Immigrants in the U.S. South
Expanding Opportunities for Integration, Inclusion, and Economic Growth
Glossary

**DREAMers** refers to intended beneficiaries of the federal legislation first introduced in the U.S. Senate on August 1, 2001, the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act or the DREAM Act. This bill would provide conditional permanent residency and an eventual path to citizenship for certain undocumented immigrants. **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)** is a new policy directive that provides qualifying immigrant youth and young adults relief from deportation for a two-year renewable period and allows them to apply for work authorization. Although DACA benefits a narrower pool of undocumented immigrants than the proposed DREAM legislation, the term DREAMers is used interchangeably with DACA beneficiaries as well as undocumented youth and young adults in this report.

**Immigrants** are persons born abroad who have come to settle in the United States—regardless of their immigration status or whether they have become U.S. citizens. Often, the term is used interchangeably with foreign-born, which refers to persons who were not born as U.S. citizens.

**First-generation immigrants** are born outside of the United States (i.e., the foreign-born), and **second-generation immigrants** are native-born children of foreign-born parents.

**Lawful permanent residents (LPR)** are persons legally admitted to reside and work permanently in the United States. The LPR visa is often called a “green card” (even though the cards are no longer green).

**Refugees** are persons admitted to the United States because they are unable or unwilling to return to their country of nationality due to persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution based on race, religion, membership in a social group, political opinion, or national origin.

**Undocumented immigrants** (used interchangeably with “unauthorized immigrants” in this report) are persons residing in the United States without legal immigration status; includes persons who entered without inspection and those who entered with a legal visa that is no longer valid.

Acknowledgements

Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees (GCIR) and the Southeastern Council of Foundations (SECF) gratefully acknowledge the following individuals for their invaluable contributions to this brief: Cory S. Anderson, vice president, Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation; Randy Capps, demographer and senior policy analyst, Migration Policy Institute's National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy; Matthew Denhart, research fellow, 4% Growth Project, George W. Bush Institute; and Chhandasi Pandya Patel, philanthropic consultant and researcher.

© Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees, November 2013. All rights reserved.

Graphic design: www.axiebreen.com
Introduction

Foreign-born migration to the eleven states that comprise the U.S. South is at an historic high. From rural towns to sprawling metropolises, the face of the region is changing. Immigrants in the South—Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia—have invigorated declining communities, spurred economic growth, and reversed negative population trends.

But with change also come challenges: crowded schools, overtaxed emergency rooms, community tensions. How philanthropy addresses these challenges—and the opportunities they present—can provide lessons for how best to integrate immigrants into the social, cultural, and economic fabric of communities across the country.

Migration has long been a central character in the story of the South. The first part of the last century witnessed the Great Migration, during which large numbers of African Americans departed, while recent decades have seen the flows reverse as burgeoning economies have drawn this and other populations back to the region. At the same time, an influx of newcomers, predominantly Latinos, has turned many Southern states into “new immigrant gateways,” compelling communities to adapt to rapid demographic change.

Nearly every issue of concern to philanthropy affects newcomers to the South and the communities in which they have settled. Education grantmakers need to consider the unique needs of immigrant children and other English language learners. Health funders cannot overlook the challenges facing newcomer populations, especially as the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is implemented. From poverty reduction and economic development to civic participation and workforce development, myriad issues have immediate and far-reaching implications for newcomer populations.

The economic, cultural, and civic contributions of immigrants will only increase as newcomers and their children become a larger share of the region’s workforce and population. It is vital for funders of all types to determine how their grantmaking can prioritize the cross-cutting contributions and needs of immigrants and refugees.

Diverse funders have a role to play in supporting immigrant integration in the South, which will, in turn, help to ensure a future for the region that is dynamic, inclusive, and forward-leaning. Lessons, best practices, and new models that emerge from the South will inform similar efforts to make immigrants full members of communities across the United States.

