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News, Views, and Clues

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State Data on LEP Populations

Our colleagues at the Migration Policy Institute have just released valuable sociodemographic data on LEP populations with fact sheets for the 30 states with the largest number of immigrant families. Below is their description of their reports with links to each.

To improve child and family outcomes in immigrant households, programs in the early childhood, adult education, and workforce training fields should be designed with a greater understanding of the parents' diverse characteristics with respect to educational attainment, poverty, English proficiency, and more.

Children in immigrant families comprise one-quarter of the U.S. population ages 0-8, and even larger shares of the young-child population in many states and localities. The vast majority of these children are U.S. born. Their future potential to contribute to the economic, civic, and social life of the United States is largely shaped by their early childhood experiences. Addressing their needs together with those of their parents, via two-generation programs, can help at-risk families move out of poverty and into family-sustaining jobs.

To help policymakers, educators, and other stakeholders better understand the needs of families with young children in the United States, the Migration Policy Institute's National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy today is releasing [a set of 30 fact sheets](#) that provide analysis of key sociodemographic characteristics of native- and foreign-born parents of young children in states with the largest number of immigrant families.

These state portraits, accompanied by a [commentary by Center Director Margie McHugh](#), offer a wealth of data to assist states and community stakeholders as they seek to target early-childhood and parent-focused investments towards programs that close school readiness gaps and support parents in gaining the education and skills they need to earn family-sustaining wages. The fact sheets join a recently released [report](#) that details the key design elements of a range of two-generation programs that are working successfully with immigrant and refugee families.

As states work to build high-quality early childhood systems and implement the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), we hope that these fact sheets will prove useful resources.

With thanks for your interest in our work,



Michelle Mittelstadt
Director of Communications and Public Affairs
Migration Policy Institute

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The **Migration Policy Institute** is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit think tank in Washington, D.C. dedicated to analysis of the movement of people worldwide. MPI provides analysis, development, and evaluation of migration and refugee policies at the local, national, and international levels. For more on MPI, please visit www.migrationpolicy.org

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Keep up the good work. Let me know when we can help.

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