New Americans in Minneapolis

A Snapshot of Demographic and Economic Characteristics of Immigrants in the Area

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, local leaders in communities across the country have been working tirelessly to ensure that all community members have access to the services and support they need. The immigrant population is both essential to our country’s rapid response efforts and especially vulnerable to gaps in our social safety nets. Understanding this population will help better inform local leaders as they aim to implement inclusive emergency response policies.

**OVERVIEW**

65,010

Immigrant Residents in Minneapolis Area of Minnesota, 2018*

Immigrant Share of Population, 2018

15.4%

Naturalized Share of Immigrants, 2018

43.6%

Immigrants who were Naturalized U.S. Citizens, 2018

28,349

Share of Immigrants who were Likely Refugees, 2018

32.7%

Immigrants who were Likely Refugees, 2018

21,249

Undocumented Share of Immigrants, 2018

22.7%

Undocumented Immigrants, 2018

14,748

DACA-Eligible Share of Immigrants, 2018

2.5%

*

Estimates provided in this report may slightly undercount the immigrant population. The American Community Survey historically undersamples the foreign-born population, especially among lower income, more recently arrived, and less English-fluent immigrant populations. The Pew Research Center estimates the undercount as 5% to 7% for undocumented immigrants and 2% to 3% for the overall immigrant population (Source).

**LANGUAGE**

Top Five Languages Immigrants Spoke at Home Other than English

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOMALI, OROMO, BEJA &amp; OTHER CUSHITIC LANGUAGES</td>
<td>27.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPANISH</td>
<td>27.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMONG</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHINESE</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HINDI</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

29.3% of immigrants, or 19,053, living in the area had limited English language proficiency. Among them, the top three languages spoken at home other than English were:

- SPANISH (44.2%)
- SOMALI, OROMO, BEJA & OTHER CUSHITIC LANGUAGES (34.3%)
- HMONG (10.1%)
FRONLINE WORKERS

Immigrants serve in essential industries and carry out vital roles that keep the country functioning. In Minneapolis area, immigrants are working in frontline and essential industries during the Covid-19 crisis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Immigrants</th>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Share of Workforce</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5,657</td>
<td>FOOD SECTOR(^3)</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,987</td>
<td>HEALTHCARE</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HEALTHCARE COVERAGE

Access to healthcare and medical services remains critical during this pandemic.

28,144

Number of Residents without Health Insurance, 2018

42.8%

Immigrant Share of Residents without Health Insurance, 2018

HOUSING CONDITIONS

The COVID-19 economic upheaval has highlighted the need for stable housing.

Among immigrant households in 2018...
- 25.0% Owned their own Homes (7,332)
- 75.0% were Renters (21,980)

Among U.S.-born households in 2018...
- 52.9% Owned their own Homes (77,709)
- 47.1% were Renters (69,156)

ENDNOTES

1. Unless otherwise specified, data comes from 5-year samples of the American Community Survey from 2018 and figures refer to the City of Minneapolis and the City of St. Anthony, Minnesota.


3. Food Sector includes agriculture, food processing, food wholesale trade, grocery stores and supermarkets, and restaurants and food services.