

American Community Survey

Population: Question on Place of Birth

Question on Citizenship

Question on Year of Entry

Questions as they appear in the questionnaire.

7 **Where was this person born?**

In the United States – *Print name of state.*

Outside the United States – *Print name of foreign country, or Puerto Rico, Guam, etc.*

8 **Is this person a citizen of the United States?**

Yes, born in the United States → *SKIP to 10a*

Yes, born in Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or Northern Marianas

Yes, born abroad of U.S. citizen parent or parents

Yes, U.S. citizen by naturalization – *Print year of naturalization* ↙

No, not a U.S. citizen

9 **When did this person come to live in the United States?** *Print numbers in boxes.*

Year

Source: ACS-1(2009)KFI

MEETING FEDERAL NEEDS

These questions provide essential data for setting and evaluating immigration policies and laws. Knowing the characteristics of immigrants helps legislators and others understand how different immigrant groups are assimilated. Federal agencies require these data to develop programs for refugees and other foreign-born individuals. Vital information on lifetime migration among states also comes from the place of birth question.

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COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Education

Data are used to allocate funds to public and private nonprofit organizations to provide employment resources aimed at making the foreign-born economically self-sufficient.

Social Services

These data are used, in conjunction with the Public Health Service Act, to assist states and local agencies with developing health care and other services tailored to the language and cultural diversity of the foreign-born.

Government

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security uses citizenship data to project staffing and other resource needs to complete the naturalization process for noncitizens.

Under the Voting Rights Act, these data are required to evaluate voting practices of governmental subdivisions (e.g., states, counties, and school districts).

Employment

Data about place of birth and citizenship are used to evaluate the effectiveness of equal employment opportunity policies and programs under the Civil Rights Act.

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