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Institute for
Immigration Research
Immigration Data on Demand Customized For You

## Immigrants in Berkshire County, Massachusetts

## Figure 1. Immigrants in Massachusetts



## 2016 NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

- 42,228,200: Approximate number of immigrants* living in the U.S. ( $13 \%$ of the population)
- 1,069,400: Approximate number of immigrants living in Massachusetts (16\% of the state's population)
- 7,700: Approximate number of immigrants living in Berkshire County, Massachusetts ( $6 \%$ of the county's population)
- 8th: Rank of Massachusetts among the 50 states and Washington, D.C. in terms of immigrants as a percentage of the state's population


## Immigrants in Massachusetts

Figure 1 shows how the immigrant population is distributed across the state of Massachusetts. The counties with the highest percentages of foreign-born residents are Suffolk (29\%), Middlesex (20\%), and Nantucket (18\%). Berkshire County (6\%) has the second lowest percentage of foreign-born in Massachusetts.

Figure 2. Educational Attainments of Immigrants
Foreign-born Individuals Age 25+


## Educational Attainments

Figure 2 shows that 36 percent of immigrants in Berkshire County hold a bachelor's degree or higher, which is the same as all other immigrants in Massachusetts.

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## Immigrants in Berkshire County, Massachusetts

## Figure 3. English Proficiency Rates Among Immigrants

## Foreign-born Individuals Age 5+



Berkshire County
Est. Pop. = 7,650


Massachusetts
Est. Pop. = 1,054,282

Not Proficient in English
$\square$ Proficient in
English

## English Proficiency

Figure 3 shows that 65 percent of immigrants living in Berkshire County reported they are proficient in English (speak only English or speak English very well) which is higher than all other immigrants living in the state of Massachusetts (57\%).

Figure 4. Employment Status of Immigrants
Foreign-born Individuals Age 16-65 in the Labor Force


Berkshire County
Est. Pop. = 4,722


Massachusetts
Est. Pop. = 675,232

## Employment Status

Figure 4 shows that 95 percent of immigrants living in Berkshire County reported they are employed, which is slightly higher than all other immigrants living in the state of Massachusetts (93\%).

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## Immigrants in Berkshire County, Massachusetts

Figure 5. Top 5 Occupation Groups Among Immigrants
Foreign-born Individuals in the Labor Force and Employed, Age 16+

| Occupation Group | Berkshire County | Massachusetts |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Food Preparation and Serving | $20 \%$ | $8 \%$ |
| Office and Administrative Support | $13 \%$ | $8 \%$ |
| Education, Training, and Library | $9 \%$ | $5 \%$ |
| Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance | $6 \%$ | $8 \%$ |
| Production | $6 \%$ | $7 \%$ |
| 20 Other Occupations | $46 \%$ | $64 \%$ |
| Estimated Immigrant Population | 4,898 | 648,245 |

## Occupations of Immigrants

Among the immigrants living in Berkshire County, Food Preparation and Serving occupations are the most common followed by Office and Administrative Support Occupations. While Education, Training, and Library Occupations are the third most common occupation category in Berkshire County, it is 10th among all other immigrants in Massachusetts.
_ Figure 6. Self-Employment
Foreign-born Individuals in the Labor Force and Employed, Age 16+
Berkshire County $\square$

Massachusetts $\square$
$7 \% 3 \% \quad 90 \%$

Self-Employed, Not-Incorporated
$\square$ Works for Wages/Salary

## Self-Employment

Figure 6 shows that 13 percent of immigrants living in Berkshire County reported they are self-employed, which is slightly higher compared to all other immigrants in Massachusetts (10\%). Among them, 4 percent of immigrants in Berkshire County are self-employed in their own incorporated business, professional practice, or farm.

## ABOUT THE INSTITUTE FOR IMMIGRATION RESEARCH

The IIR works to refocus the immigration conversation among academics, policy-makers and the public, including the business community and media, by producing and disseminating unbiased and objective, interdisciplinary academic research related to immigrants and immigration to the United States. The Institute for ImmigrationResearch is a joint venture between George Mason University and the Immigrant Learning Center, Inc. (ILC) of Massachusetts. To learn more about the Institute for Immigration Research call (703) 993-5833, email iir@gmu.edu, or visit us online at iir.gmu.edu.

## IMMIGRATION DATA ON DEMAND (iDod)

iDod
The iDod service is offered free of charge to help individuals and institutions examine the immigrant populations of their particular geography. Recipients of this data will see how immigrants provide vital contributions to the economy and society of the U.S. Ultimately, the goal of the iDod project is to create collaborations and connect people with data of interest on immigrant populations from their particular geographic region or economic sector.


[^0]:    All analysis in this fact sheet is based on source data from the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2012-2016 distributed through IPUMS-USA, University of Minnesota, www.ipums.org.
    *Please note that the terms "immigrant" and "foreign born" are used interchangeably throughout this fact sheet. Foreign born refers to individuals who are not a U.S. citizen at birth or who were born outside the U.S., Puerto Rico or other U.S. territories and whose parents are not U.S. citizens. The foreign born may include naturalized U.S. citizens, Legal Permanent Residents, temporary residents, refugees and asylees, and others. Additionally, native born includes those who are U.S. citizens at birth, those born in the United States, Puerto Rico, or other U.S. territories, and those born abroad to a parent who is a U.S. citizen.

