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Fact Sheet on the Foreign Born

Demographic & Social Characteristics



Texas

Rankings

The following shows Texas' rankings in several categories. All rankings include the 50 states and the District of Columbia and are ranked highest to lowest.

	<u>Rankings</u>
Size of the foreign-born population, 2006:	3 out of 51
Percent foreign born in the total population, 2006:	7 out of 51
Numeric change in the foreign-born population, 2000 to 2006:	2 out of 51
Percent change in the foreign-born population, 2000 to 2006:	22 out of 51

Selected Highlights:

The following describes selected characteristics of the foreign-born population in Texas in 2006. For more in-depth data, see the [detailed tables](#) below.

The foreign-born population of Texas changed by 29.0 percent between 2000 and 2006.

Between 2000 and 2006, the foreign-born population in Texas changed from 2,899,642 to 3,740,667, representing a change of 29.0 percent. In comparison, the foreign-born population changed from 1,524,436 to 2,899,642 between 1990 and 2000, a difference of 90.2 percent.

At the national level, the foreign-born population increased from 19,767,316 to 31,107,889 between 1990 and 2000, representing a change of 57.4 percent, and grew from 31,107,889 to 37,547,789 (20.7 percent) between 2000 and 2006.

In 2006, the foreign born represented 15.9 percent of Texas' total population.

In 2006, 15.9 percent of Texas' total population were foreign born, compared with 13.9 percent in 2000 and 9.0 percent in 1990.

Important Note on Who Is Included in This Fact Sheet

Unlike in previous years, the 2006 American Community Survey (ACS) included individuals in both households and group quarters, thereby providing information on the entire US population.

At the national level, the foreign-born population represented 12.5 percent of the total population in 2006, compared to 11.1 percent in 2000 and 7.9 percent in 1990.

Of the total foreign-born population in Texas, 32.8 percent entered during the 1990s, and 27.1 percent entered in 2000 or later.

Of the foreign-born population resident in Texas in 2006, 19.3 percent entered the country prior to 1980, 20.8 percent between 1980 and 1989, 32.8 percent between 1990 and 1999, and 27.1 percent in 2000 or later.

Nationally, 23.1 percent of the foreign-born population entered the country before 1980, 21.1 percent during the 1980s, 30.5 percent during the 1990s, and 25.3 percent in 2000 or later.

The largest share of the foreign-born population in Texas were from Latin America.

Of the total foreign-born population in Texas in 2006, 2.9 percent were from Africa, 16.6 percent from Asia, 4.5 percent from Europe, 74.6 percent from Latin America (South America, Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean), 1.2 percent from Northern America (Canada, Bermuda, Greenland, and St. Pierre and Miquelon), and 0.2 percent from Oceania.

At the national level, 3.7 percent were from Africa, 26.8 percent from Asia, 13.3 percent from Europe, 53.5 percent from Latin America, 2.3 percent from Northern America, and 0.5 percent from Oceania.

Who are the foreign born?

The term *foreign born* refers to people residing in the United States at the time of the census, who were not United States citizens at birth. The foreign-born population includes naturalized citizens, lawful permanent immigrants, refugees and asylees, legal nonimmigrants (including those on student, work, or other temporary visas), and persons residing in the country without authorization. By comparison, the term *native* refers to people residing in the United States who were US citizens in one of three categories: 1) people born in one of the 50 states or the District of Columbia; 2) people born in United States Insular Areas such as Puerto Rico or Guam; or 3) people who were born abroad to at least one US citizen parent.

The top three countries of birth of the foreign born in Texas were Mexico, El Salvador, and Vietnam.*

Of the total foreign-born population in Texas in 2006, 62.5 percent were born in Mexico, 4.2 percent in El Salvador, and 3.5 percent in Vietnam.

At the national level, the top three countries of birth were Mexico (30.7 percent), China (5.1 percent), and the Philippines (4.4 percent).

*Note: These are the largest countries of birth reported by the Census Bureau. Some countries are only listed as part of a larger geographic region. For example, those born in Somalia are included only among those born in Eastern Africa. Therefore, a few states may have larger populations of foreign-born persons born in countries not listed individually in census data.

In Texas, 30.6 percent of the foreign born were citizens in 2006.

The 2006 American Community Survey reported that 1,144,585, or 30.6 percent, of the foreign-born population in Texas were citizens, compared to 914,326, or 31.5 percent, in 2000. This represents a change of 25.2 percent in the size of the foreign-born citizen population between 2000 and 2006.

