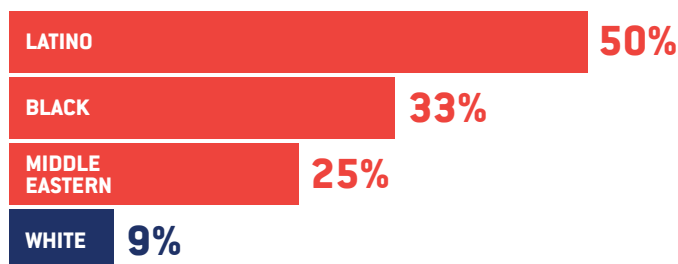


Immigrant Representation on Television

Immigrants comprise **17%** of the U.S. population. Yet, identifiable immigrant characters comprised just **6%** of roles.

On TV, immigrants of color are more likely to be represented engaging in criminal activity.

% Immigrants represented engaging in criminal activity



Storylines about unlawful activities accounted for **25 percent of all storylines** involving immigrant characters.

In reality, immigrants are **less** likely to commit crimes, and be incarcerated, than the native born population.

Source: CATO Institute/U.S. Census and the American Community Survey (ACS)



94% of White immigrant characters were cast in medical, scientific, or military roles, while **25%** of Latino immigrant characters were represented in lower-level professions or as unemployed.

The immigrant landscape on television is overwhelmingly straight and male leaving characters that are LGBT, Female, and of color significantly underrepresented.



73% of immigrant characters are male

0

TRANS OR GENDER
NONCONFORMING
IMMIGRANTS

1

OPENLY GAY
IMMIGRANT
CHARACTER

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Reach out to organizations like [Define American](#), which provides services that include reviewing scripts, connecting writers to immigrant communities, providing access to legal counsel, and support on set for immigrant storylines.
- Hire and support diverse writers to help encourage more inclusive storytelling. A recent study on Race In the Writers Room found that over 90% of all the shows examined were led by white showrunners.
Source: Color of Change
- Encourage new storylines that avoid tired, harmful, and fear-based stereotypes.
- Create nuanced portrayals of immigrants that more authentically depict the immigrant experience.
- Consider challenging stereotypes against immigrants through comedy, which has the power to effectively reach audiences whose beliefs differ from our own.
Source: Skoll Foundation
- Add immigrant characters into everyday storylines to appeal to diverse audiences and viewers.