



Profile of Immigrants in Philadelphia

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City of Philadelphia

IPV Conference Aug 2024



Inhale / Exhale



Our Mission

To promote the well-being of Philadelphia's immigrant communities by recommending and developing policies and programs, which in turn provide opportunity and access to services.

We help facilitate the successful inclusion of immigrants into the civic, economic, and cultural life of the city. We also highlight the essential role that immigrants have played and continue to play in our city.

In 2019, OIA became a permanent city office.





Immigration by the numbers

United States

Total Population:
336 million¹

**Total # of
Immigrants:**
46.1 million (13.7%)¹

Naturalized Citizens:
23.4 million

Undocumented:
11 million¹

Pennsylvania

Total Population:
12.97 million

Total # of Immigrants:
995,800 (7.7%)²

Undocumented:
156,000²

Philadelphia

Total Population:
1.56 million

**Total # of
Immigrants:**
246,000 (15.7%)³

Undocumented:
50,000⁴

¹<https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2024/07/22/key-findings-about-us-immigrants/>

² <https://map.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/locations/pennsylvania/>

³<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2024/06/13/philadelphias-evolving-immigrant-population-has-helped-the-city-grow>

⁴<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2017/02/15/unauthorized-immigrants-in-philadelphia>

Population

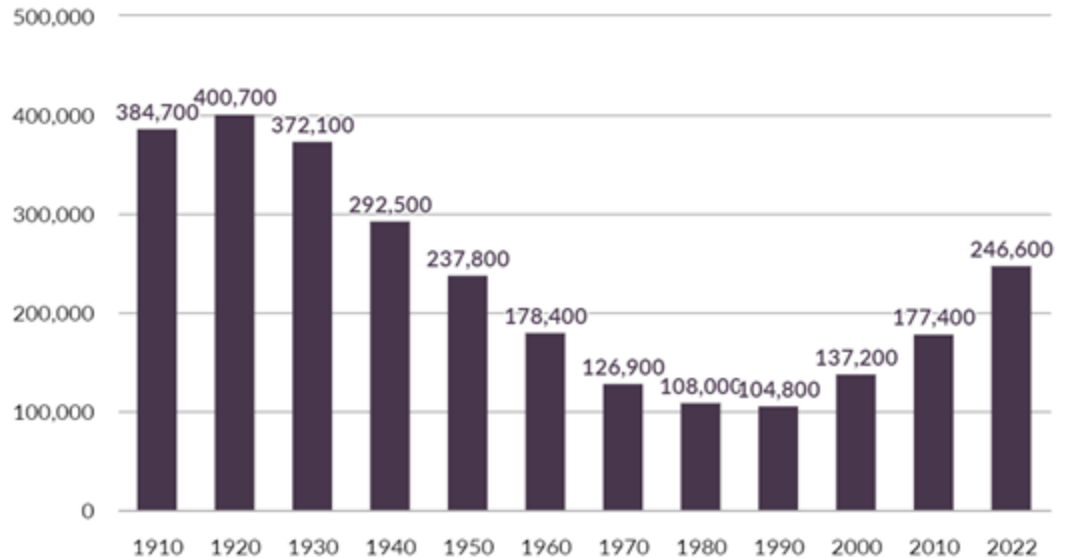
Philadelphia's population has been rising over the past three decades, partly due to immigrants moving into the city. Immigrants account for nearly 15.7% of the city's population, the highest share since 1940.

Philadelphia's immigrant population has more than doubled since 1990.

Figure 1

Philadelphia's Immigrants, 1910-2022

Size of foreign-born population matches a level last seen in the 1940s



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Population growth and Immigration

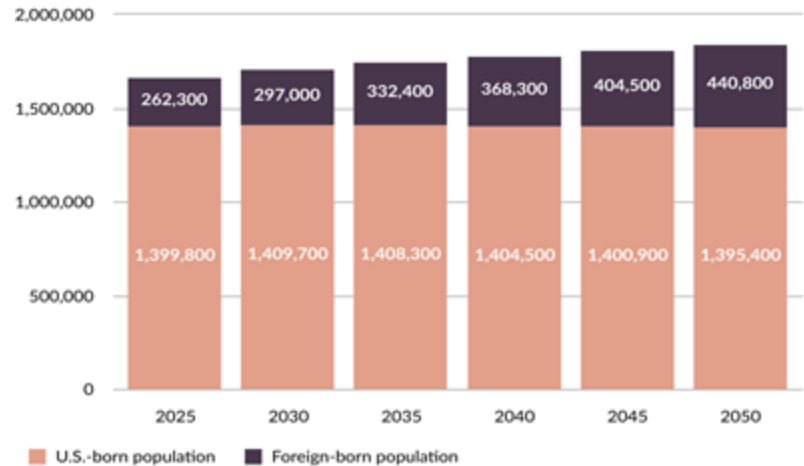
If pre-pandemic immigration trends continue, future population growth in Philadelphia will be driven by immigrants settling into the city. According to Pew's Philadelphia Research and Policy Initiative, by 2050, a quarter of Philadelphians will be immigrants.

