

Immigration and the American Economy: Is Bad Policy Creating a Hostile Welcome?

March 2005

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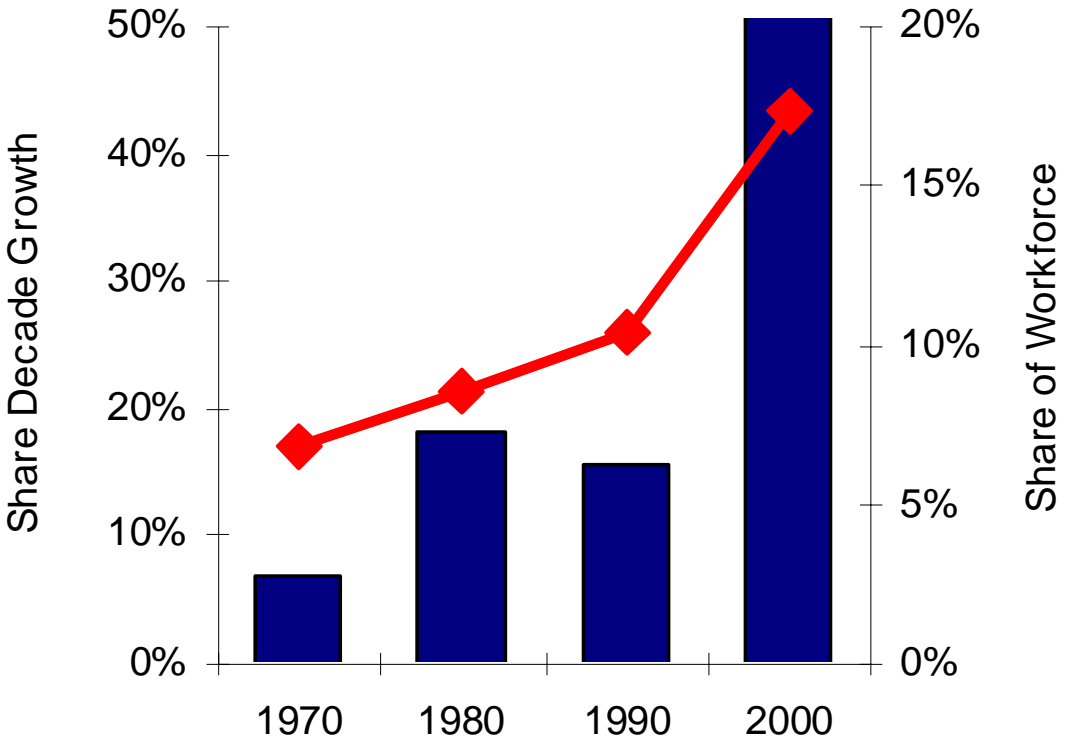
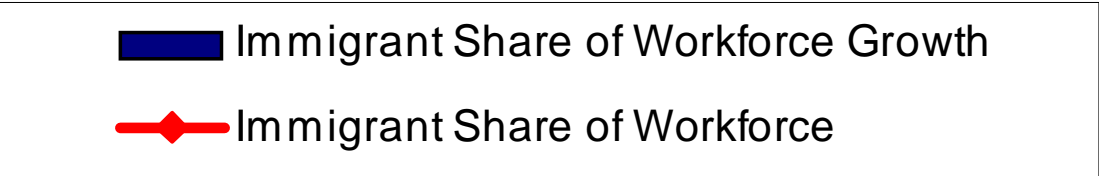
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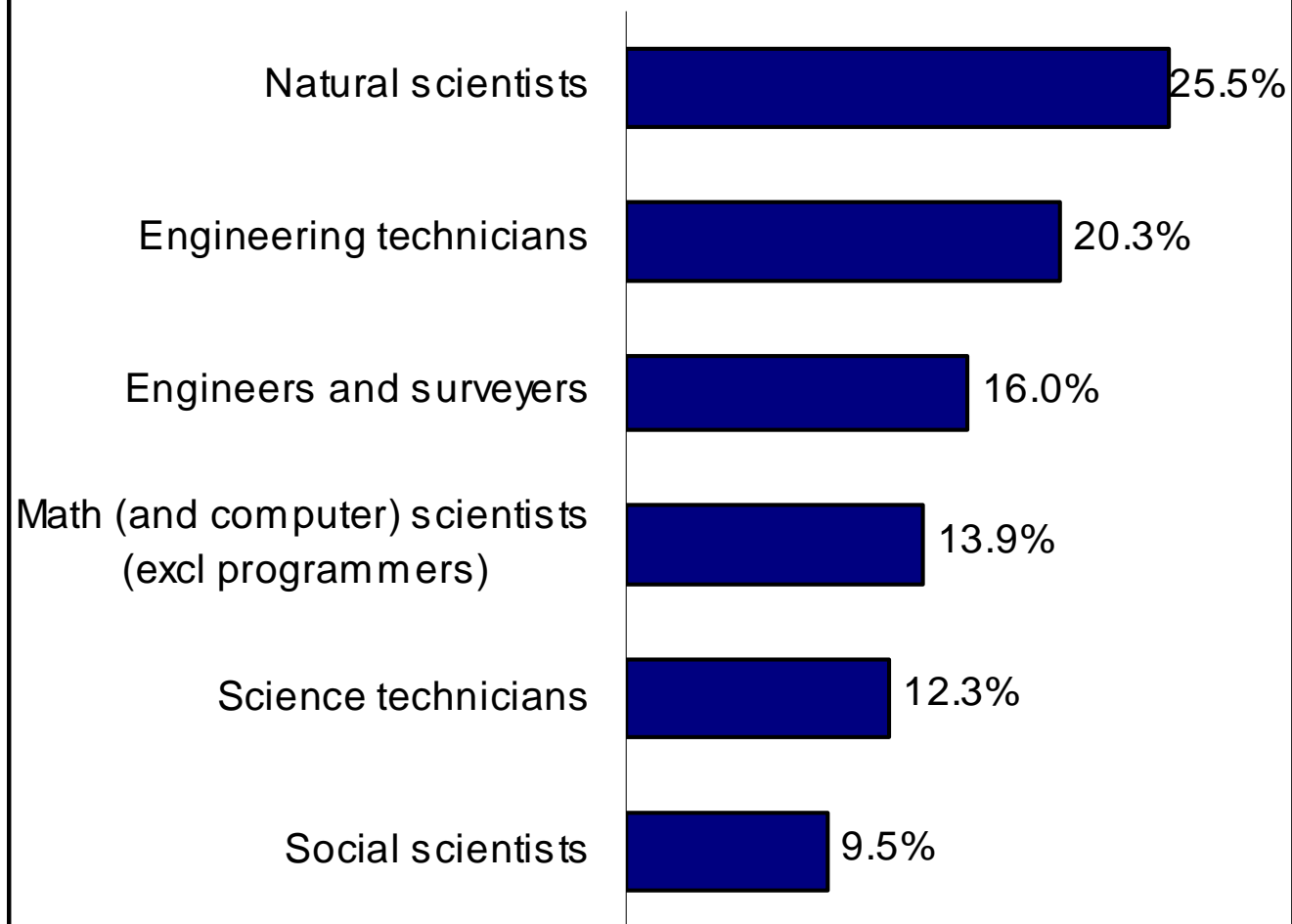
Presentation at the roundtable series on "Technology, Innovation, and American Primacy," Thursday, March 17th, the Council on Foreign Relations, New York City.

