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CALIFORNIA IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION SCORECARD

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WHAT IS IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION?

Immigrants have played an integral role in California ever since the state was incorporated into the Union. In the 1860s, nearly 40% of the population were immigrants; currently, immigrants comprise about 27%. Immigrants have played roles as varied as the state itself, but ones vital to the Golden State’s economic stability and growth.

Regions like San Francisco and Santa Clara have experienced relatively high flows of immigrants since the 1860s. Other regions like the Inland Empire (Riverside and San Bernardino) and Sacramento only began to see high growth rates in the last two decades. In between, Los Angeles and Orange counties have experienced high immigration since World War II, while regions like San Diego and Fresno have never been destination locales compared to other regions in the state (although both have more immigrants than most places in the U.S.). So while the state as a whole is characterized by a significant immigrant presence, these regional differences have led to varied local responses.

Measures of immigrant integration need to acknowledge this variation – by going beyond the more uniform policies at our borders and focusing on how immigrants are being incorporated within regions. We define immigrant integration as improved economic mobility for, enhanced civic participation by, and receiving society openness to immigrants. Integration requires an intentional process that incorporates the needs of immigrants, their families, and their communities into policies governing our cities, regions, and states. Because immigrants make significant contributions to their regions, we see immigrant integration as a dynamic, two-way process in which newcomers and the receiving society both have a responsibility for integration, and both benefit as they work together to build secure, vibrant, and cohesive communities.

WHY SCORE IT?

Historically, issues related to immigration have been dealt with at the national level. But recent inaction by the federal government on these issues has pushed policy action down to a more local level – where immigrants and their families live their everyday lives. Moreover, our research has shown that immigrants contribute to their communities and that places that are able to excel at immigrant integration are more resilient and better able to adapt to economic, social, and other shifts.

The California Immigrant Integration Scorecard is intended to point to regions that are successfully integrating immigrants and to offer examples for other regions seeking to improve. We recognize that each region has a particular context in terms of political climate, waves of migration, labor markets, and other issues that lend to certain policies over others. However, we hope that this Scorecard will serve at least two purposes: one, for policymakers and organizers to find promising policies and actions to model in their regions and, two, to highlight a common agenda across regions throughout the state.
HOW DID WE DO IT?

To score immigrant integration, we took our three-part definition and developed a variety of “indicators” to capture different aspects of immigrant integration. These indicators were grouped into four categories: Economic Snapshot, Economic Trajectory, Warmth of Welcome, and Civic Engagement. Why two economic categories? To underscore the difference between the current economic status (a “snapshot” of what is) and how that status has improved over time (a “trajectory” of what has been).

Then, each indicator was compared across the ten regions, considered and scored from one to five (where five is good) then averaged with the others in its category. The category scores were then averaged to get an overall score for the region.

It is important to note that all economic indicator scores are based on how immigrants are doing relative to U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites in their region – a group that we argue has experienced integration, as most white families track their migration to an earlier century. This approach dampens the effect of regional cost-of-living and income differences, as well as broad regional differences in economic mobility. For our snapshot scores, for example, it ensures that regions where immigrants and U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites both make $30,000 per year (higher immigrant integration) will not score lower than regions where immigrants make $35,000 per year and U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites make $90,000 per year (lower immigrant integration). For our trajectory scores, it ensures that a region with gains in immigrant homeownership that outperform those of U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites will score higher than one in which they lag behind – even if the annual increase in homeownership for immigrants is higher in the latter region.

At times, scoring by comparing across the regions can give the impression that a region is doing well when it is just the best performer of a bad lot. Among our snapshot measures, for example, English learners across the regions are falling far behind their U.S.-born non-Hispanic white (and English proficient) peers, but the region falling the least behind (Sacramento) scores well. The same goes for most other snapshot measures, with homeownership and full-time work being the only measures for which immigrant levels actually surpass those of U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites in some regions. Similarly, a high score for our trajectory measures does not (necessarily) mean that, say, immigrant income growth has kept pace with the U.S.-born non-Hispanic white comparison cohort – it only means that the gap between them has closed more (or widened less) than in other regions. Thus, it is important to keep the relative nature of the scoring in mind when viewing the regional scores. For more, see the technical report.

STATEWIDE OUTLOOK: OVERALL

We applied this methodology to ten regions across California, choosing a mix in which there are both many immigrants and at least some actors working towards their integration. The regions can be seen in the graph to the left. They are generally counties, but combining Alameda and Contra Costa as the East Bay and Riverside and San Bernardino as the Inland Empire.

The figure shows four distinct groupings, with Santa Clara having made the most progress towards integration and Fresno having the furthest to catch-up. The observant reader will note in scanning through this data, that these cumulative scores reflect a great deal of variation in the four categories. For example, San Francisco does quite poorly on Economic Trajectory, but is a model when it comes to Warmth of Welcome; San Joaquin is nearly the polar opposite. Regions that scored at a more constant rate across all four categories include: Santa Clara, the East Bay, and Fresno – for better or for worse.
In the **Economic Snapshot** category, Santa Clara performed well, followed closely by five regions, before the precipitous drop-off down to Los Angeles. Five groupings make up this category: Housing, Workforce Preparation, Workforce Strength, Income, and Access (see regional inserts for specific indicators). These scores are based on the gaps between immigrants and U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites.

The **Economic Trajectory** category scores how immigrants have done over time. Perhaps unexpectedly, San Joaquin scores at the top and San Francisco falls to the bottom. Part of the reason may be that as immigrants gain a toe-hold they may move out of San Francisco to places like San Joaquin where homeownership is less costly. Of course, so might the comparison group – U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites. The relative lack of progress in San Francisco is not entirely surprising: immigrants who were already economically successful when they immigrated may stay in San Francisco (i.e., the Sunset District), as may poorer immigrants who get stuck in places like Chinatown or the Mission District where their economic standing is static.

Elsewhere, education and ethnicity may play an important role. For example, in Orange and Santa Clara counties, the more heavily Asian immigrant community likely earns more degrees over time and so income increases. The novel approach we take is not always straight-forward in its interpretation and requires more detailed research, but the capacity to track change rather than just take a “snapshot” matters.

The **Warmth of Welcome** category quantifies how open the region is to newcomers. This category takes into account media messaging, the ability of high schools to prepare their English learners for life in the U.S., the coverage of immigrant-serving organizations, the civic infrastructure for naturalization (determined with a statistical model that estimates the progress made in naturalizing those immigrants who are eligible to do so), and the supply of English language learning (ELL) courses. San Francisco is the frontrunner, while rural California and Orange County have the furthest to go.

The **Civic Engagement** scores indicate the ability of immigrants to be a part of the civic and electoral fabric of the region. Data on this is scarce – we included language skills, which can affect an immigrant’s ability to participate in civic processes, and citizenship rates of immigrants, which are a sign of civic initiative and enable participation in voting. Santa Clara scored a perfect 5.0 – a relative score, meaning there is still room for improvements in both sub-measures. No one is there, yet!
THE COMMON AGENDA

Similar regional areas have common agendas. In rural areas (with smaller urban centers) like San Joaquin County, Fresno, and the Inland Empire, scores were very low – especially around income, media messaging, and academic achievement. Increasing the reach of immigrant-serving organizations, providing more positive messaging about immigrants, and bolstering the infrastructure for naturalization may help. In suburban regions connected to strong economies, like Orange County, the East Bay, and San Diego, immigrants have achieved markers of economic success, sometimes in the face of anti-immigrant sentiment and more minimal immigrant-serving infrastructure. However, the foreclosure crisis may threaten progress. Urban regions – San Francisco and Los Angeles – are the most welcoming but also struggle to retain and support immigrants in the face of very high costs of living. Santa Clara stands out; while the unique urban center of high-tech, it clearly has best practices in each category.

Specific policy concerns emerged across the state. English language acquisition is a major issue facing both youth and adults, and may be a factor in the high rate of skilled workers in unskilled positions – a policy issue unto itself. The lack of affordable housing and its related effects are pervasive, and a special concern given the foreclosure crisis. Uneven health care access may be partially addressed as reform comes down from the federal government, but that will require strong advocacy by immigrant rights groups. And, of course, immigrant integration efforts must address the hostile tenor and treatment of immigrants by the media (and the police, although not covered in the data), as well as an overall economic development strategy that will, in turn, strengthen both immigrants and the U.S.-born. So then, a simple recommendation: form a statewide body to coordinate immigrant integration, with these cross-cutting issues in mind.

CONCLUSION

This is a start, not an end. The Scorecard is the first of its type and is heavily weighted towards economics, partly because of data availability and partly because it is such a key issue. Other data would be helpful – like voter data by nativity – but such a gap is expected when trying something new. As this tool is used, we hope it will draw feedback on how to make future scorecards more robust, particularly around Warmth of Welcome and Civic Engagement.

It is also a start because it is intended to be a tool for business leaders, community organizers, civic leaders, policy makers, philanthropists, and the like, to build consensus and funnel investments towards immigrant inclusion. Data is important but conversation and consensus are critical, particularly since research is showing that making progress on social equity, including immigrant integration, is actually good for regional economies. Moving forward, we need to identify best practices, regions needing special attention, and a common agenda for the Golden State.

Technical Notes:

For the full methodology used to generate the Scorecard, see the technical report, at csii.usc.edu.

The bulk of the data is decennial Census and American Community Survey (ACS) data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS) covering 1980, 1990, 2000, and 2008-2010. Other sources include the National Historical Geographic Information System; the Bureau of Labor Statistics; the California Department of Education; MondoTimes, ABYZ News Links, Lexis Nexis, and various media websites; Guidestar; the Office of Immigration Statistics; MPI’s 2008 report for GCIR, “An Assessment of the English Language Instruction Need and Supply in California’s Counties;” and Dr. Enrico Marcelli’s (San Diego State University) estimates of the undocumented Latino adult population.

And a few useful data definitions: Throughout, we use standard racial/ethnic categories commonly used by academics. Latinos are identified as anyone who marks “Hispanic or Latino” on a census form – leaving Black, Asian American/Pacific Islander (sometimes shorthanded as “Asian” or “API”), and white as, necessarily, non-Hispanic. “Eligible to naturalize” refers to Legal Permanent Residents (LPRs) who have fulfilled typical length of residency requirements needed for citizenship.
There are approximately 700,000 immigrants living in the East Bay Region (Contra Costa and Alameda counties) comprising 28% of the region’s total population. More than 80% of all immigrants have arrived since 1980, with about one-quarter arriving in the last decade. The diversity of immigrants by country of origin is high: while the largest group hails from Mexico (25%), large proportions are from the Philippines (12%), China (10%), India (8%) and Vietnam (5%). About 39% come from other nations, signifying a diverse immigrant population.

Immigrants are highly connected to the region’s children and citizenry. While only 1 in 14 children is an immigrant, nearly half have at least one immigrant parent and 30% of households are headed by an immigrant. Further, our estimates suggest that 72% of unauthorized residents (which we can only estimate for adult Latinos) are living with citizens, and 34% are living with their own citizen children. Perhaps because of this mix, linguistic isolation – the proportion of immigrant-headed households in which no person over 13 speaks English only, or very well – is relatively low (27%).

The East Bay region scores a 3.4, the second highest overall score across the 10 regions. The region performed particularly well in Civic Engagement, thanks to its high naturalization rates and linguistic integration. The region did fairly well in the other three categories, although there is room for improvement.

The East Bay region has created a path to civic engagement for immigrants. As an economically revitalized and growing region, it provides an abundance of economic opportunities for its immigrant population.

Nevertheless, the East Bay could improve the opportunities for English language learners to close achievement gaps, expand the infrastructure of immigrant-serving organizations, and improve economic returns to employment (as the region does have high full-time employment rates, but still struggles with poverty and homeownership).

The East Bay has seen its immigrant population grow and diversify, perhaps because San Francisco has become too expensive for many newcomers. With the influx of new immigrants and a high score on immigrant integration, the region likely contains best practices around civic engagement and economics for immigrants.
The East Bay – near the Silicon Valley and San Francisco – is home to major corporations, including health care and technology companies, as well as manufacturers of household products. The distribution of all employed workers in the top industries is as such: of all employed workers (ages 25-64) 31% are in professional services and 13% are in retail trade. Immigrants, following a similar trend as U.S.-born workers, are employed at high rates in professional services (24%), retail trade (15%), and manufacturing (14%). Business and repair services, construction, and transportation combined employ over one-quarter of all immigrants. Like Santa Clara County, the East Bay exhibits relatively low self-employment rates for immigrants (11%) and low unemployment rates for immigrants (9%), but does have a sizable share of overskilled immigrants (19%) – that is, immigrant workers with a Bachelor’s degree or higher in unskilled jobs.

