

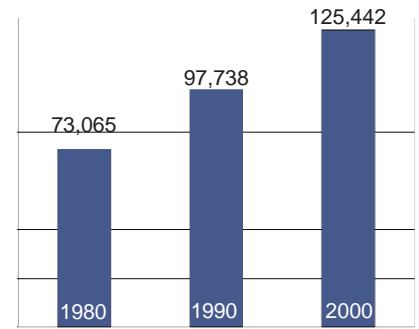


State's Rank by Arab American Population: **3**  
 Estimated Arab American Population: **405,000\***

Consistent with its reputation as a "melting pot," New York's Arab American population, which ranks third among the states, is diversified by geography, generation and national origin. The original mother colony for the first wave of Arabic-speaking immigrants, it is still a major gateway destination for new immigrants. Metropolitan New York City is home to a diverse Arab community with roots in the business, professional, cultural and civic life of the region.

## Growth Trends

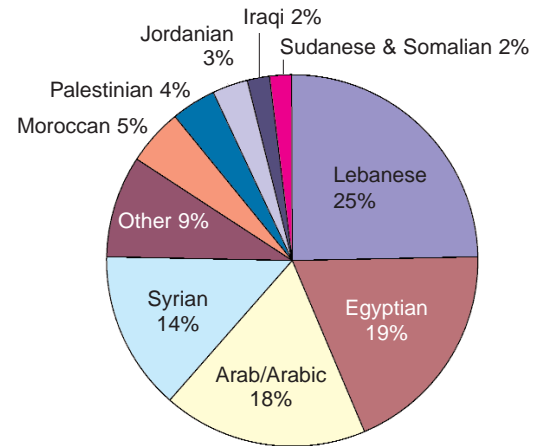
The population who identified an Arabic-speaking ancestry in the U.S. Census **grew by about 30% between 1990 and 2000**, stabilizing a growth trend at the same rate from 1980. It is estimated that the statewide population, adjusting for underreporting\*, is close to 405,000.



Source: 1980, 1990, and 2000 U.S. Census

## How Do Arab Americans Identify Themselves?

**Primary ethnic identification** is derived from responses to the ancestry question on the long (sample) form of the 2000 U.S. Census. Census data on "Arabs" include the responses Lebanese, Syrian, Egyptian, Iraqi, Jordanian, Palestinian, Moroccan, Arab or Arabic, and the following countries collapsed as "Other Arab": Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Kuwait, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.



Source: 2000 U.S. Census

We also include Arabic-speaking persons who identify as Assyrian/Chaldean, Somali or Sudanese, identities which are not aggregated as Arab in Census reports. In New York, according to the 2000 Census, Lebanese and Syrian Americans comprise about 40% of total ancestry responses and are disbursed throughout the state. Second wave subgroups of Palestinians, Egyptians, Yemenis and Moroccans also have settled in metropolitan New York City, Westchester County and upstate cities.

## Immigration

Based on a sample year of 1997, the **largest number of new Arab immigrants to New York** came from Egypt, Morocco and Jordan. New York is ranked high as a preferred destination for new arrivals from the Arab world. Immigrants from the Gulf region originate from Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. The Maghreb region includes Algeria, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia.

### Immigrants by country:

Egypt	1128
Jordan	410
Lebanon	290
Syria	263
Iraq	62

### By region:

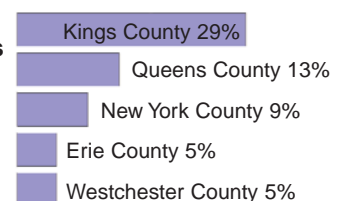
Maghreb	970
Gulf	941

Source: New York Immigrants Admitted by Country of Birth and State of Residence, INS 1997

## Where Do New York's Arab Americans Live?

Arab Americans reside in **59 of 62 counties in New York**. Close to one half the population are located in the New York City metropolitan area, with other significant clusters in Syracuse and Buffalo.

### Top Five Counties



Source: 2000 U.S. Census

\*AAI reports estimates by Zogby International whose research projects population figures at least three times that of census data. The decennial Census identifies only a portion of the Arab population through a question on "ancestry" on the census long form. Reasons for the undercount include the placement of and limits of the ancestry question (as distinct from race and ethnicity); the effect of the sample methodology on small, unevenly distributed ethnic groups; high levels of out-marriage among the third and fourth generations; and distrust/misunderstanding of government surveys among more recent immigrants.