

**Latino immigrants in the United States
Why the Suburbs? Why the Round Lake Area?
A Case Study**

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Background

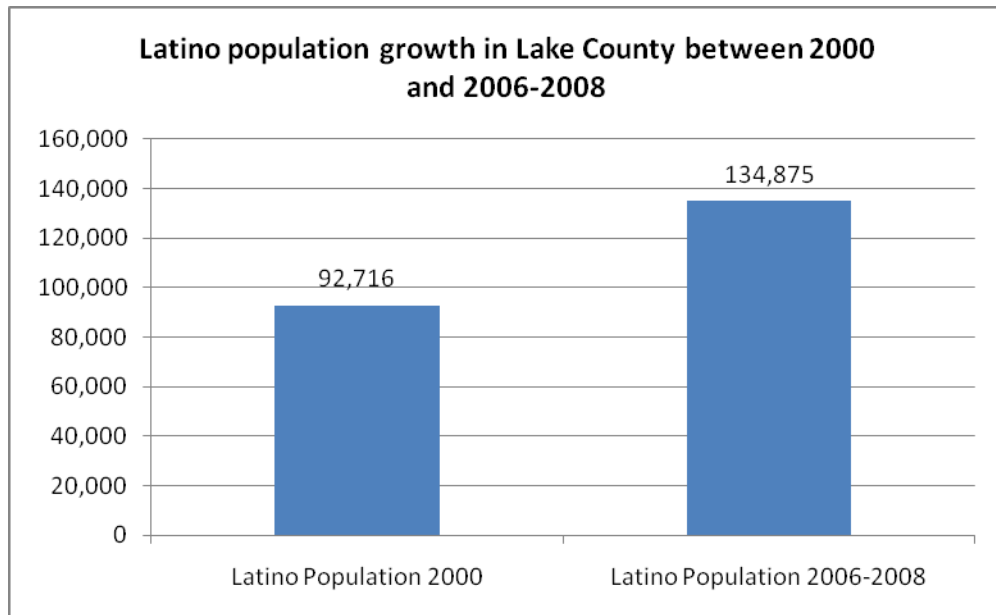
In 2000 a “surprising” bit of news about Latino immigrants in metropolitan Chicago hit the press: not only were there more immigrants in Chicago’s suburbs than in the city, but the first place of residence for Chicago’s new immigrants was now the suburbs rather than the city itself. Since that time the number of Latinos and Latino immigrants in the suburbs has increased dramatically. This contrasts with the traditional form of settlement that characterized European immigration to the United States at the turn of the last century, in which immigrants settled in central cities, close to their places of employment. In that earlier pattern, after several generations, these immigrants would become upwardly mobile and move away from the immigrant enclaves to suburbia or neighborhoods with better housing and schools (Alba et al 1999, 446; Singer 2004, 10).

Calculations by the Louis Mumford Center for Comparative Urban and Regional Research indicate that 94 percent of the nation’s immigrants lived in metropolitan areas in 2000. Within those areas 48 percent lived in central cities, while 52 percent lived in the suburbs. Suburban areas now contain both absolutely greater numbers of immigrants and experience a faster percentage of growth than the cities (Singer 2004, 10). In 2005, a study by the Institute for Latino Studies at the University of Notre Dame reported that most recent Latino population growth was occurring in the suburbs and that Latinos living in the Chicago suburbs outnumbered those living in the city (Ready and Brown-Gort 2004, 1). The American Community Survey (ACS) data also shows that Chicago has already become a major Latino metropolis – with the 3rd largest Latino population in the United States and the second largest Mexican community in the nation (ACS 2003; Ready and Brown-Gort 2004, 4).

Chicago has historically been a city of immigrants. As far back as the 1840s, enclaves of German and Irish immigrants were identifiable within the city. By the 1920s, large numbers of Polish, Italian and Eastern European immigrants were also present. More recently the area has become a destination for Hispanics and Asians (Newbold and Spinder 2000, 1903). In the Chicago metropolitan area, Latinos represent 20.4% of the total population (ACS 2006-2008 estimates). Chicago suburbs have overtaken the city in the number of foreign-born residents: 434,315 foreign born residents live in the suburbs (Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will counties) compared to 324,680 in the city of Chicago (ACS 2006-2008).

In Lake County, the Latino Population grew 45.5% between 2000 and 2008 (see figure 1). Latinos in Lake County now represent 19.1% of the population.

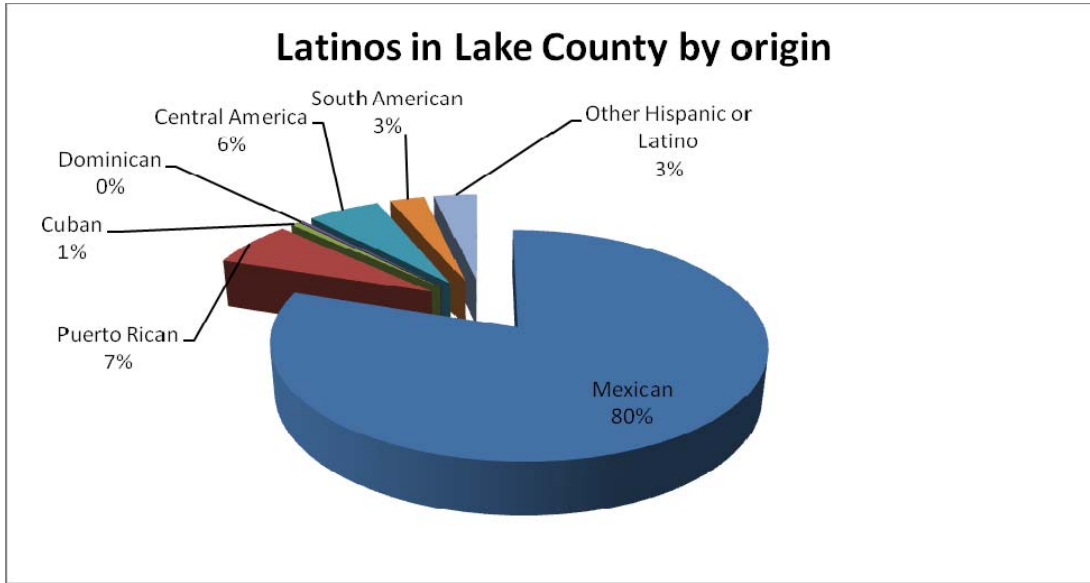
Figure 1



Source: Census 2000, ASC 2006-2008 estimates

ACS 2006-2008 estimates also show that the vast majority (80%) of Latinos in Lake County are Mexican (see figure 2).

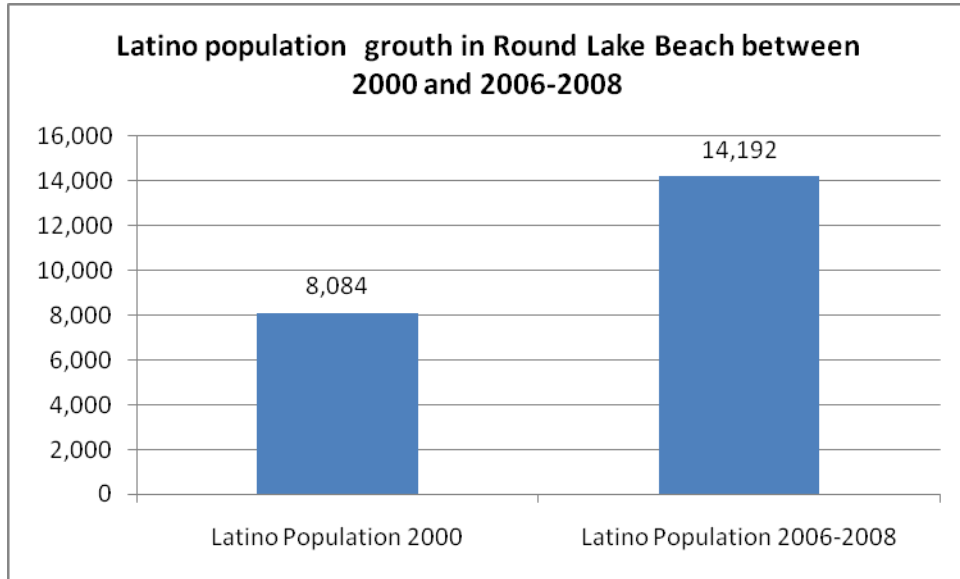
Figure 2



Source: ASC 2006-2008 estimates

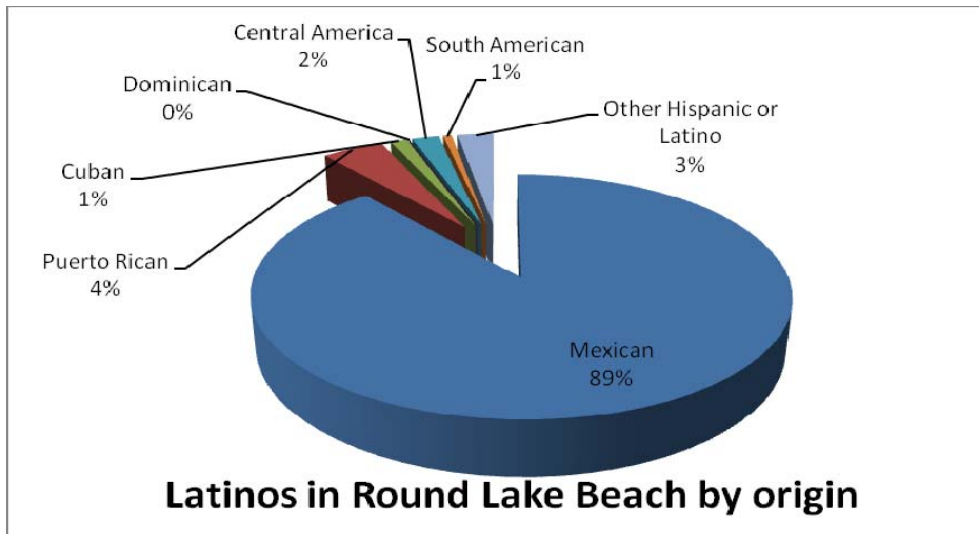
In Round Lake Beach, the area where this case study will focus, the Latino population grew 75.6% between 2000 and 2008. From 8,084 in 2000 (31.3% of the population) in 2000, it grew to 14,192 (49.5% of the population) in 2008 (see figure 3). Eighty-six percent (86%) of Latinos in Round Lake Beach are Mexican (see figure 4).

Figure 3



Source: ASC 2006-2008 estimates

Figure 4



Source: ASC 2006-2008 estimates

Latino Suburbanization: An Empirical and Conceptual Puzzle

The suburbs of Chicago and most other metropolitan areas of the United States have been growing for several decades post World War II. To date it has been a white, middle-class and upper middle-class phenomenon distinguished by the absence (or near absence) of minorities. At first glance, then, it is counterintuitive that such large numbers of Latinos would be populating the suburbs. They are not white, they are not middle-class and by most criteria, they are identified as a minority.

The suburbanization of Latinos presents many contradictions. While it can be argued that Latinos move to the suburbs in search of a better quality of life, it is surprising to learn that by 2002, nearly as many poor people lived in the suburbs as in central cities (Swanstrom et al 2004, 2). According to the Metropolitan Policy Program at the Brookings Institution, between 2000 and 2008, suburbs in the country's largest metro areas saw their poor population grow by 25%, almost five times faster than primary cities. By 2008 suburban areas were home to the largest and fastest-growing poor populations in the country (Kneebore and Garr 2010, 1).

Additionally, socioeconomic gaps between immigrants and natives are wider in the suburbs than in the city. In Chicago, the suburban noncitizen poverty rate of 8.1 percent is well above the native-born poverty rate of 4.8 percent (Paral 2000, 16). In the Chicago metropolitan area, 16.8% of Latino families live in poverty compared to 11.9% of the total population. The per capita income of Latinos in the Chicago metro area is \$16,092.00, well below the \$30,479.00 for the total population (ACS 2006-2008). Additionally, the economic segregation between suburbs seems to be on the rise. Differences in housing cost and availability restricts

the choices of immigrants. In all likelihood, then, the old image of suburbs as middle-class residential havens is no longer the case. Middle-class suburbs are being squeezed by the growth of affluent and poor suburbs and the gap between rich and poor suburbs is wider than ever (Swanstrom et al 2004, 11).

An analysis of the ACS and U.S. Census data shows that the total population in the Chicago metropolitan area decreased 4.1% between 2000 and 2008, while the Latino population grew 14%. Some suburbs like Plainfield show an over 700% Latino population increase and others like Highland Park show up to a 40% decrease. This clearly shows that Latinos and immigrants are not evenly or proportionately distributed throughout all suburbs. There are large, mid-sized and small Latino enclaves throughout the suburbs. In some suburbs, there is little or no Latino presence. Among those with the smallest presence are 8 municipalities that have a Latino population of less than 5%: Arlington Heights (4.9%), Lisle (4.9%), Buffalo Grove (4.7%), Wheaton (4.2%), Glen Ellyn (4.2%), South Holland (4.0%), Libertyville (4.0%) and Wilmette (2.6%).

At the other extreme, there are 6 cities that have a Latino population of over 40%: Cicero (84.1%), Berwyn (55.1%), Waukegan (52.2%), Round Lake Beach (49.5%), Carpentersville (48.6%) and Elgin (42.9%). There are 7 municipalities with a Latino population between 15% and 25%, all showing different rates of Latino population change between 2000 and 2008: Rolling Meadows (27.4% increase), Bolingbrook (123% increase), Chicago Heights (12.6% decrease), Woodstock (27.3% increase), Palatine (21.1% increase), Mount Prospect (36.4% increase) and Des Plaines (17.8% increase).

Other municipalities that overall have a relatively low Latino concentration nevertheless show an impressive Latino population growth from 2000 to 2008. For example the Latino population in Plainfield grew 704.8%, 398% in Huntley and 319.4% in Romeoville. However, their total Latino population is low compared to other cities: 11.1% in Plainfield, 5.7% in Huntley and 29.9% in Romeoville (ACS 2006/2008 estimates).

