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CITY OF CHICAGO  
CITY COUNCIL

CITY HALL, ROOM 25  
121 NORTH LASALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602  
PHONE:312-744-6858

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**  
IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS  
(CHAIRPERSON)  
TRANSPORTATION  
(VICE-CHAIRPERSON)  
BUDGET  
COMMITTEES AND RULES  
PUBLIC SAFETY  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WAY

December 7, 2023

**SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTS FROM THE  
COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS  
SUBJECT MATTER HEARING / COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD DECEMBER 7, 2023**

**SUBJECT MATTER HEARING / COMMITTEE MEETING**

Discuss African migration; discuss Haitian migration; and discuss the history of the Welcoming City Ordinance. The United African Organization; The Coalition of Haitian American Organizations in the Chicagoland Area; the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights; and the National Immigrant Justice Center will provide testimony.

**ITEMS**

1. 'Black Migration to the U.S.' slide deck provided by United African Organization.
2. Self-titled slide deck provided by The Coalition of Haitian-American Organizations in the Chicagoland Area.
3. 'CIRR presentation notes 12/7/2023' document provided by Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights.
4. 'Welcoming City Ordinance: Its Context, Who It Protects, And Why It Remains Important' slide deck provided by National Immigrant Justice Center.

# BLACK MIGRATION TO THE U.S.



Presentation for  
**Chicago Committee on Immigrant & Refugee Rights**  
December 7, 2023



United African Organization

# United African Organization (UAO)

United African Organization is a dynamic coalition of African community-based organizations that promotes social and economic justice, civic participation, and empowerment of African immigrants and refugees in Illinois.

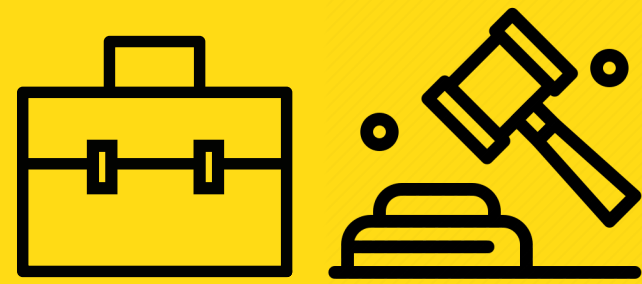


[www.uniteafricans.org](http://www.uniteafricans.org)

(312) 949-9980



# UAO PROGRAMS



## **Immigration Legal Services**

family petitions, adjustment of status, Green Card renewal, citizenship, DACA, TPS, etc.



## **Family Support Services**

public benefits access, employment, childcare, financial assistance, housing & rental assistance, education, youth development, etc.



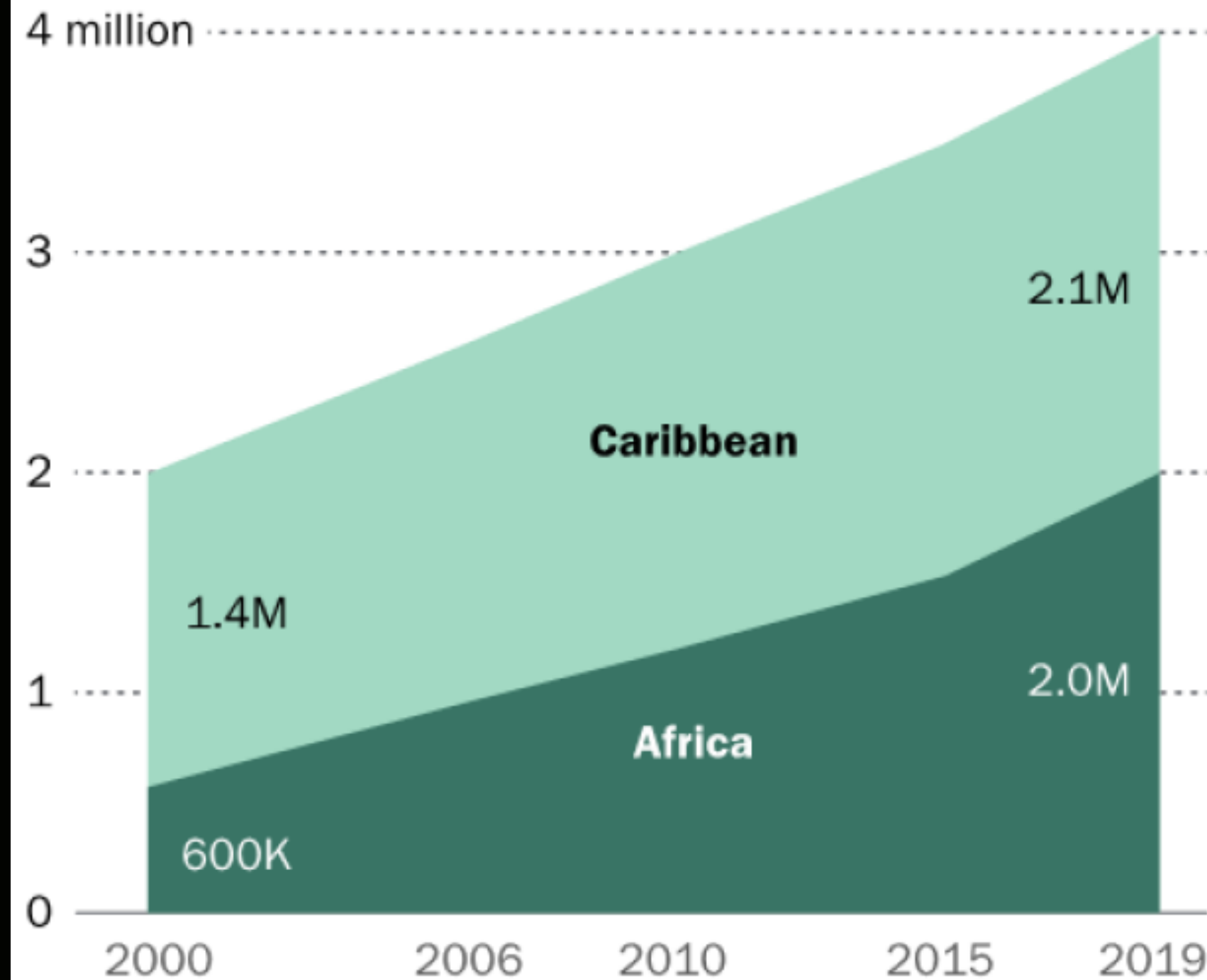
## **Public Policy Advocacy**

immigration, language access, healthcare, housing, worker rights. etc.

