

Immigration Report 2014

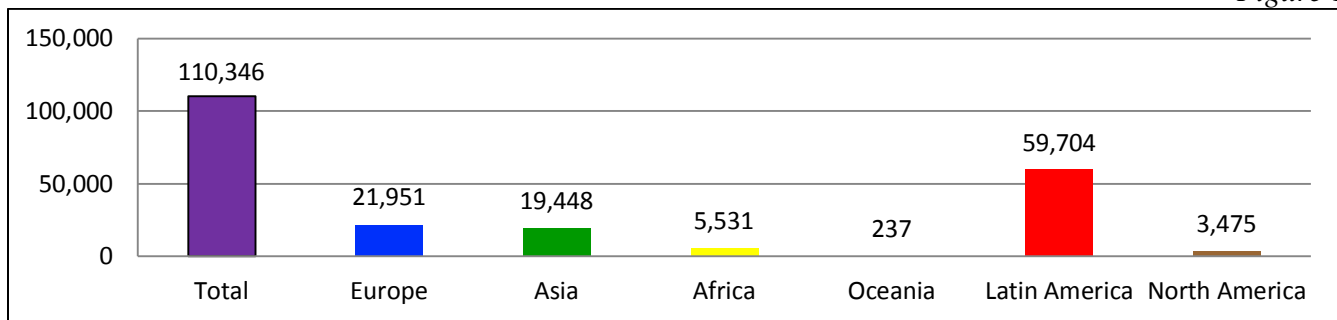
This report is an update of the North Shore WIB’s 2006 Immigrant Report. The information used in this report comes from the American Community Survey 2008-2012 and the 2000 US Census, goes over general information about foreign-born residents in Massachusetts and specific demographic information pertaining to foreign-born residents in Essex County.

The definition of the term foreign-born comes from the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey. The foreign-born population includes anyone who was not a U.S. citizen at birth. This includes respondents who indicated they were a U.S. citizen by naturalization or not a U.S. citizen. At times, this report will refer to the foreign-born population as immigrants.

Number of Foreign-Born Residents¹

In 2012 there were 110,347 foreign-born residents living in Essex County, Massachusetts—or 14.8% of the total population of 744,961. The foreign-born population in Essex County accounts for about 11.4% of the 971,452 foreign-born residents living in Massachusetts. Figure 1 shows the foreign-born residents living in Essex County by geographic origin. The largest geographic origin for foreign-born residents was Latin America (59,704), followed by Europe (21,951) and Asia (19,448).

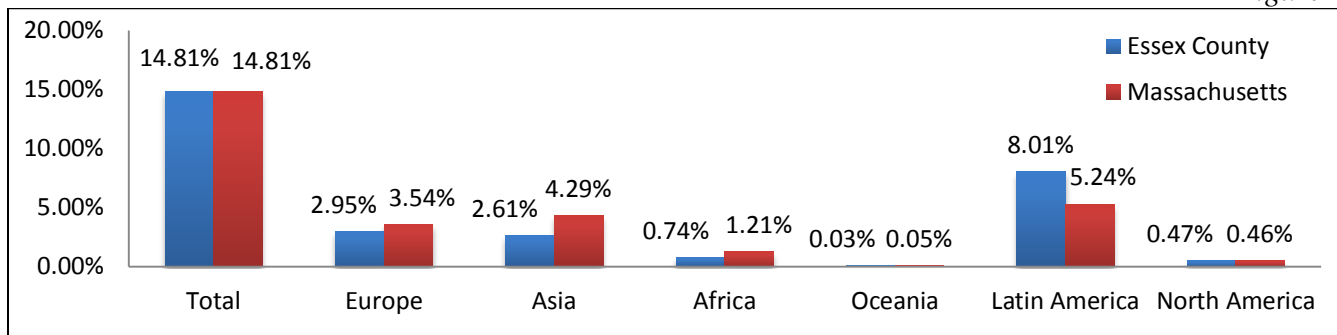
Figure 1



Percent Make Up of Foreign-Born Residents²

Figure 2 shows what percentage of the Essex County population was foreign-born in 2012, along with comparisons to the Massachusetts foreign-born population. The foreign-born population accounts for 14.81% of the 744,961 individuals living in Essex County, which is the same as the percentage for the Massachusetts foreign-born population.

