

New Americans in the Peace Garden State

The Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in North Dakota.

Immigrants and their children are growing shares of North Dakota's population.

- **The foreign-born share** of North Dakota's population rose from 1.5% in [1990](#) [1], to 1.9% in [2000](#) [1], to 2.3% in [2008](#) [2], according to the U.S. Census Bureau. North Dakota was home to 15,013 immigrants in [2008](#) [2].
- **43.5% of immigrants (or 6,535 people) in North Dakota were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#) [2]—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **1.9% (or 7,540) of registered voters** in North Dakota were “New Americans”—naturalized citizens or the U.S.-born children of immigrants who were raised during the current era of immigration from Latin America and Asia which began in 1965—according to an analysis of 2006 Census Bureau data by [Rob Paral & Associates](#) [3].

Nearly 18,000 North Dakotans are Latino or Asian.

- The **Latino share of North Dakota's population** grew from 0.7% in [1990](#) [4], to 1.2% in [2000](#) [4], to 2.0% (or 12,830 people) in [2008](#) [2]. The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.5% in [1990](#) [5], to 0.6% in [2000](#) [5], to 0.8% (or 5,132 people) in [2008](#) [2], according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- In North Dakota, **more than four-in-five (or 86% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#) [6], according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add millions of dollars and hundreds of jobs to North Dakota's economy.

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in North Dakota totaled \$371.6 million**—an increase of 1,043.3% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$279.4 million**—an increase of 600.6% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) [7] at the University of Georgia.
- North Dakota's 230 **Latino-owned** [8] **businesses** had sales and receipts of \$15.9 million and employed 210 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available. The state's 277 **Asian-owned** [9] **businesses** had sales and receipts of \$107.6 million and employed 1,466 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.

Immigrants are important to North Dakota's economy as workers.

- Immigrants comprised **2.5% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) [2] (or 9,129 workers),

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- [6] [http://mumford.albany.edu/children/reports/Data Briefs/AECF_immigrant_families_brief_north_dakota.pdf](http://mumford.albany.edu/children/reports/Data%20Briefs/AECF_immigrant_families_brief_north_dakota.pdf)
- [7] <http://www.terry.uga.edu/selig/docs/GBEC0903q.pdf>
- [8] <http://www.census.gov/prod/ec02/sb0200cshisp.pdf#page=27>
- [9] <http://www.census.gov/prod/ec02/sb0200csasian.pdf#page=27>
- [10] <http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/107.pdf#page=40>
- [11] http://americansforimmigrationreform.com/files/Impact_of_the_Undocumented_Workforce.pdf#page=69
- [12] http://www.nafsa.org/_/File/_/eis09/north_dakota.pdf#page=2
- [13] <http://www.migrationinformation.org/datahub/state2.cfm?ID=nd#5>
- [14] http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/New_Americans_in_the_Peace_Garden_State_2010_1.pdf