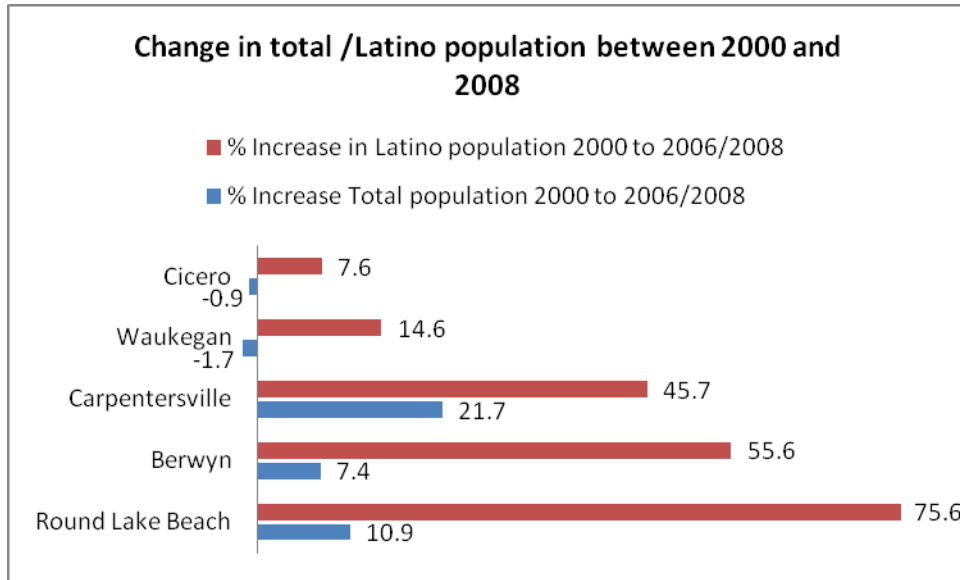
The table and the maps below show the different Latino enclaves and their distribution across the Chicago metropolitan region. For a complete list of cities refer to Appendix I.

Table 1

Town	Population 2000	Latino Population 2000	Latino %	Population Est 2006-2008	Latino Population Est 2006-2008	Latino %	% Increase Total population 2000-2006/2008	% Increase in Latino population 2000-2006/2008
Cicero	85,616	66,299	77.4	84,812	71,329	84.1	-0.9	7.6
Berwyn	54,016	20,543	38.0	58,037	31,962	55.1	7.4	55.6
Waukegan	87,901	39,396	44.8	86,432	45,135	52.2	-1.7	14.6
Round Lake Beach	25,859	8,084	31.3	28,688	14,192	49.5	10.9	75.6
Carpentersville	30,586	12,410	40.6	37,210	18,084	48.6	21.7	45.7
Elgin	94,487	32,430	34.3	107,027	45,949	42.9	13.3	41.7
Addison	35,914	10,198	28.4	38,831	15,057	38.8	8.1	47.6
Aurora	142,990	46,557	32.6	175,074	64,524	36.9	22.4	38.6
Hanover Park	38,278	10,233	26.7	37,502	12,430	33.1	-2.0	21.5
North Chicago	35,918	6,552	18.2	27,446	8,316	30.3	-23.6	26.9
Wheeling	34,496	7,135	20.7	35,924	10,773	30.0	4.1	51.0
Romeoville	21,153	2,781	13.1	38,968	11,664	29.9	84.2	319.4
Mundelein	30,935	7,487	24.2	31,834	9,507	29.9	2.9	27.0
Zion	22,866	3,487	15.2	23,888	7,007	29.3	4.5	100.9
Streamwood	36,407	6,108	16.8	40,608	11,702	28.8	11.5	91.6
Glendale Heights	31,765	5,842	18.4	33,606	9,588	28.5	5.8	64.1
Joliet	106,221	19,552	18.4	144,162	38,014	26.4	35.7	94.4

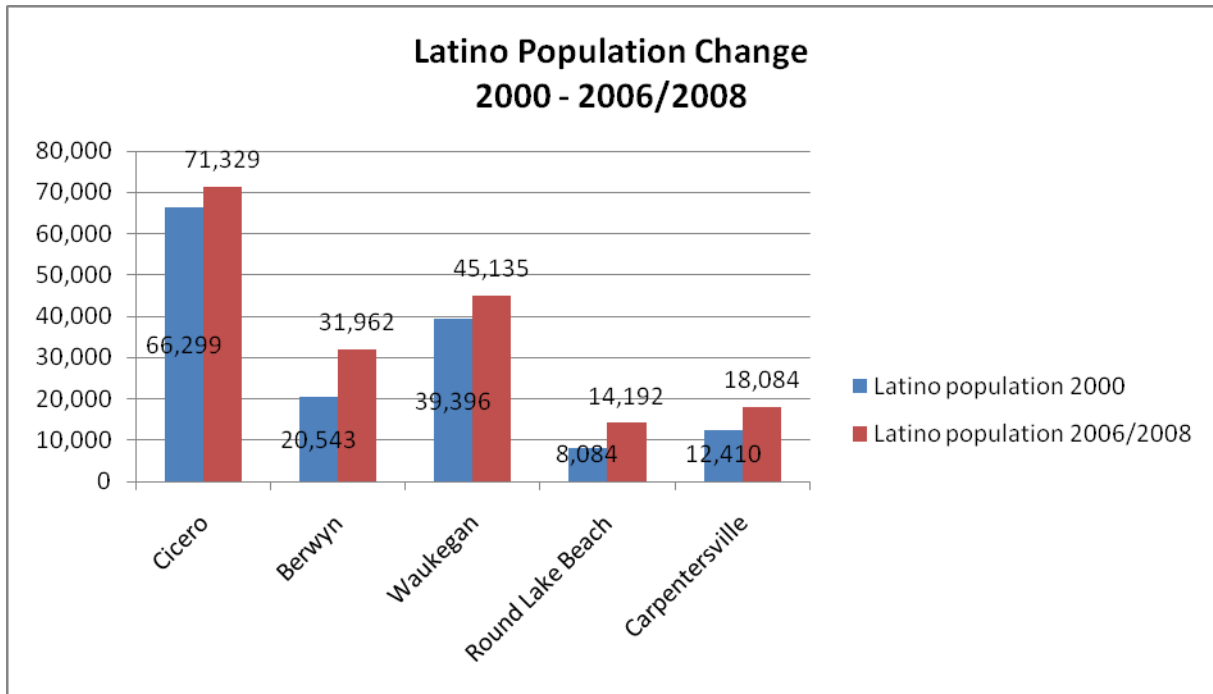
Data Source: Census 2000, ASC 2000, 2006-2008 estimates

Figure 5



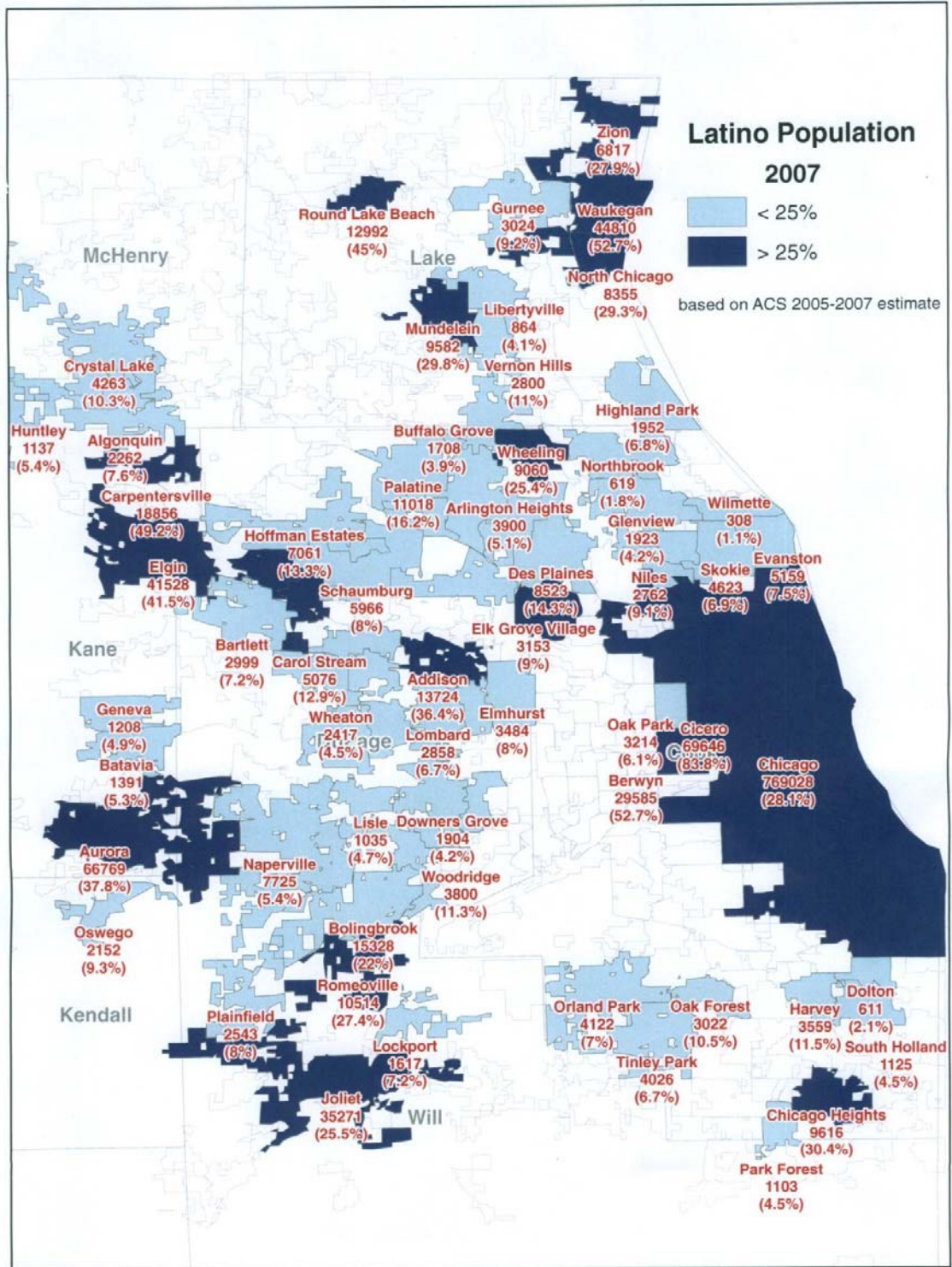
Source: ACS 2006-2008 estimates

Figure 6



Source: ACS 2006-2008 estimates

Figure 7



Source: ACS 2005-2007 estimates

The Village of Round Lake Beach

In the Chicago metropolitan area, Round Lake Beach, located in Lake County, has the 4th highest Latino percent population (49.5%) after Cicero (84.1%), Berwyn (55.1%) and Waukegan (52.2%). However, among the top 10 municipalities with the highest percent Latino population Round Lake Beach had the highest Latino population growth between 2000 and 2008 at 75.6%,. Ten percent of the Latino population in Lake County lives in Round Lake Beach. Other communities in Lake County that have a high percentage of Latinos are Waukegan (52.2%), Mundelein (29.9%) and Zion (29.3%). (ACS 2006-2008).

Round Lake Beach became an incorporated village in 1937. According to the Village of Round Lake Beach web site, its name dates back to the early settlers. The area's first house was built in 1839. The early settlers, mostly of English and Irish descent, were farmers specializing in livestock and fruit growing. Through the years, farming was the most important occupation for men of the community, although employment was also provided by Armour & Company at its Round Lake ice plant. In the 20th century, farming was still the basis of the local economy, although the area also became a summertime tourist destination. According to the 1962 census, Round Lake Beach had the largest population in western Lake County with 6,011 inhabitants and the largest community in land area as the result of aggressive annexation policy. (<http://www.villageofroundlakebeach.com/history.htm>). The impressive increase of the Latino population in the area has been a phenomenon of the last 10 years.

Immigrant suburbanization poses great challenges to communities that are affected by it. Census data shows that Latinos in metropolitan Chicago have a low educational attainment.

41.3% have less than a high school diploma, compared to 15.3% for the total population. 11.2% have a bachelor's or higher degree, compared to 33% of the total population. 31% speak English "not well" or "not at all" and 16.8% live in poverty. (ACS 2006-2008).

The question that remains is why these immigrant families are changing their settlement pattern and establishing their homes in suburban areas that have not been traditionally immigrant ports of entry. Understanding this new phenomenon may help municipalities to better respond to the needs of the increasing number of Latino immigrants looking for supportive services and the urgent need to integrate them into mainstream society. In addition, understanding this demographic shift is valuable information to urbanologists as they attempt to understand the challenges in the urban landscape of the 21st century.

Review of Literature

There is little or no understanding of what is producing the suburbanization of Latinos, let alone a grasp of what the cause of different sizes of enclaves is or the dynamics that drive such geographic mobility. Several explanations and hypotheses have been developed but little empirical research is available to support one or the other. After 2000 when the U.S Census data showed that the immigrant population was growing faster in the suburbs than in the city, the phenomenon of minority suburbanization received special attention. Nonetheless, the general issue of immigrant integration into American urban life had been amply studied and has been a persistent theme in urban policy and sociology literature. (Greene 1997, 179).

Spatial Assimilation Model

The *spatial assimilation model*, derived from the Chicago School's ecological model, establishes a direct link between the spatial and social position of minorities (Alba and Logan 1991, 432). This model presents suburbanization as a distinct phase in an overall process in which minorities improve their residential status as they acculturate and become socially mobile (Alba et al 1999, 446). In this process, as minorities improve their economic situation, they are able to move out of their ethnic enclaves into communities where white non-Latinos predominate. This model also argues that residential mobility follows after the acculturation of minorities and that it is an intermediate step on the way to a more complete assimilation (Alba and Logan 1991, 432).

Research conducted by Alba et al concluded that, as the model predicts, suburbanization is strongly determined by socioeconomic level and thus by the ability to enter the suburban housing market (Alba et al 1999, 458). While the *spatial assimilation* model may well apply to early immigrants, especially of European decent, it poorly explains why recent immigrants, in particular Latino immigrants, are bypassing the city and settling directly into the suburbs.

Some studies suggest that as part of the assimilation process, income level, education and English proficiency are determinants of immigrant suburbanization. Alba et al concludes that households in which the head or spouse does not speak English well are less likely than others to reside in the suburbs (Alba et al 1999, 453). However, it is estimated that 43.5% of Latino immigrants in the Chicago Metropolitan area do not speak English well. With respect to

education, only 3.2% of Mexican immigrants have a college degree and 41.7% have not completed high school (ACS 2005-2007). In terms of income, the poverty level of immigrants and natives is almost the same in the city (24.4% for immigrants vs. 21.3% for natives) while there is a more pronounced difference in the suburbs (8.1% for immigrants and 4.8% for natives) (Paral 2000, 16). This makes the phenomenon of Latino suburbanization even more puzzling.

Stratification Model

A model that supplements the assimilation model is the *stratification model*, which according to Alba and Logan applies to Latinos. This model is supported by findings of racial segmentation in housing markets where practices that impede free mobility of minorities such as, “steering” realtors, unequal access to mortgage credit, exclusionary zoning and neighborhood hostility, determine settlement decisions (Alba and Logan 1991, 433). As a consequence, minorities that fit into this model cannot convert socioeconomic and assimilation gains into better residential location. “In other words, it may “cost” the members of some minorities more income to reach the suburbs than it cost others” (Alba and Logan 1991, 433).