The Economic Snapshot indicates the economic well-being of immigrants, now, as compared to U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites; it reveals their socio-economic standing by measuring the fundamentals – housing, education, work, income and access.

The East Bay ranks fifth (out of 10) in the Economic Snapshot category and, with a well-utilized workforce, performs well in several areas, most prominently full-time employment and one measure of job access – cars per driver. The educational achievement score (4.0) is higher than in other regions, but really it is a relative measure and gaps remain compared to U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites.

The East Bay has room to grow in the areas of homeownership, income, and access to public benefits. These data mask the needs of lower income residents – particularly Latinos and some Southeast Asian groups – who may need more of a focused effort on economic integration than others who have been placed relatively well in the professional services sector.

Debunking the image of immigrants as static newcomers, Economic Trajectory measures how immigrants have fared, economically, over time. This score was generated by tracking immigrants’ outcomes over time, starting in 1980.

Over time, East Bay immigrants’ rates of full-time employment and poverty improved more than in most other regions. They fared well in terms of homeownership and English language acquisition too.

More progress could be made in the areas of income for full-time workers and, to a lesser degree, the attainment of high school degrees.

To generate snapshot and trajectory scores, immigrants were compared against U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites, who – it could be argued – are the most “integrated” population in the U.S.
Historically, the East Bay has been a destination for many migrating to California. Following World War II, this area experienced major population growth and transformation – an expansion that immigrants helped shape. In particular, the development of new transportation infrastructure – new highways and eventually the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) system – allowed for an eastward expansion of new suburbs. This also created two different cultural and social narratives in the way that immigrants have been incorporated into this area. The urban core of Oakland, Berkeley, and Hayward has been very receptive to immigrants, adopting some of the most comprehensive approaches that allow for the integration of immigrants into the social, economic and cultural life of this area. For example, some in Oakland are working to issue municipal identification cards that could double as debit cards and provide a way for immigrants to prove their identity and participate in mainstream banking. The eastern suburbs, however, have not been as receptive to immigrants, often calling on local enforcement to step up deportation efforts and pressing employers to participate in E-Verify. And, yet, the ethos of the East Bay is one where hard work is valued and there are strong undertones of openness to all people, so it is not surprising that as a whole this area is generally welcoming of immigrants.

Warmth of Welcome takes seriously the understanding that immigrants contribute to the strength of their region – and so measures if the region views them favorably and worth the investment.

The East Bay performs well in this category, scoring 3.2, achieving particularly high on its media score and supply of English language learning classes. In terms of organizational density, there are approximately 45 immigrant-serving organizations for the region’s some 328,000 non-citizen immigrants.

Practical areas for growth may include strengthening K-12 education so that English language learners can excel academically and supporting the expansion of immigrant-serving organizations.

Civic Engagement captures the extent to which immigrants are able to engage in government processes that affect both their personal and community-wide well-being.

The East Bay scores a 4 on both indicators – linguistic integration (measured by the proportion of households where at least one person over the age of 13 speaks English very well or exclusively) and the percentage of immigrants eligible to naturalize who have become citizens.

The East Bay ranks second only to Santa Clara in this area, indicating that it has been making inroads in integrating immigrants into the civic life of the region, although there is still room for progress and further engagement.

For a full explanation of the methodology used to score regions, see the technical report at: csii.usc.edu.
### Total Population

**Comparison Population for Scoring**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Imm</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S.-born non-Hispanic white</td>
<td>951,285</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant</td>
<td>698,382</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Language Skills Among Immigrants

- **Linguistically Isolated Households**: 27%
- **Top Languages Spoken in Immigrant Households**
  - Spanish: 33%
  - Chinese: 15%
  - English: 11%
  - Tagalog: 11%
  - Hindi and related: 7%

### Household and Family Structure

- **Children**: Immigrant 7%, With an immigrant parent 47%
- **Adults**: Immigrant 34%, Naturalized Immigrant 18%, Immigrant in the Household (Incl. Self) 43%

### Households

- Single, no kids: 24% (U.S.-born 43%)
- Single, with kids: 13% (U.S.-born 14%)
- Married, no kids: 17% (U.S.-born 21%)
- Married, with kids: 46% (U.S.-born 23%)

### Unauthorized Status (Latino Immigrant Adults Only)*

- Unauthorized: 35%
- Of unauthorized, living with a citizen: 72%
- Of unauthorized, living with own citizen child: 34%

### Self Employment ±

- Non-Hispanic white: 18%
- Non-Hispanic Black: N/A
- Latino: 12%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 9%

### Top 5 Industries by Immigrant Share¥

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### Top 5 Countries by Share of LPRs & LPR Naturalization Rates+

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<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>77%</td>
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### Sanctuary City Present in Region

Yes

### Income and Poverty (2010 $s)

- **Avg. Household Income**: Immigrant $67,529, U.S.-born $72,092
- **Avg. Income (Full-time Workers)**: Immigrant $46,000, U.S.-born $61,068
- **Pop. Below 150% of poverty level**: Immigrant 20%, U.S.-born 16%
- **Working Poor***: Immigrant 7%, U.S.-born 2%

### Labor Force Participation Rates§

- **In the Labor Force**: Immigrant 81%, U.S.-born 85%
- **Employed**: Immigrant 91%, U.S.-born 88%
- **Unemployed**: Immigrant 9%, U.S.-born 12%

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### LPRs and Voting Population

- **Voting Eligible Population**: 1,624,179
- **Adult LPRs Eligible for Naturalization**: 106,042

### Note:

- All racial/ethnic groups other than Latino are "non-Hispanic" groups. "API" refers to Asian/Pacific Islanders. "N/A" indicates the sample size was too small to report.
- Unauthorized status could only be estimated for Latino adults. In this table, "living with" means residing in the same household.
- Share of labor force, ages 25-64, who worked full-time last year (at least 50 weeks and 35 hours per week) and had income below 150% of the Federal poverty level.
- Universe is all people ages 25-64, not in group quarters.
- Rates represent the percent of all employed people ages 25-64 in the racial/ethnic/nativity group that are self-employed.
- Rates represent the percent of all employed people ages 25-64 in the racial/ethnic/nativity group that are in each specified industry.
- LPRs are Legal Permanent Residents. Rates are estimates as of 2010, based on CSII analysis of data on the Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS) on all LPRs attaining status between 1985 and 2005. List of top countries of origin is based on a set of 30 countries detailed in the OIS data (the top 30 countries for the U.S. overall) and thus may not be entirely consistent with the top five countries of origin for the region.
The immigrant share of the population in Fresno County has gradually increased since hitting the region’s most recent low in 1970; approximately 200,000 immigrants currently live in this region, comprising 22% of the population. 80% of all immigrants have arrived since 1980, with nearly a quarter arriving in the last decade. Among the 10 California regions we examined, Fresno has the largest share of immigrants hailing from Mexico (66%) when compared to other immigrant groups. Immigrants are highly connected to the region’s children and citizenry. While only 1 in 16 children is an immigrant, 42% have at least one immigrant parent, and 26% of households are headed by an immigrant. Further, our estimates suggest that 70% of unauthorized residents (which we can only estimate for adult Latinos) are living with citizens, and 41% are living with their own citizen children. Linguistic isolation – the proportion of immigrant-headed households in which no person over 13 speaks English only, or very well – is high (34%).

Fresno County scored only a 2.0, the lowest overall score across the 10 regions. The County did not perform significantly well in a single area, doing the best in Economic Trajectory, although that simply means that progress is being made from a very low base. Fresno’s 1.0 on Civic Engagement is likely due to its large unauthorized and seasonal migrant population and lack of infrastructure for naturalization. Given all the possibilities for improvement in this region, Fresno can look to other regions in the state for new approaches, particularly Sacramento, a Central Valley region that scored well.

IMPLICATIONS

Although Fresno employs immigrants in its large agricultural industry, these economic opportunities are not translating into immigrant integration. These seasonal, low-paying jobs do not lift immigrants out of poverty and keep them constantly on the move. The challenge, then, is how to support a population that is so dynamic – both in terms of workforce development and civic engagement.

For more stable immigrants, the relatively low cost of living is a saving grace in places where most other measures are bleak. Challenges moving forward include: highlighting how the diverse immigrant population contributes to the region, building up a core of immigrant-serving organizations, and continuing the momentum around more inclusive regional politics.
Fresno County sits in the heart of California’s Central Valley, and is the number-one agricultural producing county in the nation. And yet agriculture is not the number one industry for the region: the top three industries for all workers (ages 25-64) are professional services (30%), retail trade (13%) and then agriculture (11%). On the other hand, immigrants are more likely to be employed in agriculture (29%) with lower shares in other industries – professional services (19%) and retail trade (13%). This indicates high labor market segmentation between immigrants and U.S.-born non-Hispanic residents, a conclusion backed up by the high proportion of spare overskilled immigrants (26%) – that is, immigrant workers with a bachelor’s degree or higher in unskilled jobs. About 11% of immigrants in Fresno are self-employed.

The Economic Snapshot indicates the economic well-being of immigrants, now, as compared to U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites; it reveals their socio-economic standing by measuring the fundamentals – housing, education, work, income and access.

Fresno County ranks ninth in this category with a score of 2.1. Rent burden and overcrowding are not major issues, likely due to the relative affordability of the region. While better than some regions, English learners are testing poorly on the high school exit exam as 10th graders, 30 percentage points or more below non-Hispanic white peers. Health insurance access is middling – a measure with persistently wide statewide gaps between immigrants and U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites.

The high concentration of immigrants in the agricultural sector has translated into a workforce without traditional markers of success. Workers need full-time employment as well as higher levels of education – not surprising given the nature of this industry.

Much progress is needed in the areas of poverty and wages, homeownership, and job access – as private vehicles remain the only means to reach remote and changing job sites (unlike in urban areas with high population densities and major transit systems).

Debunking the image of immigrants as static newcomers, Economic Trajectory measures how immigrants have fared, economically, over time. This score was generated by tracking immigrants’ outcomes over time, starting in 1980.

The Economic Trajectory is better in Fresno than the Economic Snapshot, although it still ranks seventh in this category.

Over time, immigrants’ rates of full-time employment have improved more than in any other region, and immigrants have had better than average gains in attaining a high school diploma. Nonetheless, progress when it comes to immigrants’ ability to speak English, income of full-time workers and poverty rates has been slow – areas needing more attention.

To generate snapshot and trajectory scores, immigrants are compared against U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites, who – it could be argued – are the most “integrated” population in the U.S.
An agricultural core of California, Fresno is a destination for many immigrant laborers. This includes a large share of undocumented workers (37% of Latino immigrant adults in Fresno are without documentation), which makes them more vulnerable to lower wages, labor abuses, and other social instability. Rates of naturalization among those who are eligible remain low; suggesting that the region may not see the vital contributions of its immigrant population and so has not built the infrastructure needed to facilitate immigrants’ naturalization. As in other places where the immigrant population is less diverse, the mainstream (and often negative, racialized) images of Latino immigrants slows integration. Fresno both accepts immigrants as necessary to its economic success and stops short of fully welcoming them to the region. The exception here is the Hmong refugee population; Fresno is home to a large number of Hmong residents who have built a strong network of organizations trying to address their needs as they integrate into the area. In Fresno, there may be more hope for an open and inclusive culture than other places in the Central Valley; political leaders have often focused on strategies to reduce inequality and elements of the business community are committed, as well. And while the data shows that it is tough to be an immigrant here, Fresno is one of the few Sanctuary Cities in California.

**Warmth of Welcome** takes seriously the understanding that immigrants contribute to the strength of their region – and so measures if the region views them favorably and **worth the investment**.

Fresno scored 2.0 in this category – a moderate score for the media and immigrant-serving organization coverage. There are approximately 18 immigrant-serving organizations for the region’s some 133,000 non-citizen immigrants.

Practical areas for growth may include boosting the supply of English language classes, strengthening K-12 education for English language learners, and building the civic infrastructure for naturalization.

