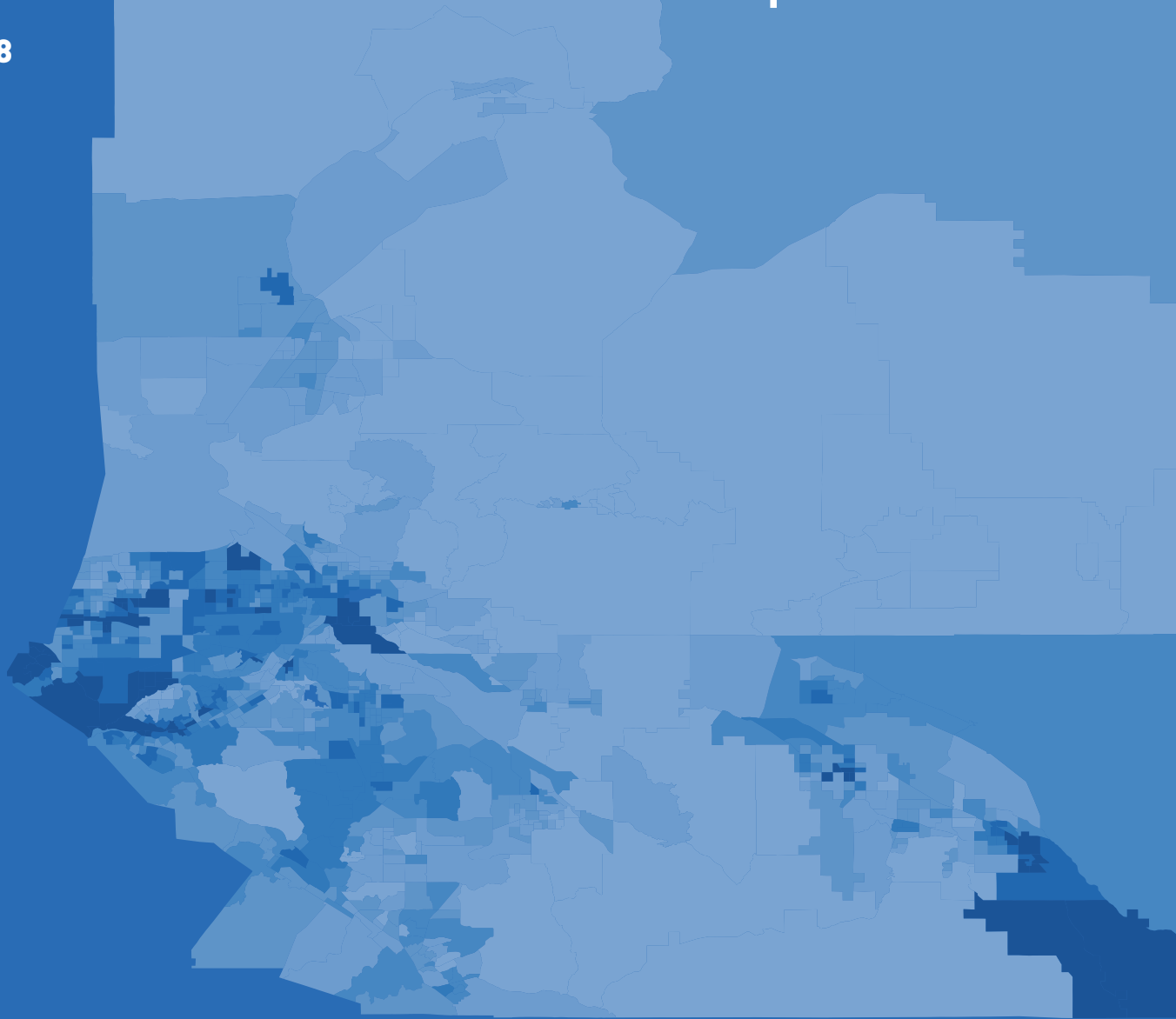

State of Immigrants in the Inland Empire

APRIL 2018





The Center for Social Innovation aims to provide a credible research voice that spurs civic leadership and policy innovation. The Center also aims to integrate researchers, community organizations, and civic stakeholders in collaborative projects and long-term partnerships that boost collective impact. Importantly, the Center seeks to shift away from a “problem” narrative to an “opportunity” narrative for marginalized communities and localities.



The California Immigrant Policy Center (CIPC) is a constituent-based statewide immigrant rights organization with offices in Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Diego and Oakland. It is the premiere immigrant rights institution in the state that promotes and protects safety, health and public benefits and integration programs for immigrants, and one of the few organizations that effectively combines legislative and policy advocacy, strategic communications, organizing and capacity building to pursue its mission.



The Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice is dedicated to convening organizations to collectively advocate and work to improve the lives of immigrant communities while working toward a just solution to the immigration system.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

One in five residents in the Inland Empire is an immigrant. Migration has been a central feature of the region for centuries, and there are now nearly 1 million immigrants living in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. As in decades past, the region's economic strength and cultural vitality depends on the contributions of immigrants and native born alike.

At the same time, the incorporation of immigrant communities in the region cannot simply be assumed or taken for granted. The Inland Empire is vast, encompassing over 27 million square miles, an area larger than ten states. In addition, the immigrant population in the region is diverse with respect to national origin, occupation, and areas of settlement.

State of Immigrants in the Inland Empire sets forth the history, resources, and partnerships that support the pressing issues and needs of immigrants in the region. It calls forth key policy issues that have affected—and continue to affect—local immigrant communities. As the region continues to grow, it is important to examine key issues pertaining to its immigrant communities, including poverty, education, employment, and social service needs.

This report provides a brief overview of immigrant communities in the region and their historic, economic, and social contributions, as well as key demographic characteristics and policy considerations. It also highlights various organizations serving immigrant communities in the region and offers personal stories from immigrants voicing their issues and concerns.

State of Immigrants in the Inland Empire is part of an evolving partnership between UC Riverside's Center for Social Innovation, California Immigrant Policy Center, and the Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice. This report highlights the uniqueness of the Inland Empire, the vibrancy of its immigrant communities, and key data-driven strategies on immigration policy priorities and opportunities.

Our aim is to provide a solid foundation of data and shared understanding, to better inform the work of public, for-profit, and nonprofit enterprises in the region. For more data and resources on immigrant communities in the region, please visit socialinnovation.ucr.edu/immigrants.