# US Black immigrant population



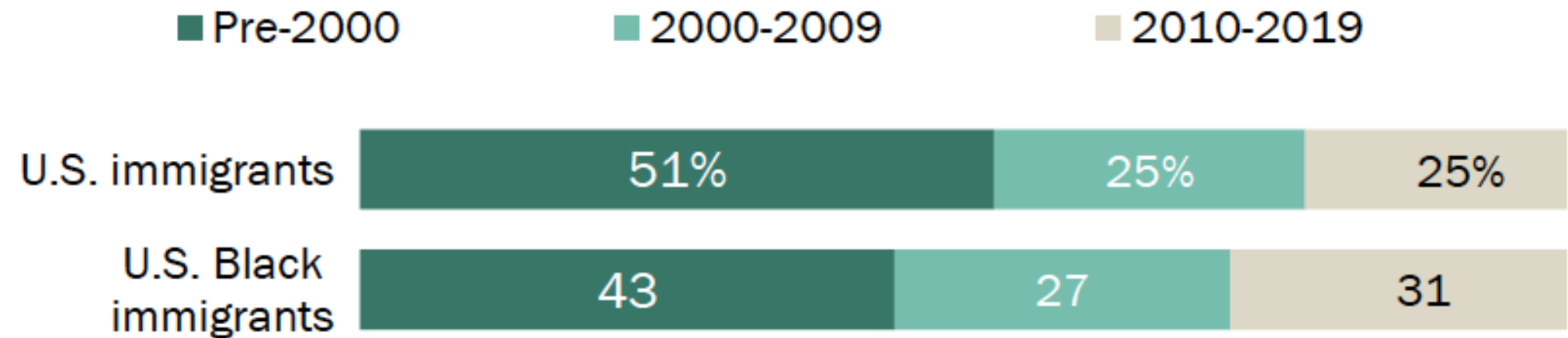
*U.S. Black immigrant population born in Africa and the Caribbean*



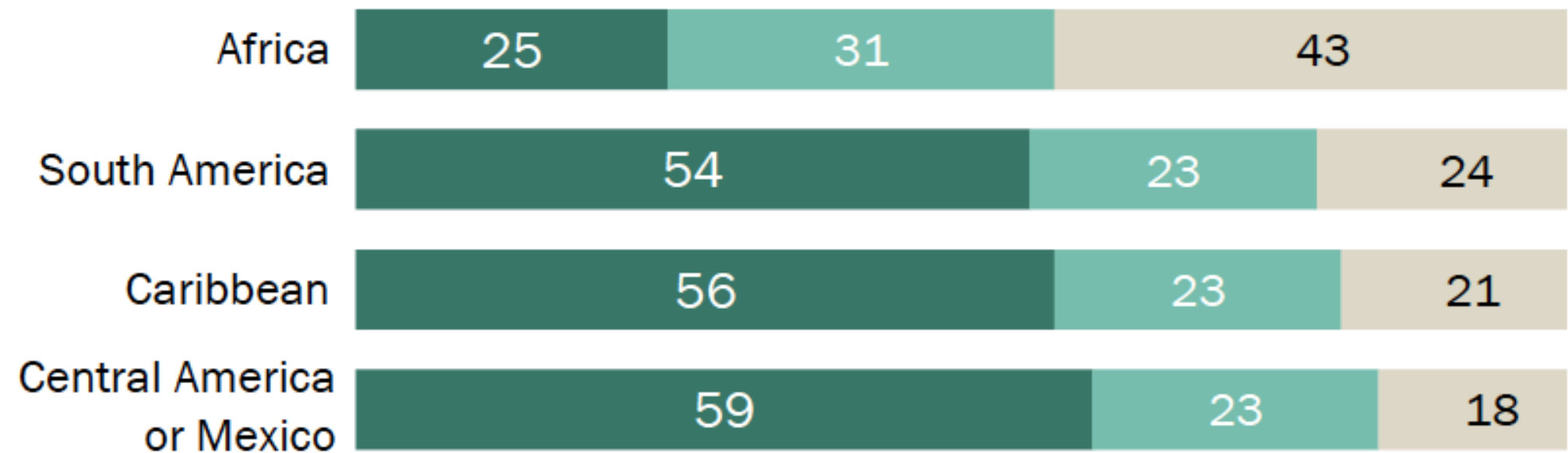
# African immigrants represented the largest share of recent Black immigrant arrivals in the U.S.



*% of immigrants who say they first came to live in the U.S. ...*



*Among Black immigrants born in ...*

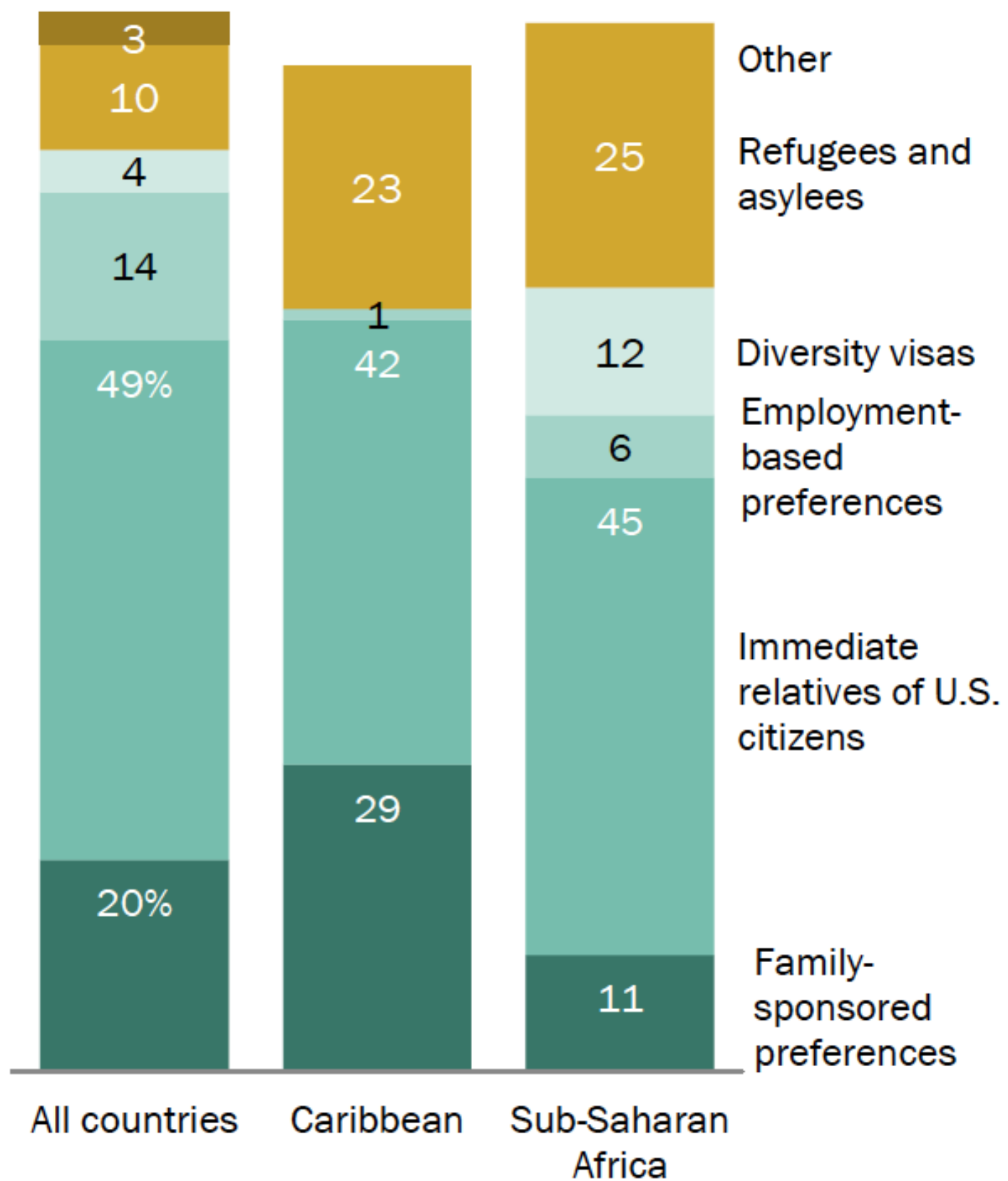


Pew Research Center (2022) One-in-Ten Black People Living in the U.S. Are Immigrants