**Civic Engagement** captures the extent to which immigrants are able to engage in government processes that affect both their personal and community-wide well-being.

Fresno scores 1.0 on both indicators – linguistic integration (measured by the proportion of households where at least one person over the age of 13 speaks English very well or exclusively) and the percentage of immigrants eligible to naturalize who have done so.

Fresno ranks last in Civic Engagement – and overall – when compared to the other 10 regions. Having a heavily transitory immigrant population of farm workers presents a different type of challenge to integration than in more urban centers.

*For a full explanation of the methodology used to score regions, see the technical report at: csii.usc.edu.*
RACE, ETHNICITY, AND NATIVITY
(TOTAL POPULATION)

LATINO (USB) 34%
WHITE (USB) 32%
LATINO (IMM) 15%
BLACK (USB) 5%
API (IMM) 5%
API (USB) 4%
OTHER 3%
WHITE (IMM) 1%
BLACK (IMM) 0%

OVERSKILLED IMMIGRANT WORKERS
(OF WORKERS WITH BA OR BETTER, THOSE IN AN UNSKILLED JOB)

U.S.-BORN RATE = 12%

IMM = IMMIGRANT
USB = U.S.-BORN

IMM = IMMIGRANT

Note: Only immigrant racial/ethnic groups with sufficient sample size are included.

IMMIGRANT ENGLISH SKILLS BY RECENCY OF ARRIVAL

SPEAKING ENGLISH

% VERY WELL OR ONLY ENGLISH
% WELL
% NOT WELL OR NONE

since 2000 1990s 1980s before 1980

2008-2010 DATA PROFILE: FRESNO

http://csii.usc.edu

Since 2000

Race, Ethnicity, and Nativity

Latino (US-Born) 34%
White (US-Born) 32%
Latino (Immigrant) 15%
Black (US-Born) 5%
API (Immigrant) 5%
API (US-Born) 4%
Other 3%
White (Immigrant) 1%
Black (Immigrant) 0%

Overskilled Immigrant Workers

(OF WORKERS WITH BA OR BETTER, THOSE IN AN UNSKILLED JOB)

U.S.-Born Rate = 12%

Immigrant = Immigrant
US-Born = US-Born

Immigrant English Skills by Recency of Arrival

% Speaking English

% Very Well or Only English
% Well
% Not Well or None


Total Population

Comparison Population for Scoring
US-Born non-Hispanic white 298,786 32%
Immigrant 199,484 22%

Language Skills Among Immigrants

Linguistically Isolated Households 34%
Top Languages Spoken in Immigrant Households:
Spanish 67%
English 7%
Tibetan 5%
Hindi and related 5%
Tagalog 2%

Household and Family Structure

Children
Immigrant 6%
With an immigrant parent 42%
Adults
Immigrant 29%
Naturalized Immigrant 9%
Immigrant in the Household (Incl. Self) 38%
Households
Imm. U.S.-born
Single, no kids 20% 36%
Single, with kids 22% 18%
Married, no kids 10% 21%
Married, with kids 48% 25%

Unauthorized Status (Latino Immigrant Adults Only)*

Unauthorized 37%
Of unauthorized, living with a citizen 70%
Of unauthorized, living with own citizen child 41%

Sanctuary City Present in Region
Yes

Incomes and Poverty (2010 $s)

Avg. Household Income
US-Born $48,804
Immigrant $36,000

Avg. Income (Full-time Workers)
US-Born $42,000
Immigrant $25,313

Population Below 150% of poverty level
US-Born 32%
Immigrant 49%

Working Poor*
US-Born 7%
Immigrant 27%

Labor Force Participation Rates §

In the Labor Force
US-Born 81%
Immigrant 79%

Employed
US-Born 84%
Immigrant 85%

Unemployed
US-Born 16%
Immigrant 15%

Self Employment ±

Non-Hispanic white N/A 13%
Non-Hispanic Black N/A N/A
Latino 9% 7%
Asian/Pacific Islander 15% N/A

Top 5 Industries by Immigrant Share

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting 29%
Professional and Related Services 19%
Retail Trade 13%
Manufacturing 8%
Wholesale Trade 6%

Top 5 Countries by Share of LPRs & LPR Naturalization Rates

Mexico 26%
India 62%
Philippines 64%
El Salvador 27%
Vietnam 73%

LPRs and Voting Population

Voting Eligible Population
US-Born 63,149
Immigrant 521,995

Note: All racial/ethnic groups other than Latino are "non-Hispanic" groups. "API" refers to Asian/Pacific Islanders. "N/A" indicates the sample size was too small to report.

* Unauthorized status could only be estimated for Latino adults. In this table, "living with" means residing in the same household.

§ Share of labor force, ages 25-64, who worked full-time last year (at least 50 weeks and 35 hours per week) and had income below 150% of the Federal poverty level.

 Universe is all people ages 25-64, not in group quarters.

± Rates represent the percent of all employed people ages 25-64 in the racial/ethnic/nativity group that are self-employed.

LPRs are Legal Permanent Residents. Rates are estimates as of 2010, based on CSII analysis of data on the Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS) on all LPRs attaining status between 1985 and 2005. List of top countries of origin is based on a set of 30 countries detailed in the OIS data (the top 30 countries for the U.S. overall) and thus may not be entirely consistent with the top five countries of origin for the region.
The immigrant share of Los Angeles County’s population is near its highest point since 1870; nearly 3.5 million immigrants live here – comprising 35% of the population – the largest number of any region. About 77% of all immigrants have arrived since 1980, with 20% arriving in the last decade. Like all Southern California regions, Los Angeles’ immigrant population is largely comprised of Mexican immigrants (41%). However, while other regions have seen growth in their Mexican immigrant population from 1980, Los Angeles’ share has remained roughly the same. The shares of immigrants from El Salvador, the Philippines, Guatemala, and Korea have increased since 1980.

Immigrants are highly connected to the region’s children and citizenry. While only 1 in 14 children is an immigrant, 58% have at least one immigrant parent, and 44% of households are headed by an immigrant. Further, our estimates suggest that 70% of unauthorized residents (which we can only estimate for adult Latinos) are living with at least one citizen, and 34% are living with their own citizen children. Linguistic isolation – the proportion of immigrant-headed households in which no person over 13 speaks English only, or very well – is relatively high at 34%.

Los Angeles County scores a 2.6 overall, ranking eighth across the 10 regions, but tying with San Joaquin. The region performs well in Warmth of Welcome – unsurprising given its history as an immigrant gateway and hub of immigrant-serving organizations. The region does fairly well in Economic Trajectory – a sign of economic integration and improvement for immigrants over time. Its poorest performance is in economic snapshot, ranking last across all regions.

Areas for improvement include: linguistic integration, improved access to health insurance, and opportunities for homeownership. But the most may be done by building on immigrant strengths, energies, and labor force attachment to forge a stronger regional economy that can raise economic outcomes for everyone.

Other regions may look to Los Angeles for models around how to welcome immigrants to the region, including civic infrastructure and model policy work.
Los Angeles County is known as the entertainment capital of the nation, housing major television and film companies. But the region is also a center for international trade – thanks to the bustling Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach – and the (now declining) aerospace industry, along with many other manufacturing sectors and professional services. The distribution of workers reflects this – of all employed workers (ages 25-64) 28% work in professional services, 14% in retail trade, and 12% in manufacturing. The distribution of immigrants is very similar: 21% in professional services, 17% in retail trade, and 15% in manufacturing – an industry which continues to evolve in the region. Approximately 15% of Los Angeles’ immigrant population is self-employed, and a large share of immigrants are classified as overskilled workers (25%) – that is, workers with a bachelor's degree or higher in unskilled jobs.

The Economic Snapshot indicates the economic well-being of immigrants, now, as compared to U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites; it reveals their socio-economic standing by measuring the fundamentals – housing, education, work, income and access.

Los Angeles County ranks last (out of 10 regions) in the economic snapshot category, but its dynamic population might explain some of the low scoring. The County does better in providing full-time employment and 64% of immigrants have a high school diploma, ranking in the middle on this indicator by comparison, but highlighting the poor performance across all regions.

Yet, Los Angeles has room to grow in the areas of housing (homeownership and rent burden); workforce preparation (math and English scores); and income (wages for full-time workers and poverty rates). Given the area’s large unauthorized population, wages may be especially low because of labor abuses. There are also major disparities between immigrants and U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites in terms of access (health insurance, car access, and social security).

Debunking the image of immigrants as static newcomers, Economic Trajectory measures how immigrants have fared, economically, over time. This score was generated by tracking immigrants’ outcomes over time, starting in 1980.

While not entirely positive, Los Angeles County scored better in economic trajectory (3.0) than economic snapshot. Despite generally low measures of economic status, the region is one where immigrants can move up.

Over time, Los Angeles’ immigrants have seen fairly good improvement in high school graduation rates, and moderate improvement in most other measures. As evidenced by the economic snapshot score, however, there is still a great deal of room for growth.

A key area for improvement is English-speaking ability. The low level of English fluency and relatively slow improvement may be partly the result of ethnic enclaves, but the lack of learning opportunities is likely important too.

To generate snapshot and trajectory scores, immigrants are compared against U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites, who – it could be argued – are the most “integrated” population in the U.S.
Los Angeles County is home to nearly 10 million residents, making it the most populous county in the nation. The large population is diverse, dynamic, and both the result and catalyst of globalization. Los Angeles has always had a large immigrant presence and has seen its immigrant population dramatically rise since 1980; immigrants now make up one-third of the County’s total population. Olvera Street, Koreatown, the San Gabriel Valley and other immigrant dense locales have become tourist destinations for people visiting the region – allowing visitors to partake in the region’s immigrant-rich culture. But beyond tourist hotspots and the many ethnic neighborhoods, the region has become a hotbed for political activism, with a well-established immigrant-serving civic infrastructure that allows immigrants to come out of the shadows and voice their concerns. The City of Los Angeles, the second largest in the nation, is a sanctuary city – an emblem of the region’s acceptance of its immigrant population. Along with long-time gateway cities like New York and Chicago, Los Angeles remains committed to immigrants and changing policy both locally and nationally to enable integration.

**Warmth of Welcome** takes seriously the understanding that immigrants contribute to the strength of their region – and so measures if the region views them favorably and worth the investment.

Los Angeles County performs well in this category, scoring 3.6, the second highest of the 10 regions. Los Angeles scores an impressive 5.0 in its media score. With 154 immigrant-serving organizations for the region’s some 1.8 million non-citizen immigrants, the region only scores 3.0 by this measure – but among these are large organizations with sizable service areas.

Practical areas for growth may include boosting the supply of English language learning classes and strengthening K-12 education for English language learners.

**Civic Engagement** captures the extent to which immigrants are able to engage in government processes that affect both their personal and community-wide well-being.

Los Angeles scores 2.0 on civic engagement overall and 3.0 on naturalization of eligible immigrants. Its large immigrant population – and high proportion of undocumented residents – makes it harder for the region to reach all of its population, but the area has made great inroads, thus far.

Scoring 1.0, the region has room to improve in its linguistic integration of immigrants (measured by the proportion of households where at least one person over the age of 13 speaks English very well or exclusively).

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*For a full explanation of the methodology used to score regions, see the technical report at: csii.usc.edu.*
# 2008-2010 Data Profile: Los Angeles

## Race, Ethnicity, and Nativity (Total Population)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Racial/Ethnic Group</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
<th>Immigrant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Latino (USB)</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White (USB)</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino (IMM)</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>API (IMM)</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black (USB)</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White (USB)</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>API (USB)</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Only immigrant racial/ethnic groups with sufficient sample size are included.

## Overskilled Immigrant Workers (of Workers with BA or Better, Those in an Unskilled Job)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
<th>Immigrant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic White</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic Black</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Pacific Islander</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Only immigrant racial/ethnic groups with sufficient sample size are included.

## Immigrant English Skills by Recency of Arrival

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Non-Hispanic White</th>
<th>Non-Hispanic Black</th>
<th>Latino</th>
<th>Asian/Pacific Islander</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Only immigrant racial/ethnic groups with sufficient sample size are included.
The approximately 913,000 immigrants living in Orange County make up nearly one-third of the County’s population. 79% have arrived since 1980, and 21% have arrived in the last decade. The share of immigrants living in Orange County is diverse by nativity. While the largest group hails from Mexico (42%), the share of immigrants coming from Vietnam has doubled in the last 20 years – now accounting for 14% of the immigrant population. With growth in immigrants from Korea, the Philippines, and India, the region’s immigrant population is continuing to diversify.

