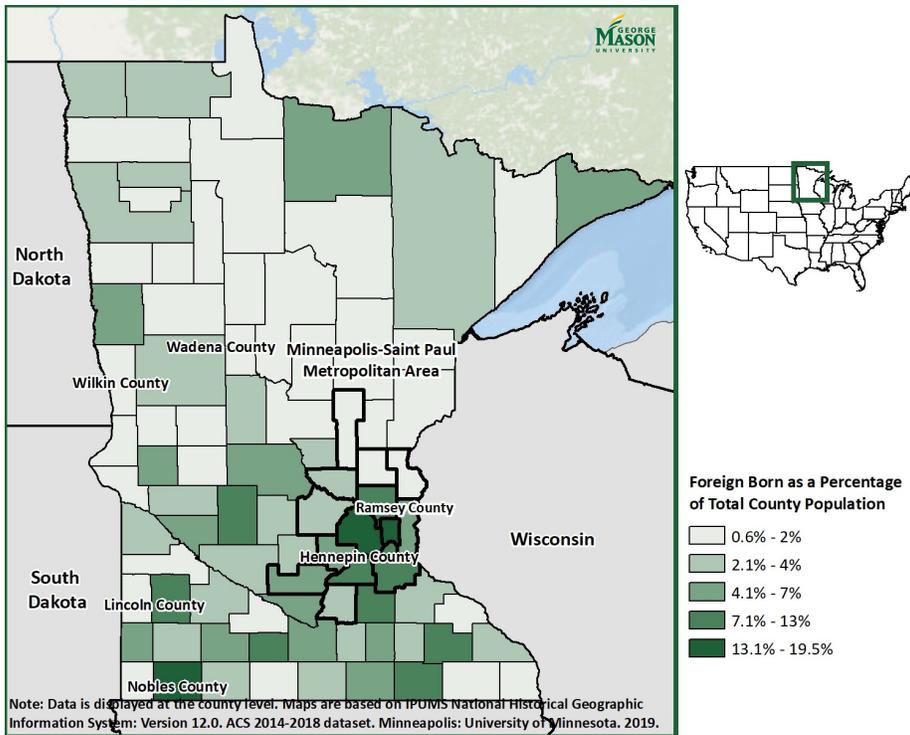


Immigrants in the Minneapolis Metropolitan Area

Figure 1. Immigrants in Minnesota



2018 NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

- **43,567,000:** Approximate number of immigrants¹ living in the U.S. (13% of the population)
- **459,700:** Approximate number of immigrants living in Minnesota (8% of the state's population)
- **372,600:** Approximate number of immigrants living in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area² (11% of the area's population)
- **35%:** Estimated increase in the number of immigrants living in Minnesota over the past 10 years
- **34%:** Estimated increase in the number of immigrants living in the Minneapolis metro area over the past 10 years
- **23rd:** Rank of the state of Minnesota 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 Minnesota

Two of the three counties with the largest shares of immigrants in Minnesota are in the Minneapolis metro area, as shown in Figure 1. Ramsey County has the second highest percentage of immigrants (15.6%) and has an estimated immigrant population of 84,379. Hennepin County has the third highest percentage of immigrants (14.1%) and has an estimated immigrant population of 173,980. Nobles County, which is southwest of the Minneapolis metro area, has the highest percentage of immigrants (19.4%), but only has 4,244 immigrants living in the county. Immigrants make up the smallest shares of the population in Wilkin County, Lincoln County, and Wadena County.

Country of Birth

Figure 2 shows that there are larger shares of immigrants from India, Laos, and Ethiopia in the Minneapolis metro area compared to the remainder of Minnesota.³ Immigrants in the remainder of Minnesota are more likely to come from Mexico and Canada. Somalia is also a top country of origin in Minnesota, and many Somalis are refugees. Minnesota has the highest number of refugees per capita nationwide and has been welcoming refugees since the early 1990s.⁴

Figure 2. Top Five Countries of Birth Among Immigrants

Minneapolis Metro Area		Minnesota, Excluding the Minneapolis Metro Area	
Mexico	13%	Mexico	19%
India	7%	Somalia	7%
Somalia	7%	Canada	5%
Laos	6%	China	4%
Ethiopia	5%	Guatemala	4%
145 Other Countries	62%	129 Other Countries	61%
Estimated Immigrant Population	372,587	Estimated Immigrant Population	87,105

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.

