



Immigrant  
Welcome  
Center

# IMMIGRANTS IN INDIANA

September 20, 2024



# AGENDA



**Immigration globally & locally**

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**About IWC & who we serve**

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**IWC Direct Services**

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**Connect with us!**

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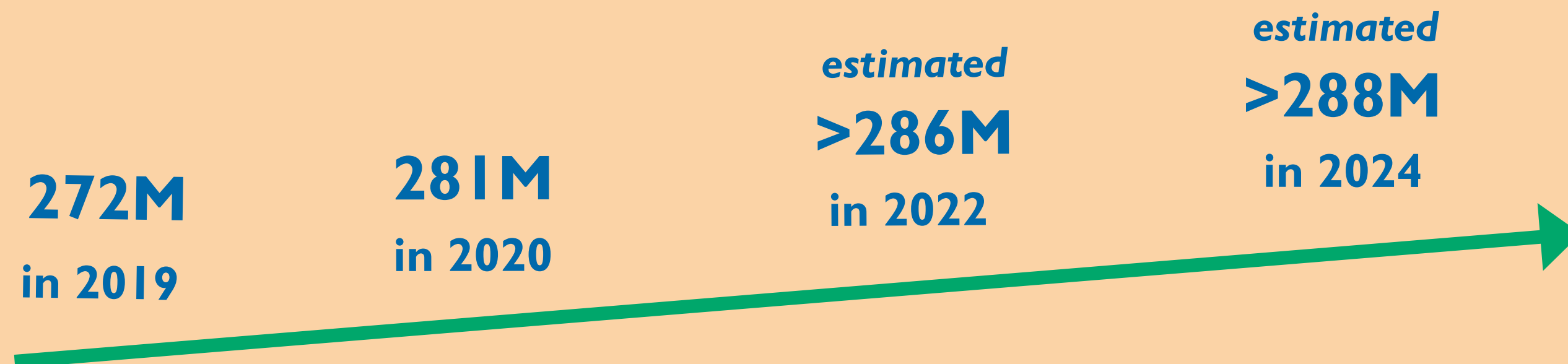
# MIGRATION WORLDWIDE



## PUSH AND PULL FACTORS

- Armed conflict, disaster exposure, gender inequality, lack of job opportunities, political corruption, and lack of access to competent healthcare and education
- Better work opportunities, greater security, and access to adequate healthcare and education

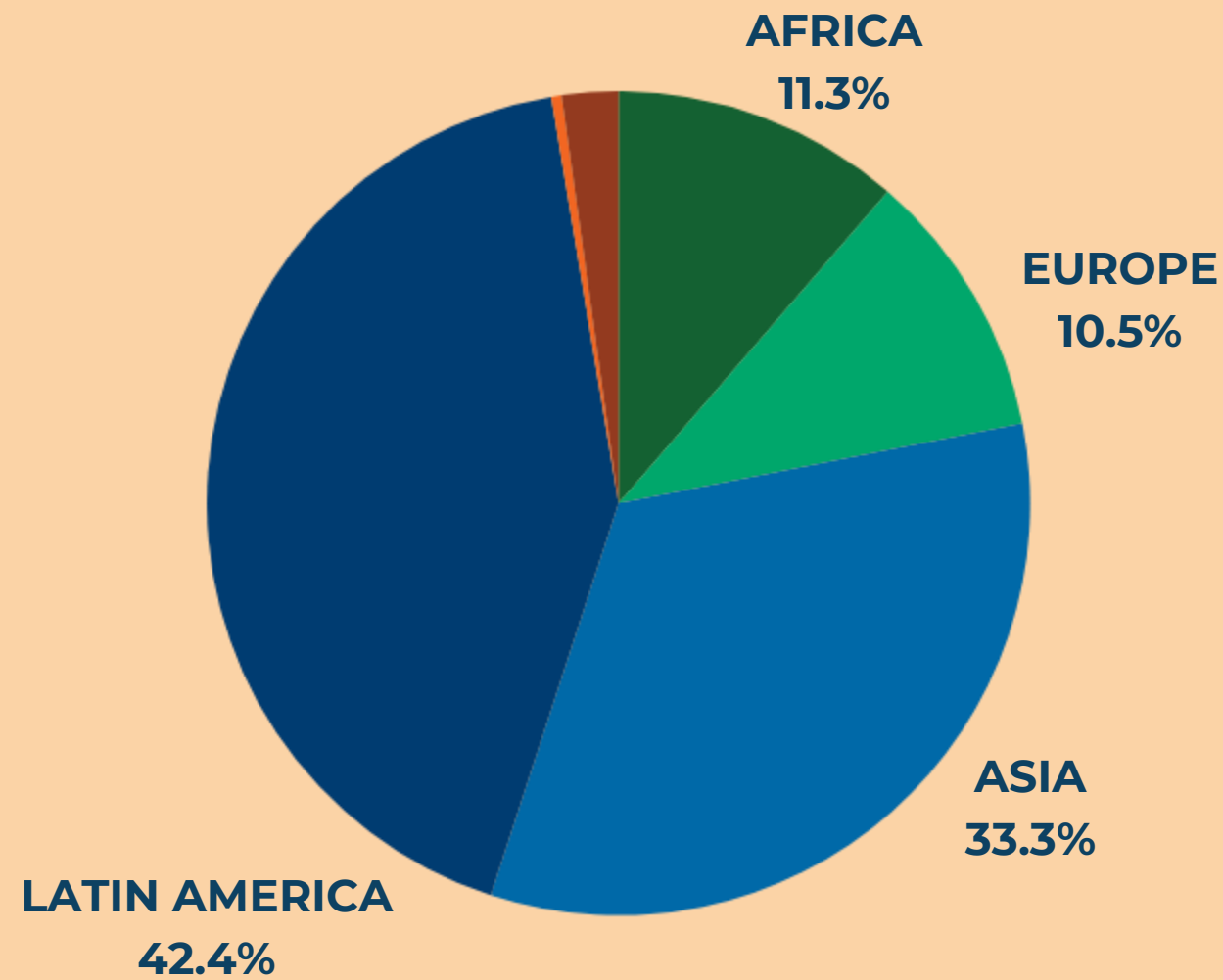
## INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION TRENDS\*



