

Immigrants on Long Island

There are more than half a million immigrants living on Long Island, and they are a vital part of our communities and daily life

Fast Facts



El Salvador	13%
India	7%
Dominican Republic	6%
China	5%
Haiti	5%



1 in 5 Long Islanders are immigrants

The 5 most common national origins for immigrants

31 percent of children have at least one immigrant parent

3 in 4 immigrants are homeowners

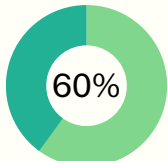
Immigrants are Fundamental to Long Island's Economy

Immigrants account for **22 percent of Long Island's economic output**, and 19 percent of the population. Of the \$112 billion in total earnings on Long Island, immigrants bring in **\$24 billion in earnings**.

How can the immigrant share of economic output be so high?



Immigrants make up 23 percent of people in the labor force, higher than the 19 percent share of the overall population. That is mostly due to age: Immigrants typically come to the United States in prime working age (16 to 64).



Immigrants work in jobs across the economic spectrum. In fact, most immigrants (60 percent) are in middle- or high-wage jobs, as are an even higher share of U.S.-born workers on Long Island.



Immigrants are business owners. The 23,000 immigrant business owners on Long Island make up 28 percent of business owners overall. And immigrants make up an even higher share, 40 percent, of "Main Street" business owners. Main Street businesses are storefronts like restaurants, grocery stores, beauty salons, and dry cleaners that give downtown areas their vibrancy.

Learning English

Nearly 80 percent of immigrants who live on Long Island speak English well or better. Within 5 years of arriving in the U.S., 60 percent of immigrants speak English well or better. That number jumps to 72 percent after 10 years, and 86 percent after 20 years in the U.S.

Documentation

There are an estimated 88,000 immigrants on Long Island without work authorization, accounting for 1 in 6 immigrants. Immigrants who are undocumented are severely limited in their abilities to advance in their jobs, yet they play an important role in the local economy, and across New York State contribute \$1.1 billion in state and local taxes.

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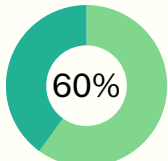
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