Employment Shifts Model

Richard Greene, in contrast, argues that the settlement pattern of new immigrants in the Chicago metropolitan area diverges significantly from previous immigration as a result of

employment shifts (Greene 1997, 179). According to this scholar, employment decentralization in Chicago has generated the movement of immigrants from the city to the suburbs. This author argues that recent immigrant suburbanization is the result of employment shifts from the central city to the suburbs. He asserts that the principal reason for immigrants to settle in a particular place is economic, therefore immigrants will move to places where job opportunities are situated. "Thus an edge-city destination is likely to hold more economic promise for a new immigrant than an inner-city neighborhood that has experienced a decline in its industrial job base" (Greene 1997, 180).

Heterolocal Model

On the other hand, the *Heterolocal model* claims that "the dispersion of immigrants throughout metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas conveys the possibility that national and ethnic groups exist without traditional clustering" (Newbold and Spinder 2000, 1906). This model is characterized by dispersed settlement patterns where work place and residence are separated, in contrast to the assimilation model where residence, work and social spheres overlap. The term refers to "recent populations of shared ethnic identity which enter an area from distant sources, then quickly adopt a dispersed pattern of residential location, while managing to remain cohesive through a variety of means" (Zelinsky and Lee 1998, 281). This heterolocalism also responds to better transportation systems and the changing distribution of employment opportunities. However, "while dispersed settlement patterns suggest heterolocalism, concentrated settlements suggest that other models and processes are more

relevant, with groups facing greater barriers to adjustment being more likely to settle in areas of immigrant concentration” (Newbold and Spinder 2000, 1909).

Push/Pull Model

A number of studies have also shown a relationship between immigrant flow and *push/pull* factors. Push factors include the poor social and economic conditions of the place of origin. The pull factors include promising economic opportunities and networks in the place of destination. (Greene 1997, 186). According to this theory people move because social and economic forces in the place of destination impel them to do so or since they were attracted to these places because of social and economic factors (Boyd 1989, 640). Critics of this theory argue that it fails to predict the origin of flows and changes therein, and they also criticize its emphasis on the movement of people as a result of rational calculations performed by individual actors (Boyd 1989, 640).

Networking Model

Networking theory and *Chain Migration* may also explain the phenomenon of minorities’ suburbanization. As the percentage of immigrants in the suburbs increases it becomes easier for new immigrants to settle there. They use the networks and infrastructure that have been developed to meet their needs. “The trend also reflects the maturation of migration streams, stimulated by social networks based on family/household, friendship and

community ties and relationships” (Boyd 1989, 639). Networks play an important role when explaining migration trends. Networks conduct information, financial assistance and resources that allow immigrants to settle in places where they have better opportunities for success. In contrast to the push/pull theory, the study of networks permits understanding migration as a social product, not as the result of individual decisions or as the sole result of economic or political parameters, but as an outcome of all these factors in interaction (Boyd 1898, 642). This movement of people is calculated and sustained. Once a network is established, chain migration begins and the migration pattern is self-sustaining. Settlement and integration are supported by those networks that provide food, shelter, financial assistance, jobs, and vital information to the newcomers.

Neighborhood Amenities

Neighborhood amenities present in the suburbs may also be the factor that spurs immigrant suburbanization. As immigrants populate the suburbs, the reputation of the emerging immigrant gateways generates further settlement as social and economic networks emerge (Singer 2004, 4).

The Research Design: A Case Study

I conducted a case study of one suburban community, the Village of Round Lake Beach. It has a total population of 28,688 and a 49.5% Latino population of 14,192 (ACS 2006-2008).

Round Lake Beach was chosen from among the five municipalities that compose the greater Round Lake Area: Round Lake, Round Lake Park, Round Lake Heights, Round Lake Beach and Hainesville, because the ACS estimates are available for municipalities with populations over 25,000. Round Lake Beach is the only municipality in the area that qualifies and for which current census data is available.

I conducted interviews with a sample of 100 Round Lake Beach Latino residents to determine the reasons why they decided to settle in the area. The data was collected by using face to face interviews because the Latino population in the study has a low educational level and tends to be intimidated by pencil and paper questionnaires. Additionally, face to face contact with the participants permitted insight into their feelings, emotions, as well as allowed to ask follow-up questions.

The sample was drawn using the database of a nonprofit agency, Mano a Mano Family Resource Center, which serves over 3,500 Latinos in Lake County a year. The agency's database contains over 10,000 contacts. In order to increase the possibility of success in locating participants for this case study, the data was sorted so that only clients seen in the last year (between January 9, 2008 and January 9, 2009) were selected. Since among Latinos in the Chicago metropolitan region, Mexicans are the largest ethnic group, ethnicity was held constant; interviews were limited to Mexican adult males and females living in Round Lake Beach. After sorting the original database by age (people over 21), national origin (only Mexico) and municipality of residence (only Round Lake Beach) the final sampling pool was 366 people: 149 men and 217 women. Sixty (60) women and forty (40) men were interviewed.

The following data collection Instrument was used:

Background	
1.1	What is your age range Under 21 ___ 22-54 ___ 55-64 ___ 65 and up ___
1.2	What is your marital status? Single ___ Married ___ Divorced ___ Widower ___
1.3	How many members are in your household? ___
1.4	What is your level of education Elementary ___ Middle School ___ Some high school ___ Completed High school or have GED ___ Higher ___
1.5	English speaking skills Speaks no English ___ Speaks English not well ___ Speaks English well ___ Speaks English very well ___
1.6	What is your current employment situation: Employed ___ Unemployed ___ Retired ___
1.7	If employed, what is your occupation _____
1.8	Annual household income Under \$9,999 ___ \$10,000-\$39,999 ___ \$40,000 - \$59,999 ___ Over \$60,000 ___
1.9	Do you own a house ___ Rent ___
Research Specific	
2.1	How many years have you been living in the U.S 0-3yrs ___ 4-6yrs ___ 7-10yrs ___ 11-16yrs ___ 16-20yrs ___ All my life ___
2.2	How long have you been living in Round Lake Beach 0-3yrs ___ 4-6yrs ___ 7-10yrs ___ 11-16yrs ___ 16-20yrs ___ All my life ___
2.3	Do you see yourself living in Round Lake Beach 5 years from now? Yes ___ No ___ Do not know ___
2.4	Where did you live before moving to Round Lake Beach? City _____ State _____ Country _____
2.5	Please provide your residence history in the previous two years
2.6	Why did you decide to move to Round Lake Beach
2.7	What is the "best thing" about living in Round Lake Beach
2.8	What is the "worst" thing about living in Round Lake Beach
Settlement determinants	
3	Please rank the following statements according to importance, 1 being the most important reason why you moved to Round Lake Beach and 6 being the least important.
	I moved to Round Lake Beach because:
	Of better economic situation that allowed you to move to the suburbs
	Availability of affordable housing
	Because of jobs available in the area
	Because of better schools

	Because of safer neighborhoods
	Because family members/friends recommended the area
	I am going to read to you some typical reasons why people move to the suburbs. Please indicate how important each of the reasons was in your decision to settle in Round Lake Beach or if you agree or disagree with each statement:
Spatial Assimilation Model	
3.1	You achieved a better economic situation and decided that living in the suburbs was better fitted for your family Totally Agree ___ Somehow Agree ___ Agree ___ Disagree ___ Neutral ___
3.2	You feel more integrated into American culture and prefer to raise your family in the suburbs, even if the white majority predominates Totally Agree ___ Somehow Agree ___ Agree ___ Disagree ___ Neutral ___
3.3	You speak English well and prefer to live and raise a family in an English speaking suburban community Totally Agree ___ Somehow Agree ___ Agree ___ Disagree ___ Neutral ___
Stratification Model	
3.4	More affordable housing in the Round Lake Area Very important ___ Somehow Important ___ Important ___ Not important at all ___ Neutral ___
3.5	Better able to find mortgage credit Very important ___ Somehow Important ___ Important ___ Not important at all ___ Neutral ___
	You were unable to find a house in other neighborhoods near Round Lake Totally Agree ___ Somehow Agree ___ Agree ___ Disagree ___ Neutral ___
Employment Shifts Model	
3.6	To move closer to the place of employment Very important ___ Somehow Important ___ Important ___ Not important at all ___ Neutral ___
3.7	Because of higher paying jobs in the Round Lake area Very important ___ Somehow Important ___ Important ___ Not important at all ___ Neutral ___
Heterolocal Model	
3.8	Your work place is far from your home but you do not mind because you have good transportation systems Totally Agree ___ Somehow Agree ___ Agree ___ Disagree ___ Neutral ___
3.9	You are separated from your ethnic group but you keep in constant contact with them Totally Agree ___ Somehow Agree ___ Agree ___ Disagree ___ Neutral ___
Push/Pull Model	
3.10	The poor conditions in your previous place of residence forced you to move to Round Lake Totally Agree ___ Somehow Agree ___ Agree ___ Disagree ___ Neutral ___
3.11	You heard good things about Round Lake that motivated you to move there Totally Agree ___ Somehow Agree ___ Agree ___ Disagree ___ Neutral ___
Networking Model	
3.12	Because you had friends/family in the Round Lake Area that helped you get settled Very important ___ Somehow Important ___ Important ___ Not important at all ___ Neutral ___
3.13	Language and ethnic comfort

	Very important __ Somehow Important __ Important __ Not important at all __ Neutral __
3.14	Availability of:
	ethnic shopping
	Very important __ Somehow Important __ Important __ Not important at all __ Neutral __
	Community Churches
3.14	Very important __ Somehow Important __ Important __ Not important at all __ Neutral __
	Community organizations
3.14	Very important __ Somehow Important __ Important __ Not important at all __ Neutral __
Neighborhood Amenities	
3.15	Because of better schools
	Very important __ Somehow Important __ Important __ Not important at all __ Neutral __
3.16	Because of safer neighborhoods
	Very important __ Somehow Important __ Important __ Not important at all __ Neutral __

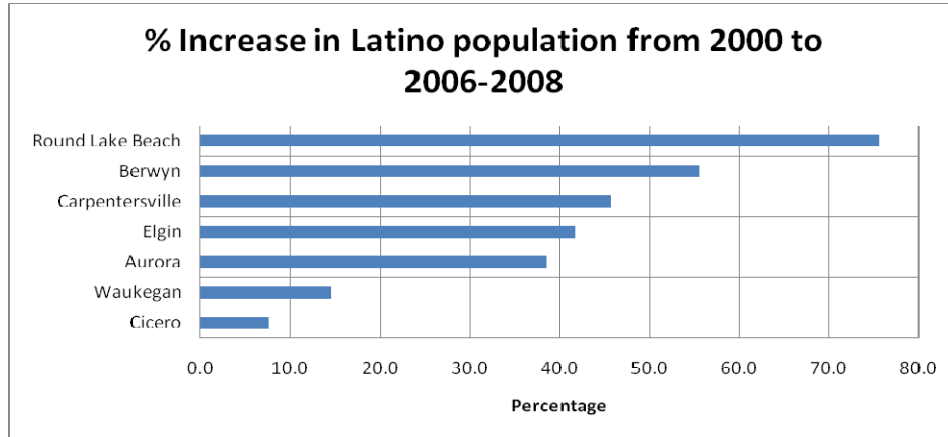
Data Analysis and Observations

The sample used to conduct this case study was drawn from the database of a community organization located in Round Lake Park that helps low income and needy families in the area. Therefore the observations and conclusions drawn in this study are limited to the population of low-income and needy families who seek the services of this organization and do not reflect the settlement patterns of other Latinos in the Round Lake area. Nonetheless, the data gathered through these interviews provided some basic insight into the settlement patterns of this segment of the Latino population in the Round Lake area. Appendix 2 contains the raw data from which the following analysis and observations are drawn.

According to ACS data, in 2000 there were 8,084 Latinos living in Round Lake Beach. The American Community Survey's most recent data (2006-2008) estimates a total of 14,192 Latinos in Round Lake Beach, a 75.6% increase in Latino population from 2000 to 2006-2008. When compared with other municipalities in the Chicago metropolitan area with the highest Latino population density: Cicero (84%), Waukegan (52%), Berwyn (51%), Carpentersville (49%),

Elgin (43%) and Aurora (37%) (ACS 2006-2008), Round Lake Beach (49.5%) is the municipality that shows the highest Latino population growth from the year 2000.

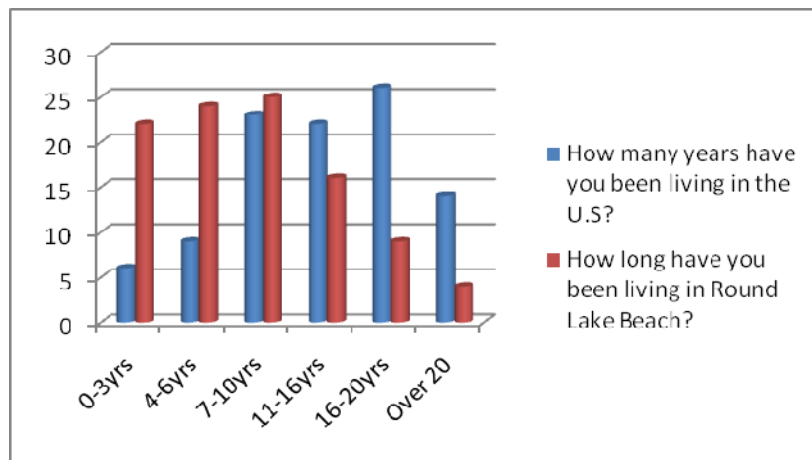
Figure 8



Source: ACS 2006-2008 Estimates

This is consistent with the results of this research that shows that the suburbanization of Latinos in Round Lake Beach is relatively new. While 62% of the respondents have been living in the United States for over 11 years, 71% of the respondents have been living in the Round Lake area less than 10 years.

Figure 9



Source: Mano a Mano Database

For purpose of this analysis, respondents were divided into four groups: *settlers*, those who have been living in Round Lake Beach for over 20 years, *established residents*, those living in the area from 11 to 20 years, *new residents*, those who have been in the area between 4 and 10 years and *newcomers*, those who have lived in the area less than 3 years. A closer look at their responses allows an initial assessment of the reasons why each of these distinct groups decided to move to the area and where they are coming from.

Early Settlers (Over 20 years)

Four percent (4) of all respondents have been living in Round Lake Beach for over 20 years. 50% (2) of them reported having moved because of jobs available in the area, and 50% (2) reported having moved because of friends and family networks. All of the early settlers came directly from Mexico (Michoacán and Zacatecas).

Established residents (11 to 20 years)

25% (25) of respondents have been living in Round Lake Beach between 11 and 20 years. Of this group of established residents, 44% (11) came directly from Mexico (Michoacán, Mexico City, Guadalajara, and Cuernavaca). 64% (7) of the established residents, who moved to the area directly from Mexico, reported that they moved because of their networks of friends and family.

8% (2) of these established residents moved to Round Lake Beach from California because of jobs available in the area. 48% (12) of established residents moved from a municipality in the Chicago metropolitan area (Fox Lake, Waukegan, Mundelein, Ingleside,

Palatine, Arlington Heights, Prospect Heights and Wheeling), and 83% (10) of those who moved to Round Lake Beach from a municipality in the Chicago metropolitan area, chose *availability of affordable housing* as the number one reason why they moved. 75% (9) of these established residents, who moved to Round Lake Beach from a municipality in the Chicago metropolitan area, have been living in the United States for more than 16 years.