# How do Black Immigrants get to the US?

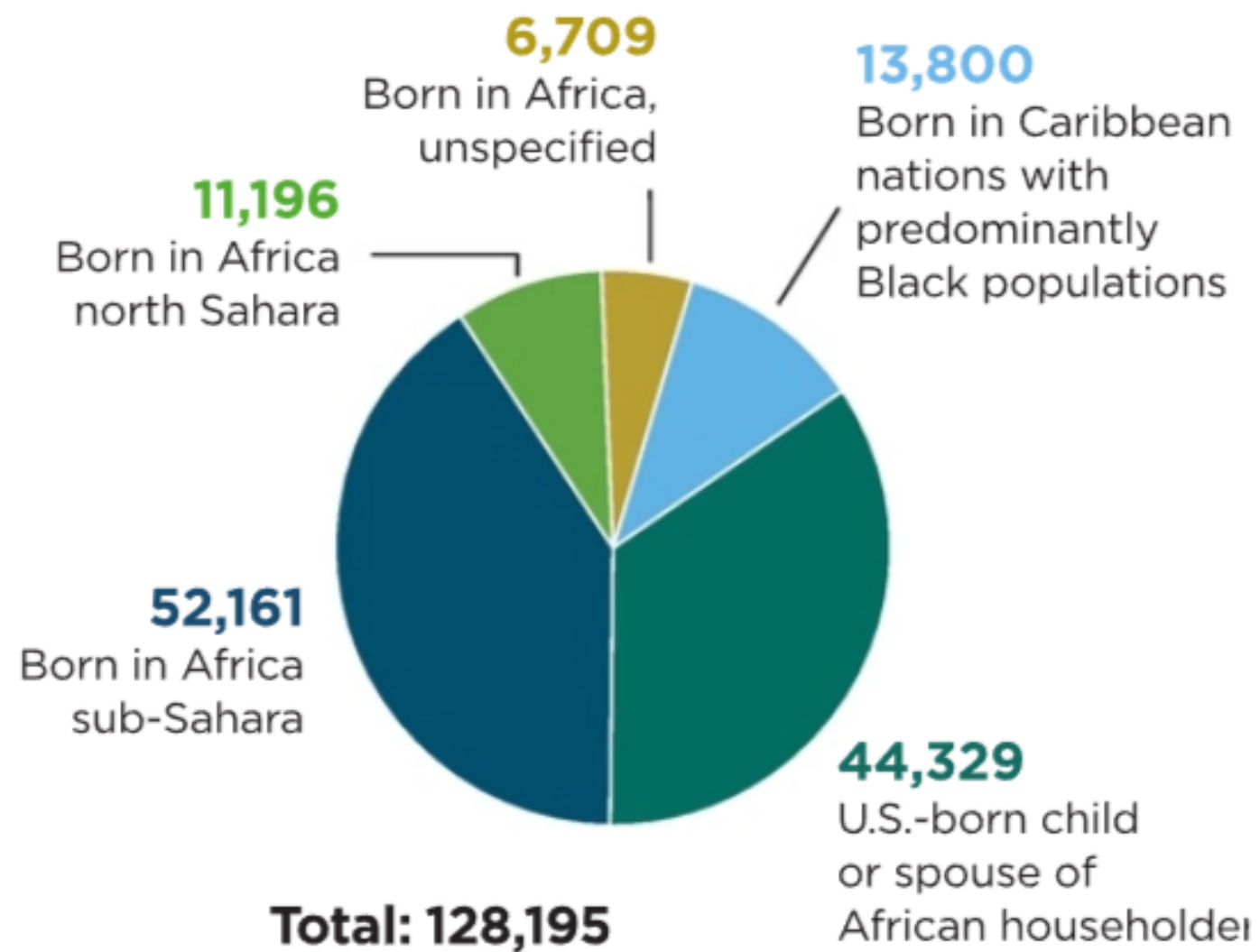


*% of legal immigrants by admission category, 2019*



# Africans in Illinois

## African Community in Illinois



Source: American Community Survey, 2015-2019

## African Populations of at Least 500 in Illinois

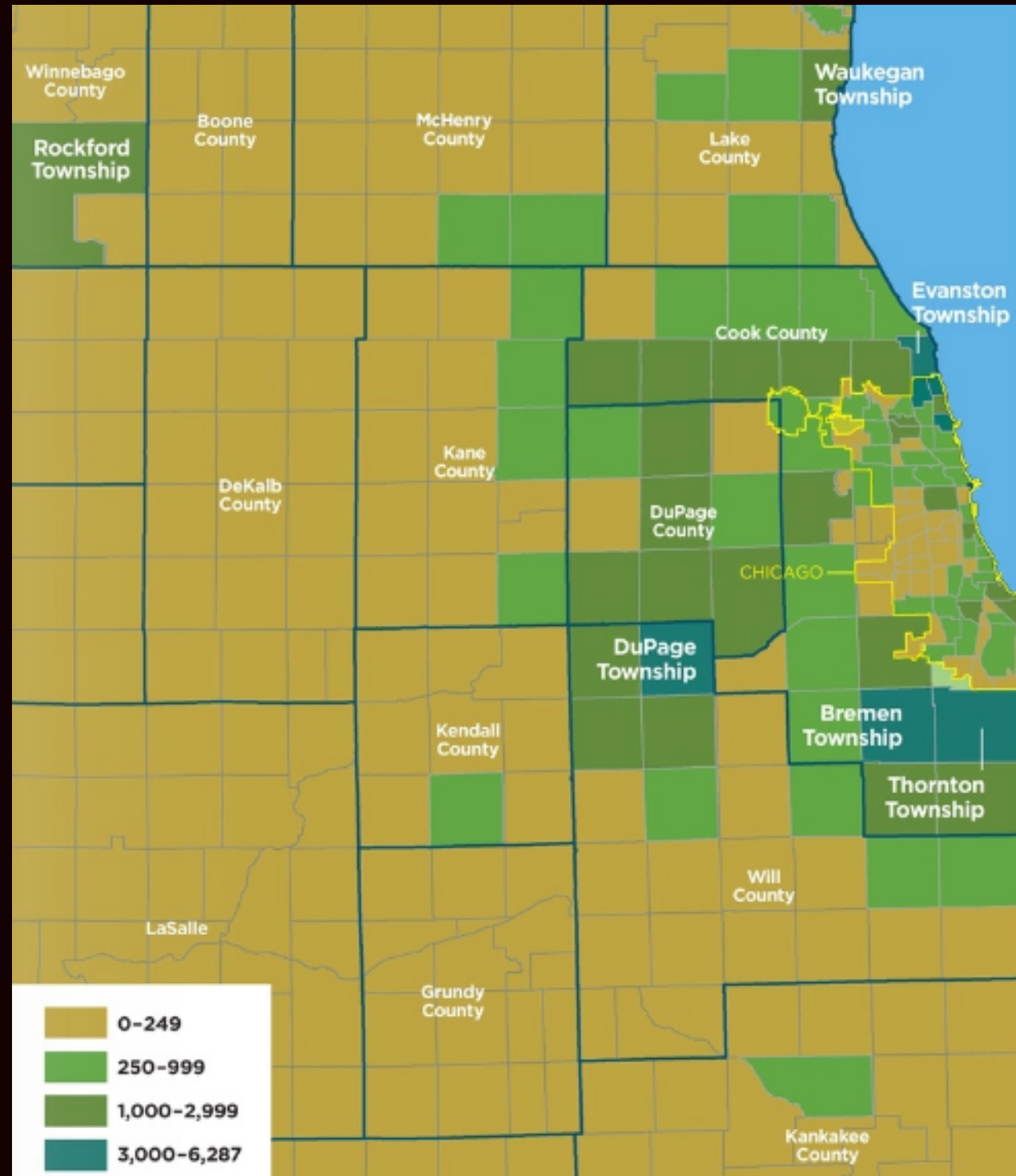
Total	83,866
Nigeria	17,420
Jamaica	7,526
Ghana	6,706
Egypt	6,224
Haiti	4,662
Ethiopia	3,995
South Africa	2,931
Morocco	2,871
Zaire	2,461
Kenya	2,322
Congo	1,986
Togo	1,913
Cameroon	1,669
