Immigrants as Economic Drivers in Story and Boone Counties
A Snapshot of the Demographic and Economic Contributions of New Americans

**POPULATION GROWTH**

- Immigrant share of the population: 6.6%
- 12.3% Share of population growth attributable to immigrants, 2010-2015

**SPENDING POWER & TAX CONTRIBUTIONS**

In 2015, given their income, foreign-born residents contributed significantly to state and local taxes, including property, income, sales, and excise taxes levied by either the State of Iowa or by municipal governments.

- $390.0M to GDP
- $145.4M Spending power
- $17.3M to state & local taxes
**LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION**

Share of foreign-born who are employed

96.8%

Immigrants are more likely to be working age than the U.S.-born.

- Share of foreign-born who are working age: 59.8%
- Share of U.S.-born who are working age: 43.6%

* Working age refers to people ages 16-64 years old.

Because of the role immigrants play in the workforce helping companies keep jobs on U.S. soil, we estimate that the immigrants living in Story and Boone Counties in 2015 helped create or preserve 378 local manufacturing jobs that would have otherwise vanished or moved elsewhere.  

**Top industries by share of workforce**

- Professional Services: 13.6%
- Educational Services: 12.7%
- Tourism & Hospitality: 12.4%
- Other Industries: 6.6% Share of population

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

Number of international students enrolled in local colleges and universities, Fall 2015:

4,041

- Local jobs they supported: 1,303
- Spending contributions that academic year: $109.6M

**SKILLED LABOR FORCE**

In 2015, foreign-born residents were much more likely to have an advanced degree than U.S.-born residents in Story and Boone Counties.

- Bachelor’s degree
  - Foreign-born: 50.1%
  - U.S.-born: 20.8%
- Advanced degree
  - Foreign-born: 24.9%
  - U.S.-born: 13.4%

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**For more city, district, and state-level data, visit MapTheImpact.org and explore our interactive map.**

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1. GDP estimates are based on data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.
2. Estimates are based on federal tax rates from the U.S. Congressional Budget Office, and state and local tax rates from the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy.
5. Data on total student enrollment in the county is derived from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System maintained by the National Center for Education Statistics.
6. Economic data is derived from the International Student Economic Value Tool maintained by NAFSA, the association of international educators.