

Fast Facts About Immigrants in California

- There are 8.9 million immigrants in California; immigrants make up 26% of the total population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- 89% of California's immigrants come from Latin America or Asia, although California is home to sizable populations from dozens of countries.
- Immigrants make up one-third of California's labor force, and figure prominently in agriculture, manufacturing, construction and services.
- Immigrants in California pay approximately \$4.5 billion in state taxes each year.
- Immigrants make up 30% of the population or more in six counties: Los Angeles, San Francisco, Santa Clara, San Mateo, Imperial and Orange counties, according to the Public Policy Institute of California.
- In California, the average immigrant-headed household contributes a net \$2,679. annually to Social Security, which is \$539 more than the average household headed by a person born in the U.S
- 39% of California's foreign-born immigrants are U.S. citizens. There are another 2.7 million lawful immigrants eligible to become citizens.
- Los Angeles has the largest number of immigrant voters (20% of the total voting population). In the San Francisco Bay Area, 16% of voters are immigrants. Comparing the 1996 and 2000 elections, the share of foreign-born voters doubled in the SF Bay Area from 8% to 16%. (PPIC)
- California has more than 9 million children under the age of 18. Although only 8% of California's children are themselves foreign-born, 49 percent have at least one parent who was born outside the United States.
- Immigrants have figured prominently in the development of the technology industry in California. For example,
 - ❖ **Sergey Brin**, Russian born, Co-Founder & President of Google
 - ❖ **Andy Grove**, Hungarian born, Founder and Chairman of the Board of Intel
 - ❖ **Vinod Khosla**, Indian born, Co-Founder of Sun Microsystems
 - ❖ **Pierre Omidyar**, French born, Founder and Chairman of the Board of eBay
 - ❖ **Jerry Yang**, Taiwan born, Co-Founder and Director of Yahoo!