Figure 2



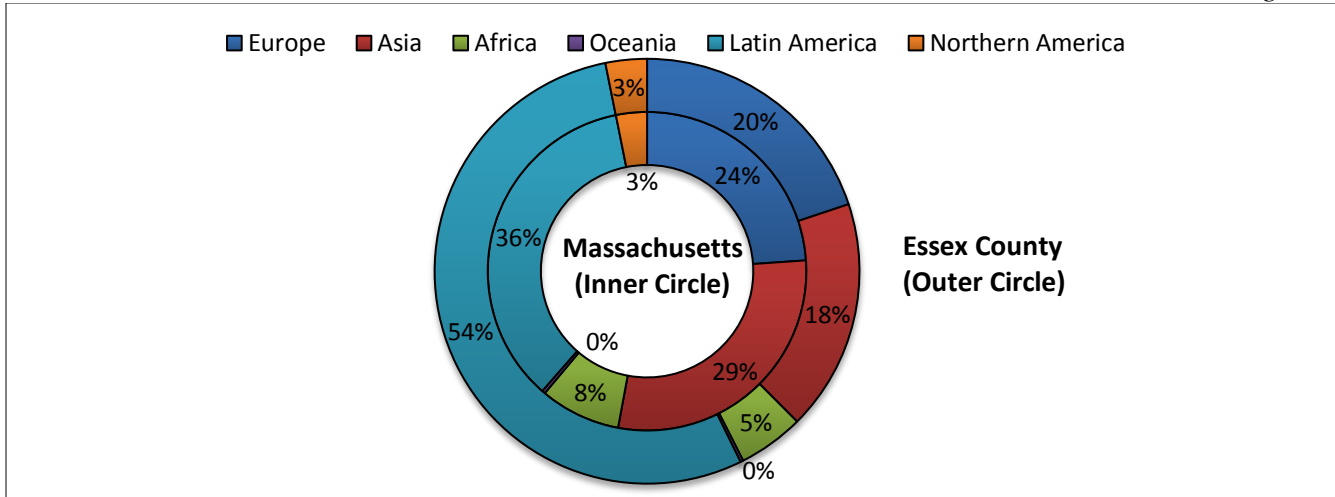
¹U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012, www.census.gov

²U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012, www.census.gov

Origin of Foreign-Born Residents³

Figure 3 details the foreign-born population on the Essex County (outer circle) and in Massachusetts (inner circle) by origin of birth. The largest foreign-born population in Massachusetts (36%) and the Essex County (54%) is the Latin American population. However, there is a sizable difference (18%) between the Massachusetts and North Shore Latin American populations. The Massachusetts Asian population (29%) is 11% higher than the Essex County Asian population (18%).

