

# New Americans in Lancaster

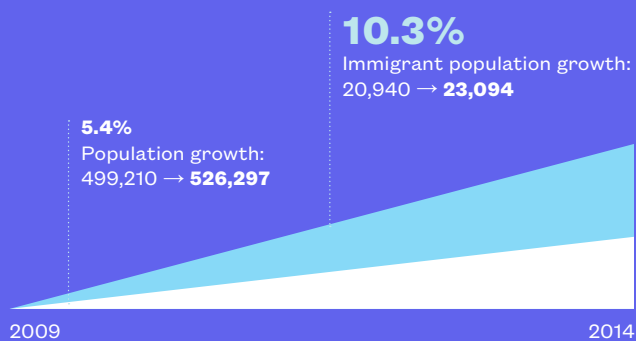
A Snapshot of the Demographic and Economic Contributions of Immigrants in the County<sup>1</sup>



## POPULATION GROWTH

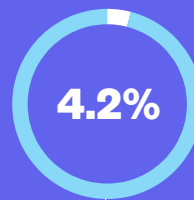
Between 2009 and 2014, the foreign-born population grew by

**2,154**  
people.

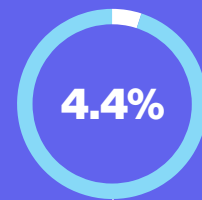


Growth in the foreign-born population accounted for **8%** of overall population growth for Lancaster during this period.

The share of the total population that was foreign-born in the area increased from 4.2% to **4.4%**, a total of **23,094** residents.



Share of immigrants in Lancaster, 2009



Share of immigrants in Lancaster, 2014

As a result of the new immigrants who came between 2000 and 2014

**1,993**

U.S.-born residents were attracted to the county.<sup>2</sup>



State & Local



THE LANCASTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

SPENDING POWER AND TAX CONTRIBUTIONS



In 2014, given their income, foreign-born residents **contributed greatly** to federal, state, and local taxes, including property, income, sales, and excise taxes levied by either the State of Pennsylvania or by municipal governments.

**\$52.5M** — State and local tax contributions<sup>3</sup>

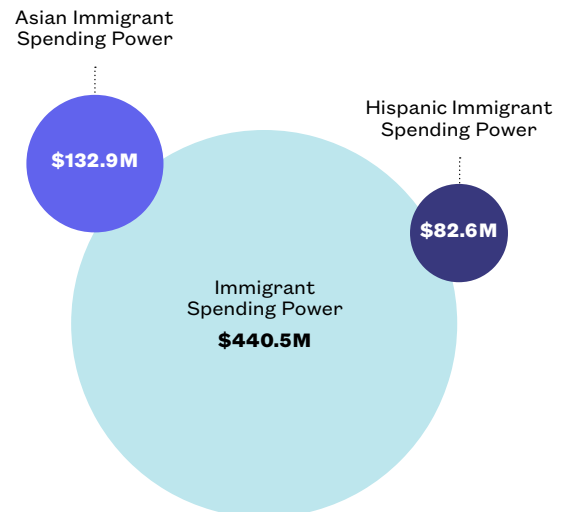
**\$103.3M** — Federal tax contributions<sup>4</sup>

Leaving them with more than **\$440.5M** in remaining spending power.

This constituted **4.3%** of the metro area's total spending power.<sup>5</sup>

In 2014, foreign-born residents contributed **\$1.3B** to the GDP of Lancaster County.<sup>6</sup>

Foreign-born residents also support federal social programs. That same year, immigrants in the area contributed more than **\$62.8M** to Social Security and almost **\$16.4M** to Medicare.



