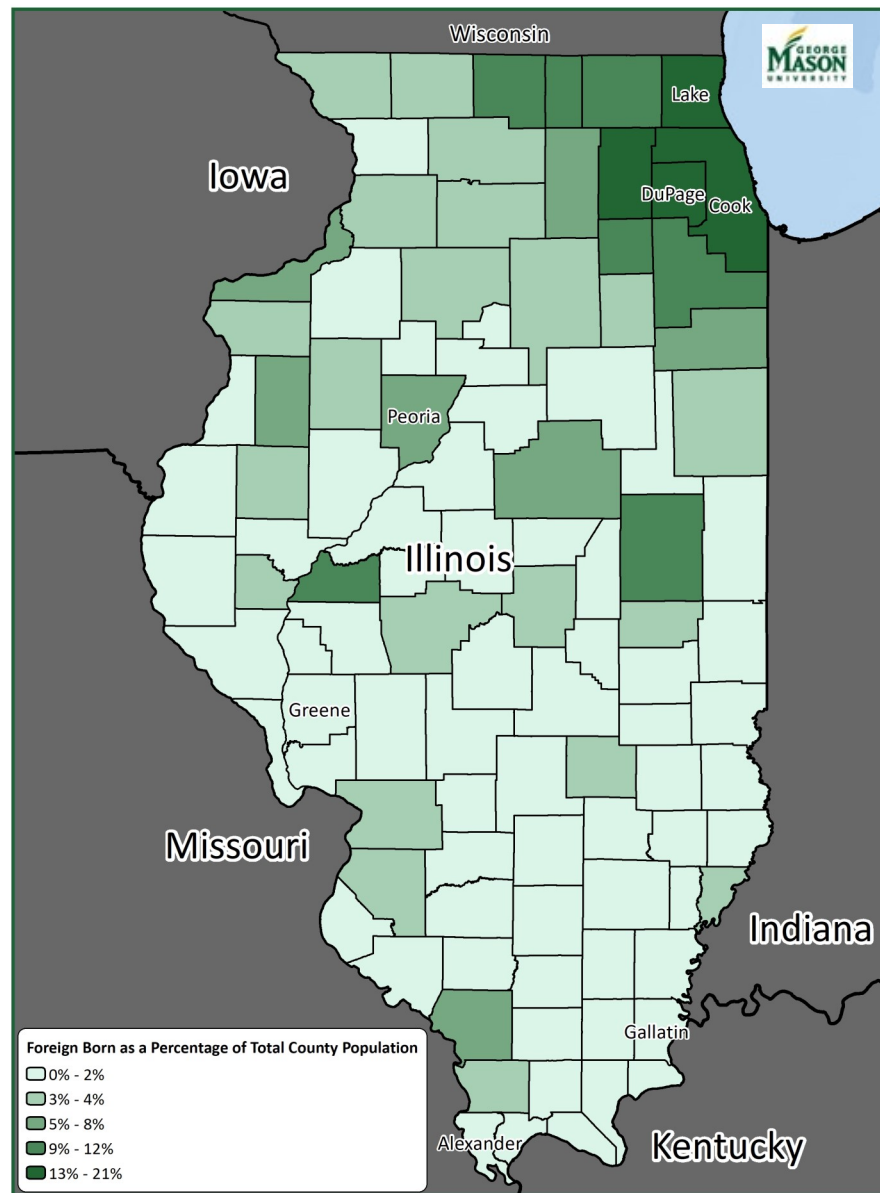


Immigrants in Peoria County, Illinois (IL)

Figure 1. Immigrants in Illinois



2020 NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

- **44,411,750:** Approximate number of immigrants living in the U.S. (14% of the population)
- **1,779,060:** Approximate number of immigrants in Illinois (14% of the state's population)
- **10,380:** Approximate number of immigrants in Peoria County, IL (6% of the county's total population)
- **7%:** Estimated increase in the number of immigrants in Peoria County over the past five years (i.e., 2015-2020)
- **13th:** Rank of Illinois among the 50 states and the District of Columbia in terms of immigrants as a percentage of the state's total population

Map Note: This data was prepared by the George Mason University Institute for Immigration Research (IIR). 2022. This data is displayed at the county level. Maps are based on IPUMS National Historical Geographic Information System: Version 16.0. ACS 2016-2020dataset. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota. 2022.

