

Immigrants Drive the HOUSTON ECONOMY

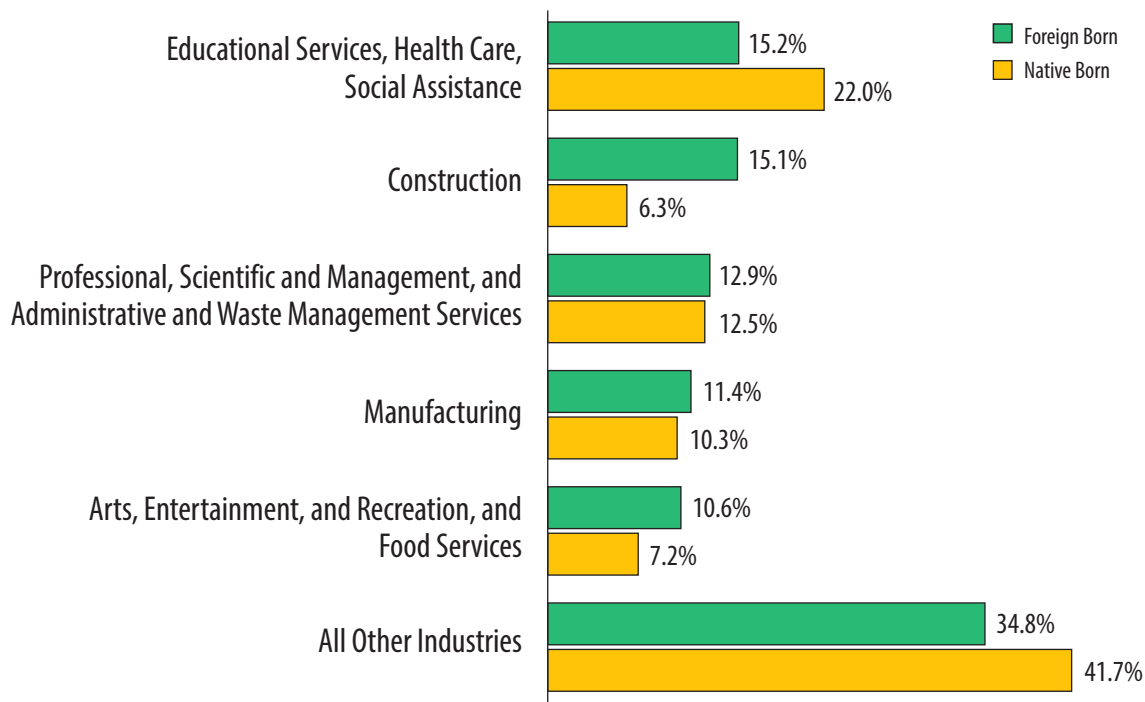
Houston is home to 1.4 million immigrants (22.5 percent of the metro population). The immigrant population in Houston represents close to one-third of the entire immigrant population in the state of Texas.¹

Immigrants have played a leading role in Houston’s economic success and make up 29.3 percent of the total metro labor force. Houston immigrants work in a wide range of jobs, most heavily concentrated in education, health care and social services.²

Immigrants also power the Houston economy as job creators, small business owners and entrepreneurs. Immigrants make up 27.3 percent of the metro’s business owners with paid employees,³ and are self-employed at a higher rate (9.1 percent) than the Native-born population (5.1 percent).⁴

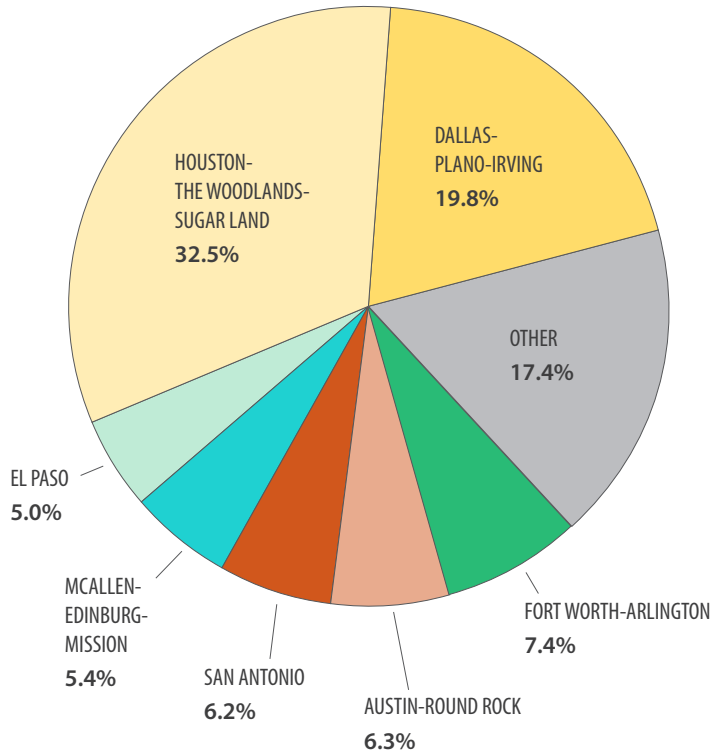
**This fact sheet refers to Texas immigrants as any foreign-born resident regardless of immigration or U.S. citizenship status. Houston data in this report is for the Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land Metro Area.*

Where Houston Immigrants Work Top 5 Industries by Foreign-Born Participation



Source: U.S. Census Bureau⁵

WHERE TEXAS IMMIGRANTS LIVE (METRO AREAS)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau⁶

Endnotes

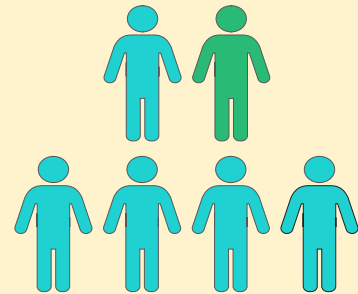
- 1 U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S0501.
- 2 U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S0501.
- 3 U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs, Statistics for Owners of Respondent Employer Firms by Whether the Owner Was Born a U.S. Citizen by Sector, Gender, Ethnicity, Race, Veteran Status, and Years in Business for the U.S., States, and Top 50 MSAs, Table SE1400CSCB009. Includes firms with payroll at any time during 2014.
- 4 U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S0501.
- 5 Ibid.
- 6 U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S0501.
- 7 Ibid.
- 8 CPPP calculated the estimated range of potential direct purchasing power using PUMS foreign-born income data, 1-Year Estimate, 2015 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau multiplied by the average annual expenditure rates from the 2015 Consumer Expenditure Survey, Table 1800. CPPP calculated the expenditure rates by dividing average annual expenditures by the average pre-tax incomes for the South (low end of range) and for the U.S. (high end of the range). The estimate includes average spending on housing, food, transportation, healthcare, and all other personal expenditures. For the full list of expenditure categories, see Consumer Expenditure Survey Table 1800. Texas immigrants earned nearly \$119 billion in wage, salary, and self-employment income in 2015.

For more information, view our Immigrants Drive the Texas Economy report ▶

POPULATION

1 OUT OF 6 TEXANS

is an immigrant.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau⁷

PURCHASING POWER



Texas immigrants' direct purchasing power in 2015 was nearly
\$100 BILLION

Source: Center for Public Policy Priorities analysis⁸

CPPP is an independent public policy organization that uses research, analysis and advocacy to promote solutions that enable Texans of all backgrounds to reach their full potential. Learn more at CPPP.org. For more information, please contact Oliver Bernstein at bernstein@cppp.org or call 512.823.2875.