

WELCOME TO DAYTON

HOW IMMIGRANTS ARE HELPING TO GROW DAYTON'S ECONOMY AND REVERSE POPULATION DECLINE

Welcome Dayton is a community initiative that reflects our country's core philosophy: people with diverse backgrounds, skills and experiences fuel our nation's success. The City of Dayton launched Welcome Dayton in 2011 to promote immigrant integration by encouraging business and economic development; ensuring access to education, health, and government and justice services; and promoting an appreciation of diverse arts and cultures.

POPULATION GROWTH

While Dayton's total population fell between 2009 and 2013, from 153,832 to 143,355, these numbers do not tell the full story. Looking at the year-on-year numbers from 2009 to 2013, we see that in each year, Dayton's foreign-born population has grown steadily, increasing by 58.8% over this period. Thanks in part to this growth, Dayton's total population began to **reverse** its decline in 2013.¹



POPULATION OF DAYTON, YEAR-ON-YEAR FIGURES FOR 2009–2013, INCLUDING NATIVE-BORN AND FOREIGN-BORN POPULATIONS

While the share of Dayton's population that was foreign-born stood at 2.7 percent in 2009, by 2013 it had increased to 4.6 percent. Between 2009 and 2013, the native-born population of Dayton decreased by 8.6 percent, meanwhile the foreign-born population increased by **58.8 percent**.

¹ These year-on-year estimates were produced using successive, 2-year samples derived from the American Community Survey. This method allowed us to better compensate for the problems of small sample size deriving from Dayton's relatively small population. They also enabled us to look deeper at the data than would normally be possible with the standard, 1-year samples publicly available.

SPENDING POWER AND TAX CONTRIBUTIONS

In 2012, foreign-born households held more than



defined as their income available to spend after federal, state, and local taxes. Given their income, we estimate that the foreign-born population of Dayton also contributed more than



This includes property, income, and sales taxes levied by the State of Ohio or by the municipal government.

LABOR MARKET AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP



HIGH-SKILLED RESIDENTS

The foreign-born population of **Dayton** also appears to have higher levels of educational attainment than the native-born population.

BACHELOR'S DEGREE (at least)

Nearly 17% of foreign-born residents

10% of native-born residents

ADVANCED DEGREE(S) (Master's, Professional Degree, or Doctorate)

5.4% of foreign-born residents

3.7% of native-born residents

Foreign-born residents also play a large role in key, high-tech industries.



HOUSING

YOUTH

The influx of immigrants to **Montgomery County** between 2000 and 2010 has

added more than \$116 million



For children under age 18 in **bilingual** or **non-English speaking** households,

more than

are U.S. citizens.

NATURALIZATION

AT THE SAME TIME AS THE WELCOME DAYTON LAUNCH, MORE OF DAYTON'S FOREIGN-BORN ARE EMBRACING CITIZENSHIP

Just prior to the launch of the Welcome Dayton Plan,

53% -

of those eligible to naturalize had done so. In the two years after, from 2012-2013 we find that the share of naturalized citizens among eligible foreign-born residents had **increased** to **57%**.

IN 2012

we estimate that as many as



foreign-born residents

were eligible for naturalization

but hadn't yet taken that step.

Numerous studies have documented that naturalized citizens out-earn non-citizens by as much as 16 percent — giving them more income to patronize local businesses.² Due to the increased ease with which they can apply for licenses and insurance, naturalized citizens are also more likely to establish U.S.-based businesses, creating jobs in the process.³

² Lynch, Robert and Oakford, Patrick. 2013. "The Economic Effects of Granting Legal Status and Citizenship to Undocumented Immigrants," Center for American Progress, March 20.

³ Pastor, M. and Scoggins, J. 2012. "Citizen Gain: The Economic Benefits of Naturalization for Immigrants and the Economy," Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration, University of Southern California.

DUPLICATING THE DAYTON EFFECT

Between 2009 and 2013, Dayton's foreign-born population grew by 58.8 percent. Over a slightly longer period, from 2007 to 2012, it grew by an even greater 70.5 percent. Looking at the historical data, we see that Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Toledo lost between 2.78 percent and 1.48 percent of their overall population between 2007 and 2012, despite modest gains in their foreign-born population. However, in the scenario in which these three cities were able to attract new foreign-born residents at proportionally the same level as Dayton, Cincinnati would have grown by more than 3 percent from 2007 to 2012, while Cleveland and Toledo would have grown by more than 2.8 and 2.2 percent, respectively.

POPULATION CHANGE RATES IF OHIO CITIES ATTRACTED IMMIGRANTS AT THE SAME RATE AS DAYTON (2007-2012)

	CINCINNATI		CLEVELAND		TOLEDO	
	Actual	70% Increase	Actual	70% Increase	Actual	70% Increase
Foreign-born Change	+117	+9,561	+1,354	+12,625	+232	+6,520
Overall Population Change	-4,483	+9,444	-11,287	+11,271	-4,393	+6,289
Percentage Overall Change	-1.48	+3.18	-2.78	+2.86	-1.52	+2.21

MIGRATION

More foreign-born residents appear to be making Dayton their long-term home. Dayton is also increasingly drawing immigrants from more diverse parts of the world.



HOW MANY IMMIGRANTS HAVE LIVED IN DAYTON

In 2007, 64.3 percent of foreign-born individuals in Dayton had been in the city for more than a year. By 2012, that figure had risen to **79.7 percent**.





