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

Given their income, immigrants contributed significantly to state and local taxes, including property, sales, and excise taxes levied by state and local governments.

Between 2013-2018, the population in the region decreased by 0.1%, from 704,978 to 704,535.

The immigrant population in the region increased by 20.4% from 28,804 to 34,688.

Without growth in the immigrant population, the decline in the region's population would have been even greater, by 0.9%.

Top five countries of origin

- **India**: 11.3%
- **Bhutan**: 8.5%
- **China**: 6.4%
- **Mexico**: 5.1%
- **Saudi Arabia**: 3.7%

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**DEMOGRAPHICS**

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Amount earned by foreign-born households in 2018:

- **$213.6M** went to federal taxes.
- **$107.9M** went to state & local taxes.

Leaving them with **$802.8M** in spending power.

This means that foreign-born households held **5.2%** of all spending power in the region, more than their **4.9%** share of the population.
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**GDP**
The total GDP contribution by foreign-born residents in the region is $2.1B, which is 5.6% of the total GDP.

**CONTRIBUTIONS & HEALTHCARE**
Immigrants in the region also supported federal social programs. In 2018, they contributed $102.2M to Social Security and $27.9M to Medicare.

- **Share of the population who received Medicare or Medicaid**
  - Foreign-born: 29.8%
  - U.S.-born: 35.0%

- **Healthcare coverage of immigrants**
  - 30.3% Public
  - 65.2% Private

**WORKFORCE**
- **Share of the working population who are foreign-born**, 2018: 5.7%
- **Share of employed labor force who are foreign-born**, 2018: 5.1%
- **Share of STEM workers who are foreign-born**, 2018: 10.0%

**KEY INDUSTRIES**
- **Top industries by immigrant share of workforce, 2018**
  - Manufacturing: 9.1%
  - Education: 7.8%
  - Wholesale Trade: 5.2%
  - Professional Services: 5.0%
  - Hospitality: 4.8%

- **Top occupations by immigrant share of workforce, 2018**
  - Postsecondary Teachers: 8.1%
  - Physicians: 2.6%
  - Retail Salespersons: 2.5%
  - Hospitalists: 2.5%

**MANUFACTURING**
Because of the role immigrants play in the workforce helping companies keep jobs on U.S. soil, we estimate that immigrants living in the region helped create or preserve 1,596 local manufacturing jobs that would have otherwise vanished or moved elsewhere by 2018.

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Despite making up 4.9% of the population, immigrants made up 5.8% of the business owners in the region in 2018.

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

- **Share of the population who were entrepreneurs**
  - Foreign-born 9.2%
  - U.S.-born 7.9%
  - This made immigrants 16.6% more likely to be entrepreneurs than their U.S.-born counterparts.

- **Business income**
  - 1,614 immigrant entrepreneurs generated $46.9M in business income for the region.

**ENTREPRENEURS OF COLOR**

- In 2012, African-American-owned businesses in the region generated...
  - $18.1M in sales.

- In 2012, Asian-owned businesses in the region generated...
  - $886.0M in sales and 2,979 jobs.

- In 2012, Hispanic-owned businesses in the region generated...
  - $96.1M in sales and 490 jobs.

**EDUCATION**

- **Share of population aged 25 or above that held a bachelor’s degree or higher in 2018**
  - Immigrants 41.5%
  - U.S.-born 30.7%

- **Share of the population aged 25 or above that held an advanced degree in 2018**
  - Immigrants 22.0%
  - U.S.-born 10.8%

- **International students**
  - 2,611 students who were enrolled in colleges and universities in the region during the fall of 2018 were temporary residents.
  - International students supported 990 local jobs and spent $87.5M in the 2018-19 academic year.

- Despite making up 4.9% of the population, immigrants made up 5.8% of the business owners in the region in 2018.
Share of immigrants who were naturalized U.S. citizens

- **47.5%**

This represents a total of **16,494** immigrants.

Share among **18,194** non-citizen immigrants who were likely eligible to naturalize

- **25.2%**

This represents a total of **4,586** immigrants.

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6,574 immigrants, or **19.0%** of the foreign-born population, were likely refugees in 2018.¹³

46% of refugees in the area were naturalized U.S. citizens.

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**$55,043**

Their median annual income

52.7% Refugees tended to work in the manufacturing industry
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Number of undocumented immigrants in the region

8,000

Amount earned by undocumented immigrant households in 2018:

$141.2M

$12.2M went to federal taxes.²

$7.0M went to state & local taxes.³

Leaving them with $122.0M in spending power.

TOP COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

- India: 17.9%
- Saudi Arabia: 15.7%
- Mexico: 12.0%
- China: 11.5%

KEY INDUSTRIES

- Manufacturing: 31.1%
- Education: 18.2%

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

1 Unless otherwise specified, data comes from 5-year samples of the American Community Survey from 2013 and 2018 and figures refer to the Counties of Portage and Summit, Ohio.
4 These figures derive from our calculations based on immigrants’ share of wage income and self-employment income in the 5-year ACS sample from 2018 and the statistics of GDP from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.
5 We define working age as 16-64 years of age.
6 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math
7 Professional services: Most of these industries include professions that require a degree or a license, such as legal services, accounting, scientific research, consulting services, etc.
8 General services include personal services (e.g. laundry services, barber shops, and repair and maintenance), religious organizations, social services, and labor unions.
11 Data on total student enrollment in the region is derived from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System maintained by the National Center for Education Statistics. Temporary residents refer to people who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
12 Economic data is derived from the International Student Economic Value Tool maintained by NAFSA, the association of international educators.