



Using Integration Survey Data to Build Stronger Communities for Long-Term Residents and Newcomers

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Presenters

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CLINIC Overview

- 380 nonprofit organizations in 47 states
- Train 10,000 people each year on immigration-related topics
- Training and Legal Support, Capacity Building, Advocacy, Defending Vulnerable Populations
- Membership applications: <https://cliniclegal.org/find-legal-help/affiliates>



Training Agenda

- Integration basics
- 3 CLINIC surveys
- Integration data and how it can be used
- CLINIC program profiles
- Questions

Test Your Knowledge: True or False?

- **Immigrant integration** and **assimilation** are synonyms.
- **Newcomers** are those arriving from countries outside the United States.
- The **receiving community** is the group of people welcoming the **newcomers**. Often, they were born in the United States.
- **Immigrant integration** is solely the responsibility of the **newcomers**.
- **Immigrant integration** is solely the responsibility of the **receiving community**.

Immigrant Integration

Immigrant integration results from an **equal partnership** between newcomers and the receiving community who **work together** to make their community more **inclusive**.

Promoting and pursuing immigrant integration is the **responsibility of both** newcomers and long-standing residents, and it is a **dynamic** process that is most successful at the **local level**.

What's in a word?

- Assimilation
- Acculturation
- Americanization



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Integration in your Community

In the chat box, please share an integration initiative your agency currently offers.



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What does integration look like?

A local nonprofit conducts focus groups and other information-gathering activities to learn what services newcomers need in order to feel more at home. It then collaborates with the newcomers and the receiving community to address those needs.

A nonprofit learns that both immigrant clients and the local police need a form of identification available to the undocumented. It works with the government, local places of business, the local police force and the immigrant community to create the necessary ID.

A local library has resources available in the languages used by the community.

A demographically changing community sees its first foreign-born person elected to office such as the parent-teachers association or city council.

The local municipal park installs a 'piñata pole' after requests were received from the community.



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Integration Surveys

- Agency, Client, and Community Member Surveys
- 10-12 questions each
- Spanish and English
- Hard copy and electronic



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Survey Development

- Affiliate engagement
- Outside review
- Pilot surveys



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Challenges to Measuring Integration

- Many influencing factors
- Many players
- Hallmarks of integration are varied
- Very local endeavor
- Experience is different for everyone



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Agency Survey Questions

Do all our staff members understand the basic rights immigrants have as U.S. residents as well as have a basic understanding of U.S. immigration law?

Yes No I don't know.

Do we include immigrant integration in our strategic plan, mission statement, and/or measurable goals?

Yes No I don't know.

Are immigrants represented on our Board or in other advisory capacities?

Yes No I don't know.

Does our organization ask the immigrant community what services or support they need before we develop programs that serve this community?

Yes No I don't know.



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Client Survey Questions

I communicate with my children's teacher.

Yes No I don't have kids in school.

I am comfortable calling the police if I need help.

Yes No

I visit the local library, public parks or other public spaces.

Yes No

I feel like my town is a welcoming place to live.

Yes No



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Community Member Survey Questions

Integrating into a community is only the immigrant's responsibility.

1 2 3 4 5

It is my responsibility to help make my community welcoming to people born outside of the United States.

1 2 3 4 5

I am interested in meeting immigrants living in my community.

1 2 3 4 5

Immigrants, regardless of legal status, have many of the same basic rights that I do.

Yes No I don't know.



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Integration Surveys

2017 – 2020

1701 client respondents

571 agency respondents

314 community member respondents



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Strengthening Programming With Data

- Data that shows how people are using community services
- Data that shows how clients feel in their community
- Data that shows the sense of responsibility community members feel
- Data that shows level of understanding about integration by community members and agency staff
- Data that shows level of awareness about agency activities regarding integration



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Agency Survey Results: Internal Planning

32.69% of staff understand basic rights of immigrant residents and immigration law.

33.33% foster relationships between newcomers and communities.

69.03% connect ILS clients with other services.



Agency Survey Results: Internal Planning

36.41% ask immigrant community about needs before planning and implementing.

33.34% have immigrant representation on boards and committees.

33.33% include immigrant integration in strategic plan, mission statement and/or measurable goals.



Client Survey: Data for Public Use

- 50% volunteer in my community, at my church/mosque/synagogue, or serve on local community groups.
- 91% know where to go for healthcare.
- 99% feel that they can improve their lives if they want



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Client Survey: Data for Program Planning & Funding Applications

- 59% speak to their child's teacher.
- 64.21% feel comfortable calling the police.
- 61% can speak to coworkers in English.



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Community Member Survey: Data for Public Use

- 83% of community members felt that immigrants could improve their lives if they want.
- 80% believe that their town is a welcoming place to live.
- 76% feel a sense of responsibility to welcome newcomers



Community Member Survey: Data for Program Planning & Funding Applications

39% believe that city government promotes immigrant integration as a benefit for our community.

