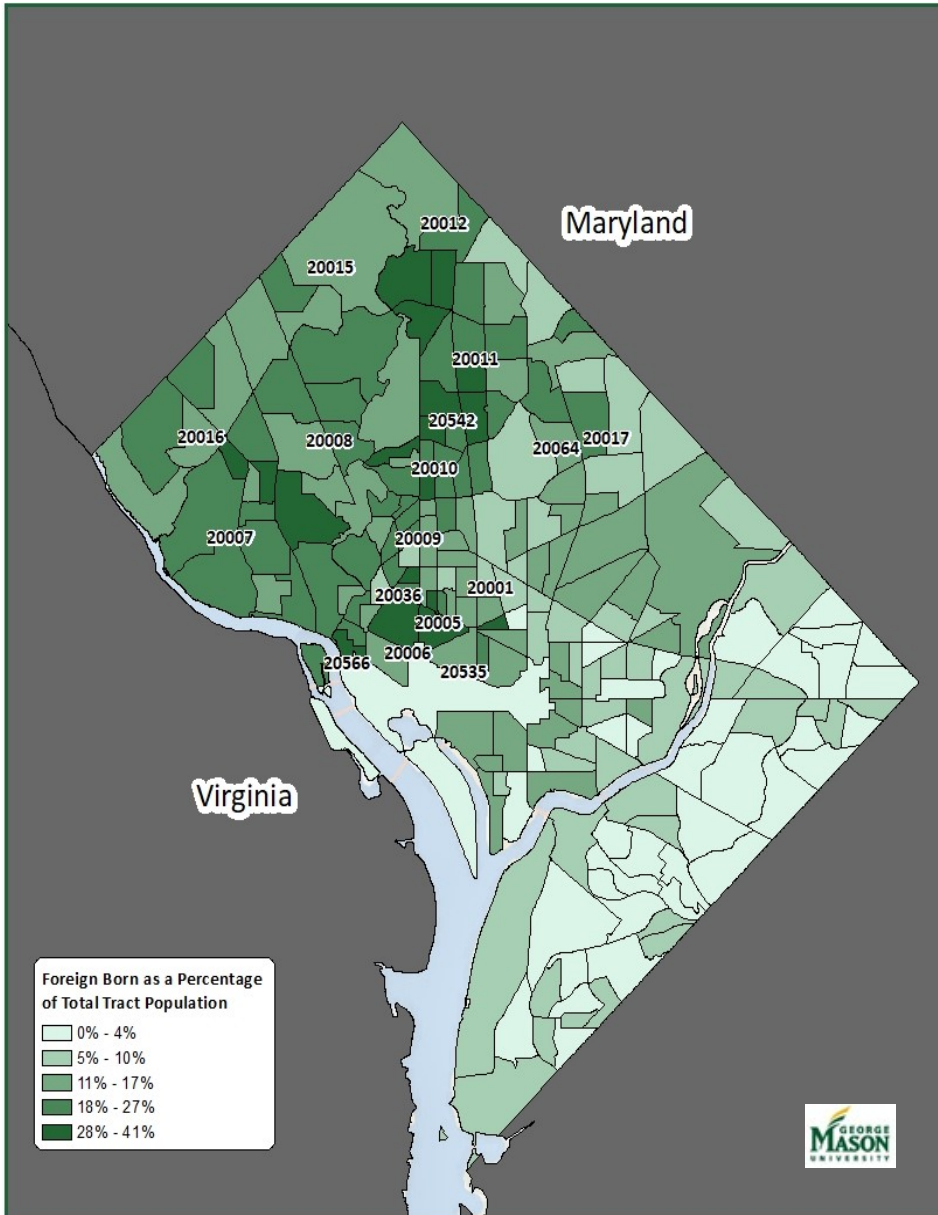


Immigrants Ages 16 and Older in Washington, District of Columbia

Figure 1. Immigrants in Washington, D.C.