Algeria	1,450
Somalia	1,300
Liberia	1,276
Uganda	1,224
Sudan	943
Tanzania	861
Eritrea	853
Zambia	737
Barbados	556
Other	11,980

Source: American Community Survey, 2015-2019





# Africans in Illinois (cont'd)



## Where Are African Communities Found Statewide?

The following maps display the locations of African communities in the state of Illinois, as reported by the 2015-2019 American Community Survey.

## African Population in Illinois

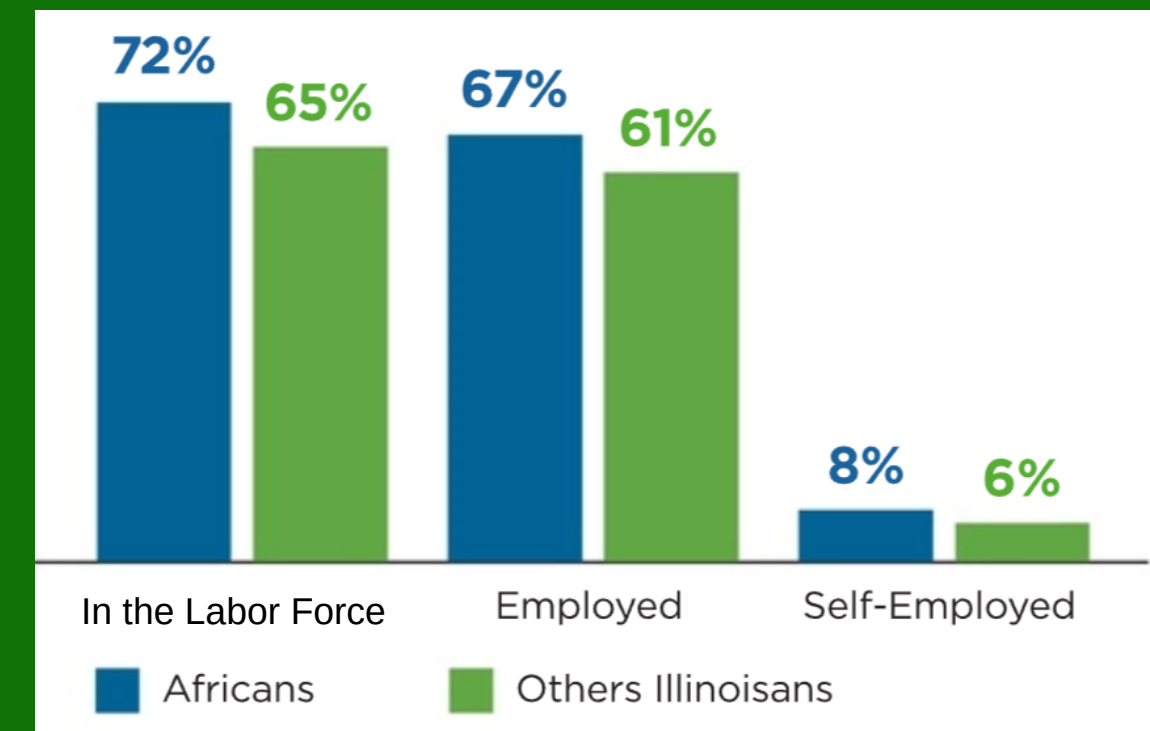
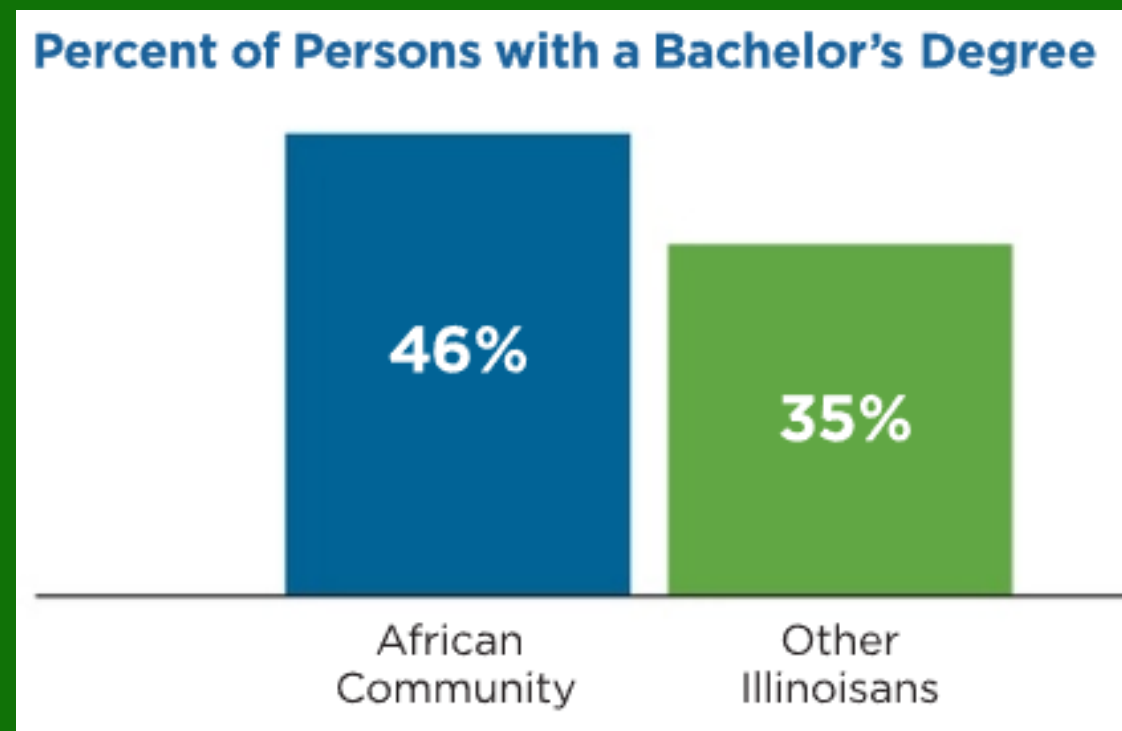




