New Americans in San José Metro Area

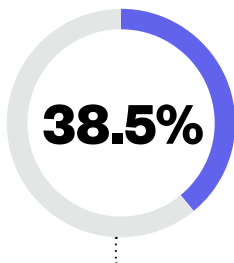## A Snapshot of Demographic and Economic Characteristics of Immigrants in the Metro Area[1]

New American Economy | State & Local

CITY OF SAN JOSE — CAPITAL OF SILICON VALLEY

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, local leaders in communities across the country have been working tirelessly to ensure that all community members have access to the services and support they need. The immigrant population is both essential to our country's rapid response efforts and especially vulnerable to gaps in our social safety nets. Understanding this population will help better inform local leaders as they aim to implement inclusive emergency response policies.

OVERVIEW

Immigrant Residents, 2018

762,784

38.5%
Immigrant Share of Population, 2018

396,217
Immigrants who were **Naturalized** U.S. Citizens, 2018

51.9%
Naturalized Share of Immigrants, 2018

157,876
Undocumented Immigrants, 2018

20.7%
Undocumented Share of Immigrants, 2018

82,748
Immigrants who were Likely **Refugees**, 2018[2]

10.8%
Share of Immigrants who were Likely **Refugees**, 2018

15,884
DACA-Eligible Immigrants, 2018

2.1%
DACA-Eligible Share of Immigrants, 2018

SPENDING POWER & TAX CONTRIBUTIONS[3]

Given their income, immigrants contributed significantly to state and local taxes, including property, sales, and excise taxes levied by state and local governments.

$53.9B
Immigrant Household Income, 2018

$35.7B
Total Spending Power

State & Local Taxes Paid	**$5.3B**[4]
Federal Taxes Paid	**$12.9B**[5]
Total Taxes Paid	**$18.2B**

LANGUAGE

Top Five Languages Immigrants Spoke at Home Other than English

SPANISH	**23.0%**
CHINESE[6]	**16.4%**
VIETNAMESE	**11.6%**
HINDI & RELATED	**10.5%**
FILIPINO, TAGALOG	**7.0%**

Top Five Languages of Immigrants with Limited English language Proficiency

21.6% of immigrants, or **164,862**, living in the metro area had limited English language proficiency.[7] Among them, the top five languages spoken at home other than English were:

— SPANISH (**43.4%**)

— VIETNAMESE (**22.6%**)

— CHINESE (**17.6%**)

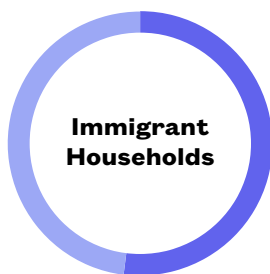— FILIPINO, TAGALOG (**3.0%**)

— HINDI & RELATED (**3.0%**)

FRONTLINE WORKERS

Immigrants serve in essential industries and carry out vital roles that keep the country functioning. In the metro area, immigrants are working in frontline and essential industries during the Covid-19 crisis.

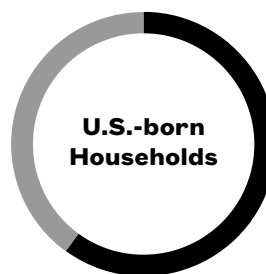| Number of Immigrants	Industry	Share of Workforce
6,953	AGRICULTURE	**68.1%**
3,019	FOOD PROCESSING	**62.9%**
7,447	MEDICAL EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES MANUFACTURING	**54.5%**
2,609	PHARMACEUTICAL & MEDICINE MANUFACTURING	**53.9%**
1,993	FOOD WHOLESALE TRADE	**53.7%**
27,627	RESTAURANTS & FOOD SERVICE	**49.9%**
1,422	PHARMACIES & DRUG STORES	**45.3%**
34,767	HEALTHCARE	**43.5%**
7,327	TRANSPORTATION & WAREHOUSING[8]	**42.9%**
5,868	GROCERY STORES & SUPERMARKETS	**38.1%**

HOUSING CONDITIONS

The COVID-19 economic upheaval has highlighted the need for stable housing.