New Residents (4 to 10 years)

The bulk of respondents, 49% (49) have lived in Round Lake Beach from 4 to 7 years. Of those, 35% (17) came directly from Mexico (Mexico City, Michoacán, Jalisco and Puebla). Of these new residents coming directly from Mexico, 65% (11) moved because of their friends and family networks.

14% (7) new residents moved from a different state (California and Texas). 57% (4) of these new residents, who moved from a different state, chose *friends and family networks* as the main reason why they moved, and 43% (3) chose *jobs available in the area* as the main reason for moving to Round Lake Beach.

8% (4) of the new residents moved to Round Lake Beach from the city of Chicago. 75% (3) of these chose *Safer Neighborhoods* and *Better Schools* as the reason number one for having moved to the area.

43% (21) of new residents moved from a municipality in the Chicago metropolitan area (Mundelein, Palatine, Antioch, wheeling, Cicero, Glenview, Zion, Northbrook, Grayslake, and Waukegan). 71% (15) of these, moved to the area because of availability of affordable housing and 19% (4) chose networks of friends and family as the main reason to have moved.

Newcomers (0 to 3 years)

22% (22) of respondents moved to the area in the last three years. Of those, 18% (4) came directly from Mexico (Guerrero, Mexico City, Michoacán and Guanajuato), 14% (3) came from a different state (Texas and Alabama) and 68% (15) moved from Chicago or from a municipality in the Chicago metropolitan area (Rosemont, Mundelein, Waukegan, Cicero, DuPage and Prospect Heights).

75% (3) of those respondents coming from Mexico and 67% (2) of the respondents who moved from a different state, moved because of their friends and family networks. 67% (2) of respondents who moved from Chicago and 50% (6) of respondents who moved from a municipality in the Chicago metropolitan area reported having moved because of availability of affordable housing.

The majority of these newcomers are not newcomers to the United States, as 64% (14) have been in the country anywhere between 7 to 20 years.

Based on this data, it can be hypothesized that settlement determinants are not so much linked to when respondents moved to Round Lake Beach, but to the place from which they came. The graphs below show the responses grouped by length of residency and by place of origin.

Figure 10

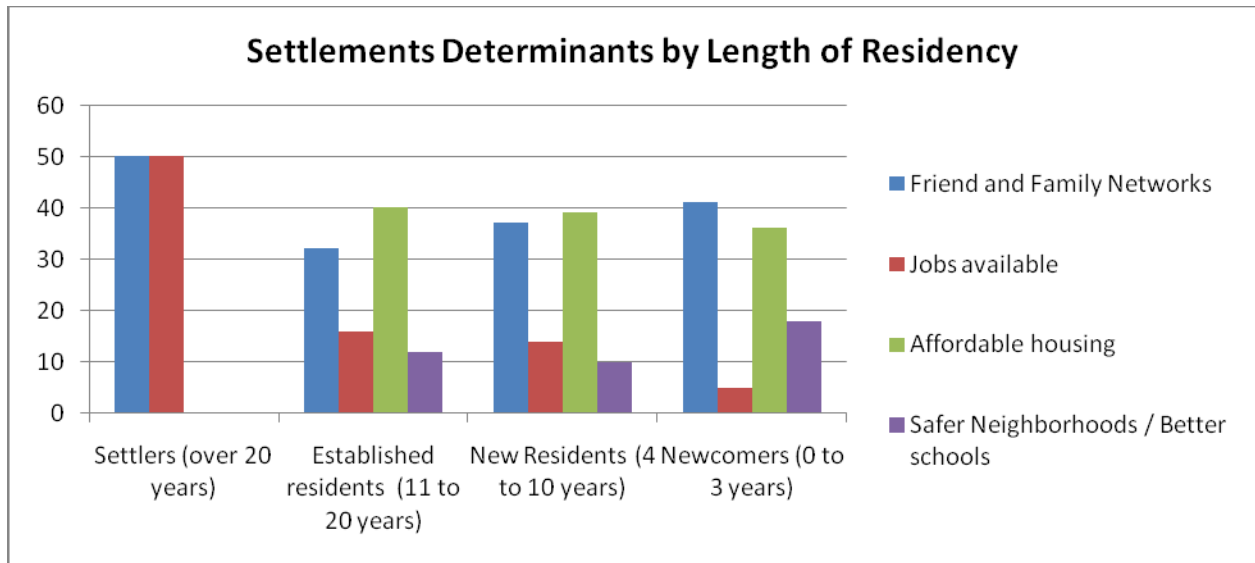
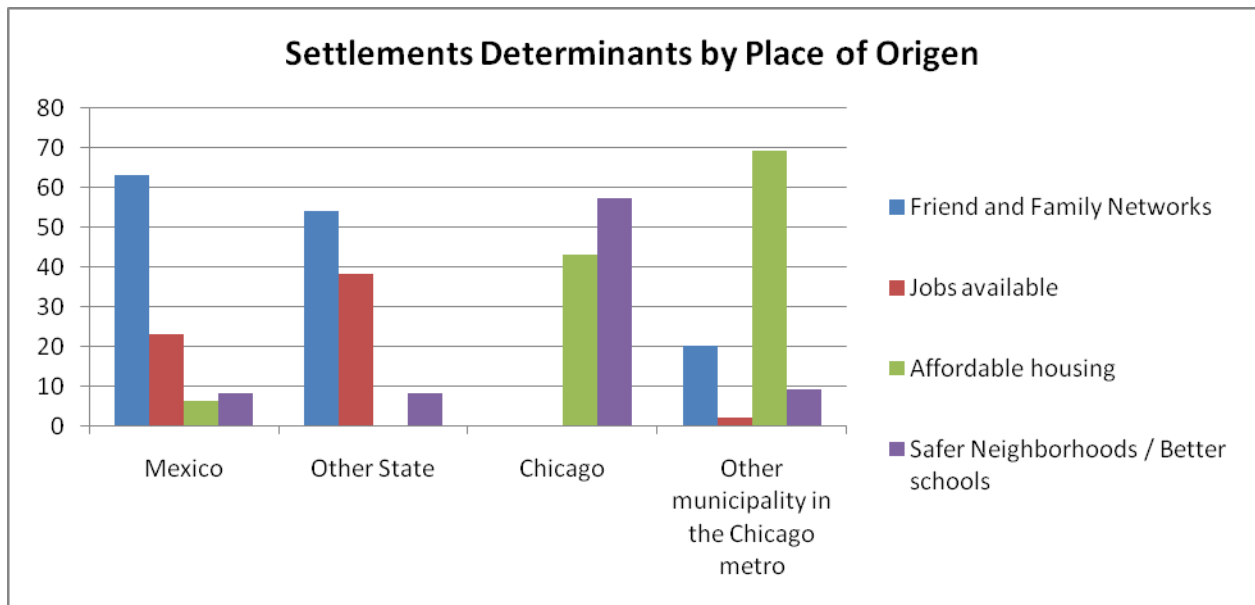


Figure 11



According to the length of residency, early settlers mainly moved to Round Lake Beach because of jobs available in the area and through existing networks of family and friends. Affordable housing, safer neighborhoods or better schools were not among the reasons why they moved.

As the length of residence in the Round Lake area shortens, the settlement determinants remain fairly constant and do not allow for definitive conclusions to be drawn.

However, when the data is analyzed based on the place of origin, it can be argued that people moving to Round Lake Beach from Mexico and from other states, came mainly because of their networks of family and friends. People moving from Chicago and from other municipalities in the Chicago metropolitan region moved to Round Lake Beach mainly because of affordable housing, and people moving from Chicago mainly moved to Round Lake Beach because of safer neighborhood or better schools.

When observing the place of origin, it can be concluded that the number of people coming from Mexico has been decreasing steadily as the number of people moving from Chicago has been growing in the last ten years.

Figure 12

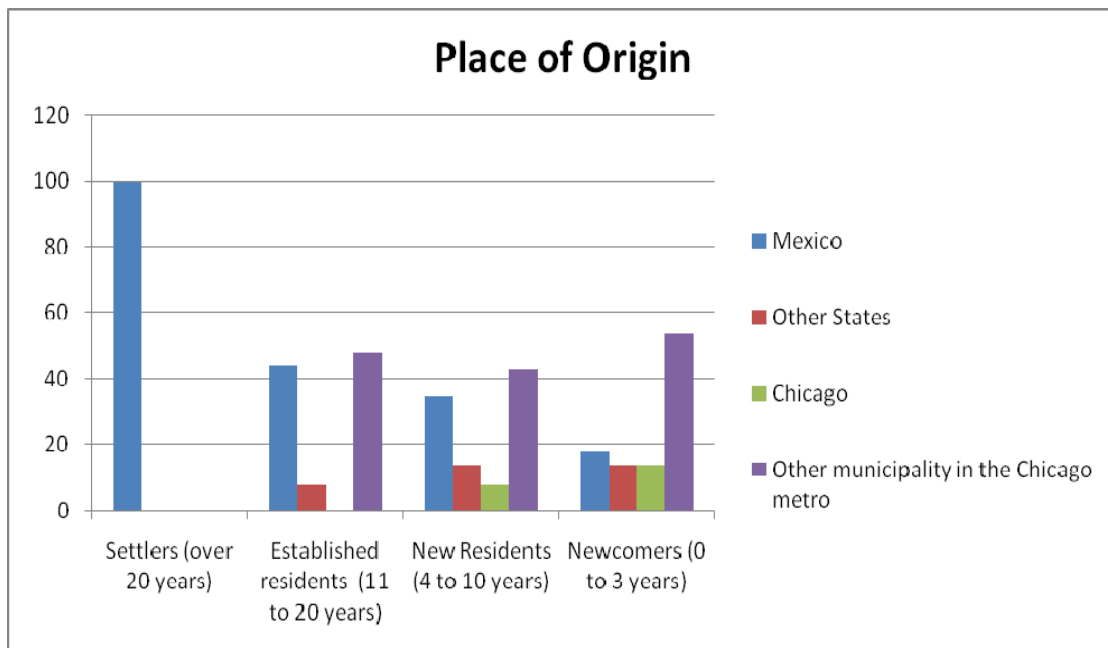
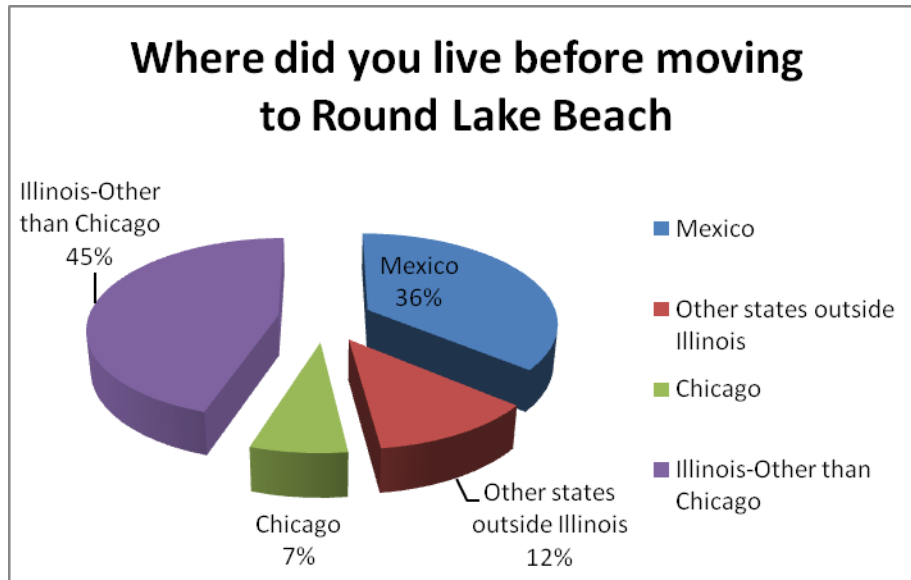


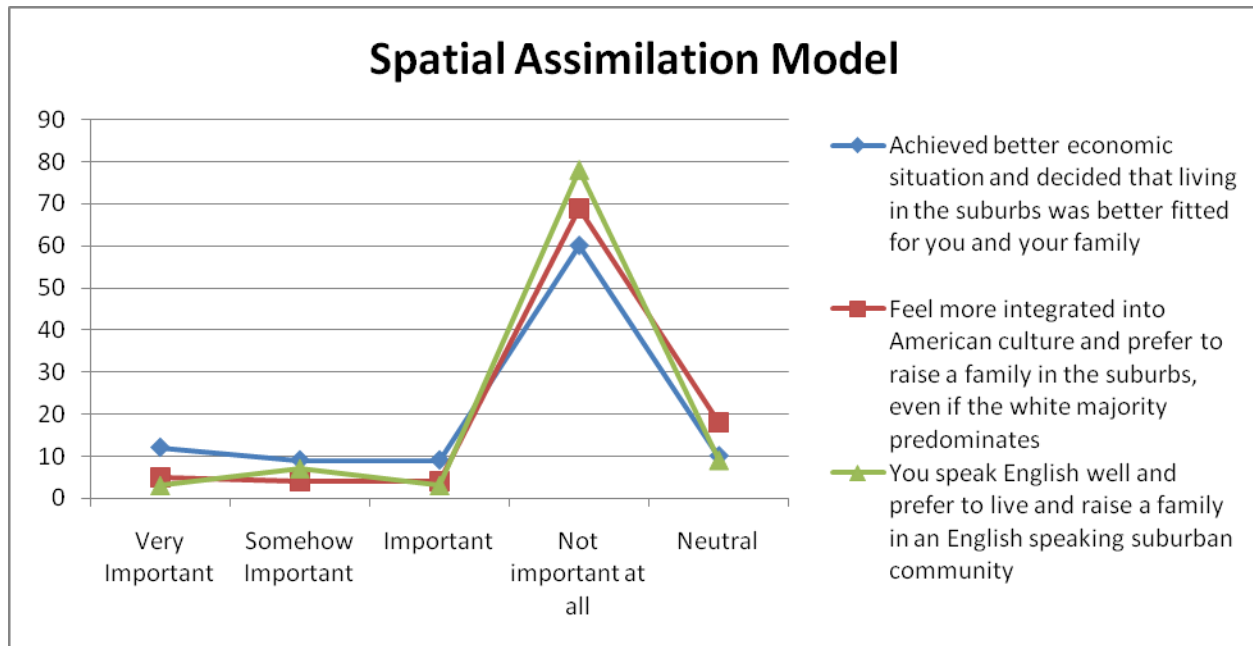
Figure 13



Testing Suburbanization Models

The interview instrument used for this research was designed with the goal of testing the different models used to explain immigrant suburbanization. To give an assessment of the model that better explains why Latinos are settling in Round Lake Beach, the responses within each model were analyzed. For each model, the answer with the highest number of respondents rating it as very important or totally agree was then compared with the highest rated answer from the other models.