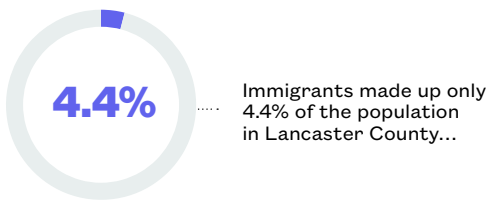
HOUSING WEALTH



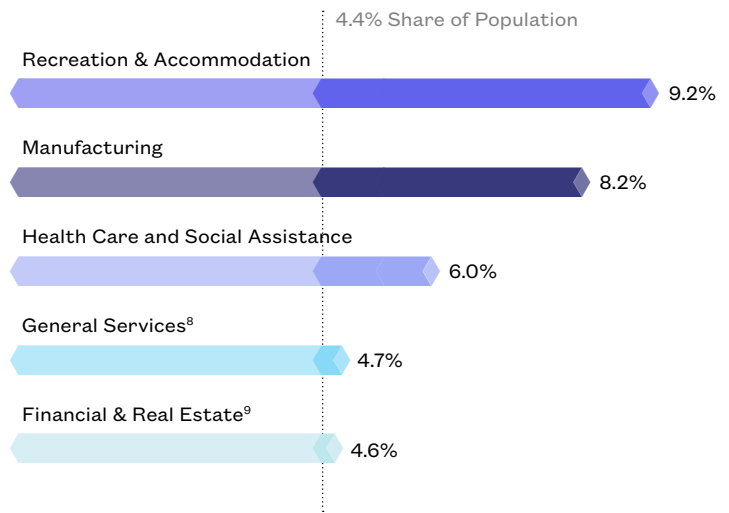
Between 2000 and 2014, immigration to Lancaster County increased the total housing value in the county by **\$178.2M**.

Looking at just the period after the Great Recession, 2009 to 2014, immigrants raised the total housing value in the county by **\$52.0M**.<sup>7</sup>

LABOR FORCE



In fact, immigrants are overrepresented in key industries in Lancaster County, including:



Because of the role immigrants play in the workforce helping companies keep jobs on U.S. soil, we estimate that the immigrants living in Lancaster in 2014 helped create or preserve

**1,062** local manufacturing jobs that would have vanished or moved elsewhere.<sup>10</sup>

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**1,081**

immigrants in Lancaster County are self-employed.

Their businesses generated **\$37.7M** in business income in 2014.<sup>11</sup>



**4.6%**

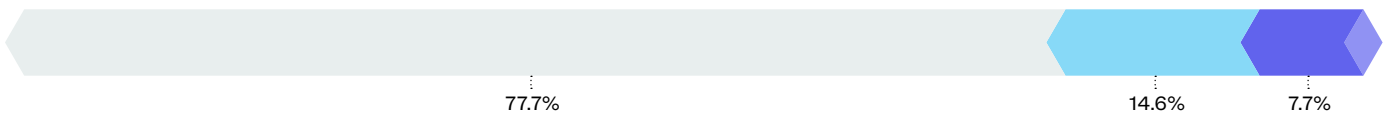
of the self-employed population is foreign-born, **more than** their share of the population at 4.4%.

	Number of Businesses Owned, 2012 <sup>12</sup>	Sales Revenue, 2012
Asian Residents in Lancaster County	1,159	<b>\$249.4M</b>
Hispanic Residents in Lancaster County	1,618	<b>\$99.8M</b>

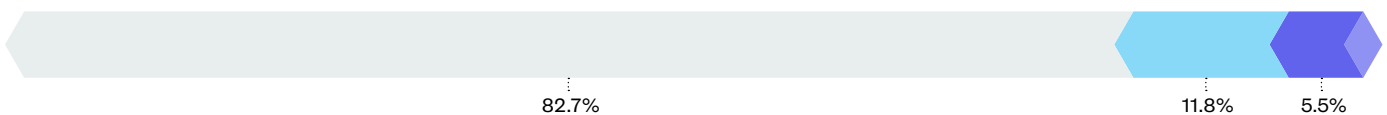
EDUCATIONAL AND LONG-TERM ECONOMIC IMPACTS

In 2014, foreign-born residents had **higher levels** of education than U.S.-born citizens in Lancaster County.

FOREIGN-BORN



U.S.-BORN



Less than Bachelor's Degree
  Bachelor's Degree
  Advanced Degree

EDUCATIONAL AND LONG-TERM ECONOMIC IMPACTS CONT.