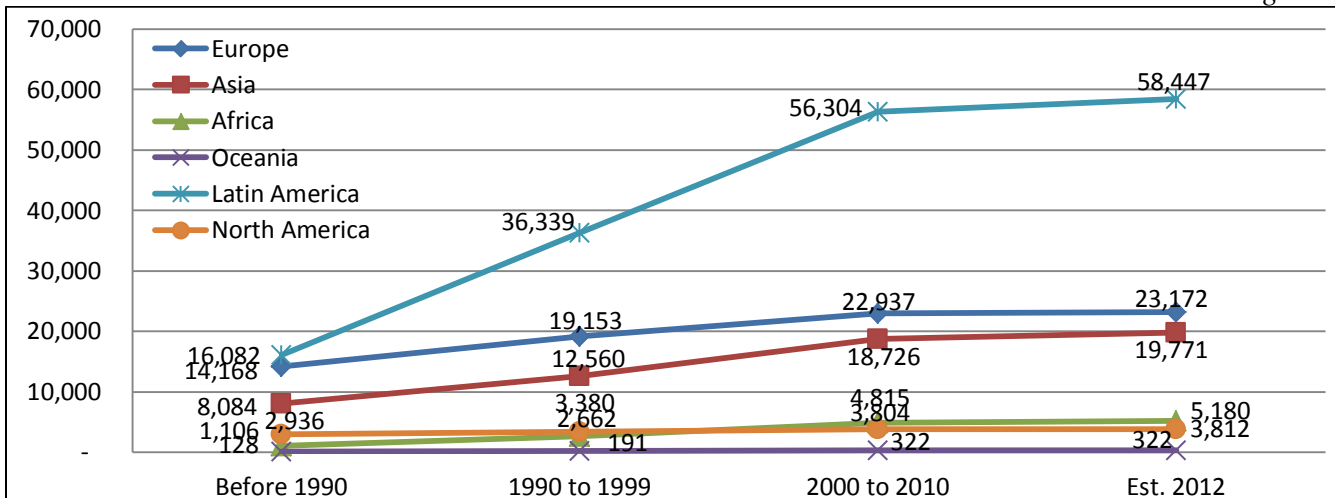
Figure 3



Foreign-Born Population Growth 1990s to 2012⁴

The foreign-born population grew dramatically from 1990 to 2010 within Essex County, but has recently flattened out. Figure 4 shows the foreign-born population growth by origin of birth. The Latin American population had the highest numerical growth with the population growing from 16,082 individuals before 1990 to an estimated 58,447 individuals in 2012. This is an increase of 42,365 foreign-born individuals from Latin American. Asia had the second highest numerical growth increasing by 11,687 individuals. Europe, which grew by 9,005 individuals, had the third highest numerical growth.

Figure 4



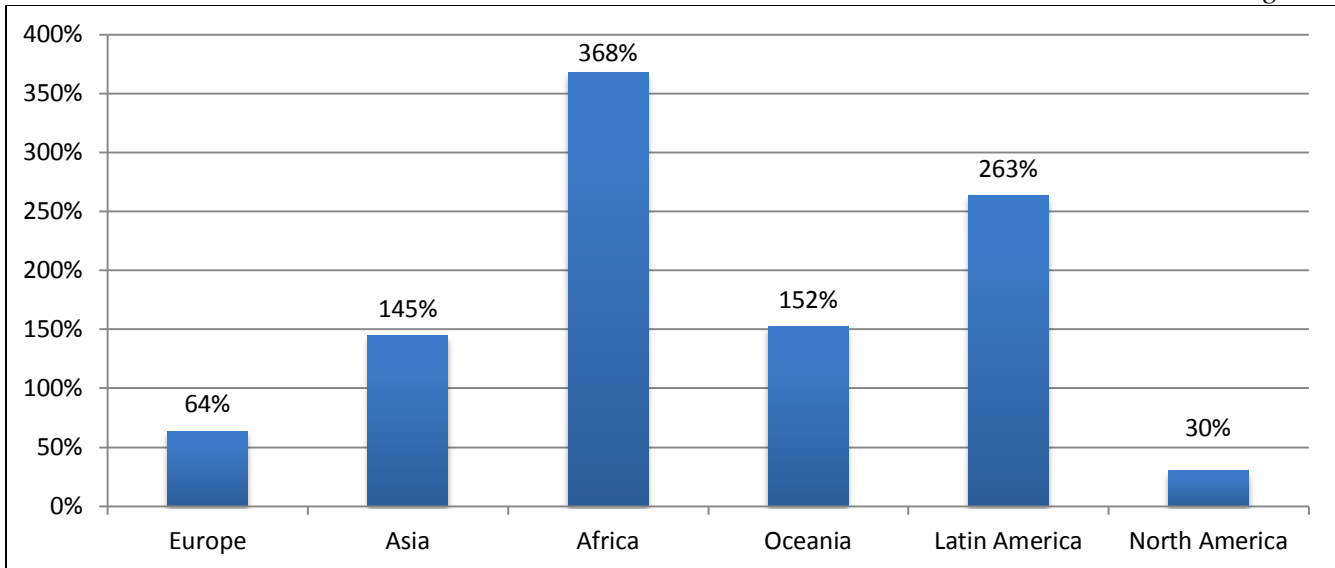
³ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012, www.census.gov

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012, www.census.gov

Population Percent Increase of Foreign-Born Residents Before 1990 to 2012⁵

Figure 5 shows the population percent increase of foreign-born individuals on the Essex County from before 1990 to 2012. Four regions had substantial growth after 1990; these regions are Africa (368%), Latin America (263%), Oceania (152%), and Asia (484%). Africa (368%) had the highest percent growth of all of the regions but in terms of numerical growth, Africa (4,074) falls far behind Latin America (42,364) and Asia (11,687). Oceania only had a numerical growth of 194 individuals.

