

The socioeconomic attainments of second-generation Nigerian and other African Americans

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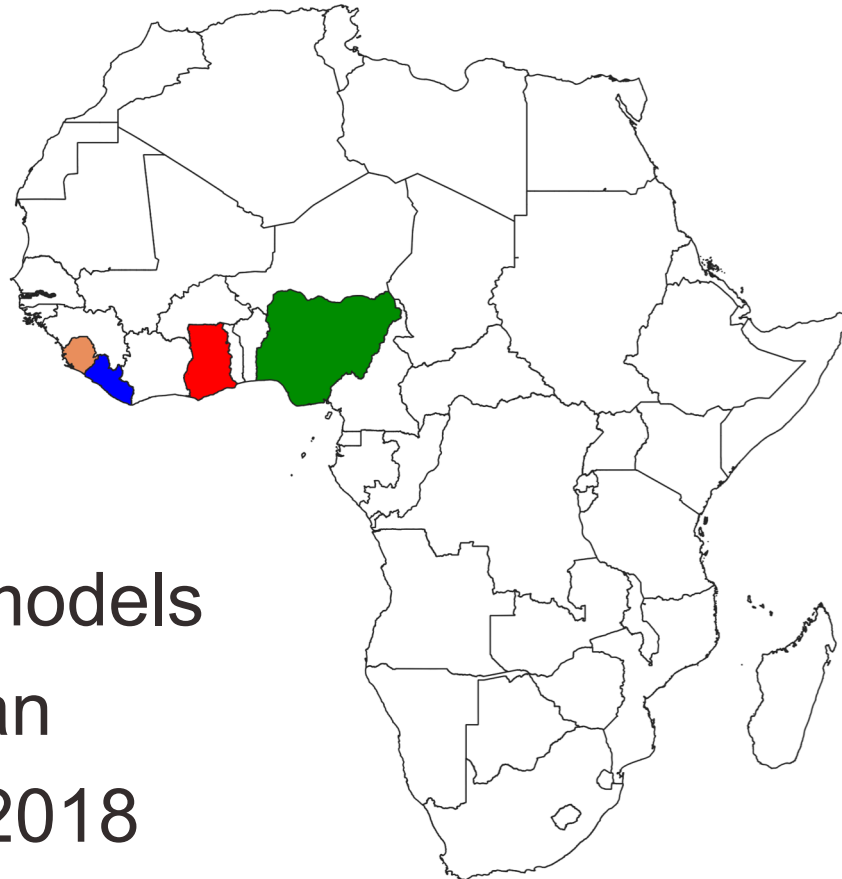
