

Glossary

Comparison cities: Philadelphia is benchmarked against nine comparable U.S. cities and their metro areas. Six are “reemerging immigrant gateway” cities, as identified by the Brookings Institution: Baltimore; Denver; Minneapolis; Portland, Oregon; San Jose, California; and Seattle. Four are other cities in the Northeast: Baltimore (appears in both categories), Boston, New York, and Washington.

Immigrant and foreign-born: These terms, used interchangeably in this series, refer to people born as citizens of other countries who now live in the United States, regardless of their legal status as refugees, lawful residents, naturalized citizens, or some other category.

U.S.-born: A person born as a U.S. citizen in the United States or its territories, including Puerto Rico. It also includes people born in foreign countries who had U.S. citizenship at birth because one or both parents were U.S. citizens.

Methodology

Analysis: The Home Life of Immigrants in Philadelphia and Other U.S. Cities

Households with at least one member who is an immigrant: Using American Community Survey (ACS) five-year estimates obtained from IPUMS USA, Pew first combined individual respondents into households as identified by unique codes assigned by the Census Bureau. Then Pew cross-tabulated household members with citizenship at birth to arrive at total households grouped by number of immigrant members. Pew then counted the households with at least one immigrant member. The margin of error is plus or minus 9,300 households with at least one immigrant member, and plus or minus 5,600 total households.

Homeownership by Immigrants and U.S.-Born Residents by Location, 2018-22 (Figure 1): Based on ACS Table S0501, five-year estimates, 2018-22, found at <http://data.census.gov>. Margins of error range from plus or minus 0.3 percentage points to plus or minus 2.7 percentage points.

Housing Cost Burden for Immigrant Homeowners and Renters by Location, 2018-22 (Figure 2): Based on ACS Table S0501, five-year estimates, 2018-22, found at <http://data.census.gov>. Margins of error range from plus or minus 0.5 percentage points to plus or minus 3.9 percentage points.

Share of Immigrants Lacking Health Insurance by Location, 2018-22 (Figure 3): Based on ACS Table B27020, five-year estimates, 2018-22, found at <http://data.census.gov>. Margins of error range from plus or minus 0.1 percentage points to plus or minus 1.9 percentage points.

Share of Overcrowded Homes of Foreign-Born and U.S.-Born Residents by Location, 2018-22 (Figure 4): Based on ACS Table S0501, five-year estimates, 2018-22, found at <http://data.census.gov>. Margins of error range from plus or minus 0.2 percentage points to plus

or minus 1.8 percentage points. The Census Bureau’s methodology for measuring overcrowded housing is described in [this report](#).

Fact Sheet: Similarities, and Crucial Differences, Among Immigrant Households in Philadelphia

Composition of Households Headed by Foreign-Born or U.S.-Born Residents, 2018-22

(Table 1): This table uses data from ACS five-year estimates found in census Table S0502 and calculated by Pew from IPUMS USA. The Census Bureau’s definition of rooms, explained in [this document](#), includes living rooms, dining rooms, bedrooms, kitchens, and finished basements or attics, among others. It excludes bathrooms, halls, closets, unfinished attics, and others. The Census Bureau’s definition of generations in households, explained on [this IPUMS webpage](#), refers to the generations of relatives either older or younger than the head of household. The U.S. government defines a cost-burdened household, described on this [Department of Housing and Urban Development webpage](#), as one where 30% of monthly household income is spent on costs directly related to housing, such as utilities, rent, or mortgage. In Table 1, percentages have margins of error ranging from plus or minus 0.6 percentage points to plus or minus 1.6 percentage points. Numbers have margins of error ranging from plus or minus 0.01 decimal points to plus or minus 0.05 decimal points.

Share of Income in Philadelphia From Select Sources, 2018-22 (Figure 1): These figures—based on ACS Table S0501, five-year estimates, 2018-22—represent the average percentage of households headed by foreign-born and U.S.-born residents that receive income from each source. Margins of error range from plus or minus 0.3 percentage points to plus or minus 1.5 percentage points.