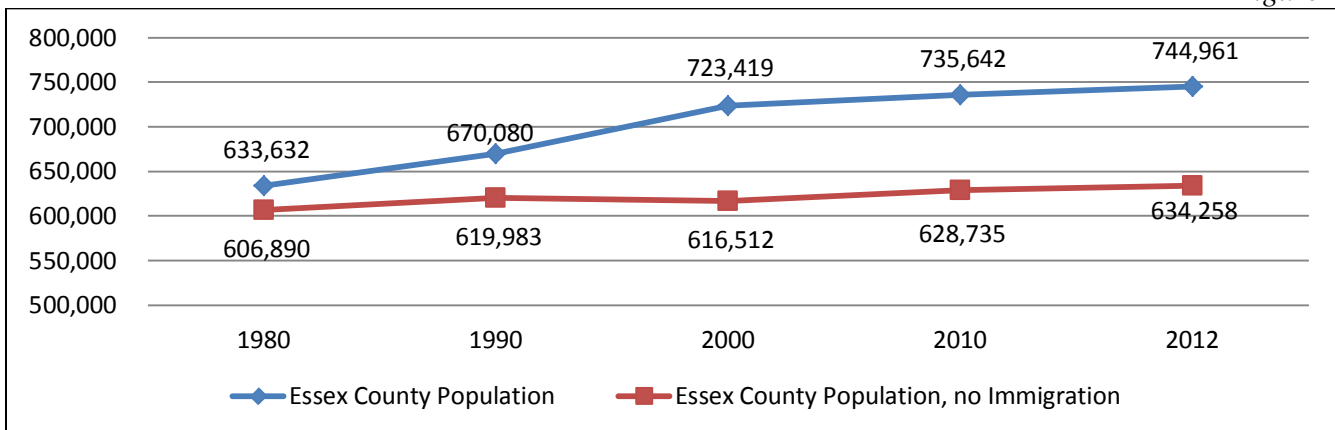
Figure 5



Essex County Population⁶

The number of foreign-born residents dramatically increased, which significantly affected Essex County’s population over the past twenty years. Figure 6 shows the population of Essex County both with and without foreign-born residents. Essex County’s total population has increased by 11.2% since 1990, but the population excluding immigrants has only increased 2.3%.

Figure 6



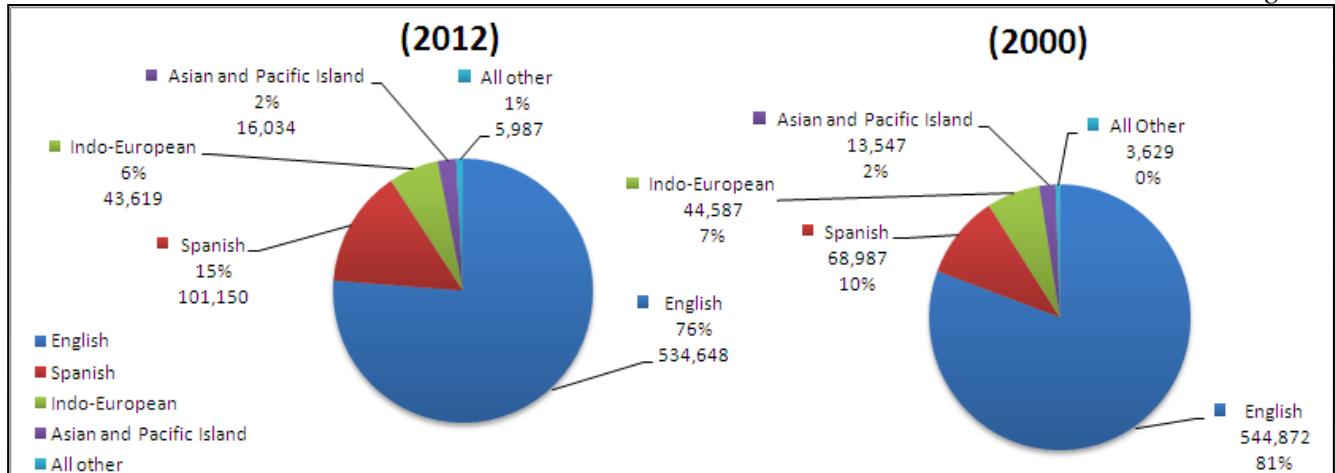
⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012, www.census.gov

⁶ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012, www.census.gov

Language Spoken at Home by the Population Five Years and Older⁷⁻⁸

According to the 2000 Census, the population five years old and over in Essex County was 675,622. In 2012, the population five years old and older was 701,438. Figure 7 shows the Essex County population five years and older by the language spoken at home. A little over 20% (130,750) of the Essex County population over five years old spoke a language other than English in 2000, compared to 31% (166,790) in 2012. The population of people who speak English at home went down 5%, and was primarily the result of a 5% increase of people who speak Spanish at home. There were also minor increases in the amount of speakers of Indo-European languages (1%) and speakers of all other languages (1%).

