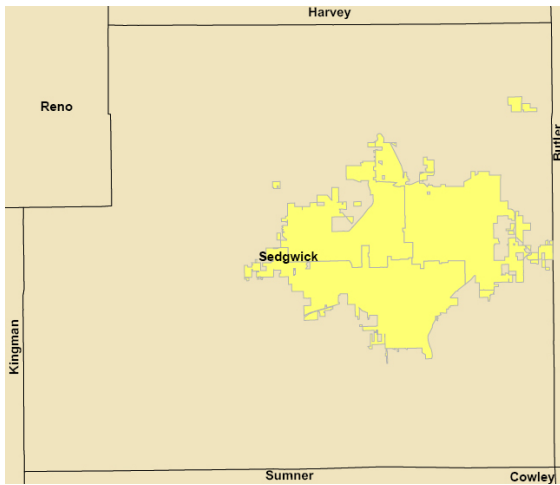


Young Children of Immigrants in the Wichita Knight Community

Prepared by David Dixon, Julia Gelatt, and Afshin Zilanawala,
Migration Policy Institute
for the
John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

While the Wichita Knight Community includes all of Sedgwick County in Kansas, the analysis below includes only the most populous portions of the county due to limitations in the geographic units in census microdata (see map).



Data in this fact sheet based on tabulations of 2000 Census data, using IPUMS. Steven Ruggles, Matthew Sobek, Trent Alexander, Catherine A. Fitch, Ronald Goeken, Patricia Kelly Hall, Miriam King, and Chad Ronnander. Integrated Public Use Microdata Series: Version 3.0. Minneapolis, MN: Minnesota Population Center, 2004.

Growth (1990-2000)

- Children of immigrants were the fastest-growing component of the child population in the Wichita Knight Community. Children of immigrants include US- and foreign-born children under 18 with one or more foreign-born parent. While the number of children of natives decreased from 104,895 to 75,184 (28 percent) between 1990 and 2000, the number of children of immigrants increased from 8,305 to 13,838 (67 percent).
- During the decade, the number of young children of immigrants (under 9) grew by 66 percent, from 4,816 to 7,992, while the population of young children of natives decreased by 34 percent, from 55,787 to 36,775.

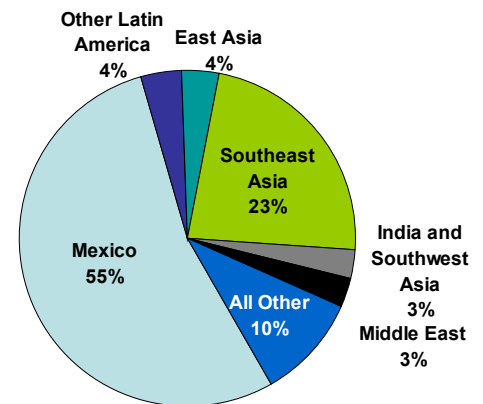
Demographic Characteristics

- Children of immigrants made up 18 percent of the 44,767 children under 9 in the Wichita Knight Community.
- Children of immigrants under 9 were more likely to be US born (and, thus citizens) than foreign born (82 versus 18 percent).
- Among young children with foreign-born parents, 55 percent had a parent born in Mexico, while 33 percent had a parent born in Asia (23 percent in Southeast Asia, 4 percent in East Asia, 3 percent in India/Southwest Asia, and 3 percent in the Middle East).
- Young children of immigrants were more likely to live in two-parent families than children of natives (87 versus 68 percent).

Citizenship and Legal Status¹

- Younger children of immigrants (under age 9) were more likely to be US citizens than older children (9 to 18) in the Wichita Knight Community. Only 17 percent of young children of immigrants were noncitizens, compared with 38 percent of older children.
- Among the younger children of immigrants, 82 percent were native born, 1 percent were naturalized citizens, 4 percent had LPR status, 1 percent were temporary immigrants, 1 percent were refugees, and 11 percent were unauthorized immigrants. Among their older counterparts, 57 percent were native born, 5 percent were naturalized citizens, 8 percent had LPR status, 7 percent were refugees, 1 percent were temporary immigrants, and 21 percent were unauthorized immigrants.
- While 20 percent of young children of immigrants under 9 had a naturalized-citizen parent, nearly four-fifths of young children of immigrants had a noncitizen parent: 36 percent had an LPR parent, 7 percent had a refugee parent, 1 percent had a temporary immigrant parent, and 37 percent had an unauthorized immigrant parent. Among older

Figure 1. World Region of Birth among Parents of Young Children of Immigrants in the Wichita Knight Community



Note: Totals may add to greater than 100 percent as a single young child may have parents from two different countries or world regions. Source: 5 percent IPUMS 2000.