Our office aims to ensure that immigrants continue to be welcomed and integrated as their share continues to grow in our city.

Figure 3

Projection of Philadelphia's U.S.-Born and Foreign-Born Populations, 2025-50

If recent trends continue, a quarter of Philadelphians would be immigrants by 2050



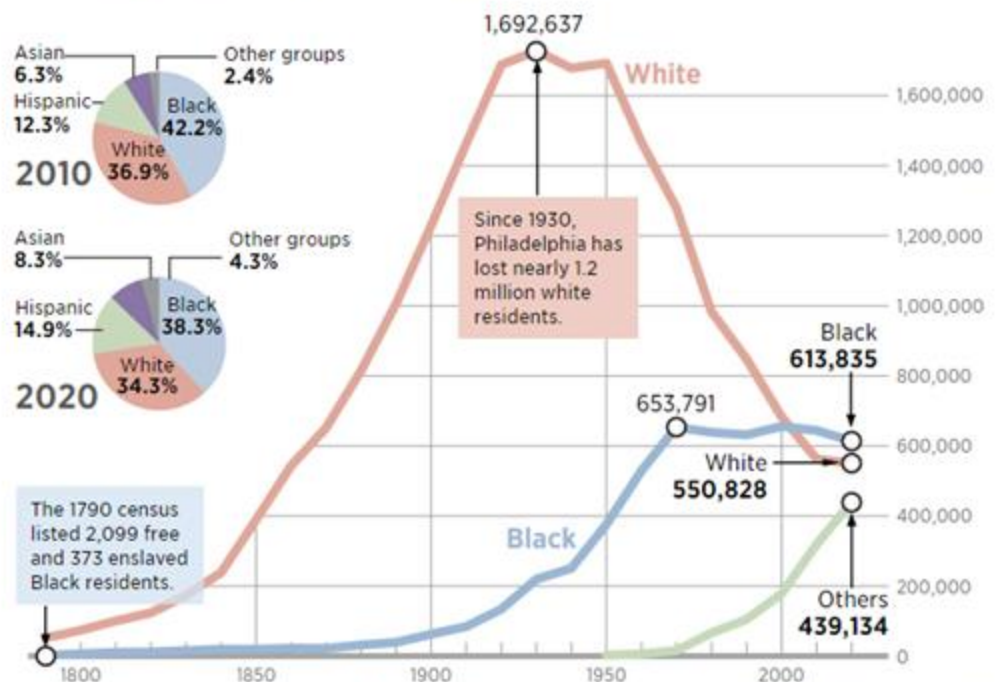
Note: See methodology for additional details.

Source: Pew analysis of data from Penn State Harrisburg's Institute of State and Regional Affairs and the Center for Rural Pennsylvania, <https://www.rural.pa.gov/data/population-projections>

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Philadelphia's Shifting Racial Mix

Philadelphia lost more than 30,000 Black residents from 2010 to 2020, the largest 10-year decline in census records. The number of white residents also fell, but by the smallest amount since the 1940s. The city's population growth since 2010 was spurred by strong gains among Hispanic residents (+27%) and Asians (+39%). The two groups combined now make up nearly a quarter of the city's population.



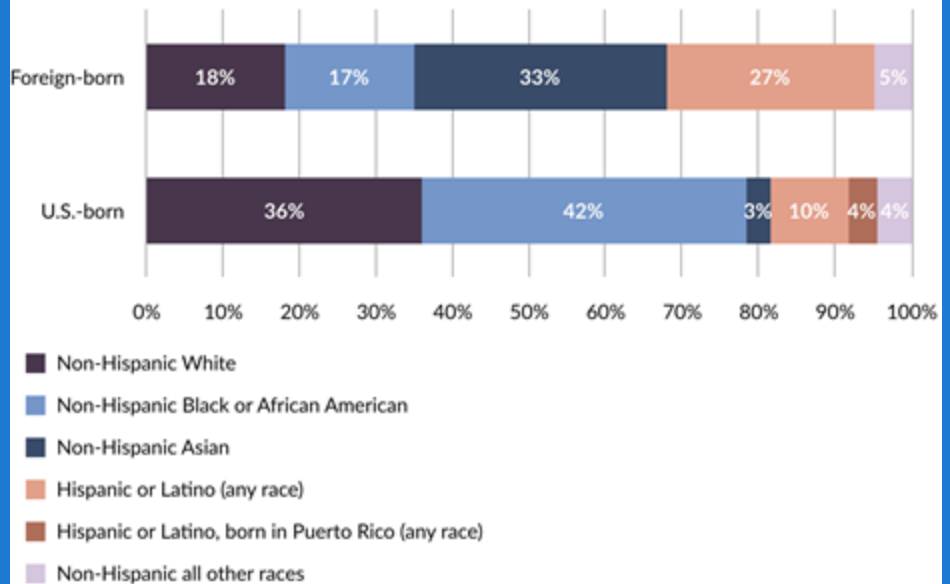
SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau; National Historical Geographic Information System JOHN DUCHNESKIE / Staff Artist

Foreign born residents have increased the racial and ethnic diversity of Philadelphia.