Figure 14

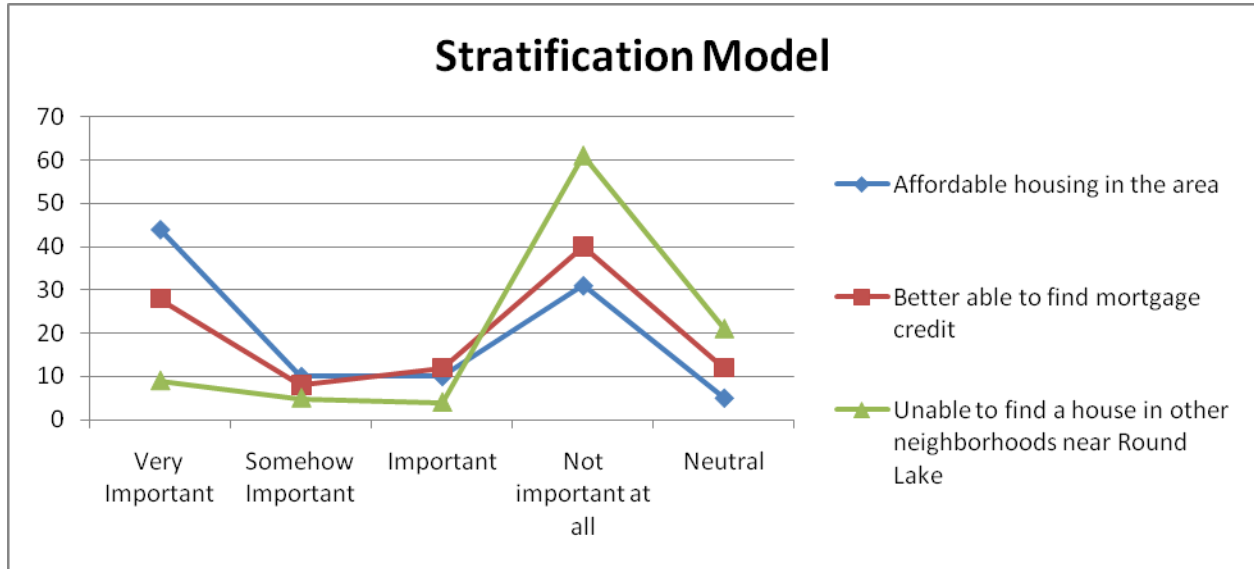


The Spatial Assimilation model argues that residential mobility follows after the acculturation of minorities and that it is an intermediate step on the way to a more complete assimilation. The results of this research show that this model does not apply to the immigrant group being studied. According to this model, residential mobility comes as a result of acculturation and socioeconomic mobility. Latinos coming to the Round Lake Beach, based on the results of this study, are not assimilated, they report little English proficiency, have very low income levels and most of them do not feel integrated to the American culture. Additionally, the fact the 36% of respondents came directly from Mexico and that most of the immigrants living in Round Lake Beach (71%) have been in the area less than ten years, allow concluding that the Spatial Assimilation model does not apply to this group.

60% of respondents disagree with the statement that they moved to Round Lake Beach because they achieved a better economic situation. 69% disagree with the statement that they

felt more integrated into American culture and 78% disagree with the statement that they spoke English well and preferred to raise a family in an English speaking suburb.

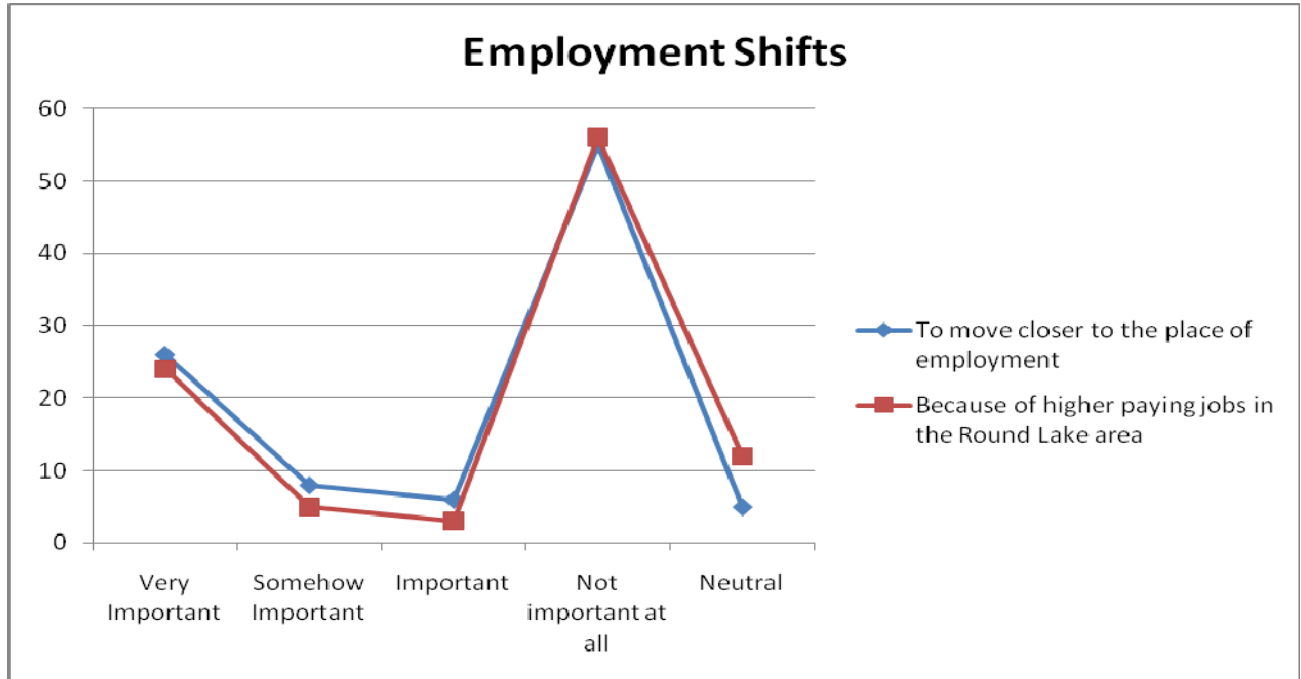
Figure 15



The Stratification model looks at housing prices and availability of mortgage credit as determinants of immigrant settlement. 44% of respondents moved to the area because of affordable housing. One respondent reported that he saved over \$300 a month in rent moving from Mundelein to Round Lake Beach. However, 31% of respondents said that affordable housing was not important at all when deciding to move to the area. 28% of participants said that the availability of mortgage credit was very important when deciding to move to the area, while 40% said that it was not important at all. 61% of respondents rated as not important at all the statement that they were unable to find a house in other neighborhoods near Round Lake. People moving to the area because of affordable housing apparently were looking for a house

in the area and did not look in surrounding communities, or if they did, they ended up in Round Lake because of better housing prices.

Figure 16

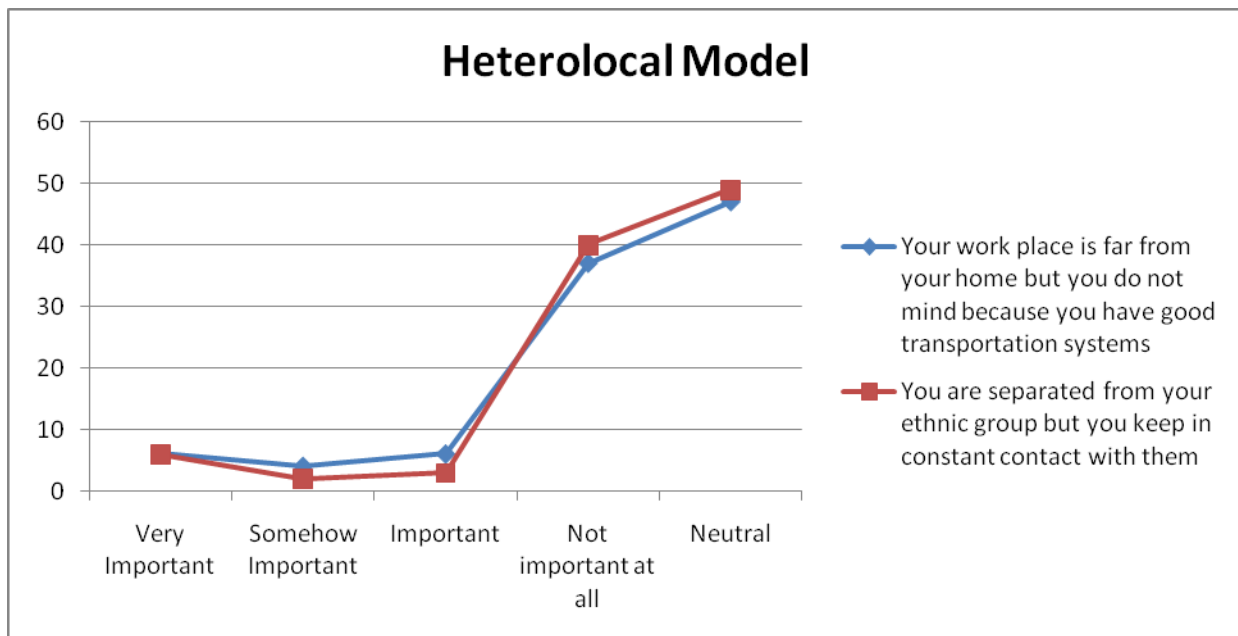


The Employment Shifts model argues that the principal reason for immigrants to settle in a particular place is economic, therefore immigrants will move to places where job opportunities are situated. In these economic times, respondents reported that they would commute or take any job available. Also, the fact that 64% are home owners shows that despite job instability, families settle down and buy houses, even if they have to travel long distances to go to work. 58%¹ of the respondents were not employed at the time of the interview and many of them shared concerns about being unable to find jobs in the area.

¹ The respondents were not asked if they were looking for work and available to work at the time of the interview, therefore this number does not represent the unemployment rate.

25% of respondents reported having moved to the area to be closer to their place of employment. 24% reported having moved to the area because of higher paying jobs. Some respondents reported that they have to commute to get to their jobs, others reported that they moved despite having to travel longer distances to go to work. These responses allow concluding that Latinos move to Round Lake Beach not necessarily because of job opportunities.

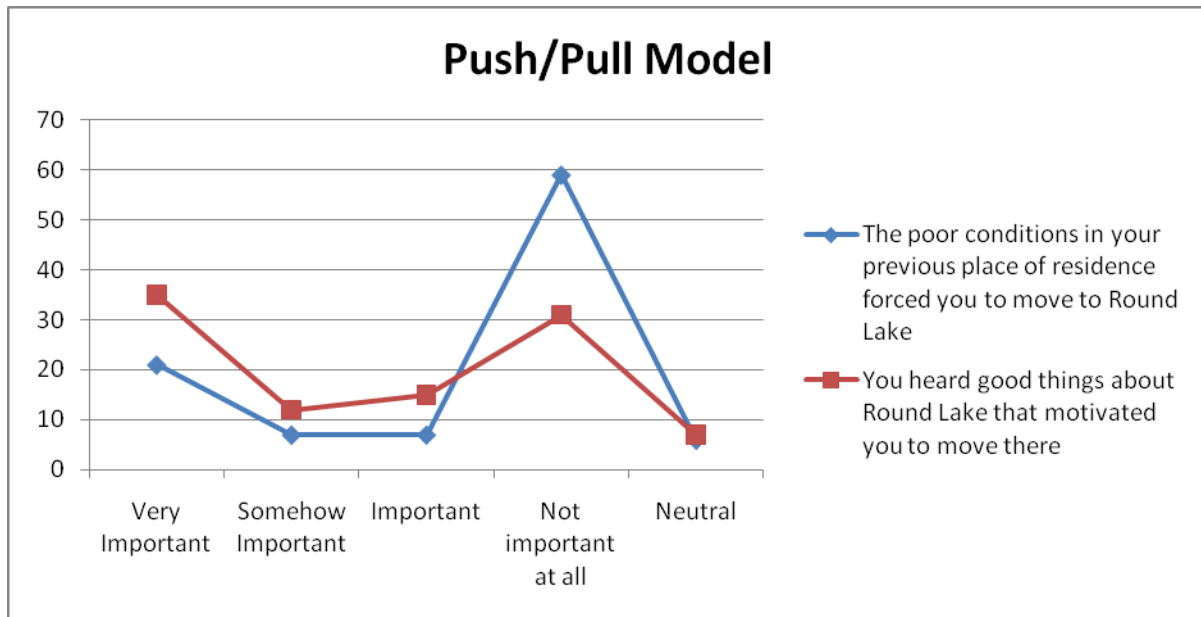
Figure 17



The Heterolocal model is characterized by a dispersed settlement pattern where work place and residence are separated and where immigrants are separated from their ethnic group. Nearly half of respondents (47% and 49%) were neutral or disagreed with the two statements that tested this theory. 56% of respondents did not come to the area because of jobs, and 37% did not agree with the statement that there were good transportation systems in

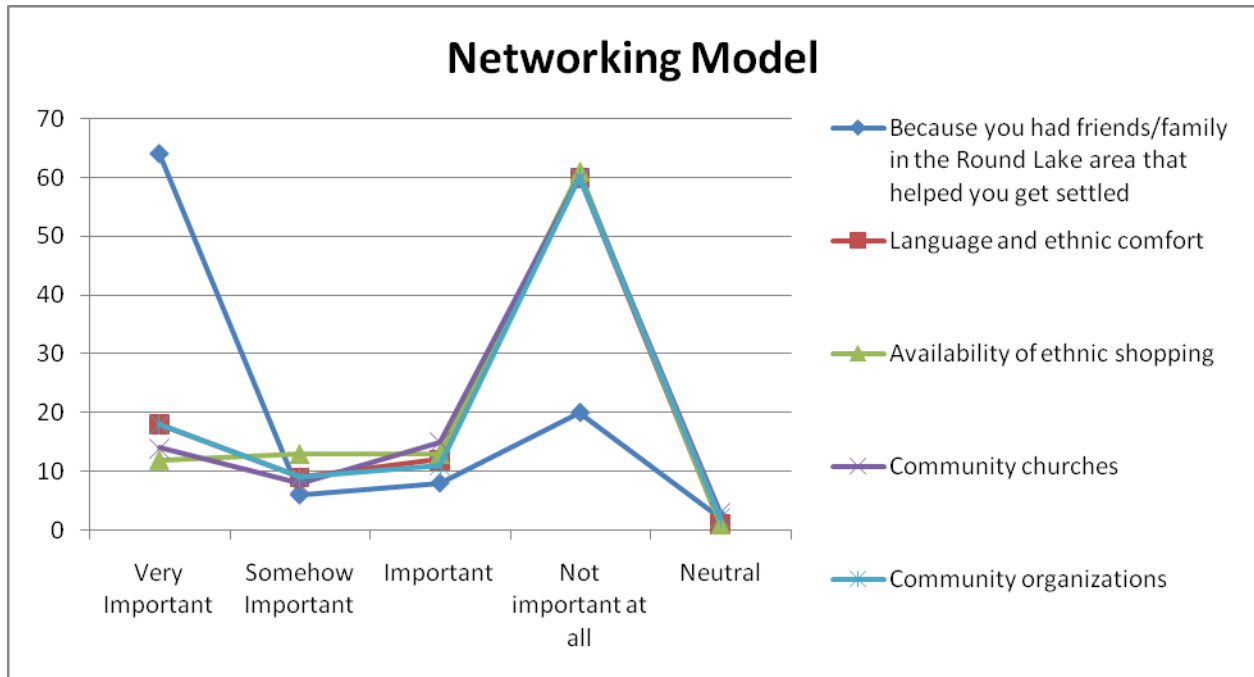
place for them to access those jobs. Also, respondents disagreed with the statement that they were separated from their ethnic group but kept in contact with them. In fact, as will be shown, a great number of respondents (64%) come to the area because of their networks (family and friends).