Nationally, 40.3 percent of the foreign-born population were citizens in 2000, and 42.0 percent were citizens in 2006.

In Texas, 66.2 percent of the foreign born who entered before 1980 were citizens, compared to 4.8 percent of those who entered in 2000 or later.

Among the foreign-born population in Texas in 2006, 66.2 percent of those who entered the United States before 1980 were citizens, as were 46.2 percent who entered during the 1980s, 21 percent who entered during the 1990s, and 4.8 percent of those who entered in 2000 or later.

Nationally, 78.2 percent of the foreign-born population who entered the United States before 1980 were citizens, as were 57.9 percent who entered during the 1980s, 32.5 percent who entered during the 1990s, and 7.2 percent of those who entered in 2000 or later.

In Texas, 47.7 percent of the foreign-born population were female in 2006, and 52.3 percent male.

Of the total foreign-born population in Texas in 2006, 47.7 percent were female and 52.3 percent male, compared to 50.7 percent female and 49.3 percent male among the native born.

At the national level, 49.7 percent of the foreign born were female and 50.3 percent male.

The foreign born made up 1.9 percent of young children in Texas, 7.1 percent of youths, 23.6 percent of working-age adults, and 13.7 percent of seniors.

In 2006, 1.9 percent of Texas' population younger than age 5 were born abroad as were 7.1 percent of those 5 to 17; 15.9 percent of those 18 to 24; 23.6 percent of those aged 25 to 54; and 13.7 percent of seniors 55 and older.

Nationally, 1.6 percent of those under age 5 were foreign born, as well as 5.1 percent of those 5 to 17; 12.1 percent of those 18 to 24; 17.8 percent of those 25 to 54; and 12.1 percent of those 55 and older.

Of the foreign-born population in Texas, 9.7 percent were minors, 63.4 percent were of working age, and 16.5 percent were seniors.

In 2006, 1 percent of the foreign-born population in Texas were under the age of 5; 8.7 percent were 5 to 17; 10.4 percent were 18 to 24; 63.4 percent were 25 to 54; and 16.5 percent were 55 or older. Among the native-born population in Texas, 9.5 percent were under the age of 5; 21.5 percent were between 5 and 17; 10.4 percent were 18 to 24; 38.9 percent were 25 to 54; and 19.6 percent were 55 or older.

At the national level, 0.8 percent of the foreign-born population were under 5; 7.3 percent were 5 to 17; 9.6 percent were 18 to 24; 60.2 percent were 25 to 54; and 22.1 percent were 55 or older.

In Texas, 14.9 percent of the foreign-born population were Asian, 3.4 percent were black or African American, and 51.6 percent were white.

Of the foreign born in Texas in 2006, 51.6 percent reported their race as white alone, 3.4 percent as black or African American alone, 14.9 percent as Asian alone, and 29.1 percent as some other race; 1 percent reported having two or more races. Among the native-born population in Texas, 73.2 percent reported their race as white alone, 13.1 percent as black or African American alone, 1.2 percent as Asian alone, 10.6 percent as some other race, and 1.9 percent as having two or more races.

At the national level, 45.3 percent of the foreign born reported their race as white alone, 7.8 percent as black or African American alone, 23.4 percent as Asian alone, and 22.2 percent as some other race; 1.2 percent reported having two or more races.

Of the foreign born in Texas, 73.8 percent reported Hispanic or Latino origins.

In Texas, 73.8 percent of the foreign born reported Hispanic or Latino origins, compared to 29.2 percent of the native born.

At the national level, 47.8 percent of the foreign born reported a Hispanic or Latino origin.

The average household size of the foreign-born population in Texas in 2006 was 3.88 persons for those who owned their own homes and 3.24 persons for those who rented.

The average household size of the foreign-born population in Texas who owned their own homes was 3.88 persons, while the average household size of those renting their homes was 3.24 persons. Among the native-born population in Texas, the average household size of those who owned their own homes was 2.78 persons, while the average household size of those who rented their homes was 2.4 persons.

The share of households headed by a foreign-born person with more than one occupant per room was 14.5 percent.

Of all households in Texas headed by a foreign-born person, 14.5 percent were households in which the number of household members exceeded the number of rooms in the house. Among households in Texas headed by native-born persons, 2.7 percent had more people than rooms in the house.

At the national level, 11.8 percent of households headed by a foreign-born person had more than one

occupant per room.