Immigrant Share of S&E Employment



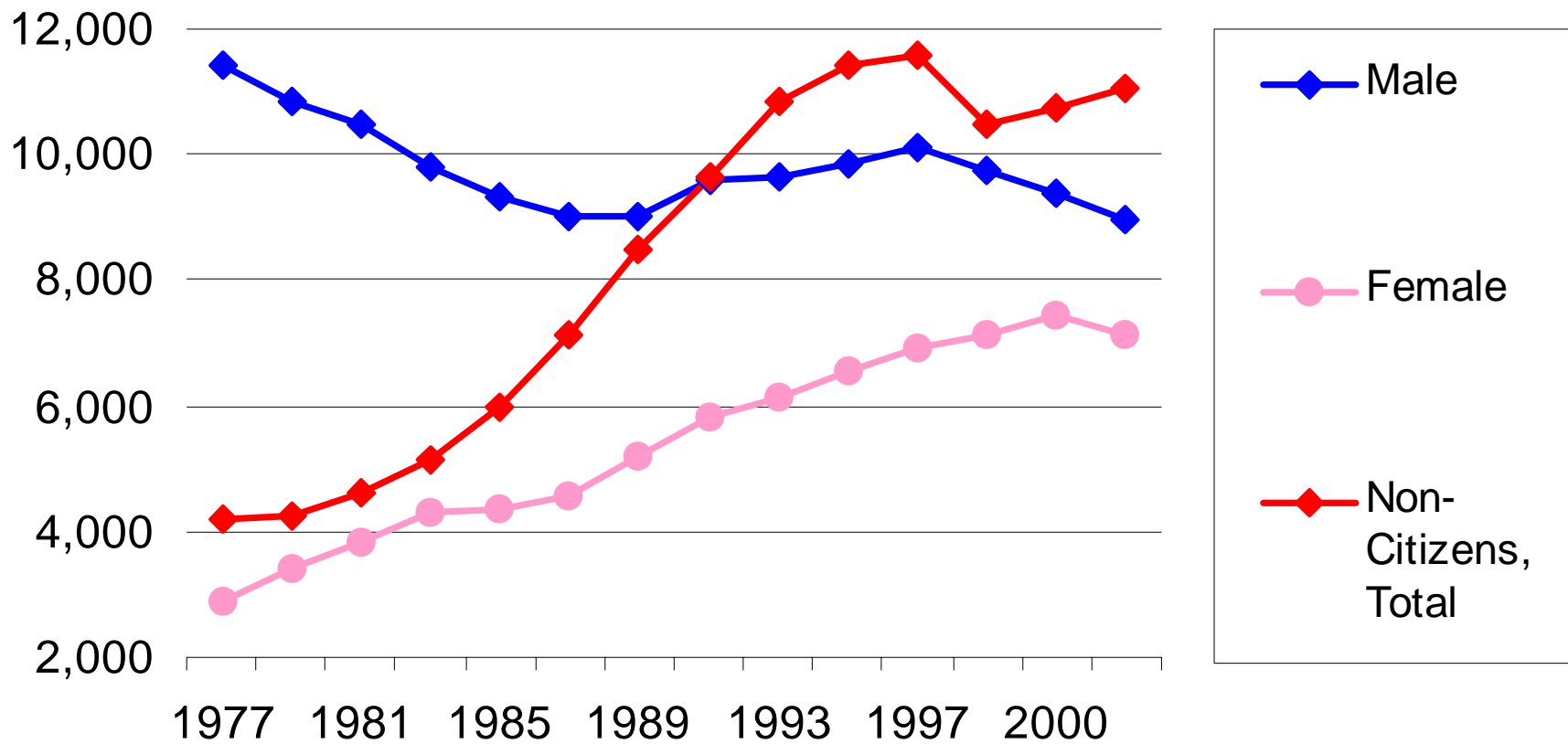
Source: Tabulations from US Census microdata

Immigrant Share of S&E Workers, 2000



Source: US Census microdata

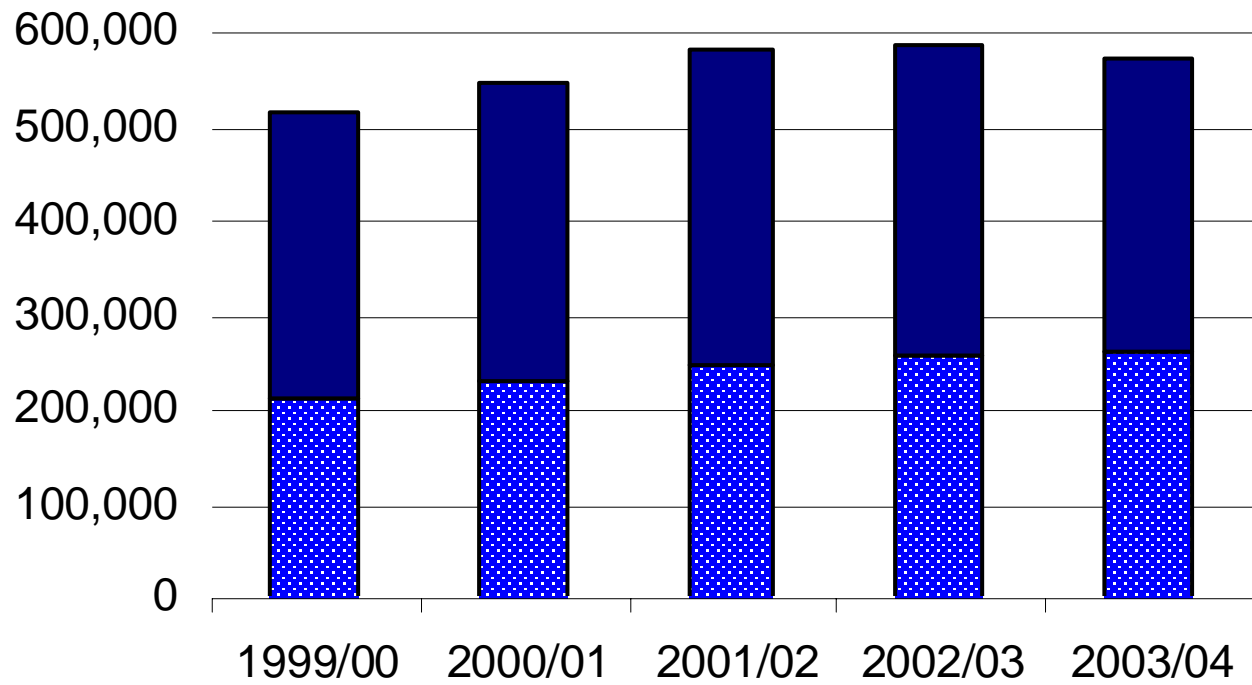
Earned doctoral degrees Citizens by sex and Non-citizens total