Figure 18



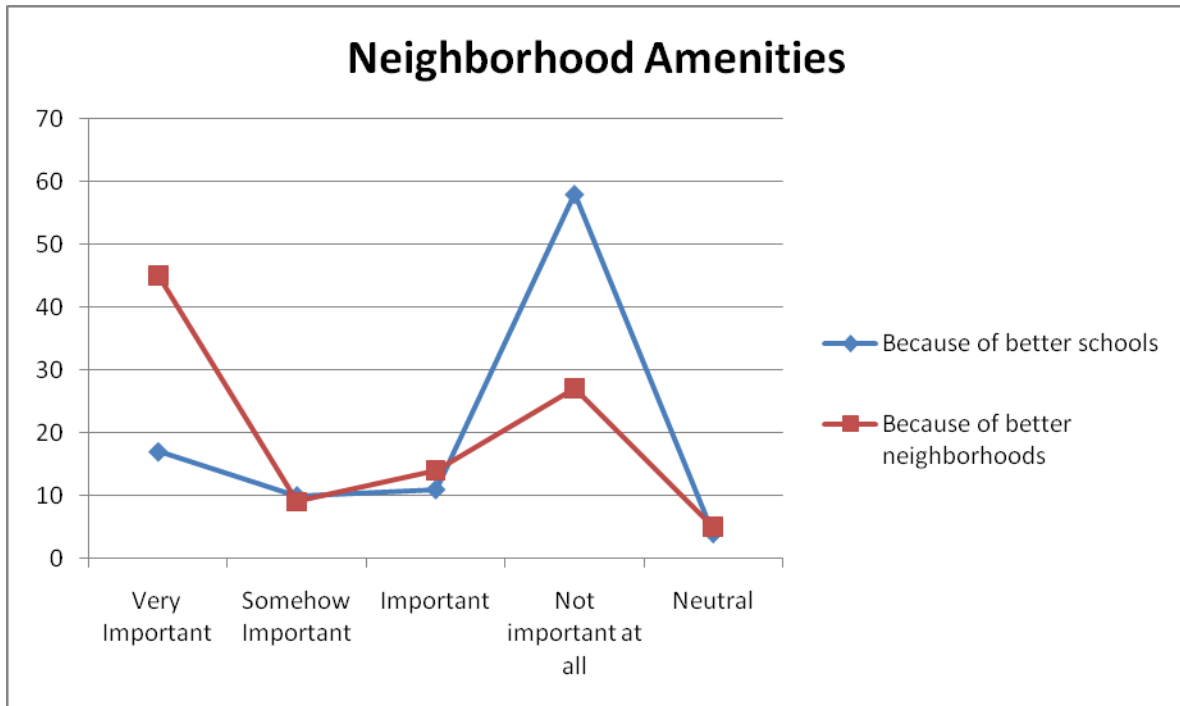
The Push/Pull model argues that people move because of social and economic conditions in the place or origin that force them to move, or because they were attracted to a new destination because of promising conditions. 35% of respondents agreed that they moved to the area because they heard good things about Round Lake that motivated them to move. 31% totally disagreed with the statement. 21% of respondents reported that poor conditions in their previous place of residence forced them to move, while 59% totally disagree with this statement. Consequently, there is not strong evidence to support the applicability of this model.

Figure 19



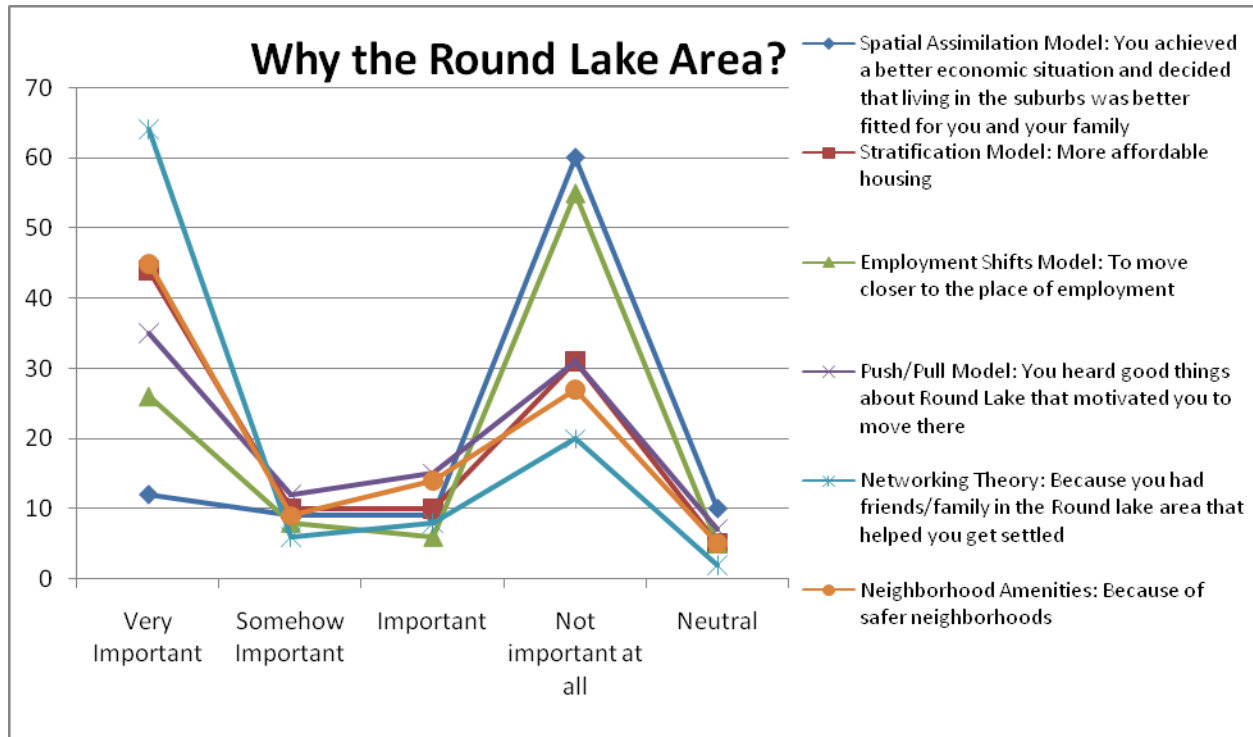
Existing networks of family and friends seems to be the strongest reason why Latinos are moving to the Round Lake area. 64% of respondents said that having friends and/or family in the area was very important when deciding to move. However, 60% of respondents said that language comfort, ethnic shopping and community churches were not important at all when deciding to move to the area. Respondents living in the area for over 10 years shared that when they moved, there were few Spanish speaking people or ethnic shopping.

Figure 20



Participants were asked if neighborhood amenities available in the area were the reason why they moved to Round Lake Beach. 58% of respondents rated *better schools* as not important at all. 45% of the respondents rated *safer neighborhoods* as a very important reason to have moved to the area, especially people coming from Chicago shared stories about gang related activity as the reason why they moved to the Round Lake area. Respondents were also asked to name what they thought was the “best thing” and the “worst thing” about Round Lake. 21% of respondents said gang activity and increasing violence in the Round Lake area was the worst thing. Paradoxically, 62% of respondents said safer and quieter neighborhood was the best thing about Round Lake. Among the worst thing about the area was also discrimination by police officers and lack of public transportation.

Figure 21



Based on these responses, it is suggestive that the model that best explains the suburbanization of Latinos in Round Lake Beach is the Networking Model. 64% of participants moved to Round Lake Beach through family and friends who helped them get settled. The Networking model explains that often times, these networks help newcomers find jobs, housing and navigate through the initial processes to get settled. “By binding migrants and nonmigrants together in a complex web of social roles and interpersonal relationships, these personal networks are conduits of information and social and financial assistance”. (Boyd 1898, 639).

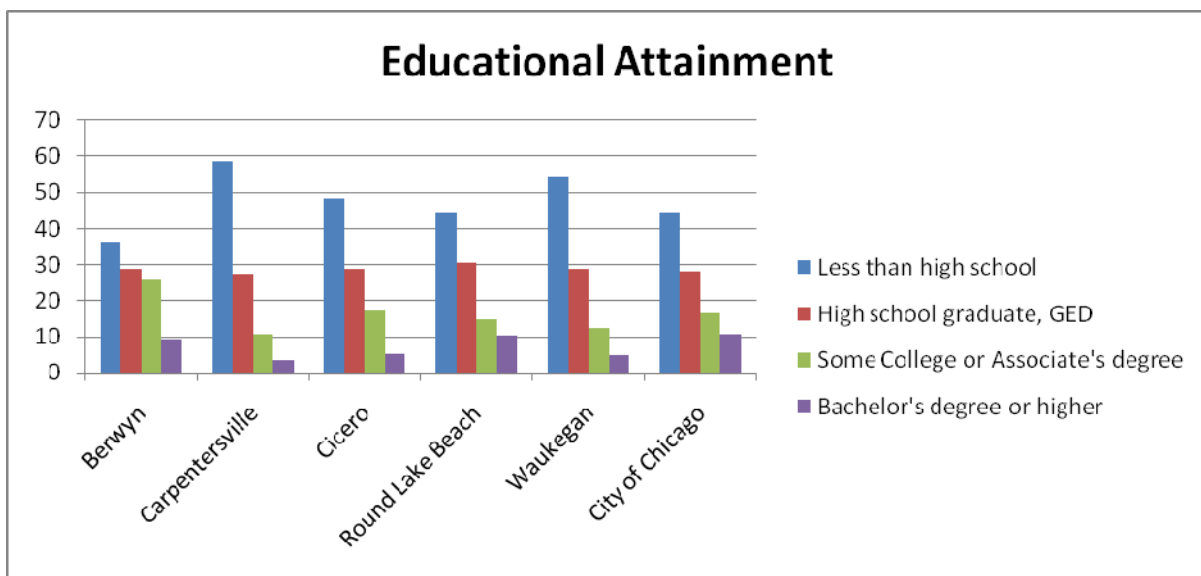
The second most important reason for Latinos to move to the area was safer neighborhood (45%) and thirdly was affordable housing (44%). Although 45% of respondents came to the area looking for safer neighborhoods, when asked about the “worst thing” about Round Lake, 21% said that gang violence was an increasing concern. It is also interesting to note

that although 24% of respondents said that jobs in the area was a very important reason to have moved, most of them (58%) also reported not being currently employed and having difficulties finding jobs in the area.

The Human Capital of Suburban Latinos

According to Census data, the Latino population is growing faster in the suburbs than in the city. It is important then to examine the human capital of the Latino population in the suburbs and compare it with the Latino population in the city to determine if there are important differences that allow a better understanding of the suburbanization process. To that end, the five municipalities in the Chicago metropolitan area with the highest Latino population (Cicero, Berwyn, Waukegan, Round Lake Beach and Carpentersville) have been included.

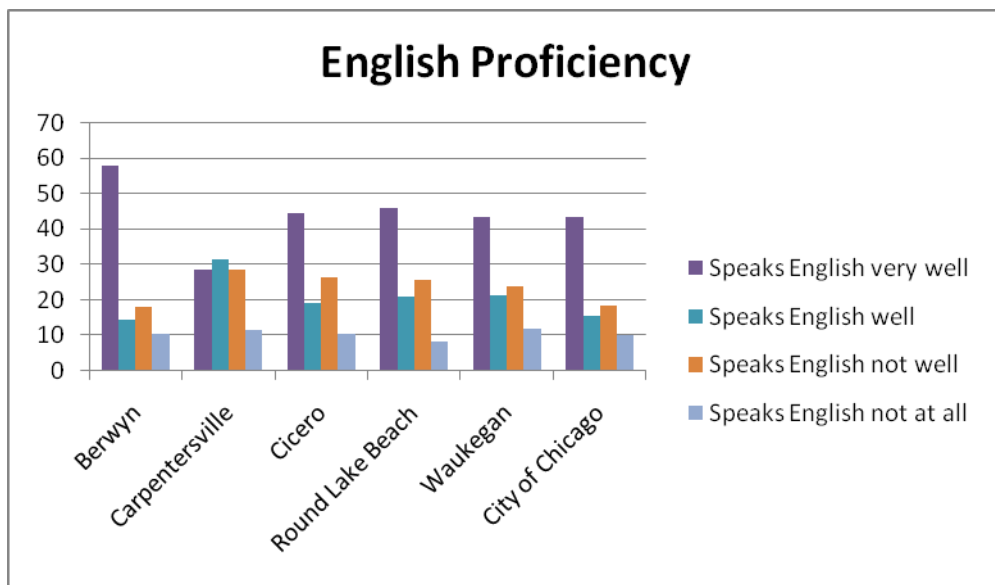
Figure 22



Source: ACS 2006-2008 estimates

Census data shows the overall low educational attainment of Latinos. Berwyn shows a significantly higher number of Latinos with some college or an Associate’ degree and a significantly lower percentage of Latinos with less than a High School diploma; the city of Chicago, Berwyn and Round Lake Beach show a higher number of Latinos with a Bachelor’s degree or higher.