In 2006, 8.2 percent of foreign-born women in Texas had given birth in the previous year. Of the foreign-born women in Texas in 2006, 8.2 percent had given birth in the previous year. Of those who had given birth, 76.3 percent were married, and 23.7 percent were not married (including those who were divorced or widowed). Among native-born women in Texas, 5.9 percent had given birth in the previous year. Of those, 64.7 percent were married and 35.3 percent unmarried.

At the national level, 7.1 percent of foreign-born women had given birth in the previous year, including 77.2 percent who were married and 22.8 percent who were unmarried.

Table 1. Foreign-Born Population and World Region of Birth (1990, 2000, and 2006)

	1990		2000		2006	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Population of Texas¹	16,986,510	100.0	20,851,820	100.0	23,507,783	100.0
Native born	15,462,074	91.0	17,952,178	86.1	19,767,116	84.1
Foreign born	1,524,436	9.0	2,899,642	13.9	3,740,667	15.9
Not a citizen	1,009,246	5.9	1,985,316	9.5	2,596,082	11.0
Naturalized citizen	515,190	3.0	914,326	4.4	1,144,585	4.9
Foreign-Born Population of Texas²	1,469,947	100.0	2,899,640	100.0	3,740,667	100.0
Born in Europe	110,391	7.5	152,327	5.3	169,241	4.5
Born in Asia	248,878	16.9	466,218	16.1	621,720	16.6
Born in Africa	27,297	1.9	64,470	2.2	110,042	2.9
Born in Oceania	4,031	0.3	6,984	0.2	6,253	0.2
Born in Latin America	1,056,946	71.9	2,172,476	74.9	2,789,696	74.6
Born in Northern America	22,404	1.5	37,165	1.3	43,715	1.2
	Change 1990 to 2000		Change 1990 to 2006		Change 2000 to 2006	
	Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Total Population of Texas¹	3,865,310	22.8	6,521,273	38.4	2,655,963	12.7
Native born	2,490,104	16.1	4,305,042	27.8	1,814,938	10.1
Foreign born	1,375,206	90.2	2,216,231	145.4	841,025	29.0
Not a citizen	976,070	96.7	1,586,836	157.2	610,766	30.8
Naturalized citizen	399,136	77.5	629,395	122.2	230,259	25.2
Foreign-Born Population of Texas²	1,429,693	97.3	2,270,720	154.5	841,027	29.0
Born in Europe	41,936	38.0	58,850	53.3	16,914	11.1
Born in Asia	217,340	87.3	372,842	149.8	155,502	33.4
Born in Africa	37,173	136.2	82,745	303.1	45,572	70.7
Born in Oceania	2,953	73.3	2,222	55.1	-731	-10.5
Born in Latin America	1,115,530	105.5	1,732,750	163.9	617,220	28.4
Born in Northern America	14,761	65.9	21,311	95.1	6,550	17.6

Notes:

1. This table describes the entire population of the United States.
2. For 1990, 2000, and 2006, the total for the region of birth of the foreign born is different from the total foreign born. This is because the 1990 total excludes those who did not report a country of birth and those born at sea, while the 2000 and 2006 totals exclude those born at sea. In 2000 and 2006, individuals who did not report a country of birth were allocated a country (and region) based on various characteristics. Because of this allocation in 2000 and 2006, but not in 1990, the increase for a specific region between 1990 and 2000 is overstated by a small, but unknown, amount.

Sources: US Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey (ACS); US Census Bureau, 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Census 2000, [click here](#).

For information about ACS methodology, sampling error, and nonsampling error, [click here](#).

Table 2. Characteristics of the Foreign-Born Population in Texas, 2006¹

	Number	Percent
PERIOD OF ENTRY BY WORLD REGION OF BIRTH		
Total Foreign-Born Population	3,740,667	100.0
Entered in 2000 or after	1,014,766	27.1
Entered 1990 to 1999	1,226,776	32.8
Entered 1980 to 1989	776,388	20.8
Entered before 1980	722,737	19.3
Born in Europe	169,241	100.0
Entered in 2000 or after	42,325	25.0
Entered 1990 to 1999	42,077	24.9
Entered 1980 to 1989	22,210	13.1
Entered before 1980	62,629	37.0
Born in Asia	621,720	100.0
Entered in 2000 or after	166,493	26.8
Entered 1990 to 1999	199,602	32.1
Entered 1980 to 1989	143,952	23.2
Entered before 1980	111,673	18.0
Born in Mexico	2,339,715	100.0
Entered in 2000 or after	607,813	26.0
Entered 1990 to 1999	787,179	33.6
Entered 1980 to 1989	475,907	20.3
Entered before 1980	468,816	20.0
Born in Other Parts of Latin America	449,981	100.0
Entered in 2000 or after	143,932	32.0
Entered 1990 to 1999	145,355	32.3
Entered 1980 to 1989	107,381	23.9
Entered before 1980	53,313	11.8
Born in Other Areas²	160,010	100.0
Entered in 2000 or after	54,203	33.9
Entered 1990 to 1999	52,563	32.8
Entered 1980 to 1989	26,938	16.8

