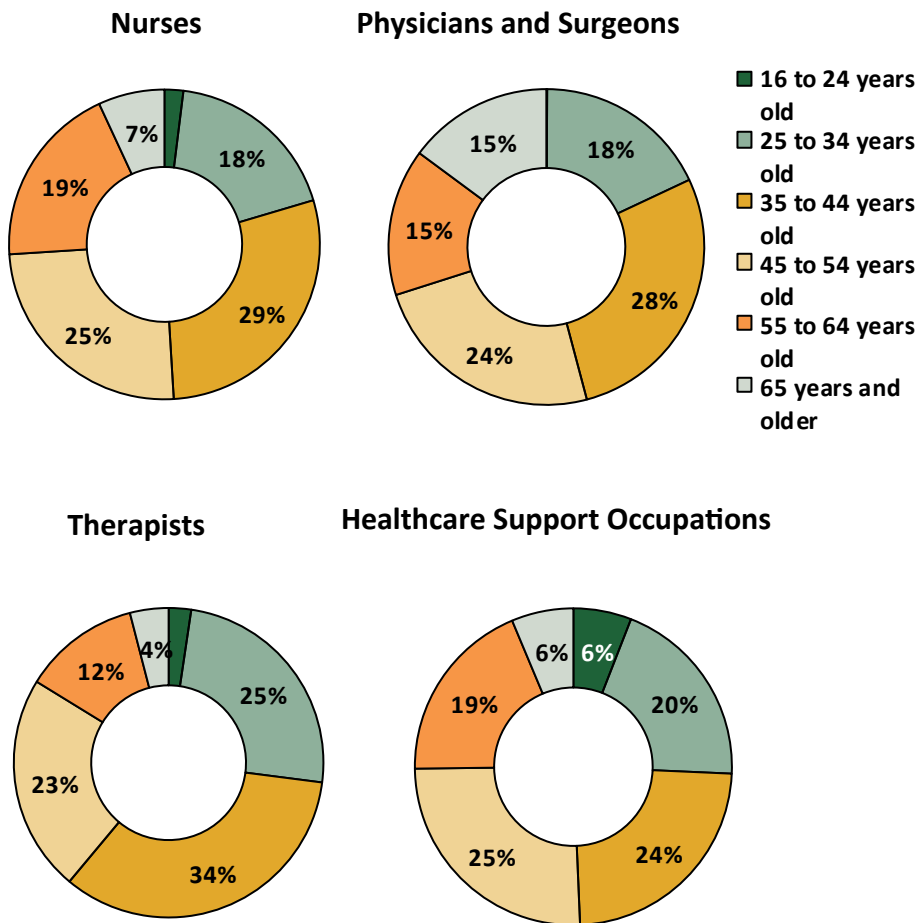


Immigrants in Healthcare Occupations

Figure 1. Age Distribution of Immigrants in Healthcare Occupations



2016 NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

- **642,300:** Approximate number of immigrant¹ nurses² (14% of all nurses in the United States)
- **273,200:** Approximate number of immigrant physicians and surgeons (28% of all physicians and surgeons in the United States)
- **83,700:** Approximate number of immigrant therapists³ (12% of all therapists in the United States)
- **829,500:** Approximate number of immigrants in healthcare support occupations⁴ (18% of all healthcare support workers in the United States)

Age

Figure 1 shows that immigrant therapists are much younger than other immigrant healthcare workers. Two out of three immigrant therapists are ages 25 to 44. The median age of immigrant therapists is 41, while the median age of immigrant nurses and healthcare support workers is 45. Immigrant physicians and surgeons are the oldest, with a median age of 46.

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, unless otherwise noted.

¹Please 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.

²Nurses includes registered nurses, licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses.

³Therapists includes occupational, physical, radiation, recreational, respiratory, and other therapists.

⁴Healthcare support occupations include healthcare aides, assistants, medical transcriptionists, veterinary assistants, phlebotomists, and other healthcare support workers .