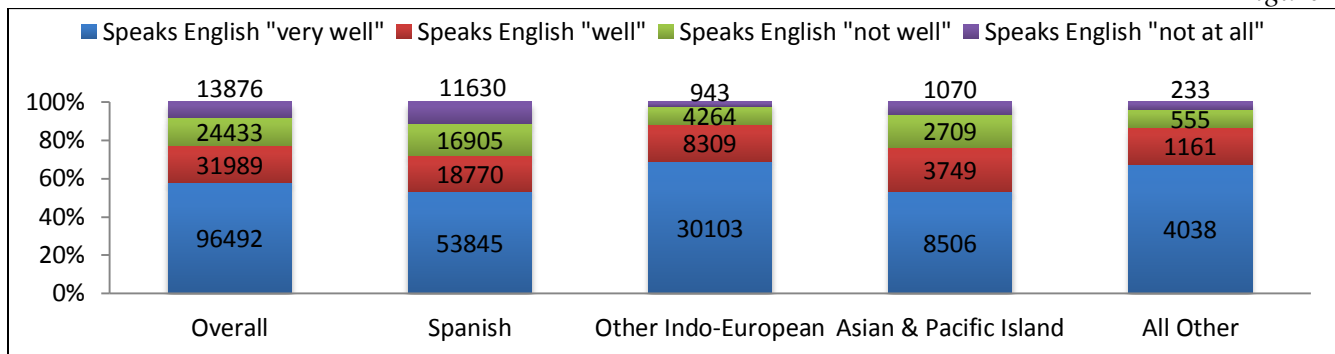
Figure 7



Levels of English Proficiency of the Population Five Years and Older⁹

Figure 8 shows the levels of English proficiency of the population five years and older who speak a language other than English at home. Of the 166,790 individuals who do not speak English at home, 57.9% (96,492) speak English “very well”. Nearly 23% (38,309) speak English “not well” or “not at all”. Spanish (16.7% “not well”, 11.5% “not at all”) and Asian & Pacific Island (16.9% “not well”, 6.7% “not at all”) have a higher percentage of their populations that speak English “not well” or “not at all” than Other Indo-European (9.8% “not well”, 2.2% “not at all”) and All Other Languages (9.3% “not well”, 3.9% “not at all”).

Figure 8



⁷ U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, www.census.gov

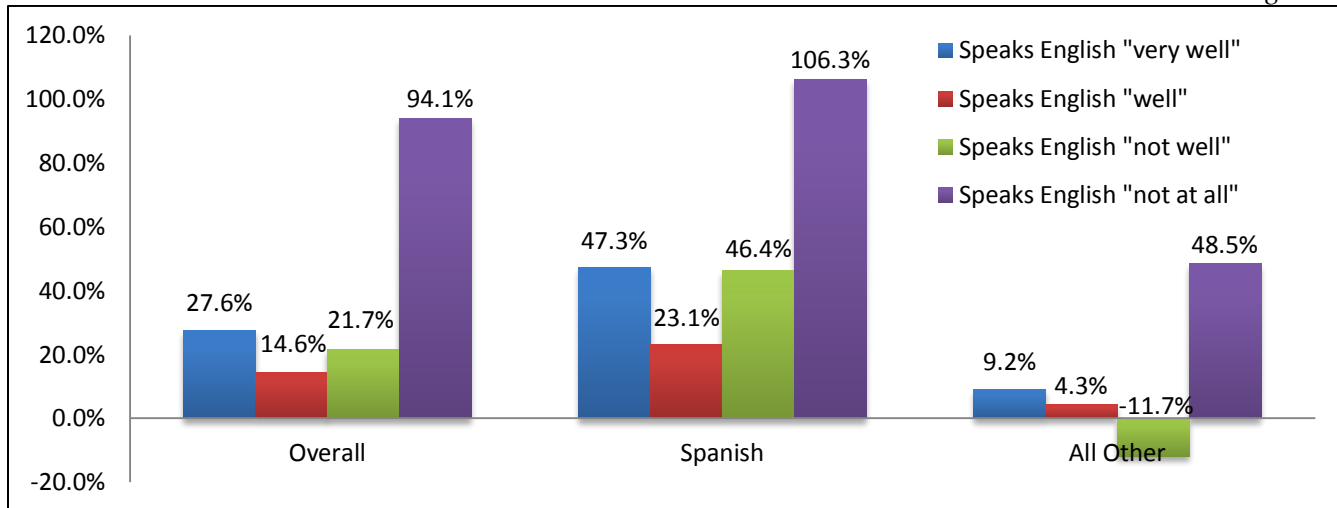
⁸ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012, www.census.gov