Figure 1

Foreign-Born and U.S.-Born Philadelphians by Race and Ethnicity, 2018-22

Influx of people born overseas increases the city's racial and ethnic diversity



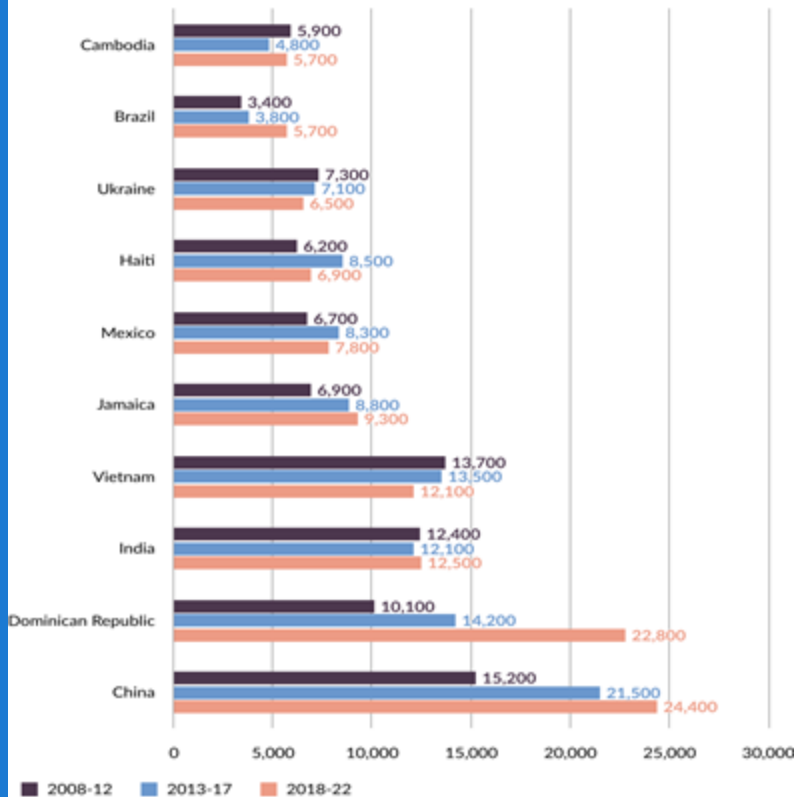
Note: The Census Bureau in 2020 changed the options respondents can use to identify their race and ethnicity, so percentages should be taken with caution when comparing over time.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2022, from IPUMS USA, <http://www.ipums.org>; R.H. Lowe Jr. et al., "Black and Some Other Race?: Examining Shifts in the Black Latino Population in the Census Bureau's Modified Race Question" (n.d.), <https://ideas.repec.org/p/osf/socarx/5g6vs.html>

Figure 1

Largest Foreign-Born Groups in 2022 and Their Growth Since 2008

All but one of the top countries of origin were in Asia or Latin America



Notes: China excludes Hong Kong and Taiwan. All numbers are rounded to the nearest hundred.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, five-year estimates, 2008-22, Table B05006: Place of Birth for the Foreign-Born Population in the United States, <http://data.census.gov/>

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Top Foreign Born Populations in Philadelphia:

- China
- Dominican Republic
- India
- Vietnam
- Jamaica
- Mexico
- Haiti
- Ukraine
- Brazil
- Cambodia



Latinos in Philadelphia

- Philadelphia's long-standing Latino population roughly doubled in size between 2000 and 2022, increasing from around 130,000 to 252,400.
- In 2022, immigrants made up 22% of Philadelphia's Latino population, up from 13% in 2000.
- From 2000 to 2022, the number of Philadelphians identifying as stateside-born Puerto Rican grew 83% (to around 92,000), while the share of those born on the island declined 9% (to 37,500). That means that 7 in 10 Puerto Rican Philadelphians identify as Puerto Rican because of their parents and ancestors, not because of their own birthplace. (See Figure 2.)