GCIR defines immigrant integration as a dynamic, two-way process in which newcomers and the receiving society work together to build secure, vibrant, and cohesive communities. We use “integration” instead of “assimilation” to emphasize respect for and incorporation of differences, the need for mutual adaptation, and an appreciation of diversity.

1
Over the last decade, the immigrant population in the South increased by 54 percent. In fact, six of the top 10 states in the nation with the fastest-growing immigrant populations from 2000 through 2011 were found in the region. As of 2012, immigrants accounted for nearly 10 percent of the South’s total population, up from seven percent in 2000.

While all Southern states have experienced rapid growth in their immigrant populations, South Carolina, Alabama, and Tennessee have seen a particularly dramatic rise, with foreign-born population increases of 91, 86, and 83 percent, respectively, between 2000 and 2012 (Figure 1). Despite this marked growth, all three states still had relatively small total foreign-born populations in 2012 when compared with Florida, Virginia, Georgia, and North Carolina.

The foreign-born population in the South, like the rest of the country, is made up of a mix of naturalized citizens, lawful permanent residents (LPRs), unauthorized immigrants, and individuals on temporary or special work visas. For the 11 Southern states, 45 percent of the foreign-born population comprises naturalized U.S. citizens, in line with the national naturalization rate of 46 percent, while the remaining 55 percent is made up of LPRs, the unauthorized, and others.

**Figure 1. Foreign-born Population in 2012 and Percent Growth from 2000 to 2012**

Sources: Mississippi data are for 2009-2011, averaged. MPI analysis of American Community Survey data.
Figure 2. Naturalized Share of the Foreign-born, 2012

76 new American citizens at Independence Day Naturalization Ceremony at Thomas Jefferson’s home, Monticello, Charlottesville, Virginia.

* Mississippi data are for 2009-2011, averaged.
Source: MPI Analysis of American Community Survey data.
Countries of Origin

The majority of the South’s immigrants are from Latin America, followed by various Asian countries. In nine of 11 Southern states, Mexico is the top country of origin for the foreign-born, while Cuba and El Salvador are the top countries in Florida and Virginia, respectively.

Figure 3. Regions of Birth for Immigrants in the South, 2011

Source: GCIR’s tabulation of estimates of immigrants in the South by country of origin generated by Jeanne Batalova of the MPI Data Hub (Migration Policy Institute) based on U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2011.
Children, Youth, and Families

Similar to the United States as a whole, the majority of children with immigrant parents in the South are U.S.-born citizens. As a result, many immigrant families are of “mixed status,” with U.S. citizen children and LPR or unauthorized adults. In these families, the children have the same rights as other U.S. citizens, but the adults have more limited rights and access to government services, particularly if they are unauthorized.

First- and second-generation immigrant children\(^{11}\) form a large and growing portion of the South’s overall population. Over the past decade, the population of Latino children—many of whom are immigrants—more than doubled in a number of states (Figure 4).\(^{12}\) In fact, the top eight states in the nation with the highest increase in the number of Latino children are in the South: South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, North Carolina, Arkansas, Georgia, and Mississippi.\(^{13}\)

Figure 4. States Where the Latino Child Population More Than Doubled, 2000–2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>27,954</td>
<td>81,506</td>
<td>192%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>38,899</td>
<td>108,053</td>
<td>178%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>24,875</td>
<td>67,266</td>
<td>170%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>18,878</td>
<td>49,949</td>
<td>165%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>120,090</td>
<td>307,790</td>
<td>156%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>32,016</td>
<td>74,956</td>
<td>134%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>135,969</td>
<td>314,687</td>
<td>131%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>12,060</td>
<td>26,504</td>
<td>120%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>72,096</td>
<td>148,324</td>
<td>106%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>4,521</td>
<td>9,202</td>
<td>104%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>76,154</td>
<td>154,338</td>
<td>103%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Linguistic isolation, defined as households where no one over the age of 14 speaks English “very well,” is also common among immigrant families in the South. Nationally, 28 percent of all foreign-born individuals live in linguistically isolated households. In the South, eight of the 11 states in the region—Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Tennessee—exceed the national foreign-born rate of linguistic isolation. Within each state, the rate among non-citizens, a category that includes the unauthorized, well exceeds the rate for naturalized citizens.\(^{14}\)
Immigrants contribute to the South’s economic growth

Immigrants, regardless of their legal status, contribute to the economic vitality of the South—and the nation as a whole. They spur economic growth as entrepreneurs, homeowners, workers, and taxpayers.