Distribution of Immigrants

The top three counties with the highest percentage of foreign-born residents are located in northeastern Illinois and include Cook (21%), Dupage (19%), and Lake Counties (19%). These three counties are all located within the bounds of the Chicago metropolitan area, which has been a traditionally popular immigrant destination for international immigrants. Notably, Cook County includes the city of Chicago, a city with a particularly rich history of immigration since the late 19th century. By contrast, the counties with the lowest share of immigrants are Alexander (.27%), Gallatin (.28%), and Greene Counties (.32%), three small counties in rural areas with few pull factors for immigrants.

All analysis in this fact sheet is based on source data from the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2016-2020 distributed through IPUMS-USA, University of Minnesota, www.ipums.org, unless otherwise noted.

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.

Immigrants in Peoria County, Illinois (IL)

 **Figure 2. Year of Immigration Among Immigrants**

	Immigrants in Peoria County, IL	All Other Immigrants in IL, Peoria County excluded
1930-1959	2%	3%
1960-1979	9%	14%
1980-1989	10%	14%
1990-1999	17%	26%
2000-2009	28%	25%
2010-2018	34%	18%
Estimated Immigrant Population	10,347	1,750,655
Median Year of Immigration	2004	1997

Figure 2 shows that immigrants in Peoria County, IL immigrated to the United States more recently than all other immigrants in Illinois. For instance, more than 3 in 5 (62%) immigrants in Peoria County arrived in 2000 or later, compared with 43% of immigrants elsewhere in Illinois. In the 20th century, only around a third (38%) of immigrants in Peoria County arrived to the U.S. between 1930 and 1999, compared with 57% of all other immigrants in the state. The median year of immigration, which is 2004 for immigrants in Peoria County and 1997 for all other immigrants in Illinois, further underscores the trend of Peoria County immigrants being more recent arrivals to the United States than their counterparts. This trend makes sense considering that Peoria County is a new and emerging immigrant destination that draws high-skilled immigrant workers to computer, engineering, and science occupations. Such immigrant workers are more than three times as likely to be employed in computer, engineering, and science occupations (32%) in Peoria County than in the rest of the state (9%). Additionally, immigrants who arrived to the County after 2000, are four times more likely to be employed in computer, engineering, and science occupations (44%), than all other immigrants in the state (11%). Given these trends in occupation, it is not surprising that 59% of immigrants in the County have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared with only 34% of all other immigrants in Illinois, individuals who are most likely to be employed in service occupations (21%) that require lower formal education credentials.

 **Figure 3. English Proficiency Among Immigrants**

Age 5+

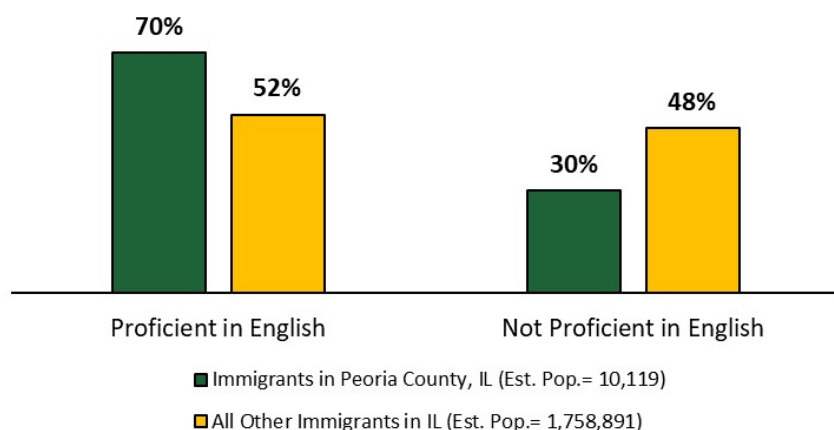


Figure 3 shows that immigrants in Peoria County are considerably more likely to be proficient English speakers (70%) than immigrants in the rest of the state (52%). Immigrants' English proficiency is affected by many factors, including education, age at arrival to the U.S., and the opportunities immigrants have to speak English. Compared to immigrants in other parts of Illinois, immigrants in Peoria County have higher levels of educational attainment, while the most recent cohort of immigrants (i.e., immigrated between 2010-2018) are more than twice as likely to be 15 or younger (28%) than all other immigrants in the state (13%). Additionally, immigrants in Peoria County are more likely speak English at home (19%), compared to all other immigrants living in Illinois (12%).