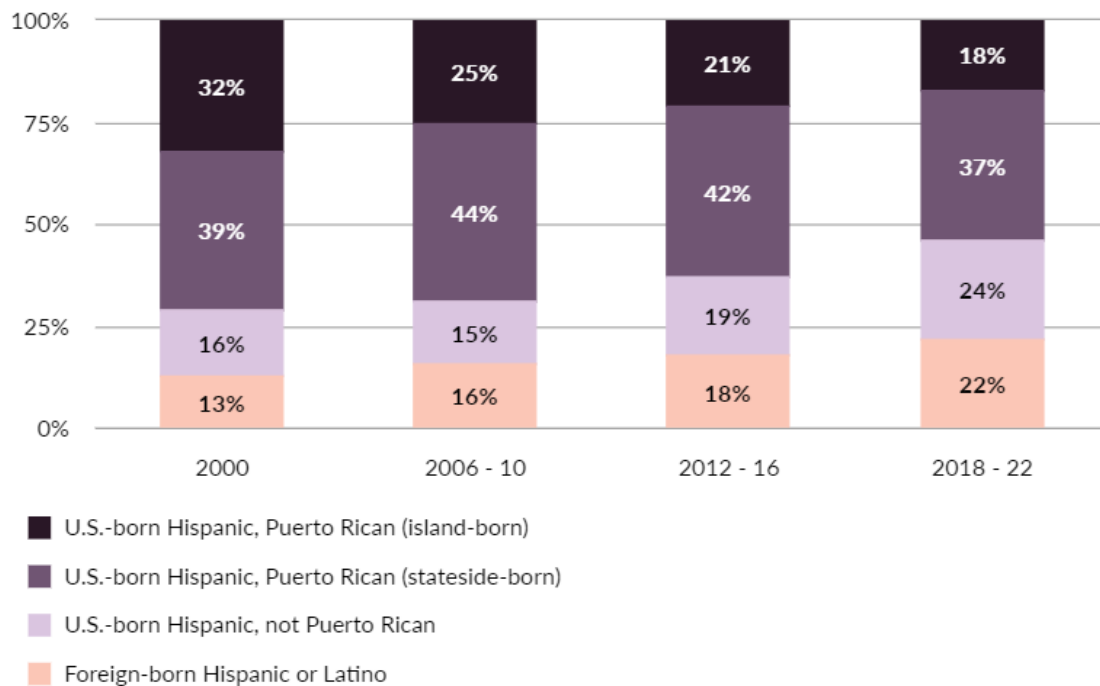
The percentage of non-Puerto Rican Latinos has increased.

The percentage of foreign-born Latinos has increased.

Figure 2

Latino Philadelphians Born in the U.S., Puerto Rico, and Abroad

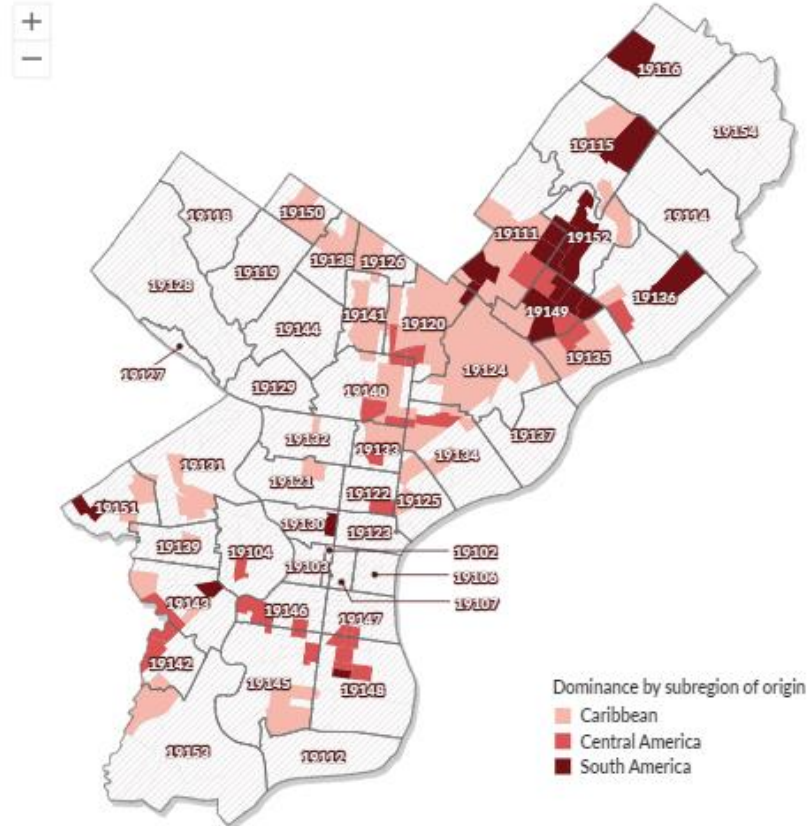
Immigrants are diversifying the city's Latino population, which had previously been largely Puerto Rican



Latinos live in all parts of the city.

Figure 3

Distribution of Immigrants From Subregions of the Americas, 2018-22
Latin American groups are concentrated in Northeast and Southwest Philadelphia





Welcoming City Policies



Sign up for
the OIA
Newsletter!



Welcoming America - Certified Welcoming Program



- Certification lasts 3 years
- Community Engagement
- Audit Report

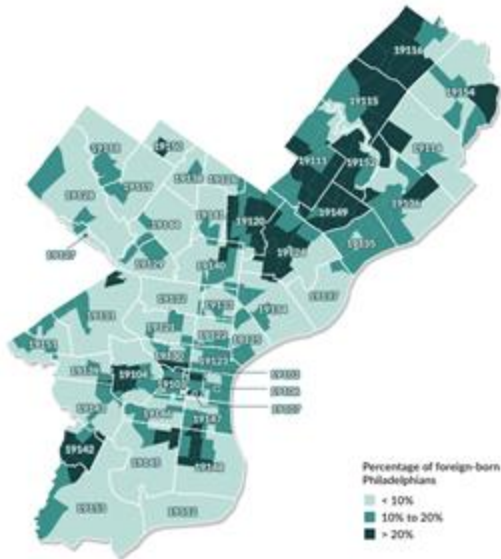
Philadelphia Certified Welcoming!

