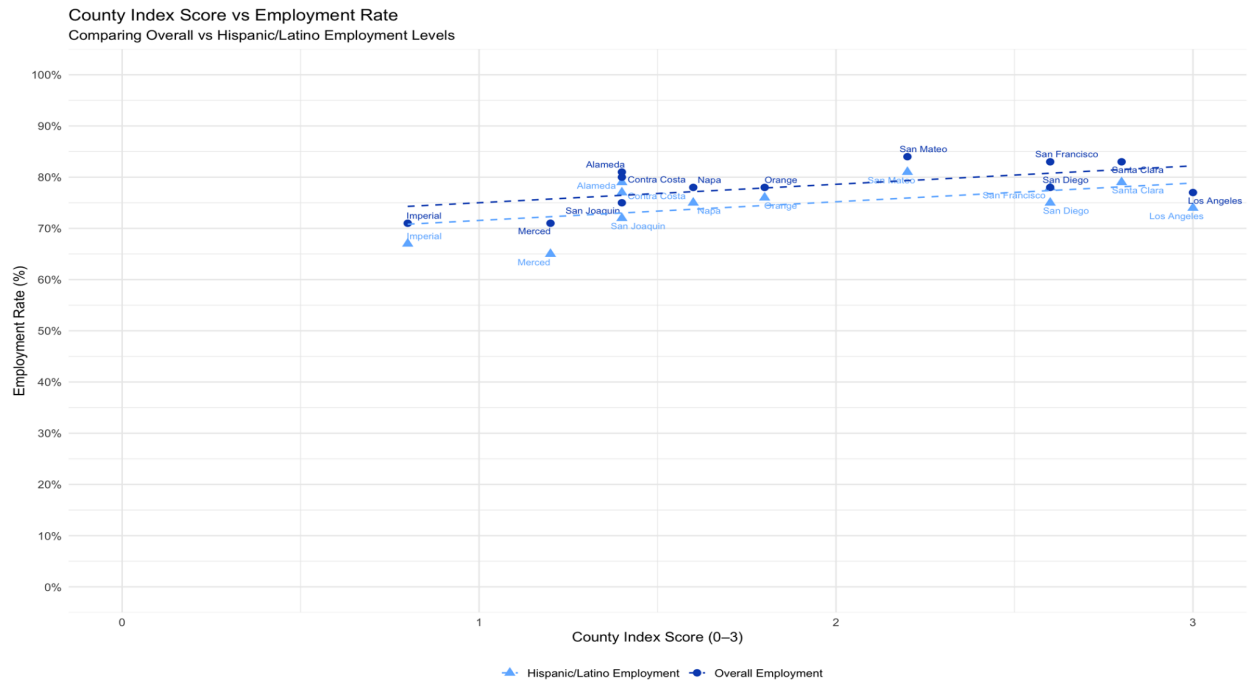


Figure 4: Scatterplot of County Index Score vs. Employment Rate
Source: Immigrant Service County Index, California Immigrant Data Portal

