North Carolina Demographics

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North Carolina (2024)*

- Total foreign-born population – 1,093,166
- 9.9% of the state's ~ 11 million people are foreign born
  - 42.2% naturalized citizens
  - 21% legal permanent residents (as of 2023)*
  - 37% temporary visa holders or undocumented immigrants
- 154.2% rise in immigrant population from 2000 to 2024
- Length of time immigrants have lived in the U.S.
  - 33.3% entered before 2000
  - 22.2% entered 2000 - 2009
  - 44.5% since 2010
- 21.9% of children under age 18 have one or more immigrant parents
  - 78.1% of these children are native-born U.S. citizens

*Source: Migration Policy Institute (MPI), Migration Data Hub, "State Immigration Data Profiles: Demographics (April, 2026).

North Carolina– Countries/Regions of Origin & Limited English Proficiency (LEP)(2024)*

- Latin America – 52.5%
  - Mexico (22.0%)
  - Other Central America (11.6%)
  - Caribbean (6.3%)
- Asia – 25.6%
  - India (10.5%)
  - Southeastern Asia (6.9%)
  - Eastern Asia (6.1%)
- Europe – 9.6%
- Africa – 7.8%
  - Western Africa (2.7%)
- Middle East– 2.3%
- Canada – 1.7%
- Oceania – 0.5%

- Language spoken
  - 14.4% of people in the state who speak a language other than English at home
  - 43.8% of foreign-born persons are LEP - speak English less than "very well"

Source: MPI Data Hub, "State Immigration Data Profiles: Demographics (April, 2026)

North Carolina-Languages Spoken at Home (2024)*

- Spanish (956,464)
- Chinese (including Mandarin, Cantonese) (45,075)
- Telugu (35,257)
- French (including Cajun) (32,728)
- Hindi (30,429)
- Arabic (29,266)
- Vietnamese (28,697)
- German (22,456)
- Russian (19,799)
- Tagalog (including Filipino) (19,204)
- Gujarati (18,763)
- Korean (16,322)
- Yoruba, Twi, Igbo, or Other Languages of Western Africa (15,351)
- Portuguese (14,870)
- Nepali, Marathi, or Other Indic Languages (14,808)
- Amharic, Somali, or Other Afro-Asiatic Languages (15,286)
- Tamil (14,652)

* Source: MPI Data Hub, "State Immigration Data Profiles: Language and Education (April, 2026)

North Carolina - LEP (2024)*

- Limited English Proficiency (Speak English less than very well)
  - Naturalized citizens – 27.4%
  - Noncitizens – 56.0%
- Limited English Proficiency by language spoken at home
  - Vietnamese (59.5%)
  - Korean (43.0%)
  - Spanish (41.9%)
  - Chinese (including Mandarin, Cantonese) (41.3%)
  - Russian (32.7%)
  - Arabic (31.1%)
  - French (including Cajun) (30.2%)
  - Gujarati (21.1%)
  - Nepali, Marathi, or Other Indic Languages (27.9%)
  - Tagalog (including Filipino) (24.2%)

* Source: MPI Data Hub, "State Immigration Data Profiles: Language and Education (April, 2026)