

Iowa Demographics

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Iowa (2021)*

- ❖ Total foreign born population – 173,021
- ❖ 5.4% of the state’s ~ 3.2 million people are foreign born
 - 48.9% naturalized citizens
 - 32% legal permanent residents (as of 2019)
 - 19.1% temporary visa holders or undocumented immigrants
- 90% rise in immigrant population from 2000 to 2021
- ❖ Length of time immigrants have lived in the U.S.
 - 35.4% entered before 1999
 - 26.8% entered 2000 - 2009
 - 37.8% since 2010
- ❖ 12.8% of children under age 18 have one or more immigrant parents
 - 85.7% of these children are native-born U.S. citizens

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

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

- ❖ Latin America – 36.3%
 - ❖ Mexico (24.1%)
 - ❖ Other Central America (8%)
- ❖ Asia – 29.3%
 - ❖ Southeastern Asia (13.7%)
 - ❖ Eastern Asia (7.4%)
 - ❖ India (4.9%)
- ❖ Africa – 17%
 - ❖ Eastern Africa (5.3%)
 - ❖ Western Africa (4.6%)
- ❖ Europe – 11.2%
 - ❖ Eastern Europe (6.6%)
- ❖ Middle East – 2.5%
- ❖ Oceania – 2.1%
- ❖ Canada – 1.6%
- ❖ Language spoken
 - ❖ 8.6% of people in the state who speak a language other than English at home
 - ❖ 45.5% of foreign born persons are LEP - speak English less than “very well”

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

Iowa-Languages Spoken at Home (2021)*

- ❖ Spanish (128,039)
- ❖ Arabic (12,369)
- ❖ Yiddish, Pennsylvania Dutch or Other West Germanic Languages (9,904)
- ❖ German (8,100)
- ❖ Chinese (including Mandarin, Cantonese) (8,046)
- ❖ Swahili or Other Languages of Central, Eastern, and Southern Africa (7,663)
- ❖ French (including Cajun) (7,025)
- ❖ Vietnamese (5,250)
- ❖ Thai, Lao, or Other Tai-Kadai Languages (5,247)
- ❖ Yoruba, Twi, Igbo, or Other Languages of Western Africa (4,408)
- ❖ Nepali, Marathi, or Other Indic Languages (3,927)
- ❖ Amharic, Somali, or Other Afro-Asiatic Languages (3,923)
- ❖ Ilocano, Samoan, Hawaiian, or Other Austronesian Languages (3,572)
- ❖ Korean (3,216)
- ❖ Tagalog (including Filipino) (2,962)
- ❖ Telugu (2,001)
- ❖ Tamil (1,899)

* Source: <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/data/state-profiles/state/language/IA> (October 4, 2023)

Iowa-LEP (2021)*

- ❖ Limited English Proficiency (Speak English less than very well)
 - ❖ Naturalized citizens – 36.3%
 - ❖ Noncitizens – 54.5%
- ❖ Limited English Proficiency by language spoken at home
 - ❖ Ilocano, Samoan, Hawaiian, or Other Austronesian Languages (71.2%)
 - ❖ Vietnamese (67.6%)
 - ❖ Thai, Lao, or Other Tai-Kadai Languages (55.9%)
 - ❖ Swahili or Other Languages of Central, Eastern, and Southern Africa (52.1%)
 - ❖ Nepali, Marathi, or Other Indic Languages (46.9%)
 - ❖ Korean (46.7%)
 - ❖ Yoruba, Twi, Igbo, or Other Languages of Western Africa (46.1%)
 - ❖ Arabic (41.2%)
 - ❖ Tagalog (including Filipino) (39.4%)
 - ❖ Amharic, Somali, or Other Afro-Asiatic Languages (38.2%)
 - ❖ Spanish (37.1%)

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