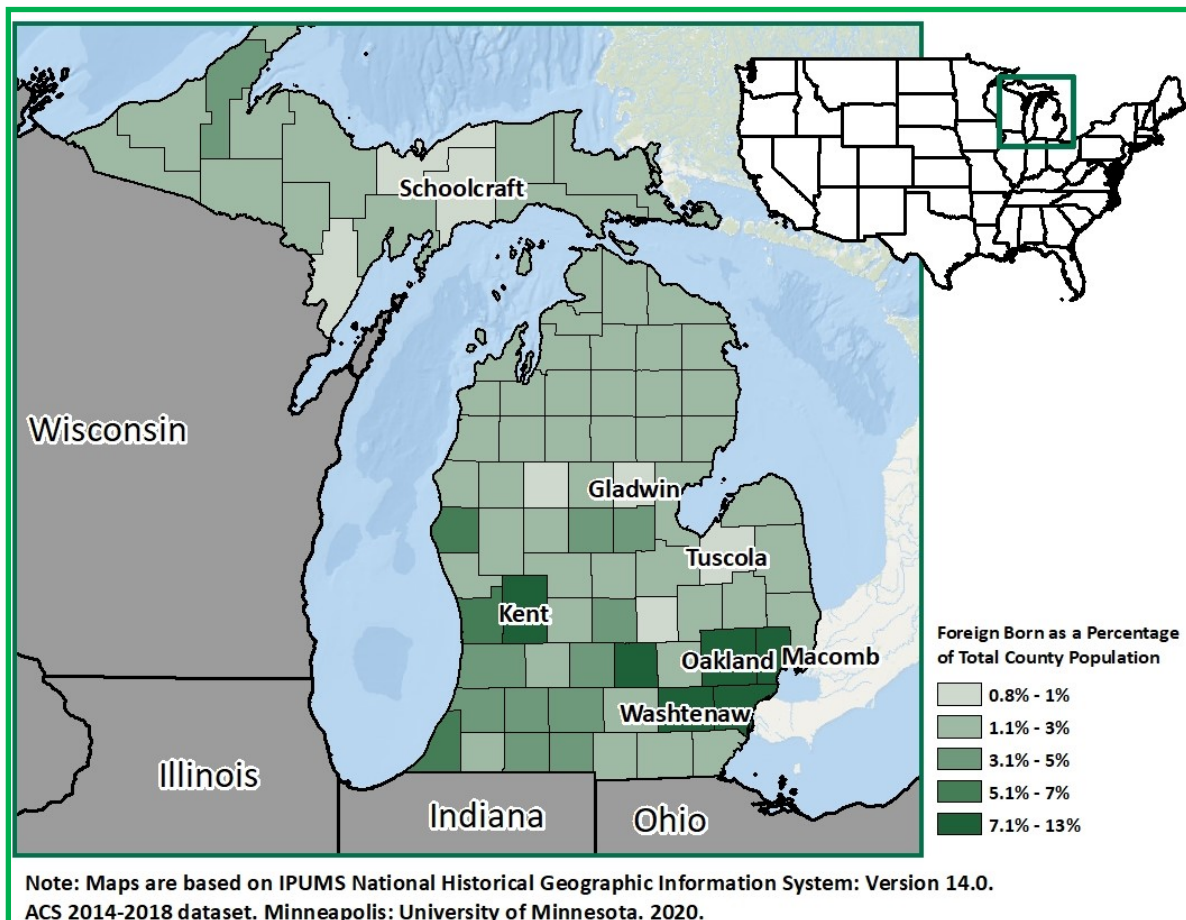


Immigrants in Kent County, Michigan

Figure 1. Immigrants in Kent County, Michigan



2018 NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

- **43,567,000:** Approximate number of immigrants¹ living in the U.S. (13% of the population)
- **679,500:** Approximate number of immigrants living in Michigan (7% of the state's population)
- **55,600:** Approximate number of immigrants living in Kent County, MI (9% of the county's population)
- **45%:** Estimated increase in the number of immigrants living in Kent County over the past 10 years
- **28th:** Rank of the state of Michigan among the 50 states and Washington, D.C. in terms of immigrants as a percentage of the state's population

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.

Immigrants in Kent County, Michigan

Country of Birth

Figure 2 shows that Mexico is the top one country of birth of immigrants in Kent County, MI and the rest of the United States. Immigrants in Kent County are also more likely to come from Guatemala and Vietnam compared to immigrants in the rest of the United States.