TOTAL POPULATION, 2016

4,527,837

IMMIGRANT POPULATION

972,476

IMMIGRANTS IN RIVERSIDE COUNTY

520,760

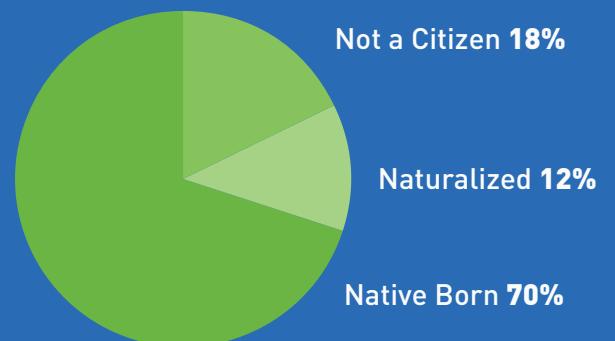
IMMIGRANTS IN SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

451,716

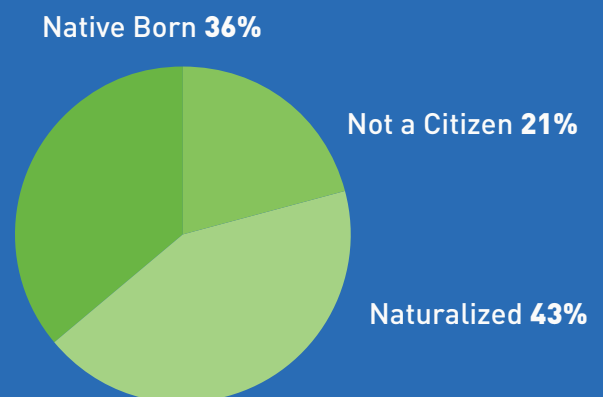
Source: 2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

CITIZENSHIP STATUS

LATINO



ASIAN



Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-year PUMS

PROFILE

JUANITA

Location: Riverside
Age: 40s
Gender: Female
Country of Origin: Mexico
Status: Citizen
Occupation: Self-employed

Juanita's family history in the United States dates well before her own migration from Mexico, and shows the complexity of family ties across both countries. Juanita and her parents first migrated in 1987 when she was a teenager, but her grandfather had already arrived a few decades prior, and her older siblings had been in the United States for over 15 years. Juanita's family intended to visit temporarily, but ended up staying longer to save some money and eventually ended up living in the region permanently.

Most of Juanita's relatives are naturalized citizens, but some remain undocumented. Given her own immigration journey, Juanita is actively involved in organizations and groups that advocate for indigenous rights and immigrant rights. Four years ago, she created a grassroots media platform to support and inform immigrant communities about policies affecting them.

Education and immigration are among the most pressing issues Juanita cites in the region. She feels that there is a lack of mentoring and guidance for first-generation college students. As a parent, Juanita feels unfamiliar with the process of getting her daughter prepared for college. On immigration, she feels that the community has been subjected to constant harassment by immigration agencies, often separating family members. She notes that racial profiling, mistreatment, and cooperation between local law enforcement and ICE have created and perpetuated a lack of trust between the immigrant community and local law enforcement.

Juanita is hopeful that the current immigration system can be replaced with comprehensive immigration reform that takes into account many factors that are often overlooked or neglected in current immigration policy.

HISTORY OF IMMIGRATION IN THE INLAND EMPIRE

Waves of migrants and immigrants have made the Inland Empire's valleys, mountains, passes, and deserts their home. From Native American tribes as its first inhabitants to more recent waves of immigrants from Latino and Asian countries, the counties of Riverside and San Bernardino have evolved to reflect the growing and diverse populations and their social, economic, and political needs. This region has been shaped, in part, by the distinctive histories of Native American peoples, Spanish, Mexican, and American inhabitants, as well as transnational migrants and immigrants. And still, the region's story is wholly American.

This section focuses on the history of the diverse peoples in the Inland Empire, spanning from Native Americans as its first inhabitants to subsequent waves of migrants and immigrants drawn to the region. This section also provides a snapshot of notable examples of public service by immigrant communities, highlighting diverse experiences and contributions to the region.

FIRST INHABITANTS IN THE REGION

The Inland Empire is home to diverse bands of Californian Indians (or Native Americans) including the Alliklik, Chumash, Cahuilla, Gabrielino, Kitanemuk, Serrano, Luise-o, Chemehuevi, Kumeyaay, and Mojave tribes and lived across the region's valleys and mountains and deserts dating back to over 10,000 years ago.¹ Tribal villages varied in size from poor desert communities with as little as 100 people to the large Chumash villages with over one thousand inhabitants.

These tribes were the first peoples to encounter the Spanish missionaries and conquistadors of the 15th and 16th century. Led by Father Junipero Serra, Spanish colonizers settled on Native American land and hired Native Americans as laborers. During the 20th century, Native American tribes were forced out of most of their lands and allotted small portions of their former homelands. As more migrants and immigrants settled in the Inland Empire, Native Americans lived on and off the reservations. The original inhabitants of the Inland Empire now work and interact with other Native Americans and more recent arrivals of migrants and immigrants. Since

the 1980s, gaming has been a significant contributor to economic development in tribal communities as well as jobs in surrounding areas.

MIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION IN TO THE REGION IN THE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY

During the 19th and early 20th centuries, the region's economy was based on agriculture and livestock. Construction of the transcontinental railroad to Southern California in the 1870s ushered an era of land acquisition, and the subsequent citrus boom of the 1880s sparked a major increase in the region's population through domestic migration.

The name "Inland Empire" arose during the early 1900s, and its origins are complicated and contested. Journalist Chuck Palmer has placed the origins of the name "Inland Empire" to 1920, when the local Daily Sun newspaper ran an "Inland Empire" section. This regional identity corresponded with a boost in tourism following World War I. "Inland" likely represented an effort to differentiate the area from the coastal valleys of Southern California (including Orange County and Los Angeles County), whereas "Empire" may have referred to the region's promotion as the "Orange Empire" at the end of the 19th century.² Others suggest that this moniker gained traction in the 1950s, when local news media used the term to refer to the U.S. Department of Commerce's newly minted Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario Metropolitan Area.³

Latinos

Settlers began inhabiting the region under Spanish rule as early as the late 1700s for missionary work and agriculture. By the 1830s, Mexican government officials from Alta California closed down the Catholic missions, dispersed Native American residents, and redistributed the land to Mexican settlers in the form of large *ranchos* (estates), each encompassing thousands of acres.⁴ Following the U.S.-Mexican war (1846-1848), California was granted statehood in 1850 following the discovery of gold. Over the next few decades, Mexican-Californians were largely dispossessed of their land, and went from being farmers to field laborers, workers in railroad construction, and other types of manual labor.⁵

From the 1920s to the 1950s, the number of Mexicans that permanently resided in the region grew significantly as they worked as seasonal labor—

PROFILE

CONSUELO

Location: Moreno Valley

Age: Late 20s

Gender: Female

Country of Origin: Mexico

Status: DACA Recipient

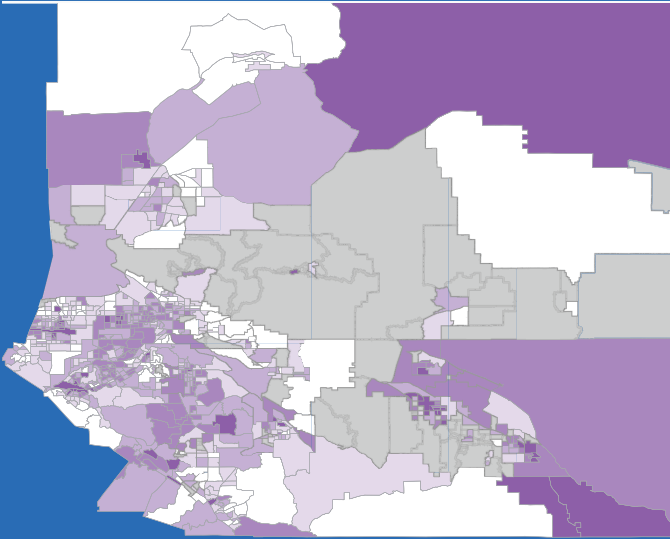
Occupation: Student, Assistant Professor