2020 NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

- **44,411,750:** Approximate number of immigrants living in the U.S. (14% of the population)
- **95,820:** Approximate number of immigrants in Washington, D.C. (14% of the city's population)
- **91,350:** Approximate number of immigrants in Washington, D.C. ages 16 and older (16% of the city's population ages 16 and older)
- **10%:** Estimated increase in the number of all immigrants in Washington, D.C. in the past 10 years (i.e. 2010-2020)

Distribution of Immigrants

Figure 1 shows where immigrants reside throughout Washington, D.C. at the census tract level. The highest shares of immigrants are mostly located within the north and northwestern areas of Washington, D.C. Zip codes 20566, 20542, 20036, 20005, 20011, and 20064 are among the areas with higher concentrations of foreign-born residents. The locations of embassies and foreign government offices may contribute to foreign-born employment for at least some of these zip codes. The top occupations of employment for immigrants in Washington D.C. include: Service Occupations; Management, Business, and Financial Occupations; and Office Administrative Support Occupations. Accordingly, the higher concentration of foreign-born residents in this area is likely attributable, in part, to unique employment opportunities for foreign-born individuals in the nation's capital.

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

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.

Census tracts are uniquely numbered statistical subdivisions within counties.

Immigrants Ages 16 and Older in Washington, District of Columbia

Figure 2. Age Among Immigrants

	Immigrants in Washington D.C.
Under 16 years old	5%
16 to 24 years old	9%
25 to 34 years old	24%
35 to 44 years old	23%
45 to 54 years old	15%
55 to 64 years old	12%
65 years and older	13%
Estimated Immigrant Population	95,817
Median Age	40

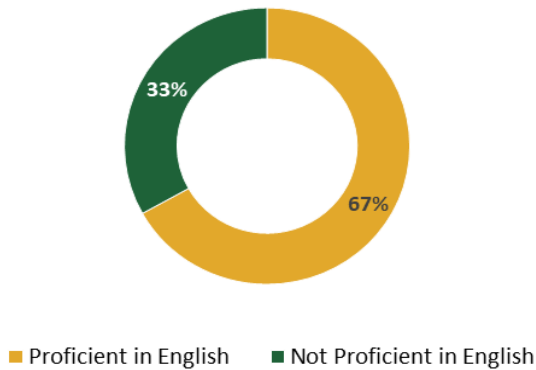
Age

As detailed in Figure 2, the proportion of immigrants in Washington, D.C. ages 24 or younger is only 14%, which is slightly higher than immigrants within this age range in the rest of the United States (12%). The median age of immigrants in Washington, D.C. (40 years old) is less than the median age of immigrants in the remainder of the country (45 years old).

Figure 3. English Proficiency Among Immigrants

Age 16+

Immigrants in Washington D.C.
(Est. Pop. = 91,345)



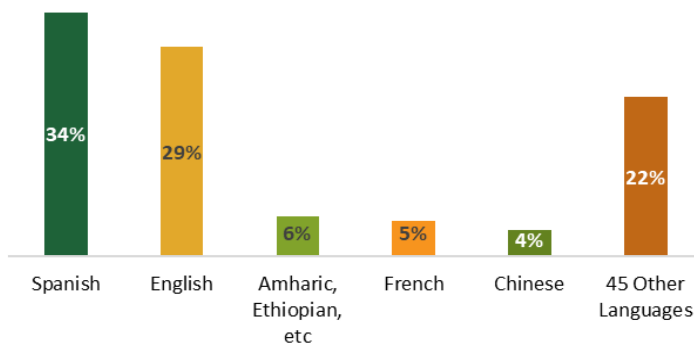
English Proficiency

As illustrated in Figure 3, the majority of immigrants in Washington, D.C. ages 16 and above are proficient in English (67%). In fact, a larger proportion of immigrants ages 16 and older in this area are proficient in English compared to those in the remainder of the United States (52%). This is true despite the fact that immigrants in Washington, D.C. ages 16 and above are more likely to be more recent immigrants than their counterparts in the rest of the United States. Specifically, 56% of immigrants in Washington, D.C. ages 16 and above immigrated to the United States in 2000 or later compared to 45% in the remainder of the United States. The median year of arrival for immigrants in Washington, D.C. ages 16 and above is 2001, and the median year of arrival for immigrants ages 16 and above in the remainder of the United States is 1998. The higher levels of English proficiency among the D.C. immigrants are likely attributable to the fact that this group tends to be more educated than their counterparts in the remainder of the United States as illustrated in Figure 6 below.

