



# NEW AMERICANS:

THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC POWER OF  
IMMIGRANTS, LATINOS AND ASIANS  
STATE BY STATE

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**NEW AMERICANS IN THE YELLOWHAMMER STATE:  
The Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Alabama**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and population in Alabama. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 2.8% of the state's population, and nearly one-third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. Immigrants are not only important to the state's economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$4.9 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$2.2 billion and employed more than 20,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Alabama can ill-afford to alienate such an important component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Alabama's population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Alabama's population rose from 1.1% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 2.0% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 2.8% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Alabama was home to 131,695 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [Savannah, Georgia](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **30.1% of immigrants (or 39,634 people) in Alabama were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **1.6% (or 39,687) of registered voters** in Alabama 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

*Nearly 4.0% of Alabamans are Latino or Asian.*

- The **Latino share of Alabama's population** grew from 0.6% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 1.7% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 2.8% (or 130,533 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.5% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 0.7% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 1.0% (or 46,619 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- In Alabama, **roughly four-in-five (or 79% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>14</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.



*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Alabama's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Alabama totaled \$3.1 billion**—an increase of 1,026% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$1.8 billion**—an increase of 497.8% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>15</sup>
- Alabama's 2,524 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$748 million and employed 6,741 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>16</sup> The state's 4,270 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.5 billion and employed 14,527 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>17</sup>

*Immigrants are important to Alabama's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **3.8% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 84,806 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>18</sup>

*Unauthorized immigrants are important to Alabama's economy as workers and taxpayers.*

- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **3.6% of the state's workforce** (or 80,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>19</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Alabama, **the state would lose \$2.6 billion in economic activity, \$1.1 billion in gross state product, and approximately 17,819 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>20</sup>

*Immigrants contribute to Alabama's economy as students.*

- Alabama's 6,814 **foreign students contributed \$129 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>21</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In Alabama, **36.0% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 27.3% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 14.4% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 35.2% of noncitizens.<sup>22</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Alabama with a college degree **increased by 48.5%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>23</sup>
- In Alabama, **67.4% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>24</sup>

## Endnotes

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*2008 Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties\*](#), May 13, 2009.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in Alabama\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>15</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>19</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>20</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>21</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>22</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*Alabama: Language & Education\*](#).

<sup>23</sup> Ibid.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid.

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## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE LAST FRONTIER: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Alaska**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Alaska. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 6.5% of the state's population, and more than half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 5.4% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state's economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield more than \$2.3 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of nearly \$600 million and employed more than 7,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Alaska can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Alaska's population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Alaska's population rose from 4.5% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 5.9% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 6.5% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Alaska was home to 44,296 immigrants in [2008](#).<sup>4</sup>
- **52.4% of immigrants (or 23,196 people) in Alaska were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>5</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **5.4% (or 17,962) of registered voters** in Alaska 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](#).<sup>6</sup>

*Nearly 1 in 9 Alaskans are Latino or Asian.*

- The **Latino share of Alaska's population** grew from 3.2% in [1990](#),<sup>7</sup> to 4.1% in [2000](#),<sup>8</sup> to 6.2% (or 42,550 people) in [2008](#).<sup>9</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 3.2% in [1990](#),<sup>10</sup> to 4.0% in [2000](#),<sup>11</sup> to 4.6% (or 31,569 people) in [2008](#),<sup>12</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 2.6% (or 8,000) of Alaska voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 2.3% (7,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>13</sup>
- In Alaska, **more than nine-in-ten (or 92% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>14</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to Alaska's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Alaska totaled \$1.2 billion**—an increase of 426.8% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$1.1 billion**—an increase of 260.3% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>15</sup>
- Alaska's 1,908 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$421.1 million and employed 5,222 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>16</sup> The state's 1,241 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$171.2 million and employed 1,985 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>17</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Alaska's economy as workers and taxpayers.*

- Immigrants comprised **8.4% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 32,408 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>18</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **less than 1.5% of the state's workforce** (or fewer than 10,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>19</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Alaska, **the state would lose \$484.7 million in economic activity, \$215.3 million in gross state product, and approximately 1,980 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>20</sup>

*Immigrants contribute to Alaska's economy as students.*

- Alaska's 596 **foreign students contributed \$13.4 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>21</sup>

*Immigrants excel educationally.*

- The number of immigrants in Alaska with a college degree **increased by 50.6%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>22</sup>
- In Alaska, **80.0% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>23</sup>



## Endnotes

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>10</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>13</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [\*2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals\*](#).

<sup>14</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in Alaska\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>15</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>19</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>20</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>21</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid.

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## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE GRAND CANYON STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Arizona**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for large and growing shares of the economy and electorate in Arizona. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 14.3% of the state's population, and roughly one-third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for one-in-ten registered voters in Arizona. The state's immigrant workers contributed \$2.4 billion in state tax revenue in 2004, while immigrant-headed households commanded \$10.5 billion in consumer spending power that supported roughly 66,500 full-time jobs. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield nearly \$37 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$12.2 billion and employed nearly 65,000 people at last count. Immigrant, Latino, and Asian workers, consumers, and entrepreneurs are integral to Arizona's economy and tax base—and they are an electoral force with which every politician must reckon.