Consuelo lives in the city of Moreno Valley with her parents and two younger siblings, in a mixed immigration status family. Consuelo and her parents immigrated in the U.S. in 2001. In Mexico, Consuelo's parents' owned a small business, but lost it after experiencing some financial hardship. Her father immigrated to the United States in order to earn money and send remittances home to ease the family's financial burden. After Consuelo and her mother experienced threats to their safety, they decided to join Consuelo's father in the United States. Relatives in the U.S. helped ease the family's transition to their new home.

Currently, Consuelo works as an assistant professor and is part of a labor union. She is also completing a fellowship where she works with college-age female students in promoting public service. Consuelo is actively involved in organizations that focused on poverty, empowerment of young women, and environmental justice.

Some of the most pressing issues for Consuelo in her community include limited funding in nonprofits and staff wages. She feels there is not enough investment in non-profit organizations that aim to provide services for community members. According to Consuelo, "You should be able to live on your own while you're doing work that's helpful for the community." Human rights are a critical concern for Consuelo as she feels that education, healthcare, and fair and safe working conditions should be accessible for everyone, regardless of immigration status.

Consuelo believes that California has different policies that are immigrant friendly, but there are still issues that arise with some of these policies, including rebuilding trust with local law enforcement. Consuelo is most hopeful for future generations to enact meaningful change. She hopes that more people of color and groups that have been marginalized in the past will take more leadership positions in their local communities.



LATINO FOREIGN BORN

Latino immigrants live and work throughout the region, with greater concentrations in the Coachella Valley and in the western parts of Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

Central Americans account for a significantly smaller portion of the Latino immigrant population in the Inland Empire (10%) than in Los Angeles County (24%).

Latino immigrants in the IE are more likely to work in agriculture, transportation, and construction than elsewhere in Southern California.

Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-year PUMS

from lettuce and cotton harvests in the Imperial Valley, to grape and cotton harvests of the Central Valley, and then returning to the citrus harvests in the Inland Empire.⁶ After World War I, a majority of migratory workers in the region were Mexican American. Another aspect of the economic shift during this period was the entry of Mexican American women into the labor force, particularly in citrus packing.⁷ Citrus growers preferred women in the packing houses and braceros (“manual laborers”) for picking. Finally, the Bracero Program, which brought millions of Mexican guest workers to the United States between 1942 to 1964, allowed Mexican men to come to the United States to work on short-term agricultural labor contracts, although many ended up retuning for work and staying in the region even after the Bracero Program ended.⁸

African Americans

African Americans, formerly enslaved or freed, migrated to the Inland Empire as early as 1851 with Mormon settlers. They helped build the Fort of San Bernardino and, soon after, the city bearing its name.⁹ In two major waves of migration in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, African Americans migrated from the South because of racial discrimination, segregation, and lack of economic opportunities. They moved north as well as west, including to Southern California, looking for employment opportunities and greater personal freedoms. Riverside and other Citrus Belt communities provided African Americans opportunities for employment and property ownership, although racial discrimination persisted in housing and lending through most of the 20th century.¹⁰

Asian Americans

Asian Americans immigrated to the Inland Empire as early as the 1850s and in larger waves following the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965. The California Gold Rush drew Chinese immigrants into the state as early as 1849, and many worked primarily in mining and manual labor in northern parts of the state.¹¹ Railroad construction drew Chinese workers to settle in Southern California. When the railroads were completed, Chinese workers migrated to cities and towns looking for work, including in infrastructure and agricultural jobs. Economic competition and racial resentment among white workers in the region provoked several anti-Chinese movements by the 1870s and 1880s. As

a result, Chinese Americans congregated in ethnic enclaves for protection against discrimination and violence.

By the 1880s, following the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and various other restrictive measures, Japanese and Korean immigrants settled in the region for agricultural work, particularly in the citrus industry. Korean immigrants first settled in Riverside in 1904,¹² while Filipinos and South Asian immigrants followed in the 1920s and 1930s. Chinatowns and other similar settlements were established in cities like Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino, and Riverside. These settlements vanished due to racial hostility and discriminatory policies. Alien land laws in California limited the presence and permanence of Japanese immigrants from 1913 through the end of World War II by forbidding “aliens ineligible for citizenship” from purchasing, and later from leasing property. This included a landmark court case brought by the State of California against Jukichi Harada, a Japanese immigrant living in Riverside. The case tested the constitutionality of laws preventing immigrants ineligible for citizenship (predominantly Asian immigrants) from owning property in California.¹³

During World War II, Japanese Americans in the region (along with others residing in the West Coast and Hawaii) were forced out of their homes and businesses and into internment camps in remote parts of the country.¹⁴ Following the war, the Japanese American community in the region diminished considerably in size, as many families lost their homes and businesses and subsequently migrated west to Los Angeles County.

Immigrant policies that specifically targeted Asian Americans include the 1882 Chinese Act (banning Chinese migration for 10 years and subsequently extended), the Immigration Act of 1917 (which restricted immigration from anyone born in a geographically defined “Asiatic Barred Zone” except for Japanese and Filipinos), and subsequent laws in the 1920s and 1930s that banned Japanese and Filipino migration. Only in the 1940s did the United States begin to allow Chinese, Indian, and Filipino immigrants to naturalize as U.S. citizens and, even so, migration from those countries was limited to about 100 per year from each country.

Two important shifts in the second half of the 20th century has shaped the population of first- and

second-generation immigrants living in the region today. First, the 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act abolished the discriminatory national origins quota system, replacing it with a system that favored immigrants with high skills and family ties to U.S. citizens and permanent residents.

In addition, the economy of the Inland Empire restructured after the 1950s, with a decline in the citrus industry and the subsequent rise and decline of heavy manufacturing and military base employment. Since 2000, however, the draw of affordable single-family homes and growth in logistics and warehousing jobs has fueled population growth in the region, among immigrants and native-born residents alike.¹⁵

KEY IMMIGRATION POLICIES

Immigration policies have been key to shaping the arrival, settlement, and occupational patterns of immigrants in the region. In this section, we highlight key policies at the state and national level, from the 1870s through the late 1990s, followed by state policymaking since 2001.

California State Constitution of 1879: Constitutional revision that included an entire article on restricting the rights of Chinese, barring them from employment by corporations and public agencies, and authorizing cities to expel Chinese immigrants.

Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882: The first national immigration law barring entry by national origin. The law allowed Chinese immigrants already in the United States to remain, but ethnic violence and hostility prompted many in the region to leave the country.

