

# **A Portrait of Older Undocumented Immigrants in Illinois**

**Prepared for Rush University Medical Center**

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**December, 2019**

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## Summary

There are approximately 39,000 older undocumented immigrants in Illinois: persons aged 55 or more years whose numbers will likely to increase in the coming years. This report presents estimates of these persons' demographic and socioeconomic characteristics. An implication of this growing population is its rising need for health care from health-providing organizations such as hospitals.

### Population Size and Growth

There are about 39,000 older undocumented immigrants in Illinois, representing about nine percent of a larger undocumented population of approximately 460,000 persons.

The largest country or region of birth for these persons is Mexico, with almost 26,000 persons who are two-thirds of the overall older undocumented population. The next largest group consists of immigrants from Eastern Europe at about 5,800 persons.

Older undocumented immigrants will grow rapidly in number over the coming decade. The number of persons who are age 65 or older will increase by about 51,000 between 2017 and 2030.

### Personal Characteristics of Older Undocumented Immigrants

The undocumented seniors are distinguished by their lack of health insurance. For example, only about 36 percent may have private health insurance compared to 72 percent of native-born older persons.

Older undocumented residents have a significantly lower educational profile than older native-born residents. Sixty percent are likely to have less than a high school degree compared to 10 percent of native-born older persons.

Older undocumented residents have labor force participation and employment rates that are comparable to the older native-born population. They are more likely to be "in the labor force" than other residents, yet they have somewhat higher unemployment.

### Household Characteristics of Older Undocumented Immigrants

Only eight percent of the older undocumented live alone, compared to 28 percent of comparably aged native-born persons.

Compared to native-born seniors, undocumented seniors are far more likely to live in multi-generation households. Some 38 percent live in a two-generation household compared to 20 percent of all native born, and 32 percent of the undocumented live in three-generation households compared to only five percent of the native born.

### Geographic Patterns

The largest numbers of older immigrants are in Chicago in near northwest, west and near southwest neighborhoods, and in the area just west of Chicago in the suburbs of Cicero and Berwyn.

### Implications

Older undocumented immigrants face challenges as they age because they are ineligible for most publicly funded in accessing health and social support services. With so many of these persons living in multi-generational settings, including with citizen relatives, there may be opportunities to serve them by reaching out to and supporting the larger family unit in which they live.

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## Introduction

Older undocumented immigrants – persons aged 55 or more years – are a significant population of growing concern in Illinois. This is a group of tens of thousands of persons who were born outside of the U.S. but who reside in Illinois without legal status. Many have lived here for decades.<sup>1</sup>

The overall undocumented immigrant population in the U.S. receives significant attention from policymakers debating how to reform immigration laws and policies. Much of the attention is directed to undocumented entry at the U.S. border and ports of entry, to undocumented workers' role in the labor force, to potential fiscal impacts of undocumented immigration, and to other issues.

Little attention, however, has been given to the question of what happens to undocumented immigrants who may have spent years working in the U.S. and are now entering a period of their lives when most workers exit the labor force. As they age, they likely face a combination of reduced income and increasing needs for healthcare, as is typical for most older persons.

Unlike other Illinois residents, however, undocumented seniors cannot rely on the major social safety net programs. They are ineligible for income via the Social Security or Supplemental Security Income programs and cannot receive health care through Medicare or Medicaid. They are not able to get food stamps or other means-tested benefits.

The lack of access to safety net programs diminishes the quality of life of undocumented seniors, but it also has larger ripple effects. The family members of older undocumented persons can be burdened by the costs of caring for them by, for example, having to pay for healthcare costs out of pocket with no contribution from an insurance plan. This, in turn, reduces disposable income available to spouses, children, and grandchildren to invest in their own lives and communities.

Health providers such as hospitals, clinics, and independent practitioners that are located in areas where older undocumented persons live will experience more and more contact with undocumented seniors. Part of the challenge for these providers, of course, is cost: they will receive little reimbursement for the care of undocumented patients. Another challenge is the kind of treatment that may be needed, i.e., providing care to individuals who perhaps have spent a lifetime with limited primary healthcare who subsequently have health needs that are more serious for not having been managed adequately.

The coming years will see growing numbers of older undocumented immigrants in Illinois as the population ages. The last large-scale “amnesty” or legalization program for unauthorized immigrants affected persons in the U.S. since before January 1, 1982. Yet the 1980s, 1990s and the early 2000s were periods of large undocumented migration flows to the U.S. Immigrants who arrived in, for example, 1982 at age 25 are aged 62 years by 2017.

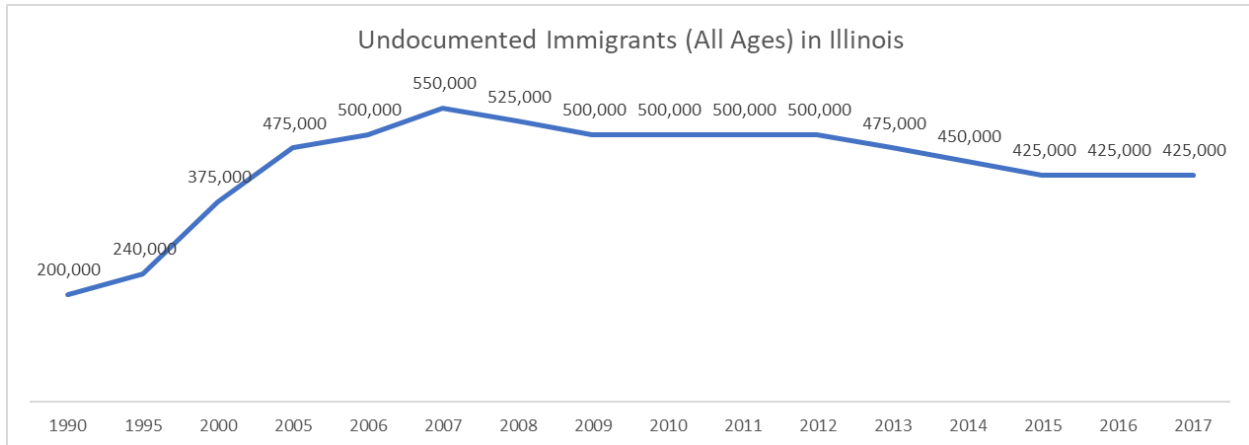
Assessing the impact of growing numbers of undocumented seniors requires estimates of the numbers and characteristics of these immigrants. This report uses recent information on the likely size of the undocumented population along with recent survey data on older noncitizen immigrants to better understand who the undocumented seniors are.

The data in this report address undocumented immigrants who are at least 55 years old. This includes both persons over age 65 who are typically considered to be of retirement age and persons who will reach that age within the coming decade.

