



ICIRR

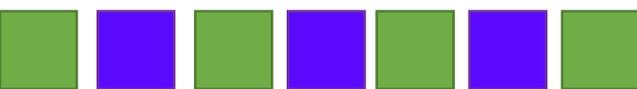
**ILLINOIS COALITION
FOR IMMIGRANT AND
REFUGEE RIGHTS**



Nation of Immigrants

- **Anti-immigrant** sentiment is as old as US:

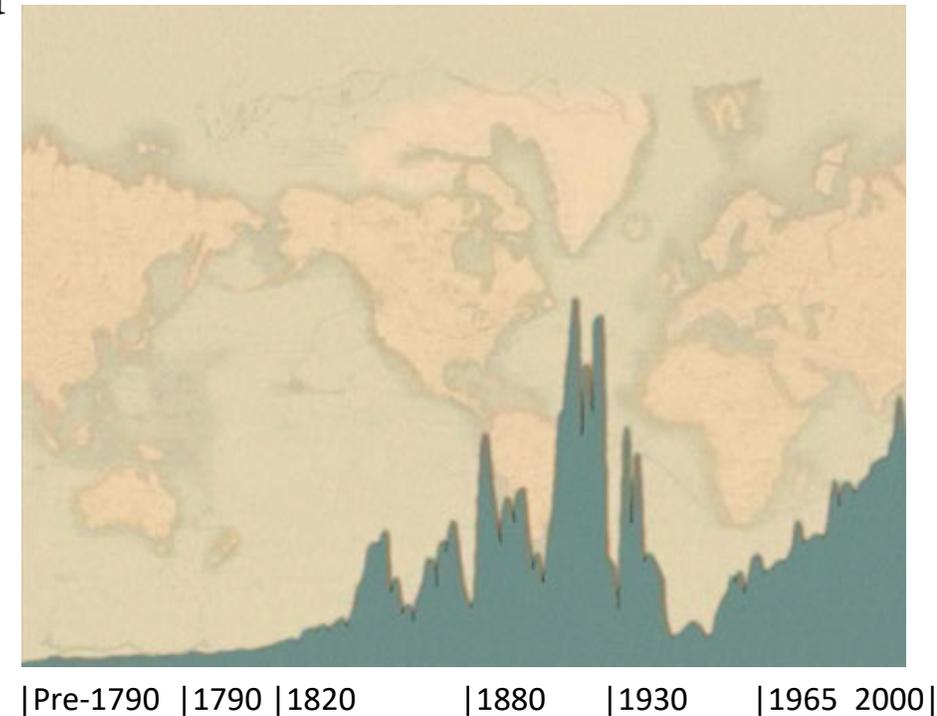
“Why should the Palatine Boors be suffered to swarm into our Settlements, and by herding together establish their Language and Manners to the Exclusion of ours? Why should Pennsylvania, founded by the English, become a Colony of Aliens, who will shortly be so numerous as to Germanize us instead of our Anglifying them, and will never adopt our Language or Customs..”. - Benjamin Franklin, 1751





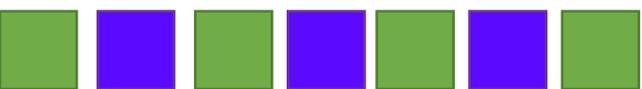
Historical Perspective

- Our current immigration system is only **50** years old, and has been altered several times since then.
- Important to understand historical **context**—**where did these laws come from, what were they before, can they be improved?**
- US did not restrict immigration by nationality or any other criteria for most of its early history, and largely left immigration to the states



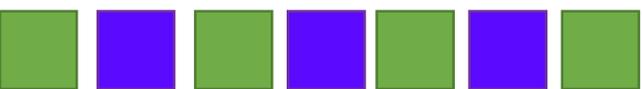


- Anti-Catholic (specifically anti-Irish and German) sentiment among Know-Nothings
- Most of these immigrants could become **citizens**—but major exceptions: 1790 Naturalization Act limited naturalization to whites. Not repealed until 1952.
- Also, status of African-Americans (either enslaved or free) was in question Supreme Court ruled in Dred Scott that no Americans of African descent could be US citizens—overturned by **14th Amendment**.
- First major restrictions were against the Chinese, who had come to California to dig for gold, build railroads -US bar on Chinese laborers; Further restrictions were applied to Japanese, other Asians—Asian Exclusion Zone in 1917





