

SAN JOSE: AN IMMIGRATION SNAPSHOT

POPULATION

Santa Clara County Population (2009-2013): 1,868,323 people¹

- Immigrants percentage of population: 36.5%, 682,834 of 1,868,323
- 356,803 (52.3%) naturalized U.S. citizens and 326,031 (47.6%) not U.S. citizens.
- Higher immigrant population share than Los Angeles or New York City²

Historical rates of immigrant percentage of total population:

- 2008: 29.3%³, 2003: 37%⁴, 2000: 33.6%⁵, 1990: 23.2%⁶, 1960: 8%⁷



LANGUAGE

Limited English Proficient Rate (in 2013): 49% of total immigrant population

90.3% of foreign-born population speak a language other than English at¹⁰

- English 9.7%, Other than English: 90.3%
- Other common languages spoken: Spanish (41%), Vietnamese (17.1%), Chinese (16.2%), Tagalog (5%)¹¹



EDUCATION

Among foreign-born population 25 years and older:⁸

- 41.5% earned less than a high school education
- 14.7% graduated high school
- 17.1% attended some college
- 23.2% earned a bachelor's degree
- 23.5% earned a graduate or professional degree



Highest rate in the nation (29%) of immigrants with Science & Engineering degrees in 2010⁹

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN/ DIVERSITY

Birthplaces of foreign-born population (2009-2013): 61.4% Asia, 27.3% Latin America, 1.5% Africa.¹⁵

Top countries of origin (2009-2013 estimate) by region:

- Asia: Vietnam (97,086); China (92,351); India (89,230)
- Latin America: Mexico (155,263); El Salvador (8,881); Guatemala (3,636)
- Africa: Ethiopia (3,195); Egypt (933); South Africa (858)

Third largest concentration of Indian immigrants in the U.S. with 90,000 (5% of all Indians in USA) in 2013¹⁶ Second largest population of Vietnamese immigrants in the U.S. with 95,000¹⁷



LABOR & BUSINESS

Labor Force: Foreign-born share of labor force accounts for 45.6% of all labor (2013)¹²



- In 2003, 1/2 of all tech startups in Silicon Valley were founded by Indian, Chinese, or Taiwanese immigrants¹³ and many of the 14 Fortune 500 firms located in San Jose were founded by immigrants, including Google, Yahoo!, and eBay.
- 2/3 of job vacancies that remain unfilled after one month are for STEM occupations¹⁴

UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS



California has an estimated undocumented population of 2.6 million, 6.8% of the total U.S. 2013 population¹⁸

Santa Clara County has an estimated 180,000 unauthorized immigrants (10.2%) in 2008,¹⁹ down from 241,000 in 2001.

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

Sources: <http://immigrationforum.org/blog/san-jose/>