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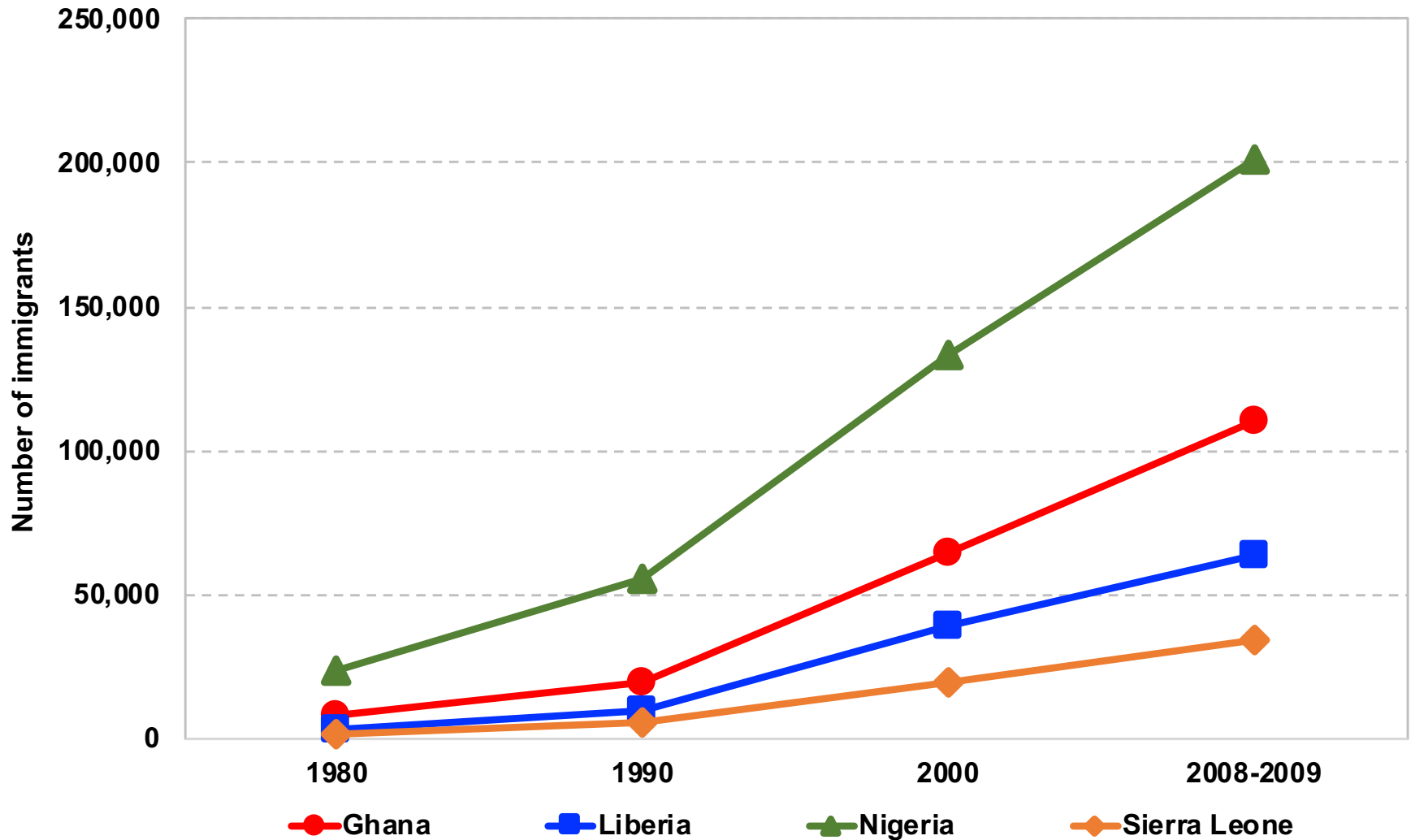
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Objective