47% believe that immigrants, regardless of legal status, have many of the same basic rights that I do.

65% notice culturally and/or linguistically appropriate services at public spaces, such as libraries and public parks.



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Strengthening Programming With Data

- Funding apps
- Social media
- Public statements
- Media
- Project proposals



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Agency Survey

- Agency-wide presentations on how to promote immigrant integration in the workplace and communities
- 'Passport' stamps for new hires
- Making concerted efforts to involve refugee and other immigrant voices and experiences in our enlightenment presentations to the community and public advocacy efforts.
- We are emphasizing the importance of including immigrant and refugee voices themselves in client stories we share with the public.
- Highlight a foreign-born client via email each month to agency staff
- Send an update of immigration program via email to the whole agency.

Client Survey

- Began an English as a second language pilot project because most of our adult students stated they wanted to communicate with their children's educators.
- Prayer request exchange between newcomers and receiving community
- Planning a walk with a City Council member in order to make both seem more approachable and accessible to each other

Community Member Survey

- Many respondents expressed interest in meeting immigrants in their community and getting to know them personally. Others were interested in having a list of resources that they could provide to families along with a list of ways to better promote integration.
- We had a Taste Around the World event. This event allowed everyone to share a food from their native country and get to know other people in their community. We invited community leaders, community advocates, school district leaders and employees of Catholic Charities..
- Presented at a forum to the member of city's Human Relations Commission. The forum was called The Face of Immigration, and we addressed the myths and facts of immigration.

Limitations

- No demographic data, including citizenship status
- Available in 2 languages only (at this point)
- Challenging to get surveys filled out during a pandemic
- Data recording can be manual



Collection Tips

- Staff meetings or email
- Facebook or other social media tool
- Library or other local government location
- Training events
- Church services
- At intake or other touchpoints with clients



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the CLINIC website. The page title is "Immigrant Integration Surveys: Agency Staff, Client, and Community Member". The navigation menu includes "About Us", "Advocacy", "Find Legal Help", "Immigration Issues", "Resource Library", "Training", and "DONATE". The main content area is divided into three sections:

- Immigrant Integration Survey for Community Members:** This survey can be administered either at the beginning or the end of any community meeting or training. It is appropriate for any audience in which community members are in attendance. Also available in Spanish.
- Immigrant Integration Measurement Survey: Client Perspective:** This survey can be administered during intake at the start of a client's service journey with your agency or at any other time feedback from a client is needed. Also available in Spanish.
- Immigrant Integration Measurement Survey: Agency Staff Perspective:** This survey can be administered during an all-staff meeting, or a staff Brown Bag Lunch, or via email to the entire agency. CLINIC recommends administering this survey once a year to staff in order to compare results across years. Also available in Spanish.

At the bottom, there are three steps to access and use the surveys:

1. Click here to send us an email requesting the use of the surveys.
2. Agree to the terms of use by adding your name to the email, and send it back to lspeasmaker@cliniclegal.org
3. Once CLINIC receives your email, we will send you PDF versions of all three surveys and an Excel spreadsheet to use for data collection.



Spring 2021: Integration Data Resource Guide

- Integration basics
- How Data Helps Integration
- How to collect and store the data
- How to use it (with specific examples and/or templates)
- How to make graphics with the integration data

True or False?

- **Immigrant integration** and **assimilation** are synonyms. **F**
- **Newcomers** are those arriving from countries outside the United States. **T**
- The **receiving community** is the group of people welcoming the **newcomers**. Often, they were born in the United States. **T**
- **Immigrant integration** is solely the responsibility of the **newcomers**. **F**
- **Immigrant integration** is solely the responsibility of the **receiving community**. **F**

How do we support our programs?

Making integration a concrete endeavor through:

- Technical assistance
- Flow-through funding
- Highlighting best practices
- **Targeted resources**

Making Changes

What changes might you make to your current integration initiatives based on what you have learned during this webinar?

OR

What are some integration initiatives you will consider implementing based on what you have learned during this webinar?

The Buckets

Laying the Foundation

- White Paper on integration basics
- Surveys (<https://cliniclegal.org/issues/immigrant-integration/Immigrant-Integration-Surveys>)

Building the Program

- Newsletter: [Inclusive Communities: Immigrant Integration and Public Education](#)
- Program Inspiration
- Holiday Ideas
- ESL, Citizenship test prep, tax assistance, Civics education program development resources

Expanding into the Community

- Resources for partnering with cities, libraries, and parishes
- Future: Grant-funded project highlights

<https://cliniclegal.org/issues/immigrant-integration>

The Bigger Picture

“Where migrants and refugees are concerned, the Church and her various agencies ought to avoid offering charitable services alone; they are also called to **promote real integration** in a society where all are active members and responsible for one another’s welfare...”

- Message of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees. (2013).

http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/migration/documents/hf_ben-xvi_mes_20121012_world-migrants-day_en.html. Last retrieved on November 20, 2014.

Questions?

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