

MAJOR CHANGE IN IMMIGRATION TO CITY IS SEEN

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Body

New York **City**, where millions of European immigrants first saw the New World, is still a **city** with many newcomers. But virtually all of today's arrivals are Asians, blacks or Hispanic people, according to the **city**'s Office of **Immigration** Affairs.

In fact, more than a quarter of the **city**'s population is now foreign-born, the agency said yesterday in a report to the Citizens Housing and Planning Council at Citicorp headquarters, 399 Park Avenue.

New York **City** Office of **Immigration** Affairs says virtually all of people **immigrating** to **city** now are Asian, black or Hispanic (M)

The statistics presented were taken from a study on **immigration** that is being prepared by the agency, which is part of the Planning Department. The study, much of which is based on the 1980 Census, is expected to be completed later this year.

According to the study, the largest group of newcomers to New York **City** between 1975 and 1980 was the Dominicans, with 36,200 legal immigrants. The next largest group was the Russians, with 27,500; followed by the Chinese, with 25,500, and the Jamaicans, with 23,500. After that, in descending order, were immigrants from Guyana, Haiti, Colombia, Korea, Trinidad-Tobago and India.

Russian **Immigration** Slows

"The only thing that has kept the pattern from being totally three-color is the large number of Soviet Jews who have arrived in recent years," said Elizabeth Bogen, the agency's director of **immigration** studies. The influx of Russian Jews has slowed to a trickle recently, however, because the Soviet Union has restricted the number who may leave.

According to the Census, New York had 1.7 million foreign-born residents, including about 200,000 illegal aliens, in 1980.

The Office of **Immigration** Affairs estimates that there are now 2.2 million foreign-born residents here, including 500,000 illegal aliens.

Italians make up the largest foreign- born group in the **city**, said Frank Vardy, a Planning Department demographer.

According to the Census figures, there were 156,000 people here in 1980 who were born in Italy; followed by Dominicans, 120,500; Chinese, 95,000; Jamaicans, 93,000; Russians, 78,500, and Poles, 77,000.

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"The Italians are in first place," Mr. Vardy said, "because alone among the older immigrant groups they tend to stay in the city. They pass the house on from one generation to another."

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