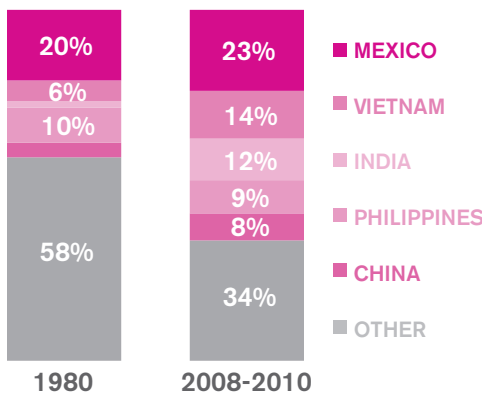


# SANTA CLARA

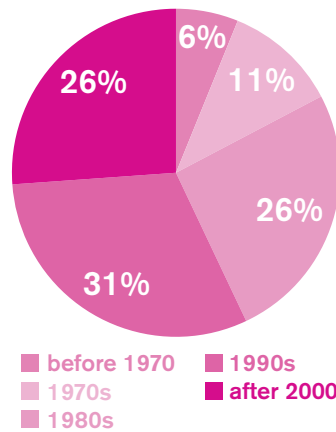
The immigrant share of the population in Santa Clara County is at its highest point since 1870; approximately 655,000 immigrants live in the County, comprising 37% of the region's population. More than 80% have arrived since 1980, with 26% arriving in the last decade. Among the 10 California regions 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%).

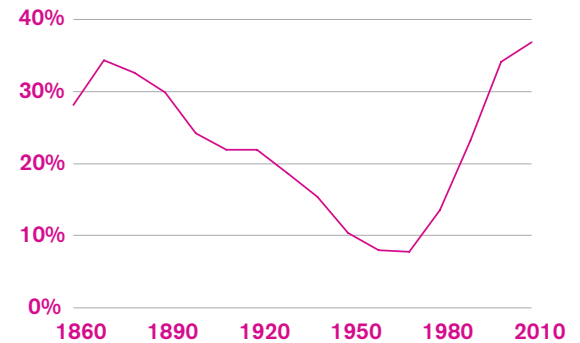
## IMMIGRANTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN



## IMMIGRANTS BY REGENCY OF ARRIVAL, 2008-2010



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

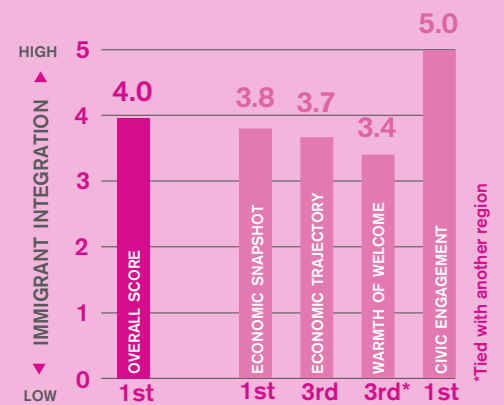


**OVERALL SCORE**  
**4.0**

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.

**RANK ACROSS 10 REGIONS**



## IMPLICATIONS

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.

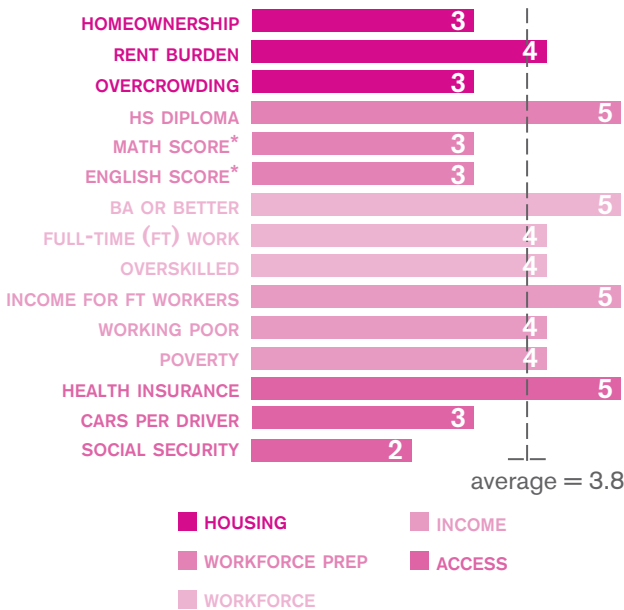
Nevertheless, Santa Clara could improve accessibility to social security benefits and naturalization resources for eligible immigrants, promote opportunities for affordable homeownership, and assess the learning environments for English language learners in its schools.

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.

# THE ECONOMY

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



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

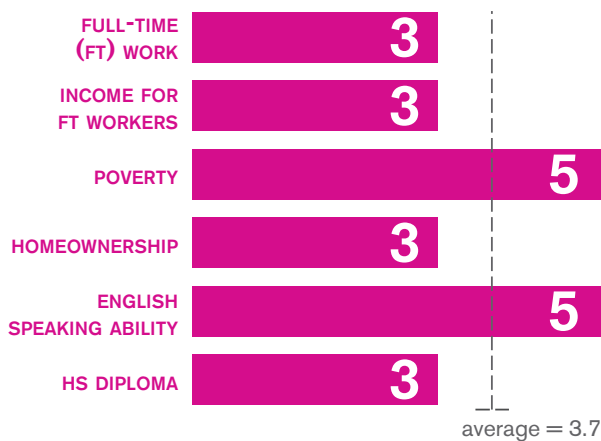
3.8

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.

