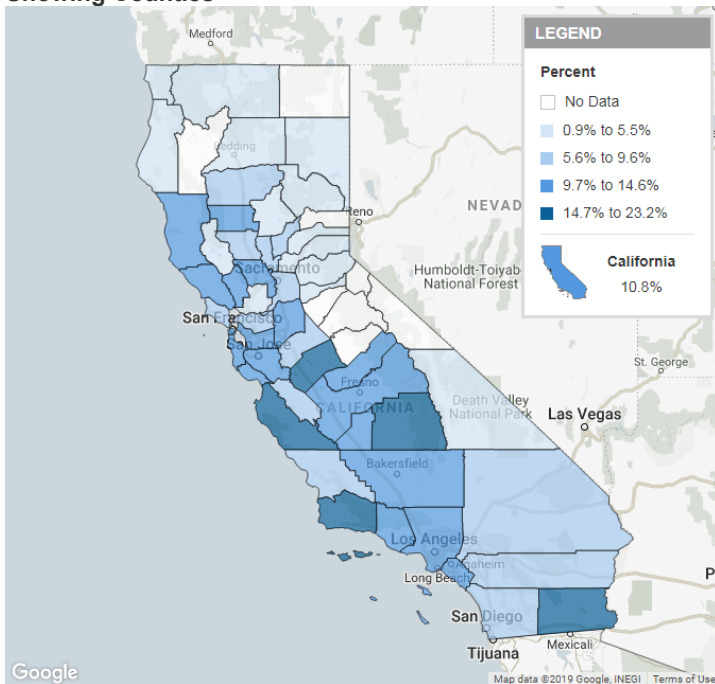


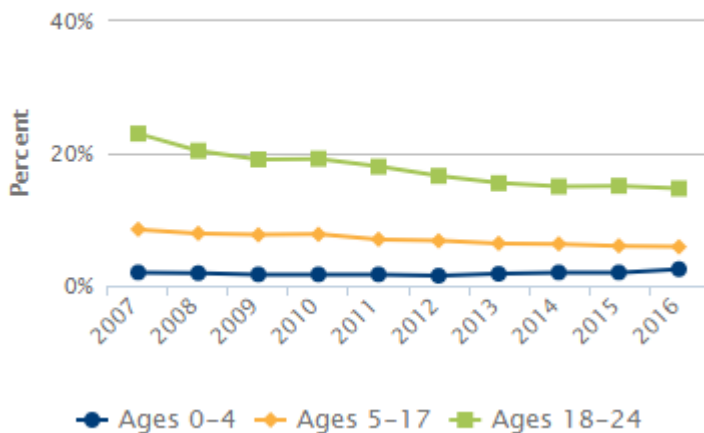
Immigrants in California

Children Living in Limited English-Speaking Households: 2012-2016; Showing Counties



Definition: Estimated percentage of children ages 0-17 living in households in which (i) no person age 14 or older speaks English only, and (ii) no person age 14 or older who speaks a language other than English speaks English very well (e.g., in 2012-2016, 10.8% of California children lived in limited English-speaking households).
Data Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey microdata files (Feb. 2018).

Percentage of Children Born Outside the U.S., by Age Group California



What It Is

On kidsdata.org, measures related to immigrant populations include the following:

- Percentage of children living in limited English-speaking households (i.e., households in which (i) no one age 14 or older speaks English only, and (ii) no one age 14 or older who speaks a language other than English speaks English very well)
- Percentage of children living with at least one foreign-born parent, overall and by income level
- Percentage of the population that is foreign-born, by age group

Depending on the indicator, data are available as (a) single-year estimates for cities, school districts, and/or counties with 65,000+ residents, (b) five-year estimates for cities, school districts, and counties with 10,000+ residents, and/or (c) five-year estimates for legislative districts.

Why This Topic Is Important

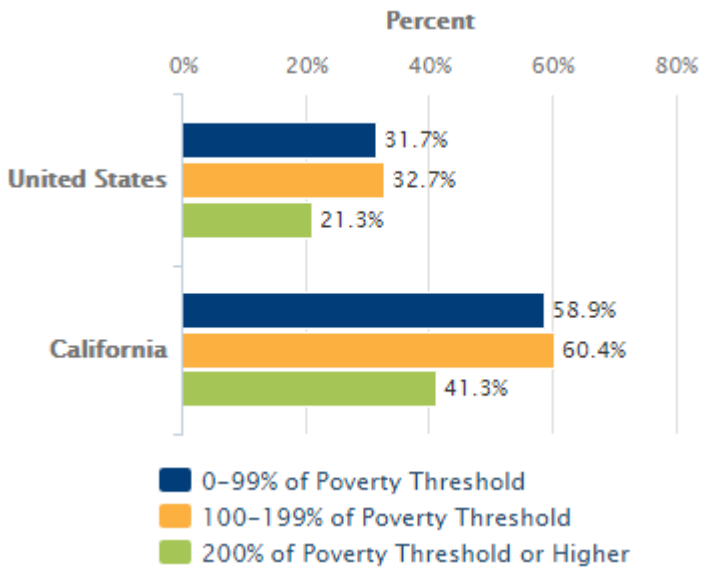
Children who live with foreign-born parents represent a large and growing segment of the U.S. child population. In 2016, this group accounted for roughly one-quarter of all children in the U.S. and one-half of all children in California, which has the highest percentage of foreign-born residents in the country. Most California immigrants are documented residents, and most children of immigrants are native-born U.S. citizens.

Today's immigrant children are demographically diverse, and their educational and health status varies widely depending on factors such as place of origin, residence, and length of time in the U.S.. Although immigrants are more likely to be employed than their U.S.-born counterparts, children with foreign-born parents are more likely than other children to live in poverty. Children in immigrant families also are more likely to have parents with low educational attainment, to live in limited English-speaking households, and to be in fair or poor physical health. It is therefore important for local and state government, schools, health care systems, and community organizations to address the needs of these children and families, support their strengths, and work to eliminate service barriers.

Definition: Estimated percentage of the population born outside of the United States, by age group (e.g., in 2016, 5.9% of California children ages 5-17 were foreign-born).

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#) (Oct. 2017).

Percentage of Children Living with Foreign-Born Parents, by Income Level: 2016



Definition: Estimated percentage of children ages 0-17 living with at least one parent who was born outside of the United States, by income level (e.g., among California children living in households with incomes below the federal poverty threshold in 2016, 58.9% lived with foreign-born parents).

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#) (Oct. 2017).

How Children Are Faring

According to 2016 estimates, children living with at least one foreign-born parent accounted for 49% of all children statewide and 59% of children living in poverty. Although these estimates are similar to previous years, percentages vary widely at the local level. For example, an estimated 64% of children in Santa Clara County lived with foreign-born parents in 2012-2016, compared with 5% in Trinity and Tuolumne counties. Nationally, children with foreign-born parents made up roughly a quarter (26%) of the child population in 2016 and less than a third of all children in poverty (32%).

An estimated 11% of California children lived in limited English-speaking households in 2016, down from 15% in 2007. The percentage of children living in limited English-speaking households also varies at the county level, from less than 1% (Siskiyou) to more than 23% (Monterey) among counties with data in 2012-2016.

In 2016, an estimated 3% of California children ages 0-4, 6% of children ages 5-17, and 15% of young adults ages 18-24 were born outside the U.S. Since 2007, the percentage of foreign-born children ages 0-4 statewide has remained relatively stable while the share of foreign-born Californians ages 5-24 has declined.

View references for this text and additional research on this topic:

<https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/9/immigrants/summary>



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