

Immigrant population

Immigrants make up an important part of local communities in Chicago metro area and Illinois. Nonetheless, no noncitizen is exempt from the risk of deportation, which threatens the stability and family unity of immigrants and U.S.-born people alike.

Chicago metro area



1.7 million immigrants reside in **Chicago**, or **19 percent** of Chicago's population.

Illinois



1.9 million immigrants reside in **Illinois**, or **15 percent** of the total population.

Noncitizen population

790.4K

790,400 noncitizens are living in **Chicago**.

881.7K

881,700 noncitizens are living in **Illinois**.

Children and families

Chicago metro area

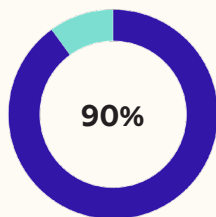
655.8K
children

There are **655,800** children in Chicago with at least one **immigrant parent**.



1 in 3

One in three children in Chicago has at least one **immigrant parent**.



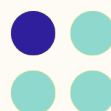
90%

The **vast majority of children** in Chicago with at least one immigrant parent (**90 percent**) were born in the United States.

Illinois

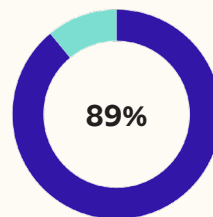
727.8K
children

There are **727,800** children in Illinois with at least one **immigrant parent**.



1 in 4

One in four children in Illinois has at least one **immigrant parent**.



89%

The **vast majority of children** in Illinois with at least one immigrant parent (**89 percent**) were born in the United States.

Local community ties



1.5 million immigrants residing in Chicago metro area have lived in the United States for **10 years or more**.



At least **617,400** homes in Chicago metro area are **owned by immigrants**.



66,500 immigrants in Chicago metro area are **entrepreneurs**.



167,900 immigrants in Chicago metro area are **students** enrolled in pre-K through college or graduate school.

Immigrants in the economy

Immigrants in Chicago metro area, Illinois, and the United States are indispensable members of the workforce and contribute to the economy by paying federal, state, and local taxes.

Tax contributions*

Illinois

\$95.9B Immigrant-led households **earned \$95.9 billion**.

\$10.6B Immigrants contributed **\$10.6 billion** in combined **state and local taxes**.

\$16.9B Immigrants contributed **\$16.9 billion** in **federal taxes**.

\$68.5B This means that immigrant-led households have an estimated **\$68.5 billion** in **spending power**.

United States

\$2.35T Immigrant-led households **earned \$2.35 trillion**.

\$232.1B Immigrants contributed **\$232.1 billion** in combined **state and local taxes**.

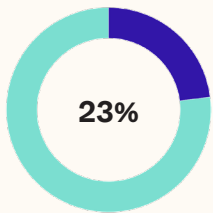
\$419.8B Immigrants contributed **\$419.8 billion** in **federal taxes**.

\$1.7T This means that immigrant-led households have an estimated **\$1.7 trillion** in **spending power**.

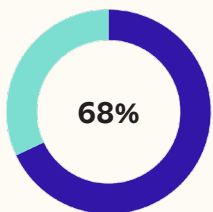
*Earnings, tax contribution, and spending power data reflect annual figures for 2023.

Employment and labor force participation

Chicago metro area

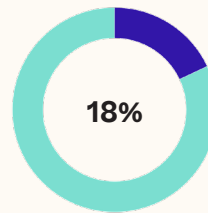


1.1 million immigrant workers make up **23 percent** of the metro area's labor force.

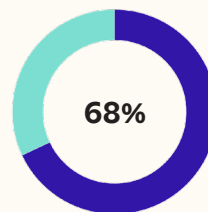


68 percent of the metro area's immigrants **participate in the labor force**, comparable to the share among the metro area's U.S.-born population (67 percent).

Illinois



1.2 million immigrant workers make up **18 percent** of the state's labor force.



68 percent of immigrants **participate in the state's labor force**, greater than the share among the U.S.-born population (64 percent).

Sources

The Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS-USA):

Version 16.0 [dataset], Steven Ruggles, et al., Minneapolis, MN: IPUMS, 2025, <https://doi.org/10.18128/D010.V16.0>

Note: This analysis uses 2024 ACS 5-year PUMS data.

Tax contributions data from:

American Immigration Council:

"Map the Impact," available through <https://data.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/map-the-impact/> (accessed April 2026).

Note: The Chicago metro area includes parts of Indiana and Wisconsin. Immigrants in the metro area who reside in these additional states are thus counted in the population for the metro area, but are excluded from the population of Illinois. For this reason, metro area figures may appear larger than the corresponding state figures.