- We investigate education and wages among second-generation African Americans, 2010–2017
 - Ghana
 - Liberia
 - Nigeria
 - Sierra Leone
- We also estimate models focusing on Nigerian Americans, 2009–2018



Increasing GLNS immigrants



Source: Capps (2012).

Diversity among immigrants

- Generations
 - 1st generation: born outside the U.S.
 - 1.5th generation: born outside the U.S., immigrated at age ≤ 13
 - 2nd generation: born in the U.S., parents' born outside the U.S.
 - 3rd generation: born in the U.S., parents' born in the U.S.
- Black immigrants are a diverse subgroup (Hamilton 2014)
 - 2nd generation GLNS may be slightly advantaged over other 2nd generation blacks, because families are more fluent or dominant in English (Waters and Pineau 2015)
 - Parents from Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone arrive with better labor and educational outcomes (Capps 2012)

Prior literature utilized to establish some hypotheses	Socioeconomic outcomes of 2nd gen. African Americans	
	Relative to 3+ gen. Blacks	Relative to 3+ gen. Whites
Lower class vulnerability (Gans 1992; Portes and Zhou 1993)	Equal to	Lower than
Segmented assimilation (Waters 1994)	Greater than	Lower than
Immigrant optimism (selectivity) (Kao and Tienda 1995; Suarez-Orozco and Suarez-Orozco 1995)	Greater than	Lower than or equal to
Voluntary immigration (Ogbu 1978)	Greater than	Equal to
New second generation (post-1965) (Farley and Alba 2002)	Greater than	Equal to or greater than