Source: NSF, S&E Indicators 2-26

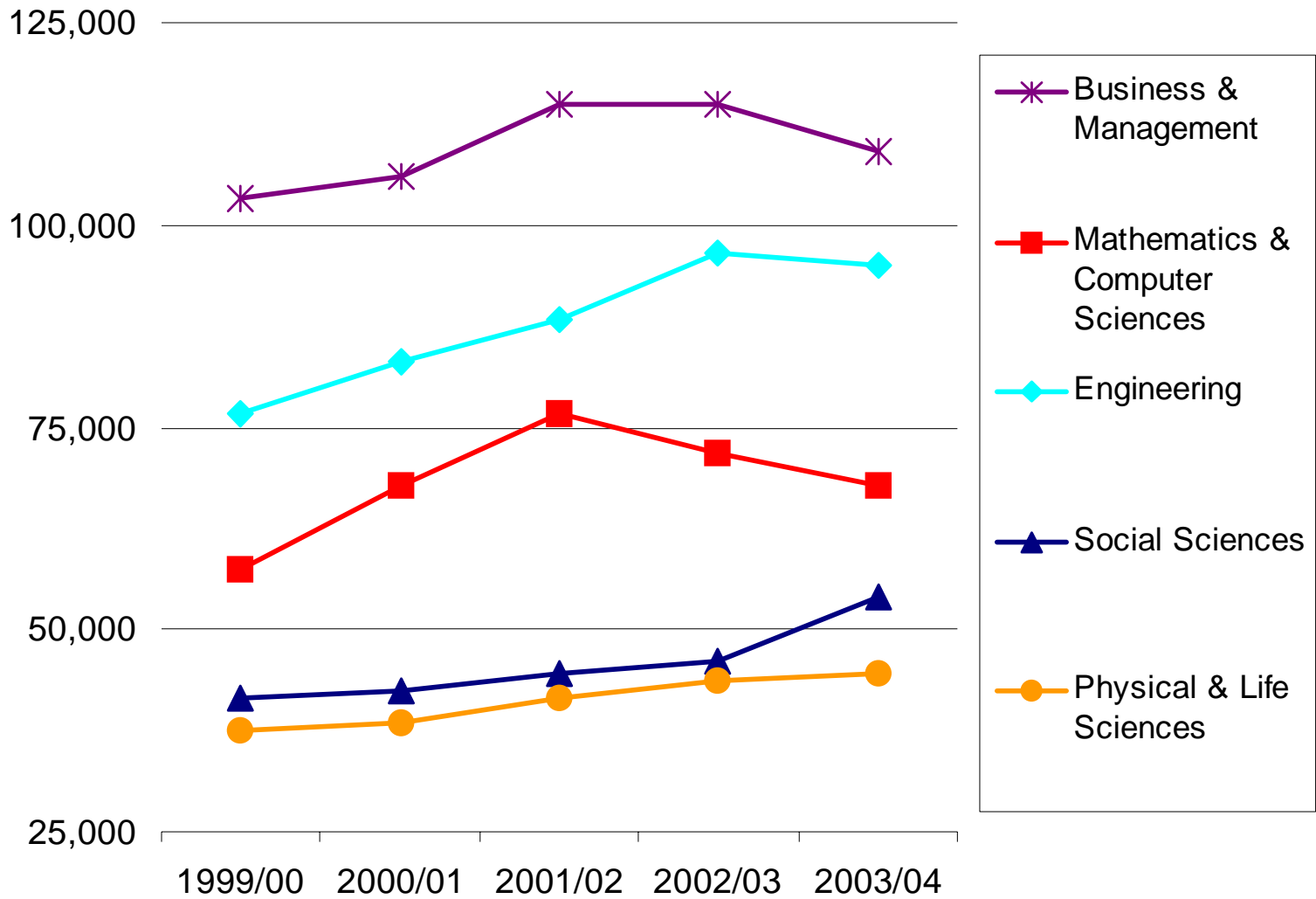
Foreign Student Enrollment

■ S&E ■ Non S&E



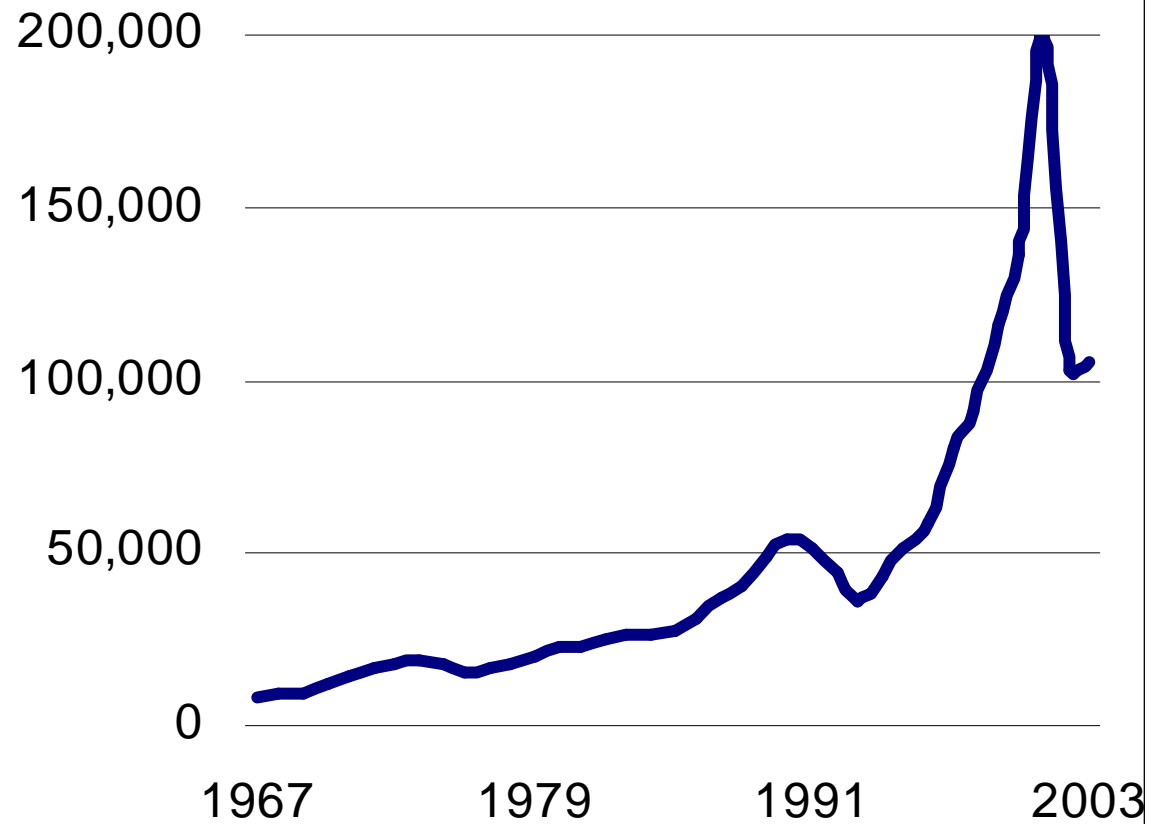
Source: IEE Open Doors

Foreign Student Enrollments by Major S&E Field and for Business



Source: IIE Open Doors

New H-1B Temporary Skilled Worker Visas & Petitions



Source: DHS Immigration Statistics

MANY ASSERT THAT THE UNITED STATES IS LESS HOSPITABLE

in the aftermath of the terrorist tragedies of September 11th—

- Outdated and overly **bureaucratic immigration laws, the perception that the United States is less welcoming of foreigners,** and heightened competition from foreign universities have led to a decline of foreign nationals (AeA, Losing the Competitive Advantage?).
- What the latest numbers make clear is that **the enrollment declines** are now widespread and dramatic enough to **seriously threaten the U.S. academic research enterprise...** (IEEE 2004).
- Historically, the US has benefited from both an abundant supply... Analyses of **current trends**, however, indicate **serious problems lie ahead that may threaten our long-term prosperity** and national security (NSB 2004).
- ... the **climate for creative talent in the United States has chilled...** as a result of direct policies which restrict scientific information and make it harder for people to get into and out of the country and... a widening **perception of the U.S. as... less friendly toward foreign-born people** (Florida 2004).