1. Imputations of legal status by Jeffrey S. Passel, Jennifer Van Hook, and Frank D. Bean. Estimates of Legal and Unauthorized Foreign-Born Population for the United States and Selected States, Based on Census 2000. Report to the Census Bureau. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute, 2004. http://www.sabresys.com/i_whitepapers.asp.

children of immigrants, 33 percent had a naturalized-citizen parent and almost two-thirds had a noncitizen parent: 30 percent had an LPR parent, 7 percent had a refugee parent, 1 percent had a temporary immigrant parent, and 28 percent had an unauthorized immigrant parent.

- Most young children of immigrants under 9 in the Wichita Knight Community (roughly 67 percent) lived in mixed-status families with one or more noncitizen parents. (A mixed-status family includes adults who are noncitizens and children who are US citizens.)

Parent Education and Language

- In the Wichita Knight Community, only 18 percent of young children of immigrants (under 9) had a parent with at least a bachelor's degree, compared to 36 percent of their counterparts in native families. At the same time, 39 percent of young children of immigrants in the Wichita Knight Community had parents with less than a high-school education (versus only 9 percent of children of natives).
- Seventy-two percent of children of immigrants under 9 had one or more limited English proficient (LEP) parent,² while 64 percent of their older counterparts (9 to 18) had a LEP parent. Sixty-eight percent of native-born and nearly 92 percent of foreign-born young children of immigrants had at least one LEP parent. In contrast, less than 1 percent of young children of natives lived in families in which either parent was LEP.
- About 37 percent of young children of immigrants lived in “linguistically isolated” households in which all persons age 14 and over were LEP. In contrast, 17 percent of older children of immigrants lived in such households. Foreign-born children of immigrants were more likely to live in linguistically isolated households than were US-born children of immigrants (71 versus 29 percent). Less than 1 percent of children of natives lived in such households.

Work and Wage

- Forty-two percent of young children of immigrants (under 9) lived in families in which both parents were in the labor force, compared to 38 percent of young children of natives. However, young foreign-born children of immigrants were much less likely to have both parents in the labor force than US-born children of immigrants (18 versus 47 percent).
- The median hourly wage for native full-time year-round³ working parents of young children was about \$15 in 1999 for the Wichita Knight Community. For young children of immigrants, the median hourly parental wage was \$12.
- Young children of immigrants in the Wichita Knight Community were much more likely to have fathers who were active in production, construction trades, installation/maintenance repair, and food preparation/serving fields than young children of immigrants nationally (see Figure 2). However, both groups were likely to have fathers who worked transportation-related occupations.

Figure 2. Top Five Occupations among Young Children of Immigrants' Parents

United States		Wichita Knight Community	
Occupation	Percent of young children of immigrants	Occupation	Percent of young children of immigrants
Father's Occupation		Father's Occupation	
Production	14.2	Production	26.8
Construction trades	13.1	Construction trades	21.6
Transportation and material moving	10.3	Transportation and material moving	11.1
Management	8.5	Installation maintenance and repair	7.3
Sales	7.6	Food preparation and serving	6.6
Mother's Occupation		Mother's Occupation	
Office and administrative support	17.1	Production	28.9
Production	13.3	Office and administrative support	12.9
Sales	11	Grounds cleaning/maintenance	12.2
Grounds cleaning/maintenance	7.4	Food preparation and serving	10.4
Food preparation and serving	6.8	Sales	9.5

Source: 5 percent IPUMS 2000.

2. Limited English Proficiency (LEP) is defined here as those who report speaking English “less than very well” on the census questionnaire.

3. Full-time year-round workers are those who work 35 or more hours a week, 50 or more weeks a year.

- While young children of immigrants in the Wichita Knight Community were more likely to have mothers who were employed in production, food preparation/serving, and grounds cleaning/maintenance-related fields than young children of immigrants nationally, both groups were likely to have mothers who worked in office and administrative support and sales occupations.

