



**Partnership for the
Advancement of
New Americans**



Partnership for the
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New Americans

OUR MISSION

We fight to advance the full economic, social, & civic inclusion of refugees in the San Diego region, throughout California, and across the country.





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OUR VISION

We envision a world where refugees are connected
global leaders building a trans-continental movement
to advance meaningful freedom for all.

Refugees in San Diego County



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86,000+ resettled since 1975



Refugees in San Diego County



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82,000+ resettled since 1975

Newcomers from Syria



Refugees in San Diego County

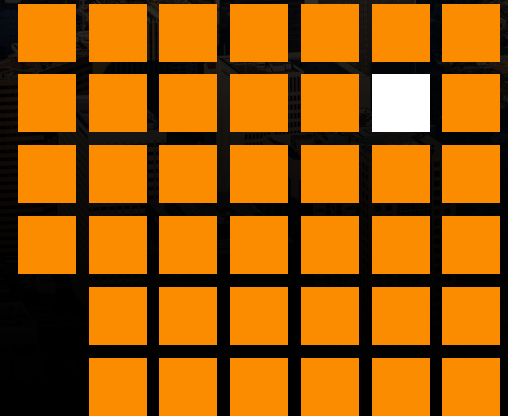


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82,000+ resettled since 1975

Most Syrian Refugees

1 in 38 San Diegans (2.6%)



Who We Serve



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AMEMSA Community:

- Arab
- Middle Eastern
- Muslim
- South Asian
- African immigrant & diasporic

At PANA the most common languages we serve include Somali, Swahili, Oromo, Amharic, Tigrinya, Arabic, and Farsi.

Who are we?



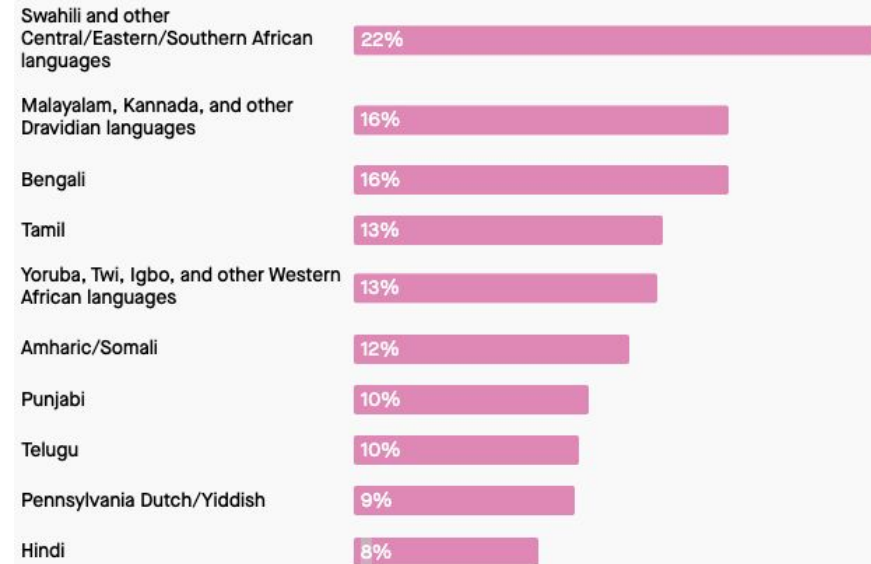
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- **Nationally:**

- 43 million or 13% of the United States population is foreign born and 8% are Black immigrants¹
- Black immigrants come from over 100 countries²
- In 2019 out of 30,000 refugees³:
 - 12,958 or 43% were from the Democratic Republic of the Congo³
 - 1,757 were from Eritrea³
 - 382 were from Sudan¹³

Fastest growing languages in the US from 2016 to 2018

Languages spoken at home



Source: US Census

¹ Manuel Pastor, Rhonda Ortiz, and Magaly N. López, "Immigrant Lives, American Futures: Linking Asset Building and Immigrant Integration," *USC Dornsife Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration*, May 2018.

² Alejandro Sanchez-Lopez, et al. "The State of Black Immigrants in California," *Black Alliance for Just Immigration*, 2018.

³ Abby Budiman, "Key findings about U.S. immigrants," *Pew Research Center*, August 20, 2020.