Immigrants are an outsize presence in the region’s labor force. In every Southern state, the immigrant labor force participation rate exceeds that of the native-born labor force. Moreover, in 2011, immigrants’ share among employed civilian workers (age 16 and up) exceeded their representation in the total population in every state in the South, a strong indicator of the important role they play in the region’s economy. For example, immigrants represent 13 percent of employed workers in Georgia’s workforce but 10 percent of the population; 15 percent of Virginia’s workforce but 11 percent of the state population; and 25 percent of Florida’s employed workers but 19 percent of the state population (Figure 5).

Undocumented workers contribute significantly to the South’s labor force and economy. In every Southern state, their representation in the labor force exceeds their representation in the total population. In addition to filling jobs, the unauthorized have bolstered the South’s coffers. In 2010 alone, they paid a total of $2.4 billion in state and local taxes, including $1.9 billion in sales taxes, $308.1 million in income taxes, and $180.3 million in property taxes.

Figure 5. Foreign-born Share of Population and Workers in Southern States, 2011

Source: Estimates generated by Jeanne Batalova of the MPI Data Hub (Migration Policy Institute) based on U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2011.

“...cities with diverse, evolving populations. Immigrants make a city strong. They bring culture and new ideas. They strengthen our workforce with young talent...They create jobs.”

Karl F. Dean, Mayor of Nashville

"The most interesting, economically prosperous cities in the world are cities with diverse, evolving populations. Immigrants make a city strong. They bring culture and new ideas. They strengthen our workforce with young talent...They create jobs.”

Karl F. Dean, Mayor of Nashville

[Image: Figure 5. Foreign-born Share of Population and Workers in Southern States, 2011]
Undocumented residents also wield substantial consumer power. They are responsible for approximately $45.7 billion (in 2007 dollars) in regional economic activity—the equivalent of the economy of Alaska—and $103 billion in annual expenditures—enough buying power to purchase Facebook. 

If provided with an opportunity to earn legal status, the economic impact of undocumented immigrants in the South—and nationally—could be even greater. While regional numbers are not available, a study by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) and the Joint Committee on Taxation estimates that a June 2013 Senate bill, which includes a path to citizenship for unauthorized immigrants, “would increase real (inflation-adjusted) GDP relative to the amount CBO projects under current law by 3.3 percent in 2023 and by 5.4 percent in 2033.” The proposed legislation would also decrease the federal budget deficit by $197 billion between 2014 and 2023 and roughly $700 billion between 2024 and 2033.

Despite their substantial contributions to the South’s economy, certain segments of immigrants struggle economically. For instance, in every Southern state except for Louisiana, immigrant families with children under age 18 are more likely to be poor than native-born families with children under 18—despite their high rate of workforce participation.

---

Figure 6. Undocumented Share of Total Population and Labor Force in Southern States, 2010


“Seven to 10 years ago, there were lots of vacancies in commercial buildings, changing demographics and diminished opportunities ... (but) as property values went down, it made it more affordable to immigrants to create their own version of the American entrepreneurial dream.”

John Autry, Charlotte City Council Member
Policy developments affecting immigrants

The South’s demographics are changing—and with them the region’s culture and economy are evolving. These shifts give current immigration programs and new policy developments high-stakes implications. Specifically, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), naturalization, and comprehensive immigration reform offer funders a means of addressing a wide variety of priority issues, from education and health to poverty reduction and workforce development, while also promoting immigrant integration. Philanthropy’s responses to these new policy opportunities will not only improve the well-being of immigrant families but will contribute to the vitality of the South, now and in the future.