Alien Land Law of 1913: State law that prohibited immigrants ineligible for citizenship from owning land or holding long-term leases. Asian immigrants were the only immigrant group barred from U.S. citizenship, prompting many to transfer title to U.S.-born children or spouses.

Immigration Act of 1924: Created a national origins quota that severely limited migration from Eastern and Southern Europe and excluded all immigrants from Asia.

Bracero Program, 1942-1964: Series of laws and diplomatic arrangements between the United States and Mexico that brought in millions of contract

PROFILE

TOMASA

Location: San Bernardino

Age: 40s

Gender: Female

Country of Origin: Mexico

Status: Undocumented

Occupation: Self-employed

Tomasa came to the United States when she was 24 years old. She was only supposed to come for a short period of time, but ended up establishing a life and family here. Tomasa used to live in Los Angeles, she moved to the Inland Empire leaving the frenzy of city life and hoping to spend more time with her family. She currently lives with her husband and their two children in San Bernardino.

Tomasa worked for a fast food company for a long time, but eventually she stopped working due to chronic health problems. After not working for some time, she started a small business of catering and party-rental supplies.

Tomasa feels that it is extremely important to be “good citizens” especially due to her immigration status. She cares about her community and tries to maintain herself informed and active to help the immigrant community. Tomasa wishes that she did not have to use government aid, but she is thankful to be able have access to it to help her cover the cost of the medicine she needs. She felt that she had no choice but to tap into government aid given the high cost of medicine and medical treatment.

Some of the most pressing issues for Tomasa are related to immigrants. She feels that the current administration is not immigrant friendly and it continues to narrow down options for current and future immigrants. Tomasa fears deportation, and how it would affect her US citizen children if the family is forced to move to Mexico. She is also concerned about neighborhood safety, as her family has suffered from robberies and violence.

Tomasa aspires to attain legal status someday. She is also hopeful for the future of her children. She knows that they will have a voice and vote, and she hopes that they can become civic leaders and give back to their community.

laborers to work in agriculture. Set patterns of agricultural migration that continued long after the program’s termination.

Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965: Abolished national origin quotas, shifting to a preference system based on skills and family ties to U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Also placed limits on Mexican migration for the first time, prompting a big increase in unauthorized migration.

Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986: Allowed undocumented persons who had resided in the U.S. continuously since January 1, 1982 to apply for legal status.

Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996: Vastly reduced the severity of crimes that would make any immigrant—including legal permanent residents—eligible for deportation. Authorized the federal government to enter into immigration enforcement agreements with state and local governments.

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, 2012: Executive action allowing undocumented immigrants who came to the U.S. as children to obtain work permits and deferral from deportation, if they meet certain criteria including passing a criminal background check.

Since 2001, the state of California has passed a series of laws that have expanded immigrant access to important rights and protections.¹⁶ Key laws include those expanding immigrant access to higher education (with in-state tuition passed in 2001 and state financial aid in 2011), providing driver’s licenses in 2013, expanding access to children’s health insurance in 2015, limiting cooperation on federal immigration enforcement (passage of laws in 2015, 2016, and 2017), and providing worker protections against discrimination and employer retaliation (passed in 2013, 2014, and 2015).

NOTABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF IMMIGRANTS IN PUBLIC SERVICE

Congressman Dalip Singh Saund

U.S. Representative Dalip Singh Saund immigrated to the United States in 1920 to pursue graduate studies at University of California in Berkeley. While at Berkeley, he obtained a master’s degree (1922) and a PhD (1924), both in mathematics. Saund pushed

Data Snapshot of Immigrants in the Inland Empire

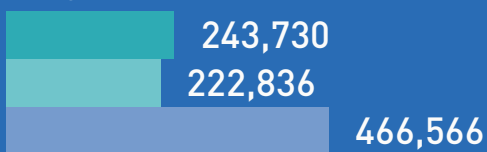
CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF IMMIGRANT POPULATION

Naturalized citizens and non-U.S. citizens account for roughly equal shares of the immigrant population in the Inland Empire region.

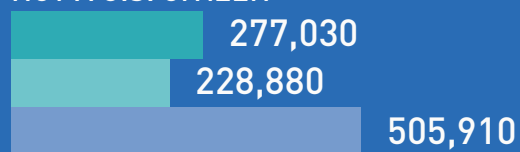
TOTAL IMMIGRANTS



NATURALIZED

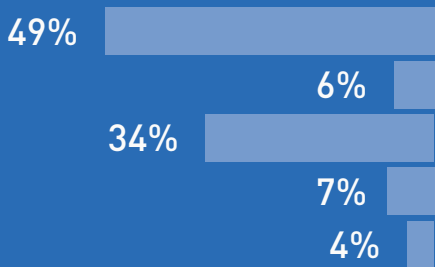


NOT A U.S. CITIZEN

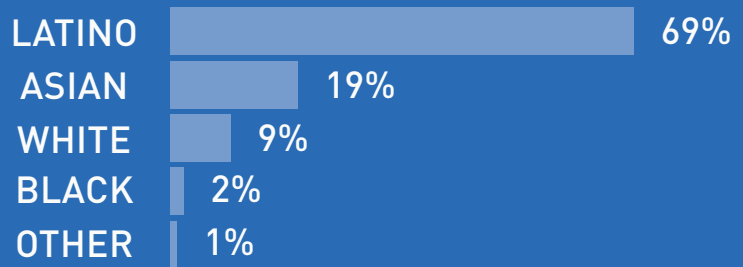


RACE AND ETHNICITY IN THE INLAND EMPIRE

SHARE OF TOTAL POPULATION

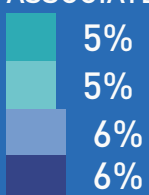


SHARE OF FOREIGN BORN

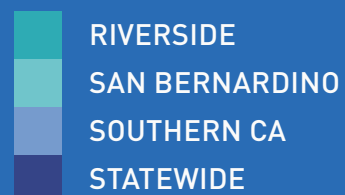
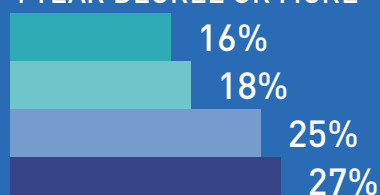


EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF IMMIGRANTS

ASSOCIATE DEGREE



4 YEAR DEGREE OR MORE

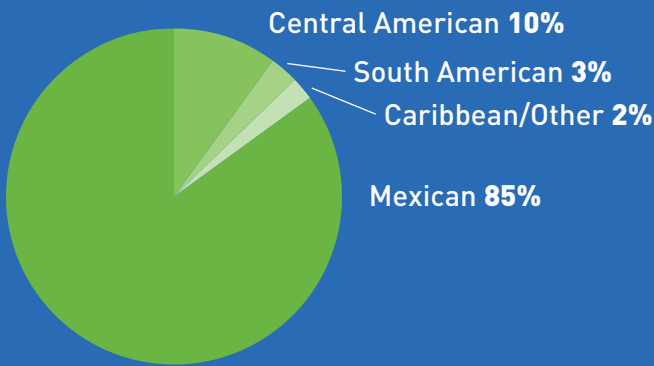


IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

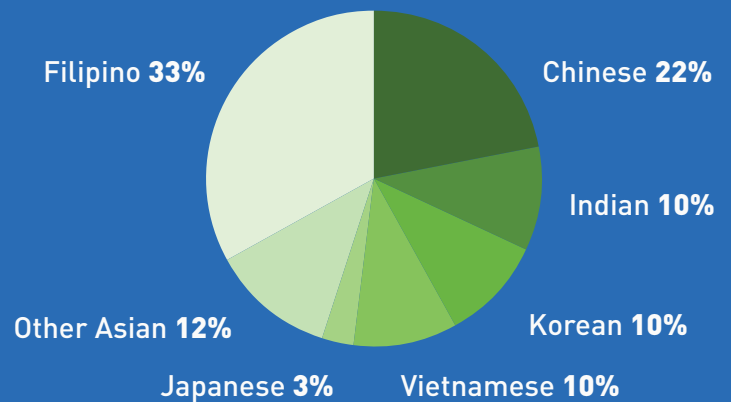
Latinos represent a greater share of immigrants in the Inland Empire than in the rest of Southern California.

	RIV COUNTY	SB COUNTY	SO CAL	CALIF
Latino	69%	69%	56%	51%
Asian	17%	20%	28%	32%
White	10%	8%	13%	13%
Black	2%	2%	1%	2%
Other	2%	1%	2%	2%

LATINO IMMIGRANTS BY ETHNICITY



ASIAN IMMIGRANTS BY ETHNICITY



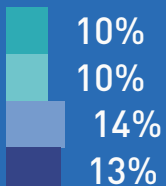
CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF RESIDENT POPULATION

NATIVE BORN

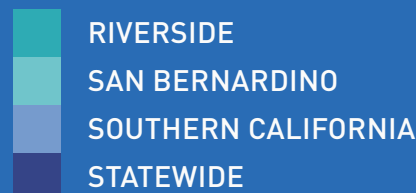
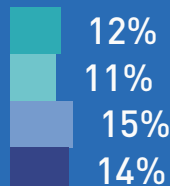


Native-born residents account for a greater share of residents in the Inland Empire than in the rest of California.

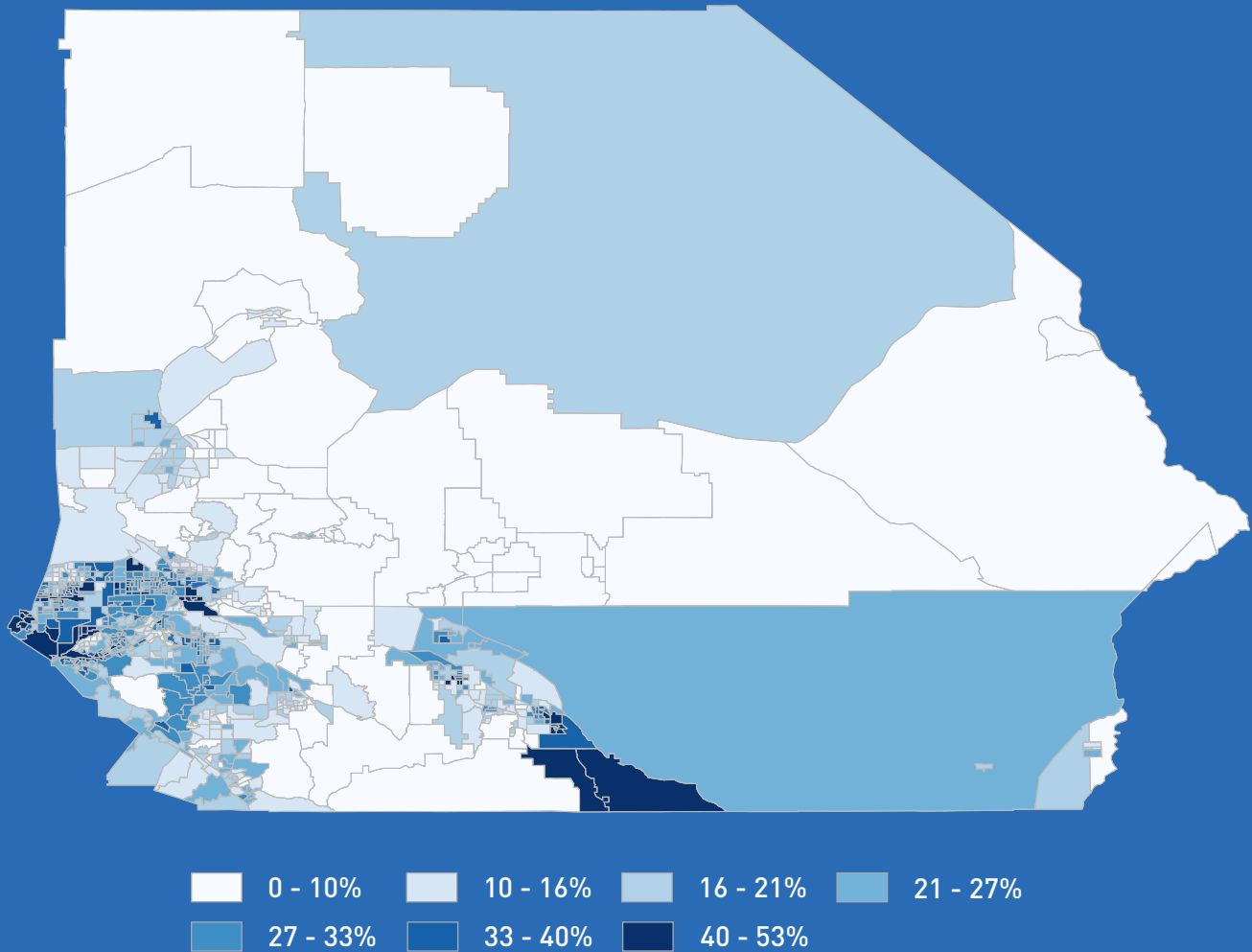
NATURALIZED



NOT A U.S. CITIZEN



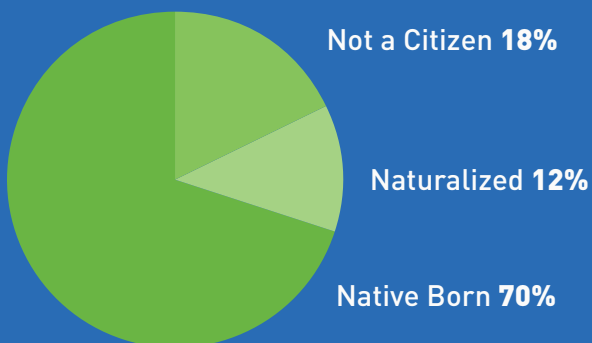
FOREIGN BORN POPULATION



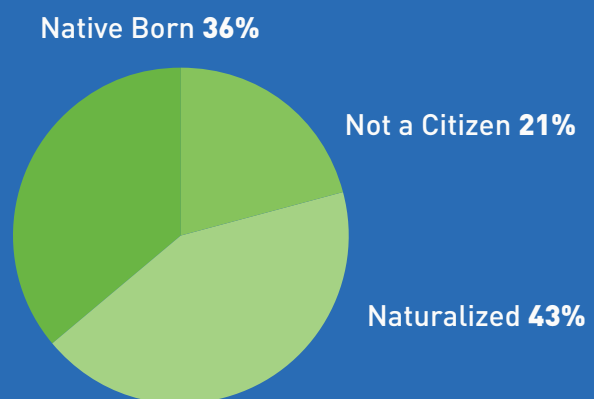
CITIZENSHIP STATUS

Latino residents in the Inland Empire are predominantly native born, while Asian Americans in the region are mostly foreign born.