## ECONOMIC TRAJECTORY



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.

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.

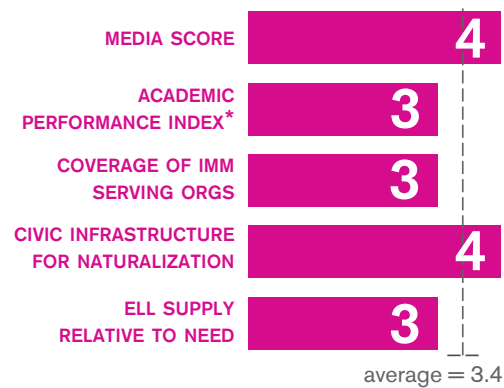
# THE CULTURE

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.



\*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.

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.



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

5.0

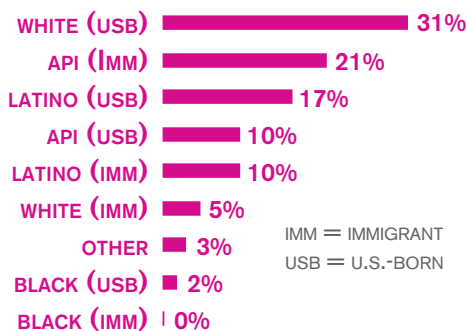
For a full explanation of the methodology used to score regions, see the technical report at: [csii.usc.edu](http://csii.usc.edu).

## 2008-2010 DATA PROFILE: SANTA CLARA

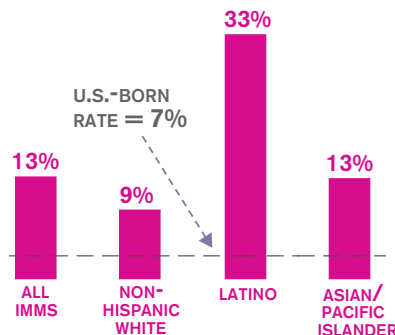
				Imm	U.S.-born
<b>Total Population</b>	1,779,016				
<i>Comparison Population for Scoring</i>					
U.S.-born non-Hispanic white	559,907	31%			
Immigrant	654,739	37%			
<b>Language Skills Among Immigrants</b>					
Linguistically Isolated Households	26%				
Top Languages Spoken in Immigrant Households					
Spanish	26%				
Tagalog	14%				
English	13%				
Hindi and related	10%				
Other East/Southeast Asian	8%				
<b>Household and Family Structure</b>					
Children					
Immigrant	9%				
With an immigrant parent	60%				
Adults					
Immigrant	46%				
Naturalized Immigrant	24%				
Immigrant in the Household (Incl. Self)	56%				
Households	<b>Imm.</b>	<b>U.S.-born</b>			
Single, no kids	24%	41%			
Single, with kids	12%	12%			
Married, no kids	17%	22%			
Married, with kids	47%	25%			
<b>Unauthorized Status (Latino Immigrant Adults Only)<sup>#</sup></b>					
Unauthorized	37%				
Of unauthorized, living with a citizen	77%				
Of unauthorized, living with own citizen child	37%				
<b>Sanctuary City Present in Region</b>	Yes				
<b>Income and Poverty (2010 \$s)</b>					
Avg. Household Income				\$87,000	\$85,300
Avg. Income (Full-time Workers)				\$58,737	\$67,200
Pop. Below 150% of poverty level				17%	13%
Working Poor*				6%	2%
<b>Labor Force Participation Rates<sup>§</sup></b>					
In the Labor Force				81%	86%
Employed				91%	88%
Unemployed				9%	12%
<b>Self Employment<sup>±</sup></b>					
Non-Hispanic white				13%	12%
Non-Hispanic Black				N/A	N/A
Latino				10%	7%
Asian/Pacific Islander				8%	5%
<b>Top 5 Industries by Immigrant Share<sup>*</sup></b>					
Manufacturing				25%	18%
Professional and Related Services				20%	31%
Business and Repair Services				16%	11%
Retail Trade				13%	11%
Construction				6%	5%
<b>Top 5 Countries by Share of LPRs &amp; LPR Naturalization Rates<sup>+</sup></b>					
Vietnam					81%
Mexico					44%
India					75%
Philippines					62%
China					67%
<b>LPRs and Voting Population</b>					
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.  
<sup>#</sup> Unauthorized status could only be estimated for Latino adults. In this table, "living with" means residing in the same household.  
<sup>\*</sup> 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.  
<sup>§</sup> Universe is all people ages 25-64, not in group quarters.  
<sup>±</sup> Rates represent the percent of all employed people ages 25-64 in the racial/ethnic/nativity group that are self-employed.  
<sup>\*</sup> Share of all employed people ages 25-64, not in group quarters, that are in each specified industry.  
<sup>+</sup> 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