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

DACA has opened a world of opportunities for unauthorized immigrant youth and young adults, commonly known as “DREAMers,” who meet certain requirements. Launched in August 2012, the program grants temporary relief from deportation and work authorization, among other benefits, to qualifying immigrants. DACA approval gives beneficiaries two-year, renewable work permits and reprieve from deportation, setting them and their families on a path toward a more stable future. Studies show many find new employment opportunities, open their first savings accounts, and earn driver’s licenses after receiving approval.

As of September, more than 93,000 undocumented youth and young adults in the South have applied for DACA. More than 72,000 have been approved to date. There remain an estimated 83,000 undocumented youth and young adults in the region who are currently eligible to apply for DACA but have not yet done so. Still more would qualify but for meeting the age or educational requirements. Florida (65,000), Georgia (28,000), and North Carolina (26,000) rank among the top-ten states nationally with the most currently DACA-eligible immigrants.

DACA has the potential to be a remarkable boon for the South. It could enable a significant number of immigrant youth and young adults to contribute more fully to the social, economic, and civic landscape of the region. Efforts to extend DACA’s reach are underway, and support from the philanthropic community will help the region realize the program’s full promise. By backing DACA implementation efforts—including outreach, screening, application assistance, and support for loan programs for those who cannot afford the $465 application fee—grantmakers have a unique opportunity to help young immigrants stay in school, meet market and industry needs, access financial services, and improve economic outcomes for themselves and their families.

Naturalization

Naturalization reaps both civic and economic benefits. The advantages of naturalization include increased wages and accelerated wage growth, improved employment prospects, and access to resources such as scholarships that make post-secondary education more attainable, as well as the ability to vote. Nationally, studies have shown naturalized citizens earn eight to 11 percent more than noncitizens, even after adjusting for differences in education, language ability, and work experience. Immigrants see their earnings rise within two years of acquiring U.S. citizenship, and their wages rise faster in subsequent years. Naturalization has
also shown to lead to immediate increases in immigrants’ representation in white-collar jobs. In 2011, 26 percent of native-born citizens were living below the poverty line, versus less than 12 percent of naturalized citizens. Given that difference, programs supporting the acquisition of citizenship would more than pay for themselves by improving incomes, increasing tax contributions, and lowering public assistance costs.

Approximately two million immigrants in the region are currently eligible to naturalize. Four Southern states have among the largest estimated number of citizenship-eligible residents in the country: Florida (1,173,000); Virginia (275,000); Georgia (237,000); and North Carolina (148,000).

Philanthropy can play a pivotal role in promoting U.S. citizenship among eligible immigrants in the South. To help immigrants understand and navigate this complex process, funders can support a wide range of complimentary programs and services, including outreach to eligible immigrants, legal services and application assistance, English language and civics classes, and financial assistance for application and documentation fees, to name a few possibilities. In many locations across the country, funders have formed regional citizenship funding collaboratives that serve as an important vehicle for increased grantmaker coordination and leverage. The New Americans Campaign (NAC) is a notable example. This multi-partner national effort seeks to encourage eligible immigrants to become American citizens, focusing on eight main sites and nearly 10 affiliated efforts across the country. The campaign has already helped nearly 70,000 immigrants apply for citizenship, created a network of more than 100 partners, and saved applicants more than $53 million in legal and application fees.

---

Figure 7. Naturalized Share of the Foreign-born, 2012

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>% Naturalized Citizens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

* Mississippi data are for 2009-2011, averaged.
Source: MPI Analysis of 2012 American Community Survey data.

“As a state with one of the fastest growing immigrant populations and strong high-skill and low-skill sectors, Arkansas will receive tremendous benefits from comprehensive immigration reform.”

Mark Stodola,
Mayor of Little Rock

---
Federal Immigration Reform

The South is home to roughly a fifth of the nation’s total undocumented population. The passage of any federal immigration reform legislation—or even an expansion of administrative programs such as DACA—would have a significant impact on the region. Undocumented immigrants in the South would stand to benefit most directly from such legislation, but these benefits would also accrue to their families and the communities they call home.