# Our Community

	Africans and Their Families	Other Illinoisans
0-17 Years	31%	23%
18-24 Years	10%	9%
25-34 Years	16%	14%
35-44 Years	15%	13%
45-54 Years	13%	13%
55-64 Years	9%	13%
65+ Years	7%	15%

Source: American Community Survey, 2015-2019



# BEING BLACK AND IMMIGRANT

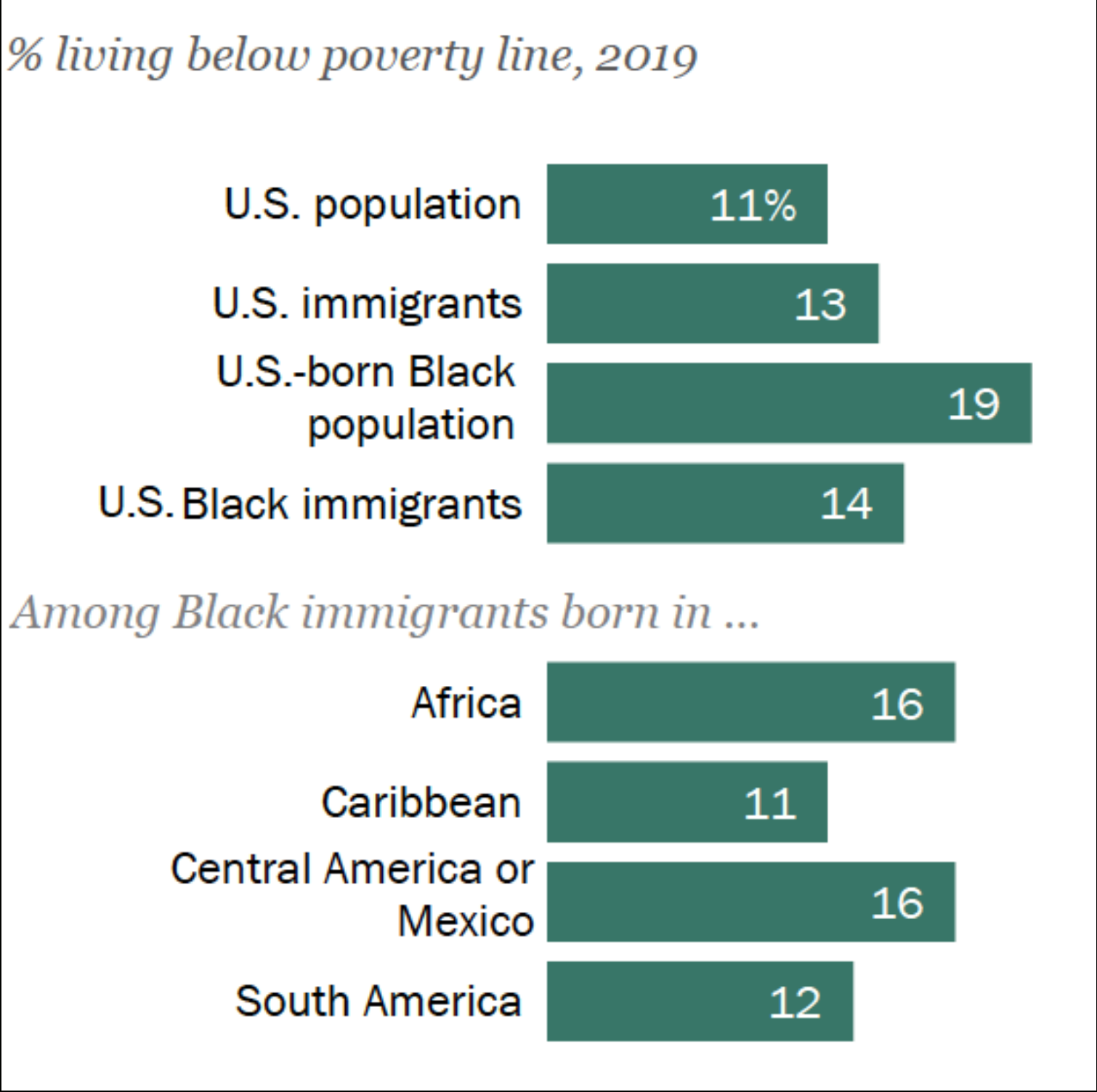
Black immigrants are often subject to the same risks of poverty, lack of access to quality health care or affordable housing, over-policing and increased incarceration as native born Black Americans.

"When they arrive in the United States, to the broader society, black immigrants lose their individual and national identities. They are no longer Ghanaian, South African, Jamaican, Haitian, or Nicaraguan. They are simply black and, in this society, their lives do not matter."

Neal, Joan F. (2020) Being Black and Immigrant in America



**Despite high educational attainment and workforce participation, Black immigrants earn less than other immigrants**



**Over-policing and increased incarceration among Black immigrants often leads to the prison to deportation pipeline.**

- 76% of Black immigrants are deported because of contact with police and the criminal legal system, compared to 45% of all immigrants**



## **BLACK IMMIGRANTS**

AT GREATER RISK FOR DEPORTATION

**7.2%**



PERCENT OF NON-CITIZENS  
WHO ARE BLACK

**20.3%**



PERCENT OF THOSE FACING  
DEPORTATION ON CRIMINAL  
GROUNDS WHO ARE BLACK

RAICES (2020) Black Immigrant Lives Are Under Attack.