Few surveys of the undocumented population exist and none are available for Illinois. This report uses a combination of data sources and methods to describe older undocumented residents, all of which are described in the Methodology section. Information on older noncitizen immigrants in the American Community Survey are used to proxy the characteristics of the undocumented in combination with reliable population estimates of the population that have been developed by the Center for Migration Studies New York.

## Undocumented Immigrants (All Ages) in Illinois

As of 2017 there were approximately 425,000 undocumented immigrants of all ages in Illinois, according to the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>ii</sup> The size of the undocumented population is estimated to have peaked in approximately 2007 at 550,000, and recent year-by-year estimates suggest the overall number of undocumented is either declining or stabilizing.



## Older Undocumented Immigrants

### Population Size

The Center for Migration Studies of New York (CMSNY) is a respected non-profit organization that has published numerous studies of unauthorized immigration. CMSNY has developed a unique data set that identifies respondents to the American Community Survey as likely undocumented or not. CMSNY provided us with population estimates of older undocumented persons in Illinois. As described in the Methodology section of this report, we use the CMSNY population counts in combination with American Community Survey data on older noncitizens to develop estimates of the likely characteristics of older undocumented immigrants.

According to CMSNY, there were approximately 460,425 undocumented immigrants of all ages in Illinois as of 2017.<sup>iii</sup> Of these, nine percent or about 39,270 persons are aged 55 years or more.

All Ages	100%
Under Age 50	83%
Age 50 to 54	8%
Age 55+	9%

Source: Center for Migration Studies New York

The largest country or region of birth for these persons is Mexico, with almost 26,000 persons who are 65 percent of the overall older undocumented population. The next largest group are immigrants from Eastern Europe, who number about 5,800 persons and represent 15 percent of the undocumented immigrant population. This latter group includes a large Polish contingent.

**Estimated Undocumented Population 55+ Years in Illinois: 2017**

	Estimated #	Pct of Total
Total	39,270	100%
Mexico	25,556	65%
Eastern Europe	5,832	15%
Central America	1,791	5%
South Eastern Asia	1,600	4%
Eastern Asia	1,181	3%
Africa	938	2%
South America	890	2%
South Central Asia	671	2%
Canada	277	1%
Northern Europe	204	1%
Caribbean	196	0%
Western Asia	134	0%

Source: Center for Migration Studies New York

## Characteristics of Older Undocumented Immigrants

### Age Categories

The great majority of the 39,000 undocumented immigrants in Illinois are currently below the age of 65. Persons aged 55-64 years number about 35,000. About 3,300 persons are between 65 and 74 and well under 1,000 are 75 years or older.

**Estimated Age Categories of Undocumented Immigrants in Illinois: 2017**

	Total	Age 55 to 64	Age 65 to 74	Age 75 and over
Total	39,270	35,284	3,392	594
Mexico	25,556	22,404	3,042	110
Eastern Europe	5,832	5,477	0	354
Central America	1,791	1,791	0	0
South Eastern Asia	1,600	1,342	129	130
Eastern Asia	1,181	1,117	64	0
Africa	938	781	157	0
South America	890	890	0	0
South Central Asia	671	671	0	0
Canada	277	277	0	0
Northern Europe	204	204	0	0
Caribbean	196	196	0	0
Western Asia	134	134	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Southern Europe	0	0	0	0
Western Europe	0	0	0	0

Source: Center for Migration Studies New York

### Socioeconomic Characteristics

The table below displays key demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of undocumented persons aged 55+ years in Illinois. The table includes information on specific native-born (U.S. citizen) ethnic groups for comparison.

Older undocumented immigrants have a slightly higher percentage of males than the overall native-born older population in Illinois (47 percent compared to 45 percent). Eighty-four percent of older undocumented persons do not speak English very well.

The undocumented seniors are also distinguished by their lack of health insurance. Only about 36 percent have private health insurance compared to 72 percent of all older native-born Illinois residents. Many of the older native-born residents have public insurance in the form of Medicare and/or Medicaid.

Older undocumented residents have a significantly lower educational profile than older native-born residents. Sixty percent have less than the equivalent of a high school degree, compared, for example, to only 10 percent of all older native-born persons in the state. About one in ten undocumented immigrants has a bachelor's degree.



**Characteristics of Undocumented Illinois Residents Aged 55+ Years, with Comparisons to Native Born Groups**

	Pct Male	Pct Female	Speak English Not Very Well	Pct with any health insurance	Pct with Private Health Insurance	Pct <HS only	Pct HS only	Pct Some College	Pct BA+
<b>Undocumented</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>10%</b>
NB Total	45%	55%	1%	97%	72%	10%	32%	30%	28%
NB Black NL	41%	59%	0%	94%	51%	19%	30%	33%	18%
NB Asian NL	48%	52%	19%	95%	74%	8%	16%	28%	48%
NB Latino	47%	53%	22%	94%	58%	32%	33%	23%	13%
NB White NL	46%	54%	0%	98%	76%	8%	33%	29%	30%
NB Other NL	46%	54%	1%	95%	61%	13%	26%	34%	26%

"NB"=Native Born, for comparison purposes

In terms of labor force characteristics, older undocumented residents have participation and employment rates that are comparable to the older native-born population, though with some differences. The “percent of all persons working” calculation seen in the table below shows how likely an older person is to be employed regardless of whether he or she is “in the labor force.”<sup>1</sup> About 39 percent of all older undocumented persons are working compared to 38 percent of older native-born persons.

Traditional employment and unemployment rates such as those reported by the news media describe the share of persons who either do or do not have a job as a percent of the population that is working or that is seeking employment (i.e., the “labor force”). By this measure, the undocumented are slightly more likely than the older native-born population to be unemployed, at seven percent compared to five percent for the native born.

The fact that undocumented persons are slightly more likely to be working but have a higher unemployment rate is reflected in their labor force participation rate of 42 percent, compared to 40 percent of the native-born. Of all groups in the table below, the undocumented have the second highest rate of labor force participation, behind native-born Asians at 53 percent.

Despite their similar labor force characteristics, the undocumented are more likely to be in poverty than the average older native-born person. About 16 percent of older undocumented persons are unemployed compared to 11 percent of all older native-born Illinoisans.

<sup>1</sup> This is in contrast to the second column that describes the “traditional employment rate” which refers only to the employed share of persons who are either working or looking for work. “Percent of all persons working” describes overall engagement with work.