Immigration reform is a critical issue for philanthropy, regardless of funding priorities. By granting legal status and a possible road to citizenship to undocumented immigrants, proposed legislation would help improve health, educational, and workforce opportunities and boost the social and economic well-being of the region as a whole. However, as seen with DACA, any form of immigration reform will pose significant challenges for applicants attempting to meet requirements related to documentation, education, and language ability. Service providers must reach populations that are often low-income, minimally educated, and have low English proficiency.

Philanthropic leadership will be crucial to achieving the promised benefits of reform. As the immigration debate moves forward in Congress and in communities across the country, funders in the South must assess how services on the ground and philanthropic backing will need to ramp up to meet both the existing and anticipated needs of immigrants who call the region home.
Investing in the South’s future: recommendations for funders

The South is the new frontier for immigrant integration and inclusion. Funders at the local, state, regional, and national level can make strategic investments that align with their funding priorities and reap substantial benefits for newcomers and our broader society.

The following recommendations offer philanthropy guidance in leveraging available resources and leadership to address the needs and contributions of newcomers in the South.

- **Understand demographic shifts and trends.** Useful sources include the U.S. Census Bureau’s American FactFinder website, think tanks such as the Migration Policy Institute and Immigration Policy Center, and Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees’ county-level data hub, America’s Immigrants. Some funders may want to commission research reports tailored to meet their specific interests and priorities. Others may wish to conduct community needs assessments to map the assets and needs of the local immigrant population, identify existing service capacity, and determine funding gaps and opportunities. Recent examples include Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation’s three-volume report, *Immigration in Arkansas* (2012), and the Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina’s research brief, *Latino Immigrant Families in South Carolina* (2013).

- **Improve access to education and boost graduation rates** by funding programs that eliminate language barriers, promote English proficiency, and provide a wide range of educational supports and opportunities geared for children and youth in immigrant families. Additionally, funders can support efforts that expand and improve the quality of early-learning programs for low-income children of immigrants, as well as programs that engage immigrant parents in their children’s education. For examples of effective programs, see *The Vital Role of Community Colleges in the Education and Integration of Immigrants* and *Supporting English Language Acquisition: Opportunities for Foundations to Strengthen the Social and Economic Well-Being of Immigrant Families.*

- **Invest in economic mobility and asset-building strategies** for immigrants such as programs that improve English language and vocational skills, workforce success, financial literacy, and access to financial services, including low-cost loans for DACA and naturalization application fees. For examples of proven economic mobility programs, see GCIR’s *Immigrant Integration Toolkit.* In addition, GCIR’s forthcoming report on DACA loan programs, available at www.gcir.org in January 2014, highlights promising and replicable models.

- **Improve health access and outcomes** for immigrants who are uninsured, do not qualify for coverage under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), or otherwise have limited access to health care. Funders can support safety net providers such as federally qualified health centers, other community clinics, and public hospitals to provide care to uninsured immigrants. In light of ACA implementation, funders can also support community outreach, education, and assistance with enrollment, all of which are critical to increasing eligible immigrants’ access to health coverage.

“The majority of these workers file their income tax returns every year just like I do ... They pay taxes on everything they buy. Many of them now have their own homes and they pay their property taxes just like everyone else.”

*Paul Bridges, Mayor of Uvalda, Georgia*
“In order for the citizens of South Carolina to compete economically, all children need strong education, adequate health care, stable homes and safe communities. Continued efforts are needed to identify strategies to foster family resilience and strengthen Latino immigrant families in culturally responsive and appropriate ways.”

Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina

- **Support services to help eligible immigrants apply for DACA.** Investing in DACA can reap multiple dividends, from improving educational outcomes to strengthening the local workforce. North Carolina is a model for the region, with a robust DACA funding collaborative led by Hispanics in Philanthropy and the Latino Community Credit Union, which operates a highly successful DACA loan program. An estimated 83,000 eligible youth and young adults in the South have yet to apply for this important program, and funding for outreach, legal services, application assistance, and loan funds can help eliminate barriers to accessing DACA’s benefits.

