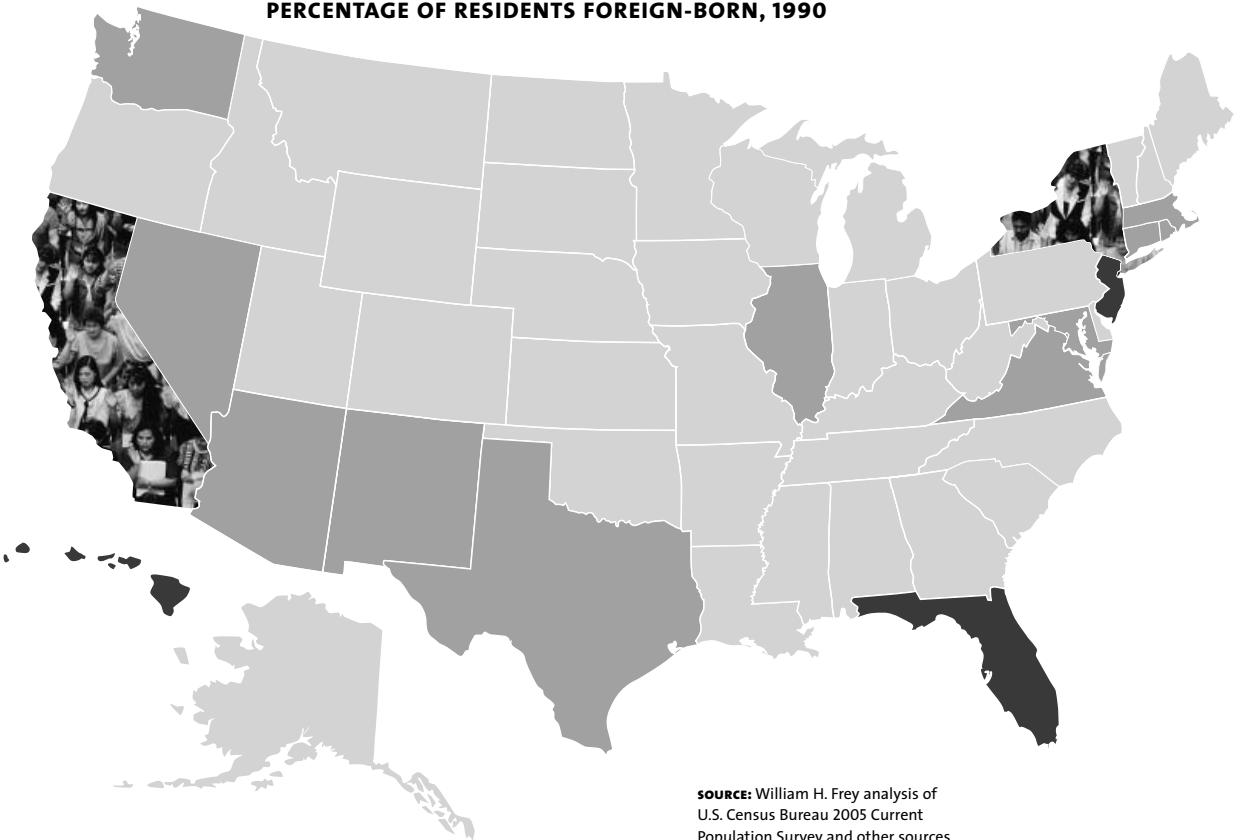


BY WILLIAM H. FREY

**As Americans,** we like to pat ourselves on the back for welcoming immigrants. But the “give me your tired, your poor” refrain periodically wears thin. And this time, the nativist impulse is not just a border phenomenon: even interior states from Colorado to Georgia have proposed legislation that penalizes new arrivals. Why have immigration politics turned “minuteman” ugly?

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS FOREIGN-BORN, 1990



SOURCE: William H. Frey analysis of U.S. Census Bureau 2005 Current Population Survey and other sources.

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