Figure 4. Languages Spoken at Home Among Immigrants

Age 16+

Immigrants in Washington, D.C.
(Est. Pop. = 91,345)



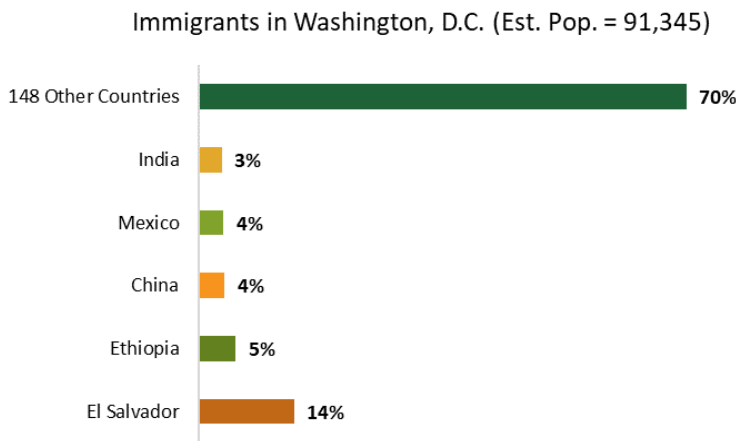
Languages Spoken at Home

Figure 4 displays the top five languages spoken at home among immigrants in Washington, D.C. ages 16 and above. Immigrants ages 16 and older in Washington, D.C. share the same top two languages (i.e., Spanish and English) with their counterparts in the rest of the United States. However, immigrants ages 16 and older in Washington, D.C. have a lower proportion of Spanish speakers (34% versus 42%) and a higher proportion of English speakers (29% versus 17%) compared with those in the rest of the United States.

Immigrants Ages 16 and Older in Washington, District of Columbia

Figure 5. Countries of Birth Among Immigrants

Age 16+



Countries of Birth

El Salvador, Ethiopia, and China are the top three countries of birth among immigrants in Washington, D.C. ages 16 and above. In the remainder of the United States, Mexico, India, and China are the top three countries of birth among immigrants ages 16 and above. About a quarter of immigrants in the remainder of the United States ages 16 and above were born in Mexico (25%) compared to 4% in Washington, D.C. Consequently, immigrants in Washington, D.C. ages 16 and above are more likely to identify as not Hispanic (63%) than those in the rest of the United States (56%). Additionally, immigrants in Washington, D.C. ages 16 and above are more than twice as likely to identify as Black (21%) than those in the remainder of the United States (9%). This is likely attributable to the fact that Ethiopia ranks among the top five countries of birth for immigrants ages 16 and above in Washington, D.C., whereas no African or predominantly Black countries appear in the top five countries of birth for the remainder of the United States.

Figure 6. Educational Attainment Among Immigrants

Age 25+

	Immigrants in Washington, D.C.
No High School Diploma	18%
High School Diploma	13%
Some College or Associate's Degree	13%
Bachelor's Degree	20%
Master's, Professional, or Doctoral Degree	36%
Estimated Immigrant Population	82,502

Educational Attainment

Figure 6 displays the educational attainment among immigrants in Washington, D.C. ages 25 and above (25 is the average age by which individuals are most likely to have completed formal education). These immigrants are much more likely to have attained a Bachelor's degree or higher (56%) than their counterparts in the rest of the United States (32%). On the other hand, immigrants in the rest of the United States are also more likely to have not completed a high school diploma (27%) than those in Washington, D.C. (18%). In line with these trends in educational attainment, immigrants in Washington, D.C. between ages 16 and 65 are less likely to earn a personal income of \$40,000 or below (24% versus 45%), and more likely to earn an income of \$75,000 or greater (47% versus 26%) than their counterparts in the rest of the United States.

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 Ages 16 and Older in Washington, District of Columbia



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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