



New Americans in Odessa

The Demographic and Economic Contributions of Immigrants in the Metro Area¹

POPULATION GROWTH

21,700

immigrants lived in the metro area in 2019, making up **13.5%** of the overall population.



Between 2014 and 2019, the overall population in the metro area increased from 144,900 to 160,700, or

10.9%



During the same period, the foreign-born population increased from 19,600 to 21,700, or

10.6%



Growth in the foreign born population accounted for

13.1%

of the overall population growth during that period.

Of the **77,800** people working in Odessa, **14,000**, or



18%,

were foreign-born.

Top countries of origin for immigrants living in the metro area:

1. Mexico **81.2%**
2. Philippines **3.1%**

SPENDING POWER & TAX CONTRIBUTIONS

In 2019, foreign-born residents in Odessa contributed **\$2.3B** to the metro area's GDP, or **17.7%** of the total.²

The foreign-born population in Odessa holds considerable economic power.

Amount earned by immigrant households in 2019:

\$687.5M

\$117.7M

went to federal taxes.³

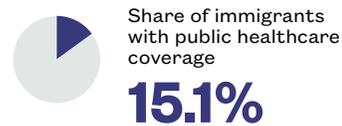
\$56.7M

went to state & local taxes.⁴

Leaving them with **\$513M** in spending power, or **16.9%** of all spending power in Odessa, more than their **13.5%** share of the population.

SPENDING POWER & TAX CONTRIBUTIONS (CONTINUED)

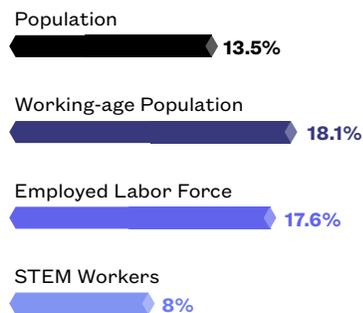
Immigrants in Odessa also supported federal social programs. In 2019, they contributed **\$72.3M** to Social Security and **\$19.6M** to Medicare.



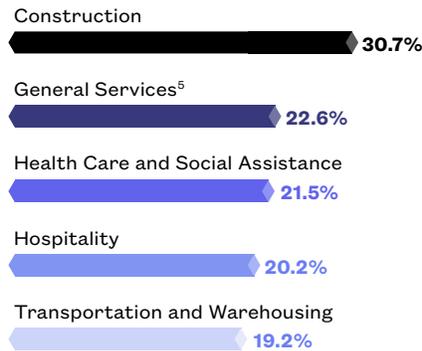
WORKFORCE

Although the foreign-born population made up **13.5%** of the metro area's overall population, they represented **18.1%** of its working-age population, **17.6%** of its employed labor force, and **8%** of its STEM workers in 2019.

Immigrant shares of the...



Immigrants played a critical role in these key industries in the metro area:



Immigrants tend to concentrate in these occupations in the metro area:



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 metro area had helped create or preserve **1,000 local manufacturing jobs** that would have otherwise vanished or moved elsewhere.⁶

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

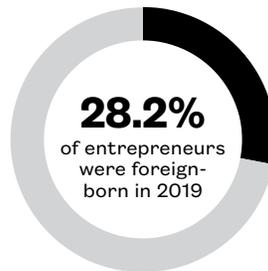
2,100

foreign-born people worked for their own businesses, generating

\$112.7M

in business income.

Despite making up **13.5%** of the overall population, immigrants made up **28.2%** of the entrepreneurs in the metro area in 2019.



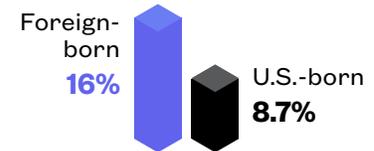
In the metro area, immigrants were



84.2%

more likely to be entrepreneurs than their U.S.-born counterparts.

Share of the population who were self-employed:



EDUCATION AND LONG-TERM ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Share of the metro area's population aged 25 or older that held **a bachelor's degree or higher** in 2019:



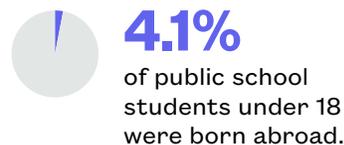
Share of the metro area's population aged 25 or older that held **an advanced degree** in 2019:



In fall 2019,

179 students

enrolled in colleges and universities in the city were temporary residents.⁷



HOUSING WEALTH

In 2019, **62.5%** of immigrant households in Odessa owned their homes, compared to **65.4%** of U.S.-born households.

37.5% of immigrant households were renters.

58% of immigrant households lived in houses, while **19%** lived in apartments

The total property value of immigrant households

\$724.7M

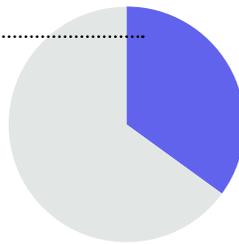
The total annual rent paid by immigrant households

\$34.5M

NATURALIZATION

Share of immigrants who were naturalized U.S. citizens
35.2%

This represents a total of
7,600 immigrants.



Share among the **14,000** non-citizen immigrants who were likely eligible to naturalize

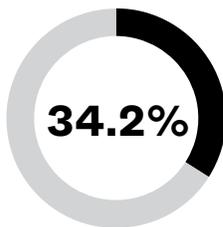
10.8%

This represents a total of
2,300 immigrants.

UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS

7,400

Estimated number of undocumented immigrants in 2019, or **34.2%** of the immigrant population.



Undocumented immigrant households earned **\$138.5M** in 2019.

\$9.7M

went to federal taxes⁸ and

\$6.4M

went to state and local taxes⁹

leaving them with

\$122.3M

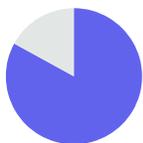
in spending power.



Undocumented households held

23.8%

of foreign-born spending power in Odessa



83.2%

of undocumented immigrants in the metro area were from **Mexico.**

Undocumented immigrants tend to concentrate in these industries in the metro area:



ENDNOTES

- 1 Unless otherwise specified, data comes from 5-year samples of the American Community Survey from 2014 and 2019 and figures refer to the Odessa Metropolitan Area.
- 2 These figures derive from our calculations based on immigrants' share of wage income and self-employment income in the 5-year ACS sample from 2019 and the statistics of GDP from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S..
- 3 U.S. Congressional Budget Office. 2016. "The Distribution of Household Income and Federal Taxes, 2013."
- 4 Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. 2015. "Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of the Tax Systems in All Fifty States."
- 5 General services include personal services (e.g. laundry services, barber shops, and repair and maintenance), religious organizations, social services, and labor unions.
- 6 Vigdor, Jacob. 2013. "Immigration and the Revival of American Cities: From Preserving Manufacturing Jobs to Strengthening the Housing Market." *New American Economy*.
- 7 Data on total student enrollment in the metro area 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.
- 8 U.S. Congressional Budget Office. 2016. "The Distribution of Household Income and Federal Taxes, 2013."
- 9 Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. 2015. "Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of the Tax Systems in All Fifty States."