New Americans in Longview
The Demographic and Economic Contributions of Immigrants in the Region

**Population Growth**
- Share of population growth attributed to immigrants, 2012-2017: **26.5%**
- Immigrant share of the population in Longview metropolitan area in 2017: **7.8%**

**GDP**
- Amount the foreign-born contributed to the metro area’s GDP in 2017: **$920.7M**
  - This made up **9%** of the total GDP.

**Spending Power & Tax Contributions**
- Given their income, immigrants contributed significantly to state and local taxes, including property, sales, and excise taxes levied by state and local governments.

**Amount earned by foreign-born households in 2017:** **$351.4M**
- **$46.9M** went to federal taxes.
- **$29.0M** went to state & local taxes.

Leaving them with **$275.4M** in spending power.
New Americans in Longview

LONGVIEW METROPOLITAN AREA, TEXAS

HOUSING WEALTH

Share of immigrant households who were homeowners in 2017: 67.8%
Share of U.S.-born households who were homeowners in 2017: 65.6%

Between 2012 and 2017, the arrival of immigrants increased the total housing value in the metro area by $13.1M.

KEY INDUSTRIES

In 2017, immigrants were punching above their weight in several key industries in the metro area, making up significant shares of the workforce in these industries:

- Construction: 29.8%
- Agriculture: 29.2%
- General Services: 18.1%
- Manufacturing: 17.3%
- Hospitality: 15.4%

Immigrants fill critical gaps in the workforce, allowing companies to keep jobs on U.S. soil.

In 2017, immigrants living in the metro area helped create or preserve 775 local manufacturing jobs that would have otherwise vanished or moved elsewhere.

LABOR FORCE

Immigrants are 48.4% more likely to be working age than the U.S.-born.

- Share of the foreign-born in the metro area who were working age* in 2017: 88.6%
- Share of the U.S.-born in the metro area who were working age in 2017: 59.7%

Immigrants are 16.1% more likely to be in the labor force than the U.S.-born.

- Share of the foreign-born in the labor force in 2017: 67.2%
- Share of the U.S.-born in the labor force in 2017: 57.9%

Immigrants are 1.9% more likely to be employed than the U.S.-born.

- Share of the foreign-born in the labor force who were employed in 2017: 95.8%
- Share of the U.S.-born in the labor force who were employed in 2017: 94.0%

* Working age refers to people ages 16-64 years old. The labor force is comprised of individuals 16 or older who are either employed or looking for work.
LONGVIEW METROPOLITAN AREA, TEXAS

SKILLED LABOR FORCE

Share of the metro area’s population aged 25 or older that held a bachelor’s degree or higher in 2017:

- Immigrants: 10.0%
- U.S.-born: 19.4%

Share of the metro area’s population aged 25 or older that held an advanced degree in 2017:

- Immigrants: 3.4%
- U.S.-born: 6.0%

Immigrants’ shares of workforce in key occupations in the metro area in 2017:

- Healthcare Practice: 5.0%
- Business/Finance: 4.4%

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Share of the Longview metro area population who were entrepreneurs in 2017:

- Foreign-born: 11.8%
- U.S.-born: 8.8%

This made the foreign-born 35.3% more likely than the U.S.-born to be self-employed.

GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS

Population Growth in Gregg County

Share of population growth attributed to immigrants, 2012-2017: 20.6%
Immigrant share of the population in Gregg County in 2017: 8.7%

Foreign-born entrepreneurs generated $25.7M in business income for the metro area.
This made up 11.2% of the metro area’s total business income—higher than the immigrant share of the Longview metro area population.

GDP

In 2017, foreign-born residents in the county contributed $852.3M to the Gregg County’s GDP, or 10.3% of the total.9
Given their income, immigrants contributed significantly to state and local taxes, including property, sales, and excise taxes levied by state and local governments.

Amount earned by foreign-born households in 2017:

- $31.8M went to federal taxes.
- $18.7M went to state & local taxes.

Leaving them with $178.4M in spending power. This means that foreign-born households held 8.2% of all spending power in the county.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOUSING WEALTH</th>
<th>LABOR FORCE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share of households in the county who owned their own homes in 2017</td>
<td>Immigrants are 49.9% more likely to be working age than the U.S.-born.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign-born 66.8%</td>
<td>Share of the foreign-born in the county who were working age* in 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.-born 58.7%</td>
<td>89.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Share of the U.S.-born in the county who were working age in 2017</td>
<td>59.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Between 2012 and 2017, the arrival of immigrants increased the total housing value in the county by $4.3M</td>
<td>Immigrants are 11.7% more likely to be in the labor force than the U.S.-born.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Share of the foreign-born in the labor force in 2017</td>
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<td>Share of the U.S.-born in the labor force in 2017</td>
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* Working age refers to people ages 16-64 years old. The labor force is comprised of individuals 16 or older who are either employed or looking for work.
Because of the role immigrants play in the workforce helping companies keep jobs on U.S. soil, we estimate that immigrants living in the county helped create or preserve 493 local manufacturing jobs that would have otherwise vanished or moved elsewhere by 2017.

**KEY INDUSTRIES**

In 2017, immigrants played a critical role in key industries in the county, making up significant shares of the workforce in these industries:

- **Construction**: 40.1%
- **General Services**: 23.7%
- **Manufacturing**: 16.9%
- **Hospitality**: 15.8%
- **Retail Trade**: 9.4%

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Share of the Gregg County population who were entrepreneurs in 2017:

- **Foreign-born**: 14.7%
- **U.S.-born**: 8.2%

This made the foreign-born 79.4% more likely than the U.S.-born to be self-employed.

**SKILLED LABOR FORCE**

Share of the county’s population aged 25 or older that held a bachelor’s degree or higher in 2017:

- **Immigrants**: 11.1%
- **U.S.-born**: 21.1%

Share of the county’s population aged 25 or older that held an advanced degree in 2017:

- **Immigrants**: 3.4%
- **U.S.-born**: 6.8%

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1. Unless otherwise specified, data comes from 5-year samples of the American Community Survey from 2012 and 2017.
2. We use the U.S. Office of Management and Budget’s 2017 definitions of the Longview metropolitan statistical area, Texas.
3. These figures derive from our calculations based on immigrants’ share of wage income and self-employment income in the 5-year ACS sample from 2017 and the statistics of GDP from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.
7. General services include personal services (e.g., laundry services, barber shops, and repair and maintenance), religious organizations, social services, and labor unions.
9. Our calculations are based on the statistics of GDP from the National Association of Counties.