**Characteristics of Undocumented Illinois Residents Aged 55+ Years, with Comparisons to Native Born Groups (cont.)**

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	Pct of All Persons Working	Traditional Employment Rate	Traditional Unemployment Rate	Labor force Participation Rate	Pct in Poverty
<b><i>Undocumented</i></b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>16%</b>
NB Total	38%	95%	5%	40%	11%
NB Black NL	30%	90%	10%	34%	24%
NB Asian NL	50%	94%	6%	53%	8%
NB Latino	37%	94%	6%	40%	16%
NB White NL	40%	96%	4%	41%	9%
NB Other NL	33%	92%	8%	36%	17%

"NB"=Native Born, for comparison purposes

## Characteristics of the Households of Older Undocumented Immigrants

The previous tables described the characteristics of individual undocumented persons aged 55+ years. The tables below describe the age characteristics of households in which an older undocumented person resides. The tables provide comparisons with major native-born populations.

A striking difference is that undocumented seniors are much less likely to live alone than other seniors. Only eight percent of undocumented persons aged 55+ years are in a one-person household with no other members present, compared to 28 percent of comparably aged native-born persons.

Compared to native-born seniors, undocumented seniors are far more likely to live in multi-generation households. Some 38 percent live in a two-generation household compared to 20 percent of all native born, and 32 percent of older undocumented persons live in three-generation households compared to only five percent of older native-born persons. A majority live with a U.S.-born citizen, though 43 percent live in households where all members are foreign born.

Along with living in multi-generation households, older undocumented persons are much more likely to live with a child (39 percent for undocumented compared to seven percent for the native born). About 74 percent of older undocumented are in a household with a younger adult compared to only 26 percent of older native-born persons.

**Household Characteristics of Undocumented Illinois Residents Aged 55+ Years, with Comparisons to Native Born Groups**

	Live Alone	In One-Generation Household	In Two-Generation Household	In Three-Generation Household	All Household Members Foreign Born	Live with a Child	Live with Younger Adults
<b><i>Undocumented</i></b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>74%</b>
NB Total	28%	72%	20%	5%	n/a	7%	26%
NB Black NL	35%	58%	27%	11%	n/a	14%	39%
NB Asian NL	23%	60%	29%	9%	n/a	12%	35%
NB Latino	23%	55%	29%	14%	n/a	17%	46%
NB White NL	27%	76%	18%	3%	n/a	6%	23%
NB Other NL	30%	70%	22%	7%	n/a	11%	34%

Older undocumented immigrants show striking differences compared to the native born in terms of how their households are engaged with work. Some 85 percent of older undocumented are in a household where someone works compared to 55 percent of older native-born persons. The older undocumented are also more likely to have someone in their household be in the labor force (i.e., to be either employed or looking for work), at 87 percent compared to 58 percent for natives.

Households of older undocumented immigrants are more likely to experience unemployment. About 13 percent of the households have an unemployed person, compared to 6 percent of natives.

About 19 percent of older undocumented persons are in households in which a person is in poverty. This is higher than native born households overall (13 percent) though not as high as the rate at which older African Americans live with someone in poverty (26 percent).

Many older undocumented persons are in a household in which everyone is limited-English speaking. More than a quarter of older undocumented immigrants are in such households (27 percent).

**Household Characteristics of Undocumented Illinois Residents Aged 55+ Years, with Comparisons to Native Born Groups (cont.)**

	Household Employed Person in Household	Household Member in Labor Force	Household Unemployed Person in Household	Household Person in Poverty in Household	Household all LEP
<b><i>Undocumented</i></b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>27%</b>
NB Total	55%	58%	6%	13%	n/a
NB Black NL	51%	57%	13%	26%	n/a
NB Asian NL	72%	75%	7%	9%	n/a
NB Latino	65%	68%	9%	18%	n/a
NB White NL	56%	57%	5%	10%	n/a
NB Other NL	55%	59%	9%	19%	n/a

## Geographic Patterns

The following maps show the likely residential patterns of older undocumented immigrants. These maps use Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs) as the geographic unit of analysis. PUMAs are U.S. Census Bureau geographies. Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS) data is a type of Census Bureau data used for this report. PUMAs as seen in the maps are the smallest geographic area for which microdata can be analyzed.

### Older Undocumented Immigrants from All Countries

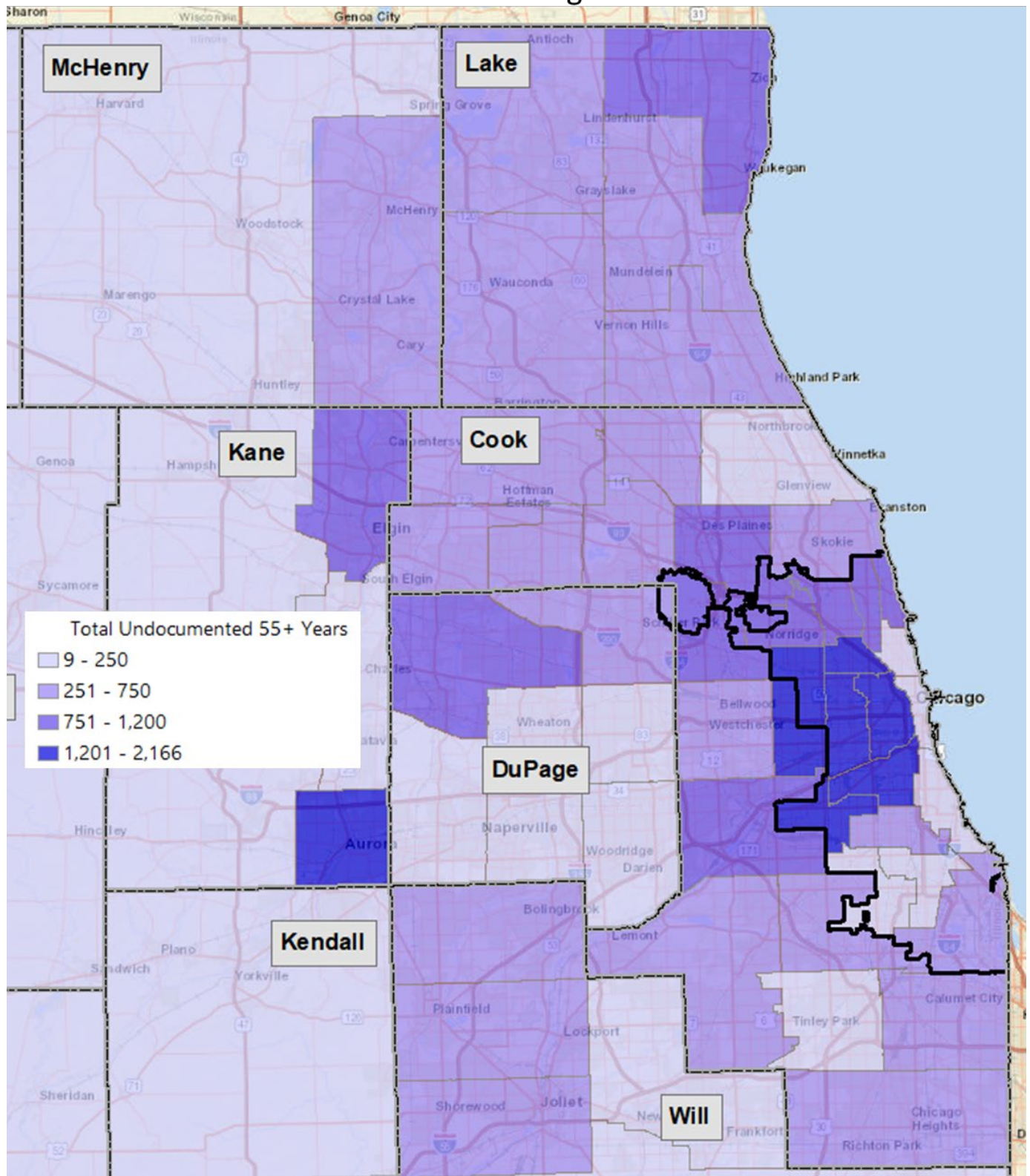
The first two maps below show locations of all undocumented older immigrants regardless of their country of origin. It will be seen that the largest concentrations of older immigrants are in the near northwest, west and near southwest sides of Chicago, and in the area just west of and bordering Chicago which is a PUMA consisting of the suburbs of Cicero, Berwyn and Oak Park, Illinois. The Aurora, Illinois area in southeast Kane County also stands out in the map, as do, to a lesser extent, northeast Lake County (home to Waukegan, Illinois), northeast Kane County (the Elgin and Carpentersville areas), and northwest DuPage County.