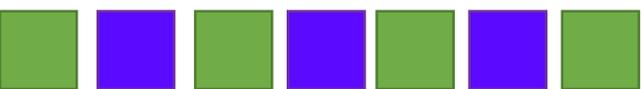
- At same time, US saw large influx of eastern and southern European—Recruited to settle plains, work in industries e.g. meatpacking, textile/garment but viewed as criminals and disease-carriers; Some sought to Americanize them: Jane Addams
- After WWI, nativists won out, in 1921 and 1924 saw restrictions targeted against E. and S. Europeans that effectively shut down immigration from most of the world—limit to 2% of each nation's immigrant population as of 1890 (before major E&S European wave)





Mexico

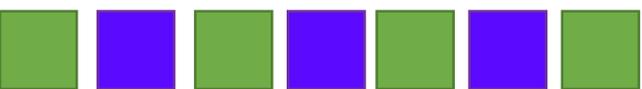
- First Mexicans didn't "arrive" in US; **border moved** after US colonized Texas, defeated Mexico in 1848
- **Cyclical Migration** started in early 20th century, fueled by agricultural work, and heavy industry.
- Mass expulsions during Depression, then **Bracero Program** during WWII until 1964
- Bi-lateral agreements that allowed 4.6 million Mexican men to come on, short-term, primarily agricultural labor contracts. **From 1942 to 1964, 4.6 million contracts were signed**, with many individuals returning several times on different contracts, making it the largest
- 1950s: **Operation Wetback** tried to increase legal (bracero) visas.
- Some undocumented immigrants deported and returned as braceros.





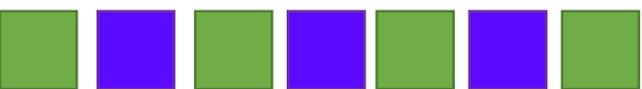
Immigration & Nationality Act (INA)

- **1965:** momentous year in Civil Rights movement—concern against discrimination carried over into immigration
- Issues with quota system arose during and after WWII re: European (Jewish) refugees who were blocked due to quotas.
- Under INA Immigration **would not** be restricted by race or country, instead based on family and employment relationships.
- Current system reflects each of the basic motivations for migration: **family sponsorship, employment sponsorship, refugee/asylum processing**



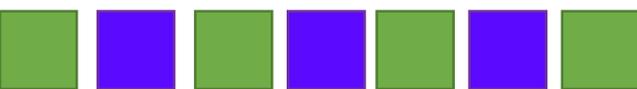
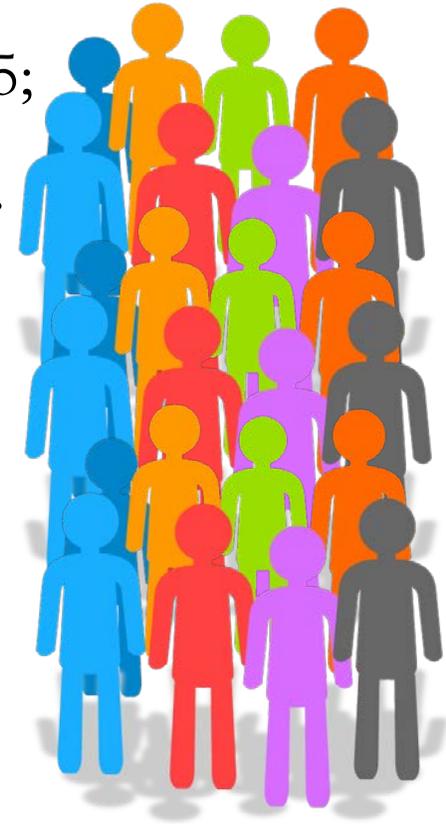


- But legal avenues for immigrating are still narrow and choked:
- Those eligible for family or employer sponsorship face long backlogs
- Employment visas are limited to 140K/year, skewed toward applicants with high levels of education or professionals standing - “skilled worker” visas take 5 years (when visas are available).
- Family preference visas are also numerically restricted; adult sons and daughters of USCs take 8-11 years; Mexico 20 years; Siblings 12-23 years





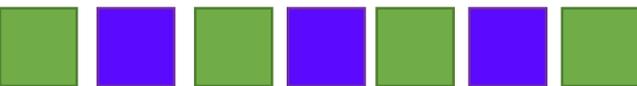
- Impact was particularly hard on Mexico.
- 1965 law put cap on MX migration, making a legal flow of migrants illegal:
- 26.7 million undocumented Mexicans came to the US between 1965 and 1985;
- 21.8 million left the US, leaving net total of 4.9 million who settled in the US.
- Led to large undocumented population of million by 1982.