Source: IOM WORLD MIGRATION REPORT 2024 and U.S. Census.

\*In Millions

# IMMIGRANTS IN INDIANA AND CENTRAL INDIANA



**INDIANA FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION**

6.1%



of **Indiana** is foreign-born

12.1%



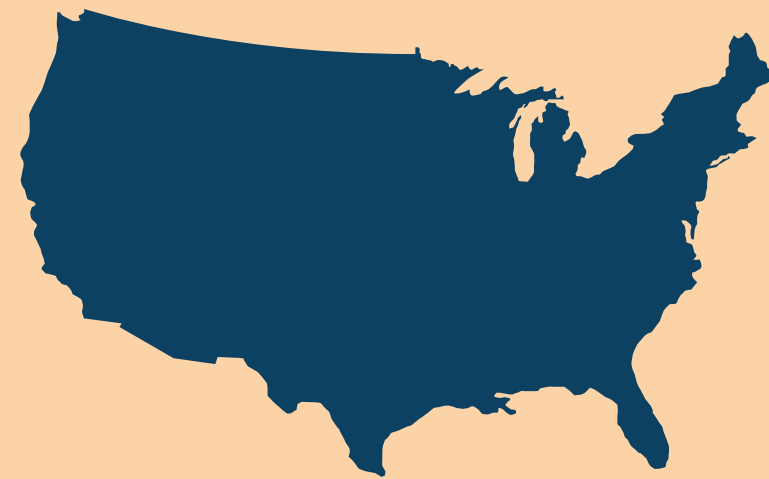
of **Marion County** is foreign-born

17.6%



speak another language at home in Marion County

# COMPARING ORIGINS



Top 5 places of origin for **U.S.** immigrants:

1. Mexico 24%
2. India 6%
3. China 5%
4. Philippines 4.5%
5. El Salvador 3%



Top 5 places of origin for **Indiana** immigrants:

1. Mexico 30%
2. India 9%
3. China 7%
4. Myanmar (Burma) 3%
5. Philippines 3%



Top 5 places of origin for **Central Indiana** immigrants:

1. Mexico 24.4%
2. India 10%
3. Myanmar (Burma) 6.4%
4. China 4.9%
5. Nigeria 4.5%



# LET'S CHAT!

What data surprised you  
and why?