**438**

Number of students with temporary resident visas in the area enrolled in higher education during fall of 2014.<sup>13</sup>

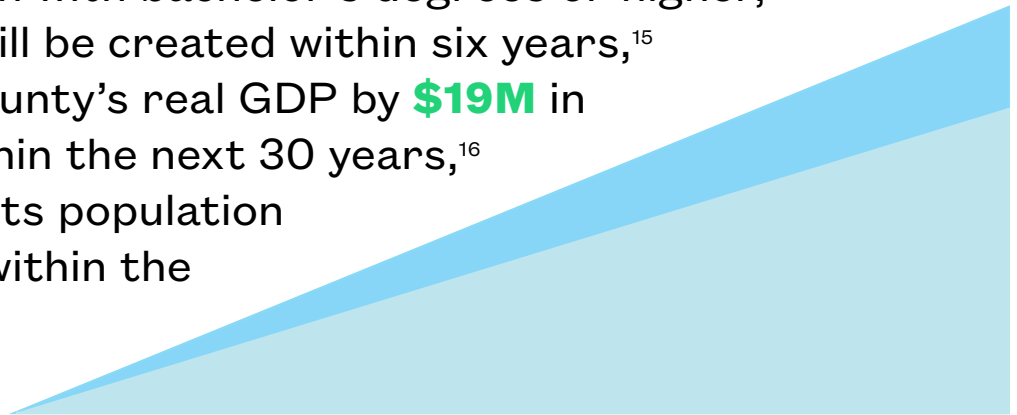
**156**

Local jobs supported by them.

**\$21M**

Spending contribution that academic year.<sup>14</sup>

If Lancaster retains one-half of its international students after graduation with bachelor's degrees or higher, **98 local jobs** will be created within six years,<sup>15</sup> boosting the county's real GDP by **\$19M** in 2014 terms within the next 30 years,<sup>16</sup> and increasing its population by **766** people within the next 50 years.<sup>17</sup>



LANGUAGE

Share of Lancaster County residents speaking a language **other than English** at home in 2014:

YOUTH UNDER 18

**20.6%**  
Share of Youth



**96.6%**  
of them were citizens

ADULTS

**14.7%**  
Share of Adults



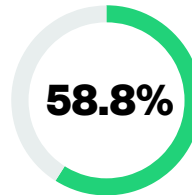
**87.2%**  
of them were citizens

## NATURALIZATION

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**13,570**

Number of foreign-born residents who had naturalized as of 2014.



Share of foreign-born residents who had naturalized as of 2014

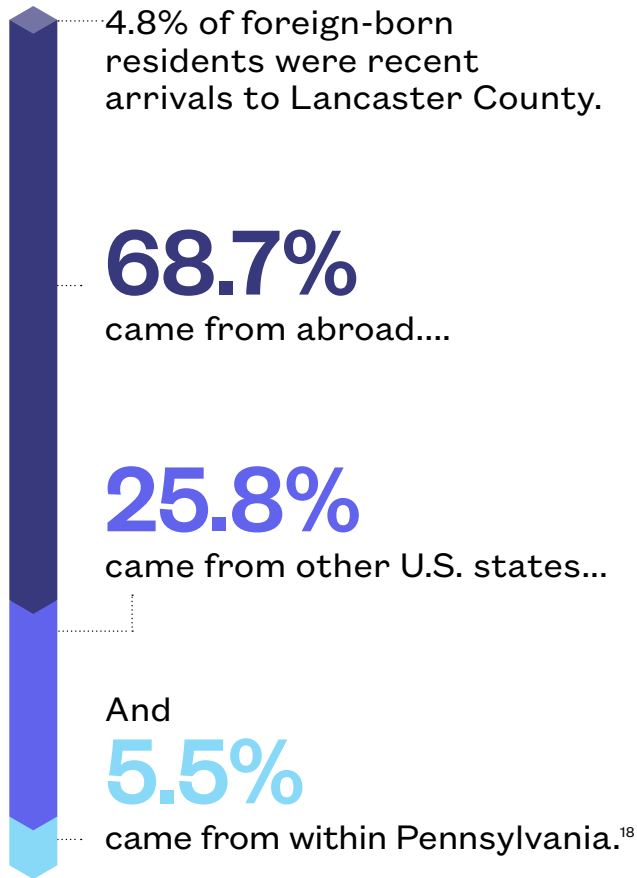
Among the **9,524** residents who were not citizens, **38.8%**, or **3,698**, were eligible for naturalization.