“We must also recognize that both the United States and Mexico have historically benefited from Mexicans obtaining employment in the US. A number of our States have special labor needs, and we should take these into account. Illegal immigrants in considerable numbers have become productive members of our society and are a basic part of our work force. Those who have established equities in the US should be recognized and accorded legal status.”

-Ronald Reagan, 1981





US responded with IRCA:

- **IRCA 1986 amnesty legalized 2.7 million undocumented immigrants**, but did not provide enough legal avenues for future migrants
- **IRCA WORKED**—made many undocumented immigrants citizens who now are community leaders **BUT ALSO did not address causes of migration**, didn't open legal channels, failed to account for continuing need for immigrant labor; instead, made it a crime (for the first time) to hire and employ undocumented workers.
- **Employer sanctions** were enforced half-heartedly, proved too costly to economy (heavy reliance on immigrant labor—without adequate legal channels, many businesses looked other way)
- **NAFTA** facilitated freer flow of products and capital; cheap US grain undercut Mexican farmers and drove them off the farm—but did not integrate labor market or allow for freer movement of people
- No longer circular—before, many migrants come to work and then go home. - Now with greater risk and cost consequences), migrants stay
- **IIRIRA** Made worse by 1996 immigration laws, passed in the context of the 1993 WTC bombing, OKC bomb
Made it harder to get in, harder to stay, easier to get deported

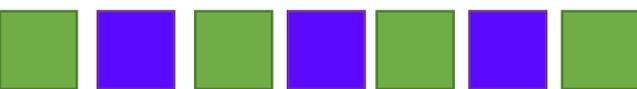




Refugees / Asylees

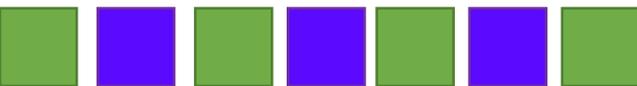
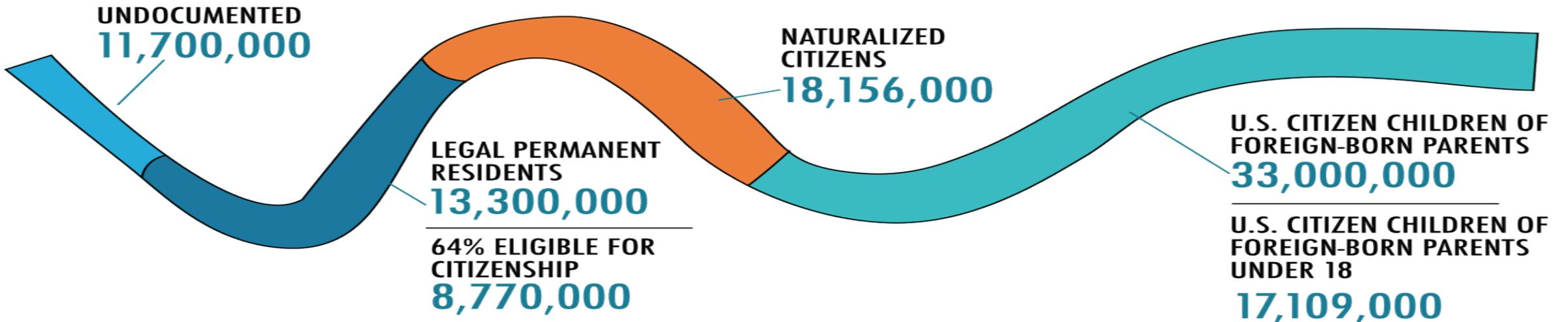
Individuals who have a well-founded fear of persecution in their native country due to:

- Race
- Religion
- Nationality
- Political opinion
- Membership in specific social group
- Refugees can apply for LPR status (green cards) one year after admission—their LPR grant date is backdated to their date of admission.
- Asylees can apply for LPR status one year after being granted asylum—their LPR grant date is backdated one year from the date on which the LPR status is approved.