LATINO



ASIAN



Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-year PUMS

When compared to the average for Southern California, immigrants in Riverside County are more likely to work in construction and agriculture, while immigrants in San Bernardino County are more likely to work in transportation.

TOP 10 INDUSTRIES OF EMPLOYMENT FOR IMMIGRANTS

	Riverside County	San Bernardino County	Southern California	California
Manufacturing	12%	14%	14%	13%
Professional	12%	11%	12%	13%
Entertainment	12%	9%	11%	11%
Construction	11%	9%	8%	7%
Retail	10%	10%	10%	9%
Healthcare	8%	10%	9%	9%
Services	6%	7%	8%	7%
Transportation	6%	9%	5%	4%
Education	4%	5%	5%	5%
Agriculture	4%	1%	2%	5%

IMMIGRANTS LIVING IN POVERTY (COMPARISONS TO FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL)

	Inland Empire	Southern California	Latino Immigrants in Inland Empire	Latino Immigrants in Southern CA
100% or Below	19%	19%	19%	22%
101 to 200%	28%	25%	28%	32%
201 to 400%	32%	29%	32%	32%
401% and Above	21%	26%	21%	13%

Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-year PUMS

FOR MORE DATA AND INFORMATION, VISIT [SOCIALINNOVATION.UCR.EDU/IMMIGRANTS](https://socialinnovation.ucr.edu/immigrants)

for the rights of Indian and Filipino immigrants to naturalize. Soon after Congress granted that right in 1947, he ran for local office before making history as the first Asian American to win a Congressional seat in 1956. From 1957 to 1963, Saund represented California's 29th District (which then comprised Riverside and Imperial counties).¹⁷

Congressman Mark Takano

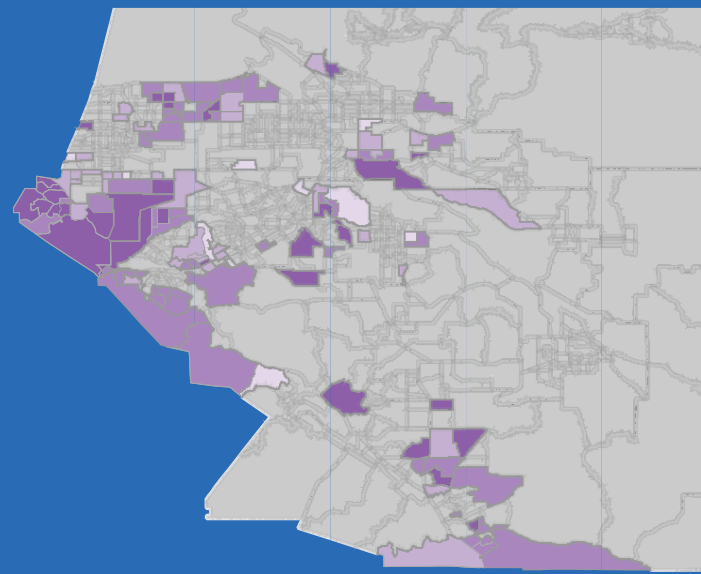
U.S. Representative Mark Takano was born and raised in Riverside. His immigrant grandparents who, along with his parents, were removed from their respective homes and sent to Japanese American internment camps during World War II. Takano attended La Sierra High School and graduated in 1979 as the school's valedictorian. Takano received his bachelor's degree from Harvard College in Government in 1983. Upon graduation, Takano returned home to Riverside and began teaching in the Rialto Unified School District in 1988. In 1990, Takano was elected to the Riverside Community College District's Board of Trustees. In 2012, Takano became the first openly gay person of color to be elected to Congress.¹⁸

Congressman Raul Ruiz

U.S. Representative Raul Ruiz, M.D., was born in Zacatecas, Mexico and raised in Coachella, California, where both of his parents were immigrant farmworkers. A graduate from Coachella Valley High School, Dr. Ruiz graduated magna cum laude from UCLA. Ruiz then went on to Harvard University, where he earned his Medical Degree, as well as a Masters of Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government and a Masters of Public Health from the School of Public Health, becoming the first Latino to earn three graduate degrees from Harvard University. Dr. Ruiz was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2012.

Other Civic Leaders

In addition to elected officials, important immigrant civic leaders include Ahn Changho, who established the first Korean American mutual aid society in the United States, and several civic leaders in the immigrant community today. Later in this report, we profile Luz Maria and Antonio Ayala, who established TODEC Legal Center in the mid 1980s.



ASIAN FOREIGN BORN

Asian immigrants have significant concentrations in Chino Hills, Rancho Cucamonga, Loma Linda, Corona, Temecula, and Murrieta.

Filipinos account for a larger portion of the Asian immigrant population in the Inland Empire (33%) than in Los Angeles County (24%). The reverse is true for Chinese Americans (who account for 33% of the Asian immigrant population in Los Angeles County and 22% in the Inland Empire).

Asian immigrants are more likely to work in healthcare in the Inland Empire than elsewhere in Southern California.

PROFILE

MARY

Location: Chino Hills

Age: Mid 20s

Gender: Female

Country of Origin: Taiwan

Status: U.S. Citizen

Occupation: Program Coordinator

Mary was born in the United States, and her parents were able to migrate through a family sponsorship program from Taiwan. Her parents first migrated to the San Diego area, but eventually were able to purchase a home in the city of Chino Hills. Mary's parents wanted to provide a better future for their family in a place where they could access more resources.

For the last two years, Mary has been working as a program coordinator for a nonprofit organization. In her profession she designs curricula and conducts training programs. Mary feels that the nonprofit work in the region is severely underfunded, putting downward pressure on both wages and benefits.

In addition to seeing the need for a more inclusive immigration system at the national level and robust implementation of the state's "sanctuary law" (SB 54), Mary is also concerned about other issues that affect immigrants and their children, including the lack of better jobs in the region, the lack of affordable and accessible health care, and the prevalence of environmental hazards. For her, better jobs means paying fair wages and having predictable hours, meaningful benefits, and safe working conditions. She also feels that there is a lack of representation by elected officials when it comes to environmental issues and policy.

Mary feels lucky that she has not seen increased immigration enforcement in her neighborhood. She believes that one of the reasons is because her family is part of the Asian community, and immigration agencies tend not to disturb Asian and Pacific Islander communities as much as others.