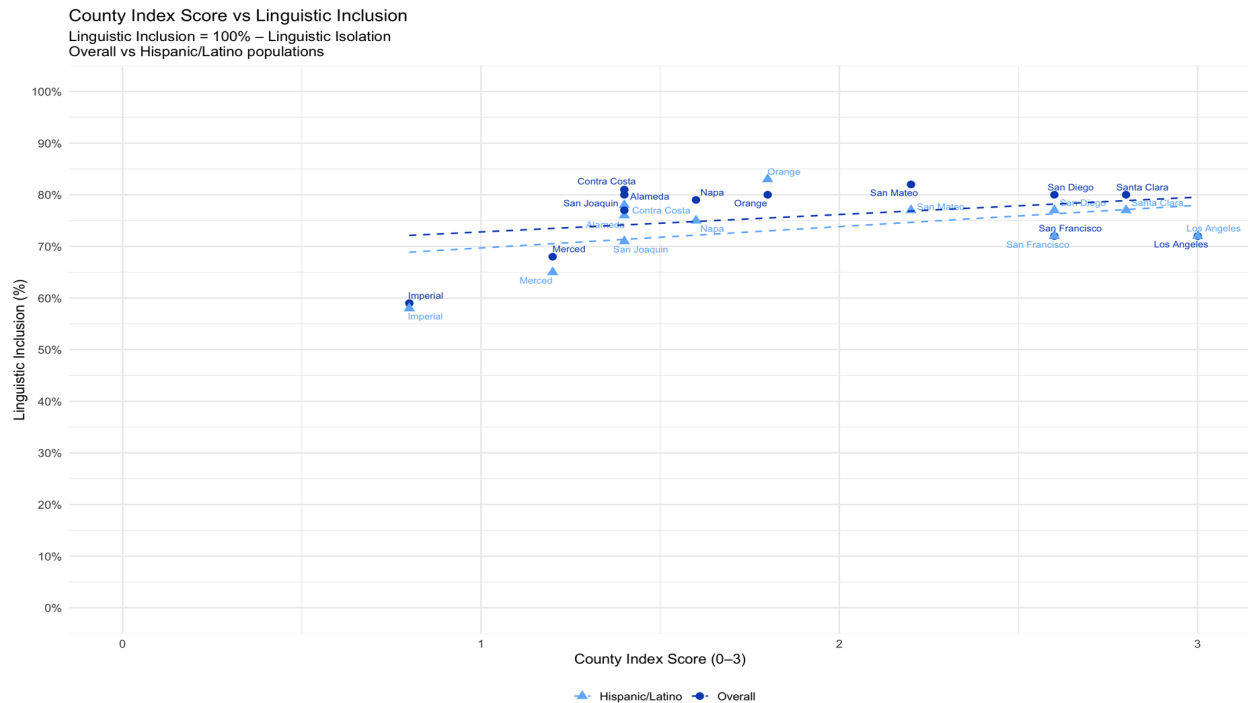


Figure 5: Scatterplot of County Index Score vs. Linguistic Inclusion
Source: Immigrant Service County Index, California Immigrant Data Portal

Index Research Data Tracking

Index Scores (1-3)

Services:

1. Office of Immigrant Affairs
 - a. 0= no office of immigrant affairs
 - b. 3= Office of Immigrant Affairs
2. Language Access
 - a. 0 = no other language but English
 - b. 1 = at least one other language
 - c. 2 = 2-3 languages
 - d. 3 = 4+ languages
3. Free ESL/ELA Class Availability and Accessibility
 - a. 0 = no available county-level ESL/ELA programs for free
 - b. 1 = minimal or geographically restricted access to Adult ESL free classes in the county at large and not linked on the county website
 - c. 2 = many free programs available throughout the county, but not linked on the county site
 - d. 3 = comprehensive and accessible free ESL programs countywide, directly linked on the county site
4. Workforce Development Programs for immigrants
 - a. 0= no work opportunities for immigrants on the county page or otherwise in the county
 - b. 1 = some general work programs listed on the county site, but none are immigrant-specific
 - c. 2 = some targeted programs or partnerships exist in the county, and there are lots of work opportunities in general on the county site
 - d. 3 = comprehensive immigrant-focused workforce programs on the county site
5. Legal Aid Service
 - a. 0 = no legal support available
 - b. 1 = directs immigrants to resources, but has none of their own
 - c. 2 = Has their own immigrant legal services, but they are hard to access or limited in scope
 - d. 3 = has its own comprehensive, easily accessible, immigrant legal services

Santa Clara County

1. 3; has office of immigrant relations
2. 3; has 4 languages other than english
3. 3; has various links to free adult English classes from county sites, and also has various programs for immigrant adults to learn English throughout the county
4. 2; there is a fellowship specifically tailored to immigrants on the county site and many links to general workforce training programs on the county side
5. 3; has lost of resources and even a direct link to fill out to have someone contact you about immigrant legal aid services

San Mateo County

1. 0; does not have a dedicated office, has immigrant resources listed under the office of community affairs
2. 3; has a Google Translate feature enabled on the website
3. 3; links on the county site to educational resources for immigrants and lots of resources throughout the county, from libraries to community colleges to adult education schools
4. 3; has a page with links to various professional development opportunities throughout the county, specifically for immigrants
5. 2; directs immigrants to many other legal aid resources and has a rapid response network of its own, but no comprehensive legal services