The importance of ensuring Welcoming Status

Figure 3

Foreign-Born Share of Population by ZIP Code, 2018-22

In pockets of Northeast and Southwest Philadelphia, half of residents were immigrants



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, five-year sample, 2018-22, Table DP02: Selected Social Characteristics in the United States. <http://data.census.gov>

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Immigrant communities are present in every corner of Philadelphia. They are the foundation of our city's population growth, economic development, and cultural richness. We need to ensure that these communities feel that their government is responsive to their needs and experiences.

Undoubtedly, it is in the City of Philadelphia's best interest to continue investing in immigrant inclusion. Philadelphia's future prosperity is intrinsically tied to how we serve our city's immigrants and their families.



Language Access





Definitions

What is Language Access?

Language access ensures that ALL Philadelphians who are not proficient English speakers are able to access and participate in programs and services

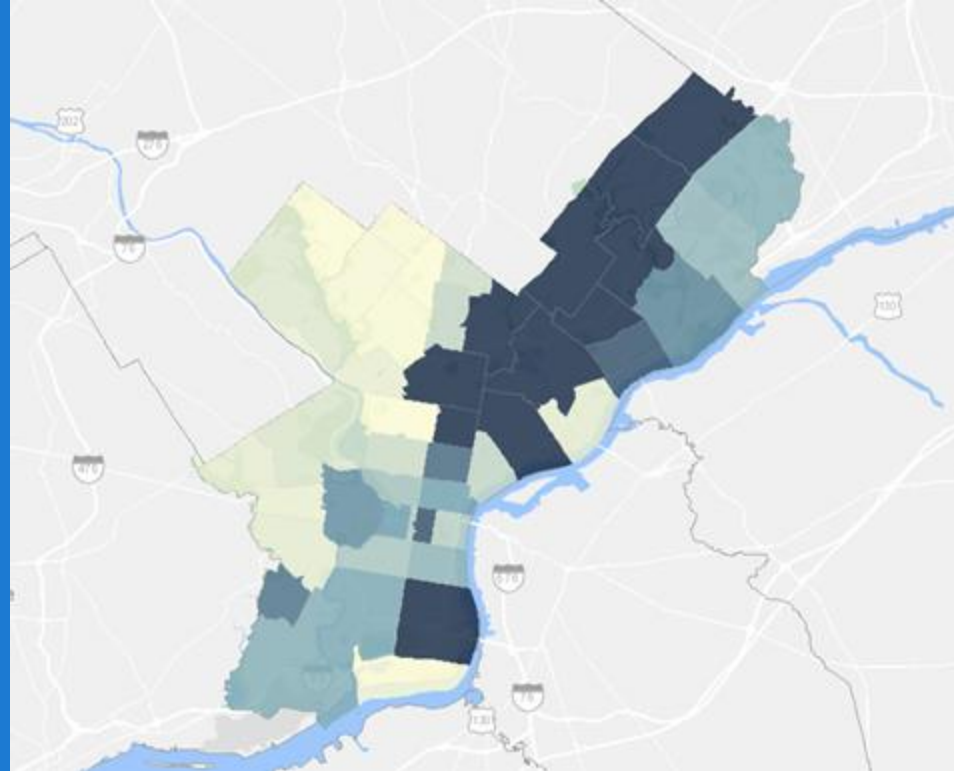
Ensuring that immigrants, refugees and other groups receive fair and equal treatment



**About 10.8% of
residents in
Philadelphia
are considered
limited-English
proficient**

**(or about 170,000
residents)**

Source: <https://www.inquirer.com/news/philadelphia-mayoral-race-language-access-20230406.html>



About 23.1% are
Speakers of a
Language Other
than English
(SLOTE) at home

(or about 346,000
residents)



Source: [2020 Census](#)



Under the City's Home Rule Charter, it is a city requirement that all city departments, offices, boards and commissions have a(n):



