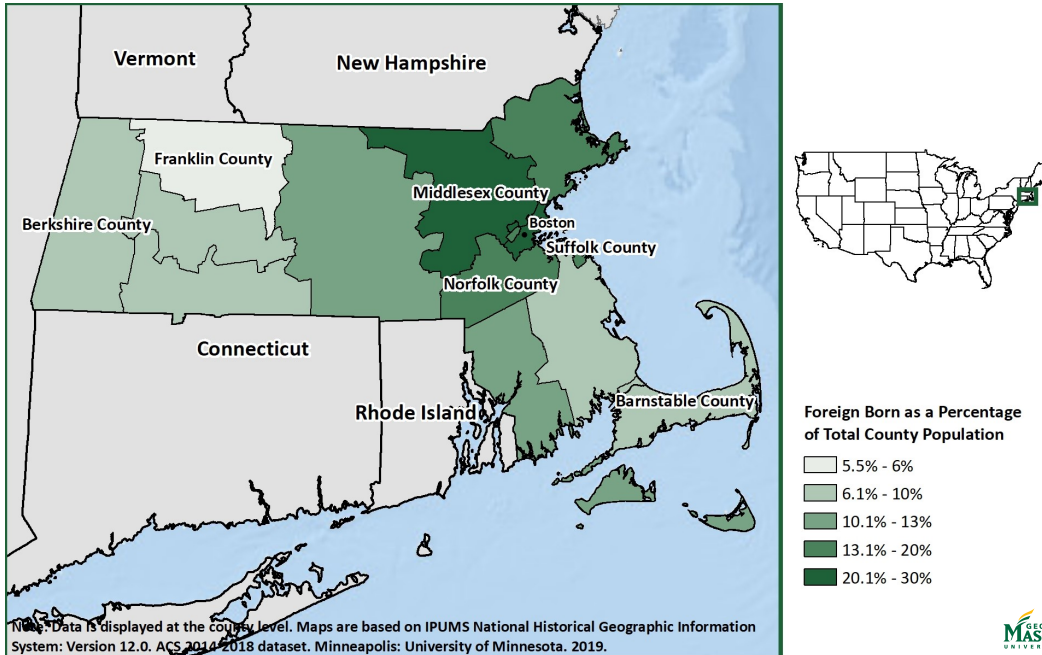


Immigrants in Massachusetts

Figure 1. Immigrants in Massachusetts



2018 NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

- **43,567,000:** Approximate number of immigrants¹ living in the U.S. (13% of the population)
- **1,130,000:** Approximate number of immigrants living in Massachusetts (17% of the state's population)
- **28%:** Estimated increase in the number of immigrants living in Massachusetts over the past 10 years
- **8th:** Rank of Massachusetts among the 50 states and Washington, D.C. in terms of immigrants as a percentage of the state's population

Distribution of Immigrants in the State of Massachusetts

Figure 1 shows where immigrants live in the state of Massachusetts. Suffolk County (29.8%), Middlesex County (21.0%), and Norfolk County (17.7%) reported the highest percentages of immigrants. Immigrants make up the smallest shares of the population in Franklin County, Berkshire County, and Barnstable County.

Country of Birth

Figure 2 indicates that immigrants in Massachusetts and the remainder of the United States come from a variety of countries. There are larger shares of immigrants from China, the Dominican Republic, and Brazil living in Massachusetts compared to the remainder of the United States,² which has higher shares of immigrants from Mexico. Nationwide, approximately 27 percent of immigrants are from Mexico, however Mexico is not even among the top five countries of birth in Massachusetts.

Figure 2. Top Five Countries of Birth Among Immigrants

Massachusetts		The United States, Excluding Massachusetts	
China	8%	Mexico	27%
Dominican Republic	8%	India	6%
Brazil	6%	China	5%
India	6%	Philippines	5%
Haiti	5%	El Salvador	3%
158 Other Countries	67%	161 Other Countries	54%
Estimated Immigrant Population	1,129,963	Estimated Immigrant Population	42,436,999

All analysis in this fact sheet is based on source data from the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2014-2018 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.

²All other immigrants in the United States excluding immigrants in Massachusetts

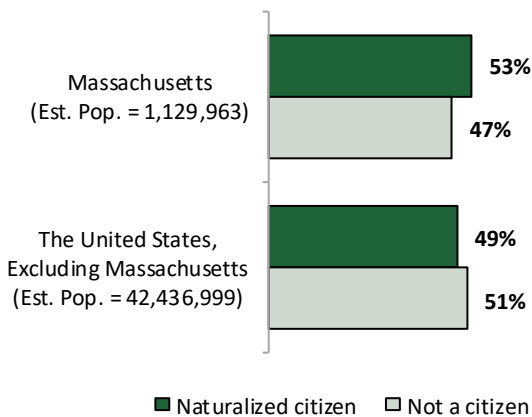
³A household includes all the people who occupy a housing unit. A native-born U.S. citizen household is defined as a household which is headed by a native-born U.S. citizen, regardless of the immigration status of the spouse. Conversely, an immigrant headed household is defined as a household which is headed by a foreign-born individual, regardless of the immigration status of the spouse. With regard to income, the total family income is used. This includes the total annual income of all family members in the household.