# OUR MISSION



**TO BE A TRUSTED  
ADVOCATE AND PARTNER  
FOR ALL IMMIGRANTS**

**7,400 CLIENTS  
SERVED IN 2023**

# OUR HISTORY



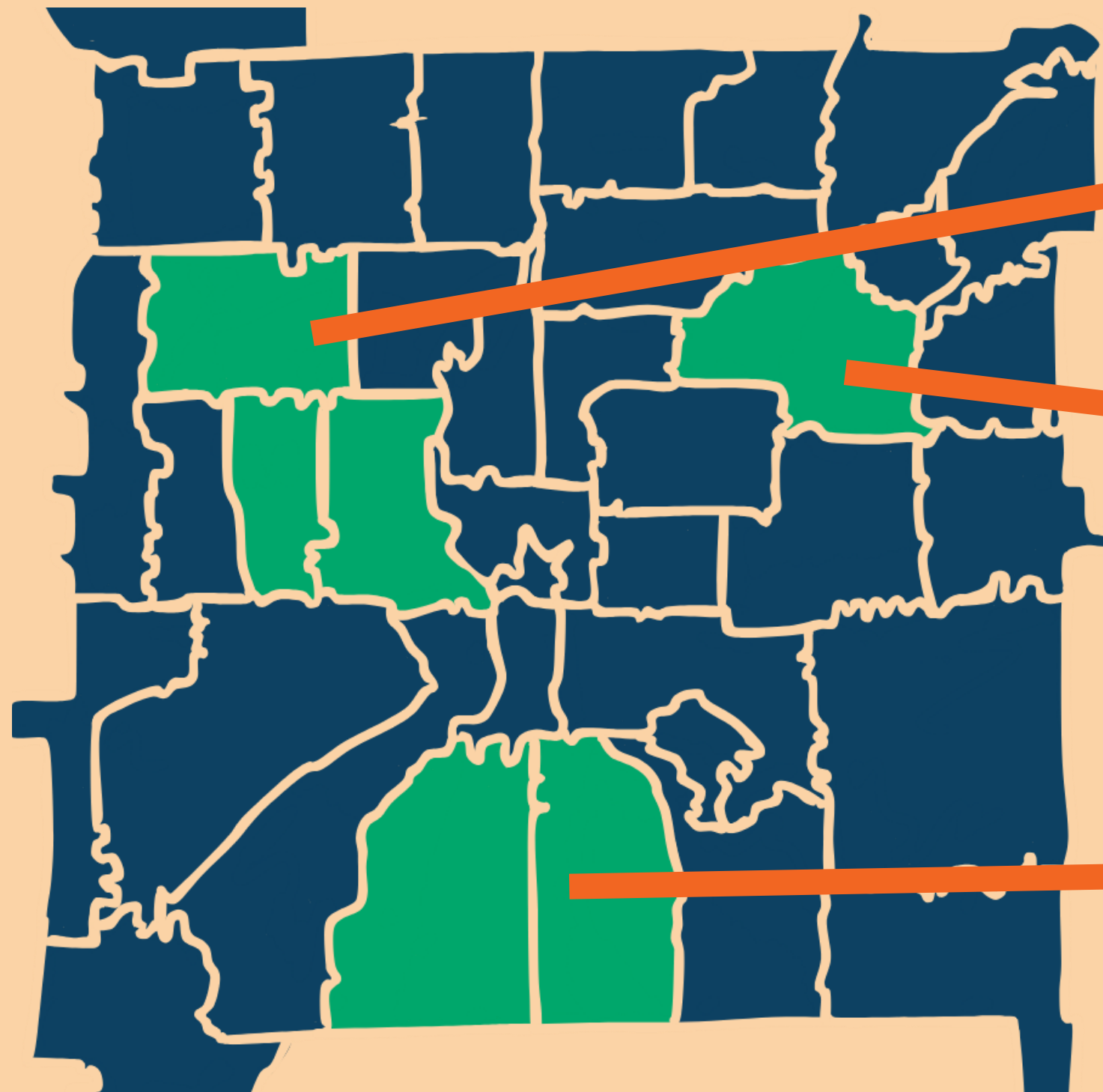
**IN 2005,** A study by former First Lady of Indianapolis, Amy Minick Peterson, and the Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee (GIPC) researched various immigrant populations and their needs,

They facilitated focus groups with service providers, and studied best practices in other cities for assisting immigrants and refugees.

**BY 2006,** The Immigrant Welcome Center, as it is known today, was established with the help of 12 volunteers known as Natural Helpers.