Language access coordinator or committee



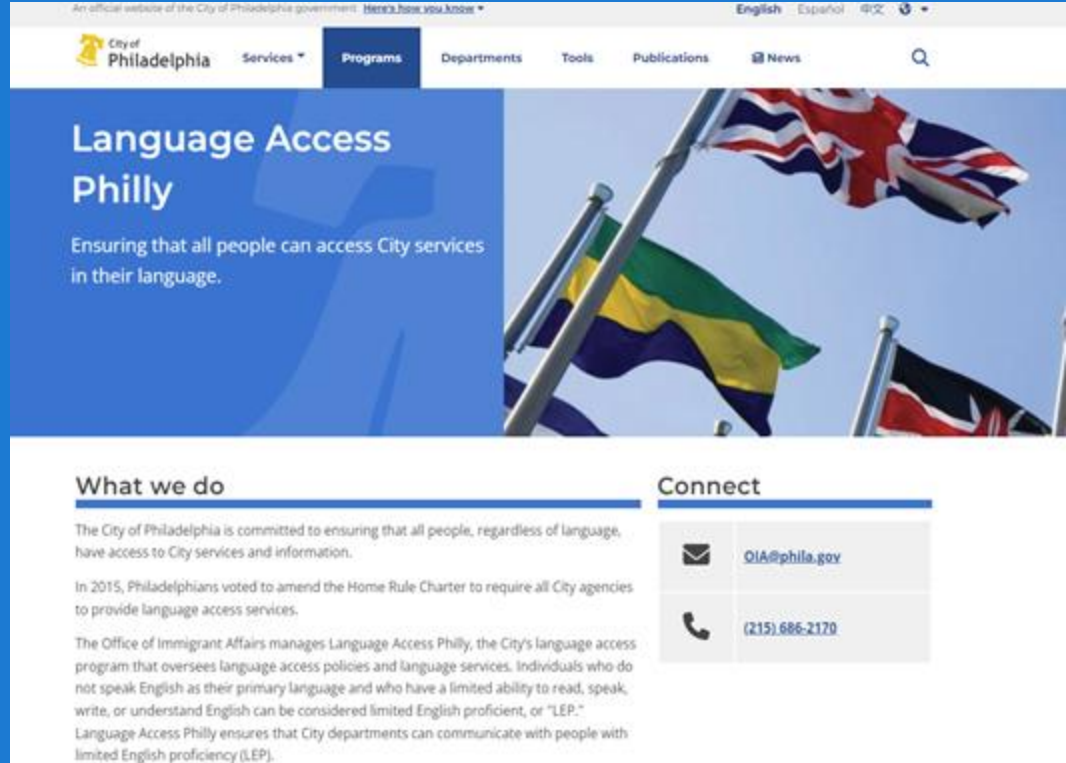
Language access plan



Annual Reports

Language Access Philly Program

- Interpretation
- Translation
- Piggyback Provision for Providers/Partners
- Know Your Rights
 - iSpeak Cards
- Grievance Form
- Language Access Plans for City Departments
- Data Transparency



The screenshot shows the official website for the City of Philadelphia's Language Access Philly program. The page features a navigation bar with links for Services, Programs, Departments, Tools, Publications, and News. The main heading is "Language Access Philly" with the tagline "Ensuring that all people can access City services in their language." Below this, there are two columns: "What we do" and "Connect".

What we do

The City of Philadelphia is committed to ensuring that all people, regardless of language, have access to City services and information.

In 2015, Philadelphians voted to amend the Home Rule Charter to require all City agencies to provide language access services.

The Office of Immigrant Affairs manages Language Access Philly, the City's language access program that oversees language access policies and language services. Individuals who do not speak English as their primary language and who have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English can be considered limited English proficient, or "LEP." Language Access Philly ensures that City departments can communicate with people with limited English proficiency (LEP).

Connect

✉ OIA@phila.gov

☎ (215) 686-2170

PHL Language Services Dashboard

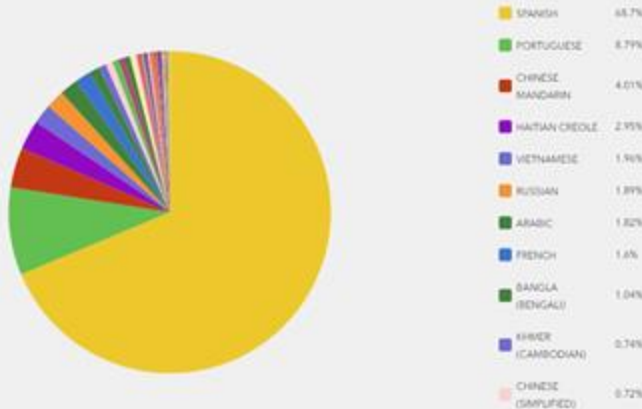
PHL Language Services Usage

This is an interactive dashboard- please select/unselect one or more filters on each tab to view more detailed information. To clear applied filters, click reset.

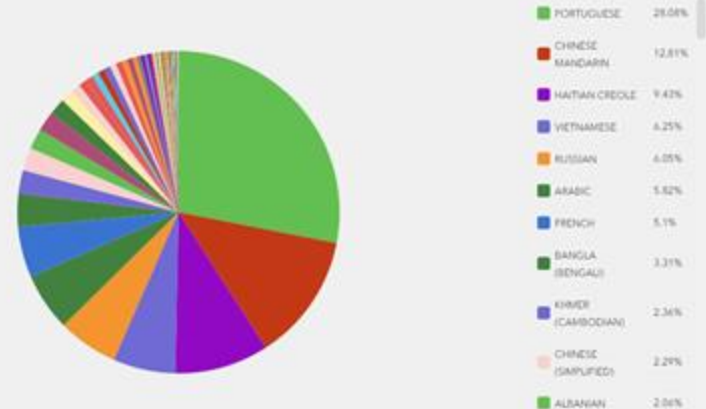
Filters:	LANGUAGE	AGENCY	DEPT NUMBER	SERVICE TYPE	SERVICE DETAIL	FISCAL YEAR	QUARTER (FY)	CALENDAR YEAR	MONTH
	All Languages	City of Philadelphia	All Departments	All Services	All Service Detail	All Years	All Quarters	All Years	All Months