### Older Undocumented Immigrants from Mexico

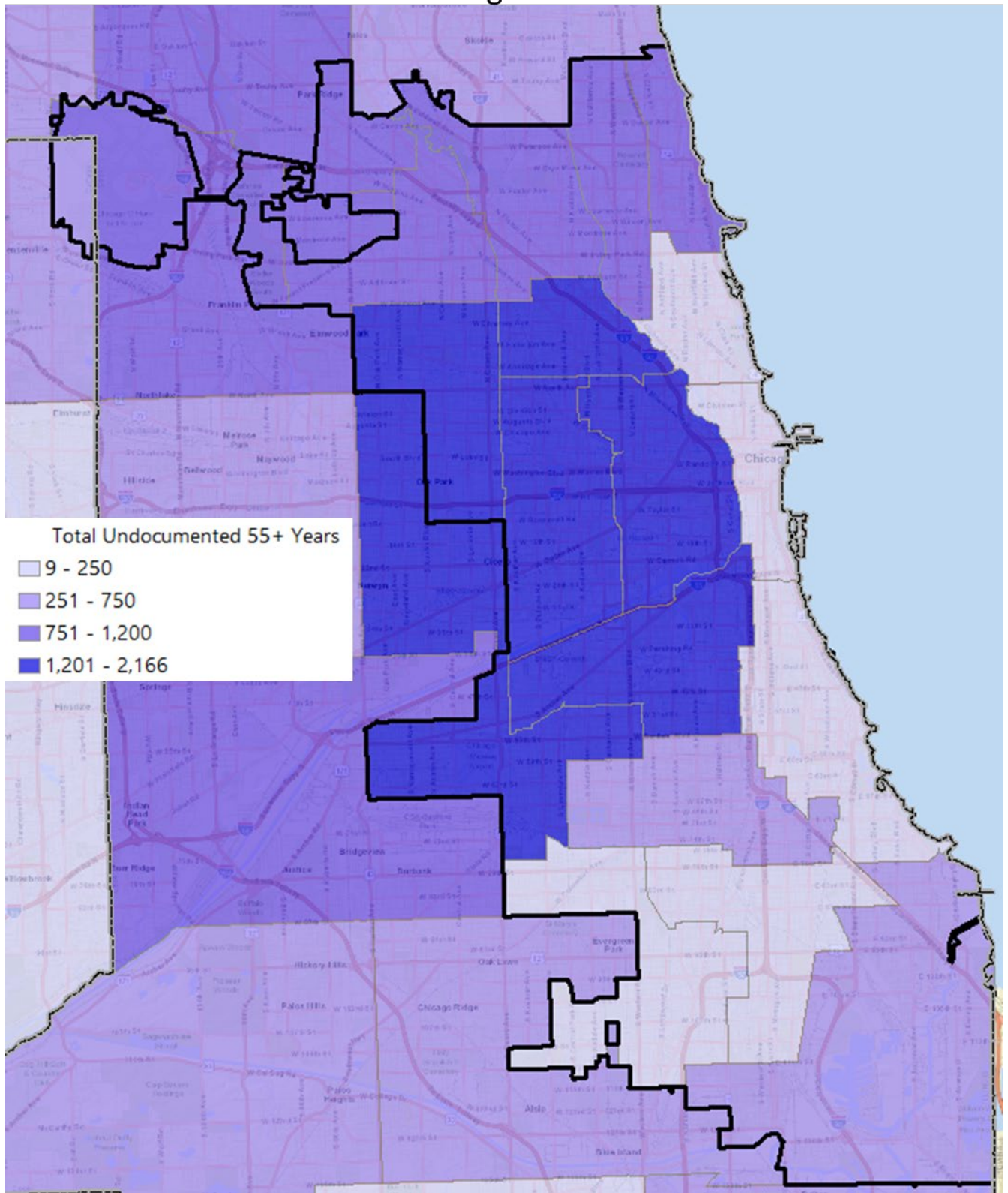
The third and fourth maps below include only older undocumented persons born in Mexico. This country can be detailed on the maps because the size of the Mexican population is sufficiently large to permit localized estimates.

The residential patterns of older undocumented Mexican immigrants is similar to the larger undocumented population.