GETTING A STUDENT VISA

VISA APPROVAL

- typically 1 day to two weeks depending on country

VISA ISSUANCE ON RE-ENTRY

- from required re-approvals to one-year approval recently

VISA TOTAL (ADJUSTED) REFUSAL RATE

- from ca. 21% in 1999 to 27% in 2002, now coming down

SPECIAL SECURITY CLEARANCE

Government Accountability Office (GAO)

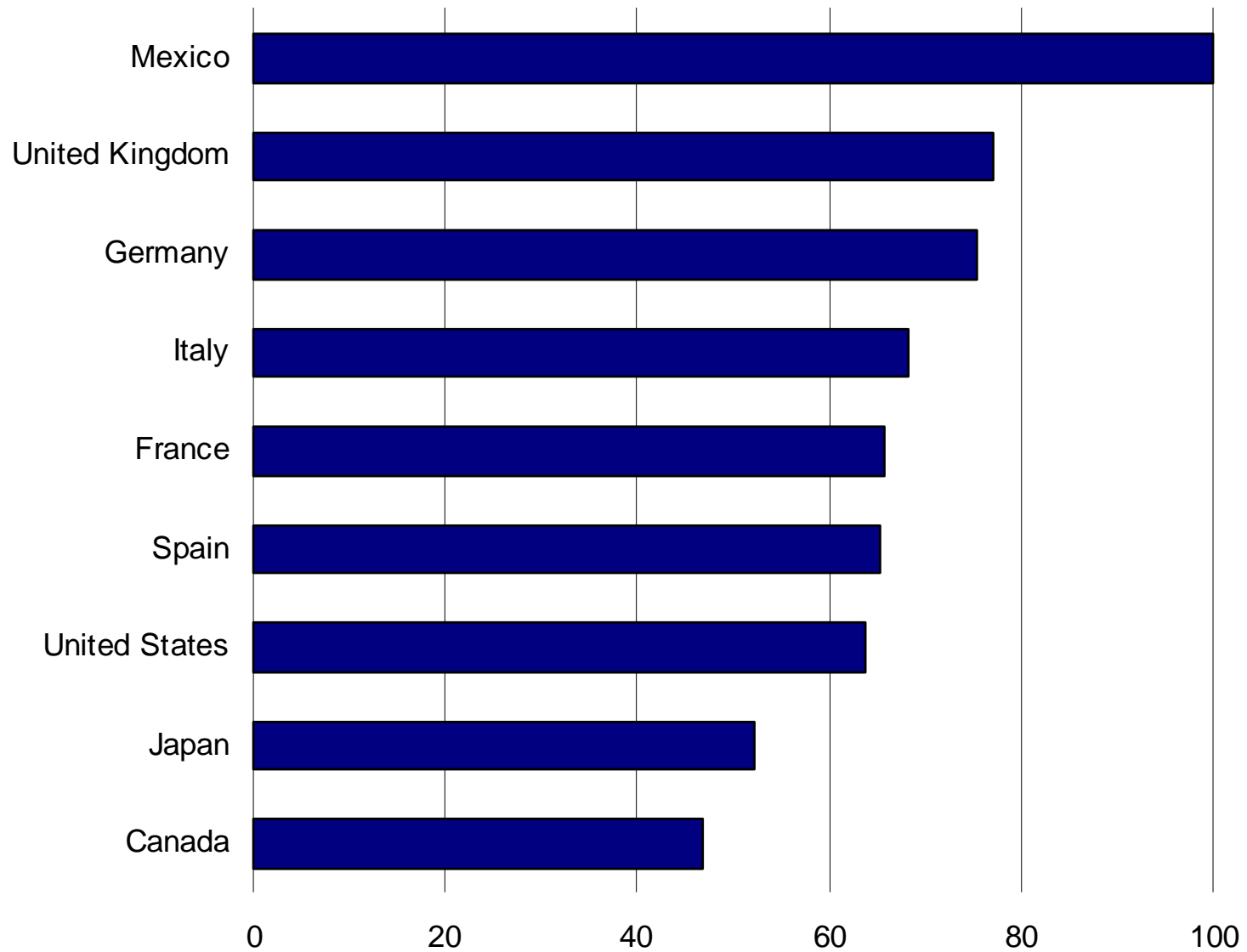
Spring 2003 report:

- Visas Mantis check took an average of 67 days
- 7,000 cases before 9/11 to nearly 20,000 after
- Visas denied being 2 percent of cases
- Note: 234,000 F-1 visas issued in 2002

Winter 2005 report:

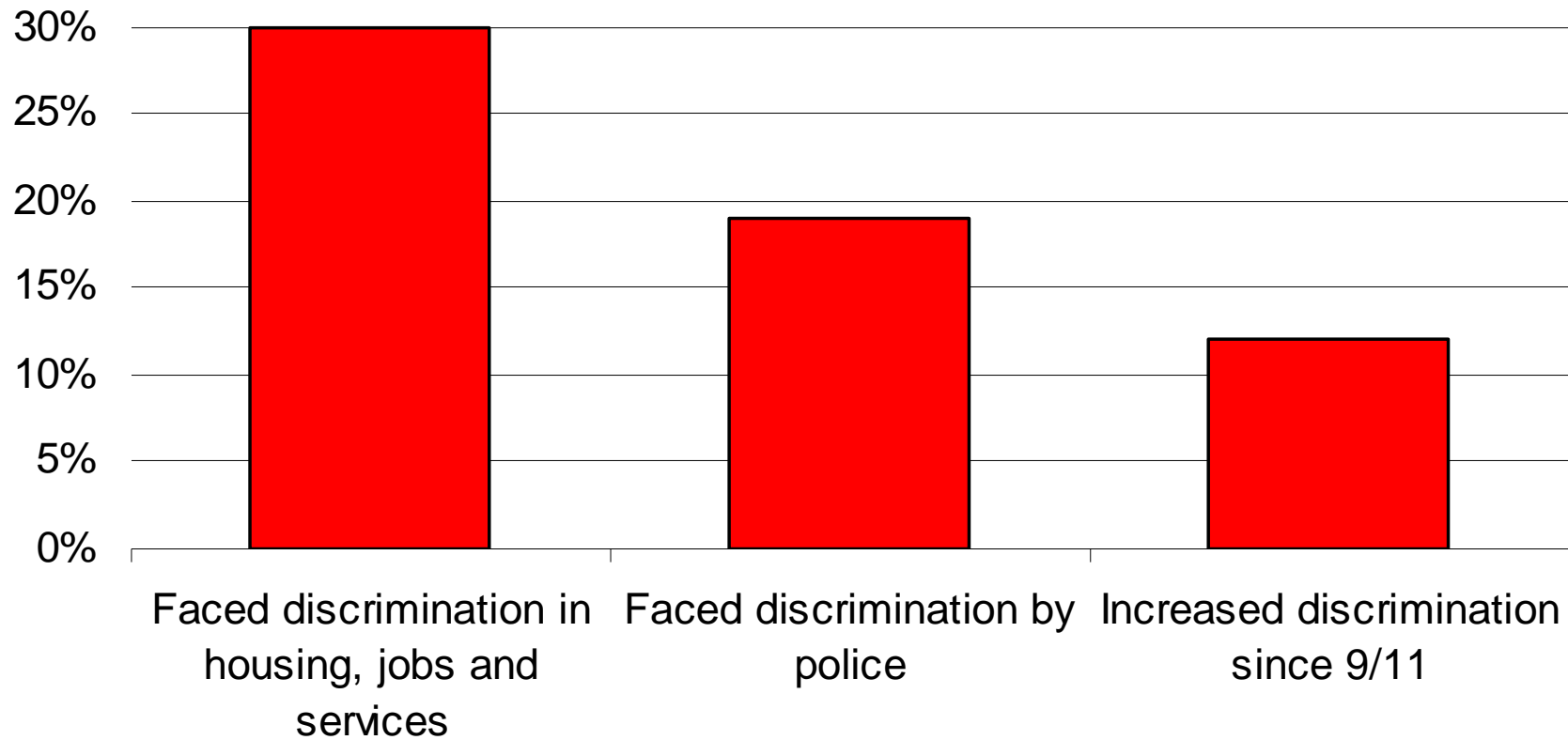
- Visas Mantis check took an average of 15 days

