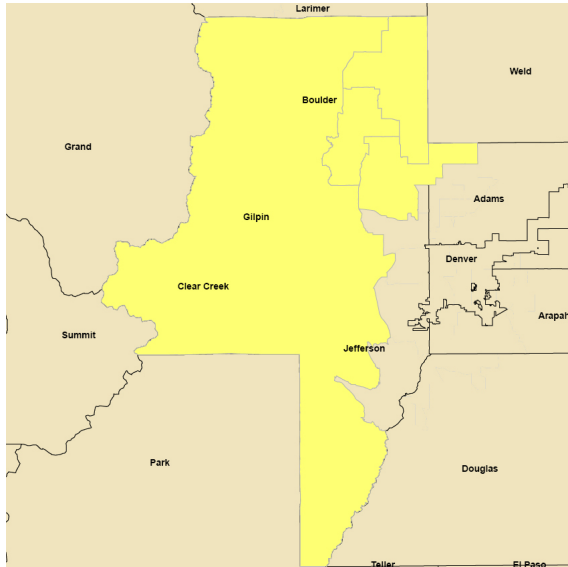


Young Children of Immigrants in the Boulder Knight Community

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While the Boulder Knight Community includes only Boulder County, Colorado, parts of Gilpin, Clear Creek, and Jefferson Counties were included in the analysis below due to limitations in the geographic units available 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)

- In the state of Colorado, children of immigrants were the fastest-growing component of the child population. 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 increased from 795,861 to 928,927 (16 percent) between 1990 and 2000, the number of children of immigrants increased from 71,784 to 168,767 (135 percent).
- During the decade, the number of young children of immigrants (under 9) grew by 139 percent, from 37,914 to 90,498, while the population of young children of natives increased by 6 percent, from 406,434 to 432,080.

Note: The above section describes all of the state of Colorado, while the remainder of the fact sheet covers just the Boulder Knight Community (see map). Analysis of the growth of the young child population in the Boulder Knight Community was not possible because of the incomparability of 1990 and 2000 census microdata describing this community.

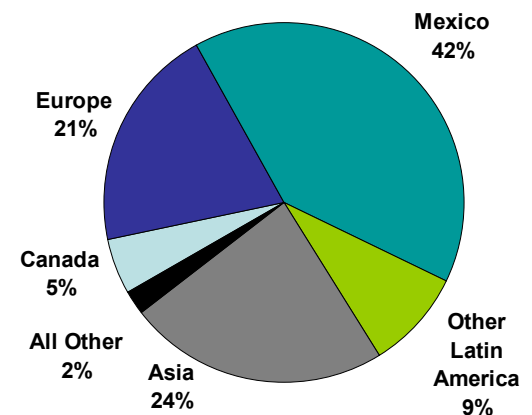
Demographic Characteristics

- Children of immigrants made up 16 percent of the 47,604 children under 9 in the Boulder Knight Community.
- Children of immigrants under 9 were more likely to be US born than foreign born (82 versus 18 percent).
- Among young children with foreign-born parents, 42 percent had a parent born in Mexico, while 24 percent had a parent born in Asia and 21 percent in Europe. Nine percent of young children of immigrants had a parent born elsewhere in Latin America.
- Young children of immigrants were more likely to live in two-parent families than children of natives (87 versus 81 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 Boulder Knight Community. Only 17 percent of young children of immigrants were noncitizens, compared with 30 percent of older children.
- Among the younger children of immigrants, 82 percent were native born, 1 percent were naturalized citizens, 5 percent had LPR status, 5 percent were temporary immigrants, and 8 percent were unauthorized immigrants. Among their older counterparts, 67 percent were

Figure 1. World Region of Birth among Parents of Young Children of Immigrants in the Boulder 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.

native born, 3 percent were naturalized citizens, 11 percent had LPR status, 2 percent were refugees, 3 percent were temporary immigrants, and 14 percent were unauthorized immigrants.

- While 22 percent of young children of immigrants under 9 had a naturalized-citizen parent, three-quarters of young children of immigrants had a noncitizen parent: 38 percent had an LPR parent, 2 percent had a refugee parent, 7 percent had a temporary immigrant parent, and 31 percent had an unauthorized immigrant parent. Among older children of immigrants, 32 percent had a naturalized-citizen parent and nearly two-thirds had a noncitizen parent: 38 percent had an LPR parent, 4 percent had a refugee parent, 3 percent had a temporary immigrant parent, and 23 percent had an unauthorized immigrant parent.
- Most young children of immigrants under 9 in the Boulder Knight Community (roughly 64 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 Boulder Knight Community, more than half (53 percent) of young children of immigrants (under 9) had a parent with at least a bachelor's degree, compared to 61 percent of their counterparts in native families. Nationwide, only 27 percent of young children of immigrants had a parent with at least a bachelor's degree. At the same time, a quarter of young children of immigrants in the Boulder Knight Community had parents with less than a high-school education (versus only 5 percent of children of natives).
- Despite high parental education levels, just over half (52 percent) of children of immigrants under 9 had one or more limited English proficient (LEP) parent,² while 49 percent of their older counterparts (9 to 18) had a LEP parent. Forty-eight percent of native born and sixty-eight percent of foreign-born young children of immigrants had at least one LEP parent. In contrast, a very small share (2 percent) of young children of natives lived in families in which either parent was LEP.
- Thirty percent of young children of immigrants lived in “linguistically isolated” households in which all persons age 14 and over were LEP. In contrast, 22 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 (33 versus 29 percent). Less than 1 percent of children of natives lived in such households.

