CHILDREN OF FOREIGN-BORN PARENTS

The foreign-born population in the United States has increased substantially since the 1970s, largely due to immigration from Asia and Latin America. In 2010, 22.8 percent of children in the United States had at least one foreign-born parent. Of all children, 19.6 percent were U.S.-born with a foreign-born parent or parents, and 3.2 percent were themselves foreign-born, with or without a foreign-born parent. Most children (72.9 percent) were native-born with native-born parents.

Children’s poverty status varies with their nativity. In 2010, foreign-born children with foreign-born parents were most likely to live in poverty, with 32.8 percent living in households with incomes below 100 percent of the U.S. Census Bureau’s poverty threshold ($22,314 for a family of four in 2010). Another 30.1 percent of these children lived in households with family incomes of 100–199 percent of the poverty threshold. Native-born children with native parents were the least likely to experience poverty, with 18.1 percent living in households with incomes below 100 percent of the poverty threshold, and another 19.4 percent living in households with incomes of 100–199 percent of the poverty threshold.

A number of other sociodemographic factors vary by the nativity of children and their parents. For instance, native-born children with native parents were most likely to have health insurance in 2010 (92.4 percent), while foreign-born children with foreign-born parents were least likely (71.3 percent). Almost 87 percent of native-born children with foreign-born parents had health insurance in 2010 (data not shown).

---

**Children Under Age 18, by Nativity of Child and Parent(s),* 2010**


**Children Under Age 18, by Nativity of Child and Parent(s)* and Poverty,** 2010


*“Native parent” indicates that both of the child’s parents were U.S. citizens at birth, “foreign-born parent” indicates that one or both parents were born outside of the United States; children could be living with one or both parents. “Other” includes children with parents whose native status is unknown and foreign-born children with native parents.

**“Native parent” indicates that both of the child's parents were U.S. citizens at birth, “foreign-born parent” indicates that one or both parents were born outside of the United States. **The U.S. Census Bureau poverty threshold for a family of four was $22,314 in 2010.