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

**POPULATION GROWTH**

275,800 immigrants lived in the region in 2019, making up 27.6% of the overall population.

- Between 2014 and 2019, the overall population in the region increased from 857,800 to 999,600, or 16.5%.
- During the same period, the foreign-born population increased from 221,400 to 275,800, or 24.6%.
- Growth in the foreign born population accounted for 38.4% of the overall population growth during that period.

**SPENDING POWER & TAX CONTRIBUTIONS**

The foreign-born population in the region holds considerable economic power.

Amount earned by immigrant households in 2019:

- $10.6B
- $2B went to federal taxes.\(^2\)
- $805.6M went to state & local taxes.\(^3\)

Leaving them with $7.7B in spending power, or 32% of all spending power in the region—more than their 27.6% share of the region’s overall population.

Top countries of origin for immigrants living in the Katy region:

1. Mexico ................. 22.7%
2. Vietnam ................. 7.7%
3. El Salvador ............. 6.4%
4. India .................... 6.3%
5. Nigeria .................. 4.9%
Because of the role immigrants play in the workforce helping companies keep jobs on U.S. soil, we estimate that by 2019 immigrants living in the region had helped create or preserve **12,700 local manufacturing jobs** that would have otherwise vanished or moved elsewhere.
Despite making up 27.6% of the overall population, immigrants made up 45.6% of the entrepreneurs in the region in 2019.

In the region, immigrants were 58.3% more likely to be entrepreneurs than their U.S.-born counterparts.

Share of the population who were self-employed:
- Foreign-born: 13.2%
- U.S.-born: 8.3%

Nearly 22,600 immigrants worked for their own businesses, generating $627.5 million in business income.

Immigrant entrepreneurs played a critical role in several key industries:
- General Services: 19.4%
- Construction: 18.7%
- Professional Services: 16%
- Transportation and Warehousing: 9.5%
- Retail Trade: 8.1%

In 2019, 64.3% of immigrant households in Katy owned their homes, compared to 66.8% of U.S.-born households.

35.7% of immigrant households were renters.

73% of immigrant households lived in houses, while 23.7% lived in apartments.

The total property value of immigrant households: $17.8B

The total annual rent paid by immigrant households: $510.2M
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**NATURALIZATION**

Share of immigrants who were naturalized U.S. citizens

46.5%

This represents a total of 128,300 immigrants.

Share among the 147,500 non-citizen immigrants who were likely eligible to naturalize

8.2%

This represents a total of 22,500 immigrants.

**REFUGEES**

19,300 people, or 7% of the foreign-born population, were likely refugees in 2019.

$61,200

The median household income of the refugees in the region in 2019.

79%

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

Education level of refugees aged 25 or older:

- Bachelor's Degree or Higher: 34.7%
- Advanced Degree: 9.9%

Refugees tend to concentrate in these occupations in the region:

- Manufacturing: 14.6%
- General Services: 13.3%
- Retail Trade: 12.9%
- Professional Services: 9.8%
- Health Care and Social Assistance: 9.7%
UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS

Undocumented immigrant households earned $1.8B in 2019.

$147.3M went to federal taxes\(^8\) and

$73.4M went to state and local taxes\(^9\)

leaving them with

$1.6B in spending power.

Undocumented households held

20.2% of foreign-born spending power in Katy

Top countries of origin for the undocumented immigrants in the region:

- Mexico: 34.2%
- El Salvador: 8.7%
- India: 6%
- Venezuela: 5.6%
- Nigeria: 4.1%

Undocumented immigrants tend to concentrate in these occupations in the region:

- Construction: 16.4%
- Professional Services: 12.9%
- Retail Trade: 12.6%
- Hospitality: 12.6%
- Manufacturing: 11.4%

ENDNOTES

1 Unless otherwise specified, data comes from 5-year samples of the American Community Survey from 2014 and 2019 and figures refer to Katy region which includes communities in Harris County, Fort Bend County, and Waller County within the following zip codes: 77493, 77494, 77449, 77450, 77094, 77079, 77077, 77084, 77433, 77447, 77423, 77441, 77406, 77407, 77082, 77041, 77043, 77095, 77065, 77484.


4 General services include personal services (e.g. laundry services, barber shops, and repair and maintenance), religious organizations, social services, and labor unions.


6 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.