Graph: Chidinma Irene Nwoye, "African languages are the fastest growing in the United States," *Quartz Africa*, October 7, 2019, <https://qz.com/africa/1723269/african-languages-are-fastest-growing-in-the-united-states/>

Who are we?

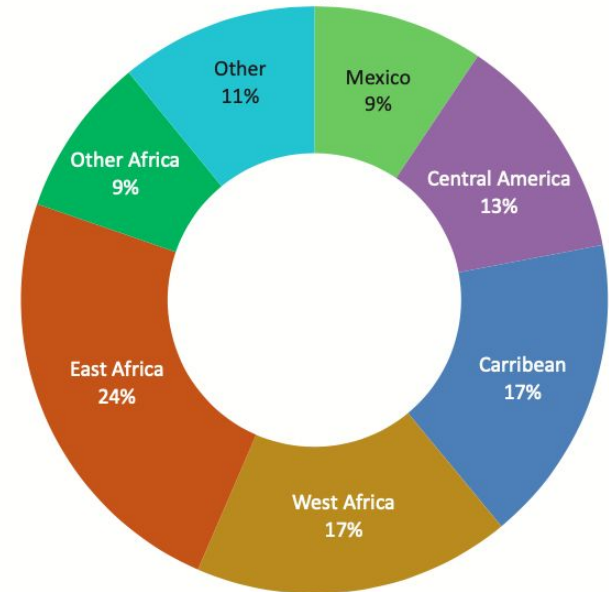


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- **In California:**

- Since 2002, California has resettled the most refugees, about 108,600¹, and is home to almost 11 million immigrants²
- As of 2019, 178,000 Black immigrants reside in California³
- There are over 60 languages spoken at home by Black immigrants in California³
- Amhraic is the most spoken language by Black immigrants in California followed by Kru, French, Swahili, Somali, French Creolo, and Arabic³

Region of Origin for Black Immigrants
In California, 2010-2014



¹Hans Johnson and Sergio Sanceh, "Just the Facts: Immigrants in California," *Public Policy Institute of California*, May 2019, <https://www.ppic.org/publication/immigrants-in-california/>.

²Jens Manuel Krogstad, "Key facts about refugees to the U.S.," *Pew Research Center*, October 7, 2019, <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/10/07/key-facts-about-refugees-to-the-u-s/>.

³Alejandro Sanchez-Lopez, et al. "The State of Black Immigrants in California," *Black Alliance for Just Immigration*, 2018.

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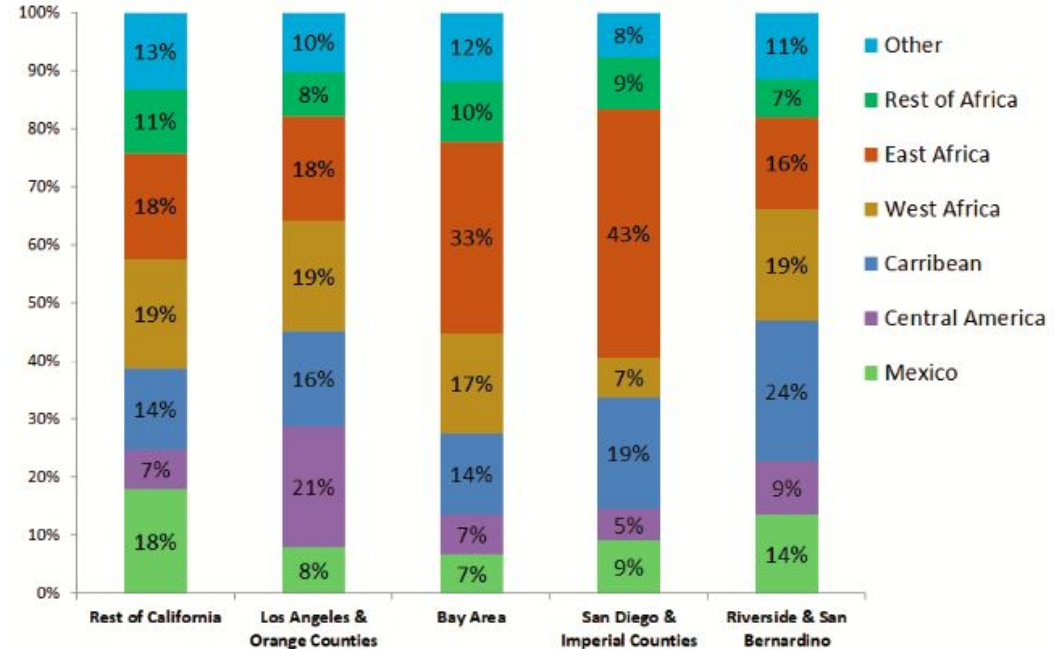
Where we are in California?