212,655 Services provided to date	206,424 Interpretations	6,231 Translations	114 Languages	76 Agencies
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Language Mix (All)



Non-Spanish Language Mix

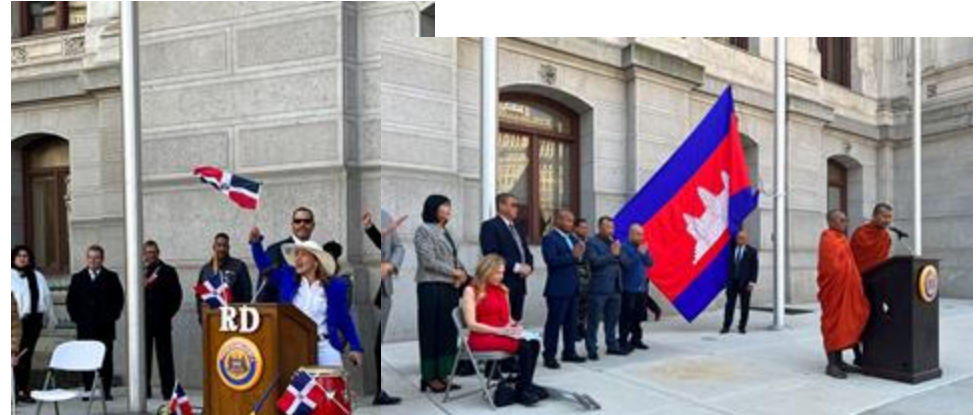




Cultural Programming: Joyful Celebrations

Flag Raisings

The Flag Raising events are held by the Office of the City Representative (OCR) and the Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA) to give communities a platform to celebrate and promote their culture by raising a flag at the North Apron of City Hall.



Immigrant Heritage Month

This annual celebration in the month of June is part of a national storytelling campaign launched by I Am an Immigrant in 2012 celebrating immigrant heritage in the United States. Locally, OIA highlight events hosted city agencies and other community based-organizations. These events range from resource fairs, film screenings, and more!



Welcoming Week

Based on the national celebration with Welcoming America, OIA facilitates events during Welcoming Week in Philadelphia during the month of September to provide individuals and organizations the opportunity to showcase their commitment to welcoming values through events and initiatives that foster connections and collaboration between immigrants and non-immigrants



Unity Cup

The Unity Cup is a city-wide soccer tournament first held in 2016. This annual event is meant to unite neighborhoods, celebrate the city's diverse immigrant communities through soccer, and inspire a love for soccer in Philly youth.





How You Can...

Help, Engage, Support

Questions?

Amy.Eusebio@phila.gov
Office of Immigrant Affairs
City of Philadelphia





Additional Information and Data



Four Main Pillars of OIA

**Policies &
Programs**

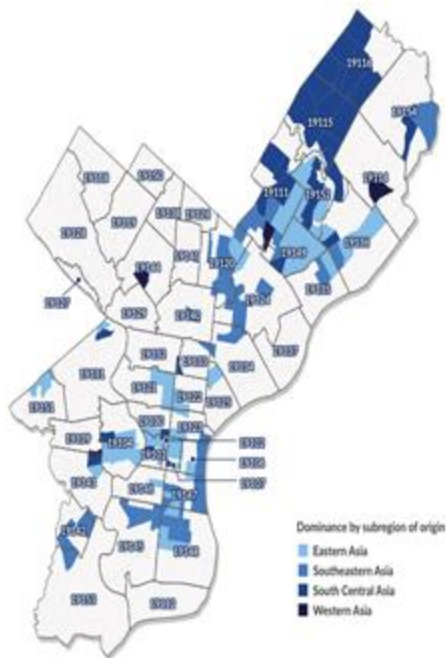
**Economic
Development**

**Cultural
Programming**

**Community
Engagement**



Figure 2
Distribution of Immigrants From Subregions of Asia, 2018-22
 Asian subgroups are concentrated in Center City and Northeast Philadelphia

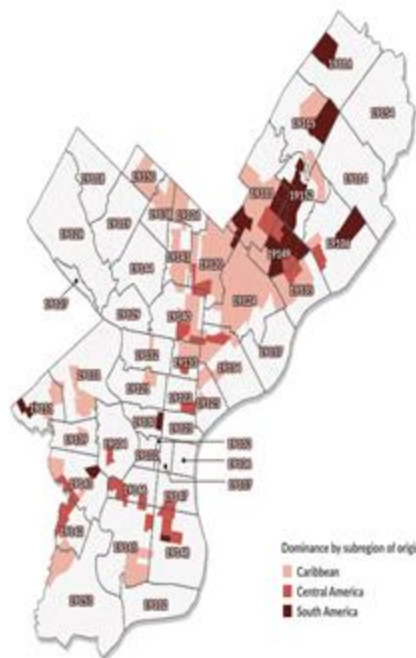


Note: Each ZIP code area is colored according to the continental subgroup that exceeds the tract-level average and is the most populous in census tracts located within that ZIP code area.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, five-year estimates, 2018-22, Table B05006: Place of Birth for the Foreign-Born Population in the United States, <http://data.census.gov>