Immigrants are highly connected to the region’s children and citizenry. While only 1 in 14 children is an immigrant, 53% have at least one immigrant parent, and 34% of households are headed by an immigrant. Further, our estimates suggest that 83% of unauthorized residents (which we can only estimate for adult Latinos) are living with citizens, and 36% are living with their own citizen children. Perhaps because of this mix, linguistic isolation – the proportion of immigrant-headed households in which no person over 13 speaks English only, or very well – remains relatively low (28%).

Orange County scores an overall 3.1, tying with Sacramento and San Francisco – a high score for a region notorious for anti-immigrant groups. The County performed well in Economic Trajectory, scoring a 3.8 – largely due to its ability to close the gap on poverty rates and also for its large share of immigrants with English-speaking abilities. The region also performed well in Civic Engagement, but has room for improvement in the Economic Snapshot and Warmth of Welcome categories.

Orange County has created a path to civic engagement for immigrants and economic opportunity, as afforded by its business and tourism sectors. Together, this has allowed immigrants to make economic, employment, educational, and linguistic gains.

These achievements are in strange contrast to the notoriously anti-immigrant tenor. While some parts of the County are very welcoming, others are downright hostile, particularly around media coverage and law enforcement. Other areas for improvement include: increasing accessibility to health care and naturalization resources for eligible immigrants, and promoting opportunities for affordable homeownership.

Yet, other regions might look to Orange County for best practices in the areas of economic and academic improvement for its immigrant populations.
Orange County has a booming professional economy, housing the headquarters of several Fortune 500 companies. It is a region with vibrant tourism as well; home to Disneyland – the second most visited theme park in the world – and some of the most visited malls and beaches in the nation. The distribution of workers reflects this with 55% of all employed workers (ages 25-64) in professional services (26%), manufacturing (15%), or retail trade (14%). Immigrants follow a similar trend, being employed at high rates in professional services (20%), manufacturing (19%), and retail trade (17%). In Orange County, self-employment rates for immigrants are relatively low (13%), unemployment rates are moderate (10%), and there is a sizable share of overskilled immigrants (20%) – that is, workers with a bachelor’s degree or higher in unskilled jobs.

The Economic Snapshot indicates the economic well-being of immigrants, now, as compared to U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites; it reveals their socio-economic standing by measuring the fundamentals – housing, education, work, income and access.

In this category, Orange County scores 2.4 and ranks eighth amongst the 10 regions. The region has a moderately-educated immigrant workforce to draw upon and has the largest share of 10th grade English language learners (ELLs) passing the high school exit exam’s English language portion relative to other regions; but still only a dismal 52% as compared to 95% of non-ELL students.

Yet, Orange County has room to grow in the areas of housing, income (especially around poverty), and access (health insurance, car access and use of social security). The data is telling of the current economic well-being of immigrants in Orange County, but it is also compelling to put it in context, considering that immigrants in this region show substantial economic progress over time.

Debunking the image of immigrants as static newcomers, Economic Trajectory measures how immigrants have fared, economically, over time. This score was generated by tracking immigrants’ outcomes over time, starting in 1980.

The economic trajectory for immigrants in Orange County is positive, ranking second in the state with a score of 3.8.

Over time, Orange County immigrants’ English-speaking abilities and poverty rates have shown the most progress compared to other regions. There is also evidence of substantial progress in the share of immigrants with a high school diploma.

Slower improvement has been made when it comes to immigrants’ rate of full-time employment, income for full-time workers, and homeownership rates – areas needing more attention. And despite progress, the Economic Snapshot shows that there is plenty of room for improvement in terms of poverty.

To generate snapshot and trajectory scores, immigrants are compared against U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites, who – it could be argued – are the most “integrated” population in the U.S.
Orange County has become popularized as a region with a very particular image of wealth and whiteness. However, with about 34 incorporated cities and a population of 3.1 million, the region is so much more than this narrow conception. About 30% of the region’s population is immigrant, the majority living in or near the northern core of the county. Nearby are the many suburbs where political conservatism and affluence are alive and well – and influential. Orange County’s social fabric is a patchwork of places where immigrants are embraced and integrated into the civic, economic, and social life and other areas that have passed harsh anti-immigrant ordinances. Advocates here face the very real presence – often literal – of some of the strongest opponents of immigrant integration, like the Minutemen. In a region where school desegregation began years prior to Brown v. Board of Education – through the landmark case of Mendez v. Westminster School District – segregation remains.

Warmth of Welcome takes seriously the understanding that immigrants contribute to the strength of their region – and so measures if the region views them favorably and worth the investment.

Orange County scored a 2.8 in this category, tying for sixth among the 10 regions. The region has done well in building the civic infrastructure for naturalization and fostering positive academic performance outcomes for English language learners (ELL). In terms of organizational density, there are approximately 35 immigrant-serving organizations for the region’s some 457,000 non-citizen immigrants.

The region would do well to foster immigrant-friendly rhetoric among local media coverage, and change the tone of the political conversation. Other practical areas for growth may include boosting the supply of English language learning classes and supporting the expansion of immigrant-serving organizations.

Civic Engagement captures the extent to which immigrants are able to engage in government processes that affect both their personal and community-wide well-being.

Orange County scores 3.5 in this category, ranking third across the 10 regions. The area is doing well in linguistic integration of immigrant households (measured by the proportion of households where at least one person over the age of 13 speaks English very well or exclusively) and the percentage of immigrants eligible to naturalize who have become citizens.

The data suggests that immigrants in the region have good capacity, but room to become more civically engaged over time.

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For a full explanation of the methodology used to score regions, see the technical report at: csii.usc.edu.
# RACE, ETHNICITY, AND NATIVITY (TOTAL POPULATION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S.-born non-Hispanic white</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Language Skills Among Immigrants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Linguistically Isolated Households</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top Languages Spoken in Immigrant Households</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnamese</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korean</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Household and Family Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With an immigrant parent</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naturalized Immigrant</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant in the Household (Incl. Self)</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Households</th>
<th>Imm.</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single, no kids</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single, with kids</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married, no kids</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married, with kids</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Unauthorized Status (Latino Immigrant Adults Only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unauthorized</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Of unauthorized, living with a citizen</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of unauthorized, living with own citizen child</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Sanctuary City Present in Region

No

---

# OVERSKILLED IMMIGRANT WORKERS (OF WORKERS WITH BA OR BETTER, THOSE IN AN UNSKILLED JOB)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S.-BORN RATE</th>
<th>10%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMM</th>
<th>NON-HISPANIC WHITE</th>
<th>LATINO</th>
<th>ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

# IMMIGRANT ENGLISH SKILLS BY REGENCY OF ARRIVAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arrived in the U.S.</th>
<th>Very Well or Only English</th>
<th>Well</th>
<th>Not Well or None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Since 2000</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990s</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980s</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before 1980</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Note:

Only immigrant racial/ethnic groups with sufficient sample size are included.
The Inland Empire (Riverside and San Bernardino counties) has experienced dramatic population growth in recent years from suburban sprawl and an influx of immigrants. Approximately 909,000 immigrants currently live in this region, comprising 22% of the population – the largest share the region has ever seen. Approximately 75% of all immigrants have arrived since 1980, with 19% arriving in the last decade. The region has seen its share of immigrants from Mexico almost double from 35% in 1980 to 61% in 2010. The share of immigrants from the Philippines (7%) has also increased.

Immigrants are highly connected to the region’s children and citizenry. While only 1 in 25 children is an immigrant, 42% have at least one immigrant parent, and 27% of households are headed by an immigrant. Further, our estimates suggest that 77% of unauthorized residents (which we can only estimate for adult Latinos) are living with citizens, and 41% are living with their own citizen children. Perhaps because of this mix, linguistic isolation – the proportion of immigrant-headed households in which no person over 13 speaks English only, or very well – is relatively low (27%).

The Inland Empire scored a 2.7, ranking seventh among the 10 regions. The region scored better in the Economic Snapshot and Civic Engagement categories, largely because of high scores in linguistic integration, homeownership rates, English testing, and access to cars and social services. On the other hand, the Inland Empire was second to worst in Economic Trajectory, with little improvement around full-time employment and English speaking abilities; and Warmth of Welcome was nearly as dismal.

As the Inland Empire’s rapid growth continues – both in population and economic activity – it is providing immigrants with new economic opportunities.

Despite the difficulties that come with an immigrant population that may be perceived as monolithic, the region’s housing market has allowed high rates of homeownership (although facing both high rates of unemployment and foreclosures, this is changing quickly). Civic engagement, in the form of immigrant serving organizations, is also happening in the context of a changing political landscape and a certain lack of infrastructure to connect immigrants.

The region has something to learn from others and has striking parallels to San Joaquin, but continued growth matched with apparently strong civic infrastructure for naturalization may result in best practices for immigrant integration in California’s exurbs and more rural communities.
The Inland Empire experienced several changes during the past 40 years, transforming from a rural to suburban region, diversifying its economy and becoming California’s fastest growing region. The region’s inexpensive and vacant land, along with a well-integrated freight rail system, turned it into a go-to region for some of the nation’s largest manufacturing and warehousing companies looking for new shipping hubs. The supply of vacant land also led to a housing boom that allowed for the growth of new suburbs and retail centers. These two dynamics have shaped the distribution of the workforce in the region. The majority of workers (ages 25-64) are employed in professional services (26%), retail trade (15%) and manufacturing (11%). Immigrants are employed in professional services (18%), retail trade (16%), manufacturing (15%) and construction (11%) – a sector that was hit hard during the recent recession. Unemployment rates for immigrants stand at 13%, while self-employment rates are at 12%. The region also has a high proportion of overskilled immigrants (25%) – that is, workers with a bachelor’s degree or higher in unskilled jobs.

The Economic Snapshot indicates the economic well-being of immigrants, now, as compared to U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites; it reveals their socio-economic standing by measuring the fundamentals – housing, education, work, income and access.

The Inland Empire scored a 3.2 in economic snapshot, its highest score across all categories. Immigrants in the region are doing well in terms of homeownership, poverty, and access. However, the foreclosure crisis has hit immigrants particularly hard, losing homes as well as jobs at some of the highest rates in the nation. Math and English scores for English learners are middling in a relative sense, but poor, in an absolute sense.

A gap persists in the percentage of immigrants that have a high school diploma, income for full-time workers, and working poverty. Furthermore, immigrants suffer from overcrowding – somewhat surprising given the relatively low cost of land and low-density of development in the region.

Debunking the image of immigrants as static newcomers, Economic Trajectory measures how immigrants have fared, economically, over time. This score was generated by tracking immigrants’ outcomes over time, starting in 1980.

The Economic Trajectory for immigrants in the Inland Empire is worse than the Economic Snapshot. Improvement in full-time employment rates, poverty rates, and English speaking abilities of the region’s immigrant population has not kept up with those of U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites, compared to other regions. While this is partly due to a smaller gap to begin with in the case of poverty, it is not so for full-time employment and English speaking abilities – they are particular areas in need of improvement.

While the progress on homeownership, income and high school graduation has been more comparable to other regions, continued gaps in the latter two measures evidenced by the snapshot scores make them good focus areas, as well.

To generate snapshot and trajectory scores, immigrants are compared against U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites, who – it could be argued – are the most “integrated” population in the U.S.
The Inland Empire has been California’s fastest growing region for decades – largely due to various housing booms and the exploding logistics/warehousing industry. Once a sleepy eastern neighbor of Los Angeles, the region is now home to a growing number of Latinos, African Americans, and Asians who “drove until they qualified.” This has made for a strange mix; while an older conservative population struggles to maintain political power – which includes support for anti-immigrant policies – immigrants and their native-born children are working to reshape the Inland Empire’s regional identity and its future. Nonetheless, the economic crisis of 2008 turned the promise of the great American Dream into a nightmare for many immigrants; thousands lost their homes and jobs. Moreover, anti-immigrant forces’ vitriol that immigrants further burdened the region’s schools and social infrastructure intensified. As a result, the drive for immigrant integration has become a highly racialized affair, playing out along cultural and political lines. This cultural landscape will likely make immigrant integration a difficult journey, but a few labor unions, community organizations and immigrant coalitions have begun to organize at a regional level in support of low-wage workers and against harsh enforcement policies. Their success and the ability of local policy makers to reframe immigrant integration as a social good will help to determine the Inland Empire’s future prosperity.