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- San Diego and Imperial Counties have the highest immigrant share of its Black population, with nearly 9% of all Black San Diegans being immigrants¹
- 33% of Black immigrants are East African in the Bay Area¹
- 43% of Black immigrants are East African in San Diego¹

Place of Origin for Black Immigrants by Region,
California, 2010-2014



¹Alejandro Sanchez-Lopez, et al. "The State of Black Immigrants in California," *Black Alliance for Just Immigration*, 2018.

African Culture & Diversity



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- 54 countries in the continent of Africa, with Black immigrants coming from over 100 countries across the world¹
- More than 2,000 languages across the continent of Africa²
- Our communities are rooted in oral traditions
- Trust is established by community leaders who are cognizant of the diversity and politics of the region



¹ Alejandro Sanchez-Lopez, et al. "The State of Black Immigrants in California," Black Alliance for Just Immigration, 2018.

² Claire Felter, "Why does Africa have so many languages?," *The Christian Scientist Monitor*, April 15, 2015

Who is the East African community?



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East Africa is made up of 20 countries:
Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda,
Mozambique, Madagascar, Malawi,
Zambia, Somalia, Zimbabwe, South
Sudan, Rwanda, Burundi, Eritrea,
Mauritius, Djibouti



Who is the African Community in San Diego?



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- In San Diego County, we have a large population of immigrants and refugees from Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan, South Sudan, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Haiti.
- The languages these communities speak are Somali, Swahili, Oromo, Amharic, Tigrinya, Nuer, Haitian Creole.



Images from PANA's Human Rights Day of Action

San Diego African immigrant & refugee population at a glance



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According to the 2018 US Census Bureau American Community Survey in San Diego County:

- Amharic, Somali or other Afro Asiatic languages: 17,898¹
- Haitian: 828¹
- Arabic: 26,129¹

¹“San Diego County, CA,” Data USA, 2019, <https://datausa.io/profile/geo/san-diego-county-ca>.

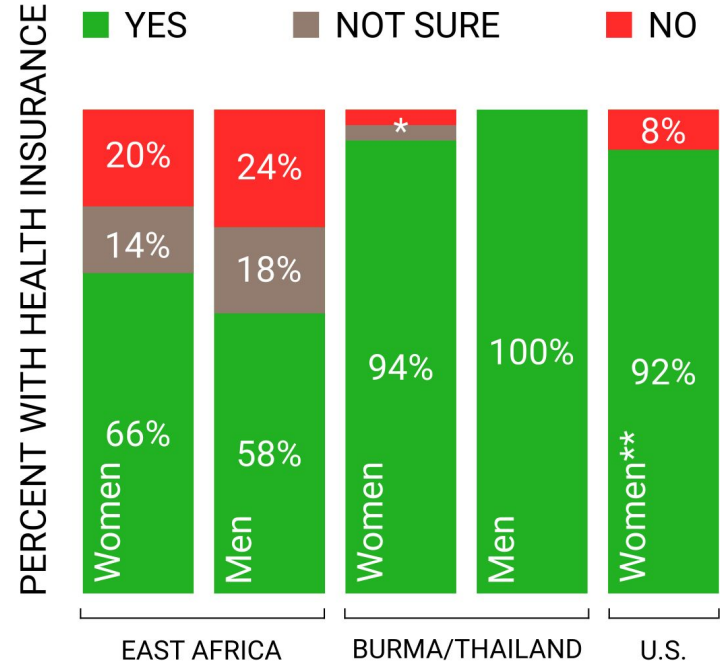
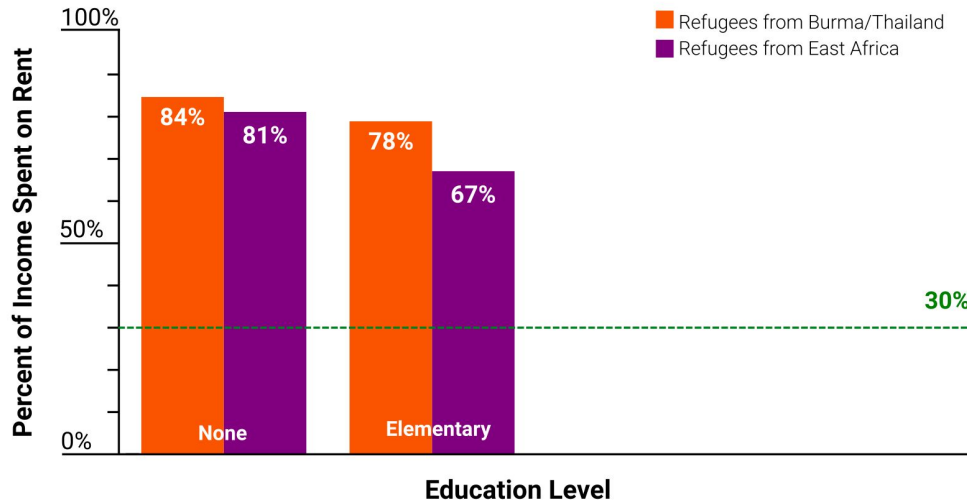