## MIGRATION

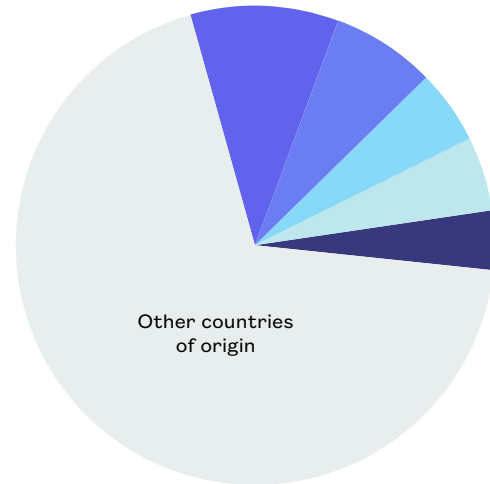
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In 2014, a vast majority, **95.2%**, of the foreign-born had lived in Lancaster for more than a year.

MIGRATION CONT.



**Top five countries of origin:**



1	Vietnam	9.6%
2	Dominican Republic <sup>19</sup>	6.7%
3	Mexico <sup>20</sup>	5.3%
4	Germany <sup>21</sup>	4.9%
5	Cuba <sup>22</sup>	4.1%

Want more information about this region? See our state report:

[The Contributions of New Americans in Pennsylvania](#)



# Endnotes

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- 1** Unless otherwise specified, data comes from 5-year samples of the American Community Survey from 2009 and 2014, as well as the 5-percent sample from 2000 census, and figures refer to Lancaster County.
- 2** Vigdor, Jacob. 2013. "Immigration and the Revival of American Cities: From Preserving Manufacturing Jobs to Strengthening the Housing Market." Partnership for a New American Economy.
- 3** Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. 2015. "Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of the Tax Systems in All Fifty States."
- 4** U.S. Congressional Budget Office. 2014. "The Distribution of Household Income and Federal Taxes, 2011."
- 5** 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.
- 6** These figures derive from our calculations based on immigrants' share of wage income and self-employment income in the 5-year ACS sample from 2014 and the statistics of GDP from the NACo County Explorer, maintained by the National Association of Counties.
- 7** Vigdor, Jacob. 2013. "Immigration and the Revival of American Cities: From Preserving Manufacturing Jobs to Strengthening the Housing Market." Partnership for a New American Economy.
- 8** These industries include personal services (e.g. laundry services, barber shops, and repair and maintenance), religious organizations, social services, and labor unions. Number of observations is below 50.
- 9** Number of observations is below 50.
- 10** Vigdor, Jacob. 2013. "Immigration and the Revival of American Cities: From Preserving Manufacturing Jobs to Strengthening the Housing Market." Partnership for a New American Economy.
- 11** Number of observations is below 50.
- 12** 2012 Survey of Business Owners, U.S. Census Bureau
- 13** 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.
- 14** Economic data is derived from the International Student Economic Value Tool maintained by NAFSA, the association of international educators.
- 15** Curtis Simon. 1998. "Human Capital and Metropolitan Employment Growth." *Journal of Urban Economics* 43.
- 16** Rita Ray. 2014. "Effect of Education on Gross Domestic Product: A Case Study from US 'Mid-West'." *International Review of Business Research Papers*, Vol. 10-1.
- 17** Edward L. Glaeser, Giacomo A. M. Ponzetto, and Kristina Tobio. 2014. "Cities, Skills and Regional Change." *Regional Studies*, Vol. 48-1.
- 18** Number of observations is below 50.
- 19** Number of observations is below 50.
- 20** Number of observations is below 50.
- 21** Number of observations is below 50.
- 22** Number of observations is below 50.