Index of Restrictive Immigrant Attitudes, 2004



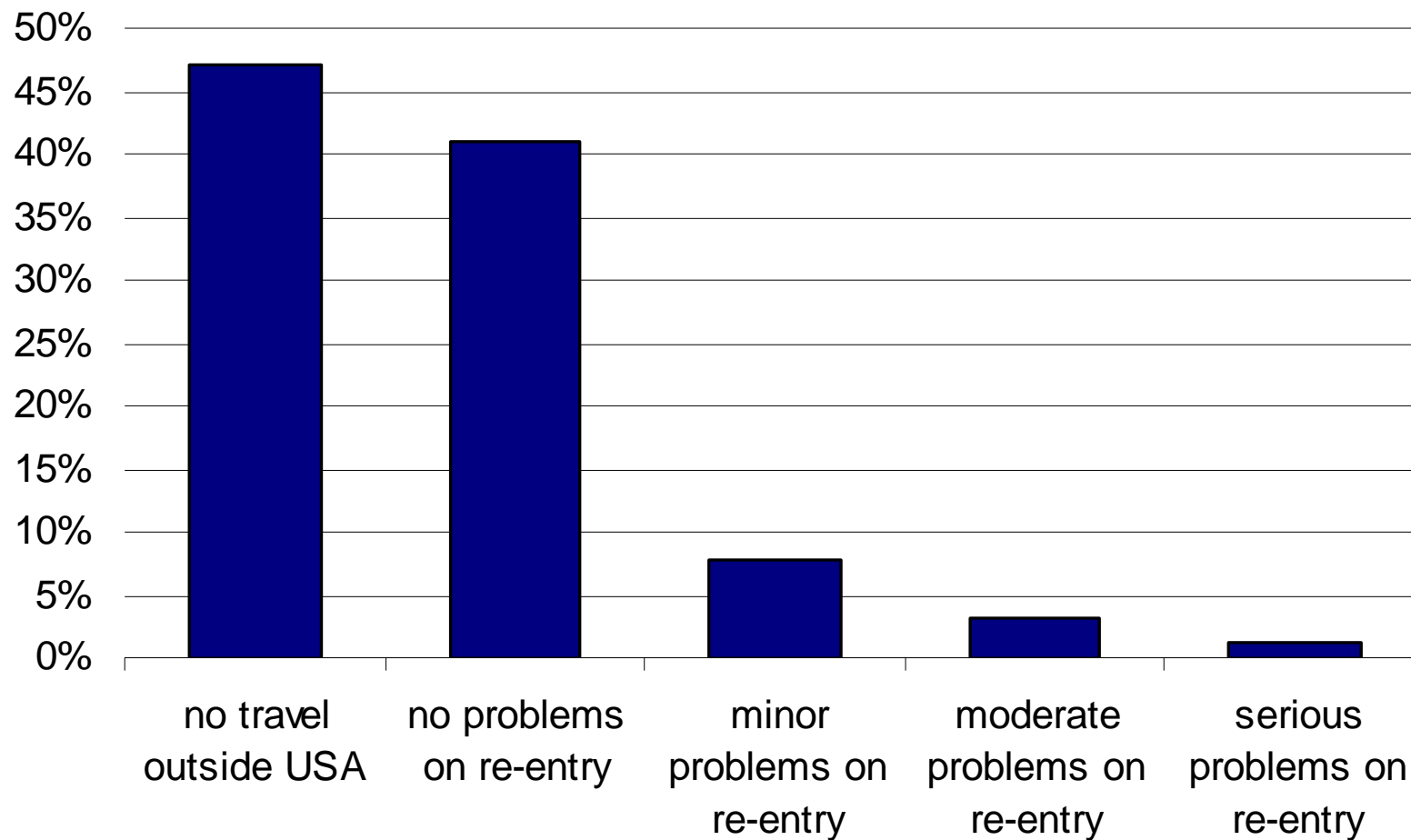
Source: IPSIS poll

All Immigrants Having Faced Discrimination and Reporting Increased Discrimination Since 9/11