⁹ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012, www.census.gov

Percent Change of the Levels of English Proficiency 2000-2012¹⁰⁻¹¹

Figure 9 shows the percent change of the levels of proficiency by the population five years and older who speak a language other than English at home from 2000-2012. Overall, all levels of proficiency have increased. The amount of people who speak English “very well” increased by 27.6% (20,895), “well” increased by 14.6% (4,065), “not well” increased by 21.7% (4,353), and “not at all” increased by 94.1% (6,727). Of the population that speaks Spanish at home, those who speak English “very well” increased by 47.3% (17,298), “well” increased by 23.1% (3,517), “not well” increased by 46.4% (5,355), and “not at all” increased by 106.3% (5,993). Of the population that speaks a language other than English or Spanish at home, those who speak English “very well” increased by 9.2% (3,597), “well” increased by 4.3% (548), “not well” decreased by 11.7% (1,002), and “not at all” increased by 48.5% (734).

Figure 9



Foreign- Born Population by City in Essex County¹²

In 2012, the population of foreign-born residents in Essex County was 110,346. Essex County accounts for 11.4% of the 971,452 foreign-born residents living in Massachusetts. Table 1 shows the cities & towns in Essex County and the foreign-born population residing within each city by origin of birth. The highest number of foreign-born residents come from the Americas (61,353 foreign-born residents) and Europe (18,455 foreign-born residents). These two geographic regions account for 79.7% of all foreign-born residents living in Essex County.

The city of Lawrence has the highest population of foreign-born residents in Essex County. The population of foreign-born residents in Lawrence is 27, 915 or 27.9% of the foreign-born population in Essex County. The city of Lynn has the second highest population of foreign-born residents in Essex County (26,803 or 26.8%). The foreign-born population drops off drastically after Lynn with Peabody having a foreign population of 7,523 and Salem having a foreign population of 7,168. Lawrence, Lynn, Peabody, and Salem’s combined foreign-born population is 76,330 or 76.2% of the foreign-born population in Essex County.