# MARION COUNTY



## WESTSIDE

24% of all foreign-born population and 51% of Western African population lives in 46224, 46222 & 46254

## LAWRENCE

5.4% of all foreign-born population lives in 46226

## SOUTHSIDE

87% of Burmese population lives in 46227 & 46217

# IWC CLIENT DATA 2023



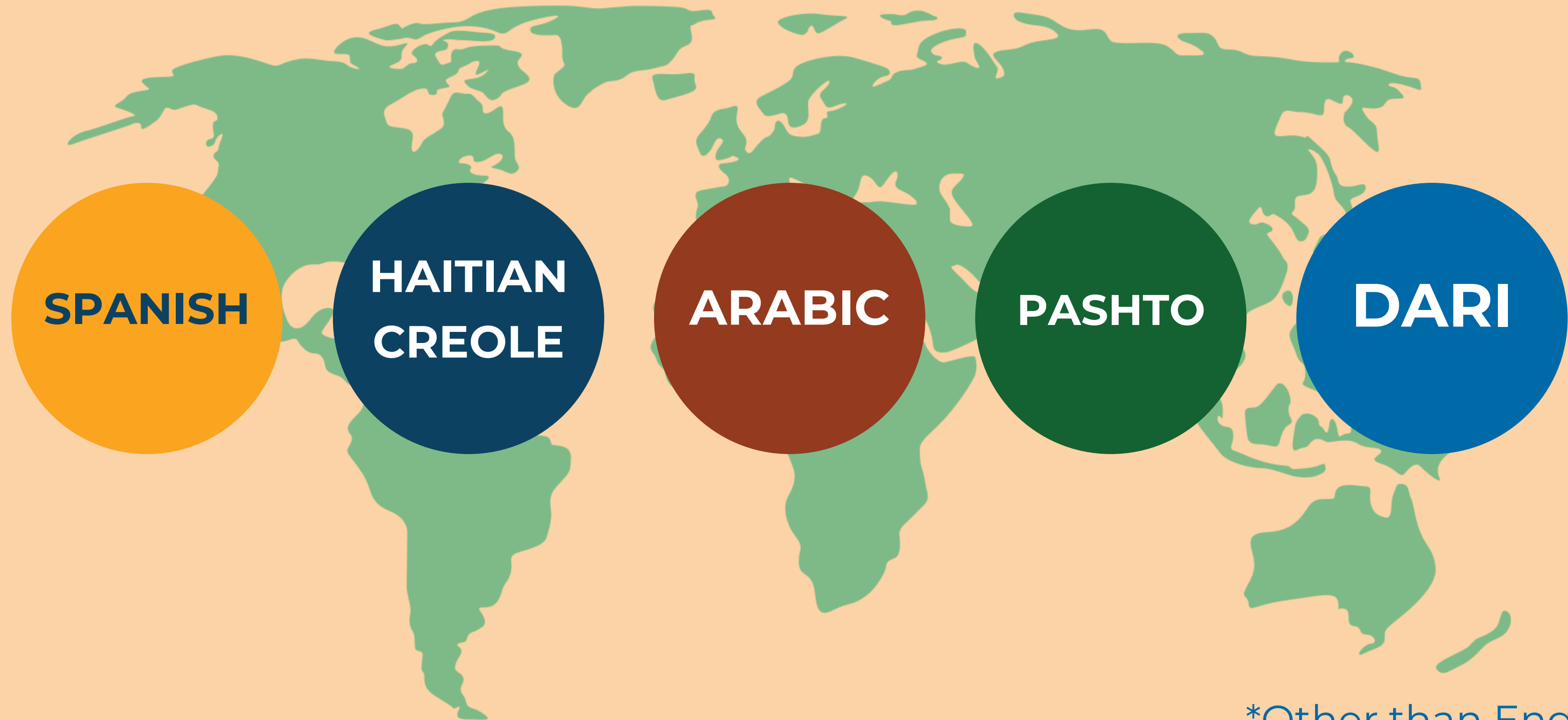
## TOP COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN



# IWC CLIENT DATA 2023



## TOP LANGUAGES SPOKEN\*



\*Other than English

# 2023 TOP SERVICES SEARCHED



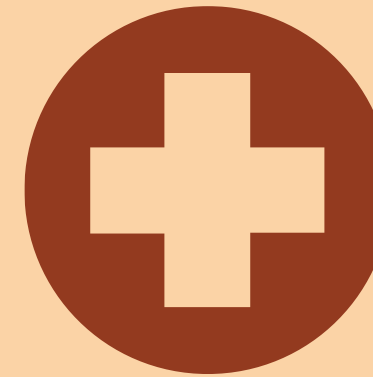
**1. HOUSING**



**2. ENGLISH  
CLASSES**



**3. FOOD &  
CLOTHING**



**4. HEALTH**



**5. LEGAL**



**6. EMPLOYMENT**

# DIRECT SERVICES

## IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE SUPPORT

### IWC Connect Resource Database & Helpline

- Available 24/7 online (see QR code)
- Or by phone during working hours:

**317-808-2326**



### Natural Helpers Program

- Natural Helpers are volunteers who assist immigrants and refugees transition to life in Indianapolis.

### Community Navigators

- Community Navigators provide holistic and comprehensive case management services including intakes and referrals.



**NILOFAR  
SHERZAD**

Community  
Navigator



**SERGIO ROLDAN**

Natural Helpers  
and Immigrant  
Support Manager

# DIRECT SERVICES



## CITIZENSHIP & LEGAL SUPPORT

### Citizenship Classes

- Citizenship classes to help prepare Lawful Permanent Residents for the next step in becoming a naturalized U.S. citizen

### Citizenship Support

- Free assistance with N-400 application

### Legal Referrals

- Provide trusted legal resources to immigrants looking for legal assistance in Indiana



**GIOVANNI RIVERA**

Immigrant  
Specialist



**COULD YOU PASS  
THE CIVICS EXAM?**



QUESTION 1

**The House of Representatives has how many voting members?**

A. 200

B. 435

C. 441

D. 100





QUESTION 1

**The House of  
Representatives  
has how many  
voting members?**

B. 435



QUESTION 2

**We elect a U.S.  
Representative  
for how many  
years?**

A. 6

B. 4

C. 2

D. 8



QUESTION 2

**We elect a U.S.  
Representative  
for how many  
years?**

C. 2



QUESTION 3

**The Federalist papers supported the passage of the U.S. constitution. Name one of the writers.**

A. John Adams

B. James Madison

C. Thomas Jefferson

D. Benjamin Franklin



QUESTION 3

**The Federalist papers supported the passage of the U.S. constitution. Name one of the writers.**

B. James Madison



QUESTION 3

**How many justices are on the supreme court?**

A. 11

B. 10

C. 9

D. 12



QUESTION 3

**How many  
justices are on  
the supreme  
court?**

C. 9

# DIRECT SERVICES



## ENGLISH LANGUAGE LITERACY (ELL)

### Adult ELL Pathway to Literacy

- Creating, providing, and sustaining English classes for those immigrants who are beginning learners



**GINGER KOSOBUCKI**

ELL Director

### English in the Workplace

- Creating opportunities for employers to offer English classes to employees whose first language is not English



**JULIANA MEH**

BELL Program  
Coordinator



# DIRECT SERVICES

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT

### Agency Consultations

- One-on-one consultations to local agencies to increase their capacity to assist immigrants and refugees

### Trainings and Workshops

- On-demand and tailored trainings to local organizations to help them work effectively with immigrants and refugees



**BEKAH JOSLIN**

Manager of Training and Resources



**ROCHENIDE ST. PREUX**

Project Liaison Manager

# ACTIVITY



## INSTRUCTIONS

- Match up with a partner
- Every time you pin your partners thumb for 3 seconds, you get a point
- Keep track of points - who ever has the most points will get a prize!
- You have 30 seconds

**Who competed?**

**Who collaborated?**



# RESOURCES



## IWC CONNECT

- Navigate to IWC Website Resources Page or scan QR code
- Enter ZIP Code
- Search for free or low cost programs by category

## TIPS

- Translate the page into 100+ languages
- Save and send programs with a free account
- Each program will list eligibility, availability, next steps, and more!





**QUESTIONS?**

# LET'S CONNECT



Find us online!



FACEBOOK

Immigrant Welcome  
Center



LINKEDIN

Immigrant Welcome  
Center



INSTAGRAM

@iwcindy

# LET'S CONNECT



## Contact Details

### IMMIGRANT WELCOME CENTER

2049 N. Meridian St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46202

#### HOURS

M/T/TH/F: 9am-4pm

W: By appointment only

OFFICE NUMBER

317.808.2326

OFFICE EMAIL

[help@immigrantwelcomecenter.org](mailto:help@immigrantwelcomecenter.org)