²Only includes immigrants living in the state of Minnesota and excludes immigrants living in Bloomington, WI, which is part of the Minneapolis metro area

³All other immigrants in Minnesota excluding immigrants in the Minneapolis metro area

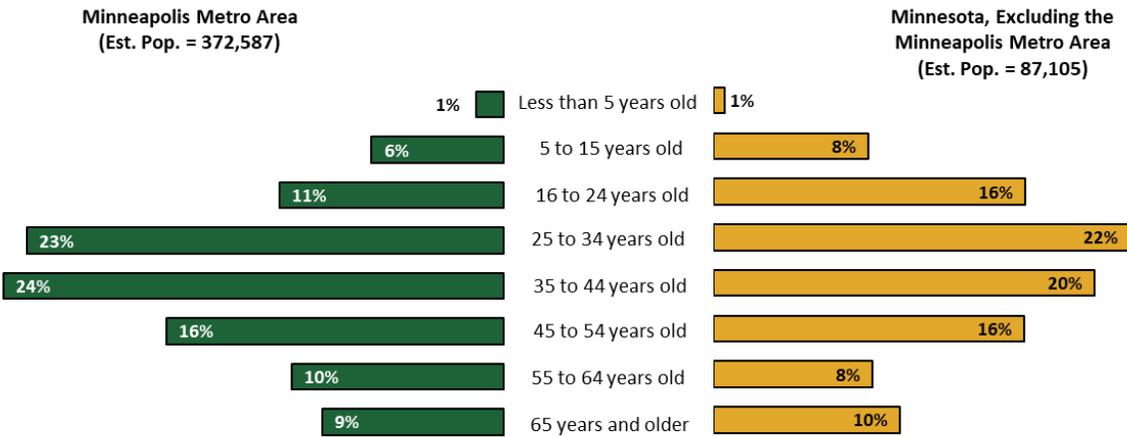
⁴Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota. 2018. Refugees Contribute Significantly to Minnesota Communities. Retrieved on August 3, 2020 from <https://bit.ly/30kZxoW>

Immigrants in the Minneapolis Metropolitan Area

Age

Figure 3 shows that immigrants living in the Minneapolis metro area report ages that are comparable to ages provided by all other immigrants in Minnesota, although there are slightly larger shares of immigrants in the Minneapolis metro area who are 35 years or older relative to all other immigrants in Minnesota. Additionally, the median age of immigrants in the Minneapolis metro area is 38, which is slightly older than the median age of all other immigrants living across Minnesota (37).

Figure 3. Age of Immigrants

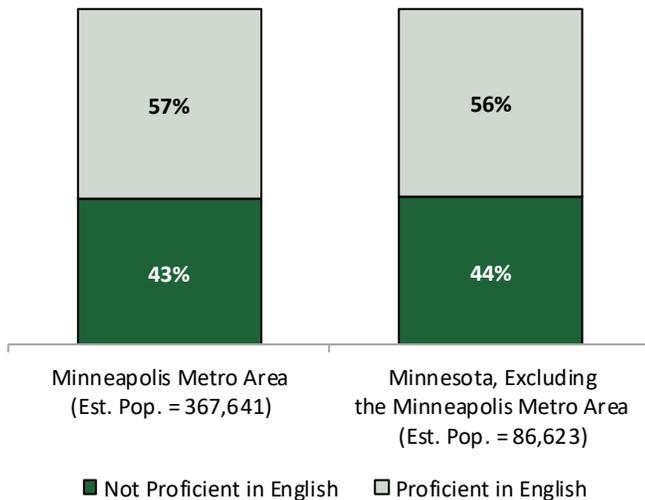


English Proficiency

Immigrants in the Minneapolis metro area report levels of English proficiency that are similar to the remainder of immigrants in Minnesota, as shown in Figure 4. Approximately 57 percent of immigrants in the Minneapolis metro area and 56 percent of immigrants in the remainder of Minnesota report being proficient in English (speak only English or speak English very well).