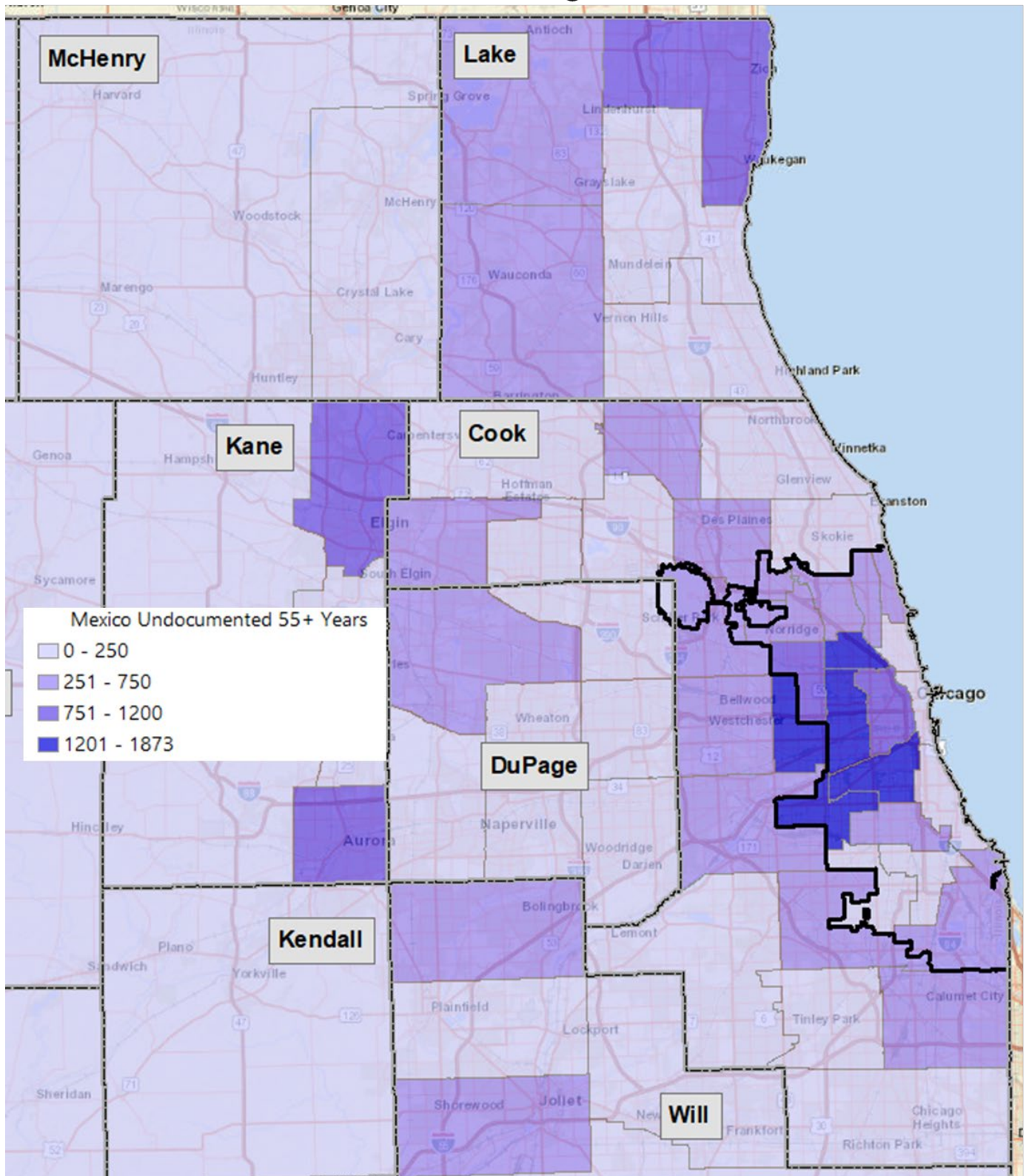
## Estimated Undocumented Immigrants Age 55+ Years: Metro Chicago 2017