Entered before 1980	26,306	16.4
CITIZENSHIP STATUS BY PERIOD OF ENTRY		
Total Foreign-Born Population	3,740,667	100.0
Not a citizen	2,596,082	69.4
Naturalized citizen	1,144,585	30.6
Entered in 2000 or after	1,014,766	100.0
Not a citizen	966,029	95.2
Naturalized citizen	48,737	4.8
Entered 1990 to 1999	1,226,776	100.0
Not a citizen	968,607	79.0
Naturalized citizen	258,169	21.0
Entered 1980 to 1989	776,388	100.0
Not a citizen	417,487	53.8
Naturalized citizen	358,901	46.2
Entered before 1980	722,737	100.0
Not a citizen	243,959	33.8
Naturalized citizen	478,778	66.2
GENDER		
Total Native-Born Population	19,767,116	100.0
Male	9,749,200	49.3
Female	10,017,916	50.7
Total Foreign-Born Population	3,740,667	100.0
Male	1,956,473	52.3
Female	1,784,194	47.7
MARITAL STATUS		
Total Native-Born Population Age 15 or Older	14,585,177	100.0
Never married	4,517,207	31.0
Now married (not separated)	7,080,178	48.5
Married, but separated	385,385	2.6
Divorced	1,728,968	11.9
Widowed	873,439	6.0
Total Foreign-Born Population Age 15 or Older	3,481,070	100.0
Never married	814,827	23.4
Now married (not separated)	2,183,804	62.7
Married, but separated	140,932	4.0
Divorced	200,306	5.8
Widowed	141,201	4.1
NATIVITY BY AGE		
Total Population	23,507,783	100.0
Under 5	1,922,227	100.0

Native born	1,886,059	98.1
Foreign born	36,168	1.9
5 to 17	4,580,627	100.0
Native born	4,255,670	92.9
Foreign born	324,957	7.1
18 to 24	2,453,235	100.0
Native born	2,062,801	84.1
Foreign born	390,434	15.9
25 to 54	10,052,758	100.0
Native born	7,681,575	76.4
Foreign born	2,371,183	23.6
55 and Older	4,498,936	100.0
Native born	3,881,011	86.3
Foreign born	617,925	13.7
AGE BY NATIVITY		
Total Native-Born Population	19,767,116	100.0
Under 5	1,886,059	9.5
5 to 17	4,255,670	21.5
18 to 24	2,062,801	10.4
25 to 54	7,681,575	38.9
55 and older	3,881,011	19.6
Total Foreign-Born Population	3,740,667	100.0
Under 5	36,168	1.0
5 to 17	324,957	8.7
18 to 24	390,434	10.4
25 to 54	2,371,183	63.4
55 and older	617,925	16.5
MEDIAN AGE		
Total Native-Born Population		
Median age	31.5	--
Total Foreign-Born Population		
Median age	37.2	--
RACE		
Total Native-Born Population	19,767,116	100.0
One race	19,389,130	98.1
White	14,477,609	73.2
Black or African American	2,589,731	13.1
American Indian and Alaska Native	97,820	0.5
Asian	231,424	1.2
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander	12,188	0.1
Some other race	1,980,358	10.0

Two or more races	377,986	1.9
Total Foreign-Born Population	3,740,667	100.0
One race	3,702,033	99.0
White	1,928,328	51.6
Black or African American	128,784	3.4
American Indian and Alaska Native	13,691	0.4
Asian	555,784	14.9
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander	1,859	0.0
Some other race	1,073,587	28.7
Two or more races	38,634	1.0
HISPANIC ORIGIN		
Total Native-Born Population	19,767,116	100.0
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	5,653,278	29.2
Total Foreign-Born Population	3,740,667	100.0
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	2,731,840	73.8
HOUSEHOLD AND FAMILY SIZE		
Total Native-Born Population	19,767,116	--
Average household size	2.66	--
Average family size	3.26	--
Total Foreign-Born Population	3,740,667	--
Average household size	3.60	--
Average family size	4.01	--
HOUSEHOLD SIZE BY HOUSING TENURE		
Total Native-Born Population		
Average household size of owner-occupied unit	2.78	--
Average household size of renter-occupied unit	2.40	--
Total Foreign-Born Population		
Average household size of owner-occupied unit	3.88	--
Average household size of renter-occupied unit	3.24	--
Not a Citizen		
Average household size of owner-occupied unit	4.20	--
Average household size of renter-occupied unit	3.38	--
Naturalized Citizen		
Average household size of owner-occupied unit	3.58	--
Average household size of renter-occupied unit	2.69	--
HOUSEHOLD TYPE		
Total Native-Born Population	19,767,116	--
In married couple family household	--	60.6
In other household type	--	36.6
Total Foreign-Born Population	3,740,667	--