- **Support citizenship and civic participation.** Many citizenship funding collaboratives across the country, such as the New Americans Campaign, provide valuable lessons, best practices, and models that can be adapted for other regions. In addition to naturalization programs, funders can consider supporting civic engagement efforts, such as nonpartisan voter registration drives, as well as opportunities for immigrants to organize, participate actively in their communities, and assume public leadership roles.

- **Engage in coordinated planning efforts** with funding colleagues and other stakeholders. Funders can avoid duplication and maximize impact through joint data collection, analysis, planning, strategy development, and allocation of funds. Communication and coordination with colleagues in philanthropy—and a wide range of other stakeholders—will continue to be critical, particularly if a large-scale legalization program is implemented nationally. A burgeoning immigrant funding collaborative in Houston, Texas, as well as more established efforts in Illinois, California, and New York, offer prime examples.

For more information on funding opportunities and strategies, visit www.gcir.org or contact Daranee Petsod (daranee@gcir.org) or Felecia Bartow (felecia@gcir.org).
Conclusion

The face of the South is changing. The region has seen a tremendous influx of immigrants over the past decade, with foreign-born populations in some states nearly doubling. Newcomers, regardless of their legal status, have become vital contributors to the South’s burgeoning communities and economies and are increasingly interwoven into the region’s social and cultural fabric. In short, the future of the South and its newcomers are intertwined.

Grantmakers looking to make an impact in the region—in health, education, workforce development, or other core issues—are better positioned to achieve their goals by understanding issues facing newcomers and supporting immigrant integration efforts. With DACA on the table, immigration reform potentially on the horizon, and heightened national interest in naturalization, the time is ripe for philanthropic investment. How well the South integrates its newcomers and provides opportunities for all community members has far-reaching implications for—and is inextricable from—its current and future vitality.

Economically, socially, and civically, the future of the South and its newcomers are intertwined.
Endnotes

1 GCIR defines immigrant integration as a dynamic, two-way process in which newcomers and the receiving society work together to build secure, vibrant, and cohesive communities. We use “integration” instead of “assimilation” to emphasize respect for and incorporation of differences, the need for mutual adaptation, and an appreciation of diversity.


3 GCIR tabulation of population data published by Migration Policy Institute based on the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey data, 2011.

4 GCIR’s tabulation of U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2012 data for all states, except for Mississippi, which is from ACS 2009-2011 pooled data. 2012 data from table S0501: Selected Characteristics of the Native and Foreign-born Populations.

5 USCIS defines a lawful permanent resident as any person who is not a citizen of the United States who is residing in the country under legally recognized and lawfully recorded permanent residence as an immigrant.

6 Migration Policy Institute analysis of U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey data, 2012.

7 Latin America includes Mexico, South and Central America, as well as the Caribbean. North America includes Canada, Bermuda, Greenland, and St. Pierre and Miquelon. Figures are rounded up.

8 GCIR’s analysis of select country of origin data published by the Migration Policy Institute based on U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey data, 2011

9 As noted within the text, for the purposes of this report, the “South” refers to the following eleven states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

10 Northern America, as defined by the Migration Policy Institute, consists of Canada, Bermuda, Greenland, and St. Pierre and Miquelon.

11 Also known as, respectively, immigrant children and U.S.-born children of immigrant parents.


14 GCIR’s tabulation of U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2012 data for all states, except for Mississippi, which is from ACS 2009-2011 pooled data. 2012 data from table S0501: Selected Characteristics of the Native and Foreign-born Populations.


16 Estimates generated by Jeanne Batalova of the MPI Data Hub, Migration Policy Institute, based on U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2011. Retrieved from: http://www.migrationinformation.org/datahub/acscensus.cfm. Note: This table shows civilian employed workers over 16. This includes individuals working full time, part-time, those temporarily absent from work, or doing unpaid work for a family business. These rates are different the labor force participation rate, which includes both employed and unemployed workers. Figures are rounded up.