Warmth of Welcome takes seriously the understanding that immigrants contribute to the strength of their region – and so measures if the region views them favorably and worth the investment.

The Inland Empire scored 2.4 in this category, showing strong civic infrastructure for naturalization in the region, but scoring poorly elsewhere. There are approximately 17 immigrant-serving organizations for the region’s some 522,000 non-citizen immigrants.

Practical areas for growth may include boosting the supply of English language classes, allowing for more positive media messaging, and the expansion of immigrant-serving organizations in the region.

The Inland Empire struggles significantly in this category, alongside San Joaquin and Fresno. A coordinated statewide strategy might be useful.

Civic Engagement captures the extent to which immigrants are able to engage in government processes that affect both their personal and community-wide well-being.

The Inland Empire scores a 3.0 on Civic Engagement – excelling in linguistic integration (measured by the proportion of households where at least one person over the age of 13 speaks English very well or exclusively), but showing low naturalization rates among its eligible population.

Linguistic integration is actually higher than anticipated, as is the overall category score. As indicated by the lower naturalization rate score, there is a serious need to further increase organizational infrastructure in the Inland Empire – especially with recent increases in the immigrant population.

For a full explanation of the methodology used to score regions, see the technical report at: csii.usc.edu.
### Total Population

**Total Population:** 4,168,036

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comparison Population for Scoring</th>
<th>Imm</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S.-born non-Hispanic white</td>
<td>1,487,410</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant</td>
<td>909,118</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Income and Poverty (2010 $)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Measure</th>
<th>Imm</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avg. Household Income</td>
<td>$47,900</td>
<td>$57,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg. Income (Full-time Workers)</td>
<td>$32,301</td>
<td>$45,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pop. Below 150% of poverty level</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working Poor</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Language Skills Among Immigrants

- **Linguistically Isolated Households:** 27%
- **Top Languages Spoken in Immigrant Households:**
  - Spanish: 70%
  - English: 9%
  - Tagalog: 6%
  - Chinese: 2%
  - Hindi and related: 2%
- **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Eligible:** 8%
- **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Respondents:** 7%

### Labor Force Participation Rates

- **In the Labor Force:** 77% 83%
- **Employed:** 87% 83%
- **Unemployed:** 13% 17%

### Self Employment

- Non-Hispanic white: 18% 13%
- Non-Hispanic Black: N/A 7%
- Latino: 11% 7%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 13% 7%

### Top 5 Industries by Immigrant Share

- Professional and Related Services: 18% 30%
- Retail Trade: 16% 15%
- Manufacturing: 15% 9%
- Construction: 11% 8%
- Transport., Comm., & Other Utilities: 8% 9%

### Top 5 Countries by Share of LPRs & LPR Naturalization Rates

- Mexico: 34%
- Philippines: 62%
- Vietnam: 73%
- El Salvador: 43%
- India: 66%

### Unauthorized Status (Latino Immigrant Adults Only)

- Unauthorized: 26%
- Of unauthorized, living with a citizen: 77%
- Of unauthorized, living with own citizen child: 41%

### Sanctuary City Present in Region

- No

### Household and Family Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Type</th>
<th>Imm</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single, no kids</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single, with kids</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married, no kids</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married, with kids</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RACE, ETHNICITY, AND NATIVITY (TOTAL POPULATION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Imm</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White (US)</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino (US)</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino (Imm)</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black (US)</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>API (Imm)</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (US)</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>API (US)</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White (Imm)</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black (Imm)</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Overskilled Immigrant Workers (of workers with BA or better, those in an unskilled job)

- U.S.-Born Rate: 11%
- Latino: 23%
- Non-Hispanic White: 25%

### Immigrant English Skills by Recency of Arrival

- 2000-2010:
  - Very well or only English: 53%
  - Well: 24%
  - Not well or none: 26%

Note: Only immigrant racial/ethnic groups with sufficient sample size are included.
With approximately 270,000 immigrants living in Sacramento County, the foreign-born comprise 19% of the population. While the region has seen a recent and relative increase in its immigrant population, it has not traditionally been a gateway region like others in California. More than 82% of all immigrants have arrived since 1980, with 25% arriving in the last decade. The share of immigrants living in the region is diverse by nativity. While the largest groups hail from Mexico (27%) and the Philippines (10%), many are from Vietnam (8%), the Ukraine (6%) and Laos (5%) – a unique mix compared to other regions. All of these groups have seen their numbers increase since the 1980s.

Immigrants are highly connected to the region’s children and citizenry. While only 1 in 16 children is an immigrant, 35% have at least one immigrant parent, and 20% of households are headed by an immigrant. Further, our estimates suggest that 74% of unauthorized residents (which we can only estimate for adult Latinos) are living with citizens, and 42% are living with their own citizen children. Linguistic isolation – the proportion of immigrant-headed households in which no person over 13 speaks English only, or very well – is moderate (31%) relatively speaking.

Sacramento County has an overall score of 3.1, at the middle of the pack. The County performed well in Economic Snapshot and Warmth of Welcome, thanks in part to the relatively high academic performance of English language learners (ELLs) when compared to non-Hispanic white students. The region did fairly well in Civic Engagement and performed poorly on Economic Trajectory, an area for improvement.

Sacramento’s diverse immigrant population and economic engine supported by the State government has helped the region to score relatively well. The region has emphasized adult ELL instruction, supplying a healthy proportion of ELL classes to adult learners. And while English learning youth are performing well in a relative sense, the region will need to step-up to fully prepare its future workforce.

As the region continues to rebalance after military base closures and the real estate crisis, the region will have to move forward with intentionality. Full-time employment, affordable housing, and high school completion rates are at the top of the list. Other Central Valley regions – with large agricultural sectors and reeling from the foreclosure crisis – may look to Sacramento for best practices around immigrant integration.
Sacramento is the seat of the state’s government, which is also the single largest employer in the region. The State also contracts with large construction, cleaning, and business corporations in the area. The capital attracts a large presence of law firms, advocacy groups and consulting firms. The top three industries for all employed workers (ages 25-64) are: professional services (29%), retail trade (14%), and public administration (12%). Immigrants follow a similar trend as U.S.-born workers being employed at high rates in professional services (24%) and retail trade (18%) but are much less likely to be employed in public administration (8%). Sacramento County exhibits relatively low self-employment rates for immigrants (12%), high unemployment rates for immigrants (13%), and a sizable share of overskilled immigrants (28%) – that is, workers with a bachelor’s degree or higher in unskilled jobs.

The Economic Snapshot indicates the economic well-being of immigrants, now, as compared to U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites; it reveals their socio-economic standing by measuring the fundamentals – housing, education, work, income and access.

With a score of 3.5, Sacramento County ranks second, tying with San Diego in this category. Immigrants have above-average access to cars and social security – facilitating their ability to contribute and participate in society. Insurance access is also high relative to other regions, but this is in the context of large gaps compared with U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites. However, the region scores well in terms of high school testing. While Sacramento’s English learners have relatively higher pass rates than their counterparts in other regions, they are still far behind the region’s non-Hispanic white students – 26 and 40 percentage points behind, for math and English, respectively.

Yet, Sacramento has room to grow in the areas of housing (rent burden and overcrowding); workforce (number of full-time workers) and income (poverty rates for immigrants).

Debunking the image of immigrants as static newcomers, Economic Trajectory measures how immigrants have fared, economically, over time. This score was generated by tracking immigrants’ outcomes over time, starting in 1980. Generally, the Economic Trajectory for immigrants in Sacramento is not positive; the region has made slower progress than all regions but San Francisco and the Inland Empire on closing the gap between immigrants and U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites. This may be due to immigrants having less access to jobs in the public sector, which helps sustain the middle-class in this capital-city region. It is also the case that the immigrants tracked in the region were doing relatively well, making progress more difficult than in regions whose immigrants had a lower starting point.

By far, the slowest progress was made in attaining high school degrees, as compared to other regions – an area needing more attention.

To generate snapshot and trajectory scores, immigrants are compared against U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites, who – it could be argued – are the most “integrated” population in the U.S.
In the early history of the state, Sacramento was one of a handful of counties attracting high numbers of immigrants, likely connected with the local Gold Rush beginning in the mid-1800s. As a result, immigrants have long been part of the fabric of the region. In recent decades, Sacramento has experienced tremendous population growth – particularly since the 1990s – mostly driven by new residents coming from the San Francisco Bay Area as overflow from the tech boom, and new immigrants arriving from Latin America and Asia. New residents arereviving the area; indeed, as in other cities throughout the nation, gentrification is afoot near downtown. Once a region with a vibrant agricultural sector, an active port, and a strong military presence, Sacramento’s professional class is growing as new economic growth centers pop up around the state capital. Whereas many regions have a large Latino presence within their immigrant communities, Sacramento’s newcomers are among some of the most diverse in the state – a factor that usually makes a place more immigrant-friendly.

**Warmth of Welcome** takes seriously the understanding that immigrants contribute to the strength of their region – and so measures if the region views them favorably and worth the investment.

Sacramento performs well in this category, scoring 3.4, achieving particularly high on academic performance of English language learners and offering English language classes. In terms of organizational density, there are 17 immigrant-serving organizations for the region’s some 130,000 non-citizen immigrants.

Practical areas for growth may include expanding the civic infrastructure for naturalization in the region, supporting the expansion of immigrant-serving organizations, and working with the media to have more unbiased reporting of immigrant issues.

**Civic Engagement** captures the extent to which immigrants are able to engage in government processes that affect both their personal and community-wide well-being.

Sacramento scores a 3.0 on both indicators – linguistic integration (measured by the proportion of households where at least one person over the age of 13 speaks English very well or exclusively) and the percentage of immigrants eligible to naturalize who have done so.

Sacramento County could improve civic engagement by expanding its current civic infrastructure for naturalization in an effort to try to turn more immigrants who are eligible for naturalization into citizens.

*For a full explanation of the methodology used to score regions, see the technical report at: csii.usc.edu.*
## Race, Ethnicity, and Nativity (Total Population)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Immigrants</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White (USB)</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino (USB)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black (USB)</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>API (IMM)</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>API (USB)</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino (IMM)</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White (IMM)</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black (IMM)</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Language Skills Among Immigrants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Immigrants</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Linguistically Isolated Households</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top Languages Spoken in Immigrant Households</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindi and related</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnamese</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other East/Southeast Asian</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tagalog</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Household and Family Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Immigrants</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With an immigrant parent</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naturalized Immigrant</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant in the Household (Incl. Self)</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Unauthorized Status (Latino Immigrant Adults Only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Immigrants</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unauthorized</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of unauthorized, living with a citizen</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of unauthorized, living with own citizen child</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Sanctuary City Present in Region

| Sanctuary City Present in Region | No |

Note: All racial/ethnic groups other than Latino are "non-Hispanic" groups. "API" refers to Asian/Pacific Islanders. "N/A" indicates the sample size was too small to report.

### Total Population

Comparison Population for Scoring

- U.S.-born non-Hispanic white: 651,379 (46%)
- Immigrant: 269,562 (19%)

### Income and Poverty (2010 $s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Immigrants</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avg. Household Income</td>
<td>45,760</td>
<td>55,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg. Income (Full-time Workers)</td>
<td>36,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pop. Below 150% of poverty level</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working Poor*</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Labor Force Participation Rates

- In the Labor Force: 79% vs. 83%
- Employed: 87% vs. 85%
- Unemployed: 13% vs. 15%

### Self Employment

- Non-Hispanic white: 19% vs. 10%
- Non-Hispanic Black: N/A vs. 7%
- Latino: 10% vs. 8%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 11% vs. 6%

### Top 5 Industries by Immigrant Share

- Professional and Related Services: 24% vs. 31%
- Retail Trade: 18% vs. 12%
- Manufacturing: 9% vs. 5%
- Construction: 8% vs. 7%
- Public Administration: 8% vs. 14%

### Top 5 Countries by Share of LPRs & LPR Naturalization Rates

- Mexico: 37%
- Ukraine: 35%
- Vietnam: 77%
- Philippines: 60%
- India: 68%
The immigrant share of the population in San Diego County has grown since the 1970s, but despite the region’s proximity to Mexico, the County has never been one of the state’s magnets for immigrants. Approximately 698,000 immigrants currently live in San Diego County – comprising 23% of the total population. About 76% of all immigrants have arrived since 1980, with 24% arriving in the last decade. San Diego’s immigrant population is largely comprised of Mexican immigrants (47%), a group that has grown in the past two decades. Immigrants from the Philippines are also well represented in this area, comprising a consistent 13% of the total immigrant population over time.