Figure 23

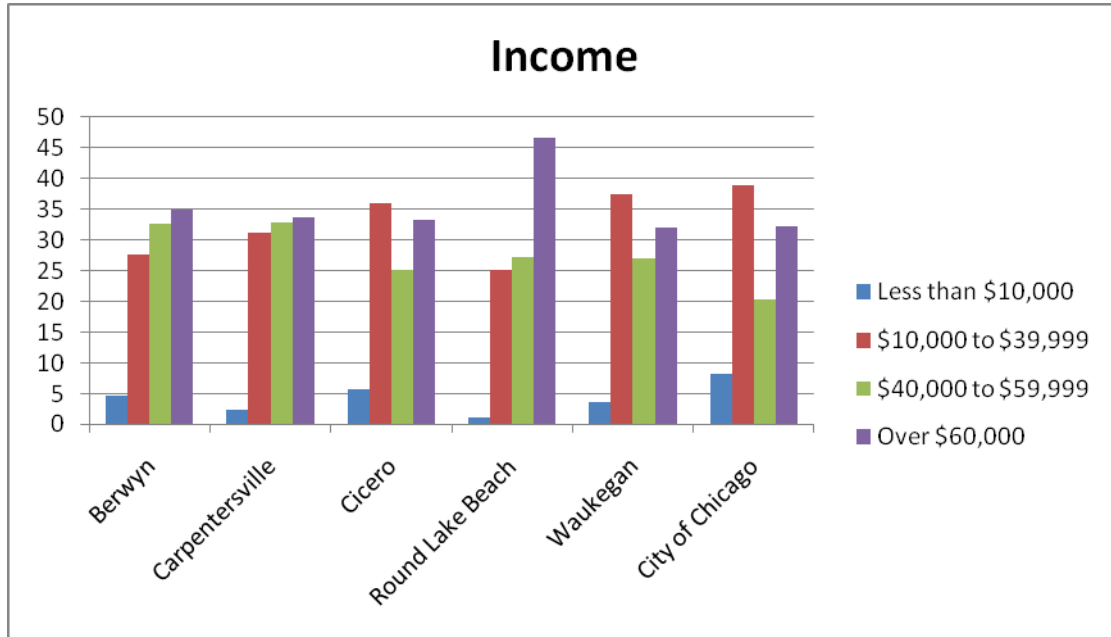


Source: ACS 2006-2008 estimates

There are no significant differences between Latinos in Chicago and in the high Latino density suburbs in terms of English proficiency. Among the suburbs, Berwyn shows the highest percentage of people who speak English very well (58%), while Carpentersville has the lowest percentage of people who speak English very well (29%). The percentage of people who do not speak English well or do not speak English at all is high in both the suburbs and the city. The

average percentage of people in Chicago and in the five municipalities analyzed here, who identify themselves as speaking English less than very well is 33%.

Figure 24



Source: ACS 2006-2008 estimates

In terms of household income, Round Lake Beach appears to be the municipality with the highest number of people who make over \$60,000 (47%) while the city of Chicago has the highest percentage of people who make less than \$10,000 (8%). Income levels do not vary significantly between the suburbs and the city of Chicago.

Mexican Immigrants in Round Lake Beach

The characteristics of Latinos according to this census data differs significantly from the data gathered through the surveys conducted for this case study. The sample of 100 Mexican

immigrants residing in Round Lake Beach was drawn from the database of a community organization that serves needy families in the Round Lake Area; therefore this study focuses on this particular subset of Latinos, composed mainly of low income and needy Mexicans, who looked for services and assistance through a local community organization.

Additionally, according to the findings of Ruben G. Rumbaut and Alejandro Portes in their book *Ethnicities*, among the multiple immigrant groups present in the United States, Mexicans have been significantly marginalized and have been least able to attain considerable upward mobility. Rumbaut and Portes, based on the findings of the Children of Immigrants Longitudinal Study (CILS) of 1990 lay out some of the reasons why Mexicans have experienced what they call *dissonant acculturation*, including the negative stereotype, socioeconomic disadvantages and the lack of organized networks, among others. The census data presented includes Latinos of all origins; when only Mexicans are analyzed, it is expected that the results will be significantly different.

89% of respondents who participated in this case study were adults between 22 and 54 years of age. 87% of them were married and 65% of the respondents live in households with 4 to 5 members.

The educational attainment of the respondents, their self-reported English proficiency and their income level provides some insight into the challenges that immigrant suburbanization poses to local communities. 77% of respondents did not finish high school and 85% speak English not well or do not speak English at all.

Figure 25

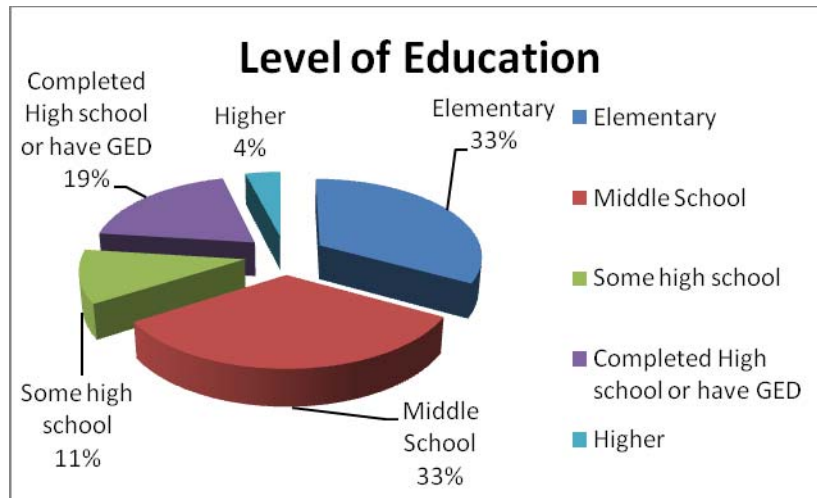
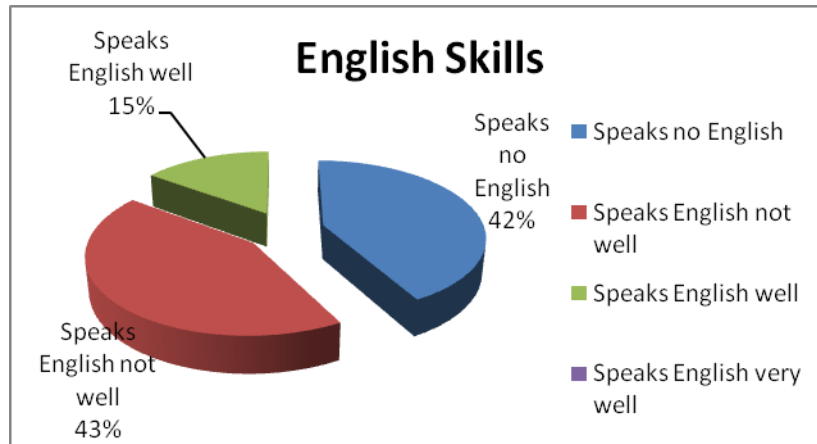


Figure 26



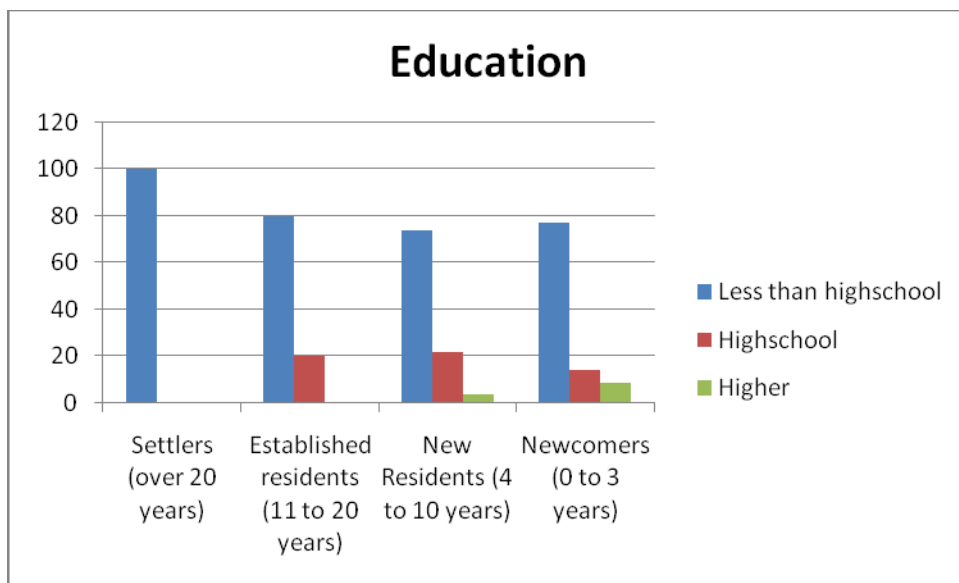
58% of the respondents were not employed at the time of the interview. The occupations of the 41% who are currently employed are also indicative of the limitations that foreign-born Latinos face when looking for jobs, having no English skills and low educational attainment. 29% of the respondents hold factory jobs; other occupations include restaurant jobs (19%), housekeeping (15%), landscaping (15%), and construction, (7%).

78% of the respondents reported a household income between \$10,000.00 and \$39,000.00 a year while 16% reported a yearly household income under \$9,000.00 and only 6% have an income over \$40,000. Nonetheless, 64% of the respondents live in a house that is owned.

When asked if they see themselves living in the Round Lake area in the next five years, 85% responded positively. Participants who responded negatively or did not know stated economic reasons as a factor for being forced to move out of the area in the near future. As reported previously, 58% of the respondents were not employed at the time of the interview. Others also mentioned tougher immigration regulations as a reason why they may be moving from the area in the near future.

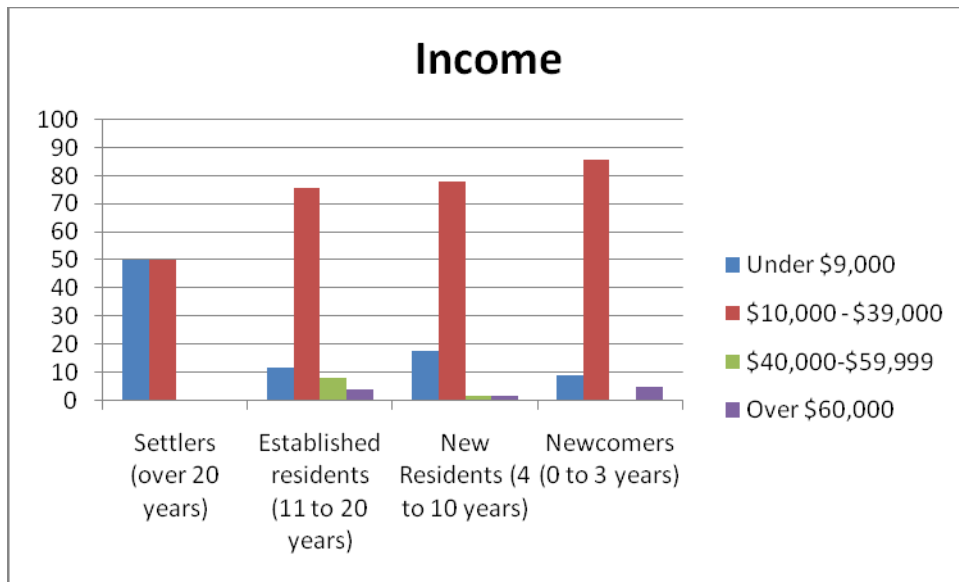
When looking at the human capital characteristics by length of residency, several conclusions can be drawn.

Figure 27



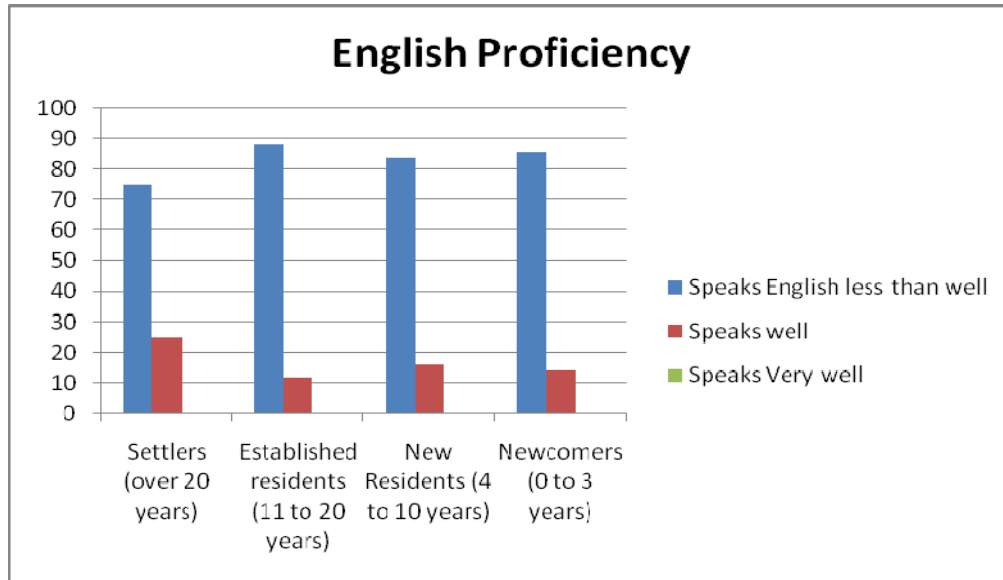
New comers are showing slightly higher levels of education when compared with earlier settlers. Especially worth noting is that people who moved to Round Lake Beach over 11 years ago, did not have more than a high school diploma. 4% of new residents and 9% of newcomers have a higher education diploma. Nonetheless, the vast majority of respondents still do not have a high school diploma.

Figure 28



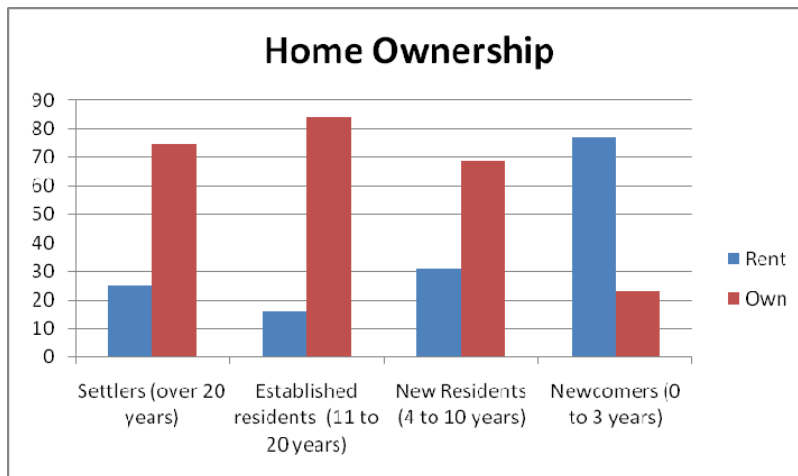
In terms of income, early settlers, despite having being in the United States and in the Round Lake Area for over 20 years, show the lowest income categories. The number of people who make over \$40,000.00 a year is overwhelmingly low regardless of the length of residency in the area.

Figure 29



Apparently English proficiency has nothing to do with the length of time people have been living in the area. One could expect that people living for longer time in the United States would have higher English proficiency. This data shows that self-reported English proficiency does not vary significantly based on length of residency. Also worth noting is that none of the respondents reported a high English proficiency.

Figure 30



Home ownership is higher for people who have been living in the area for longer period of time. 77% of newcomers pay rent.

Conclusion

This case study intended to address the complex and fairly recent phenomenon of Latino suburbanization in the Chicago metropolitan region by analyzing the immigration patterns of Mexican adults living in Round Lake Beach. The interview instrument linked specific questions to each theory presented in the Literature Review. A simple tabulation of the answers provided insight into the possible reasons why Mexicans are moving to the suburbs, in particular to Round Lake Beach.

