BORDER & IMMIGRATION ISSUES
AN INTRODUCTION

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Though the undocumented immigrants get more press, there are actually more immigrants legally here in the U.S. As of Jan. 2010, there were about 12.6 million green card holders in the U.S., 8.1 million of whom were eligible for naturalization as U.S. citizens. SOURCE: [http://www.migrationinformation.org/USFocus/display.cfm?ID=872](http://www.migrationinformation.org/USFocus/display.cfm?ID=872)

During 2010, 1,042,625 were granted legal permanent residency status in the U.S. Twenty percent (208,525) intended to reside in State of California. SOURCE: [http://www.migrationinformation.org/charts/spot-dec11-fig3.cfm](http://www.migrationinformation.org/charts/spot-dec11-fig3.cfm)

In 2010, most legal permanent residents were from Mexico. SOURCE: [http://www.migrationinformation.org/charts/spot-dec11-table1.cfm](http://www.migrationinformation.org/charts/spot-dec11-table1.cfm)
In 2010, over 2 million undocumented immigrants lived in the state of CA.

Approximately 80% of these undocumented immigrants were from Latin American countries.

Los Angeles Co. had the highest population at approximately, 900,000. Orange Co. had about 300,000 & San Diego Co. had about 180,000.

As of 2011, the number of refugees living in San Diego County exceeded 150,000.

In recent years (2005-2010), 41,220 refugees came to California, and 30 percent of those settled in San Diego County. Los Angeles County was first in the state regarding the number of refugee residents, followed by San Diego County.

At the beginning of 2011, almost half (47 percent) of the 1,538 refugees coming to California came to San Diego County.

Between 1999 and 2011, Iraq has been the main source of refugees living in San Diego County, followed by Somalia. Between 2007 and 2011, over 13,000 refugees from Iraq resettled in California, and 68 percent of those refugees live in San Diego County.

In 2000, 44% of the people in the neighborhood were foreign-born.

Residents come from over 60 countries.

Residents speak over 30 different languages.

El Cajon is a community in East San Diego County. It is thought to have the 2nd largest Iraqi community in the U.S., with approximately 24,000 Iraqi immigrants living in the community.

Kurds from Northern Iraq began arriving in the community in the 1990s during the Gulf War. More arrived following the U.S. invasion in 2003.

Chaldean Christians, and Sunni & Shiite Muslims also make up the population of Iraqis in El Cajon.

In 2010 in the City of San Diego, 497,000 people spoke a language at home other than English.

Approximately, 41 percent of those people indicated that they spoke English less than “very well.”

Of the 497,000, approximately 58 percent spoke Spanish.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR LIBRARIES & OTHER ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING INFORMATION?

- Information written in native language or in simplified English.
- Employment
- Housing
- Transportation
- Food
- Nonprofit organizations that serve immigrants & refugees
- Health care Information
- English-language training
- Legal information
- Information about the environment
- Getting documentation and becoming a citizen
Our Speakers Today

- **Angelica Fortin**  
  Program Services Manager  
  San Diego County Library  

- **Isabel Eustaquio**  
  Public Services Librarian &  
  Luz Villalobos  
  Library Associate  
  San Diego Law Library  

- **Jackie Davis**  
  Consumer Health Librarian  
  Sharp’s Cushman Wellness Ctr.  
  Community Health Library  

- **Orville Jay Fitz-Henley**  
  Owner & Manager  
  The Learning Center  

- **Fay Crevoshay**  
  Communications & Policy Director  
  Wildcoast/CostaSalvaje  
  [http://www.wildcoast.net](http://www.wildcoast.net)  
  [http://www.costasalvaje.com](http://www.costasalvaje.com)