 **Figure 2. Top Five Countries of Birth Among Immigrants**

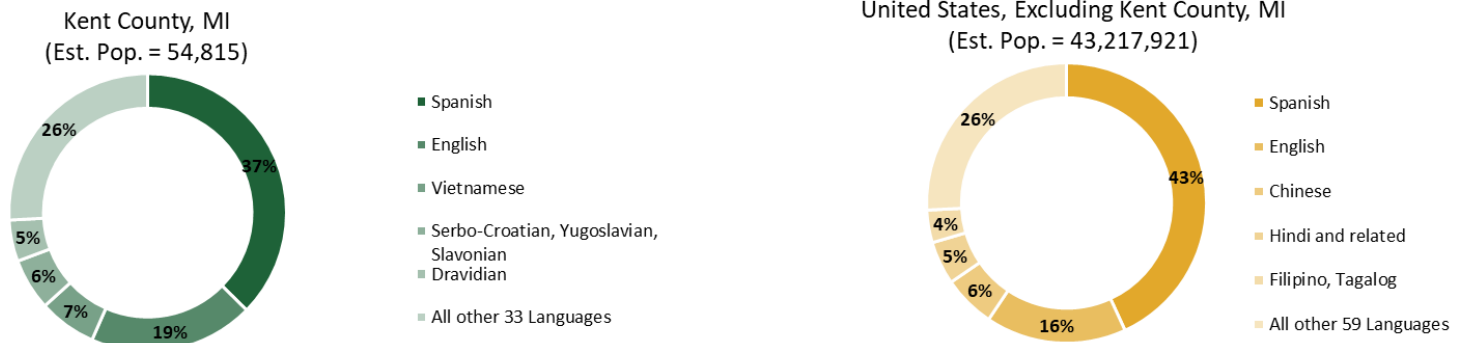
Kent County, MI		United States, Excluding Kent County, MI	
Mexico	21%	Mexico	26%
Guatemala	8%	India	6%
Vietnam	8%	China	5%
Bosnia	5%	Philippines	4%
India	5%	El Salvador	3%
97 Other Countries	53%	161 Other Countries	56%
Estimated Immigrant Population	55,595	Estimated Immigrant Population	43,511,367

Language Spoken at Home

English and Spanish are the top two languages spoken at home among immigrants in Kent County, MI and the rest of the United States, as shown in Figure 3. However, immigrants in Kent County are more likely to speak Vietnamese or a Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian/Slavonian language at home compared to immigrants in the rest of the United States. This is consistent with immigrants in Kent County, MI being more likely to come from Vietnam and Bosnia, as Figure 2 indicates.

 **Figure 3. Languages Spoken at Home Among Immigrants**

Age 5+

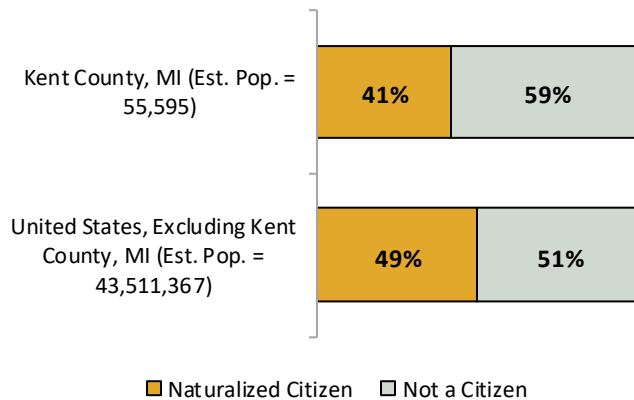


Immigrants in Kent County, Michigan

Naturalization Rate

Figure 4 indicates that immigrants in Kent County, MI are less likely to be naturalized citizens compared to the rest of the United States. Nearly half of the immigrants in the United States are naturalized citizens, as compared to 41 percent in Kent County, MI.

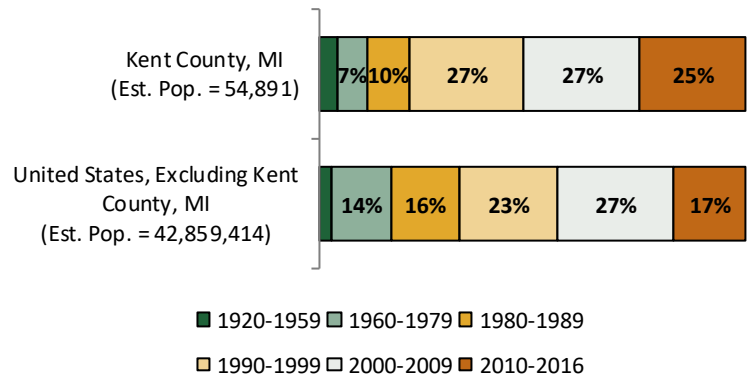
Figure 4. Naturalization Rates Among Immigrants



Year of Immigration

Figure 5 shows that immigrants in Kent County, MI arrived in the United States more recently compared to immigrants in the rest of the United States. More than half of the foreign born living in Kent County arrived in the United States after the year 1999. The median year of arrival for immigrants in Kent County is 2000, compared to 1999 for the rest of the United States.

Figure 5. Year of Immigration Among Immigrants



Poverty Rates

A majority of immigrants in Kent County, MI and the rest of the United States report living at or above the poverty line, as indicated in Figure 6. Immigrants in Kent County, MI report a slightly higher poverty rate (18 percent) compared to immigrants in the United States (16 percent).

Figure 6. Poverty Rates Among Immigrants

	Kent County, MI	United States, Excluding Kent County, MI
Below Poverty Line	18%	16%
At or Above the Poverty Line	82%	84%
Estimated Immigrant Population	55,156	42,955,253



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