Data

- 2009–2018 Current Population Surveys (CPS)
 - Information on parental place of birth
- People with 25–54 years of age
- Separate models for men and women
- Due to the rotational sampling design of the CPS, we deleted duplicate records of the same individual



Main independent variable

- Generation and race/ethnicity groups
- 3+ Generation of Non-Hispanic Whites
- 3+ Generation of Blacks
- 1.5th and 2nd Generation of Non-Hispanic Asians
- 1.5th and 2nd Generation of GLNS (or Nigerians)
- 2nd Generation of Non-Hispanic Whites
- 2nd Generation of Blacks

Dependent variables

- Educational attainment
 1. Less than high school
 2. High school or GED
 3. Some college or Associate degree
 4. Bachelor's degree
 5. Master's degree
 6. Professional or PhD degree
- Log-hourly wages
 - Total hourly and salary earnings from the previous calendar year divided by total hours worked during that year
 - Paid employees (exclude those with self-employment earnings)

Models for education

- Generalized ordered logit models (GLNS)
 - Odds ratios indicate the factor change in odds of observing a value at least at the specified category versus observing values below the specified category
 1. At least high school or GED
 2. At least some college or Associate degree
 3. **At least Bachelor's degree**
 4. At least Master's degree
 5. At least Professional or PhD degree
 - Control for age, disability status
- Ordered logit models (Nigerians)
 - Control for age, disability status



Models for wages

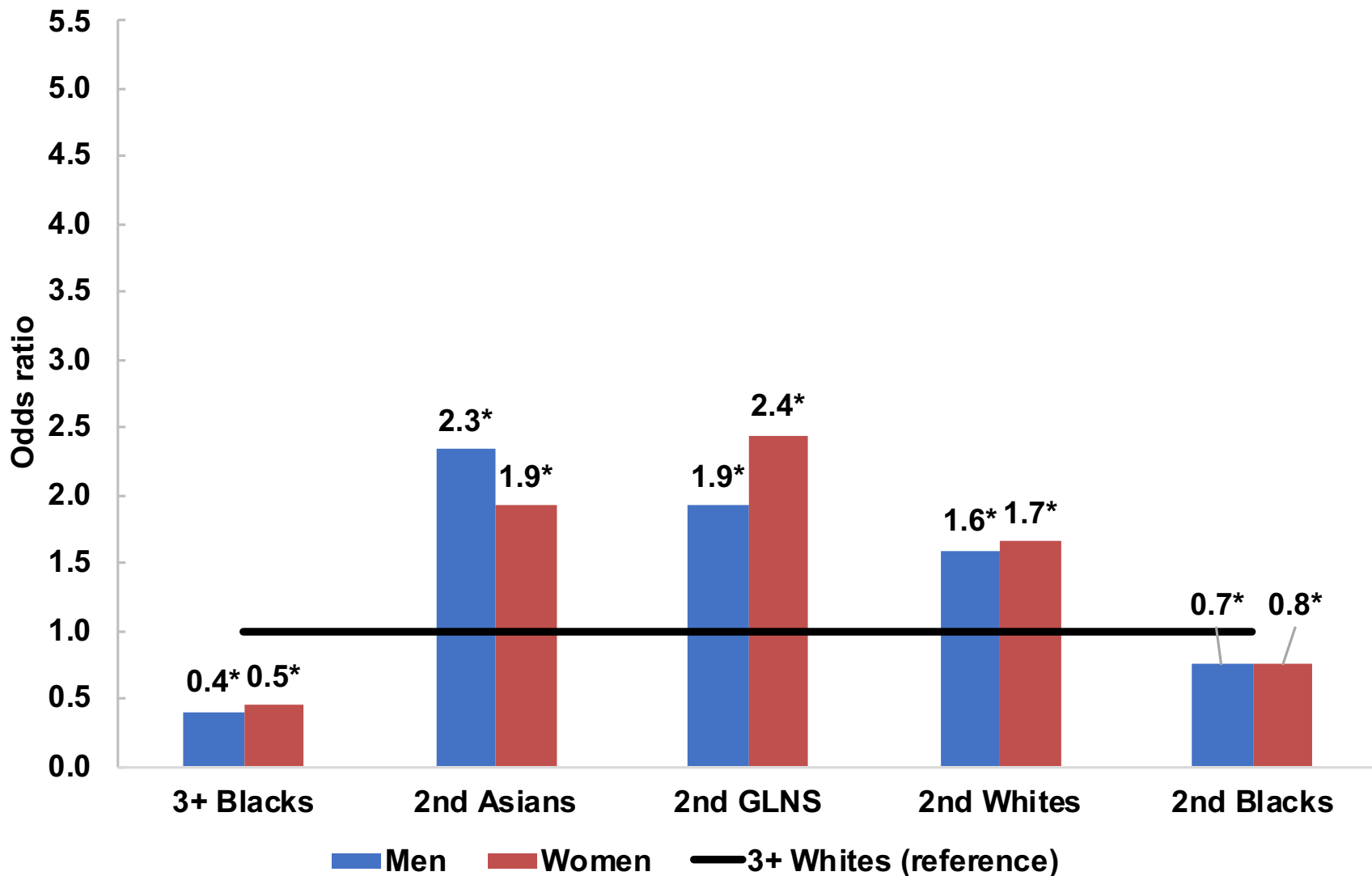
- Ordinary least squares (OLS) models for log-hourly wages
- Control for
 - Age and age-squared
 - Educational attainment
 - Disability status
 - Marital status
 - Own child in household
 - Region of residence
 - Live in metropolitan area



