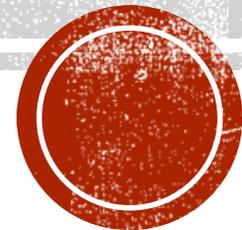


HOW DO CHINESE AND OTHER ASIAN IMMIGRANTS FARE IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN LABOR MARKET?

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INTRODUCTION

- As the number of Chinese immigrants in Africa increases, several studies have raised questions about how well they are integrated into African societies
 - To what extent do these dynamics differ from those of other Asian immigrant groups?
 - How well do Chinese immigrants compete in African labor markets?
- Two perspectives on labor market integration:
 - Chinese immigrants have more favorable outcomes and experience rapid socioeconomic mobility (e.g., Mohan and Tan-Mullins 2009)
 - Their participation in labor markets has negative implications and creates new patterns of inequality (e.g., Power 2008)



BACKGROUND: THE SOUTH AFRICAN CONTEXT

- It is one of the first historical destinations of permanent Chinese settlement in Sub-Saharan Africa
 - Chinese slaves and convicts in the Cape region in the 17th century (Park 2009; Yap 1996).
- South Africa continued to be one of the most important destinations of Chinese migrants in subsequent centuries
 - Contract workers in Witwatersrand in the 19th century; Taiwanese in the 1970s/80s; post-1990 migrations



BACKGROUND: THE SOUTH AFRICAN CONTEXT

- South Africa as a destination for migrants from regions countries
- From Asia:
 - Indian indentured labor in South African plantations in the mid-1800s (Lemon 1990; Park and Rugunanan 2010)
 - Pakistani and Bangladeshi migrants in South African cities after the end of apartheid (Park and Chen 2009)
- From Africa:
 - Historical and recent labor migrants from SADC countries (Zuberi and Sibanda 2004; Agadjanian 2008)



RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- Compare how Chinese immigrants fare in the South African labor market relative to immigrants from Africa and other Asian countries
- Evaluate the employment outcomes of Chinese immigrants to examine whether they match those of immigrants from other major Asian sending countries
- Examine what Chinese immigrant experiences imply for their relative social position compared to those of marginalized native-born populations in South Africa



DATA AND METHODS

- Combined data from a 10% sample of the 2001 South African census and a 8.5% sample of the country's 2011 census
 - No other census in Africa identifies as many immigrants of Chinese origin
- Analytical sample : the working age population (i.e., between age 15 and 64)
- Groups compared
 - Chinese immigrants - Foreign-born from China, Hong Kong or Taiwan
 - Other Asian immigrants - Foreign-born from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, etc.
 - African immigrants - Foreign-born from Africa
 - Native-South Africans



DATA AND METHODS

- Dependent variable: Current employment status (yes =1; no = 0).
 - Logistic regression used to describe the relationship between current employment status and immigrant/native-born status
- Other independent variables
 - Demographic (e.g., age, sex), marital status, educational attainment, family size.



DESCRIPTIVE FINDINGS

	Chinese Immigrants	Other Asian Immigrants	African Immigrants	Native-born South Africans
<i>Age (Mean)</i>	37.3	35.3	33.3	34.9
<i>Gender</i>				
Males	58.16	83.11	67.20	50.00
Females	41.84	16.89	32.80	50.00
<i>Marital Status</i>				
Married	73.77	60.02	61.40	47.01
Single	21.32	37.50	35.01	47.41
Other	4.91	2.48	3.59	5.58
<i>Family size (Mean)</i>	3.00	3.07	2.73	4.45
<i>Educational attainment</i>				
No schooling	4.41	3.71	10.32	7.81
Primary	4.33	5.28	19.66	17.40
Secondary	59.47	60.97	61.43	68.52
Post-Secondary	28.18	27.43	7.95	6.11
<i>Employed</i>	91.91	90.55	74.15	55.25
N	1,384	5,906	139,788	3,109,832



COMPARISONS BETWEEN THE FOUR MAJOR GROUPS

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
	Combined sample	2001	2011
<i>Immigrant/Nativity Status</i>			
Chinese immigrants	4.51***	5.16***	4.08***
Other Asian immigrants	3.83***	3.43***	3.72***
African immigrants	1.60***	1.86***	1.44***
Native-born South Africans (Ref)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)
Constant	0.46***	0.43***	0.51***
Log likelihood	-1924071	-866059.61	-1055950.7
N	3,256,910	1,445,896	1,811,014

Note: *p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001



COMPARISONS BETWEEN CHINESE AND OTHER SPECIFIC ASIAN IMMIGRANTS

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
	Combined sample	2001	2011
<i>Immigrant/Nativity Status</i>			
Chinese immigrants	1.65**	0.87	2.29***
Bangladeshi	1.33	0.39*	1.56*
Indian	0.93	0.63	1.11
Pakistani	0.82	0.30***	1.29
Other Asian (Reference)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)
Constant	2.38*	4.61*	1.65
Log likelihood	-2073.0829	-509.3638	-1512.8729
N	7,290	1,764	5,526

Note: *p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001



COMPARISONS BETWEEN THE CHINESE AND OTHER SOUTH AFRICAN GROUPS

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
	Combined sample	2001	2011
<i>Immigrant/Nativity Status</i>			
Chinese immigrants§	6.06***	8.01***	5.16***
Native-born South Africans			
Whites	6.07***	9.47***	4.27***
Asians	3.71***	4.81***	2.93***
Coloreds	2.56***	3.35***	2.04***
Other	2.13***	(a)	2.05***
Blacks (Reference)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)
Constant	0.38***	0.31***	0.41***
Log likelihood	-1773550	-793155	-975767
N	3,111,216	1,403,793	1,707,423

§ Chinese immigrants are not found in racial categories in the model because the categories only include native-born South Africans.

Note: *p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001. All models also control for the same set of demographic and social characteristics used in the models presented in Table 2.



SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS

- Chinese immigrants in South Africa are more highly-educated compared to other immigrant groups
- Chinese immigrants have more favorable employment outcomes compared to either native-born South Africans, other Asian immigrants, or African-born immigrants
- Chinese immigrants effectively have outcomes that match those found at the top of the South Africa's racial order