Immigrants in Peoria County, Illinois (IL)

Figure 4. Top 5 Countries of Birth Among Immigrants

Immigrants in Peoria County, IL (Est. Pop.= 10,383)

All Other Immigrants in IL (Est. Pop.= 1,768,680)



Immigrants in Peoria County are about three times more likely to be from India (30%) than all other immigrants in the state (9%). One factor that partially explains this trend is the County's large share of computer, science, and engineering workers (32%), 60% of whom are from India. On the contrary, immigrants in the County are three times less likely to be from Mexico (12%), than immigrants elsewhere in Illinois (36%). A partial explanation for this pattern is that other parts of the state attract a higher share of immigrants working in service occupations (21% to 15%), over half (51%) of whom are from Mexico, compared to less than a third (32%) in the County. The other three top countries of birth for immigrants in Peoria County include China (5%), Vietnam (5%), and the Philippines (5%), with Vietnam being the only one that does not fall among the top five countries of birth for all other immigrants in the state.

Figure 5. Household Income Among Immigrants

Head of household, Age 15+

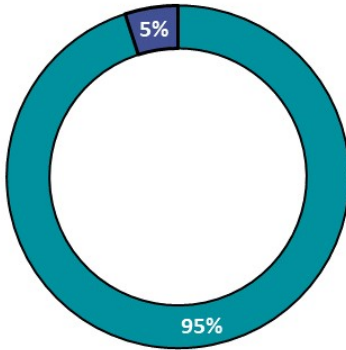
	Immigrants in Peoria County, IL	All Other Immigrants in Illinois
Less than \$40,000	23%	31%
\$40,000 to \$74,999	21%	26%
\$75,000 and greater	56%	43%
Estimated Immigrant Household Head Population	4,539	777,951
Median Income	\$85,559	\$64,942

Figure 5 shows that immigrant headed households in Peoria County are more likely to earn \$75,000 or greater (56%) than immigrants elsewhere in Illinois (43%). The median household income is \$85,559 for immigrants in Peoria County and only \$65,942 for immigrants elsewhere in the state. The County's highly-educated-and-skilled immigrant workforce may account for much of these differences in household income earnings.

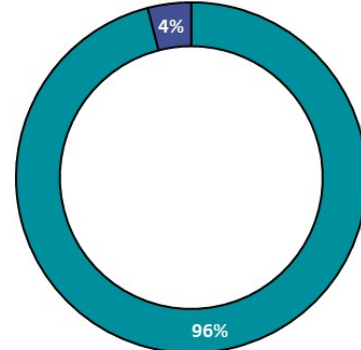
Immigrants in Peoria County, Illinois (IL)

Figure 6. Employment Status Among Immigrants

Immigrants in Peoria County, IL (Est. Pop.= 5,958)



All Other Immigrants in IL (Est. Pop.= 1,115,519)



Immigrants in Peoria County have nearly identical employment and unemployment rates compared to immigrants in other parts of Illinois, although immigrants in Peoria County are slightly more likely to be unemployed (5%) than their counterparts (4%).

For factsheets that examine populations at the household level, please note that a 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. For fact sheets that examine total household income, please note that the total annual income of all members in the household is included in the analysis. For fact sheets that examine personal income, personal income refers to total personal income earned on an annual basis.

For fact sheets that examine poverty status, please note that it excludes individuals who live in group quarters and those who are under the age of 18 with no family.

IIR fact sheets are created following standard definitions established by the U.S. Census Bureau. Please consult <https://www.census.gov/topics/> for clarification as to important distinctions such as those between industry and occupation.

Immigrants in Peoria County, Illinois (IL)



Institute for Immigration Research

Immigration Data on Demand (iDod)

The goal of iDod is to connect people with customized data about immigrants in particular regions or sectors of interest. This data provides insights into the vital contributions immigrants make to the economy and society.

The Institute for Immigration Research (IIR)

The IIR's mission is to produce valid, reliable, and objective multidisciplinary research on immigrants and immigration to the United States and to disseminate this information through peer-reviewed academic journals, as well as in print and digital formats that make this research easily accessible to policy-makers, the media, the business community, and the general public. 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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