17 Pew Research Center’s Hispanic Trends Project’s estimates are for labor force participation, which includes unemployed and employed workers.


20 Passed 68-32 by the Senate on June 26, 2013, the “Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act of 2013” would overhaul the nation’s current immigration system, creating a 13-year pathway to citizenship for qualified immigrants, tightening border security, expanding a verification system for hiring workers, and establishing two new guest worker programs.

22 GCIR's tabulation of U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2012 data for all states, except for Mississippi, which is from ACS 2009-2011 pooled data. 2012 data from table S0501: Selected Characteristics of the Native and Foreign-born Populations. Louisiana's poverty rate for native and foreign-born families with related children under 18 are roughly the same, at 23.8% and 23.5%, respectively.


24 Under the program, qualified applicants receive relief from deportation for a two-year, renewal period and can apply work authorization. They would also be able to travel abroad for educational, employment, or humanitarian reasons, and depending on the state, could receive a driver’s license and in-state tuition. For more information, visit: http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/menuitem.eb1d4c2a3e5b9ac892436a7543f6d1a/?vgnextoid=f2ef2f19470f7310VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=f2ef2f19470f7310VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD

25 “DREAMers” refers to intended beneficiaries of the federal legislation first introduced in the U.S. Senate on August 1, 2001, the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act or the DREAM Act. This bill would provide conditional permanent residency and an eventual path to citizenship for certain undocumented immigrants. Although DACA benefits a narrower pool of undocumented immigrants than the proposed DREAM legislation, the term “DREAMers” is used interchangeably with DACA beneficiaries and undocumented youth and young adults in this document.


29 Ibid.


34 For more information, visit http://newamericanscampaign.org/.


39 For more information, visit http://latinoccu.org/.
About GCIR

Since 1990, GCIR has worked to influence philanthropy to advance the contributions and address the needs of the country’s growing and increasingly diverse immigrant and refugee populations. In so doing, we seek to promote effective grantmaking that not only improves the lives of newcomers but also strengthens communities.

GCIR partners with a growing network of member foundations, as well as the greater philanthropic community, on a wide range of immigration and immigrant integration issues, including education, health, employment, civic participation, racial and economic justice, and other concerns affecting immigrant children, youth, and families. Some of our members have longstanding immigrant-specific funding initiatives, but most members incorporate immigrant and refugee issues into their core grantmaking programs. The majority of our members fund locally, regionally, or nationally in the United States, and a handful make migration-related grants in Latin America, Canada, Europe, Asia, and Africa.

For more information about GCIR and our various programs and resources, visit www.gcir.org or email info@gcir.org.

GCIR Board of Directors

Geri Mannion
Co-Chair
*Carnegie Corporation of New York*

Darren Sandow
Co-Chair
*Hagedorn Foundation*

Leslie Dorosin
Secretary
*The Grove Foundation*

Manuel J. Santamaría
Treasurer
*Silicon Valley Community Foundation*

Cory Anderson
Information and Communications Committee Chair
*Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation*

Cathy Cha
Program Committee Chair
*Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund*

Molly Schultz Hafid
Membership Committee Chair
*Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program at Shelter Rock*

Alice Ito
*Social Justice Fund Northwest*

Mayra Peters-Quintero
*Ford Foundation*

John W. Slocum
*The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation*

Betty Balli Torres
*Texas Access to Justice Foundation*

Aditi Vaidya
*Solidago Foundation*

Ted Wang
*Unbound Philanthropy*

Staff

Walter Barrientos
Project Manager

Felecia Bartow
Associate Director

Vanessa Cedeño
Program Coordinator

Michael Kay
*Research and Communications Associate*

Joellen Luttrell
Membership and Operations Manager

Daranee Petsod
Executive Director

Camellia Rodríguez-SackByrne
*Research and Communications Manager*

Emma Schurman
Membership and Administrative Assistant