## Estimated Undocumented Immigrants Age 55+ Years: Chicago 2017

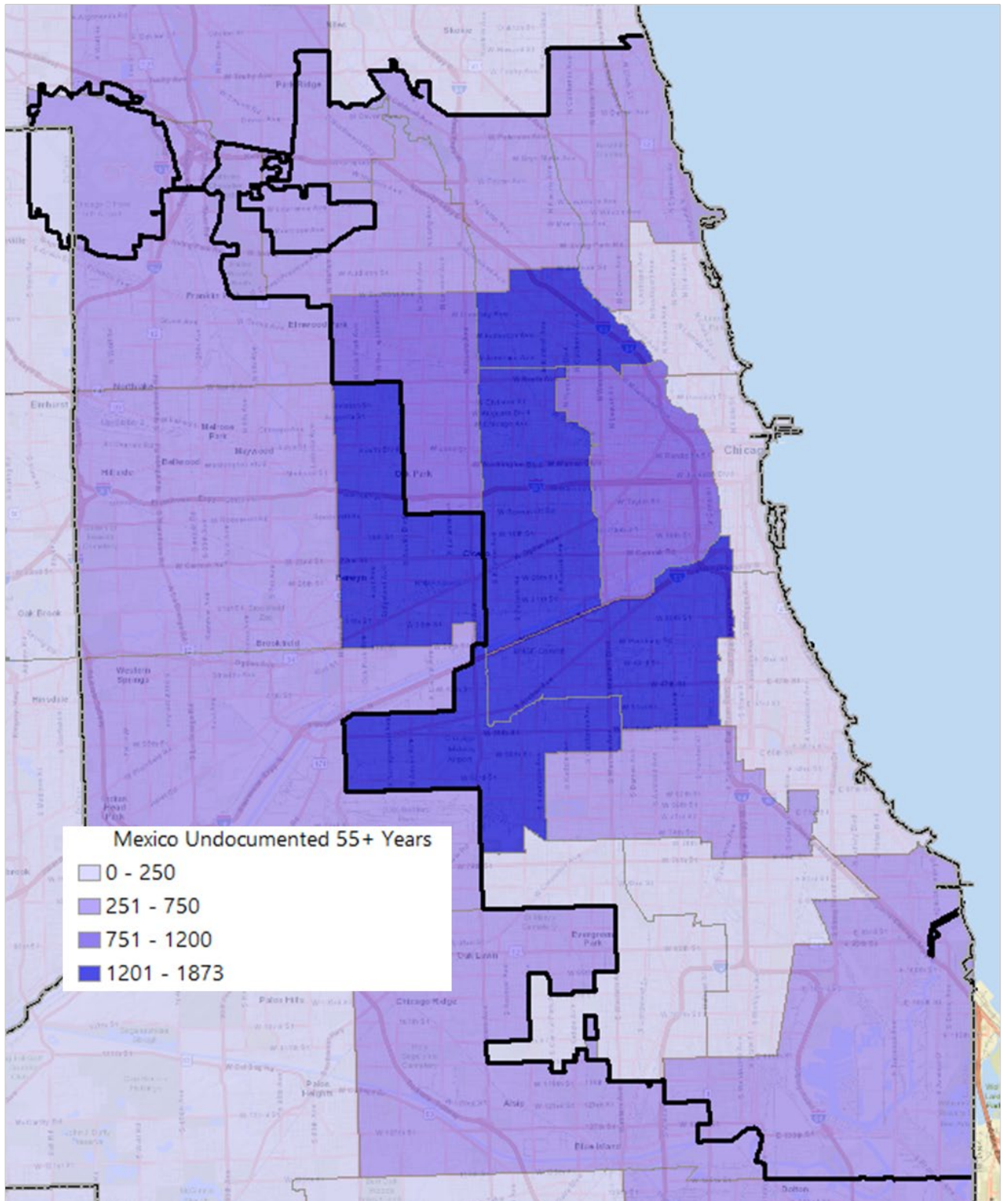


## Estimated Undocumented Immigrants from Mexico Age 55+ Years: Metro Chicago 2017





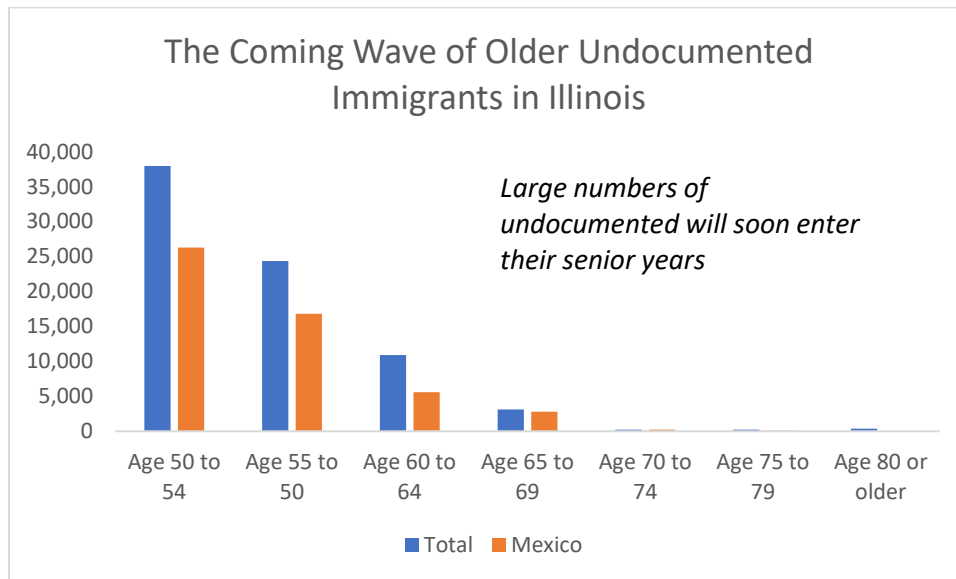
## Estimated Undocumented Immigrants from Mexico Age 55+ Years: Chicago 2017



Projections

The CMSNY estimates permit the size of the older undocumented immigrant population to be projected to the year 2030.<sup>2</sup> The estimates of change as of 2030 show dramatic growth of more than 51,000 undocumented immigrants in the age category of 65 years or more.

The striking growth reflects the relatively few undocumented immigrants who are currently 65 or more years and the relatively large numbers of immigrants who are currently in their fifties or early sixties, and who will age into being at least 65 years of age in 2030. The graphic below gives a sense of the coming wave of older undocumented immigrants, using the total population and those persons born in Mexico as an example. The age group 50-54 is several times greater, for example, than the group 60-64 years.



As seen in the table below, the current number of undocumented immigrants aged 65 or more years is about 4,000 persons today, and this age category will rise to about 55,000 persons by 2030. The overall numeric change is about 51,000 persons. The highest change is among Mexicans, whose numbers will rise by about 34,000. Other large numeric increases will occur among Eastern Europeans, up by 6,000 persons, and immigrants from Central America, South America, Eastern Asia and South Eastern Asia, all of whose populations aged 65 or more years are projected to rise by at least 1,000 individuals by year 2030.

<sup>2</sup> The age categories available from CMSNY do not permit estimates for the future population of persons 55 or more years nor do they permit projections to be made past year 2030.

Older Undocumented Immigrants in Illinois

**Projected Populations of Undocumented Immigrant Group by Age Cohort: 2017-2030**

	2017 Populations				Projected 2030 Populations				Number Change: 2017-2030			
	65+ Years	Age 65-74	Age 75-84	Age 85+	65+ Years	Age 65-74	Age 75-84	Age 85+	65+ Years	Age 65-74	Age 75-84	Age 85+
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,986</b>	<b>3,392</b>	<b>594</b>	-	<b>55,144</b>	<b>47,271</b>	<b>7,621</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>51,157</b>	<b>43,879</b>	<b>7,027</b>	<b>252</b>
Africa	157	157	-	-	1,006	689	317	-	849	532	317	-
Canada	-	-	-	-	227	138	89	-	227	138	89	-
Mexico	3,153	3,042	110	-	37,195	32,144	4,955	95	34,042	29,102	4,845	95
Caribbean	-	-	-	-	232	180	52	-	232	180	52	-
Central America	-	-	-	-	2,506	2,415	92	-	2,506	2,415	92	-
South America	-	-	-	-	1,104	900	204	-	1,104	900	204	-
Eastern Asia	64	64	-	-	2,555	2,257	299	-	2,491	2,192	299	-
South Central Asia	-	-	-	-	949	828	120	-	949	828	120	-
South Eastern Asia	259	129	130	-	2,380	1,988	347	45	2,121	1,859	217	45
Western Asia	-	-	-	-	129	129	-	-	129	129	-	-
Eastern Europe	354	-	354	-	6,485	5,300	1,074	112	6,131	5,300	720	112
Northern Europe	-	-	-	-	375	304	72	-	375	304	72	-

## Discussion

The above findings on the characteristics of older undocumented immigrants will not surprise anyone paying attention to the overall experience of the undocumented in the United States. The findings describe a population that is working though with lower-income earnings at jobs that generally don't offer health insurance. The fact that four of five persons don't speak English well adds social isolation as another dimension of their experience.

This portrait should be interpreted with an awareness of two dynamics at play with this group. First, the current group of older undocumented immigrants will change as they continue to age. For example, as the current population ages it can be expected that increasing numbers will leave the labor force and lose both income and in many cases the health insurance that comes with employment. English ability and education levels of this population would not be expected to change dramatically; they will likely remain socially apart from the larger population but with the added challenge of having less income.

The undocumented population aged 55 or more years will change in another way. Younger persons who are currently below 55 years will age into the group, and they may change the average characteristics we have described. Younger persons who came of age in either the U.S. or abroad may have had somewhat better access to education and opportunities to learn English. This could change the existing profile of older undocumented individuals, though it would not affect the basic fact that becoming older while undocumented presents many challenges.

Undocumented seniors generally live in a multi-generational household: one third live in a household with three generations present and 43 percent live with a U.S.-born person. The strengths and opportunities of these typical household structures of older undocumented persons should be recognized by health providers and others that stand ready to serve the needs of the community. The presence of family members and other generations suggest ways to reach and support older undocumented residents. Loved ones may be key to communicating with older immigrants. Close family members, many of whom have been born in the U.S. and who speak proficient English, might be available to assist their parents or grandparents navigate health and social support systems.

