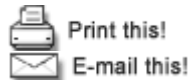


Doing Research? : Immigration in Your Backyard

Immigration Impact: Indiana



State Population (2004 CB estimate)	6,237,569
Population Increase 1990-2000	536,326
Foreign-Born Population	229,200
Percent Foreign-Born	3.7%
Illegal Resident Population	45,000 ¹
2025 Population Projection	6,546,000

All numbers are from the U.S. Census Bureau unless otherwise noted. Additional Census Bureau, INS, and other immigration-related data are available for [Indiana](#).

**Estimated Annual Fiscal Costs to Indiana Taxpayers
for Emergency Medical Care, Education and Incarceration
Resulting from Illegal or "Guest" Workers and
Projected Costs Based on an Amnesty**

Current	2010	2020
\$259	\$434	\$743

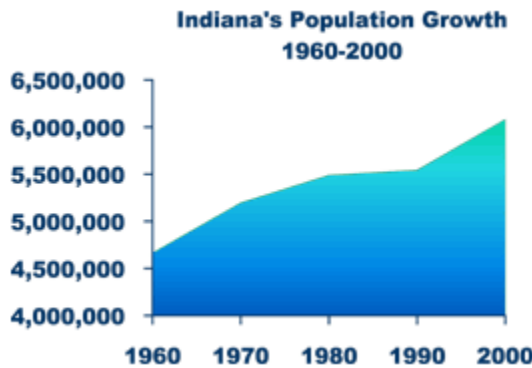
Indiana's immigrant population almost doubled during the 1990s, accounting for 17 percent of the state's overall population increase during the decade. Demonstrating the impact of recent policies of mass immigration, 52 percent of Indiana's immigrant population has arrived in the state since 1990.

Profile in Numbers

Population Growth

Indiana increased by 10 percent, or over 536,000 people, between 1990 and 2000, bringing its population to 6.1 million people.

Between 1990 and 2000, Hamilton County was the fastest growing county in the state, increasing by 68 percent, or 72,000 people, to reach a total population of 183,000.



Foreign-Born Population

Indiana's immigrant population almost doubled during the 1990s, increasing by 92,000, or 98 percent—bringing the state's total number of foreign-born residents to 187,000.

The increase in the foreign-born population during the 1990s accounted for 17 percent of the state's overall population increase during the decade.

Trends for the Future

The Census Bureau projects that Indiana's population will grow by eight percent between 2000 and 2025, to 6.5 million.

Impact on Environment and Quality of Life

Water: Drinking water sources like Lake Michigan and underground aquifers are being stretched thin by the demands of the state's increasing population. In some south Lake County communities, residents who always relied on wells for a seemingly endless supply of fresh water are seeing them run dry.²

Traffic: As population growth put more traffic on the roads, the average commute for Indiana residents increased 11 percent during the 1990s, from 20 minutes to 23 minutes in 2000.^{3,4} Traffic congestion is one of the biggest complaints of Indianapolis metro residents. Since 1990, the area's traffic has grown more than 25 percent, and the number of vehicle registrations in the metro area has nearly tripled.⁵

Disappearing Open Space: Each year, Indiana loses 39,100 acres of open space and farmland due to development.⁶

Crowded Housing: 16,000 Indiana households are defined as severely crowded by housing authorities, a 75 percent increase since 1990.^{7,8} Studies show that a rise in crowded housing often correlates with an increase in the number of foreign-born.^{9,10}

Affordable Housing: As population increases, the affordable housing supply often drops. Indiana workers who earn minimum wage must work 85 hours per week in order to afford a two-bedroom unit at the area's fair market rent. Indiana's housing wage (the amount a full-time worker must earn per hour to afford a two-bedroom apartment at fair market rent) is \$10.93, but its minimum wage is less than half that.¹¹

Sprawl: Other state's sprawl is spilling over into Indiana. As people try to escape from the population congestion in Chicago, Cincinnati, and Louisville, they're flooding into Indiana, where they can still commute to their jobs in the states they left. From 1997 to 2000, most Indiana counties bordering urban areas in neighboring states saw a 30 percent or more increase in the number of residents commuting to workplaces across state lines.¹²

Air pollution: As population increases, pollution usually rises along with it. Indiana released more cancer-causing pollutants into the air and water in 2000 than all but two other states.¹³

Naturalization

Fewer immigrants in Indiana are becoming naturalized U.S. citizens. In 2000, 38 percent of Indiana's foreign-born residents were naturalized U.S. citizens, versus 53 percent in 1990.

Poverty: 16 percent of immigrants in Indiana have incomes below the poverty level. Among non-citizens, the rate climbs to 21 percent.¹⁴

Education: Between 1990 and 2000, Indiana's elementary and high school enrollment increased eight percent, and communities are struggling with school overcrowding. Many districts have been forced to build more facilities, expand existing schools, and add portable classrooms.¹⁵ In Hamilton Southeastern, nearly 1,000 new students showed up for classes in 2001.¹⁶ Franklin Township officials say their enrollment is projected to double by 2013.¹⁷

Illegal Immigration in Indiana

45,000 illegal aliens resided in Indiana as of 2000, according to INS figures. This is 212 percent higher than the previous INS estimate in 1996 and 309 percent higher than the estimate for 1990.¹⁸

Of the state's 6,000 to 8,000 farm workers, about one-third are illegal aliens, according to the Indiana Department of Workforce Development.¹⁹

Indiana authorities requested compensation of \$2.7 million from the federal government in FY'99 for the incarceration of illegal aliens in state and local jails and prisons (under the federal State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, or SCAAP), but it received only \$ one million in compensation, leaving \$1.7 million in uncompensated costs to be borne by Indiana taxpayers.

Endnotes

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 14. "Indiana State Factsheet," Migration Information Source, Migration Policy Institute.
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