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Figure 3
Distribution of Immigrants From Subregions of the Americas, 2018-22
 Latin American groups are concentrated in Northeast and Southwest Philadelphia

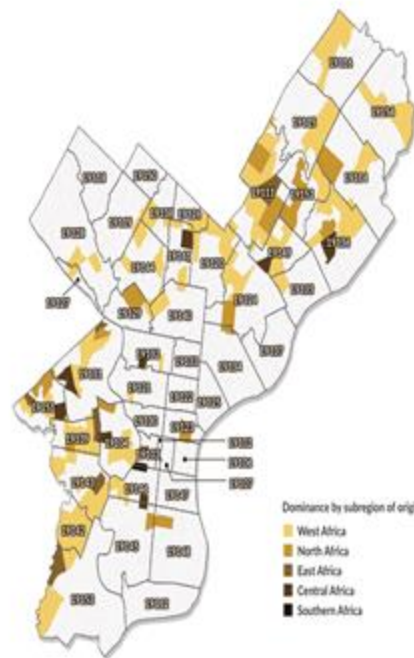


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Figure 4
Distribution of Immigrants From Subregions of Africa, 2018-22
 African subgroups are concentrated in Southwest and Northeast Philadelphia

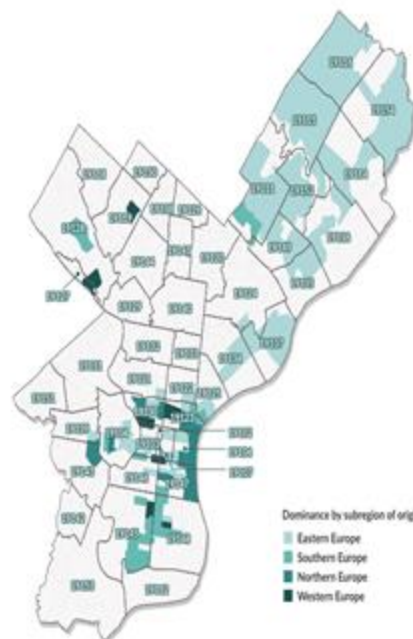


Note: Each ZIP code area is colored according to the continental subgroup that exceeds the tract-level average and is the most populous in census tracts located within that ZIP code area.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, five-year estimates, 2018-22, Table B05006: Place of Birth for the Foreign-Born Population in the United States, <http://data.census.gov>

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Figure 5
Distribution of Immigrants From Subregions of Europe, 2018-22
 Eastern Europeans, the largest subgroup from Europe, are concentrated in Northeast Philadelphia



Note: Each ZIP code area is colored according to the continental subgroup that exceeds the tract-level average and is the most populous in census tracts located within that ZIP code area.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, five-year estimates, 2018-22, Table B05006: Place of Birth for the Foreign-Born Population in the United States, <http://data.census.gov>

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Language spoken at home	Speak English very well	Speak English less than very well	Total
Spanish	83,100	76,600	159,700
Chinese (includes Mandarin, Cantonese)	9,000	24,500	33,500
Arabic	13,300	3,800	17,100
Russian	6,300	7,800	14,100
Yoruba/Twi/Igbo	10,300	3,200	13,500
Vietnamese	4,600	8,300	12,900
Malayalam	4,700	6,400	11,100
Haitian Creole	5,400	4,700	10,100
Portuguese	4,200	5,800	10,000
French	4,800	4,200	9,000
Khmer	1,900	4,400	6,300
Ukrainian/other Slavic	1,700	2,400	4,000
Bengali	1,500	2,000	3,500
Italian	2,100	1,300	3,300
Urdu	2,200	900	3,100
Hindi	2,000	1,000	3,000
Tagalog	1,900	1,200	3,100
Korean	1,600	1,000	2,800
Polish	1,200	800	2,000
German	1,700	300	2,000

Country of origin and its main or official language	Percentage of population who say they do not speak English well	Percentage of population who do not speak English at all
Uzbekistan (Uzbek/Russian)	44%	0%
Guatemala (Spanish/Mayan languages)	42%	27%
Vietnam (Vietnamese)	39%	12%
Cambodia (Khmer)	38%	17%
Brazil (Portuguese)	33%	26%
China (Mandarin)	31%	18%
Mexico (Spanish)	29%	15%
Ukraine (Ukrainian/Russian)	26%	7%
Colombia (Spanish)	24%	30%
Dominican Republic (Spanish)	22%	26%
South Korea (Korean)	21%	4%
Haiti (Creole/French)	16%	1%
India (Hindi)	15%	3%