California is home to more than **10 million immigrants**—comprising one in four foreign-born persons nationally and 25% of the state's total population.1 **85% of these immigrants have lived in the U.S. for 10 or more years.**2

50% of California’s children, totaling 4.5 million, have at least one immigrant parent, compared to 25% nationwide.3 **Of these 4.5 million children, 90% are U.S.-born citizens.**4

Rural and border regions of California are chronically underresourced and underserved. Immigrants and service providers in these regions face unique challenges, including high need, limited infrastructure, and hostile, anti-immigrant environments.5

- San Francisco has high rates of naturalization, but counties in the North and East Bay are chronically underserved.6
- Urban areas, especially Los Angeles, have the largest scale of need.8
- In San Diego and Imperial counties, proximity to the border makes residents particularly vulnerable to detention and deportation.9

Legal Status of California’s Foreign-Born Population:10

- **2.2 million** are eligible to naturalize.11
- **Naturalized Citizens 49%**
- **Other Legal Status (including green card and visa holders) 26%**
- **Undocumented 25%**
- **223,000 DACA Recipients13**

From 2001 to 2017, California received **105,000 resettled refugees,** ranking #1 in the United States and accounting for one-tenth of all refugee arrivals to the country.12

Regions of Birth for California’s Foreign-Born Population:14

- **Europe 6.3%**
- **Latin America (predominantly Mexico) 51.1%**
- **Asia (predominantly Philippines, China, Vietnam, India) 38.9%**
- **Africa 1.8%**
- **Northern America 1.1%**
- **Oceania 0.8%**
The largest shares of immigrant workers are in the following occupation groups:

- Farming, Fishing, and Forestry
- Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance
- Production
- Construction and Extraction
- Computer and Mathematical Sciences

880,000 immigrant business owners accounted for 38.2% of all self-employed California residents in 2015 and generated $21.8 billion in business income.

In 2014, immigrant-led households in the state paid:
- $56 billion in federal taxes
- $26.4 billion in state and local taxes

34% Immigrant share of the state's labor force.

31% Immigrant share of California's GDP

Education Levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Levels</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
<th>Naturalized citizens</th>
<th>Noncitizens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than high school diploma</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Red</td>
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<tr>
<td>High school diploma or GED</td>
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<td>Yellow</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree</td>
<td>Blue</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate or prof. degree</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Employment and Poverty Rates by Immigration Status

- U.S.-born
- Naturalized citizens
- Noncitizens

Health Insurance Coverage

- U.S.-born
- Naturalized citizens
- Noncitizens

With health insurance
- No health insurance
Endnotes

2 MPI – State Immigration Data Profiles: California: Demographics & Social.
5 GCIR 2017 California Field Interviews.
6 Pastor, M., et. al., 2012; GCIR 2017 California Field Interviews.
7 Pastor, M., et. al., 2013.
8 GCIR 2017 California Field Interviews.
9 GCIR 2017 California Field Interviews.
10 PPIC - Immigrants in California, 2017.
14 MPI – State Immigration Data Profiles: California: Demographics & Social.
15 Fiscal Policy Institute analysis of 2015 ACS 1-year data, IPUMS.
20 Employment rates are shown as percentages of the total U.S.-born, naturalized, and noncitizen populations that are age 16 and older. These totals include employed individuals, unemployed individuals, and individuals not currently participating in the civilian labor force. MPI – State Immigration Data Profiles: California: Workforce; MPI – State Immigration Data Profiles: California: Income & Poverty.
21 MPI – State Immigration Data Profiles: California: Language & Education.