Naturalization: the Path to Immigrant Integration





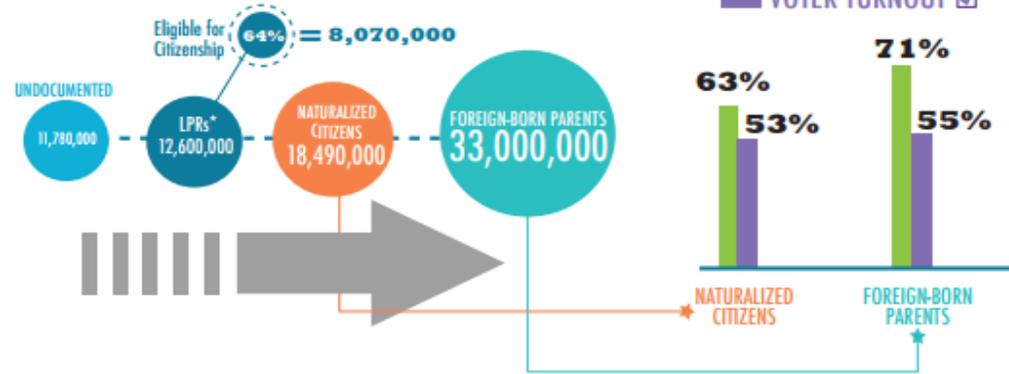
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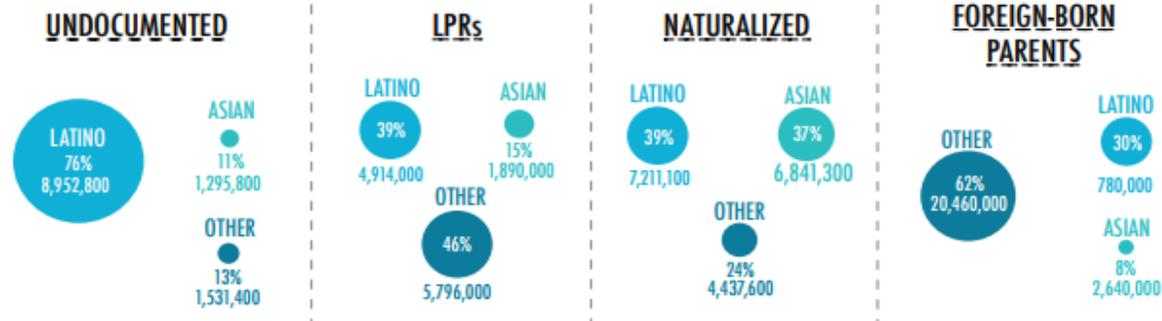
IMMIGRANTS BY IMMIGRATION STATUS



IN THE UNITED STATES



ETHNICITIES



*LPRs = Legal Permanent Residents

Sources: US Census Bureau, Migration Policy Institute, Pew Hispanic Center, Department of Homeland Security Office of Immigration Statistics, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights.



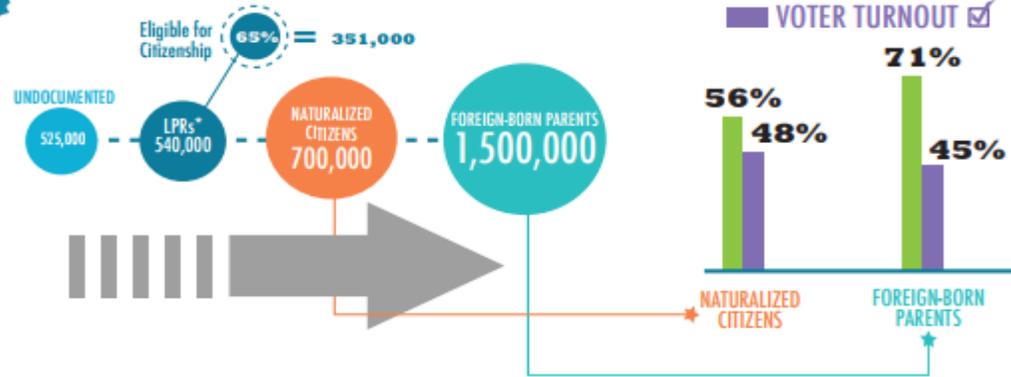
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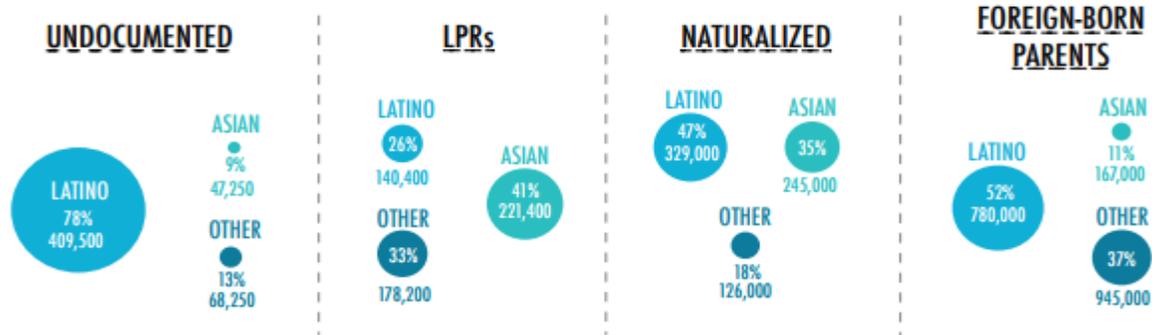
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IN ILLINOIS