Immigrants in Healthcare Occupations

 **Figure 2. Top Five Languages Spoken at Home by Immigrants in Healthcare Occupations**

Nurses		Physicians and Surgeons		Therapists		Healthcare Support Occupations	
English	26%	English	24%	English	24%	Spanish	31%
Filipino, Tagalog	24%	Hindi and related	19%	Filipino, Tagalog	18%	English	23%
Spanish	12%	Spanish	11%	Spanish	14%	French	9%
Sub-Saharan Africa	7%	Chinese	7%	Hindi and related	9%	Filipino, Tagalog	8%
French	6%	Dravidian	6%	Dravidian	5%	Sub-Saharan Africa	6%
53 Other Languages	25%	50 Other Languages	33%	46 Other Languages	30%	54 Other Languages	23%
Estimated Immigrant Population	642,307	Estimated Immigrant Population	273,179	Estimated Immigrant Population	83,722	Estimated Immigrant Population	829,512

Languages Spoken at Home

Nearly one out of three immigrant healthcare support workers speak Spanish at home. Approximately one out of four immigrant nurses, physicians and surgeons, and therapists speak English at home. Filipino, Tagalog is the most spoken language at home by immigrant nurses and therapists besides English. Hindi and related languages are the most spoken languages at home by physicians and surgeons besides English.

 **Figure 3. Race and Ethnicity of Immigrants in Healthcare Occupations**

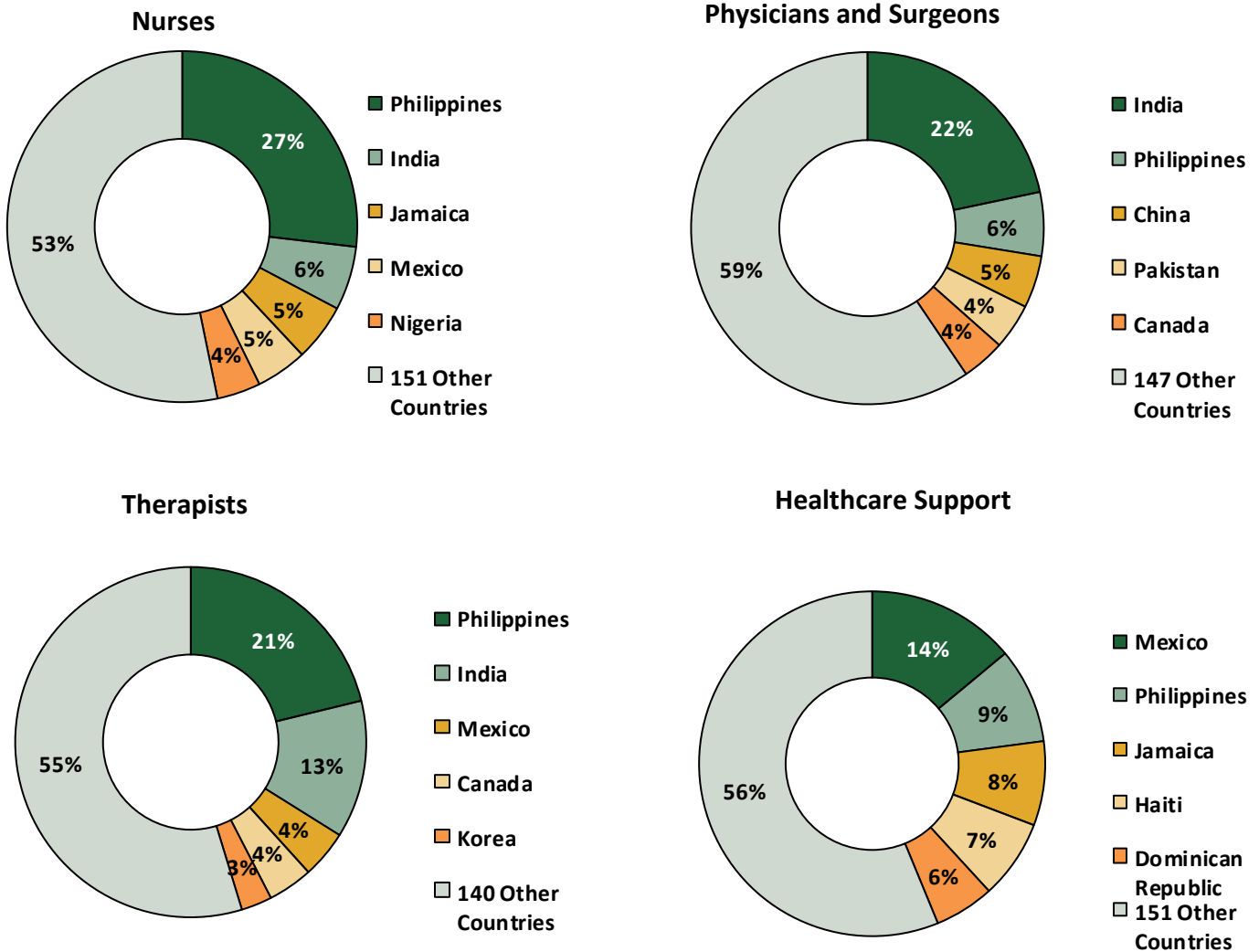
	Nurses	Physicians and Surgeons	Therapists	Healthcare Support Occupations
White	25%	37%	35%	32%
Asian	44%	52%	48%	21%
Black	25%	7%	11%	33%
Two or more races	2%	2%	2%	2%
Other race	4%	2%	4%	12%
Not Hispanic (any race)	87%	89%	84%	67%
Hispanic (any race)	13%	11%	16%	33%
Estimated Immigrant Population	642,307	273,179	83,722	829,512