Immigrants are highly connected to the region’s children and citizenry. While only one in 16 children is an immigrant, 44% have at least one immigrant parent, and 26% of households are headed by an immigrant. Further, our estimates suggest that 75% of unauthorized residents (which we can only estimate for adult Latinos) are living with citizens, and 39% are living with their own citizen children. Perhaps because of this mix, linguistic isolation – the proportion of immigrant-headed households in which no person over 13 speaks English only, or very well – is relatively low (27%).

San Diego County scores a 3.2 overall, ranking third among the 10 regions. The County performed particularly well in Economic Snapshot – having a well-integrated and educated immigrant workforce with moderate incomes. The region also did well in civic engagement – particularly due to its high rates of linguistic integration among the immigrant population. Its poorest performance is in warmth of welcome.

San Diego County has created a path to civic engagement for immigrants and economic opportunity afforded by the region’s economy. Along with Orange County, it is a rare place where immigrants are largely of Mexican origin, and integration has proceeded (in contrast with Fresno and the Inland Empire). Monolithic impressions of immigrants usually slow integration.

The region most clearly needs to improve its reception of immigrants, which could include improving the learning environment for English language learners and working with local media.

San Diego excels in matching skilled immigrants with appropriate work and may have important best practices for other border regions, nationally.
The largest sector in San Diego County is defense/military; the United States Navy is the largest employer in the County and the Marines and Coast Guard also have a strong presence in the region. Additionally, the County has a bustling tourism sector driven by its famous beaches and festivals, a vibrant international trade sector, and is a leader in research and manufacturing – particularly in biotech – with a large presence of public and private universities. The distribution of workers reflects this with 55% of all employed workers (ages 25-64) found in professional services (31%), retail trade (14%) and manufacturing (10%). Immigrants follow a similar trend with the majority being employed in professional services (24%), retail trade (16%) and manufacturing (13%). Approximately 13% of San Diego’s immigrant population is self-employed and 18% are classified as overskilled workers – that is, workers with a bachelor’s degree or higher in unskilled jobs – which is the second-lowest rate of the ten regions, with Santa Clara first.

The Economic Snapshot indicates the economic well-being of immigrants, now, as compared to U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites; it reveals their socio-economic standing by measuring the fundamentals – housing, education, work, income and access.

San Diego County performs well in the Economic Snapshot category, ranking second with a score of 3.5. The County scores 3 or higher on all indicators, performing exceptionally well in access to work and social security, income for full-time workers, and matching accomplished immigrant workers with high-skilled jobs.

San Diego can grow in the areas of housing, workforce preparation (increasing high school equivalency rates), and income (wages for working poor and poverty rates). Improvement is also needed for math and English scores; while the region scores well enough relatively speaking, the absolute pass rates are low.

Debunking the image of immigrants as static newcomers, Economic Trajectory measures how immigrants have fared, economically, over time. This score was generated by tracking immigrants’ outcomes over time, starting in 1980.

San Diego County performed moderately well in the economic trajectory category. Among the indicators considered, immigrants made the most progress in their homeownership rates, tying for second with Fresno in terms of improvement over time. The region seems to enable steady progress in most other areas for its immigrant population, including full-time work, wages, English language acquisition, and attainment of high school degrees.

Less progress has been made in terms of poverty. Over time, poverty rates have improved at a slower rate than in all but two of the regions examined. As in Sacramento, the relative economic health of immigrants in San Diego makes for a higher baseline, and that means upward economic mobility may be more difficult than elsewhere.

To generate snapshot and trajectory scores, immigrants are compared against U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites, who – it could be argued – are the most “integrated” population in the U.S.
San Diego County shares its border with Tijuana and together they make up the San Diego-Tijuana metropolitan region. With about 5 million people, it is the largest bi-national region in the United States. Given its unique proximity to the border, the region has often been tossed into political debates around immigration. While the region maintains a large share of immigrants, many have moved to other areas across the state or returned to their home countries – particularly leading up to the 1970s. And while the region’s ties to Mexico are deep and have influenced its culture profoundly, its close proximity to the border has also made San Diego a hostile region towards immigrants. Immigrants have come under attack both by anti-immigrant groups like the Minutemen Project, as well as conservative leaders in the area pushing for strict anti-immigrant legislation and local ordinances. This has chilled the warmth of welcome for immigrants in the region.

**Warmth of Welcome** takes seriously the understanding that immigrants contribute to the strength of their region – and so measures if the region views them favorably and **worth the investment**.

San Diego County’s lowest performing category is Warmth of Welcome with a score of 2.8. The region has a well-built civic infrastructure for naturalization and a group of immigrant-serving organizations. Specifically, there are 31 immigrant-serving organizations for the region’s roughly 358,000 non-citizen immigrants.

Practical areas for growth may include boosting the supply of English language learning classes, strengthening K-12 education for English language learners, and allowing for more unbiased reporting in the media on immigrant issues.

**Civic Engagement** captures the extent to which immigrants are able to engage in government processes that affect both their personal and community-wide well-being.

San Diego County scores a 3.5 in Civic Engagement. It excels in linguistic integration (measured by the proportion of households where at least one person over the age of 13 speaks English very well or exclusively).

The region falls in the middle as compared to the other regions, in terms of naturalizing eligible immigrants, which indicates that the civic infrastructure for immigrants may need further strengthening.

---

*Score based on English language learners (ELLs) relative to non-Hispanic white students.*

For a full explanation of the methodology used to score regions, see the technical report at: csii.usc.edu.
## 2008-2010 Data Profile: San Diego

### Total Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comparison Population for Scoring</th>
<th>Imm</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S.-born non-Hispanic white</td>
<td>1,399,184</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant</td>
<td>698,194</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Language Skills Among Immigrants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Linguistically Isolated Households</th>
<th>27%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top Languages Spoken in Immigrant Households</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tagalog</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnamese</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Household and Family Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With an immigrant parent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naturalized Immigrant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Immigrant in the Household (Incl. Self) | 38% |

### Labor Force Participation Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In the Labor Force</th>
<th>Sponsored 78%</th>
<th>84%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Self Employment

| Non-Hispanic white | 21% |
| Non-Hispanic Black | N/A  |
| Latino             | 13% |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | 9% |

### Top 5 Industries by Immigrant Share

| Professional and Related Services | 24% |
| Retail Trade                      | 16% |
| Manufacturing                     | 13% |
| Construction                      | 8%  |
| Personal Services                 | 3%  |

### Top 5 Countries by Share of LPRs & LPR Naturalization Rates

| Mexico | 35% |
|Philippines | 62% |
|Vietnam | 80% |
|China  | 65% |
|Iran    | 80% |

### Unauthorized Status (Latino Immigrant Adults Only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unauthorized</th>
<th>27%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Of unauthorized, living with a citizen</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of unauthorized, living with own citizen child</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LPRs and Voting Population

| Voting Eligible Population | 1,981,970 |
|Adult LPRs Eligible for Naturalization | 162,386 |

### Sanctuary City Present in Region

Yes

Note: All racial/ethnic groups other than Latino are "non-Hispanic" groups. "API" refers to Asian/Pacific Islanders. "N/A" indicates the sample size was too small to report.

- Unauthorized status could only be estimated for Latino adults. In this table, "living with" means residing in the same household.
- Rates represent the percent of all employed people ages 25-64 in the racial/ethnic/nativity group that are self-employed.
- LPRs are Legal Permanent Residents. Rates are estimates as of 2010, based on CSII analysis of data on the Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS) on all LPRs attaining status between 1985 and 2005. List of top countries of origin is based on a set of 30 countries detailed in the OIS data (the top 30 countries for the U.S. overall) and thus may not be entirely consistent with the top five countries of origin for the region.
San Francisco has long been an immigrant gateway; in 1860, half of its population was immigrant. As in the state, San Francisco's immigrant population declined (as a share) until the 1960s and has seen growth since. About 283,000 immigrants live in San Francisco – accounting for 35% of the population. About 75% of all immigrants have arrived since 1980, with 22% arriving in the last decade. It is the only region where Mexican immigrants do not comprise the largest share. Instead, the largest group is from China (28%) and then both the Philippines and Mexico constitute 9% of newcomers.

Immigrants are highly connected to the region’s children and citizenry. While only 1 in 14 children is an immigrant, 54% have at least one immigrant parent, and 34% of households are headed by an immigrant. Further, our estimates suggest that 60% of unauthorized residents (which we can only estimate for adult Latinos) are living with citizens, and 15% are living with their own citizen children. Linguistic isolation – the proportion of immigrant-headed households in which no person over 13 speaks English only, or very well – is the highest of the 10 regions (35%).

San Francisco scores a 3.1 overall, tying for fourth with Sacramento and Orange counties. The County did particularly well in Warmth of Welcome – not surprising given its history as an immigrant-rich and accepting region. The region also did well in Economic Snapshot and Civic Engagement. Its poorest performance is in Economic Trajectory, which may be connected with the extraordinarily high cost of living and a bifurcated economy with both high incomes for some and high poverty for others.

**IMPLICATIONS**

San Francisco has a rich history of attracting immigrants, as far back as the California Gold Rush. The region now has a diverse immigrant population and supports pro-immigrant policies and services.

Economic mobility may be limited by linguistic isolation and income. While the outmigration of immigrants to neighboring suburbs may make the data appear worse than it is in reality, the County is characterized by pockets of wealth and poverty, and populations often stuck in one or the other.

Of those immigrants who are moving, some are being displaced by the high cost of living, suggesting that new immigrants may not get to enjoy the warm welcome of the city. Even as the share of immigrants declines, because of its historical immigrant-friendly environment, other regions should look to San Francisco for best practices in several categories.
Tourism is the single-largest economic sector in San Francisco: “The City” receives the fifth-highest number of international tourists of any city in the U.S. (about 16 million visitors a year). It also headquarters some of the nation’s largest banks – Wells Fargo included – and other financial institutions and venture capital firms. The region has a spirit of innovation – a leader in biotech and biomedicine research – and entrepreneurship; the small business sector is booming in San Francisco. The distribution of workers reflects this with 60% of all employed workers (ages 25-64) in the three following industries: professional services (34%), retail trade (15%), and business and repair services (11%). Immigrants follow a similar trend with employment in professional services (27%), retail trade (20%), and business and repair services (10%). Approximately 11% of San Francisco’s immigrant population is self-employed, and a large share of immigrants are classified as overskilled workers (21%) – that is, workers with a bachelor’s degree or higher in unskilled jobs.

The Economic Snapshot indicates the economic well-being of immigrants, now, as compared to U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites; it reveals their socio-economic standing by measuring the fundamentals – housing, education, work, income and access.

San Francisco ranks fourth with a score of 3.4, showing great variation between individual indicators. The city/county has similar rates of homeownership and access to social security among immigrants as U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites. Yet, San Francisco has room to grow in each sub-category. The area of workforce needs the most attention, particularly around English language skills for children, adult education, supply of full-time work, and attaching high-skilled workers to appropriate jobs. There is also a large gap between the income of full-time immigrant workers and that of their U.S.-born non-Hispanic white counterparts.

Debunking the image of immigrants as static newcomers, Economic Trajectory measures how immigrants have fared, economically, over time. This score was generated by tracking immigrants’ outcomes over time, starting in 1980.

Here, San Francisco ranks last, scoring a 1.7. Part of the reason for this may be the extraordinarily high cost of living, driving outmigration of some immigrants to the surrounding suburbs, like the East Bay. But it is also the case that high inequality overall and a disappearing middle class may limit the path upward.

Over time, decent progress is being made in terms of English-speaking abilities and poverty rates, but gaps are closing more slowly than in most all other regions in terms of full-time employment, income, homeownership rates, and high school diplomas – areas needing more attention.