Sample size

Generation and Race/ethnicity	2010–2017 (GLNS combined)		2009–2018 (Nigerians separated)	
	Educational attainment	Log-hourly wages	Educational attainment	Log-hourly wages
3+ Gen. Non-Hispanic Whites	175,066	137,724	215,872	165,169
3+ Gen. Blacks	26,672	19,424	32,780	23,546
1.5th & 2nd Gen. Non-Hispanic Asians	5,405	4,356	6,529	5,146
1.5th & 2nd Gen. GLNS (or Nigerians)	170	134	131	104
2nd Gen. Non-Hispanic Whites	7,552	6,034	9,383	7,325
2nd Gen. Blacks	1,212	972	1,502	1,168
Total	216,077	168,644	266,197	202,458

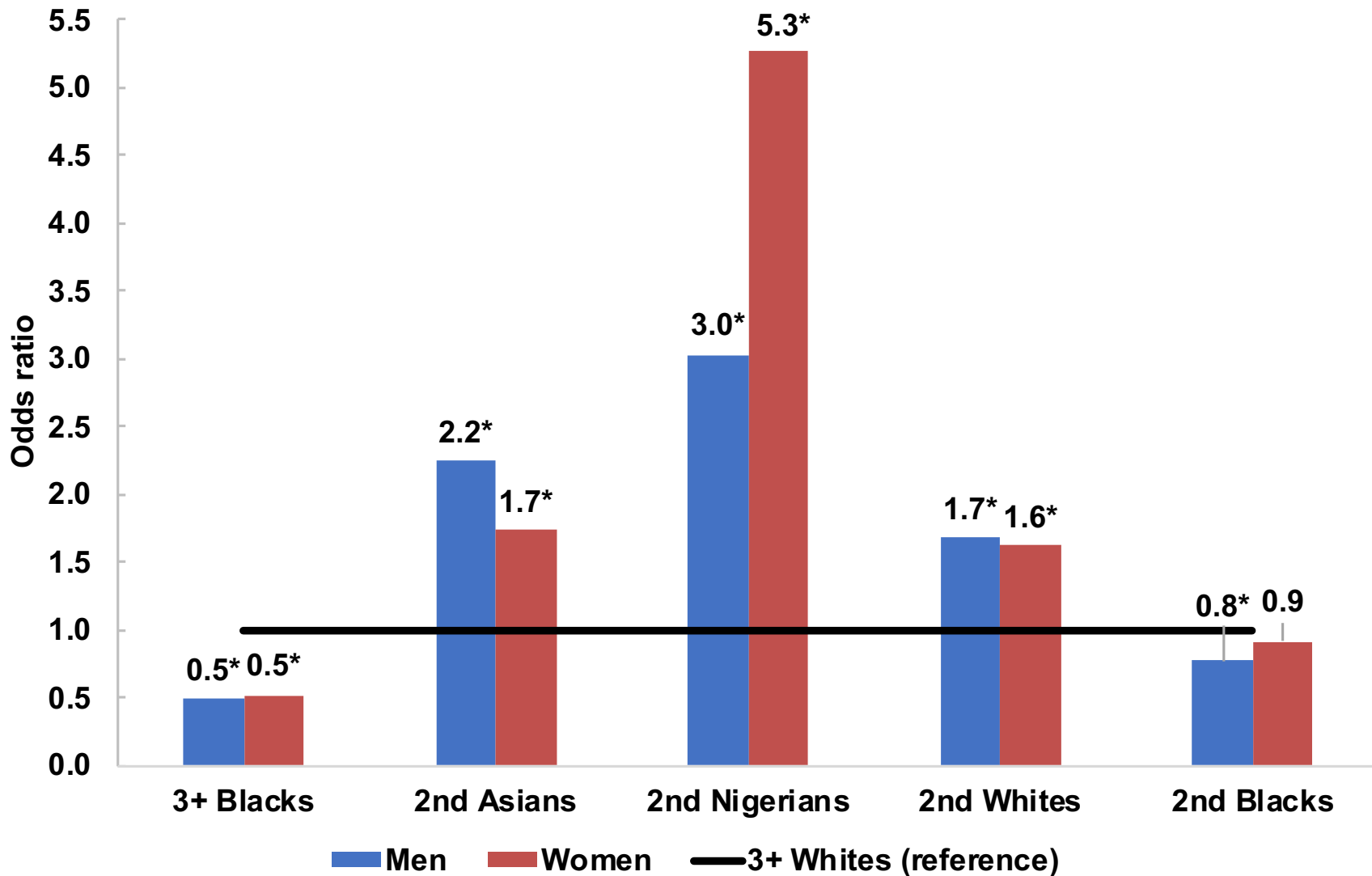
Odds ratios of having at least a Bachelor's degree versus having lower education, GLNS



Note: Model controls for age, age squared, and any disability. * Significant at $p < .01$.

Source: 2010–2017 Current Population Survey (CPS).

