

Kentucky Demographics

This project was supported by Grant No 15JOVW-21-GK-02208-MUMU awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this program are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

Kentucky (2021)*

- ❖ Total foreign born population – 182,011
- ❖ 4% of the country's ~ 4.3 million people are foreign born
 - 42.6% naturalized citizens
 - 33% legal permanent residents (as of 2019)
 - 24.4% temporary visa holders or undocumented immigrants
- 126.7% rise in immigrant population from 2000 to 2021
- ❖ Length of time immigrants have lived in the U.S.
 - 27.6% entered before 1999
 - 25.1% entered 2000 - 2009
 - 47.3% since 2010
- ❖ 9.3% of children under age 18 have one or more immigrant parents
 - 79.4% 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)*

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

- ❖ Latin America – 37%
 - ❖ Mexico (14.1%)
 - ❖ Other Central America (10.1%)
 - ❖ Cuba (7.4%)
- ❖ Asia – 27.7%
 - ❖ Southeastern Asia (9.9%)
 - ❖ Eastern Asia (6.9%)
 - ❖ India (6.3%)
 - ❖ Other South Central Asia (4.1%)
- ❖ Europe – 14.1%
 - ❖ Eastern Europe (7.6%)
- ❖ Africa – 14.1%
 - ❖ Middle and Southern Africa (4.3%)
- ❖ Middle East – 3.4%
- ❖ Canada – 2%
- ❖ Oceania – 1.6%
- ❖ Language spoken
 - ❖ 5.9% of people in the state who speak a language other than English at home
 - ❖ 48.1% of foreign born persons are LEP - speak English less than “very well”

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

Kentucky-Languages Spoken at Home (2021)*

- ❖ Spanish (114,915)
- ❖ German (10,923)
- ❖ Swahili or Other Languages of Central, Eastern, and Southern Africa (10,158)
- ❖ French (including Cajun) (9,790)
- ❖ Yiddish, Pennsylvania Dutch or Other West Germanic Languages (9,284)
- ❖ Arabic (8,264)
- ❖ Nepali, Marathi, or Other Indic Languages (6,213)
- ❖ Chinese (including Mandarin, Cantonese) (5,986)
- ❖ Ilocano, Samoan, Hawaiian, or Other Austronesian Languages (4,663)
- ❖ Vietnamese (4,041)
- ❖ Tagalog (including Filipino) (4,024)
- ❖ Hindi (3,437)
- ❖ Russian (3,376)
- ❖ Japanese (3,259)
- ❖ Korean (2,700)
- ❖ Telugu (2,636)
- ❖ Amharic, Somali, or Other Afro-Asiatic Languages (2,408)

Kentucky-LEP (2021)*

- ❖ Limited English Proficiency (Speak English less than very well)
 - ❖ Naturalized citizens – 30.4%
 - ❖ Noncitizens – 61.4%
- ❖ Limited English Proficiency by language spoken at home
 - ❖ Swahili or Other Languages of Central, Eastern, and Southern Africa (76%)
 - ❖ Vietnamese (55.1%)
 - ❖ Nepali, Marathi, or Other Indic Languages (55%)
 - ❖ Ilocano, Samoan, Hawaiian, or Other Austronesian Languages (50.2%)
 - ❖ Spanish (46%)
 - ❖ Yiddish, Pennsylvania Dutch or Other West Germanic Languages (45.9%)
 - ❖ Chinese (including Mandarin, Cantonese) (39.8%)
 - ❖ Tagalog (including Filipino) (37%)
 - ❖ French (including Cajun) (34.5%)
 - ❖ Arabic (30.3%)
 - ❖ German (27.6%)