In married couple family household	--	65.7
In other household type	--	33.0
FERTILITY		
Total Native-Born Female Population, Ages 15 to 50	4,872,414	100.0
Women who had a birth in the last 12 months	285,624	5.9
Married (including spouse absent)	184,814	3.8
Unmarried (never married, divorced, and widowed)	100,810	2.1
Total Foreign-Born Female Population, Ages 15 to 50	1,219,211	100.0
Women who had a birth in the last 12 months	100,543	8.2
Married (including spouse absent)	76,709	6.3
Unmarried (never married, divorced, and widowed)	23,834	2.0
REGION/COUNTRY OF BIRTH		
Total Foreign-Born Population³	3,740,667	100.0
Europe	169,241	4.5
Northern Europe	48,358	1.3
United Kingdom	40,291	1.1
United Kingdom, excluding England	16,728	0.4
England	23,563	0.6
Ireland	2,578	0.1
Other Northern Europe	5,489	0.1
Western Europe	51,810	1.4
France	8,290	0.2
Germany	34,690	0.9
Other Western Europe	8,830	0.2
Southern Europe	16,798	0.4
Italy	6,422	0.2
Portugal	1,000	0.0
Other Southern Europe	9,376	0.3
Eastern Europe	51,782	1.4
Poland	7,982	0.2
Russia	11,196	0.3
Other Eastern Europe	32,604	0.9
Europe, n.e.c.4	493	0.0
Asia	621,720	16.6
Eastern Asia	149,535	4.0
China	88,740	2.4
China, excluding Taiwan	62,409	1.7
Taiwan	26,331	0.7
Japan	11,331	0.3
Korea	49,228	1.3
Other Eastern Asia	236	0.0

South Central Asia	189,095	5.1
India	122,644	3.3
Iran	18,395	0.5
Other South Central Asia	48,056	1.3
Southeastern Asia	244,211	6.5
Philippines	71,699	1.9
Vietnam	129,779	3.5
Other Southeastern Asia	42,733	1.1
Western Asia	35,553	1.0
Israel	4,561	0.1
Lebanon	7,141	0.2
Other Western Asia	23,851	0.6
Asia, n.e.c. 4	3,326	0.1
Africa	110,042	2.9
Eastern Africa	28,817	0.8
Northern Africa	11,379	0.3
Western Africa	45,208	1.2
Middle and Southern Africa	13,987	0.4
Africa, n.e.c. 4	10,651	0.3
Oceania	6,253	0.2
Australia and New Zealand Subregion	4,754	0.1
Oceania, n.e.c. 4	1,499	0.0
Americas	2,833,411	75.7
Latin America	2,789,696	74.6
Caribbean	48,373	1.3
Cuba	19,363	0.5
Jamaica	12,075	0.3
Other Caribbean	16,935	0.5
Central America	2,639,157	70.6
Mexico	2,339,715	62.5
El Salvador	157,474	4.2
Other Central America	141,968	3.8
South America	102,166	2.7
Brazil	9,543	0.3
Colombia	37,575	1.0
Other South America	55,048	1.5
Northern America	43,715	1.2
Canada	43,523	1.2
Other Northern America	192	0.0

Notes:

1. The letter N Indicates that a number could not be provided by the Census Bureau because the number of sample cases was too small for this state.
2. Data on the foreign born from Africa and Oceania by period of entry are not available because the number of sample cases was

too small for many states.

3. The total for the region of birth of the foreign born is different from the total foreign born. This is because the totals exclude those born at sea.

4. The abbreviation "n.e.c." stands for not elsewhere classified.

Source: US Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey (ACS).

For information about ACS methodology, sampling error, and nonsampling error, [click here](#).

For definitions used in ACS, [click here](#).

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