¹⁰ U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, www.census.gov

¹¹ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012, www.census.gov

¹² U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012, www.census.gov

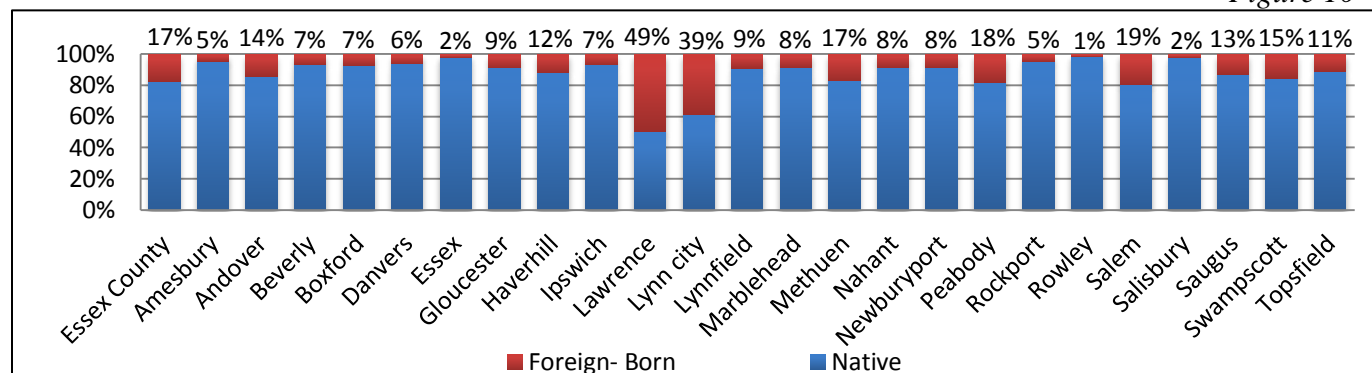
Table 1

	Europe	Asia	Africa	Oceania	Americas	Total
Amesbury	316	137	28	-	284	765
Andover	335	518	102	-	201	1,156
Beverly	1,049	590	60	8	673	2,380
Boxford	47	54	-	-	15	116
Danvers	509	502	25	12	552	1,600
Essex	12	-	-	-	10	22
Gloucester	1,310	173	87	48	751	2,369
Haverhill	818	937	708	-	3,407	5,870
Ipswich	42	59	-	6	105	212
Lawrence	883	1,760	355	12	24,905	27,915
Lynn	3,102	4,511	2,168	10	17,012	26,803
Lynnfield	348	403	9	-	203	963
Marblehead	1,059	129	25	-	297	1,510
Methuen	1,074	1,964	299	-	3,584	6,921
Nahant	143	24	-	-	89	256
Newburyport	508	193	115	-	525	1,341
Peabody	2,941	1,088	323	19	3,152	7,523
Rockport	153	-	9	-	54	216
Rowley	32	-	1	-	39	72
Salem	1,825	1,180	684	23	3,456	7,168
Salisbury	49	-	-	-	28	77
Saugus	790	617	52	-	1,299	2,758
Swampscott	1,010	144	29	-	683	1,866
Topsfield	100	111	-	-	29	240
Total	18,455	15,094	5,079	138	61,353	100,119

Percent of Foreign-Born Residents in Essex County¹³

Figure 10 shows each city & town in Essex County and the percent of the population that is foreign-born. According to the 2012 American Community Survey, the 62,707 foreign-born residents living in Essex County make up 17% of Essex County’s population of 359,988. The three cities with the highest percent of their populations being foreign-born are Lawrence (49%), Lynn (39%), and Salem (19%).

Figure 10



¹³ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012, www.census.gov

Summary:

- 14.81% of the population in Essex County is foreign born. The largest portion of this group is from Latin America (54.1%), Europe (19.9%), and Asia (17.62%).
- Both Essex County and Massachusetts have identical percentages of foreign born residents at 14.81%. However, the composition of the foreign born population differs as Essex County has a higher representation from Latin America, 54% vs. 36% than Massachusetts. Essex County is lower in all other regions of origin for foreign born residents.
- The rate of immigration into Essex County has slowed since 2010 compared to previous decades. As the most recent American Community survey information is a five year estimate from 2008-2012 and the recession could be the factor that influenced new immigration. New census data will be needed in order to determine whether this is the start of trend.
- Foreign born residents from Africa had the percent growth since 1990 at 368% followed by Latin America (236%) and Oceania (152%). However, both Africa and Oceania had low numerical growth compared to Latin America and Asia.
- Immigration has been a driver of Essex County's population growth. Since 2000, Essex County's population grew 11.2% but when immigration is removed the population has only increase 2.3%
- In 2000, 81% of Essex County spoke English as a primary language at home. That percentage has dropped to 76% in 2012. Essex County has a large increase in the number of Spanish speakers as the percentage of residents who spoke Spanish as a primary language at home reached 15% in 2012.
- Of the 166,790 Essex County residents that speak a language other than English at home that are five years and older 42.14% speak English less than "Very Well". The percentage that speak English "Not Well" and "Not at All" is at 22.96%.
- There has been a 94.1% increase in the Essex County population overall who speak a language other than English at home and their ability to speak English "not at all". This percent increases to 106.3% when culling out Spanish speakers who do not speak English "not at all".
- 61.2% of the 100,119 foreign born residents in Essex County are originally from the Americas. The cities and towns with the highest numbers of foreign born residents are Lawrence (27,915), Lynn (26,803), Peabody (7,523), Salem (7,168), and Methuen (6,921). These five cities combine for 76,330 foreign born residents or 76.25% of all foreign born residents in Essex County.
- 17% of Essex County's population is foreign born. The cities with the highest percentages of their population foreign born are Lawrence (49%), Lynn (39%), Salem (19%), Peabody (18%), and Methuen (17%).