Immigrants in Massachusetts

Naturalization

Immigrants in Massachusetts are more likely to be naturalized U.S. citizens compared to immigrants living across the remainder of the United States (Figure 3). An estimated 53 percent of immigrants in Massachusetts and 49 percent of immigrants in remainder of the United States are naturalized citizens.

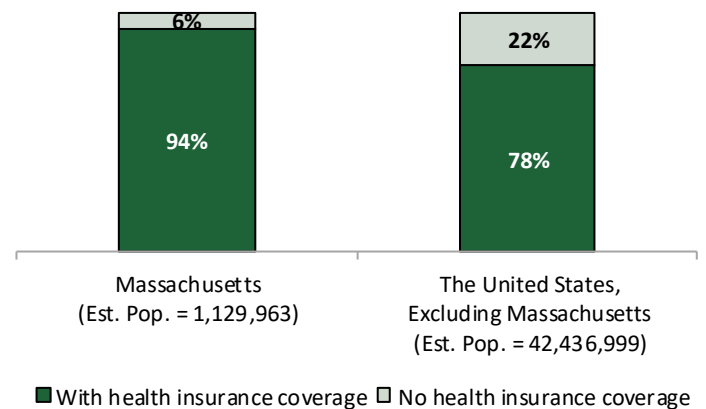
Figure 3. Naturalization Rates Among Immigrants



Health Insurance

Figure 4 shows that immigrants in Massachusetts are significantly more likely to report having health insurance compared to the remainder of immigrants living across the United States. An estimated 94 percent of immigrants in Massachusetts and 78 percent of immigrants in the remainder of the United States report health insurance coverage; a difference of 16 percentage points.

Figure 4. Health Insurance Coverage Among Immigrants



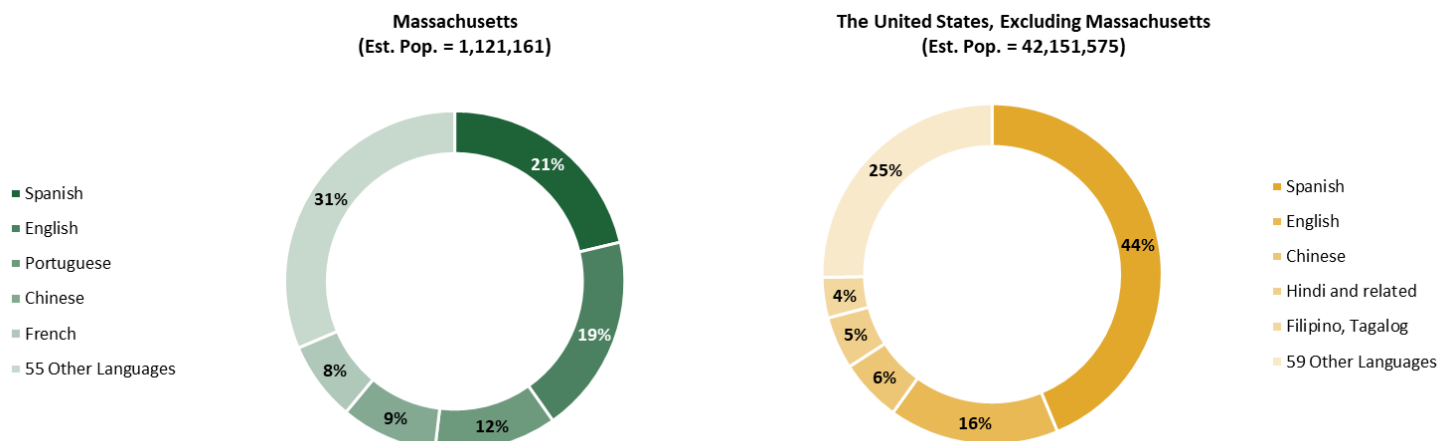
Languages Spoken at Home

The most common languages spoken at home among immigrants in Massachusetts and the remainder of the United States are Spanish and English, as shown in Figure 5. However, immigrants in Massachusetts are nearly half as likely to speak Spanish as a primary language at home and slightly more likely to speak English, Portuguese, and Chinese compared to the remainder of immigrants living across the United States. The differences in Spanish as a primary language at home is likely because there are fewer immigrants from Mexico living in Massachusetts relative to the remainder of the United States.