<https://www.raicestexas.org/2020/07/22/black-immigrant-lives-are-under-attack/>

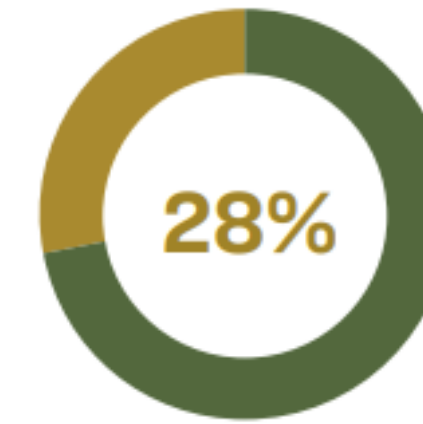
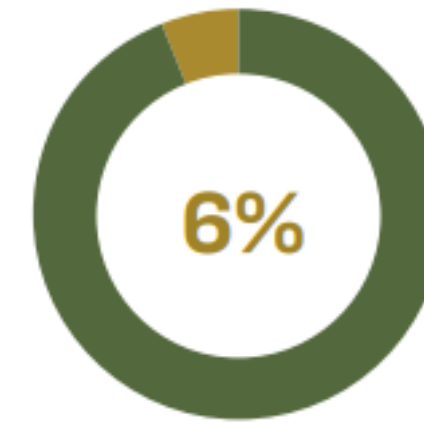
Black Alliance for Just Immigration.(2020) The State of Black Immigrants.

<https://baji.org/resources/>

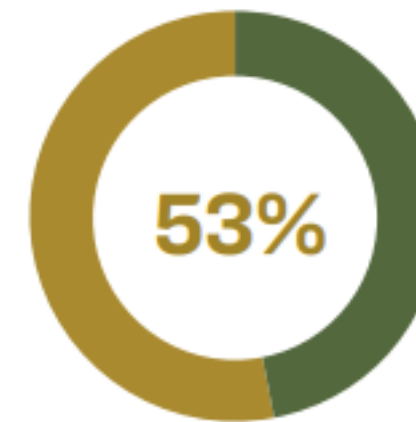
# While in detention, Black immigrants are disproportionately more likely to experience racialized abuse



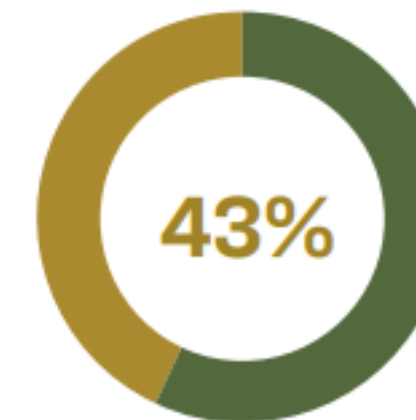
United African Organization



While Black migrants account for only 6% of people in ICE detention, 28% of all abuse-related reports made to the FFI hotline came from Black migrants, which indicates that Black people detained are disproportionately abused.



Between July 30, 2020 and August 1, 2022, 53% of the most high-intensity and life-threatening cases Freedom for Immigrants submitted complaints for were on behalf of Black migrants.



43% of Black non-binary immigrants who called the FFI hotline reported abuse.

Goff, et al. (2022). Uncovering the Truth: Violence and Abuse Against Black Migrants in Immigration Detention  
HRW (2022) "How Can You Throw Us Back?" Asylum Seekers Abused in the US and Deported to Harm in Cameroon.  
<https://www.hrw.org/report/2022/02/10/how-can-you-throw-us-back/asylum-seekers-abused-us-and-deported-harm-cameroon>

**Black immigrants tend to pay much higher bonds than other immigrants in detention.**

## BAIL BONDS HIGHER FOR HAITIANS

2018-2020

**\$10,500**

AVERAGE  
IMMIGRATION  
BOND



**\$16,170**

AVERAGE BOND  
FOR HAITIAN  
IMMIGRANTS



SOURCE: RAICES

# 111 MAURITANIANS

ARE HELD IN A

# DETENTION CENTER

## ON \$5,000 BAIL



United African Organization

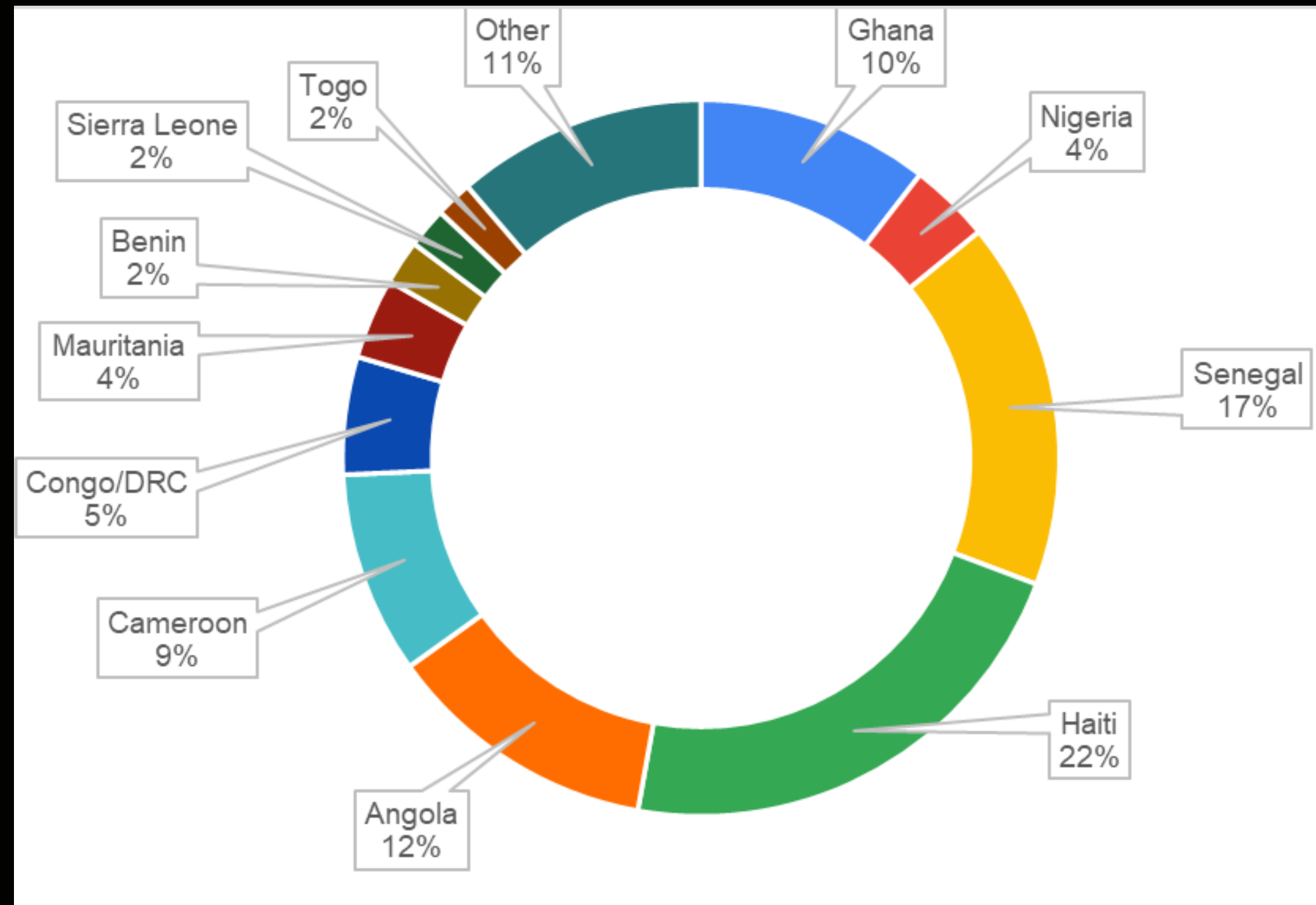
RAICES (2020) Black Immigrant Lives Are Under Attack. <https://www.raicestexas.org/2020/07/22/black-immigrant-lives-are-under-attack/>