Work and Wage

- Thirty-five percent of young children of immigrants (under 9) lived in families in which both parents were in the labor force, compared to almost half (48 percent) of young children of natives. However, young foreign-born children of immigrants were less likely to have both parents in the labor force than US-born children of immigrants (18 versus 39 percent).
- The median hourly wage for native full-time year-round³ working parents of young children was about \$23 in 1999 for the Boulder Knight Community. For young children of immigrants, the median hourly parental wage was \$22, \$8 more than the national average for young children of immigrants.
- Young children of immigrants in the Boulder Knight Community were much more likely to have fathers who were active in management, computer/mathematical, food preparation/serving, life/physical and social sciences, and architecture/engineering fields than young children of immigrants nationally (see Figure 2).
- While young children of immigrants in the Boulder Knight Community were more likely to have mothers who were employed in education/library services than young children of immigrants nationally, both groups were likely to have mothers who worked in office and administrative support, food preparation, production, and sales occupations.

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.

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

United States		Boulder 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	Management	14.2
Construction trades	13.1	Computer and mathematical	10.6
Transportation and material moving	10.3	Architecture and engineering	8.7
Management	8.5	Food preparation and serving	8.4
Sales	7.6	Life physical and social science	7.8
Mother's Occupation		Mother's Occupation	
Office and administrative support	17.1	Office and administrative support	17.1
Production	13.3	Production	12.4
Sales	11	Sales	8.5
Grounds cleaning/maintenance	7.4	Education training and library	8.0
Food preparation and serving	6.8	Food preparation and serving	7.0

Source: 5 percent IPUMS 2000.

Poverty and Income

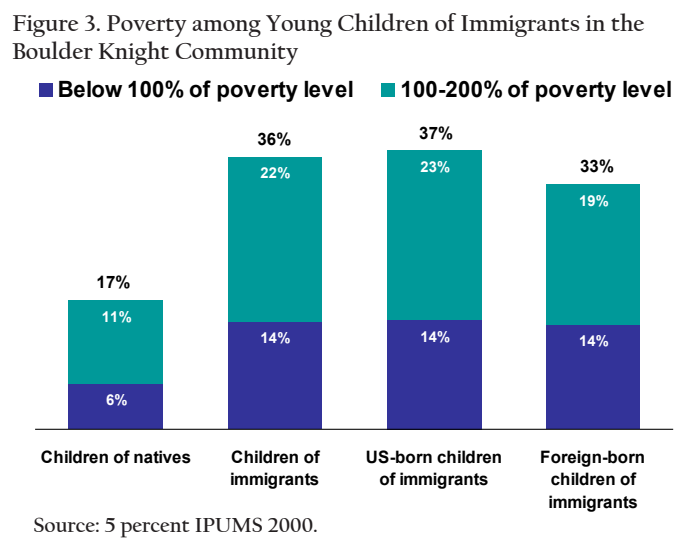
- According to Figure 3, young children of immigrants (under 9) were more than twice as likely to live below the federal poverty line as children of natives (14 versus 6 percent).
- Thirty-six percent (2,711) of children of immigrants under 9 in Boulder lived in low-income families (with incomes less than twice the federal poverty level), compared with 17 percent of children of natives. US-born young children of immigrants were more likely to live in low-income families than their foreign-born counterparts (37 versus 33 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 12 percent of their counterparts in native families.

Conclusions

- Young children of immigrants made up just 16 percent of all young children (under 9) in the Boulder Knight Community.
- Young children in Boulder were more likely to have a parent born in Europe or Asia than young children in Colorado as a whole. In Boulder, 21 percent had a parent from Europe and 24 percent had a parent born in Asia, while in Colorado as a whole, 12 percent had a parent born in Europe and 16 percent had a parent born in Asia. In contrast, young children in Boulder were less likely to have a parent born in Mexico than young children in the state as a whole (42 versus 60 percent).



- Young children with a parent from Mexico were more likely to have a noncitizen parent than young children with a parent from Europe and especially young children with a parent from Asia (90 versus 69 and 54 percent). Young children with a parent from Europe were most likely to have a LPR parent, young children with a parent from Asia were likely to have a LPR or temporary immigrant parent, and young children with a parent from Mexico were most likely to have an unauthorized immigrant parent.
- Given the high rates of educational attainment in the Boulder Knight Community, both young children of immigrants and young children of natives were quite likely to have a parent with a college education. While young children of immigrants were somewhat less likely than young children of natives to have a parent with at least a bachelor's degree, they were much more likely than young children of immigrants nationwide to have a highly educated parent. Young children of immigrants in Boulder were also less likely than young children of immigrants nationwide to have a parent lacking a high-school diploma. Following national trends, young children in Boulder with a parent from Mexico were less likely to have a parent with a college degree and more likely to have a parent lacking a high-school diploma than young children with a parent from Asia or from Europe.
- Perhaps due to the relatively high levels of educational attainment in Boulder, a somewhat smaller share of young children of immigrants lived with a LEP parent than in the United States as a whole (52 versus 59 percent). The share of young children of immigrants living in linguistically isolated households was also slightly below the national average (30 versus 32 percent). Eighty-four percent of young children with a parent from Mexico had a LEP parent, compared to 51 percent of young children with a parent from Asia, and 10 percent of young children with a parent from Europe.
- High educational levels were also reflected in the occupations of young children of immigrants' parents, which included high-skill areas such as computer/mathematical, life/physical and social sciences, architecture/engineering, and education/library services.
- Young children with parents from Mexico, Asia, and Europe lived in very different economic situations in the Boulder Knight Community. Among young children of immigrants with a full-time year-round working parent, the median hourly parental wage for those with a parent from Mexico was \$9, compared to \$26 for young children with a parent from Asia, and \$28 for young children with a parent from Europe. Consequently, young children with a parent from Mexico were about twice as likely as young children with a parent from Asia and about 10 times as likely as young children with a parent from Europe to live below the poverty line.

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