### *Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Arizona's population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Arizona's population rose from 7.6% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 12.8% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 14.3% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Arizona was home to 932,518 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the population of [San Jose, California](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **30.4% of immigrants (or 283,915 people) in Arizona were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **10.6% (or 252,108) of all registered voters** in Arizona 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### *Nearly one-third of Arizonans are Latino or Asian.*

- **The Latino share of Arizona's population** grew from 18.8% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 25.3% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 30.1% (or 1,956,554 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 1.4% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.8% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 2.4% (or 156,004 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos comprised 11.7% (or 291,000) of Arizona voters in the 2008 elections**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Arizona, **four-in-five (or 80% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens in [2007](#)**,<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Immigrant, Latino, and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens-of-thousands of jobs to Arizona's economy.*

- **The 2004 consumer spending power of immigrant-headed households in Arizona totaled \$10.5 billion**, according to a [2008 study](#) by the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy at the University of Arizona.<sup>16</sup> This spending:
  - Supported approximately **66,500 full-time jobs**.
  - Accounted for **\$10.2 billion in state economic output**.
  - Generated **tax revenues of roughly \$776 million**, consisting of \$362 million in sales taxes, \$328 million in business taxes, and \$85 million in personal taxes.
- **The 2009 purchasing power of Arizona's Latinos totaled \$30.9 billion**—an increase of 465.3% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$5.7 billion**—an increase of 657.9% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Arizona.<sup>17</sup>
- Arizona's 35,104 [Latino-owned businesses](#) had sales and receipts of \$4.3 billion and employed 39,363 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>18</sup> The state's 10,215 [Asian-owned businesses](#) had sales and receipts of \$2.4 billion and employed 24,405 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>19</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Arizona's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **18.0% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 570,840 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>20</sup>
- **Immigrants accounted for 15% of total economic output in the Phoenix metropolitan area** as of 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>21</sup> In fact, "immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force."<sup>22</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **9.8% of the state's workforce** (or 300,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>23</sup>
- The total economic output attributable to Arizona's immigrant workers was **\$44 billion** in 2004, which **sustained roughly 400,000 full-time jobs**, according to a [2008 study](#) by the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy.<sup>24</sup>
- **Immigrant workers contributed \$2.4 billion in state tax revenue in 2004**, consisting of \$1 billion in sales taxes, \$967 million in business taxes, and \$367 million in personal taxes, according to the [same study](#).<sup>25</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Arizona, **the state would lose \$26.4 billion in economic activity, \$11.7 billion in gross state product, and approximately 140,324 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>26</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Arizona's economy as students.***

- Arizona's 10,787 **foreign students contributed \$228.4 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>27</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In Arizona, **24.4% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 13.1% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 26.9% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 53.3% of noncitizens.<sup>28</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Arizona with a college degree **increased by 72.5%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>29</sup>
- In Arizona, **72.5% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>30</sup>

**Endnotes**

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> 2008 Current Population Survey, [Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008](#).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Arizona](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> Judith Gans, [Immigrants in Arizona: Fiscal and Economic Impacts](#) (Tucson, AZ: Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, University of Arizona, 2008).

<sup>17</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>19</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>20</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>21</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country's 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>23</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009).

<sup>24</sup> Judith Gans, [Immigrants in Arizona: Fiscal and Economic Impacts](#) (Tucson, AZ: Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, University of Arizona, 2008).

<sup>25</sup> Ibid.

<sup>26</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008).

<sup>27</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>28</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Arizona: Language & Education](#).

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.



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<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

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**NEW AMERICANS IN THE NATURAL STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Arkansas**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for large and growing shares of the economy and population in Arkansas. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 3.8% of the state's population, and nearly one-third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. Immigrants, who account for more than 5% of Arkansas workers, added nearly \$3 billion to the state's economy in 2004. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield roughly \$3.9 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$988 million and employed more than 10,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Arkansas can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Arkansas's population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Arkansas's population rose from 1.1% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 2.8% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 3.8% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Arkansas was home to 109,257 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is nearly the population of [Springfield, Illinois](#).<sup>5</sup>
- Arkansas had the **fastest-growing Latino population** of any state in the nation between 2000 and 2005, and the **fourth-fastest-growing immigrant population**, according to a [study](#) by the Urban Institute.<sup>6</sup>
- **32.6% of immigrants (or 35,672 people) in Arkansas were naturalized U.S. citizens in 2008**<sup>7</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **1.4% (or 18,425) of registered voters** in Arkansas 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](#).<sup>8</sup>

