



U.S. Department of Health
and Human Services
Administration for Children
and Families
Office of Family Assistance

NRFC Quick Statistics



www.fatherhood.gov

Immigrant Fathers

Number (in Millions) of Immigrants Living in the United States by Gender, 1995-2006

Year	Males	Females	Total
1995	12.0	12.5	24.5
1996	12.0	12.5	24.5
1997	12.9	12.8	25.7
1998	13.1	13.2	26.3
1999	13.1	13.3	26.4
2000	15.1	14.8	29.9
2001	16.1	15.7	31.8
2002	16.4	16.1	32.5
2003	16.8	16.7	33.5
2004	17.2	17.0	34.2
2005	17.4	17.1	34.5
2006	18.0	17.5	35.5

Source: Current Population Surveys, 1995-2006

- The number of immigrants living in the United States has increased from 24.5 million in 1995 to 35.5 million in 2006.
- There were slightly higher numbers of immigrant males than females living in the United States in 2000-2006.

Father's Age Distribution for U.S.-born Infants by Father's Nativity*, 2001

	Less than 20	20-24	25-34	35-44	45+
Children with Foreign-Born Fathers	2%	16%	54%	26%	3%
Children with Native-Born Fathers	4%	18%	53%	23%	2%

Source: Child Trends analyses of ECLS-B, 9-month data

*Note: Analyses are based on a sample of 6,881 fathers who reported nativity out of a total sample of 6,988 fathers identified; 1.4% of fathers did not report on their nativity. Fathers included in this table are limited to biological, resident and non-resident fathers.

- The age distribution of immigrant fathers is generally similar to native-born fathers. The majority of young children with an immigrant biological father as well as young children with a native-born biological father have a father who is aged 34 years or younger, 72 percent and 75 percent respectively.

Father's Household Income Distribution for U.S.-born Infants by Father's Nativity*, 2001

	Less than \$10,000	\$10,001-20,000	\$20,001-35,000	\$35,001-50,000	\$50,001-75,000	Over \$75,000
Children with Foreign-Born Fathers	9%	22%	34%	12%	9%	14%
Children with Native-Born Fathers	8%	12%	21%	16%	18%	24%

Source: Child Trends analyses of ECLS-B, 9-month data

*Note: Analyses are based on a sample of 6,881 fathers who reported nativity out of a total sample of 6,988 fathers identified; 1.4% of fathers did not report on their nativity. Fathers included in this table are limited to biological and non-biological, resident fathers.

- Infants with immigrant fathers live in poorer households than infants with native fathers. In 2001, a large percentage (65 percent) of young children with immigrant fathers lived in households with incomes below \$35,000 as compared to only 41 percent of children with native fathers.

Father's Residential Status for U.S.-born Infants by Father's Nativity*, 2001

	Resident	Nonresident	Both a Resident and a Non-Resident
Children with Foreign-Born Fathers	92%	6%	2%
Children with Native-Born Fathers	84%	11%	4%

Source: Child Trends analyses of ECLS-B, 9-month data

**Note: Analyses are based on a sample of 6,881 fathers who reported nativity out of a total sample of 6,988 fathers identified; 1.4% of fathers did not report on their nativity. Fathers included in this table are limited to biological and non-biological, resident and non-resident fathers.*

- Immigrant fathers are only about half as likely to be non-resident fathers as native fathers with infant children (6 versus 11 percent).

Father's Marital and Cohabitation Status for U.S.-born Infants by Father's Nativity*, 2001

	Married	Cohabiting	Neither Married or Cohabiting
Children with Foreign-Born Fathers	73%	20%	7%
Children with Native-Born Fathers	72%	13%	15%

Source: Child Trends analyses of ECLS-B, 9-month data

**Note: Analyses are based on a sample of 6,881 fathers who reported nativity out of a total sample of 6,988 fathers identified; 1.4% of fathers did not report on their nativity. Fathers included in this table are limited to biological, resident and non-resident fathers.*

- One in five immigrant biological fathers (20 percent) cohabit with the mother of their infant as compared to only 13 percent of native-born fathers.
- The proportions of immigrant and native biological fathers that are married, however, are virtually the same (73 percent of foreign-born and 72 percent of native born).

Father's Region of Origin for U.S.-born Infants with Immigrant Fathers*, 2001

	Africa & West Indies	Europe, Canada, Australia	Asia	Mexico	Other Latin America**
Children with Foreign-Born Fathers	7%	8%	17%	49%	18%

Source: Child Trends analyses of ECLS-B, 9-month data

*Note: Analyses are based on a sample of 6,881 fathers who reported nativity out of a total sample of 6,988 fathers identified; 1.4% of fathers did not report on their nativity. Fathers included in this table are limited to biological and non-biological, resident and non-resident fathers.

** Other Latin America includes Central America, South America and the Caribbean

- About half of infant children with immigrant fathers (49 percent) have fathers who come from Mexico.
- The rest of Latin America accounts for another 18 percent of foreign-born fathers, meaning that including Mexico, just over two thirds of children with immigrant fathers (67 percent) have fathers from Latin America.
- Close to one in five children with immigrant fathers (17 percent) have fathers from Asia.

Father's Educational Attainment Distribution for U.S.-born Infants by Father's Nativity*, 2001

	Less than high school	High school	Vocational / Some College	College or Higher
Children with Foreign-Born Fathers	47%	16%	17%	21%
Children with Native-Born Fathers	17%	27%	29%	28%

Source: Child Trends analyses of ECLS-B, 9-month data

*Note: Analyses are based on a sample of 6,881 fathers who reported nativity out of a total sample of 6,988 fathers identified; 1.4% of fathers did not report on their nativity. Fathers included in this table are limited to biological and non-biological, resident and non-resident fathers.

- Immigrant fathers are about three times as likely as native-born fathers to lack a high school education. Almost half (47 percent) of infants with immigrant fathers have fathers without high school educations; for infants with native fathers this proportion is just 17 percent.
- Native-born fathers are only slightly more likely than immigrant fathers to have a college degree or higher. For infants with native-born fathers, 28 percent have a father with a college degree or higher as compared with 21 percent of children with foreign-born fathers.