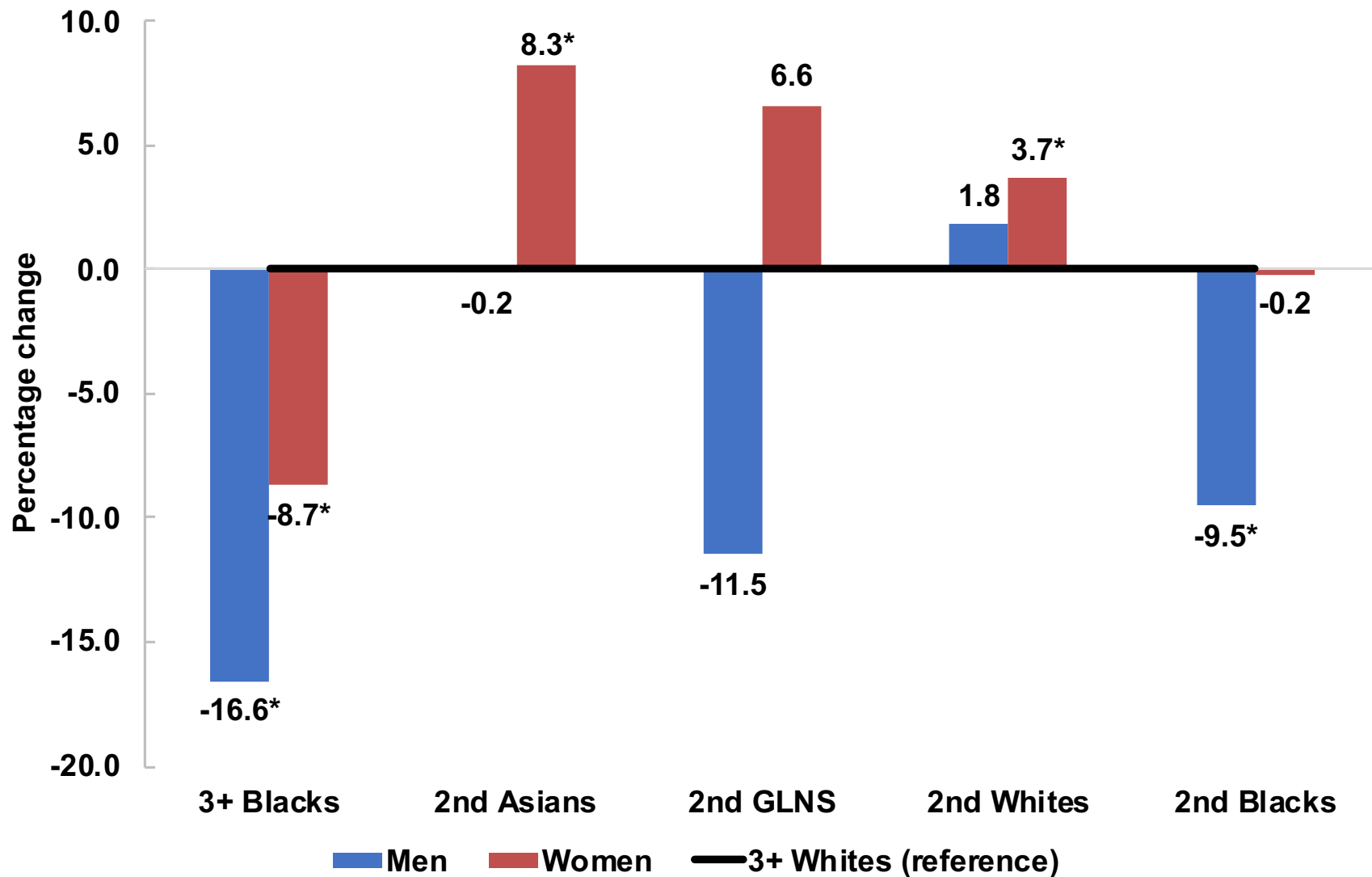
Odds ratios from ordered logit models for educational attainment, Nigerians



Note: Model controls for age, age squared, and any disability. * Significant at $p < .01$.

