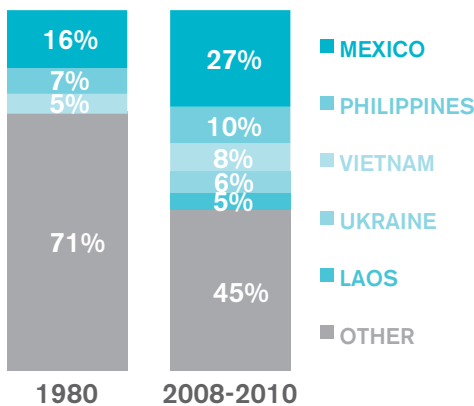


# SACRAMENTO

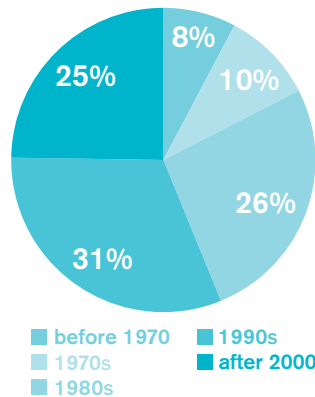
With approximately 270,000 immigrants living in Sacramento County, the foreign-born comprise 19% of the population. While the region has seen a recent and relative increase in its immigrant population, it has not traditionally been a gateway region like others in California. More than 82% of all immigrants 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.

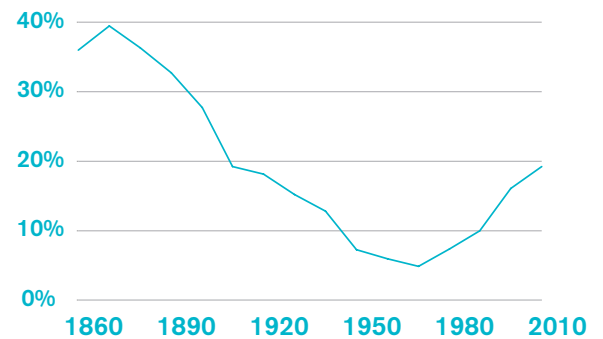
**IMMIGRANTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN**



**IMMIGRANTS BY REGENCY OF ARRIVAL, 2008-2010**



**IMMIGRANTS AS A PROPORTION OF THE TOTAL POPULATION BY DECADE, 1860-2010**

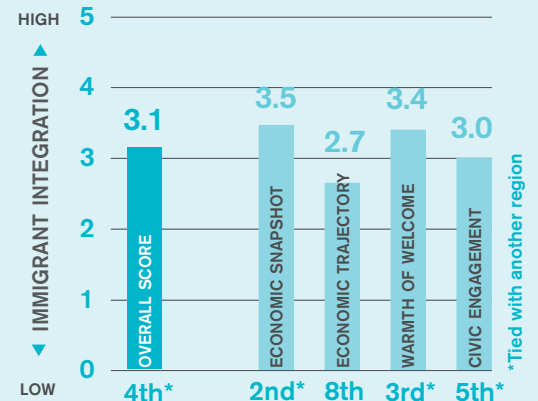


**OVERALL SCORE**  
**3.1**

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.

**RANK ACROSS 10 REGIONS**



## IMPLICATIONS

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.

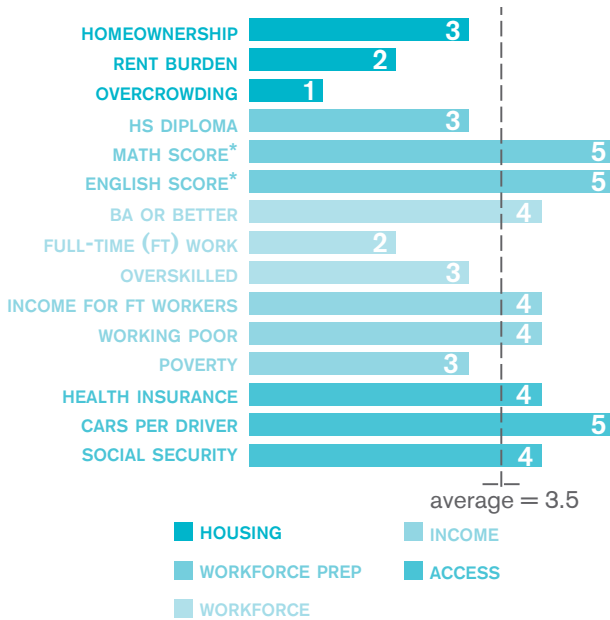
As the region continues to rebalance after military base closures and the real estate crisis, the region will have to move forward with intentionality. Full-time employment, affordable housing, and high school completion rates are at the top of the list.

Other Central Valley regions – with large agricultural sectors and reeling from the foreclosure crisis – may look to Sacramento for best practices around immigrant integration.

# THE ECONOMY

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.

## ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT



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

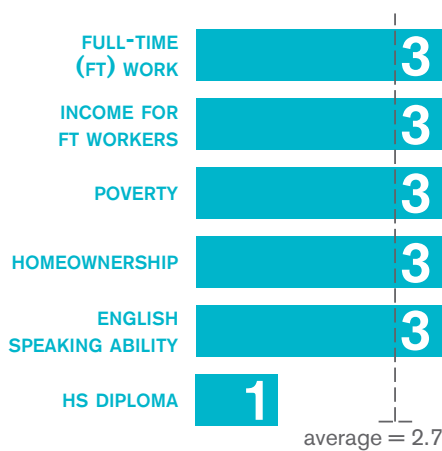
3.5

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).