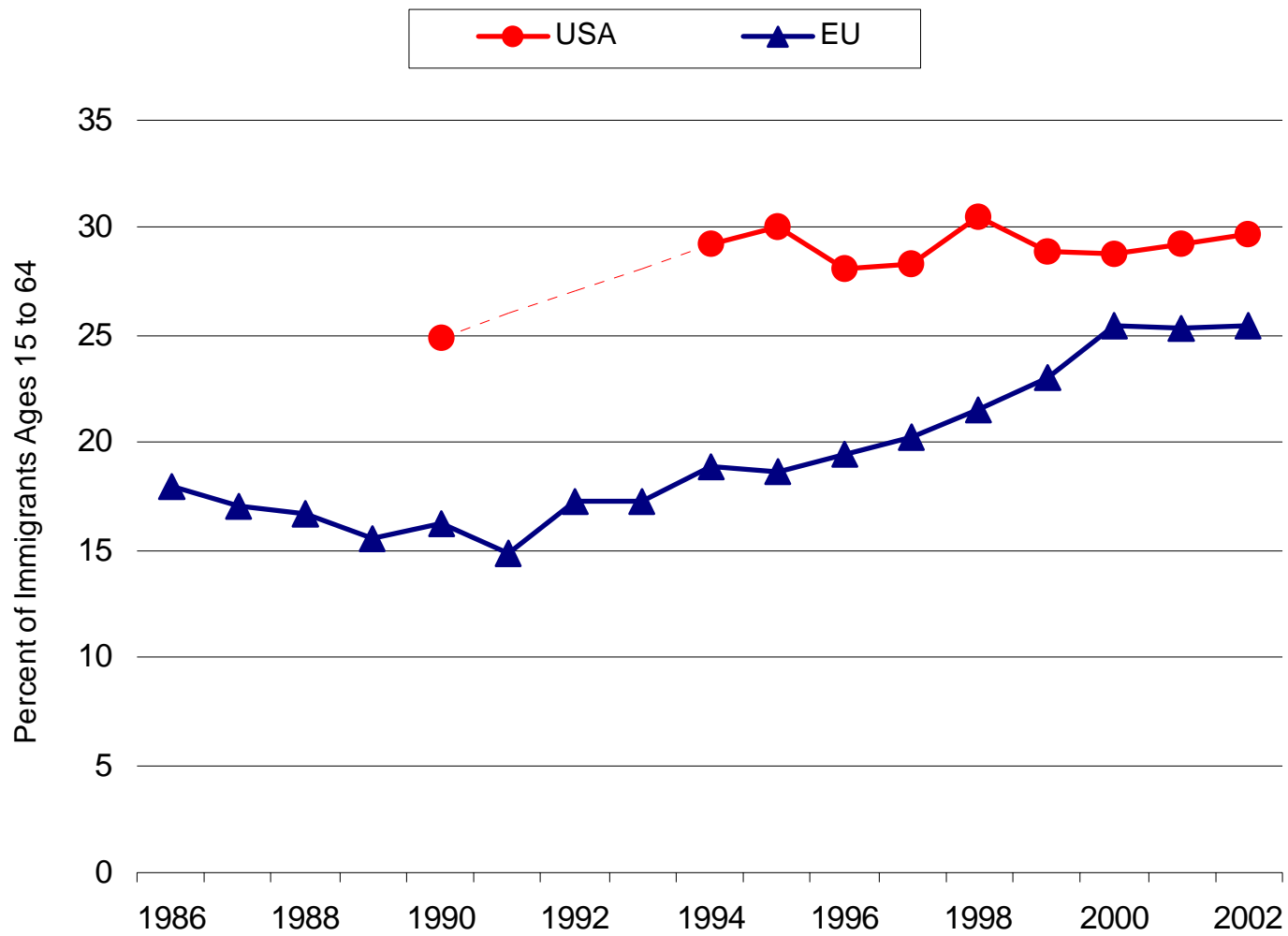
Source: NPR/Kaiser Poll, Summer 2004

Re-entry Problems for NIH Postdoctoral Scholars, 2003



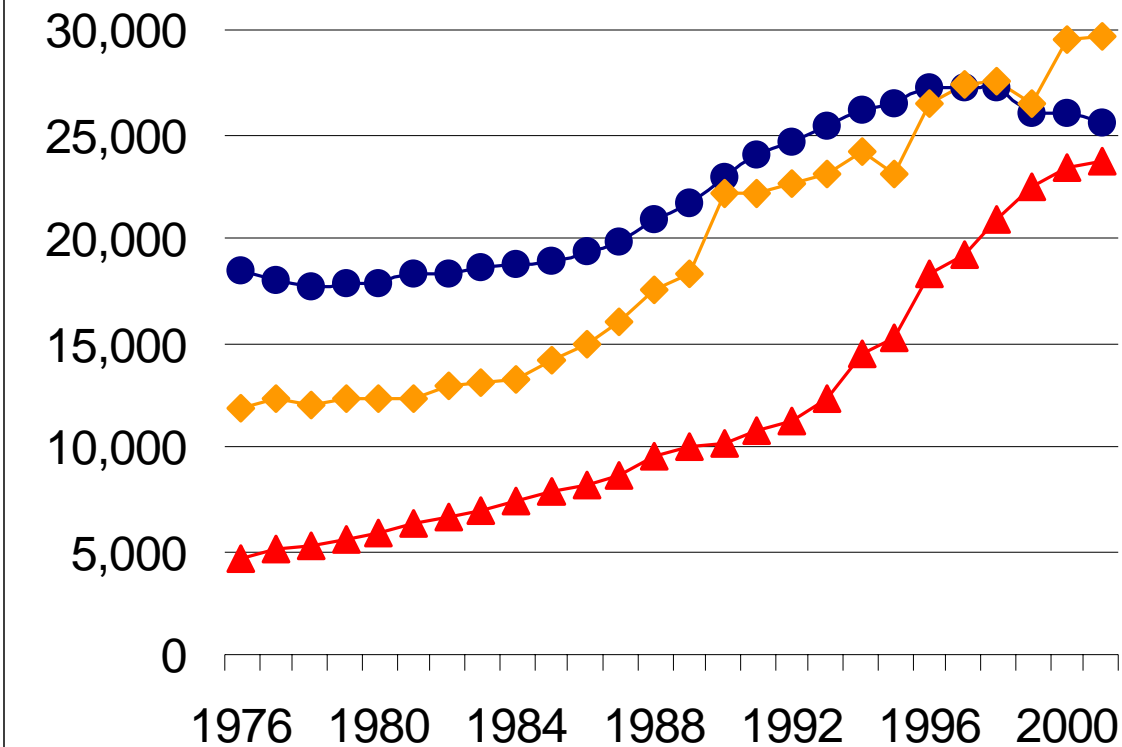
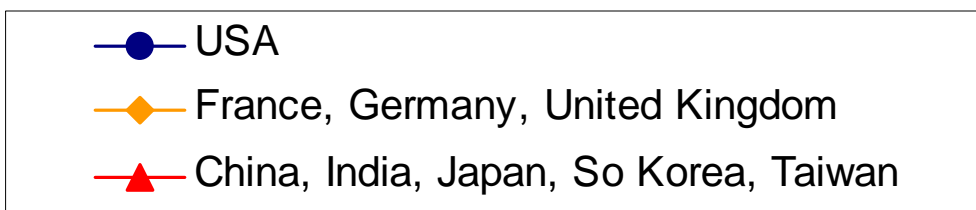
Source: Sigma Xi

Figure 1. Percent of U.S. Recent Immigrants and non-EU Immigrants with Tertiary Education