To generate snapshot and trajectory scores, immigrants are compared against U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites, who – it could be argued – are the most “integrated” population in the U.S.
The only region that is both a city and county, San Francisco’s landmarks have transformed it into one of the most recognized and visited places in the world. The Golden Gate Bridge is emblematic both of its standing as a tourist destination, but also of its history with immigration. As one of the oldest cities on the West Coast, San Francisco led the economic boom in the West attracting immigrants – primarily Chinese workers – to labor in the California Gold Rush, the construction of the Pacific Railroad and the expansion of the San Francisco ports. Immigrant workers also participated in the construction of the Golden Gate and other bay bridges further connecting the area with the rest of the state and facilitating its growth into a bustling region. Chinese workers established the city’s Chinatown district, while later immigrants from Latin America settled in the city’s Mission District. These areas have contributed to the changing culture in San Francisco, making it a richly diverse and inclusive region. The long-standing history of immigration is reflected in the region’s pro-immigrant policies, including its status as a sanctuary city.

Warmth of Welcome takes seriously the understanding that immigrants contribute to the strength of their region – and so measures if the region views them favorably and worth the investment.

San Francisco excels in this category, scoring 4.4, the highest across the 10 regions. The region scored high in academic performance, media score, and supply of English language classes. There are approximately 40 immigrant-serving organizations for the city’s some 105,000 non-citizen immigrants – by far the highest proportion of any of the 10 regions.

One practical area of growth that the region could focus its attention on is building the civic infrastructure for more naturalization services.

Civic Engagement captures the extent to which immigrants are able to engage in government processes that affect both their personal and community-wide well-being.

San Francisco scores a 3.0 in Civic Engagement. San Francisco is outperforming other regions on naturalization, with 66% of immigrants that were eligible having received citizenship. However, this leaves room for building on the region’s strength, as reflected in the need for more civic infrastructure for naturalization in the above category.

However, linguistic integration (measured by the proportion of households where at least one person over the age of 13 speaks English very well or exclusively) is very low. Given the high supply of English language classes, as seen in the previous category as compared to other regions, this may suggest that ethnic enclaves make it possible for residents to fully function using their first language – or that even the highest supply of English language classes is not enough to promote acquisition.

For a full explanation of the methodology used to score regions, see the technical report at: csii.usc.edu.
## 2008-2010 DATA PROFILE: SAN FRANCISCO

### RACE, ETHNICITY, AND NATIVITY (TOTAL POPULATION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
<th>Imm</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White (Usb)</td>
<td>442,395</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>API (imm)</td>
<td>106,021</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>API (Usb)</td>
<td>111,146</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino (Usb)</td>
<td>146,293</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino (imm)</td>
<td>162,392</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White (imm)</td>
<td>358,705</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black (Usb)</td>
<td>102,765</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black (imm)</td>
<td>105,901</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### OVERSKILLED IMMIGRANT WORKERS (OF WORKERS WITH BA OR BETTER, THOSE IN AN UNSKILLED JOB)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
<th>Imm</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Imms</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic White Imm</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino</td>
<td>122%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Pacific Islander</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### IMMIGRANT ENGLISH SKILLS BY RECENCY OF ARRIVAL

- **Very Well or Only English**: 54%
- **Well**: 19%
- **Not Well or None**: 27%

### Language Skills Among Immigrants

- Linguistically Isolated Households: 35%
- Top Languages Spoken in Immigrant Households:
  - Chinese: 36%
  - Spanish: 18%
  - English: 13%
  - Tagalog: 8%
  - Russian: 4%

### Labor Force Participation Rates

- In the Labor Force: 83%
- Employed: 91%
- Unemployed: 9%

### Self Employment

- Non-Hispanic White: 17%
- Non-Hispanic Black: N/A
- Latino: 9%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 9%

### Top 5 Industries by Immigrant Share

- Professional and Related Services: 27%
- Retail Trade: 20%
- Business and Repair Services: 10%
- Personal Services: 8%
- Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate: 8%

### Top 5 Countries by Share of LPRs & LPR Naturalization Rates

- China: 71%
- Philippines: 66%
- Vietnam: 82%
- Mexico: 51%
- El Salvador: 61%

### Sanctuary City Present in Region

- Yes

### Note:

- All racial/ethnic groups other than Latino are "non-Hispanic" groups. "API" refers to Asian/Pacific Islanders. "N/A" indicates the sample size was too small to report.
- Unauthorized status could only be estimated for Latino adults. In this table, "living with" means residing in the same household.
- Rates represent the percent of all employed people ages 25-64 in the racial/ethnic/nativity group that are self-employed.
- LPRs are Legal Permanent Residents. Rates are estimates as of 2010, based on CSII analysis of data on the Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS) on all LPRs attaining status between 1985 and 2005. List of top countries of origin is based on a set of 30 countries detailed in the OIS data (the top 30 countries for the U.S. overall) and thus may not be entirely consistent with the top five countries of origin for the region.
The immigrant share of the population in San Joaquin County has increased since hitting a low in 1970; approximately 156,000 immigrants currently live in this region comprising 23% of the population. More than 75% of all immigrants have arrived since 1980, with 21% arriving in the last decade. About 52% hail from Mexico, a group that has grown and now makes up the majority of newcomers. Others hail from the Philippines (11%), India (4%) and Cambodia (4%).

Immigrants are highly connected to the region’s children and citizenry. While only one in 20 children is an immigrant, 43% have at least one immigrant parent, and 27% of households are headed by an immigrant. Further, our estimates suggest that 72% of unauthorized residents (which we can only estimate for adult Latinos) are living with citizens, and 40% are living with their own citizen children. Linguistic isolation – the proportion of immigrant-headed households in which no person over 13 speaks English only, or very well – is relatively high (33%).

San Joaquin scored a 2.6, near the bottom of the pack, but tying with Los Angeles. The County performed well on Economic Trajectory (4.0), but the current economic outlook is middling (2.7). Its poorest performance was in Civic Engagement, due to the region’s low rate of naturalization and linguistic integration. Like most rural areas, warmth of welcome in San Joaquin is low; it scored ninth in this category, just above Fresno.

San Joaquin County has been a place where immigrants’ economic standing has improved over the past decades. Near the Bay Area and Sacramento, the region seems to have attracted successful immigrants to its affordable bedroom communities and provided other opportunities for mobility.

Unfortunately, other areas of integration are not as positive, and with the foreclosure crisis and its county seat – Stockton – declaring bankruptcy, even upward economic mobility may be hindered. Additionally, the region particularly needs to invest in its future workforce to keep up a high Economic Trajectory score.

Scoring low in rural regions is common – much like Fresno and the Inland Empire – as these regions have to overcome both thinner economies and prevailing negative attitudes (and often actions) towards immigrants. They might look to Sacramento (which has some more rural elements) or Orange County (as a place charged with anti-immigrant sentiments) for best practices.
The San Joaquin Valley (within which San Joaquin County sits at the north) has been referred to as the “food basket of the world” given its high agricultural production – Diamond Foods is a major business based in Stockton, the seat of San Joaquin County. Other major economic drivers include the Port of Stockton, 80 miles inland, and Pacific State Bancorp – putting logistics and financial services on the map. Thus, the majority of all employed workers (ages 25-64) are employed in professional services (26%), retail trade (15%) and manufacturing (11%). Similarly, immigrants also tend to be employed in professional services (19%), retail trade (16%), manufacturing (13%) and agriculture (11%). Among immigrants, the region has low rates of self-employment (10%), a large proportion unemployed (16%), and one of the largest shares of overskilled workers (30%) – that is, workers with a bachelor’s degree or higher laboring in unskilled jobs. Poverty is a problem, as is food insecurity, perhaps counterintuitively, given the prominent role of agriculture.

The Economic Snapshot indicates the economic well-being of immigrants, now, as compared to U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites; it reveals their socio-economic standing by measuring the fundamentals – housing, education, work, income and access.

San Joaquin ranks seventh, with a score of 2.7. The region performs adequately in income for full-time workers and the rate of working poverty. Because this region suffers from very high poverty rates overall, having income on par with the U.S.-born non-Hispanic white population is not necessarily an indication of economic health.

San Joaquin has the highest share of overskilled immigrant workers and the biggest gap when compared to U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites across the 10 regions. Beyond its current workforce, San Joaquin needs to focus on its future workforce – English language learning children – who are not succeeding on par with non-Hispanic white students. While this is a statewide phenomenon, San Joaquin is bringing up the rear when comparing regions.

Debunking the image of immigrants as static newcomers, Economic Trajectory measures how immigrants have fared, economically, over time. This score was generated by tracking immigrants’ outcomes over time, starting in 1980. San Joaquin scored an impressive 4.0 in economic trajectory – ranking first among the 10 regions. Over time, income for full-time workers, homeownership rates, and rates of high school graduation improved relative to U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites more than in any other region. The low cost of living may be a large part of this; given our method, we are also capturing families that have moved in from elsewhere (perhaps to buy a home) who may have higher incomes than current long-term immigrants.

However, San Joaquin was hit hard by the foreclosure crisis and now many who just barely became homeowners are saddled with major debt and sometimes joblessness. This may change the region’s scoring in the future. English language acquisition is another major concern, pointing to a need for more innovative opportunities to learn the language.

To generate snapshot and trajectory scores, immigrants are compared against U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites; it could be argued – are the most “integrated” population in the U.S.
San Joaquin County is at the middle of California’s inland waterways (the Delta), surrounded by a booming agriculture industry, and a bedroom community to the booming economy of the Bay Area and consistently strong capital-city region, Sacramento. Historical immigration has been tied to the Gold Rush, the Bracero Program, and refugee resettlements from Asia (in the San Joaquin Valley, more broadly). More recently, the region has become home to up-and-coming immigrants in prohibitively expensive surrounding regions. Subsequently, Stockton – the county seat and major urban area of this largely rural county – became one of the nation’s worst cities for foreclosures and, by some measures, the worst. With very high foreclosure rates on top of an ongoing reputation for high crime and deep poverty – and now bankruptcy – it is not surprising that Forbes magazine named Stockton the “Most Miserable City” in the U.S. in 2011. For immigrants, that struggle may be even more pronounced: despite San Joaquin’s rich immigrant history, the prevailing conservative tenor makes progress on integration an uphill battle. Focusing on the diversity of immigrants (nearly one-quarter of immigrants are from 4 different countries in Asia) and improving the overall economic outlook may prove useful.

**Warmth of Welcome** takes seriously the understanding that immigrants contribute to the strength of their region – and so measures if the region views them favorably and *worth the investment*.

San Joaquin scored 2.2 in this category, ranking ninth among the 10 regions. The region does moderately well in academic performance (preparing its English learners to excel in high school) and media messaging.

The region ranks low in its capacity to serve its immigrant population; there are approximately five immigrant-serving organizations for the region’s some 86,000 non-citizen immigrants, which partially explains the weak infrastructure for naturalization. The region also needs more English language courses.

**Civic Engagement** captures the extent to which immigrants are able to engage in government processes that affect both their personal and community-wide well-being.

San Joaquin scores 1.5 in civic engagement – with low linguistic integration (measured by the proportion of households where at least one person over the age of 13 speaks English very well or exclusively) and low naturalization rates.

San Joaquin, like Fresno, embodies the realities and complexities of immigrant integration in rural California. These regions have very little infrastructure to connect with immigrants, who are sometimes more inaccessible than in an urban context, although rural regions do have their own (smaller) urban cores.