Figure 5. Top Five Languages Spoken at Home Among Immigrants

Foreign-Born Individuals, Age 5+

Language

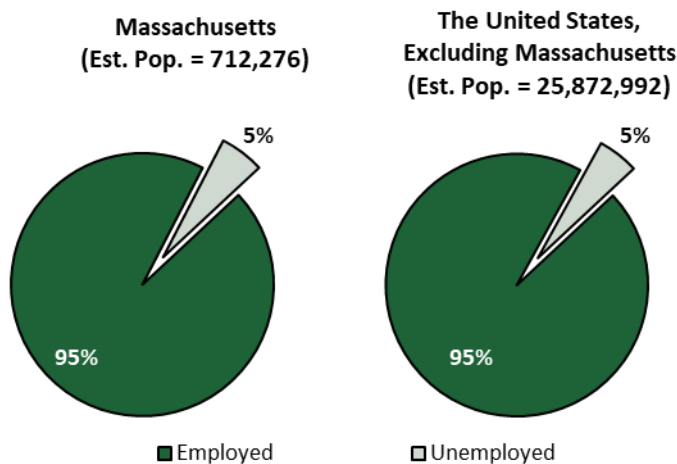


Immigrants in Massachusetts

Employment Status

Figure 6 shows that immigrants age 16 to 65 living in Massachusetts and the remainder of the United States report the same rates of employment. Ninety-five percent of immigrants in Massachusetts and the remainder of the United States report being employed.

Figure 6. Employment Status Among Immigrants
In the Labor Force, Age 16-65



Self Employment

Among those employed, immigrants in Massachusetts are slightly less likely to be self-employed compared to all other immigrants in the United States (Figure 7). Three percent of immigrants living in Massachusetts are self-employed, and incorporated, meaning they own their own business, and six percent are self-employed, and not incorporated, which may indicate they are independent contractors. In contrast, four percent of all other immigrants in the rest of the United States are self-employed and incorporated and eight percent are self-employed and not incorporated.

Figure 7. Self-Employment Status Among Immigrants
Employed and In the Labor Force, Age 16-65

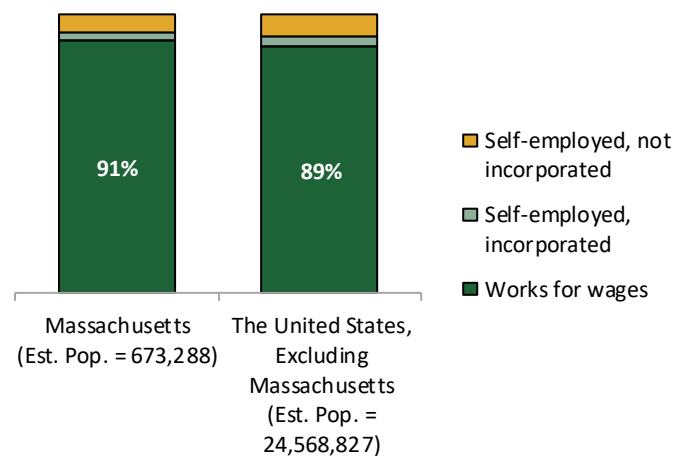
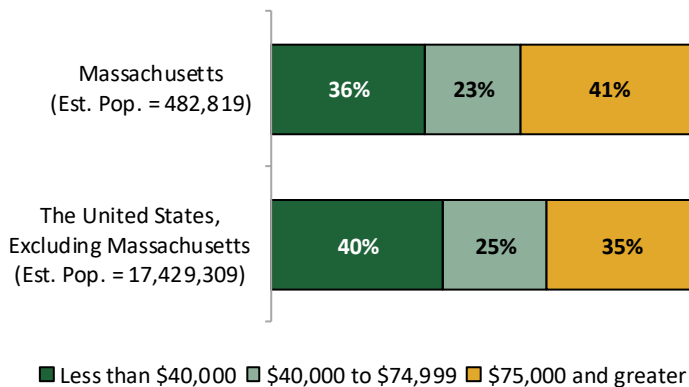


Figure 8. Household Income Among Immigrants



Household Income³

Immigrant-headed households in Massachusetts report greater family incomes than immigrant-headed households in the remainder of the United States (Figure 8). Immigrant-headed households in Massachusetts are slightly more likely to report family incomes of \$40,000 or more compared to immigrant-headed households in the remainder of the United States. Foreign-born headed households living in Massachusetts report greater median incomes (\$59,035) compared to immigrant-headed households living across the remainder of the United States (\$51,232).



Institute for Immigration Research

The Institute for Immigration Research (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, 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 Malden, MA.

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