Based on the results of this study, settlement determinants of Latinos in Round Lake Beach were associated with the place from which they came. People moving to Round Lake Beach from Mexico and from other states in the U.S., came mainly because of their networks of family and friends. Affordable housing was a stronger reason to move to the area for people moving from Chicago and from other municipalities in the Chicago metropolitan area. It was also apparent that an increasing number of people are moving from the city of Chicago seeking safer neighborhoods.

This is consistent with the findings of the analysis of the different suburbanization models. Based on the responses, the model that better explains the suburbanization of Latinos in Round Lake Beach is the Networking model. What makes this finding even more important is that the movement of people through friends and family networks is calculated and sustained.

Once a network is established, chain migration begins and the migration pattern is self sustaining (Boyd 1898, 641). This has important implications in terms of how local municipalities can respond to a trend that is likely to continue.

Latinos moving to the area, based on the findings for this study and current census data, come with very little education, speak very limited English, access low paying jobs and have limited possibilities for upward mobility. Recognizing that these new immigrants are making its new community their home, are having U.S. born children, are buying houses and are actively participating in the local economy, can help municipalities like Round Lake Beach better integrate this segment of the population. As argued by Timothy Ready and Allert Brown-Gort in the report *The State of Latino Chicago, This is Home Now*, the future of metropolitan Chicago depends on the successful incorporation of Latino Children – and their mostly foreign-born parents – into the economic, social and political life of the region (Ready and Brown-Gort 2005, 3).

Generalizing from a Sample of one

By studying a small sample of Latino immigrants in a small municipality in the Chicago Northwest Suburbs, the Village of Round Lake Beach, this study intended to expand the empirical knowledge that has been gained in the field. The results of this research provide some insight into this new phenomenon of Latino suburbanization.

Robert K. Yin defines the case study research method as an empirical inquiry that investigates a contemporary phenomenon within its real-life context, when the boundaries

between phenomenon and context are not clearly evident; and in which multiple sources of evidence are used (Yin 1984, 23). John Koval explains that case studies are useful because they present a detailed description and analysis of a single case that, when combined with and compared to other similar case studies, can contribute to theory as one element in a comparative analysis. Case studies can also serve as a primary source for constructing paradigms that help understand a phenomenon and “reveals the generality that otherwise could not be defined” (Koval 2006, 6). The paradigm is produced as the case study serves as the basis for theorizing. “...the point of paradigmatic theorizing is to isolate the essential attributes of the case so that it can subsume other cases” (Beauregard 2003, 190 quoted in Koval 2006, 6).

Appendix 1

Chicago Metropolitan Area Latino Population Growth between 2000 and 2006-2008

Town	Population 2000	Latino Population 2000	Latino %	Population Est 2006-2008	Latino Population Est 2006-2008	Latino %	% Increase Total population 2000-2006/2008	% Increase in Latino population 2000-2006/2008
Cicero	85,616	66,299	77.4	84,812	71,329	84.1	-0.9	7.6
Berwyn	54,016	20,543	38.0	58,037	31,962	55.1	7.4	55.6
Waukegan	87,901	39,396	44.8	86,432	45,135	52.2	-1.7	14.6
Round Lake Beach	25,859	8,084	31.3	28,688	14,192	49.5	10.9	75.6
Carpentersville	30,586	12,410	40.6	37,210	18,084	48.6	21.7	45.7
Elgin	94,487	32,430	34.3	107,027	45,949	42.9	13.3	41.7
Addison	35,914	10,198	28.4	38,831	15,057	38.8	8.1	47.6
Aurora	142,990	46,557	32.6	175,074	64,524	36.9	22.4	38.6
Hanover Park	38,278	10,233	26.7	37,502	12,430	33.1	-2.0	21.5
North Chicago	35,918	6,552	18.2	27,446	8,316	30.3	-23.6	26.9
Wheeling	34,496	7,135	20.7	35,924	10,773	30.0	4.1	51.0
Romeoville	21,153	2,781	13.1	38,968	11,664	29.9	84.2	319.4
Mundelein	30,935	7,487	24.2	31,834	9,507	29.9	2.9	27.0
Zion	22,866	3,487	15.2	23,888	7,007	29.3	4.5	100.9
Streamwood	36,407	6,108	16.8	40,608	11,702	28.8	11.5	91.6
Glendale Heights	31,765	5,842	18.4	33,606	9,588	28.5	5.8	64.1
Joliet	106,221	19,552	18.4	144,162	38,014	26.4	35.7	94.4
Rolling Meadows	24,604	4,725	19.2	25,053	6,021	24.0	1.8	27.4
Bolingbrook	56,321	7,371	13.1	70,165	16,440	23.4	24.6	123.0
Chicago Heights	32,776	7,790	23.8	30,996	6,808	22.0	-5.4	-12.6
Woodstock	20,151	3,830	19.0	22,653	4,877	21.5	12.4	27.3
Palatine	65,479	9,247	14.1	67,301	11,205	16.6	2.8	21.2
Mount Prospect	56,265	6,620	11.8	55,679	9,031	16.2	-1.0	36.4
Des Plaines	58,720	8,229	14.0	61,626	9,693	15.7	4.9	17.8
Harvey	30,000	3,834	12.8	27,596	4,038	14.6	-8.0	5.3
Hoffman Estates	49,495	5,198	10.5	51,196	7,366	14.4	3.4	41.7
Villa Park	22,075	2,770	12.5	22,217	2,933	13.2	0.6	5.9
Carol Stream	40,438	4,055	10.0	40,507	5,161	12.7	0.2	27.3
Oak Forest	28,051	1,645	5.9	29,567	3,739	12.6	5.4	127.3
Woodridge	30,934	2,839	9.2	32,750	4,066	12.4	5.9	43.2
Oswego	13,326	665	5.0	25,562	3,131	12.2	91.8	370.8
Crystal Lake	38,000	2,662	7.0	41,970	4,711	11.2	10.4	77.0
Plainfield	13,038	504	3.9	36,393	4,056	11.1	179.1	704.8
Gurnee	28,834	1,738	6.0	32,046	3,525	11.0	11.1	102.8
Lake in the Hills	23,152	1,462	6.3	28,235	2,885	10.2	22.0	97.3
Niles	30,068	1,512	5.0	30,604	3,009	9.8	1.8	99.0
Lombard	42,322	2,012	4.8	44,129	3,928	8.9	4.3	95.2
Evanston	74,239	4,539	6.1	73,181	6,481	8.9	-1.4	42.8
Schaumburg	75,386	3,988	5.3	73,450	6,346	8.6	-2.6	59.1
Elk Grove Village	34,727	2,165	6.2	34,877	2,973	8.5	0.4	37.3
Bartlett	36,706	2,024	5.5	41,445	3,472	8.4	12.9	71.5

Orland Park	51,077	1,874	3.7	59,079	4,734	8.0	15.7	152.6
Tinley Park	48,401	1,998	4.1	58,879	4,615	7.8	21.6	131.0
Algonquin	23,276	948	4.1	30,923	2,377	7.7	32.9	150.7
Bloomington	21,675	1,074	5.0	20,565	1,420	6.9	-5.1	32.2
Skokie	63,348	3,620	5.7	68,423	4,687	6.9	8.0	29.5
Westmont	24,554	1,714	7.0	23,822	1,624	6.8	-3.0	-5.3
Elmhurst	42,762	1,717	4.0	43,835	2,747	6.3	2.5	60.0
Park Forest	23,462	1,169	5.0	25,016	1,512	6.0	6.6	29.3
Naperville	128,358	4,160	3.2	145,235	8,675	6.0	13.1	108.5
Highland Park	31,365	2,792	8.9	28,269	1,655	5.9	-9.9	-40.7
Oak Park	52,524	2,374	4.5	51,475	2,940	5.7	-2.0	23.8
Huntley	5,730	245	4.3	21,541	1,220	5.7	275.9	398.0
Morton Grove	22,451	988	4.4	22,990	1,302	5.7	2.4	31.8
Glenview	41,847	1,702	4.1	46,096	2,538	5.5	10.2	49.1
Downers Grove	48,724	1,747	3.6	48,565	2,486	5.1	-0.3	42.3
Batavia	23,866	1,257	5.3	26,735	1,348	5.0	12.0	7.2
Arlington Heights	76,031	3,393	4.5	77,784	3,844	4.9	2.3	13.3
Lisle	21,182	1,163	5.5	22,306	1,091	4.9	5.3	-6.2
Buffalo Grove	42,909	1,425	3.3	42,644	2,003	4.7	-0.6	40.6
Wheaton	55,416	2,023	3.7	53,730	2,248	4.2	-3.0	11.1
Glen Ellyn	26,999	1,275	4.7	27,013	1,129	4.2	0.1	-11.5
South Holland	22,147	836	3.8	23,949	968	4.0	8.1	15.8
Libertyville	20,742	566	2.7	21,241	853	4.0	2.4	50.7
Wilmette	27,651	574	2.1	28,060	733	2.6	1.5	27.7

Data Source: Census 2000, ASC 2000, 2006-2008 estimates

Appendix 2 Background Information

What is your age range	
Under 21	
22-54	89
55-64	11
65 and up	

What is your marital status?	
Single	8
Married	87
Divorced	5
Widower	

How many members are in your household?	
1	1
2	7

3	13
4	32
5	33
6	6
7	7
11	1

What is your level of education	
Elementary	33
Middle School	33
Some high school	11
Completed High school or have GED	19
Higher	4

English speaking skills	
Speaks no English	42
Speaks English not well	43
Speaks English well	15
Speaks English very well	

What is your current employment situation:	
Employed	41
Unemployed	58
Retired	1

If employed, what is your occupation	
Construction	3
Factory	12
House Keeping	6
Landscaper	6
Nurse Assistant	2
Office Assistant	1
Painter	1
Restaurant	8
Retail	1
Teacher Assistant	1

Annual household income	
Under \$9,999	16
\$10,000-\$39,999	78

\$40,000 - \$59,999	3
Over \$60,000	3
	100
Your house is	
Owned	64
Rented	36

Appendix 3
Research Specific

How many years have you been living in the U.S	
0-3yrs	6
4-6yrs	9
7-10yrs	23
11-16yrs	22
16-20yrs	26
Over 20	14
All my life	

How long have you been living in Round Lake Beach	
0-3yrs	22
4-6yrs	24
7-10yrs	25
11-16yrs	16
16-20yrs	9
Over 20	4
All my life	

Do you see yourself living in Round Lake Beach 5 years from now?	
Yes	85
No	5
Do not know	10

Where did you live before moving to Round Lake Beach?	
Cuernavaca	1
DF	5
Guanajuato	1
Guerrero	1
Jalisco	6
Michoacán	10

Other	10
Puebla	1
Zacatecas	1

Alabama	1
Antioch	1
Arlington Heights	1
California	6
Chicago	7
Cicero	4
DuPage	1
Fox Lake	2
Grayslake	1
Glenview	1
Ingleside	2
Mundelein	14
Northbrook	1
Palatine	3
Prospect Heights	2
Texas	5
Waukegan	7
Wheeling	4
Zion	1

Please provide your residence history in the previous two years?

Why did you decide to move to Round Lake Beach	
Affordable housing	37
Jobs	18
Family/Friends	33
Better Schools	3
Safer Neighborhoods	9

What is the "best thing" about living in Round Lake Beach	
Safe and quiet neighborhood	62
Close to work	6
Summer activities for children	1
Close to family and friends	9
Shopping available	5
Schools	5

Having a house	2
Social programs	3
None/other	7

What is the "worst" thing about living in Round Lake Beach	
No jobs available	9
Gangs/Violence	21
Weather	15
Discrimination by police	8
Lack of public transportation	4
Schools	6
Overpopulation	3
None/other	34

Please rank the following statements according to importance, 1 being the most important reason why you moved to Round Lake Beach and 6 being the least important.			
I moved to Round Lake Beach because:	1	2	3
Of better economic situation that allowed you to move to the suburbs	1	1	4
Availability of affordable housing	36	14	12
Because of jobs available in the area	14	27	9
Because of better schools	3	6	15
Because of safer neighborhoods	9	14	22
Because family members/friends recommended the area	38	31	4

Appendix 4
Theories

Spatial Assimilation Model

You achieved a better economic situation and decided that living in the suburbs was better fitted for your family	
Totally Agree	12
Somehow Agree	9
Agree	9
Disagree	60
Neutral	10

You feel more integrated into American culture and prefer to raise your family in the suburbs, even if the white majority predominates	
Totally Agree	5
Somehow Agree	4
Agree	4
Disagree	69
Neutral	18

You speak English well and prefer to live and raise a family in an English speaking suburban community	
Totally Agree	3
Somehow Agree	7
Agree	3
Disagree	78
Neutral	9

<i>Stratification Model</i>	
More affordable housing in the Round Lake Area	
Very important	44
Somehow Important	10
Important	10
Not important at all	31
Neutral	5

Better able to find mortgage credit	
Very important	28
Somehow Important	8
Important	12
Not important at all	40
Neutral	12

You were unable to find a house in other neighborhoods near Round Lake	
Totally Agree	9
Somehow Agree	5
Agree	4
Disagree	61
Neutral	21

<i>Employment Shifts Theory</i>	
To move closer to the place of employment	

Very important	26
Somehow Important	8
Important	6
Not important at all	55
Neutral	5

Because of higher paying jobs in the Round Lake area	
Very important	24
Somehow Important	5
Important	3
Not important at all	56
Neutral	12

Heterolocal Model

Your work place is far from your home but you do not mind because you have good transportation systems	
Totally Agree	6
Somehow Agree	4
Agree	6
Disagree	37
Neutral	47

You are separated from your ethnic group but you keep in constant contact with them	
Totally Agree	6
Somehow Agree	2
Agree	3
Disagree	40
Neutral	49

Push/Pull Theory

The poor conditions in your previous place of residence forced you to move to Round Lake	
Totally Agree	21
Somehow Agree	7
Agree	7
Disagree	59
Neutral	6

You heard good things about Round Lake that motivated you to move there	
Totally Agree	35
Somehow Agree	12

Agree	15
Disagree	31
Neutral	7

Networking Theory

Because you had friends/family in the Round Lake Area that helped you get settled	
Very important	64
Somehow Important	6
Important	8
Not important at all	20
Neutral	2

Language and ethnic comfort	
Very important	18
Somehow Important	9
Important	12
Not important at all	60
Neutral	1

Availability of:	
ethnic shopping	
Very important	12
Somehow Important	13
Important	13
Not important at all	61
Neutral	1

Community Churches	
Very important	14
Somehow Important	8
Important	15
Not important at all	60
Neutral	3

Community organizations

Very important	18
Somehow Important	9
Important	11
Not important at all	60
Neutral	2

Neighborhood Amenities

Because of better schools	
Very important	17
Somehow Important	10
Important	11
Not important at all	58
Neutral	4

Because of safer neighborhoods	
Very important	45
Somehow Important	9
Important	14
Not important at all	27
Neutral	5

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