ETHNICITIES



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Sources: US Census Bureau, Migration Policy Institute, Pew Hispanic Center, Department of Homeland Security Office of Immigration Statistics, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights.

FOREIGN BORN POPULATION IN ILLINOIS

Illinois population: 2.8 million

Foreign born: 14% or 1.8 million

Illinois resettled 128,572 refugees

WHERE ARE ILLINOIS IMMIGRANTS

Ranked by FB Populations	Total Population	Foreign Born	Percent FB	Rank #	Rank %
Cook	5,227,575	1,101,730	21.08%	1	1
DuPage	930,514	175,061	18.81%	2	2
Lake	702,890	129,408	18.41%	3	3
Kane	526,615	96,268	18.28%	4	4
Will	685,378	80,514	11.75%	5	5
McHenry	307,083	28,414	9.25%	6	7
Champaign	206,420	23,787	11.52%	7	6
Winnebago	288,896	22,634	7.83%	8	10
Rock Island	146,536	11,625	7.93%	9	9
Kendall	121,452	10,887	8.96%	10	8

IMMIGRANTS AND ILLINOIS ECONOMY

Immigrants play a key role in filling labor force needs in Illinois.

- 36% of electrical equipment assemblers
- 33% of physicians
- 28% of construction laborers
- 25% of mechanical engineers
- 20% of computer scientists
- Illinois' agricultural industry employs migrant farmworkers.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR IMMIGRANTS

- Refugees are eligible for all federal and state programs
- Legal immigrants are barred from federal programs, such as Medicaid, TANF, SNAP for the first five years of their arrival
- Undocumented immigrants are not eligible for federal programs

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

- Obama Administration launched **DACA in 2012** to protect immigrants who came to the USA as children from deportation and to allow them to work, continue with their educations. **800,000 immigrants secured DACA, including 42,000 in Illinois.**
- On September 5, 2017, the **Trump Administration rescinded DACA**
- **Those whose DACA expires between September 5, 2017, and March 5, 2018, were able to renew their DACA for 2 years, but only if USCIS received their application on or before October 5, 2017.**
- Those whose **DACA expires after March 5, 2018, will not be able to renew.**
- However on January 9, 2018, a **federal court decision compelled the federal government to resume accepting renewal applications.** The Justice Department has filed a counter suit.
- **DREAM Act** is embroiled in a Congressional **government shutdown January 19**



What is Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

- TPS was established by Congress in the **Immigration Act of 1990**. It's a humanitarian program whose basic principle is that the United States should suspend deportations to **countries that have been destabilized** by war or catastrophe
- Department of Homeland Security has announced that it will **end TPS for four countries**, including Honduras - 86,000, Haiti -58,000, Nicaragua – 5,000, Sudan 1,000
- Immigrants from six other countries currently receive TPS, but it is unclear whether the Trump administration plans to end their protections.
- **TPS protections for Salvadorans will expire on Sept. 9, 2019**. After that time, their immigration status will revert to whatever it was before TPS was granted, so if the person was in the country illegally they would be eligible for deportation. The **200,000** Salvadorans have until then to obtain legal residency or leave