Race and Ethnicity

Figure 3 indicates that there is a significantly higher share of immigrant nurses (44 percent), physicians and surgeons (52 percent), as well as therapists (48 percent) who identify as Asian compared to other race groups. One third of immigrants in healthcare support occupations identify as Black, and another third identify as White. More than four out of five immigrant nurses, physicians and surgeons, and therapists identify themselves as non-Hispanic, but one third of immigrants in healthcare support occupations identify themselves as Hispanic.

Immigrants in Healthcare Occupations

Figure 4. Top Five Countries of Birth of Immigrants in Healthcare Occupations



Country of Birth

Figure 4 indicates that more than one of four immigrant nurses are from the Philippines. More than one of five immigrant therapists are from the Philippines as well. More than one of five immigrant physicians and surgeons are from India. Six percent of immigrant physicians and surgeons, and 9 percent of immigrants in healthcare support occupations are also from the Philippines. Considering that immigrants from the Philippines are only 5 percent of all immigrants in the U.S., there is a disproportionately high percentage of them in healthcare professionals.

Immigrants in Healthcare Occupations

Figure 5. Distribution of Immigrants in Healthcare Occupations for Selected States

State	Nurses		Physicians and Surgeons		Therapists		Healthcare Support Occupations	
	Number of foreign-born nurses in the state	Immigrant nurses as a share of total nurses	Number of foreign-born physicians and Surgeons in the state	Immigrant physicians and surgeons as a share of total physicians and surgeons	Number of foreign-born therapists in the state	Immigrant therapists as a share of total therapists	Number of foreign-born healthcare support workers in the state	Immigrant healthcare support workers as a share of total healthcare support workers
Arizona	10,468	13%	4,683	25%	1,140	9%	10,507	14%
Arkansas	1,352	3%	912	16%	318	5%	1,199	3%
California	153,572	36%	41,064	37%	17,766	23%	148,366	35%
Florida	70,685	24%	22,005	37%	9,340	23%	95,474	34%
Illinois	28,878	16%	13,162	34%	4,799	16%	26,014	15%
Iowa	1,125	2%	1,675	19%	85	1%	2,269	5%
Massachusetts	16,231	14%	9,582	30%	1,621	8%	34,418	30%
Minnesota	7,065	7%	3,487	20%	813	7%	10,509	13%
Nevada	6,877	25%	2,105	31%	828	18%	6,162	22%
New Hampshire	1,384	5%	975	21%	145	3%	1,378	7%
New York	81,063	28%	30,955	38%	11,063	23%	193,419	49%
Pennsylvania	14,100	6%	12,542	26%	2,260	6%	17,978	9%
South Carolina	3,304	5%	1,332	12%	174	2%	1,827	3%
Texas	59,027	17%	21,250	32%	7,072	15%	61,100	17%

Occupations

Figure 5 shows that several states, California, Florida, Nevada, and New York have the highest percentages of immigrant nurses. New York, California, Florida, Illinois and Nevada have the highest percentages of immigrant physicians and surgeons. California, Florida, New York and Nevada have the highest percentages of immigrant therapists. New York, California, Florida and Massachusetts have the highest percentages of immigrants in healthcare support occupations.

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 valid, reliable and objective, multidisciplinary academic research related to immigrants and immigration to the United States. The Institute for Immigration Research 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 Immigration Data on Demand

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.