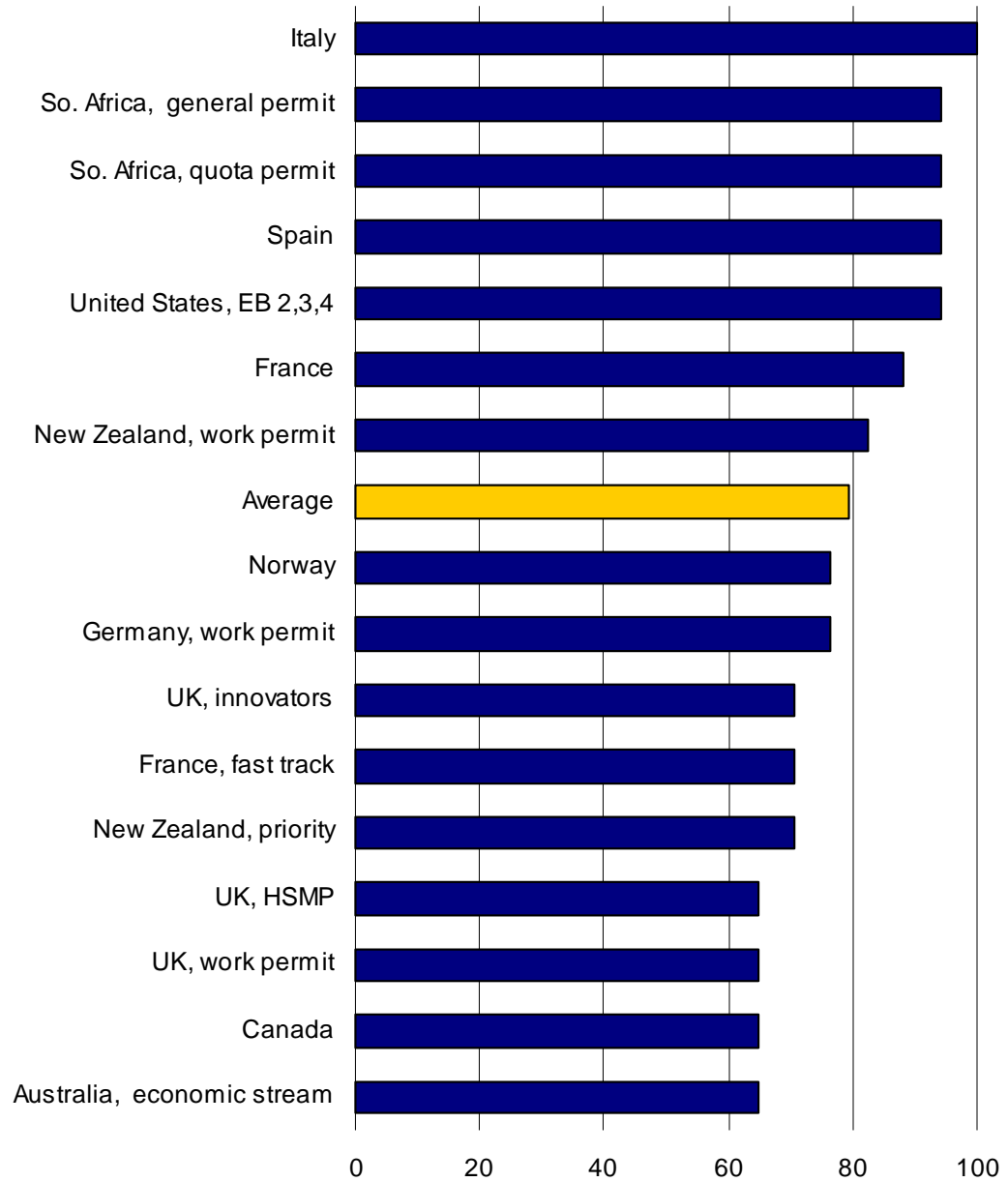
Sources: European Commission, 2003, chart 139; U.S. Census microdata.