In our national and local debates on immigration little attention has been given to older undocumented persons. This study shows that their numbers are significant. We can expect the population to further grow by tens of thousands of individuals. Illinois community leaders need to bring increased attention to the reality of an aging, growing population of undocumented immigrants in our state who, despite in many cases having worked and paid taxes for years here, are facing a difficult future with little access to the support and service our society normally provides to older persons.

## Methodology

Detailed information on undocumented immigrants is available from The Center for Migration Studies of New York, where researcher Robert Warren has developed a method of attributing a likely immigration status to individual census records.<sup>iv</sup> The CMSNY data permits us to look at specific characteristics of undocumented populations such as their age. CMSNY provided us with counts of undocumented immigrants by age and country of origin who reside in Illinois.

The characteristics of undocumented immigrants are estimated using proxy populations that are assigned weights based on their representation among all older undocumented immigrants. This method was pioneered by The Urban Institute.<sup>v</sup>

### Using the American Community Survey to Estimate Characteristics of Undocumented Immigrants

Undocumented immigrants are a significant share of noncitizen populations counted by the ACS.

- CMSNY estimates report 39,270 undocumented immigrants aged 55+ years in Illinois as of 2017
- The ACS reports a population of noncitizen immigrants in Illinois in the 2013-2017 period of 150,755. This suggests that about a quarter of all noncitizens in the ACS are undocumented.
- For some countries the level of undocumented immigration is higher. For persons from Central America, as much as 47 percent of older noncitizens aged 55+ years may be unauthorized immigrants. For Mexico the share may be 38 percent.
- The fact that so many noncitizens in the ACS are undocumented means that noncitizen records are a helpful proxy for describing the undocumented.

**Estimated Undocumented Share of Noncitizen Populations  
Aged 55+ Years: Illinois**

	CMSNY Estimate	ACS Estimate	Pct Undocumented
Africa	938	3,115	30%
Canada	277	1,696	16%
Mexico	25,556	67,707	38%
Caribbean	196	2,598	8%
Central America	1,791	3,791	47%
South America	890	4,885	18%
Eastern Asia	1,181	10,801	11%
South Central Asia	671	10,241	7%
South Eastern Asia	1,600	8,875	18%
Western Asia	134	2,457	5%
Eastern Europe	5,832	22,152	26%
Northern Europe	204	3,523	6%
Total	39,270	150,755	26%

Proxying Characteristics of Undocumented with the American Community Survey

- The table below displays the proxy weight that this study assigned to each group of noncitizens in the ACS. It may be seen, for example, that the characteristics of Mexican noncitizens carry a weight of about 65 percent, because the 25,556 undocumented Mexicans are 65 percent of the entire undocumented population.

**Proxy Weights for Noncitizen Groups (55+) in the American Community Survey of 2013-2017**

	ACS Records (Unweighted)	CMSNY Estimate of Undocumented	Proxy Weight, Based on CMSNY Estimate
Africa	114	938	0.024
Canada	111	277	0.007
Mexico	2,373	25,556	0.651
Caribbean	102	196	0.005
Central America	129	1,791	0.046
South America	159	890	0.023
Eastern Asia	449	1,181	0.030
South Central Asia	388	671	0.017
South Eastern Asia	369	1,600	0.041
Western Asia	73	134	0.003
Eastern Europe	825	5,832	0.148
Northern Europe	206	204	0.005
Total	5,298	39,270	

The table below provides an example of how a characteristic such as gender is tabulated and re-weighted for each proxy population and then summed.

Example of Proxy Weighting, Using "Percent Male" by Proxy Population

	Africa	Canada	Mexico	Caribbean	Central America	South America	Eastern Asia	South Central Asia	South Eastern Asia	Western Asia	Eastern Europe	Northern Europe	Southern Europe	Western Europe	Other	Sum of Re-Weighted ACS Findings
ACS Finding of Percent Male	0.55	0.37	0.49	0.54	0.38	0.49	0.45	0.40	0.36	0.54	0.44	0.49	0.50	0.33	0.49	
Proxy weight	0.03	0.00	0.66	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.07	0.02	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Re-Weighted Finding	0.02	0.00	0.32	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.47

## Population Projections

### Mortality

Race/Hispanic-specific mortality factors were calculated from the 2017 National Population Projections Datasets [published by the U.S. Census Bureau](#). Factors specific to national origin groups are not available. Race/Hispanic factors were applied to groups of undocumented immigrants as follows:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Mortality Factors Used</b>
Africa	Non-Hispanic Black alone
Canada	Non-Hispanic White alone
Mexico	Hispanic
Caribbean	Non-Hispanic Black alone
Central America	Hispanic
South America	Hispanic
Eastern Asia	Non-Hispanic Asian alone
South Central Asia	Non-Hispanic Asian alone
South Eastern Asia	Non-Hispanic Asian alone
Western Asia	Non-Hispanic Asian alone
Eastern Europe	Non-Hispanic White alone
Northern Europe	Non-Hispanic White alone

Non-Hispanic Black factors were selected for Caribbean immigrants based on the national origins present in Illinois: Haiti, Jamaica, the Dominican Republic and Trinidad and Tobago.

### Develop 2017 Cohorts

Three age cohorts of persons aged 52-61, 62-71 and 72 or more years needed to be developed as of year 2017. These groups will be aged 65-74, 75-84 and 85 or more years in year 2030. The tabulations provided by Center for Migration Studies New York provided breakdowns by five-year cohorts; these were apportioned into adjusted categories, assuming a uniform distribution across each five-year group.

### Develop Projected 2030 Populations

The mortality factors described above were applied to the 2017 cohorts to arrive at estimated 2030 populations. This process accounts for mortality but not for possible rates of domestic or international migration which are unknown.

## Appendix

These appendix tables provide information on the noncitizens in the American Community Survey whose re-weighted characteristics form the basis of our analysis. These tables are based on all noncitizens. The noncitizens in the ACS include legal permanent residents, some immigrants with a temporary legal status, and undocumented immigrants.