Franco, K., Patler, C., & Reiter, K. (2020, April 27). Punishing Status and the Punishment Status Quo: Solitary Confinement in U.S. Immigration Prisons, 2013-2017. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1462474520967804>

# Black Asylum Seekers arriving in Illinois over the past year



Since July 1, 2022, UAO has served more than 600 Black asylum seekers who recently crossed the US-Mexico border, 11% of whom are children 18 years old and younger.







# CURRENT NEEDS



**HOUSING**



**LEGAL SERVICES**



**LANGUAGE ACCESS**



**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**



**IDENTIFICATION CARDS**



**REPRESENTATION**





United African Organization

**QUESTIONS?**



**THE COALITION OF HAITIAN-AMERICAN  
ORGANIZATIONS IN THE CHICAGOLAND AREA**

**<https://www.haitianamericancoalition-chicago.org/>**

# NAMES OF THE COALITION ORGANIZATIONS

Haitian Congress

Haitian American Museum of Chicago

Haitian American Lawyers Assn (HALA)

Daughters of Haiti

Good Samaritan Auto

Consulate General of Haiti in Chicago

Radio L'Union 5

Haitienne

HAPN

Dusable Heritage Association

Haitian American Nurses Assn (HANA)

Concerned Haitian Americans of Illinois (CHAI)

Haitian Catholic Mission

Association of Haitian Pastors

We Care Charitable Foundation

Haitian Community Organization

Operation S.O.S

Me2gether





**HAITIAN CONGRESS**  
to Fortify Haiti



**DUSABLE**  
**HERITAGE**  
**ASSOCIATION**



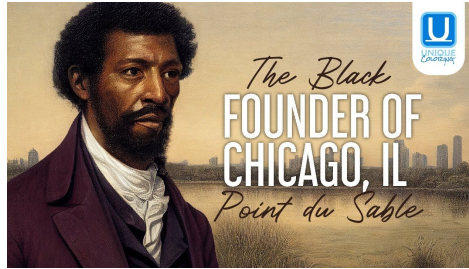
**HAITIAN**  
**ALLIANCE**  
NURSES ASSOCIATION  
INTERNATIONAL

**OPERATION S.O.S.**  
**GOOD SAMARITAN AUTO**

**Haitian Catholic Mission**

# THE FATHER OF CHICAGO: JEAN BAPTISTE POINTE DUSABLE

- He was a Haitian migrant who founded the city of Chicago in the early 1700's.
- He was fully integrated in the community that he founded.
- We wish for our newly arrived to be integrated in Chicago.



# THE FATHER OF CHICAGO: JEAN BAPTISTE POINTE DUSABLE





# HAITIAN MIGRANT OVERVIEW

- Haitian migrants began to gather under the bridge in Del Rio, Texas, and the Mexican border before the pandemic.
- This route continues to be the most straightforward path into the United States for all migrants
- In September 2021 the world became aware of this crisis.
- The Haitian migrants are leaving Haiti due to gang violence, political unrest, and natural disasters.



The long journey of one Haitian migrant  
The countries Fiterson Janvier has lived in since fleeing Haiti



# THE DATA

## Headcount

New arrivals being assisted and/or  
2021-2022 = 285

Currently assisting: 185





# HAITIAN CONGRESS/COALITION WELCOMING NEW MIGRANTS & TPS SEMINAR



Welcoming new arrivals in September

**NIJC TPS SEMINAR for MIGRANTS  
at BETHLEHEM SDA CHURCH**



# DUSABLE HERITAGE & HALA POP-UP in HYDE PARK

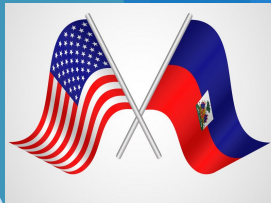


# HAITIAN AMERICAN MUSEUM OF CHICAGO (HAMOC)

- Mission: To promote and preserve Haitian art, culture, history and community in Chicago and beyond.
- In 2022 HAMOC became the newest, 11th agency within Chicago's Legal Protection Fund (LPF).
- In July 2023, HAMOC joined Illinois Access to Justice (ILA2J).
- On October 30, 2023, HAMOC hosted an EAD (Employment Authorization Document) Workshop at the museum in collaboration with The Resurrection Project (TRP)



# HAMOC'S PROPOSAL TO THE CITY OF CHICAGO



- 2 million dollars specifically for Haitian migrants and new Haitian arrivals to help fund:
  - Haitian Cultural Center
  - Local Haitian Interpreter and Translation Services (supporting inside and outside of shelters)
  - CityKey ID Workshops
  - Haitian Asylum Lawyers to prepare and represent Haitian clients

# HAMOC – LPF/A2J ACTIVITIES WITH HAITIAN MIGRANTS



HAMOC and The Resurrection Project (TRP) at the museum providing an EAD (Employment Authorization Document) Workshop on October 30, 2023





## CHALLENGES WITH THE CITY, INCLUDING NEW ARRIVAL RESPONSE /ACTION:



- **No dedicated staff** to respond to the Community organizers seeking clarity on the status of migrants in shelters, police stations, etc...
- **Location** of Haitian migrants
- **Lack of information** about their locations
- **Lack of statistics** coordination to connect with Haitian migrants
- **No centralized system** to identify the location of the Haitian migrants to provide assistance.



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS WITH CITY COLLABORATION:

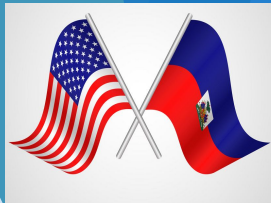
Meeting held with:

- First Deputy Mayor, Riza Cristina Pacione-Zaya
- Beatriz Ponce De León - Deputy Mayor of Immigrant, Migrant and Refugee Rights
- Ald. Pat Dowell
- Ald. William Hall
- Mayor's Policy Advisor to discuss the challenges faced by our migrants and our local organizations to be able to assist.



