

# Tennessee Demographics

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# Tennessee (2019)\*

- ❖ Total foreign born population – 373,472
- ❖ 5.5% of the country's ~ 6.8 million people are foreign born
  - 33% naturalized citizens
  - 29% legal permanent residents
  - 38% temporary visa holders or undocumented immigrants
- 134.9% rise in immigrant population from 2000 to 2019
- ❖ Length of time immigrants have lived in the U.S.
  - 36.3% entered before 1999
  - 31.8% entered 2000 - 2009
  - 31.9% since 2010
- ❖ 13.2% of children under age 18 have one or more immigrant parents
  - 85.3% of these children are native-born U.S. citizens

*\*Source: Migration Policy Institute Data Hub (April 2021) and Lawful Permanent Resident estimates MPI and DHS (2022)*

# Tennessee– Countries/Regions of Origin & Limited English Proficiency (LEP)(2018)\*

- ❖ Latin America – 46.5%
  - ❖ Mexico (24.2%)
  - ❖ Other Central America (14.1%)
  - ❖ South America (4.7%)
- ❖ Asia – 25.1%
  - ❖ Southeastern Asia (8.4%)
  - ❖ India (6.4%)
  - ❖ China/Taiwan (4.7%)
- ❖ Europe – 11.4%
  - ❖ Eastern Europe (5.1%)
- ❖ Africa – 9.5%
- ❖ Middle East – 4.6%
- ❖ Canada – %
- ❖ Oceania – 0.7%
- ❖ Language spoken
  - ❖ 7.6% of people in the state who speak a language other than English at home
  - ❖ 45.6% of foreign born persons are LEP - speak English less than “very well”

*\*Source: [Migration Policy Institute Data Hub](#) (April 2021)*

# Tennessee - Languages Spoken at Home (2019)\*

- ❖ Spanish (287,350)
- ❖ Arabic (25,793)
- ❖ Chinese (including Mandarin, Cantonese) (16,374)
- ❖ German (11,753)
- ❖ French (including Cajun) (11,182)
- ❖ Vietnamese (10,400)
- ❖ Thai, Lao, or Other Tai-Kadai Languages (9,618)
- ❖ Gujarati (8,788)
- ❖ Amharic, Somali, or Other Afro-Asiatic Languages (8,390)
- ❖ Korean (8,387)
- ❖ Yoruba, Twi, Igbo, or Other Languages of Western Africa (6,815)
- ❖ Tagalog (including Filipino) (6,087)
- ❖ Hindi (4,938)
- ❖ Russian (4,712)
- ❖ Urdu (4,475)
- ❖ Polish (including Farsi, Dari) (4,235)
- ❖ Swahili or Other Languages of Central, Eastern, and Southern Africa (3,676)

# Tennessee-LEP (2019)\*

- ❖ Limited English Proficiency (Speak English less than very well)
  - ❖ Naturalized citizens – 30.8%
  - ❖ Noncitizens – 56.9%
- ❖ Limited English Proficiency by language spoken at home
  - ❖ Amharic, Somali, or Other Afro-Asiatic Languages (58.6%)
  - ❖ Vietnamese (58.4%)
  - ❖ Chinese (including Mandarin, Cantonese) (57.1%)
  - ❖ Thai, Lao, or Other Tai-Kadai Languages (52.8%)
  - ❖ Korean (47.0%)
  - ❖ Gujarati (46.6%)
  - ❖ Spanish (45.3%)
  - ❖ Nepali, Marathi, or Other Indic Languages (44%)
  - ❖ Telugu (43.1%)
  - ❖ Arabic (42.7%)
  - ❖ Portuguese (35.4%)