Immigrant Households

Among immigrant households in 2018...

52.1% Owned their own Homes (159,759)

47.9% were Renters (146,666)

U.S.-born Households

Among U.S.-born households in 2018...

59.9% Owned their own Homes (205,858)

40.1% were Renters (137,792)

ENTREPRENEURS

While all Americans are struggling to adapt to their new reality in a time of economic shutdown, **entrepreneurs within particularly vulnerable industries in the metro area face severe challenges posed by the crisis.**

8.4% of all employed immigrants are entrepreneurs

Number of Entrepreneurs	Industry	Share of Entrepreneurs who are Immigrants
3,068	HOSPITALITY	**67.4%**
10,861	GENERAL SERVICES[9]	**58.3%**
5,423	RETAIL TRADE	**58.2%**
8,855	CONSTRUCTION	**47.9%**
3,813	MANUFACTURING	**47.7%**
5,877	HEALTHCARE	**43.4%**
22,859	PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES[10]	**40.5%**

HEALTHCARE COVERAGE

Access to healthcare and medical services remains critical during this pandemic.

102,334

Number of Residents without Health Insurance, 2018

Lacking Healthcare Coverage

Among Residents without Health Insurance in 2018...

■ **44.4%** U.S-Born (45,467)

■ **55.6%** Immigrants (56,867)

7.5% Total Share of Immigrant Population without Health Insurance, 2018

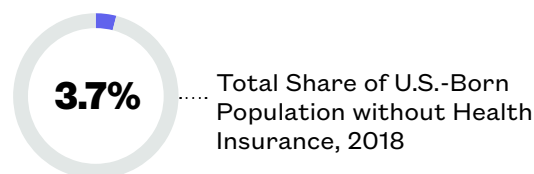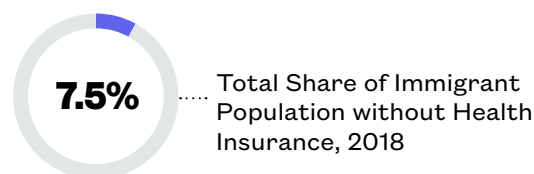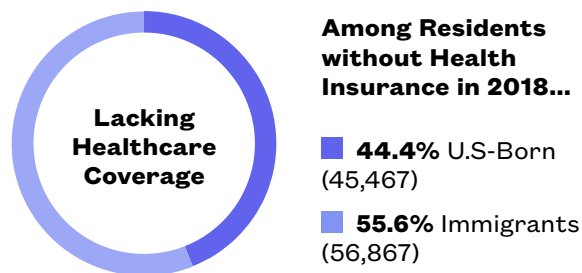**3.7%** Total Share of U.S.-Born Population without Health Insurance, 2018

ENDNOTES

1   Unless otherwise specified, data comes from 5-year samples of the American Community Survey from 2018 and figures refer to San Jose Metropolitan Statistical Area, California.

2   New American Economy. 2017. "From Struggle to Resilience: The Economic Impact of Refugees in America."

3   Our calculation is based on data from the 1-year sample of the 2018 American Community Survey.

4   Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. 2018. "Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of the Tax Systems in All Fifty States."

5   U.S. Congressional Budget Office. 2019. "The Distribution of Household Income and Federal Taxes, 2016."

6   The Chinese language category includes multiple dialects. Mandarin is the most common Chinese language spoken in SJ Metro Area, followed by Cantonese based on available data.

7   Limited English proficiency refers to an individual in the 2018 ASC who is reported to speak English "less than well."

8   These industries include rail, water, truck, and pipeline transportation, bus and public transit, postal service, couriers and messengers, warehousing and storage.

9   General services include personal services (e.g. laundry services, barber shops, and repair and maintenance), religious organizations, social services, and labor unions.

10 Most of these industries include professions that require a degree or a license, such as legal services, accounting, scientific research, consulting services, etc.