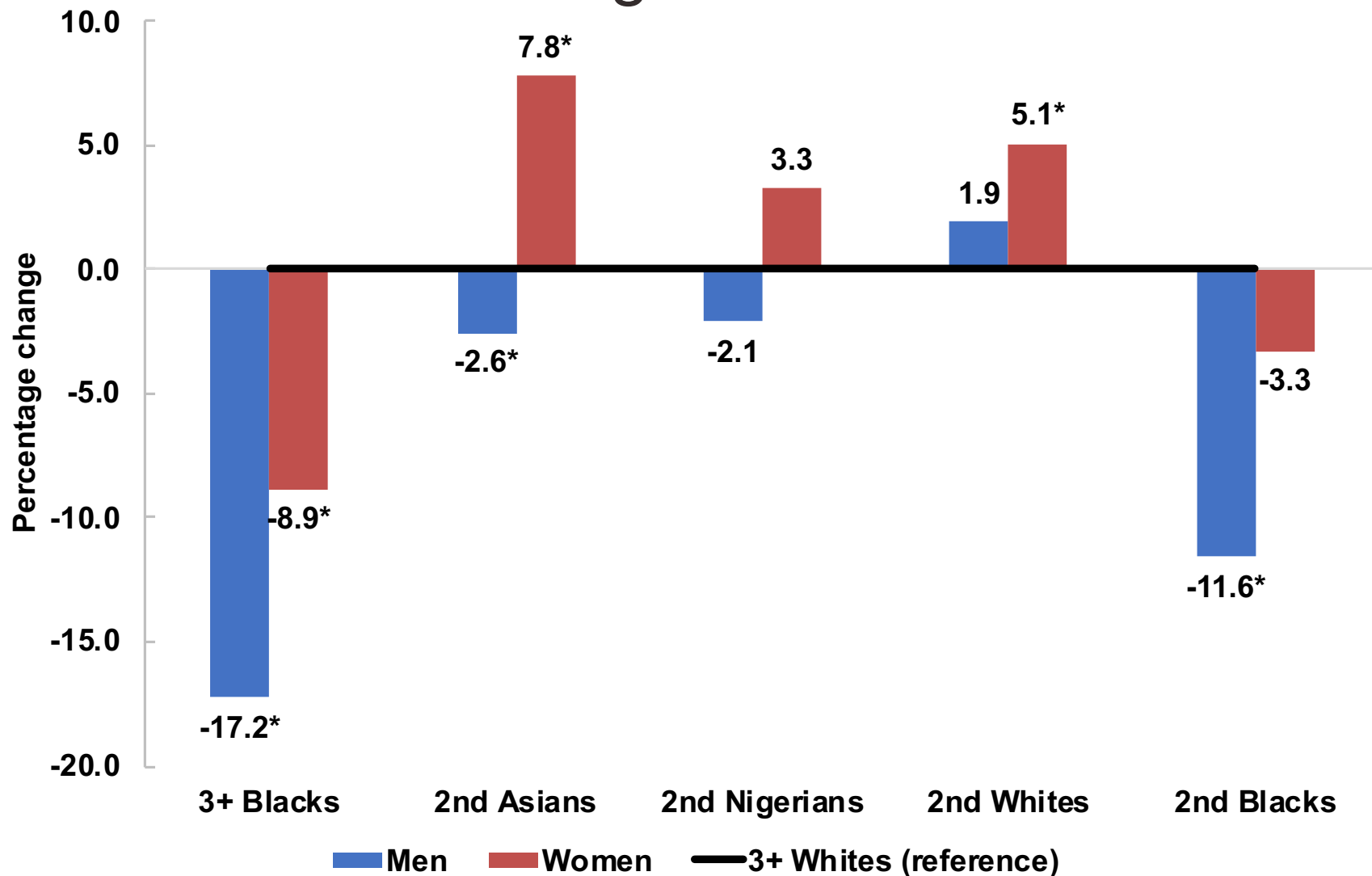
Source: 2009–2018 Current Population Survey (CPS).

Percentage change in hourly wages, GLNS



Note: Model controls for age, age squared, educational attainment, marital status, own child in household, region, and live in metropolitan area. * Significant at $p < .01$. Source: 2010–2017 Current Population Survey (CPS).

