A Snapshot of Michigan Immigrants

**Michigan** has a diverse immigrant population, with people coming from all over the world.

**47.8%** of immigrants in Michigan arrived in the United States before 2000, and since 2010, the number of immigrants in Michigan has increased by **15.7%**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2010 Total Immigrant Population</th>
<th>2019 Total Immigrant Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Naturalized citizens</td>
<td>286,257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noncitizens</td>
<td>305,277</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2019 5-Year Estimates, generated March 2021

**REGION OF ORIGIN, 2019**

- **Latin America**: 131,543
- **Northern America**: 35,711
- **Africa**: 33,509
- **Asia**: 351,990
- **Oceania**: 2,734
- **Europe**: 128,698

**Percent Change from 2010-2019**

- **15.7%**: Michigan residents who are immigrants
- **25.1%**: Michigan residents who are naturalized citizens
- **6.8%**: Michigan residents who are noncitizens

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**Priority for Michigan**

**Ensure full language access at key state agencies** for residents with limited English proficiency, including bilingual staff, interpretation resources or appropriate language access protocols to **provide equal services to all Michigan residents.**

**Children of Immigrants in Michigan**

- **14%** of all children in Michigan are in immigrant families.
  - Of these children, **9 in 10** are citizens (**88%**).

Source: The Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT Data Center, 2019 American Community Survey estimates through the U.S. Census Bureau

- **Of U.S.-born children in immigrant families in Michigan . . .**
  - **8 in 10 (79%)** have at least one citizen parent.
  - **6 in 10 (60%)** have a foreign-born parent who has lived in the country for 15 years or more.

Source: The Urban Institute, data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS) datasets drawn from the 2018 and 2019 American Community Survey, accessed March 2021

Over **70%** of all Michigan immigrants are from Asia (**52%**) and Latin American (**19%**). Mirroring this fact, U.S.-born children in immigrant families are more likely than other children in Michigan to be Hispanic (**25%** vs. **8%** of all children in the state), Asian (**19%** vs. **3%**), or multiracial (**8%** vs. **6%**).¹

¹ Source: Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey
**Priority for Michigan**

Reduce the uninsured rate in Michigan by providing Medicaid or CHIP coverage to Michigan immigrants sooner. Michigan currently provides prenatal care to women regardless of immigration status, but we can do more. CHIPRA (the federal Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act) allows states to provide children and pregnant women who are lawful permanent residents (or “green card” holders) with healthcare access through Medicaid or CHIP without the typical 5-year wait time. Our state has yet to take up this option to cover more Michigan women and children.

In 2019, 11.6% of Michigan immigrants were uninsured, compared with 5.3% of Michiganders born in the U.S.

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**Healthcare Coverage Among Immigrants in Michigan**

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**Economic Contributions of Immigrants in Michigan**

**Spending power** is the amount of disposable income left over after federal, state and local taxes (SALT) are paid.

In 2019, immigrants in Michigan had approximately $20.3 billion in spending power, after paying taxes.¹

\[
\text{Spending power} = \text{Household income} - \text{Federal taxes and SALT}
\]

Out of the total $20.3 billion in spending power, $2.5 billion was exclusively held by undocumented immigrants.

\[
\text{SALT taxed} = \text{Federal taxes and SALT} - \text{Household income for undocumented Michiganders}
\]

\[
\text{Net spending power} = \text{SALT taxed} + \text{Spending power held by undocumented Michiganders}
\]

**Priority for Michigan**

Restore the ability for all Michigan residents to obtain a driver’s license, regardless of immigration status, as was state law until 2008. The Drive SAFE (Safety, Access, Freedom and the Economy) bill package would support Michigan’s economy by ensuring a functioning labor market and increasing the amount of money earned and spent in the state. With a valid license, undocumented residents will have access to amenities and opportunities beyond one’s immediate community, including new businesses and higher-paying jobs.

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**Endnote:**

1. The Urban Institute, data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS) datasets drawn from the 2018 and 2019 American Community Survey, accessed March 2021

2. Per New American Economy: Aggregate household income, tax contributions and spending power of foreign-born households are estimated using ACS 1-year microdata sample. A household is defined as a foreign-born household if the household head is foreign-born. State and local taxes are estimated using the tax rates estimates produced by Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP) by state income quintiles. Federal income tax rate estimates use data released by the Congressional Budget Office and federal tax brackets as determined by adjusted household income.