S&E Doctoral Degrees, 1976-2001



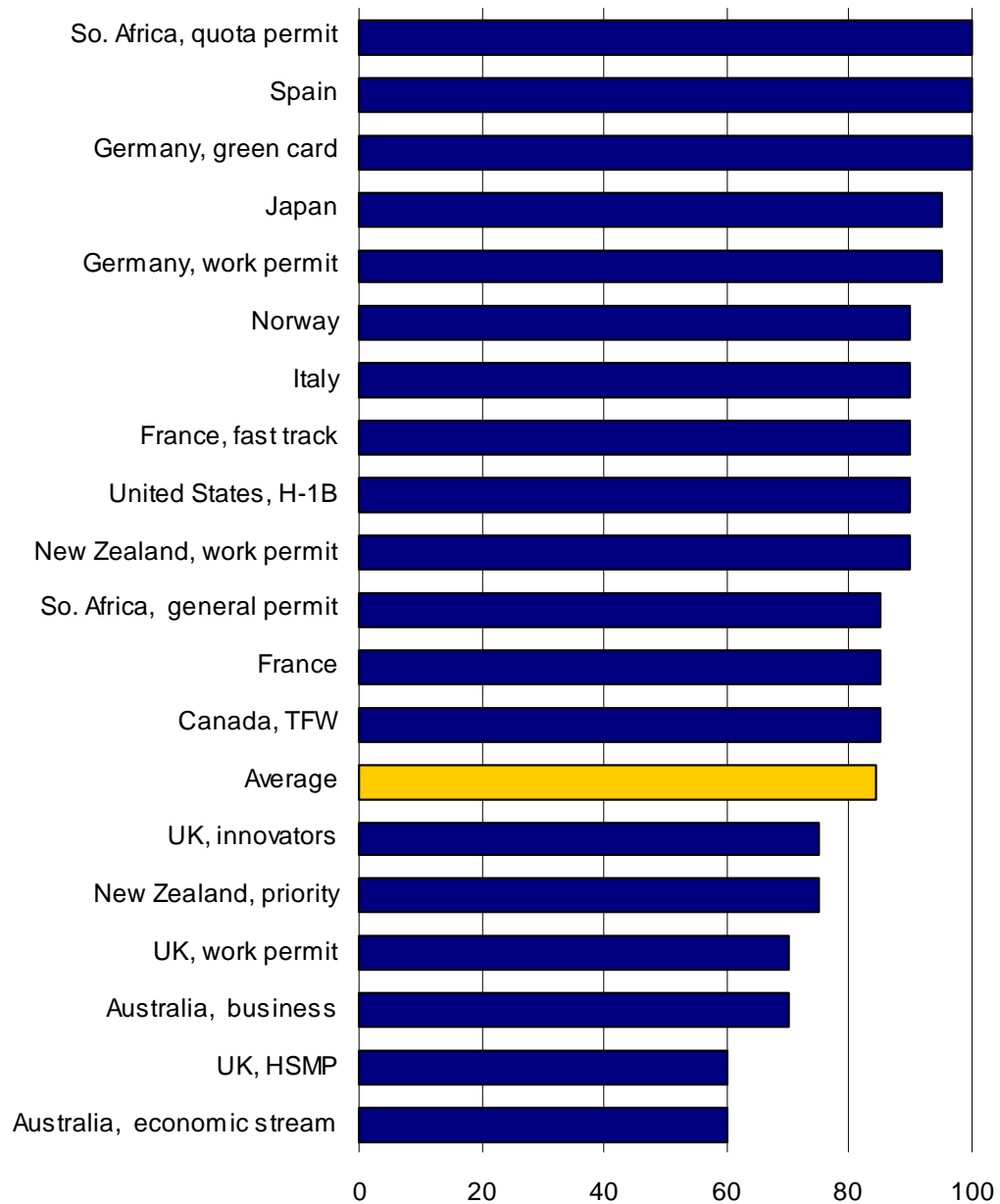
Source: NSF S&E Indicators 2004

Ranking of the Index of Controlled/Competitive Permanent Skilled Worker Programs



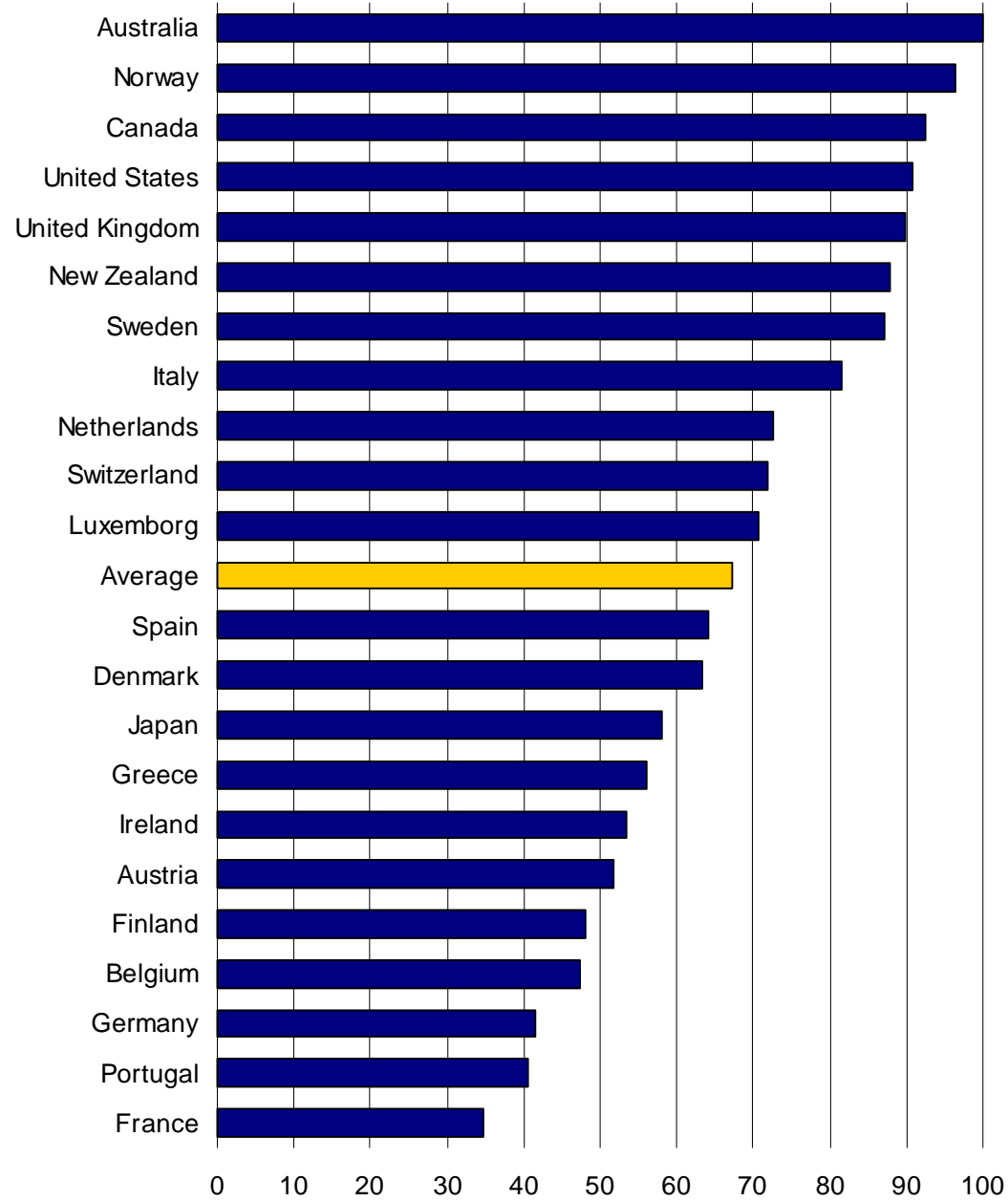
Source: Lowell 2005

Ranking of Index of Controlled/Competitive Temporary Skilled Worker Programs



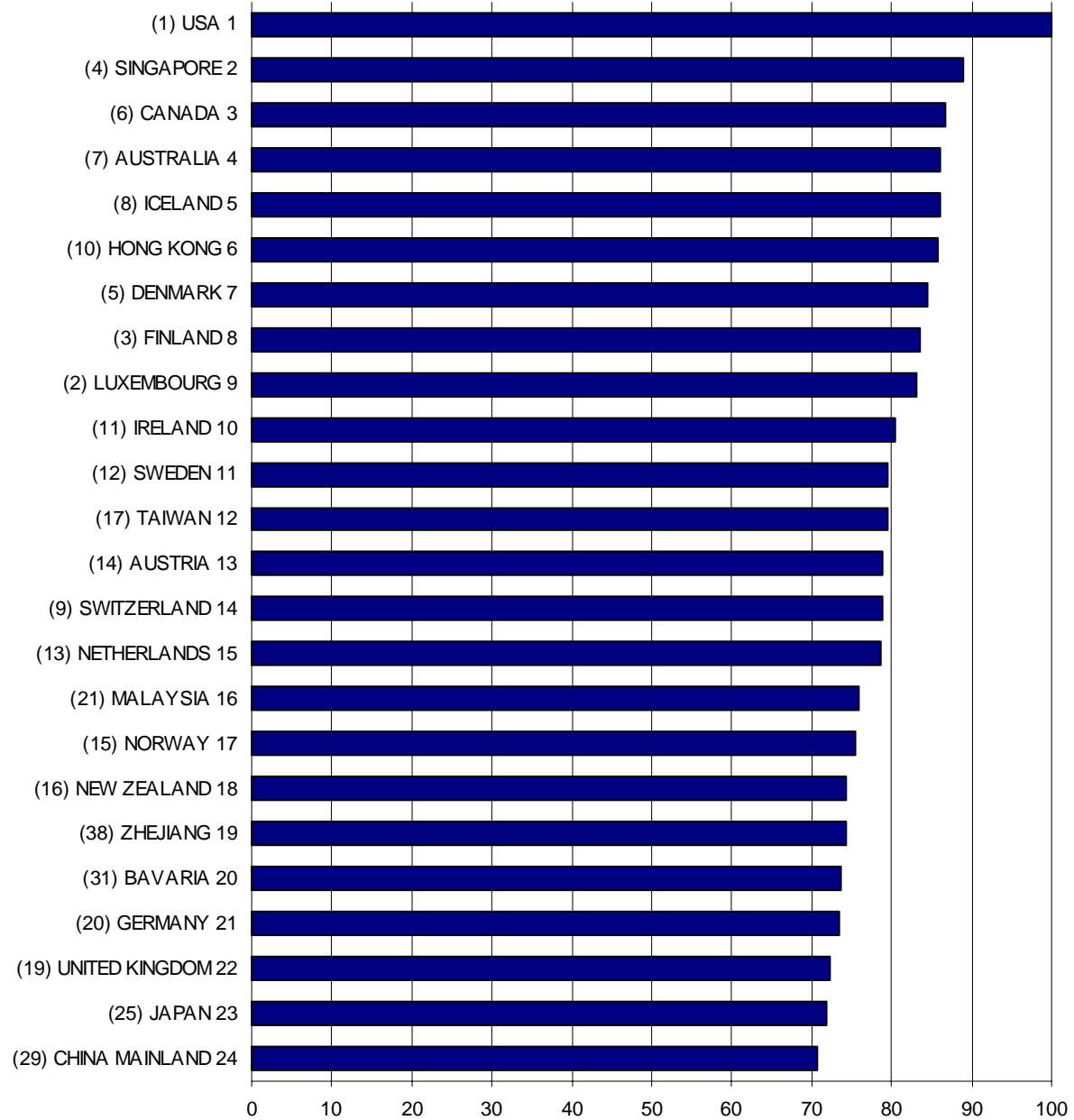
Source: Lowell 2005

Combined Index of Skilled Immigrant Competitiveness



Source: Lowell 2005

IMD World Competitiveness Ranking, 2004



Source: IMD