Percentage change in hourly wages, Nigerians

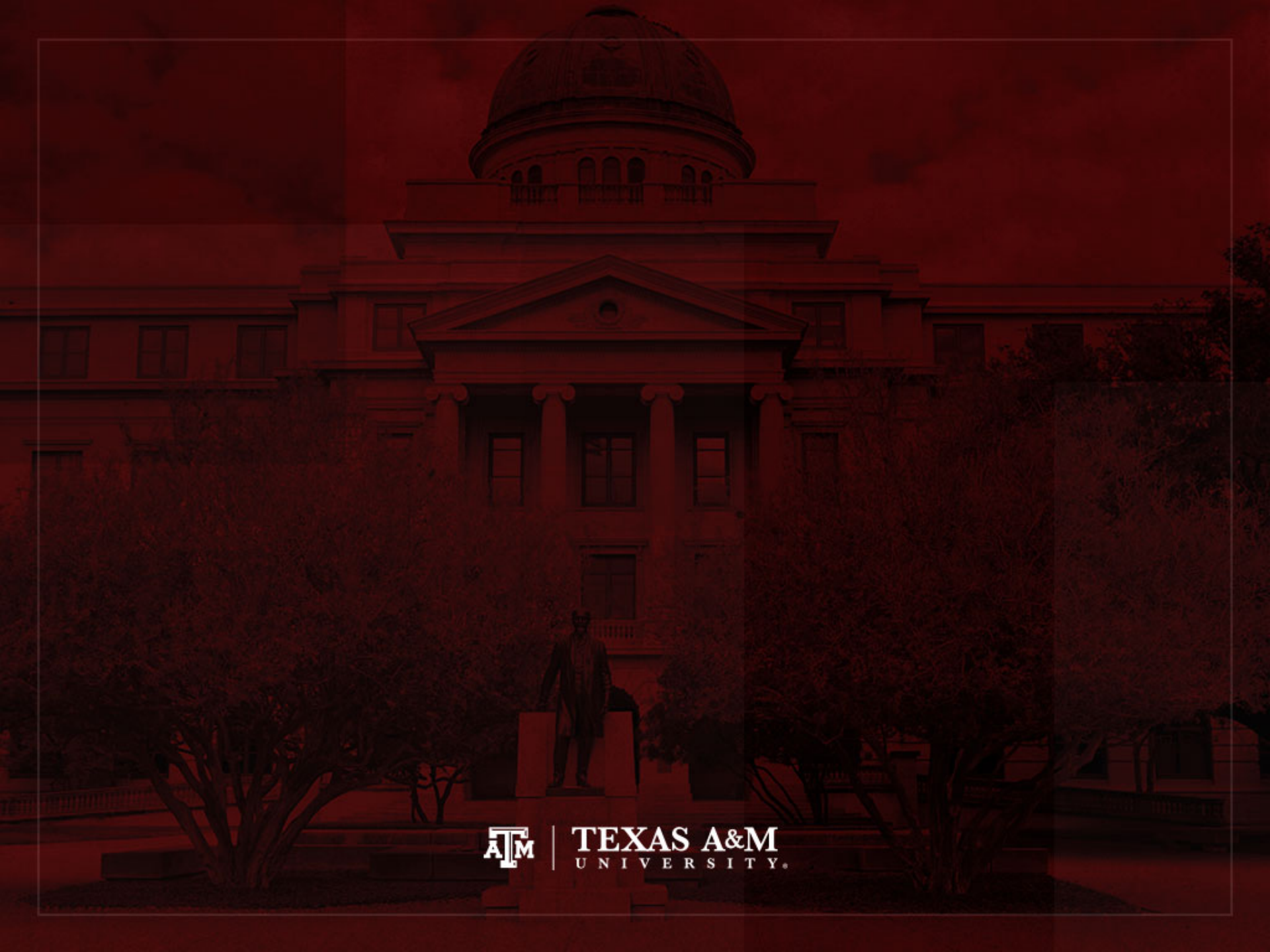


Note: Model controls for age, age squared, any disability, educational attainment, marital status, own child in household, region, and live in metropolitan area. * Significant at $p < .01$. Source: 2010–2017 Current Population Survey (CPS).

Final considerations

- 1.5th and 2nd gen. GLNS and Nigerian Americans have exceeded whites in educational attainment
- Better education did not translate into higher wages for GLNS and Nigerian Americans compared to whites
 - Issue of small sample size
 - This could be a result of discrimination in the labor market experienced by these immigrants
- We view our results as being only suggestive
 - Need more research on the socioeconomic outcomes of 1.5th and 2nd gen. African Americans who have been relatively neglected in immigration studies





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