Mary is most hopeful for people in the region to be engaged in elections and to really know about the issues that affect the Inland Empire. She hopes that one day healthcare can be affordable, accessible and be provided in a culturally competent manner for everyone.

KEY POLICY ISSUES

Immigrants in the Inland Empire account for more than 1 of 5 residents. Key characteristics of the immigrant population—highlighted in various parts of this report—are relevant for the work of public, for-profit, and nonprofit enterprises alike. For example, immigrant communities are concentrated in different parts of the two-county region, with social needs and economic contributions that vary across these contexts. Seasonal agricultural workers are more prevalent in the Eastern Coachella Valley of Riverside County, while immigrants working in transportation and logistics are more prevalent in western San Bernardino County. In addition, immigrant communities in southern parts of Riverside County are much more likely than immigrants in other parts of the region to encounter enforcement by Customs and Border Patrol, and our informant reports indicate a much greater risk of racial profiling among Latinos than among Asian immigrants.

Policy issues that merit special attention include language access, health insurance, and access to higher education. Language access is a major issue affecting Latino and Asian immigrants alike in the region—about 1 in 2 Asian immigrants and about 2 in 3 Latino immigrants have limited English proficiency, meaning that they speak English "less than very well" (see p. 19). Finally, immigrant access to health insurance is lower in the Inland Empire than statewide (see p. 16), and regional gaps in immigrant college attainment are very large (see p. 9).

These patterns indicate that immigrant communities in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties may need even greater investments in health, language access, and education than similar communities in Los Angeles County and Orange County.

Impacts of Federal and State Immigration Policies

As indicated earlier, federal policies over the last two decades have generally pushed in a restrictive direction, while state policies in California have mostly pushed in a pro-integration direction. At the same time, local jurisdictions in the Inland Empire have had a checkered history with respect to immigrant integration and outreach.

Federal immigration reform in 1996 (see p.8) added a key provision to the federal immigration code—Section 287(g)—that expanded the immigration

enforcement power of the federal government, enabling it to enter into agreements with state and law enforcement agencies to identify and detain undocumented immigrants. The sheriff departments of Riverside and San Bernardino participated in the 287(g) program—Riverside did so from 2006 to 2013, and San Bernardino participated from 2005 and 2014.

Immigrants were not vulnerable to deportation solely from actions by sheriff departments. In several locations in the region, police departments arrested day laborers, who would then end up in jail and in deportation proceedings. In some instances undocumented immigrants who contacted police to report domestic violence were also detained and turned over to immigration enforcement.

Starting in 2006, community organizations coalesced and mobilized in reaction to a growing number of raids, increased Border Patrol activity in the region, and cooperation efforts between the San Bernardino police department and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The 2006 pro-immigrant marches also played an important role in catalyzing the formation of the Justice For Immigrants Coalition, which later became Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice (ICIJ). ICIJ now includes about 30 immigrant-serving organizations, including faith-based organizations, civil liberties groups, labor organizations, and youth organizations like the Inland Empire Immigrant Youth Collective (IEIYC). Notably, IEIYC was one of the first immigrant organizations in the region to engage in direct action against deportations, including a 2011 event that led to the arrest of several members.

In addition to drawing attention to immigrant concerns through protests and other mobilization efforts, immigrant organizations have also secured some important policy changes at the local level. For example, in December 2010, over 100 community members met with Colton's Chief of Police to urge a change in the city's policy on vehicle impounds. These efforts resulted in Colton becoming the first city in California to adopt a policy that would allow unlicensed drivers to call someone with a valid driver's license to pick up their vehicle, instead of having it impounded. This policy change significantly reduced the economic burden on immigrant communities, and it later became adopted at the statewide level through AB 353 (2011).

In addition to pushing for statewide policy changes on vehicle impounds, organizations connected with ICIJ have also engaged in coordinated statewide campaigns pushing for expanded access to driver's licenses (AB 60 in 2013), the California TRUST Act in 2013 which stipulates that state and local law enforcement officers can only comply with federal requests to detain immigrants convicted of serious crimes, and the California Values Act of 2017 (SB 54), which expands due process rights for state residents regardless of their immigration status and ensures that schools, hospitals, and courthouses are safe spaces for everyone in the community.

Finally, immigrant communities in the region have also benefited significantly from pro-integration policies passed at the state level. One of the earliest pro-integration policies at the state level was AB 540, signed into law in 2001, allowing state residents to pay in-state tuition at public colleges and universities, regardless of their immigration status. A decade later, the legislature passed the California Dream Act (Assembly Bills 130 and 131 signed into law in 2011). AB 130 allows students who meet AB 540 criteria to apply for non-state funded scholarships for colleges and universities. AB 131 allows students who meet AB 540 criteria to apply for state-funded financial aid.

Inclusive federal policies like the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) have also provided numerous opportunities for young immigrants in the region. Riverside and San Bernardino were among the top 10 counties in the country for immigrant youth eligible for DACA (59,000 total)¹⁹ and, as of September 2017, there were 22,300 active DACA recipients in the region.²⁰ DACA has transformed the lives of undocumented youth, families, and the larger communities in which they are embedded. In addition to state and national-level reports on the economic, social, and fiscal benefits of DACA,²¹ local testimonials indicate that the program has been critical in promoting civic leadership, economic mobility, and small business development in the Inland Empire.

Until 1994, all immigrants had access to driver's licenses in California, regardless of immigration status. Immigrants and partnering advocates spent the past two decades organizing and fighting to restore access to licenses. The result of this mobilization was the passage of The Safe and Responsible Driver Act (AB 60) in 2013. Under this law, any eligible California resident can apply for a

HEALTH INSURANCE

More immigrants in Riverside (27%) and San Bernardino Counties (26%) lack health insurance compared to immigrants statewide (23%).

RIVERSIDE COUNTY



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



CALIFORNIA



Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-year PUMS

driver's license, regardless of immigration status. This law also improves public safety because in order to get a license, applicants will need to show proof of insurance as well as pass driving tests and written exams. Importantly, the law also forbids discrimination or profiling of individuals on the basis of possessing an AB 60 license.

Stanford researchers investigated the impact of expanding access to driver's licenses in California. Opponents had argued the law could bring more high-risk drivers to California roads and freeways. The authors found, based on a systematic analysis of driver's license expansion in California, that AB 60 did not increase the rate of total accidents or fatal accidents. Indeed, the law helped reduce the likelihood of hit-and-run accidents, thereby improving traffic safety and reducing overall costs for California drivers.²²

As the region continues to diversify and grow, immigrant advocates and service providers alike hope to support more inclusive programs at the state and county levels, including in healthcare and education. Immigrant-serving organizations in the region played key roles in the creation of these policies, and increased investments in the region are necessary to ensure their successful implementation.

MODEL LOCAL POLICIES

Policy innovation can happen not only at the state level, but also in local jurisdictions ranging from cities and counties to school districts and regional authorities. At a minimum, local governments can improve the ways in which they reach out to immigrant populations, including providing better language access and hiring community liaisons. This section highlights two examples of city-level innovations that can help inform future policy efforts in the region.