## QUESTIONS FOR THE CITY

- Stats; location, number of migrants, ability to track migratory pattern
- How do we get direct access to Haitian migrants?
- What services are being offered to Haitian migrants?
- How can the City make direct connections on our behalf to the same services other groups have been receiving?
- Are there funding opportunities available to provide more equitable services to our community?
- Can you clarify the 60-day limit for a shelter stay?
- Are there plans to build shelters outside of city limits?
- What are the security measures for migrants?
- Are there assessments being done?
- What type of assessments? Psychological, physical, mental health, etc..?





**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME !  
MÈSI !  
MERCY !**

CIRR presentation notes 12/7/2023

Fred Tsao, senior policy council, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights

- Chicago has long attracted and welcomed diverse communities since it was settled by indigenous peoples thousands of years ago.
- Historic home of the Council of the Three Fires (Odawa, Ojibwe, Potawatomi), interacting with dozens of other nations
- First European exploration by Marquette and Joliet and later LaSalle
- First non-native settler was DuSable, a Haitian trader, who married a Potawatami woman
- The US military recognized the strategic importance of this location by creating Fort Dearborn in the early 19th century
- Chicago continued to attract settlers from Europe and the eastern US
- Anti-immigrant sentiment is nothing new: 1855 election of Levi Boone on the American (Know Nothing) ticket and subsequent limits on tavern hours and increase in liquor license fees led to organizing among German immigrant settlers (Lager Beer riot) and defeat of Boone in next election
- European migration to Chicago changed just as migration patterns to the US shifted overalls with increasing numbers of people from southern and eastern Europe and Scandinavia, many fleeing poverty, others fleeing political and religious persecution. Chicago was attractive because of its developing industries (rail, steel, meatpacking, manufacturing)
- Settlement houses (Hull House, Erie, Association), faith institutions, social and cultural institutions, mutual aid organizations aided new arrivals by teaching English and job skills, finding work, providing social activities
- Early 20th century saw the Great Migration of African Americans from Mississippi, Arkansas and other parts of the south, pushed by racism and economic exploitation and pulled by prospects for work and community in northern cities like Chicago. We need to acknowledge that these new arrivals faced segregation, discrimination, disinvestment, and even violence up north, e.g. 1919 riots, that we still need to recover from
- Mexican migration and settlement also began in the early 20th century but accelerated after the 1960s through the early 2000s, first in West Loop, then South Chicago, then Pilsen, Little Village, and other parts of the SW and NW side
- Refugees from Europe arrived post WWII, then from SE Asia, Ethiopia, Bosnia, Afghanistan; new mutual aid organizations (e.g. CMAA, VAI, ECAC) were founded to work with these communities
- We continue to see people coming to Chicago based on love, work, and fear: family ties, economic prospects, political persecution
- Political coalitions that included these communities developed over time, including those built by Mayor Anton Cermak and then most famously by Harold Washington
- Mayor Washington issued the first Welcoming EO in 1985 after INS started wave of raids and profiling of Latine communities, including some city workers, with police cooperation
  - No inquiries regarding immigration status
  - No sharing of immigration status information
  - Equal access to city services and programs regardless of status

- EO was renewed by Sawyer and Daley, who asked the city council to write the EO policies into city ordinance in 2006
- Mayor Emanuel rebranded the ordinance as the Welcoming City Ordinance in 2012, and Mayor Lightfoot won approval for an overhaul of the ordinance in January 2021. Mark Fleming will cover those details.

**NATIONAL  
IMMIGRANT  
JUSTICE CENTER**  
A **HEARTLAND ALLIANCE** PROGRAM

# **Welcoming City Ordinance: Its Context, Who It Protects, And Why It Remains Important**

Presented by Mark Fleming  
Associate Director of Litigation

**December 7, 2023**



# Overview

1. Dramatic change in federal immigration enforcement gave rise to Welcoming City Ordinance
2. Who the Welcoming City Ordinance Protects and How
3. Why the Welcoming City Ordinance Remains Important to Chicago families and communities.

# Immigration Enforcement

- Until the early 2000s, immigration officers conducted interior enforcement either:
  - On their own
  - By assuming custody from state and federal prisons
    - I.e., Individuals who typically have been convicted of a felony and completed a prison sentence of at least one year or greater

# Secure Communities

- Launched in October 2008
- Fingerprint and data sharing program
- Pitched to States and localities as:
  - *A voluntary* program
  - Targeting individuals convicted of *serious criminal offenses*
- ICE enforcement shifts to front end of criminal justice system
  - No longer just arresting people post-conviction for significant felony offenses
  - ICE informed about *any law enforcement encounter*

# Illinois Requests to Opt-out of Secure Communities

PAT QUINN  
GOVERNOR

May 4, 2011

Mr. Marc Rapp  
Acting Assistant Director, Secure Communities  
Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
Department of Homeland Security  
500 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20536

Dear Acting Assistant Director Rapp:

Re: Secure Communities Program

Please see the enclosed letter from Illinois State Police (ISP) Director Hiram Grau, providing notice of termination of the Secure Communities Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between ISP and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

ISP and ICE executed the Secure Communities MOA in November 2009. The stated purpose of the program, as set forth in the MOA, is to "identify, detain and remove from the United States aliens who have been convicted of serious criminal offenses and are subject to removal" (emphasis added). ICE's statistics on the Secure Communities program, compiled through February 28, 2011, reveal that the implementation of the Secure Communities program in Illinois is contrary to the stated purpose of the MOA: more than 30% of those deported from the United States, under the program, have never been convicted of any crime, much less a serious one. In fact, by ICE's own measure, less than 20% of those who have been deported from Illinois under the program have ever been convicted of a serious crime.

# Secure Communities

- Oct. 2008-Feb. 2015 (when ICE stopped : over 47.1 million fingerprints and biographical info shared with ICE
  - Most are from U.S. citizens
- ***Even “sanctuary jurisdictions” still forced to share fingerprints and booking info with ICE***
- Local police forced to become frontline immigration officers

# **Welcoming City Ordinance: Principle Components**

- Prohibits inquiring about immigration status
- Prohibits holding a person extra time on an ICE detainer for civil immigration enforcement
- Prohibits ICE access to individuals in custody for interviews or transfers for noncriminal matters
- Prohibits communicating an individual's release to ICE

# Welcoming City Ordinance Does Not

- Does not block ICE from conducting its own enforcement
- Does not stop the Secure Communities fingerprint and data-sharing
  - ICE still alerted about every arrest in the U.S.
- Does not limit cooperation with an ICE criminal warrant

# Welcoming City Ordinance: Who It Protects

- Longstanding Residents of Chicago
  - There are at least 425,000 Undocumented Immigrants in Illinois
  - Nearly 70% Have Been Here for a Decade or Longer
  - Most in Mixed Status Households
    - Over 300,000 U.S. citizen children in Illinois have an Undocumented Parent
  - Broken Immigration System: There was no “line” to stand in and remains no lawful pathway for most of these residents who have contributed so much to our families, communities, and the social fabric of Chicago



# Why Welcoming City Ordinance Remains Important

- Ensure residents can contact police without fear of immigration
- Ensure families are not torn apart due to an encounter with police
- ICE continues to disproportionately target individuals with no or minor criminal records