Foreign-Born and U.S.-Born Children in Philadelphia, 2022 (Figure 2): Using ACS Table B05009, one-year estimates, 2022, Pew first extrapolated several additional subgroup populations that were not originally provided by the Census Bureau. Next, Pew regrouped the populations from three groups (both parents U.S.-born; both parents foreign-born; one U.S.-born and one foreign-born parent) into two groups (both parents U.S.-born; at least one parent foreign-born). Then, Pew divided foreign-born and U.S.-born children by the totals of each parental group. Margins of error could not be determined because of the regrouping of populations.

Foreign-Born Philadelphians With Limited English Proficiency by Age Group, 2010 and 2022 (Figure 3): Based on ACS one-year estimates for 2010 and 2022 from IPUMS USA. Pew used the same groups applied elsewhere in this series for employment age groups but started the youngest group at age 5 to align with the U.S. Department of Justice’s definition of limited English proficiency (LEP), found at <https://www.lep.gov>.

Households with at least one immigrant member with limited English proficiency and one English speaker, ages 5-18: Using ACS one-year estimates, 2022, obtained from IPUMS USA, Pew combined individual respondents into households based on their shared household code. Then, Pew cross-tabulated household members by age, citizenship at birth, and English

proficiency to find the number of households with at least one immigrant member who spoke English less than very well and another member—immigrant or U.S.-born—who was between the ages of 5 and 18 and spoke English very well. The resulting number, 22,000 households, had a margin of error of plus or minus 4,500 and therefore is shown in this report as the range 17,500 to 26,500.

Language access plans: Using data extracted from [the city of Philadelphia's list](#), Pew computed the percentage of plans updated each year out of 53 departmental plans in total.

Fact Sheet: Where Immigrants Live and Find Community in Philadelphia

Livability map: The score takes into consideration three indices: basic human needs, foundations of well-being, and opportunity. There is also an overall score created by the city. Pew combined the tract-level scoring with 2018-22 ACS five-year estimates of the foreign-born population to calculate the share who lived in above-average neighborhoods. The formula for the social progress index was created by Social Progress Imperative, described in this [methodological note from ProgressPHL](#). The outlined ZIP codes are ones in which Pew found the foreign-born share to exceed 15%, according to ACS Table DP02.

Crime map: Using crime point data from the Philadelphia Police Department, which includes all violent and nonviolent incidents, Pew linked the count of these points to their respective census tracts. Then Pew calculated crime per 10,000 people by tract using this formula: total crime in the tract divided by total population in the tract, multiplied by 10,000. Tracts with fewer than 500 people were excluded. The map is symbolized by areas where (a) crime per 10,000 individuals was at or below the citywide tract average and (b) crime per 10,000 individuals exceeded the citywide tract average. The outlined ZIP codes are ones where data from census Table DP02 shows that the foreign-born share exceeded the citywide share, which was 15%.

Concentration of nationality groups: Using ACS five-year estimates, 2018-22, Pew found the population of each nationality group, summed the total number of immigrants in the top 20 tracts for that nationality group, and divided that sum by the total population of immigrants of that nationality group for the city. This resulted in a percentage of each group's citywide population that was concentrated in 20 tracts with the group's highest population. This approach replicates a method that Johnny Ceffalio and Christopher Patusky of the University of Pennsylvania's Fels Institute of Government used in an unpublished 2006 paper, "Recent Trends in Immigration to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Who Came and Where Do They Live," available upon request from Pew.

Hate crimes: The Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations publishes only its most recent annual report on its [official website](#) and does not produce a year-by-year data table. At Pew's request, the commission provided Pew a copy of its annual reports back to 2019, which Pew converted into a data table categorized by calendar year, complaint type, and police division, and then verified it with commission officials. (Commission data is also found in [city budget documents](#), but it was not usable in this context because it lacked detail on the nature of the bias incidents.)