

COLUMBIA: AN IMMIGRATION SNAPSHOT

POPULATION

Columbia Population in 2012: 804,731¹

- Immigrant population in 2012: 4.8% (38,995), in 2011: 5.1%; in 2008: 4.7%²
- Citizenship Status
 - 31.7% naturalized
 - 68.3% not U.S. citizens
- Year of Entry:
 - Before 2010: 95.6%
 - 2010 or later: 4.4%



Between 2000 and 2013, South Carolina had largest percent growth of the immigrant population (99%)³

EDUCATION

Among foreign-born population 25 years and older:⁴

- 30% earned less than a high school diploma
- 19.9% earned a high school diploma
- 20% attended some college or earned an associate's degree
- 14% earned a bachelor's degree
- 16.1% earned a graduate or professional degree



Foreign-born from Asia: 30% have graduate or professional degree, 21.8% have bachelor's, and 19.6% have some college or associate's⁵

Foreign-born from Latin America: 5% have graduate or professional degree, 6.8% have bachelor's, 15.3% have some college or associate's, and 23.6% graduated high school⁶

LABOR & BUSINESS



Employment Status of Population 16 years and over⁸

- 71% of the foreign-born population is working age (native born 66.3%)

Employment: 63.9% of working age foreign-born (native born 57.4%)

LANGUAGE

Language Spoken at Home of Foreign-Born:⁷

- Only English: 21.6%
- Language other than English: 78.4%



Limited English Proficient Rate of 'other than English' population: 48.1%

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN/DIVERSITY

Region of Origin:⁹

Latin America: 52.6%

- Mexico (12,777), Honduras (1,467), Guatemala (1,132)¹⁰



Asia: 26.2%

- India (2,215), China (1,963), Korea (1,772)¹¹

Europe: 14.3%

Africa: 3.8%



UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS

95,000 unauthorized immigrants in South Carolina in 2012¹²

- 61% of the undocumented population are Mexican
- Undocumented immigrants make up 3% of South Carolina labor force

LEARN MORE [IMMIGRATION2020.ORG](http://immigration2020.org)

Sources: <http://immigrationforum.org/blog/columbia/>