## ECONOMIC TRAJECTORY



2.7

**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.

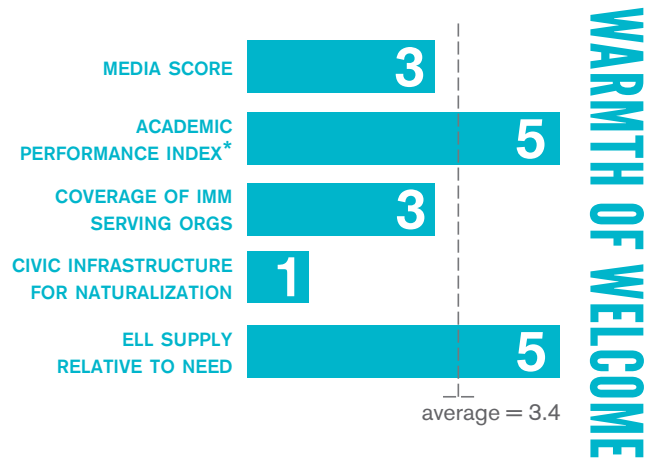
# THE CULTURE

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 are reviving 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.



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

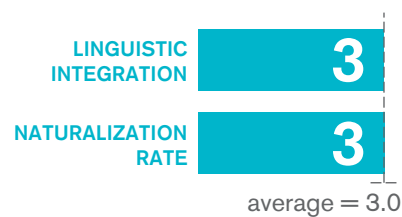
WARMTH OF WELCOME

3.4

**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.



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

3.0

For a full explanation of the methodology used to score regions, see the technical report at: [csii.usc.edu](http://csii.usc.edu).

## 2008-2010 DATA PROFILE: SACRAMENTO

			Imm	U.S.-born
<b>Total Population</b>		1,405,667		
<i>Comparison Population for Scoring</i>				
U.S.-born non-Hispanic white	651,379	46%		
Immigrant	269,562	19%		
<b>Income and Poverty (2010 \$s)</b>				
Avg. Household Income			\$45,760	\$55,689
Avg. Income (Full-time Workers)			\$36,000	\$50,000
Pop. Below 150% of poverty level			33%	22%
Working Poor*			12%	4%
<b>Language Skills Among Immigrants</b>				
Linguistically Isolated Households		31%		
<b>Top Languages Spoken in Immigrant Households</b>				
Spanish		31%		
Hindi and related		10%		
Vietnamese		8%		
Other East/Southeast Asian		8%		
Tagalog		8%		
<b>Household and Family Structure</b>				
<b>Children</b>				
Immigrant		6%		
With an immigrant parent		35%		
<b>Adults</b>				
Immigrant		24%		
Naturalized Immigrant		12%		
Immigrant in the Household (Incl. Self)		31%		
<b>Households</b>				
	<b>Imm.</b>	<b>U.S.-born</b>		
Single, no kids	25%	42%		
Single, with kids	16%	17%		
Married, no kids	14%	20%		
Married, with kids	45%	21%		
<b>Unauthorized Status (Latino Immigrant Adults Only)#</b>				
Unauthorized		39%		
Of unauthorized, living with a citizen		74%		
Of unauthorized, living with own citizen child		42%		
<b>Sanctuary City Present in Region</b>				
		No		
<b>Labor Force Participation Rates<sup>§</sup></b>				
In the Labor Force			79%	83%
Employed			87%	85%
Unemployed			13%	15%
<b>Self Employment <sup>‡</sup></b>				
Non-Hispanic white			19%	10%
Non-Hispanic Black			N/A	7%
Latino			10%	8%
Asian/Pacific Islander			11%	6%
<b>Top 5 Industries by Immigrant Share<sup>¶</sup></b>				
Professional and Related Services			24%	31%
Retail Trade			18%	12%
Manufacturing			9%	5%
Construction			8%	7%
Public Administration			8%	14%
<b>Top 5 Countries by Share of LPRs &amp; LPR Naturalization Rates<sup>+</sup></b>				
Mexico				37%
Ukraine				35%
Vietnam				77%
Philippines				60%
India				68%
<b>LPRs and Voting Population</b>				
Voting Eligible Population				923,329
Adult LPRs Eligible for Naturalization				47,410

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.

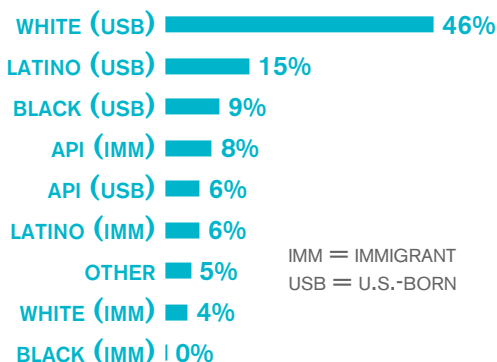
§ Universe is all people ages 25-64, not in group quarters.

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

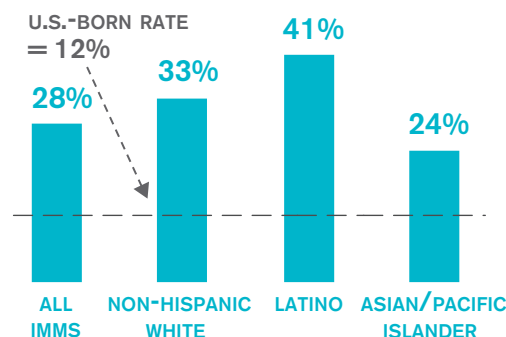
¶ Share of all employed people ages 25-64, not in group quarters, that are in each specified industry.

+ 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)



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



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

### IMMIGRANT ENGLISH SKILLS BY REGENCY OF ARRIVAL

