

South Carolina Demographics

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South Carolina (2021)*

- ❖ Total foreign-born population – 271,280
- ❖ 5.2% of the state's ~ 5.2 million people are foreign born
 - 45.2% naturalized citizens
 - 29% legal permanent residents (as of 2019)
 - 25.8% temporary visa holders or undocumented immigrants
- 133.9% rise in immigrant population from 2000 to 2021
- ❖ Length of time immigrants have lived in the U.S.
 - 41.2% entered before 1999
 - 24.7% entered 2000 - 2009
 - 34.1% since 2010
- ❖ 11.6% of children under age 18 have one or more immigrant parents
 - 88% of these children are native-born U.S. citizens

**Source: Migration Policy Institute Data Hub (November, 2023) and Lawful Permanent Resident estimates MPI and DHS (2022)*

South Carolina– Countries/Regions of Origin & Limited English Proficiency (LEP)(2021)*

- ❖ Latin America – 51%
 - ❖ Mexico (23.4%)
 - ❖ Other Central America (11.7%)
 - ❖ South America (9.9%)
 - ❖ Caribbean (6%)
- ❖ Asia – 22.2%
 - ❖ Southeastern Asia (8.3%)
 - ❖ India (6%)
 - ❖ Eastern Asia (5.7%)
- ❖ Europe – 17.2%
 - ❖ Eastern Europe (6.8%)
 - ❖ Western Europe (5%)
- ❖ Africa – 4.6%
- ❖ Canada – 2.5%
- ❖ Middle East – 2.1%
- ❖ Oceania – 0.2%
- ❖ Language spoken
 - ❖ 7.6% of people in the state who speak a language other than English at home
 - ❖ 40.8% of foreign born persons are LEP - speak English less than “very well”

**Source: Migration Policy Institute Data Hub (November, 2023)*

South Carolina - Languages Spoken at Home (2021)*

- ❖ Spanish (232,102)
- ❖ German (13,101)
- ❖ French (including Cajun) (10,948)
- ❖ Tagalog (including Filipino) (10,250)
- ❖ Chinese (including Mandarin, Cantonese) (10,218)
- ❖ Russian (8,749)
- ❖ Vietnamese (8,463)
- ❖ Portuguese (6,293)
- ❖ Arabic (6,280)
- ❖ Gujarati (4,794)
- ❖ Hindi (3,597)
- ❖ Japanese (3,511)
- ❖ Tamil (3,413)
- ❖ Nepali, Marathi, or Other Indic Languages (3,331)
- ❖ Swahili or Other Languages of Central, Eastern, and Southern Africa (2,780)
- ❖ Persian (including Farsi, Dari) (2,496)
- ❖ Polish (2,349)

* Source: <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/data/state-profiles/state/language/SC> (November, 2023)

South Carolina - LEP (2021)*

- ❖ Limited English Proficiency (Speak English less than very well)
 - ❖ Naturalized citizens – 25.1%
 - ❖ Noncitizens – 53.9%
- ❖ Limited English Proficiency by language spoken at home
 - ❖ Nepali, Marathi, or Other Indic Languages (54.6%)
 - ❖ Chinese (including Mandarin, Cantonese) (53.2%)
 - ❖ Russian (52.2%)
 - ❖ Japanese (44.5%)
 - ❖ Vietnamese (43.5%)
 - ❖ Spanish (41.5%)
 - ❖ Tagalog (30%)
 - ❖ French (27.5%)
 - ❖ Gujarati (26.4%)
 - ❖ Polish (25.8%)
 - ❖ Arabic (24.1%)

* Source: <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/data/state-profiles/state/language/>SC (November, 2023)