Healthy San Francisco Campaign

Many Californians remain uninsured and ineligible to access vital health care services due to their immigration status. The Healthy San Francisco Campaign provides affordable health care services to uninsured people living in San Francisco. Operated by San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH), it provides uninsured San Franciscans access to basic, ongoing, quality medical care.

In July 2006, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed the Health Care Security Ordinance, which created the Healthy San Francisco program and made San Francisco the first city in the nation to provide access to health care services for all adult residents without health insurance. Local officials created the Universal Healthcare Council, which is composed of stakeholders from a variety of communities, including healthcare, consumer advocacy groups, labor, business, research, and others.

Creation of an Office of Immigrant Integration in the City of Los Angeles

The City of Los Angeles created the Office of Immigrant Integration in 2004 (and then reinstated in 2013) to help immigrants in Los Angeles navigate the pathways to citizenship. Its vision is to connect city residents (regardless of immigration status) to community resources, government services, and immigration law and policy. This office aims to make Los Angeles the first big city in the nation to have a dedicated initiative to lead immigrants through the immigration process.

Several key successes of the City of Los Angeles Office of Immigrant Integration include culturally competent community outreach to assist immigrants access health care services (e.g., Health4All Kids), drivers licenses programs, mentoring and professional development, and citizenship services (with the Los Angeles Public Library).

Integrationist policies are not confined to large, progressive cities like San Francisco and Los Angeles. Cities as diverse as Dayton, Ohio to Louisville, Kentucky have enacted pro-integration policies as part of the Welcoming America network. In addition, local chambers of commerce from San Diego to Salt Lake City have joined New American Economy, a partnership of mayors and business leaders in support of sensible workforce development and immigration reform. There are also promising signs in the Inland Empire region. In February 2018, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors passed a unanimous resolution calling on Congress to continue protections for DACA recipients, following on a prior unanimous resolution in 2013 in support of comprehensive immigration reform.²³

PROFILE

CARLOS

Location: Palm Desert

Age: 80s

Gender: Male

Country of Origin: Mexico

Status: Permanent Resident

Occupation: Retired

Carlos immigrated with his parents from Mexicali when he was just eight years old. He moved to the Coachella Valley in 1952 to work in the fruit packing industry. He joined the U.S. Army in 1959 and was stationed in Alaska for 18 months.

Upon completing his tour in the Army, Carlos was able to get additional education and training in communications through the GI Bill. He enjoyed working in the telecommunication industry, where he was part of a union, with union benefits. As a member of the union, he regularly attended meetings. He conveyed that the unions he was part of were true allies to their members, regardless of race. And yet, they did not make any extra efforts to assist other community members outside of the labor union.

Some of the most pressing issues for Carlos pertain to health, including lack of government support for the elderly and a lack of outreach on other resources that can be helpful to people like him.

As a child immigrant, Carlos was able to receive permanent residency after living in the Coachella Valley for three years. He feels that it is more difficult for immigrants to obtain legal status now, and he wishes that there were more support for immigrant services today as in the past.

PROFILE

LUZ MARIA & ANTONIO

Location: Perris

Ages: mid 70s

Country of Origin: Mexico

Status: U.S. Citizen

Occupation: Retired

Luz Maria and Antonio Ayala migrated to the U.S. from Michoacan in 1971. Ever since, the couple has consistently organized for improved working conditions for farm workers and for immigrant legalization.

The Ayalas had been members of Cesar Chavez's United Farm Workers since 1972, engaging in various advocacy efforts, visiting representatives in their Sacramento and D.C. offices, and educating their representatives about the harsh conditions farm workers were subjected to, such as pesticide exposure that caused chronic, and sometimes fatal, health problems.

They dedicated countless hours to helping farmworkers apply for immigration relief during the early 1980's. Years later, they reached out to Cesar Chavez to fight against other injustices in their community, including local law enforcement asking for proof of immigration status in the course of routine traffic stops

Bert Corona, a former faculty member at UC Riverside had a great influence on them, helping them develop skills to successfully organize workers and community members. Their organizing efforts aimed to improve conditions of farmworkers and community members in Indio, Coachella, Blythe and La Cuna de Aztlan.

The couple founded Training Occupational Development Educating Communities (TODEC) in the mid 1980's in Perris. TODEC's mission is to ensure equitable access to information, services, community education advocacy, and civic engagement for limited and non-English speaking people including immigrants and migrant workers throughout the Inland Empire.

Some of their early work included career re-training for farmworkers, and has now expanded to provide critical legal services, including assistance with applications for naturalization, DACA, and state driver's licenses. Today, TODEC is part of a robust network of immigrant-serving organizations in the region.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The success of the Inland Empire depends on the success of its immigrant population. Strengthening the region will thus depend on establishing welcoming policies, improving health and well-being, and improving policies on economic development and workforce development in ways that benefit the entire region.

Public and private investments will be critical to these solutions, including finding ways to better integrate the region with global partners. Emerging regional partnerships involving institutions of higher education, public agencies, private industry, and nonprofits can also play a constructive role in this process, making sure that the needs and contributions of immigrants are included in efforts such as Growing Inland Achievement, Inland Economic Growth and Opportunity, OneFuture Coachella Valley, and convergence groups in health care, philanthropy, and civic engagement.

Applied research partnerships between universities, public agencies, and nonprofits can also help inform policies and strategies that are innovative, data-driven, and timely—serving the needs of immigrant residents, the organizations that serve them, and a broader array of stakeholders. The Immigration Research Group at UC Riverside's Center for Social Innovation is one example of such an effort, modeled in some ways after other successful community-research partnerships such as the USC Center on the Study of Immigrant Integration (CSII) and the Netter Center for Community Partnerships at the University of Pennsylvania.

This report depended on cross-sector engagement between an academic institution, community organizations, and philanthropy, and the Center for Social Innovation hopes to deepen and broaden these collaborations, as part of ongoing efforts to fully capitalize on the region's civic and economic potential.

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LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Language access is a major issue affecting Latino and Asian immigrants alike in California.

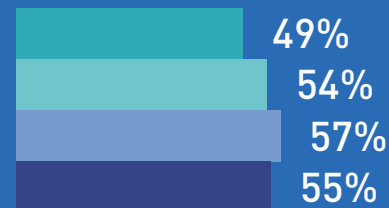
ALL IMMIGRANTS



LATINO IMMIGRANTS



ASIAN IMMIGRANTS



Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-year PUMS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This report was co-authored by the Center for Social Innovation at the University of California, Riverside, the California Immigrant Policy Center, and the Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice, who are solely responsible for the content contained herein. We are grateful for the generous support of the James Irvine Foundation. Special thanks to Aide Arana, Cecilia Ayón, Cynthia Buiza, Javier Hernandez, Michelle Magalong, Maricruz Osorio, Francisco Pedraza, Karthick Ramakrishnan, Sunny Shao, and Alton Wang.

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