Poverty and Income

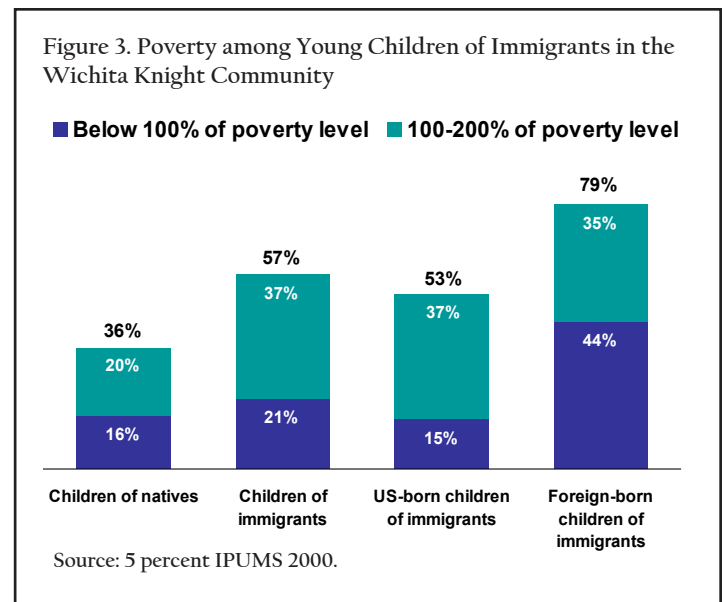
- According to Figure 3, young children of immigrants (under 9) were more likely to live below the federal poverty line than children of natives (21 versus 16 percent).
- Fifty-seven percent (4,578) of children of immigrants under 9 in the Wichita Knight Community lived in low-income families (with incomes less than twice the federal poverty level), compared with 36 percent of children of natives. Foreign-born young children of immigrants were more likely to live in low-income families than their US-born counterparts (79 versus 53 percent).

Hardship and Benefit Use

- Among low-income families, young children of immigrants (under 9) were less likely to live in families that received public benefits: 6 percent of children of immigrants under 9 in such families received public assistance (including TANF) from a state or local welfare office in 1999, compared to 15 percent of their counterparts in native families. US-born young children of immigrants were more than three times as likely as foreign-born young children of immigrants to receive public assistance (7 versus 2 percent).
- In 1999, about 3.9 percent of young children lived in low-income immigrant families that received Supplemental Security Income (SSI) versus 1.4 percent of those in native families. Among young children in low-income immigrant families, 3.8 percent of those born in the United States and 4.2 percent of those born abroad lived in families that received SSI.

Conclusions

- Just under one in five of all young children (under 9) in the Wichita Knight Community were children of immigrants. This population grew substantially between 1990 and 2000, while the population of young children of natives decreased.
- Young children in the Wichita Knight Community were more likely to have a parent born in Southeast Asia than young children in the state of Kansas as a whole (23 versus 12 percent) and were slightly less likely to have a parent born in Mexico (55 versus 58 percent).
- Young children of immigrants in the Wichita Knight Community were much less likely to have a parent with at least a bachelor's degree than young children of immigrants at the national level. They were more likely than young children of immigrants at the national level to have a parent lacking a high-school degree (39 versus 32 percent). Young children with a parent from Southeast Asia were much more likely to have a parent with a college education than those with a parent from Mexico (21 versus 5 percent). Young children with a parent from Southeast Asia were also less likely to have a parent lacking a high-school diploma than those with a parent from Mexico (39 versus 53 percent).
- Young children of immigrants in the Wichita Knight Community were more likely than young children of immi-



grants at the national level to live with a LEP parent (72 versus 59 percent) and more likely to live in a linguistically isolated household (37 versus 32 percent). Young children with a parent from Mexico and those with a parent from Southeast Asia were particularly likely to live with a LEP parent (77 and 83 percent respectively). About half of young children with a parent from Mexico and one-third of young children with a parent from Southeast Asia lived in linguistically isolated households.

- Young children with roots in different areas also had different rates of poverty and access to benefits. Young children with a parent from Mexico were about as likely to live in a low-income family as young children with a parent from Southeast Asia (60 versus 59 percent), but were twice as likely to live below the poverty line (25 versus 12 percent).
- Young children of immigrants in the Wichita Knight Community were much less likely than their counterparts in native families to access public benefits and SSI. Rates of access were similar among young children with a parent from Mexico and those with a parent from Southeast Asia (for welfare: 5 percent each; for SSI: 5 versus 4 percent).

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