Immigrants in San Francisco County during COVID-19

What resources do they have? What resources do they need?

Madeleine Conrad-Mogin, Tegan Seward, Brianna Davis, Ganglin Shu
The Foreign Born in San Francisco County

33.4% of all residents are immigrants

37.1% of immigrants are not citizens
Mapping the Foreign Born in SF County

COVID-19 poses a high risk for seniors, and people who live below the poverty line may be especially hurt by the quarantine. This map shows neighborhoods that could benefit the most from assistance, and the most to lose without it.

Percent of Seniors in Tract Compared to CA Average

- Fewer Seniors
- More Seniors
- More Seniors & High Senior Poverty

California Census tracts are composed of 20% seniors (60 and older) on average, 12% of which live in poverty.

Sources:
ACS 5-yr estimate 2014-2018
OpenStreetMap
Diversity in origins means diversity in languages.

Top SF County Languages:
- Cantonese
- Mandarin
- Spanish
- Korean

Where is San Francisco County’s Foreign Born From?

Source: American Community Survey 2018 (US Census Bureau)
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

$77,874  Foreign Born

$135,327  Native Born

POVERTY RATES

11.4% of San Francisco County's foreign born are impoverished

9.8% of San Francisco County's native born are impoverished

Source: American Community Survey 2018 (US Census Bureau)
Areas of Focus

1. Medical Resources
2. Legal Resources
Availability vs. Accessibility

- **Availability**
  - Are resources there?
    - i.e. Medical Clinics, Legal Aid Clinics

- **Accessibility**
  - Are resources easy to use? Can you use them at all?
    - i.e. translators, transportation
Health Insurance Coverage in San Francisco County

Foreign Born

Native Born

- Public Coverage
- Private Health Insurance
- No Health Insurance Coverage

Source: American Community Survey 2018 (US Census Bureau)
Clinics Are Important Resources for Low Income Immigrants

- **Low Income Foreign Born**: 47%
  - Doctor's office
  - Community clinic/hospital
  - No usual place

- **Low Income Native Born**: 34%
  - Doctor's office
  - Emergency room
  - Other

Source: California Health Interview Survey, 2017 (Public Policy Institute of California)
Medical Resources - Availability

- 60 Health Clinics
- Remain open
- Healthy San Francisco - services to uninsured
- Clinic mission statements explicitly include immigrants

“We are a community of top-rated clinics, hospitals and programs that connects San Franciscans to quality health care. We provide world class care near you, for you, regardless of immigration status or lack of insurance.”

Tom Waddell Urban Health Clinic
Accessibility - Location

Recommendations

- More brick-and-mortar clinics
- For now, use mobile clinics
Languages Spoken

**Foreign Born**
- English Only: 81.3%
- Language Other Than English: 18.7%

**Native Born**
- English Only: 80.6%
- Language Other Than English: 19.4%

Source: American Community Survey 2018 (US Census Bureau)
Accessibility - Language

Translation in 28 medical clinics:

- 10 offer Cantonese (35%), 13 Mandarin (46%)
- 11 offer Tagalog (39%)
- 21 offer Spanish (75%)
- 20 offer Vietnamese (71%)
- 7 offer Hindi (25%)
- 7 offer Korean (25%)
- 5 offer 3rd party phone translation services in 150 languages (17%)

Out of 299,659 immigrants

- 36.7% are from China
- 8.2% are from the Philippines
- 7.2% are from Mexico
- 5.7% are from Vietnam
- 3.5% are from India
- 2.2% are from Korea

Source: American Community Survey 2018 (Social Explorer)
Accessibility - Communication

- Outreach
  - Localized DPH outreach programs
  - Healthy San Francisco
  - Majority of DPH’s work is dedicated to helping underserved populations, which implicitly includes immigrants

- Lines of communication
  - The Health Commission informs policies by talking to providers funded by the DPH about what demographics they serve and what their needs are
    - Clinics report to the Health Commission on a quarterly basis about their patients’ needs. Reports include demographic information like immigration status.

Mark Morewitz, Executive Secretary of the San Francisco Health Commission
Communication: Potential Problems

- Outreach
  - Location complicates outreach
  - Shelter-In-Place
  - Language

- Lines of communication
  - Reports are quarterly
  - Location
  - Fear of legal issues has increased during COVID-19
Legal Resources

- Primary focus on availability/accessibility of legal clinics
  - Median income for the foreign born is lower and poverty rate is higher → more likely to use clinics
- Immigrants are more heavily concentrated in the service industry, which faces more layoffs as many businesses close
  - Those who don’t face layoffs have incentive to quit to avoid facing potential exposure
  - Complicates rent payments → attempted eviction (despite California’s eviction moratorium*)
  - Majority of SF immigrants rent
- Need clinics for immigration casework

Source: American Community Survey 2018 (U.S. Census Bureau)
Industry Concentration

Foreign Born

- Management, business, science, and arts occupations: 46.9%
- Service occupations: 15.6%
- Sales and office occupations: 23.1%
- Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations: 4.5%
- Production, transportation, and material moving occupations: 10%

Native Born

- Management, business, science, and arts occupations: 65.5%
- Service occupations: 18.5%
- Sales and office occupations: 10.2%
- Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations: 4.1%

Source: American Community Survey 2018 (US Census Bureau)
A Note on Eviction Moratoriums

- Governor Newsom placed a statewide moratorium on evictions
- Mayor Breed issued an executive order along the same lines

→ The Problem: Newsom gave counties and cities the freedom to enact their own moratoriums, which allows loopholes and causes confusion

Requirements in San Francisco

1. Rental payment due on/after March 13, 2020
2. Unable to pay rent due to financial impacts of COVID-19
3. Tenant notified landlord within 30 days of when the rent was due
4. Within 7 days after notifying the landlord, the tenant provides documentation or other verifiable information
Availability

- 18 legal clinics
- All remain open remotely
- Many are specifically dedicated to immigration casework, and outreach is targeted at San Francisco’s immigrant communities
Accessibility

- Location no longer an issue
- No online information about languages → may deter immigrants who do not speak English
  - Languages are available on the county’s website for immigrants
- Few advertise help in landlord-tenant disputes
  - Out of the legal clinics contacted, some could not help with rent issues at all

Source: immigrants.sfgov.org
Legal Resources

- Asian Americans Advancing Justice:

  Know Your Rights Videos

  - My boss has cut my hours or laid me off because of the Coronavirus crisis. What can I do?
    - English | Cantonese | Mandarin | Tagalog | Burmese | Arabic | Vietnamese
  - My boss is still requiring me to work during the Coronavirus crisis, but I do not think it’s safe. What can I do?
    - English | Cantonese | Mandarin | Tagalog | Burmese | Arabic | Vietnamese

- Catholic Charities (SF Chapter):
  - Relief funds for SF county residents presenting documented loss of income
## Summary - Policy Recommendations

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<tr>
<th>The Health Commission and Department of Public Health should:</th>
<th>The Mayor should:</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Fund clinics in areas where immigrants are concentrated</td>
<td>- Issue a clarificatory statement describing the burden of proof for eviction moratorium criteria</td>
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<td>- Expand mobile clinics where local clinics are not available</td>
<td>- Work with the Immigrant Rights Commission + Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs to encourage legal clinics to offer aid in landlord-tenant disputes</td>
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<td>- Utilize ethnic media to promote public health messages in multiple languages (e.g. indigenous languages)</td>
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<td>- Explicitly issue a memorandum stating non-cooperation with ICE</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Utilize ethnic media and outreach programs to advertise clinical non-cooperation with ICE</td>
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