Figure 4. English Proficiency Among Immigrants

Foreign-Born Individuals, Age 5+



Languages Spoken at Home

English is the most common primary language spoken at home in the Minneapolis metro area while Spanish is the most common language spoken at home in the remainder of Minnesota (Figure 5). Immigrants in the Minneapolis metro area are less likely to speak English or Spanish compared to the remainder of Minnesota and are more likely to speak a Hamitic language, Tibetan, or Hindi as a primary language at home. These languages reflect the countries of origin in the two locations, as indicated in Figure 3.

Figure 5. Top Five Languages Spoken at Home Among Immigrants

Foreign-Born Individuals, Age 5+

Minneapolis Metro Area		Minnesota, Excluding the Minneapolis Metro Area	
English	20%	Spanish	29%
Spanish	19%	English	23%
Hamitic	11%	Hamitic	11%
Tibetan	8%	Chinese	4%
Hindi and related	4%	Sub-Saharan Africa	4%
48 Other Languages	38%	43 Other Languages	29%
Estimated Immigrant Population	367,641	Estimated Immigrant Population	86,623

Immigrants in the Minneapolis Metropolitan Area

Health Insurance Coverage

Immigrants in the Minneapolis metro area report the same proportions of health insurance coverage compared to the remainder of immigrants in Minnesota, as shown in Figure 6. An estimated 85 percent of immigrants in Minnesota report having health insurance coverage.

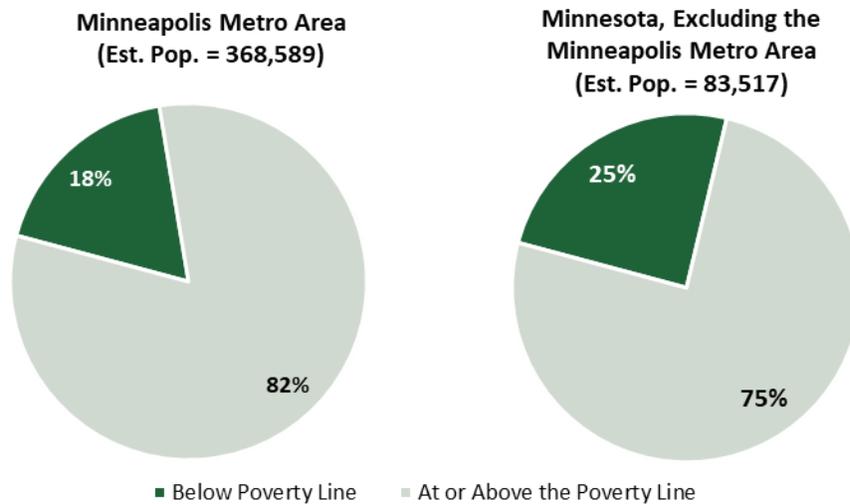
Figure 6. Health Insurance Coverage Among Immigrants

	Minneapolis Metro Area	Minnesota, Excluding the Minneapolis Metro Area
No Health Insurance Coverage	15%	15%
With Health Insurance Coverage	85%	85%
Estimated Immigrant Population	372,587	87,105

Poverty Rates

Figure 7 shows that immigrants in the Minneapolis metro area are significantly more likely to live at or above the poverty line compared to all other immigrants in Minnesota. Approximately 82 percent of immigrants in the Minneapolis metro area and 75 percent of the remainder of immigrants in Minnesota live at or above the poverty line.

Figure 7. Poverty Rates Among Immigrants





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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