San Francisco

1. 3; Has Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs
2. 3; has the site available in 5 languages, including English
3. 3; linked directly on the county site to various ESL programs throughout the county
4. 3; linked directly on the county site to workforce training and opportunities specific to immigrants
5. 1; has no legal services of its own but directs immigrants to community organizations

Alameda

1. 0; no office of immigrant affairs, the county website is pretty void of immigrant resources in general, they have another site called newcomers welcome that is attached to the county, but does not show any indication of it on the actual county site, so unsure how people would know to go to it
2. 3; Google Translate feature enabled
3. 2; many programs on the newcomers welcome site, but not shown on the official county site, somewhat limited geographical scope
4. 1; Links to CalWorks and a couple of others, but not super helpful
5. 1; Has links to legal aid services for immigrants on other county sites, like public health and social services, but nothing helpful on the main county site, and no legal services that the county runs

Los Angeles

1. 3; has an office of immigrant affairs and a dedicated website for this office
2. 3; has 10 languages available that translate the entire website into that language
3. 3; lots of programs available and free throughout the county and linked (kind of hard to find) on the Office of Immigrant Affairs website
4. 3; has a whole section on the immigrant affairs site with various links to different programs that can help immigrants gain employment
5. 3; has 3 programs of their own that the county funds, as well as tons of links to other county-based resources for legal aid

Imperial

1. 0; does not have an office of immigrant affairs, there is a page for “refugees, asylees, and immigrants” on the County Office of Social Services
2. 2; while the main site has 5 languages to translate into, the specific page for immigrant resources can only able to be translated from English to Spanish
3. 1; minimal availability of free ESL/ELA classes and not linked on county sites
4. 1; a workforce development program available at the county level, but no mention of immigrant needs
5. 0; no legal aid services for immigrants listed anywhere on any county site

Orange

1. 3; Has an office of immigrant and refugee affairs under the Social Services Agency
2. 3; all OC county sites can be translated into 6 languages other than English
3. 1; only two schools in the county that offer ELA/ELL/ESL classes, not linked on the website
4. 1; general work programs listed on the county site, but no immigrant-specific ones
5. 1; directs people to links with potential resources, but has none of their own

Monterey (dependent data unavailable)

Colusa (dependent data unavailable)

Contra Costa

1. 0; does not have an office of immigrant affairs
2. 3; has Google Translate web attachment on main page
3. 2; lots of schools in the area that offer free ELA classes, but not linked on the county site
4. 1; Workforce development board for the county that can help immigrants, but does not offer any immigrant-specific resources
5. 1; directs immigrants to general Bay Area resources but does not have any of their own

Merced

1. 0; no office of immigrant affairs
2. 3; has Google Translate web attachment on county page
3. 2; has enough available free classes for the population it is serving, but not linked directly on the county's main page
4. 1; Have a department of Workforce Investment, but no mention of immigrant resources
5. 0; no legal aid available, the link they provide is a general website that is not county-specific, and otherwise, they direct you to the office of the attorney general

San Joaquin

1. 0; no office of immigrant affairs, generally hard to find any immigrant-specific info on the county site
2. 3; has Google Translate attachment
3. 2; has enough programs throughout the county, but not linked on the county site

4. 2; has one fieldworker migrant specific program listed on the county workforce development site
5. 0; no legal aid services listed

San Diego

1. 3; has an office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs under the Health and Human Services agency
2. 3; has Google Translate attachment
3. 3; links directly to County College of Continuing Education, where free ESL classes are available county-wide
4. 3; page dedicated to workforce development specifically for immigrants on the Office of Immigrants page.
5. 1; has lots of resources for immigrants in the county, but none of its own legal services

Sutter (dependent data unavailable)

Napa

1. 0; no office of immigrant affairs
2. 3; has Google Translate web extension
3. 3; links directly to the network of Public Libraries and Continuing Education schools in Napa County that offer free ESL/ELA classes
4. 1; some general work programs, but nothing comprehensive for immigrants, and very few without costs
5. 1; has lots of resources for immigrants in the county, but none of their own legal services