

The State of Foreign-Born Workers New York State • Finger Lakes

55,674

Foreign-Born Population 8,186

Limited English Proficient 53.66% 46.34% Women Men

Foreign-Born by Gender

Place of Birth Africa 9.80%

Asia

36.54%

Europe

20.42%

Latin America

29.85%

North America

3.38%

Highlights

- In 2021, the Finger Lakes region improved its ranking rising to 5th place from 9th place in 2021.
- Foreign-born residents recorded higher poverty rates than their native-born counterparts and lower unemployment rates in both 2012 and 2021.
- The disparity in poverty rates between foreign and native-born narrowed from a 13% to a 3% gap in 2012 and 2021 respectively.
- Very high poverty rates are recorded for foreignborn residents with low educational attainment (high school diploma holders and lower). While poverty rates decreased in 2021, English-proficient residents experienced higher rates than their non-Englishproficient counterparts.
- Limited English proficiency appears to have a significant impact on poverty rates for non-English proficient college degree holders who recorded an alarming 69.95% rate.
- Foreign-born residents with low educational attainment recorded lower unemployment rates in this region in 2021 compared to their foreign-born counterparts with high educational attainment

Ranking

Regional Score Card¹

Regional Rank²

Poverty Rate

Unemployment Rate

2012
-0.27

Foreign-Born	Native Born
31.54%	18.24%
5.15%	6.50%
5.15%	6.50%

9th Place

2021

0.31

5th Place

rn	Native Born	Foreign-Born	Native-Born
	18.24%	19.31%	15.29%
	6.50%	4.75%	5.20%



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Effects of Low Educational Attainment & English Proficiency: Outcomes of Foreign-Born New Yorkers Who Are Holders of High School Diploma or Less

Total Population 20,034	English Proficient 6,035	Non-English Proficient 13,999	
		2012	2021
Poverty Rates for All		44.76%	31.92%
Poverty Rates for English Proficient		43.75%	33.24%
Poverty Rates for Non-English Pro	46.46%	22.78%	
Unemployment Rates for All	5.43%	1.55%	
Unemployment Rates for English Proficient		6.90%	1.25%
Unemployment Rates for Non-English Proficient		2.97%	2.40%

Effects of High Educational Attainment & English Proficiency: Outcomes of Foreign-Born New Yorkers Who Are Holders of College Degrees

Total Population 22,739	English Proficient 21,026	Non-English Proficient 1,713	
		2012	2021
Poverty Rates for All		8.69%	9.02%
Poverty Rates for English Proficient		8.48%	9.19%
Poverty Rates for Non-English Proficient		69.95%	Not available
Unemployment Rates for All		4.80%	4.98%
Unemployment Rates for English Proficient		5.09%	5.04%
Unemployment Rates for Non-English Proficient		Not available	Not available

Finger Lakes includes the counties: Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates. The source of data is the American Community Survey, 2021, one-year data. The data includes all foreign-born individuals who are 16-64 years of age.

¹ Scorecard is calculated based on the performance of the region against seven economic indicators; income, poverty, unemployment, working poor, full-time work, homeownership, and rent burden. The region's performance is calculated based on the differences in the seven economic outcomes between foreign-born and native-born New Yorkers. We calculate a standardized score for seven outcomes using the mean and standard deviation of each outcome across the state. Then, we average these scores for seven scores to compose one general index score indicating the overall disparity between foreign-born and native-born New Yorkers in each region. Higher index scores can be interpreted as positive and lower scores can be interpreted as negative.

² Rank represents the performance of the region when compared to the other nine regions of New York State. 1 = best performer; 10 = worst performer.