Images from PANA's Census outreach events

What is the East African community facing?



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*Among women from Burma/Thailand 3% reported "No" and 3% "Not sure"

**An insufficient number of U.S. born men responded to this question



**Our
CIVIC &
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Census



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- This past year, PANA launched the Refugee & Immigrant Census Hub with 15 partners we were able to translate Census materials including but not limited to Somali, Swahili, Nuer, Haitian Creole, Amharic, Tigrinya, Arabic, Kurdish, Dari, Farsi, Pashto, Karen, Kareni, and Burmese.
- Collectively we had 23,055 conversations with HTC communities in San Diego and provided direct support to 13,350 community members in filling out the census through our phone banks in the education, motivation and NRFU periods.



Local Win



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Language needs of the African immigrant & refugee community have always been overlooked. PANA & ACLU has been successful in advocating for Somali tele-interpretation at all Super-Poll locations in San Diego. With over 178,000 Black immigrants in California we hope to see this at the statewide level.¹

**“Democracy
works when
we all
participate.”**

¹ Alejandro Sanchez-Lopez, et al. “The State of Black Immigrants in California,” Black Alliance for Just Immigration, 2018.

A group of diverse people, including men and women of various ethnicities, are seated around a table. They are smiling and appear to be in a social setting, possibly a restaurant or a community center. Some are holding plates of food. The background is slightly blurred, showing what might be a kitchen or a service area.

Our Recommendations

Our recommendations



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- Based on the updated Voting Rights Act threshold, state and local redistricting commissions should offer interpretation at redistricting meetings, depending on the languages spoken in that district. State and local commissions should also offer targeted in-language workshops depending on the needs of that particular district.
- It is also important to recognize literacy levels, so creating videos and other more accessible content is helpful for our communities.



Our recommendations



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- Trusted messengers
 - Partner with Community Ethnic-Based Organizations to conduct outreach efforts to educate HTC communities regarding the redistricting process.



Our recommendations



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- Expand the window for public comment to allow for translation.
 - Meaning the meeting items are translated from English into preferred language, then written public comment is translated from the preferred language back into English by translators to be presented to the CRC.



Our recommendations



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- Advance public notice and outreach materials should be accessible and in multiple languages.

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All super poll locations
will have Somali
interpretation available
via phone!

Look for your polling locations here:
https://www.sdvote.com/content/dam/rov/en/pdf/Official_Polls_List.pdf

2020 Election

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Xurumaha cod bixinta waxay
leeyihiin turjumaanno
Soomaali ah oo telefoonka
aad ku wici kartid!

Halkan ka raadi goobaha
codbixintaada:
https://www.sdvote.com/content/dam/rov/en/pdf/Official_Polls_List.pdf

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Doorashada 2020

Halkan ka raadi goobaha
codbixintaada:
https://www.sdvote.com/content/dam/rov/en/pdf/Official_Polls_List.pdf



THANK YOU

Our recommendations



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- Live captioning in multiple languages
- Video transcripts in-language
- Trusted messengers
- Expand the window for public comment to allow for translation
- Advance public notice and outreach materials should be in multiple languages
 - Ex. san diego city redistricting, website is difficult to navigate/ not enough time/