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For a full explanation of the methodology used to score regions, see the technical report at: csii.usc.edu.
### 2008-2010 Data Profile: San Joaquin

#### Total Population
- Total Population: 678,750
- Comparison Population for Scoring:
  - U.S.-born non-Hispanic white: 241,929 (36%)
  - Immigrant: 156,211 (23%)

#### Language Skills Among Immigrants
- Linguistically Isolated Households: 33%
- Top Languages Spoken in Immigrant Households:
  - Spanish: 54%
  - Tagalog: 10%
  - English: 8%
  - Hindi and related: 6%
  - Other East/Southeast Asian: 4%

#### Household and Family Structure
- Children:
  - Immigrant: 5%
  - With an immigrant parent: 43%
- Adults:
  - Immigrant: 30%
  - Naturalized Immigrant: 14%
  - Immigrant in the Household (Incl. Self): 39%
- Households:
  - Imm.: 19%
  - U.S.-born: 34%
  - Single, no kids: 19%
  - Single, with kids: 19%
  - Married, no kids: 11%
  - Married, with kids: 51%

#### Unauthorized Status (Latino Immigrant Adults Only)*
- Unauthorized: 35%
- Of unauthorized, living with a citizen: 72%
- Of unauthorized, living with own citizen child: 40%

#### Sanctuary City Present in Region
- No

### Income and Poverty (2010 $)
- Imm: Avg. Household Income: $45,900
- U.S.-born: Avg. Household Income: $55,000
- Imm: Avg. Income (Full-time Workers): $33,310
- U.S.-born: Avg. Income (Full-time Workers): $47,946
- Imm: Pop. Below 150% of poverty level: 35%
- U.S.-born: Pop. Below 150% of poverty level: 26%
- Imm: Working Poor*: 18%
- U.S.-born: Working Poor*: 5%

### Labor Force Participation Rates§
- Imm: Employed: 84%
- U.S.-born: Employed: 82%
- Imm: Unemployed: 16%
- U.S.-born: Unemployed: 18%

### Self Employment ±
- Non-Hispanic white: N/A
- Non-Hispanic Black: N/A
- Latino: N/A
- Asian/Pacific Islander: N/A

### Top 5 Industries by Immigrant Share¥
- Professional and Related Services: 19%
- Retail Trade: 16%
- Manufacturing: 13%
- Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting: 11%
- Construction: 10%

### Top 5 Countries by Share of LPRs & LPR Naturalization Rates+
- Mexico: 28%
- Philippines: 51%
- Vietnam: 72%
- India: 65%
- Pakistan: 56%

### LPRs and Voting Population
- Voting Eligible Population: 399,269
- Adult LPRs Eligible for Naturalization: 33,803

### Unauthorized Status (Latino Immigrant Adults Only)#
- Of unauthorized, living with a citizen: 72%
- Of unauthorized, living with own citizen child: 40%

### Racial, Ethnicity, and Nativity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>White (US)</strong></td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Latino (US)</strong></td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Latino (Imm)</strong></td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>API (US)</strong></td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Black (US)</strong></td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>API (Imm)</strong></td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Overskilled Immigrant Workers
- (OF WORKERS WITH BA OR BETTER, THOSE IN AN UNSKILLED JOB)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Imm</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>All IMMS</strong></td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Asian/Pacific Islander</strong></td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>U.S.-BORN RATE = 7%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Immigrant English Skills by Recency of Arrival

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Imm</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Since 2000</strong></td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1990s</strong></td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1980s</strong></td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Before 1980</strong></td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Only immigrant racial/ethnic groups with sufficient sample size are included.
The immigrant share of the population in Santa Clara County is at its highest point since 1870; approximately 655,000 immigrants live in the County, comprising 37% of the region’s population. More than 80% have arrived since 1980, with 26% arriving in the last decade. Among the 10 California regions we examined, Santa Clara has the largest share of immigrants and the most diverse by nativity. While the largest group hails from Mexico (23%), more than 50% of the rest represent countries across Asia.

Immigrants are highly connected to the region’s children and citizenry. About 1 in 10 children is an immigrant – the highest share of any of the 10 regions – 60% have at least one immigrant parent, and 43% of households are headed by an immigrant. Further, our estimates suggest that 77% of unauthorized residents (which we can only estimate for adult Latinos) are living with citizens, and 37% are living with their own citizen children. Perhaps because of this mix, linguistic isolation – the proportion of immigrant-headed households in which no person over 13 speaks English only, or very well – is relatively low (26%).

Santa Clara County scores an impressive 4.0, the highest overall score of the 10 regions. The County performed particularly well in Civic Engagement – partially because collecting data on that measure is hard and so we used only two indicators, but also because the County is good at it. The region also did well economically – not surprising given the economic engine of the Silicon Valley. And its poorest performance is in Warmth of Welcome, although it is still the third best score in that category.

Santa Clara has created a path to civic engagement for immigrants in the region and the economic opportunity afforded by the Silicon Valley is seen in the diversity of the workforce and the relatively low level of poverty among immigrants. Nevertheless, Santa Clara could improve accessibility to social security benefits and naturalization resources for eligible immigrants, promote opportunities for affordable homeownership, and assess the learning environments for English language learners in its schools.

However, Santa Clara has much to offer other regions seeking ways to increase immigrant integration efforts, especially around employment opportunity and human capital development, as well as civic engagement.
Santa Clara County sits in the heart of the Silicon Valley, a region known for high-tech development and manufacturing. The distribution of workers reflects this, with 47% of all employed workers (ages 25-64) in professional services (25%) or manufacturing (22%). Immigrants are less likely to be employed in professional services (20%), but more likely to have a manufacturing job (25%). Retail trade, and business and repair services are also large industries employing more than a quarter of all immigrants (29%, together). Perhaps because they are economically well-integrated, Santa Clara has the lowest proportion of self-employed immigrants (9%), and also has the smallest share of overskilled immigrants across the 10 regions (13%) – that is, workers with a bachelor’s degree or higher in unskilled jobs.

### Economic Snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homeownership</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent Burden</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overcrowding</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HS Diploma</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math Score*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Score*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA or Better</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time (FT) Work</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overskilled</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income for FT Workers</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working Poor</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cars Per Driver</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average = 3.8

*Score based on English language learners (ELLs) relative to non-Hispanic white students.

The Economic Snapshot indicates the economic well-being of immigrants, now, as compared to U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites; it reveals their socio-economic standing by measuring the fundamentals – housing, education, work, income and access.

Santa Clara ranks first, scoring 3.8. With a highly-educated, well-utilized and compensated immigrant workforce, it excels in several areas, most prominently in workforce, income, and access to health insurance. Santa Clara, in 2000, passed a policy to give health care to all children, regardless of documentation, which adds to family security and human capital formation.

Yet, Santa Clara has room to grow in the areas of housing, workforce preparation, and access. These data also mask the needs of lower-income residents – particularly Latinos and Vietnamese – who may need more of a focused effort on economic integration than, say, certain South Asian groups that have placed relatively well within the professional hierarchy of high technology. This can be seen clearly in the test score gaps which are no better than in the rest of the state, despite the obvious premium this region attaches to education.

Debunking the image of immigrants as static newcomers, Economic Trajectory measures how immigrants have fared, economically, over time. This score was generated by tracking immigrants’ outcomes over time, starting in 1980.

Generally, the economic trajectory for immigrants in Santa Clara is positive, although immigrants in both Orange and San Joaquin counties saw more progress.

Over time, Santa Clara immigrants’ English-speaking abilities and poverty rates showed the most progress compared to other regions. Rates of improvement in other measures were similar to most other regions. Given the snapshot scores shown above, homeownership and full-time employment seem to be areas in need of more attention.

### Economic Trajectory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-time (FT) Work</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income for FT Workers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeownership</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Speaking Ability</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average = 3.7

To generate snapshot and trajectory scores, immigrants are compared against U.S.-born non-Hispanic whites, who – it could be argued – are the most “integrated” population in the U.S.
Santa Clara is a region marked by innovation and entrepreneurship – two characteristics that also apply well to immigrants. And, indeed, immigrants in the region are being well-incorporated as they make the economic powerhouse of the Silicon Valley possible – both as high-tech innovators and as service workers who cater to high-end professionals. A best practice in immigrant integration, Santa Clara County created an office of Immigrant Relations and Integration Services (IRIS) with an explicit charge to further integration. But in a place with such a large population of newcomers (about one-third of the County), it has also become a place for more restrictive enforcement. DHS operates a program in which agents patrol public transportation to look for terrorist activities and undocumented riders. In response to this and difficulties moving English learners into mainstream courses, community organizations are active in limiting the excessive detention policies, making traffic violations less injurious for immigrants, getting healthcare to all children regardless of status, and creating public charter schools in neighborhoods with many immigrants.

**Warmth of Welcome** takes seriously the understanding that immigrants contribute to the strength of their region – and so measures if the region views them favorably and **worth the investment**.

Santa Clara performs well in this category, scoring 3.4, achieving particularly high on its media score. In terms of organizational density, there are approximately 34 immigrant-serving organizations for the region’s some 308,000 non-citizen immigrants.

Practical areas for growth may include boosting the supply of English language learning classes, strengthening K-12 education for English language learners, and supporting the expansion of immigrant-serving organizations.

**Civic Engagement** captures the extent to which immigrants are able to engage in government processes that affect both their personal and community-wide well-being.

Santa Clara scores 5.0 on both indicators – linguistic integration (measured by the proportion of households where at least one person over the age of 13 speaks English very well or exclusively) and the percentage of immigrants eligible to naturalize who have become citizens.

While Santa Clara is, arguably, the model for other regions trying to enable greater levels of civic engagement among immigrants, this is a relative measure and – much with the ethos of the region – suggests that greater innovation is yet to come.

For a full explanation of the methodology used to score regions, see the technical report at: csii.usc.edu.
**2008-2010 DATA PROFILE: SANTA CLARA**

### Race, Ethnicity, and Nativity (Total Population)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>U.S.-Born</th>
<th>Immigrant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White (US)</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>API (Imm)</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino (US)</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino (Imm)</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White (Imm)</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black (US)</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Language Skills Among Immigrants

#### Linguistically Isolated Households

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Immigrant</th>
<th>U.S.-born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tagalog</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindi and related</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other East/Southeast Asian</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Household and Family Structure

#### Children

- Immigrant: 9%
- With an immigrant parent: 60%

#### Adults

- Immigrant: 46%
- Naturalized Immigrant: 24%
- Immigrant in the Household (Incl. Self): 58%

### Unauthorized Status (Latino Immigrant Adults Only)

- Unauthorized: 37%
- Of unauthorized, living with a citizen: 77%
- Of unauthorized, living with own citizen child: 37%

### Sanctuary City Present in Region

- Yes

### Income and Poverty (2010 $s)

- Immigrant: Avg. Household Income = $87,000
- U.S.-born: Avg. Household Income = $85,300

### Labor Force Participation Rates

- Immigrant: 81% in the Labor Force
- U.S.-born: 86%

### Self Employment

- Non-Hispanic white: 13%
- Non-Hispanic Black: N/A
- Latino: 10%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 8%

### Top 5 Industries by Immigrant Share

- Manufacturing: 25%
- Professional and Related Services: 20%
- Business and Repair Services: 16%
- Retail Trade: 13%
- Construction: 6%

### Top 5 Countries by Share of LPRs & LPR Naturalization Rates

- Vietnam: 81%
- Mexico: 44%
- India: 75%
- Philippines: 62%
- China: 67%

### LPRs and Voting Population

- Voting Eligible Population: 1,059,258
- Adult LPRs Eligible for Naturalization: 109,721

### Note:

- All racial/ethnic groups other than Latino are "non-Hispanic" groups. "API" refers to Asian/Pacific Islanders. "N/A" indicates the sample size was too small to report.
- Unauthorized status could only be estimated for Latino adults. In this table, "living with" means residing in the same household.
- Share of labor force, ages 25-64, who worked full-time last year (at least 50 weeks and 35 hours per week) and had income below 150% of the Federal poverty level.
- Universe is all people ages 25-64, not in group quarters.
- Rates represent the percent of all employed people ages 25-64 in the racial/ethnic/nativity group that are self-employed.
- Share of all employed people ages 25-64, not in group quarters, that are in each specified industry.
- LPRs are Legal Permanent Residents. Rates are estimates as of 2010, based on CSII analysis of data on the Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS) on all LPRs attaining status between 1985 and 2005. List of top countries of origin is based on a set of 30 countries detailed in the OIS data (the top 30 countries for the U.S. overall) and thus may not be entirely consistent with the top five countries of origin for the region.

### RACE, ETHNICITY, AND NATIVITY (TOTAL POPULATION)

- White (US): 31%
- API (Imm): 21%
- Latino (US): 17%
- Latino (Imm): 10%
- White (Imm): 10%
- Other: 5%
- Black (US): 2%
- Black (Imm): 1%

### OVERSKILLED IMMIGRANT WORKERS (OF WORKERS WITH BA OR BETTER, THOSE IN AN UNSKILLED JOB)

- U.S.-born: 33%
- Latino: 13%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 13%
- Non-Hispanic White: 9%

### IMMIGRANT ENGLISH SKILLS BY RECENTY OF ARRIVAL

- Since 2000: 46%
- 1990s: 49%
- 1980s: 50%
- Before 1980: 63%

- **Very well or only English**: 46%
- **Well**: 49%
- **Not well or none**: 49%

Note: Only immigrant racial/ethnic groups with sufficient sample size are included.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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