**Characteristics of Noncitizen Illinois Residents Aged 55+ Years**

	Pct Male	Pct Female	Speak English Not Very Well	Pct with any health insurance	Pct with Private Health Insurance	Pct <HS	Pct HS only	Pct Some College	Pct BA+
All Noncitizens 55+ Years	46%	54%	77%	72%	40%	49%	25%	11%	15%
Africa	55%	45%	43%	65%	42%	20%	26%	17%	38%
Canada	37%	63%	2%	95%	78%	6%	23%	35%	36%
Mexico	49%	51%	88%	68%	32%	74%	17%	5%	3%
Caribbean	54%	46%	48%	88%	46%	44%	27%	16%	13%
Central America	38%	62%	82%	72%	40%	55%	23%	15%	7%
South America	49%	51%	80%	68%	43%	27%	36%	19%	19%
Eastern Asia	45%	55%	82%	78%	48%	30%	30%	13%	27%
South Central Asia	40%	60%	77%	79%	42%	38%	21%	15%	27%
South Eastern Asia	36%	64%	60%	71%	44%	19%	20%	19%	42%
Western Asia	54%	46%	64%	71%	27%	50%	16%	10%	24%
Eastern Europe	44%	56%	86%	68%	44%	23%	43%	16%	18%
Northern Europe	49%	51%	5%	95%	72%	11%	32%	27%	29%
Southern Europe	50%	50%	57%	93%	54%	43%	36%	8%	13%
Western Europe	33%	67%	18%	95%	68%	20%	32%	19%	30%
Other	49%	51%	39%	59%	41%	21%	13%	18%	48%



**Characteristics of Noncitizen Illinois Residents Aged 55+ Years**

	Pct of All Persons Working	Traditional Employment Rate	Traditional Unemployment Rate	Labor force Participation Rate	Pct in Poverty
All Noncitizens 55+ Years	40%	93%	7%	43%	15%
Africa	42%	93%	7%	45%	22%
Canada	45%	86%	14%	52%	13%
Mexico	39%	94%	6%	41%	15%
Caribbean	39%	91%	9%	43%	28%
Central America	43%	92%	8%	47%	21%
South America	51%	100%	0%	51%	11%
Eastern Asia	40%	94%	6%	42%	19%
South Central Asia	27%	85%	15%	32%	14%
South Eastern Asia	41%	89%	11%	46%	11%
Western Asia	28%	70%	30%	40%	22%
Eastern Europe	50%	95%	5%	52%	15%
Northern Europe	39%	96%	4%	41%	12%
Southern Europe	26%	90%	10%	29%	14%
Western Europe	39%	98%	2%	40%	8%
Other	35%	100%	0%	35%	17%

**Household Characteristics of Noncitizen Illinois Residents Aged 55+ Years**

	Live Alone	In One- Generation Household	In Two- Generation Household	In Three- Generation Household	All Household Members Foreign Born	Live with a Child	Live with Younger Adults
Africa	17%	38%	35%	26%	52%	41%	63%
Canada	32%	84%	14%	1%	51%	5%	19%
Mexico	6%	24%	41%	34%	35%	44%	80%
Caribbean	23%	47%	20%	30%	47%	29%	57%
Central America	8%	39%	35%	25%	48%	33%	66%
South America	9%	38%	42%	20%	49%	28%	67%
Eastern Asia	10%	35%	33%	30%	58%	32%	67%
South Central Asia	5%	20%	38%	42%	58%	41%	82%
South Eastern Asia	6%	32%	35%	31%	54%	34%	71%
Western Asia	8%	32%	50%	17%	62%	26%	72%
Eastern Europe	20%	59%	22%	18%	71%	17%	44%
Northern Europe	25%	73%	23%	3%	43%	8%	31%
Southern Europe	18%	62%	23%	11%	58%	12%	41%
Western Europe	26%	67%	28%	4%	42%	11%	34%
Other	34%	69%	15%	10%	79%	11%	42%

**Household Characteristics of Noncitizen Illinois Residents Aged 55+ Years**

	Household all LEP	Employed Person in Household	Household Member in Labor Force	Unemployed Person in Household	Person in Poverty in Household
Africa	14%	86%	88%	10%	24%
Canada	0%	59%	66%	11%	13%
Mexico	25%	85%	87%	14%	19%
Caribbean	25%	71%	74%	14%	30%
Central America	36%	89%	89%	13%	30%
South America	30%	87%	89%	6%	13%
Eastern Asia	32%	84%	84%	9%	19%
South Central Asia	14%	89%	91%	16%	16%
South Eastern Asia	19%	87%	89%	17%	15%
Western Asia	24%	74%	87%	18%	22%
Eastern Europe	49%	79%	81%	5%	17%
Northern Europe	4%	61%	62%	7%	13%
Southern Europe	31%	60%	61%	8%	17%
Western Europe	6%	62%	63%	5%	9%
Other	17%	62%	62%	0%	17%

## About Rob Paral and Associates

Rob Paral and Associates have assisted more than 100 different human service, advocacy and philanthropic organizations in understanding the communities they are trying to serve. RPA works with large-scale data and geographic information systems to develop insight into community assets and needs.

Rob Paral is a Research Specialist with the Great Cities Institute of the University of Illinois at Chicago, a nonresident fellow in the Global Cities program of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and a lecturer in the Latin American and Latino Studies Program of the University of Illinois at Chicago. He was the Senior Research Associate of the Washington, DC office of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, and was Research Director of the Latino Institute of Chicago. He has been a fellow or adjunct of the Institute for Latino Studies at Notre Dame University, DePaul University Sociology Department, and the American Immigration Council in Washington, DC. More information may be found at [www.robparal.com](http://www.robparal.com)

<sup>i</sup> According to the Pew Hispanic Center, “About two-thirds (66%) of unauthorized immigrant adults in 2017 had been in the U.S. more than 10 years, compared with 41% in 2007. A declining share of unauthorized immigrants

have lived in the U.S. for five years or less – 20% of adults in 2017, compared with 30% in 2007.”

<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/06/12/5-facts-about-illegal-immigration-in-the-u-s/>

<sup>ii</sup> Pew Hispanic Center estimates for Illinois may be found at

<https://www.pewresearch.org/hispanic/interactives/unauthorized-trends/>

<sup>iii</sup> The CMSNY estimates differ somewhat from the Pew Hispanic Center estimates due to differences in methodologies that the groups use.

<sup>iv</sup> CMSNY’s methodology is explained in detail in Warren, Robert. “Democratizing Data about Unauthorized Residents in the United States: Estimates and Public-Use Data, 2010 to 2013.” *Journal on Migration and Human Security*, vol. 2, no. 4, 2014, pp. 305–328., doi:10.14240/jmhs.v2i4.38.

<sup>v</sup> See, for example, Clark, Rebecca. “The Costs of Providing Public Assistance and Education to Immigrants.” *Program for Research on Immigration Policy*, 1994. Washington, DC The Urban Institute and also Clark, Rebecca; Passel, Jeffrey; Zimmerman, Wendy; and Fix, Michael “Fiscal Impacts of Undocumented Aliens: Selected Estimates for Seven States.” 1994. Washington, DC The Urban Institute.