***More than 6% of Arkansans are Latino or Asian.***

- The **Latino share of Arkansas's population** grew from 0.8% in [1990](#),<sup>9</sup> to 3.2% in [2000](#),<sup>10</sup> to 5.5% (or 157,046 people) in [2008](#).<sup>11</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.5% in [1990](#),<sup>12</sup> to 0.8% in [2000](#),<sup>13</sup> to 1.0% (or 28,554 people) in [2008](#),<sup>14</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- In Arkansas, **more than four-in-five (or 83% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Immigrant, Latino, and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to Arkansas's economy.***

- **Spending by immigrants generated \$2.9 billion in Arkansas business revenues in 2004**, according to a [study](#) by the Urban Institute.<sup>16</sup>
- **Immigrants (and their U.S.-born children) paid \$19 million more in taxes than they consumed** in education, health services, and corrections, according to the [same](#) study.<sup>17</sup>
- **The 2009 purchasing power of Arkansas's Latinos totaled \$2.9 billion**—an increase of 1,653% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$964.7 million**—an increase of 547.7% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Arkansas.<sup>18</sup>
- Arkansas's 2,013 [Asian-owned](#) businesses had sales and receipts of \$614 million and employed 7,099 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>19</sup> The state's 2,094 [Latino-owned](#) businesses had sales and receipts of \$374 million and employed 3,198 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>20</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Arkansas's economy as workers.***

- Immigrants comprised **5.2% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 71,371 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>21</sup>
- Without immigrant workers, **the state's manufacturing industry output would be lowered by about \$1.4 billion**—or about 8 percent of the industry's \$16.2 billion total contribution to the gross state product in 2004, according to a [study](#) by the Urban Institute.<sup>22</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **2.8% of the state's workforce** (or 40,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>23</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Arkansas, **the state would lose \$798 million in economic activity, \$354 million in gross state product, and approximately 6,660 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>24</sup>

***Immigrants contribute to Arkansas's economy as students.***

- Arkansas's 3,349 **foreign students contributed \$68.0 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>25</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In Arkansas, **21.2% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 15.7% of noncitizens. At the same

time, only 31.4% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 55.8% of noncitizens.<sup>26</sup>

- The number of immigrants in Arkansas with a college degree **increased by 48.4%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>27</sup>
- In Arkansas, **72.1% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>28</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Randy Capps and Everett Henderson, [A Profile of Immigrants in Arkansas](#) (Washington, DC: The Urban Institute, April 2007), p. 1.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>12</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Arkansas](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> Randy Capps and Everett Henderson, [A Profile of Immigrants in Arkansas](#) (Washington, DC: The Urban Institute, April 2007), p. 5.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Arkansas, 2009).

<sup>19</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>20</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>21</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>22</sup> Randy Capps and Everett Henderson, [A Profile of Immigrants in Arkansas](#) (Washington, DC: The Urban Institute, April 2007), p. 6.

<sup>23</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>24</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>25</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>26</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Arkansas: Language & Education](#).

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.



July 2010

## NEW AMERICANS IN THE GOLDEN STATE: Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians Indispensable to California Economy

California has been a major “gateway” for immigrants to this country since it became a state in 1848 and is home to the largest numbers of immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in the country. As a result, California exemplifies the enormous political and economic clout of immigrants and accounts for innumerable stories of immigrant success in climbing the socioeconomic ladder over time. Today, more than one-in-four Californians is an immigrant (foreign-born), and nearly half of Californians are Latino or Asian. Immigrants and their adult children account for roughly one-in-four of the state’s registered voters. Latino and Asian entrepreneurs (both foreign-born and native-born) own more than one-quarter of all businesses in the state, while Latino and Asian consumers account for nearly one-third of the state’s total purchasing power. Latino immigrants in California experience pronounced upward mobility over time in terms of mastering English and owning their own homes. And most native-born Californians have experienced wage *gains* from the presence of immigrants in the state’s labor market. These hard-working Californians have formed the backbone of the California economy throughout the state’s history, and they will be a key ingredient to California’s economic rebound.

### *More than one-quarter of Californians are immigrants.*

- **The foreign-born share** of California’s population rose from 21.7% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 26.2% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 26.8% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. California was home to 9.9 million immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is roughly equal to the total population of [Georgia](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **44.6% of immigrants (or 4.4 million people) in California were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>6</sup> (up from 31.2% in [1990](#)<sup>7</sup>)—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **24.4% (or 13.2 million) of all registered voters in California are “New Americans”**—naturalized citizens or the U.S.-born children of immigrants who were raised during the current era of large-scale immigration from Latin America and Asia which began in 1965—according to an analysis of 2006 Census Bureau data by [Rob Paral & Associates](#).<sup>8</sup>

### *Nearly half of Californians are Latino or Asian—and they vote.*

- **The Latino share of California’s population** grew from 25.8% in [1990](#),<sup>9</sup> to 32.4% in [2000](#),<sup>10</sup> to 36.6% (or 13.5 million people) in [2008](#).<sup>11</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 9.2% in [1990](#),<sup>12</sup> to 10.9% in [2000](#),<sup>13</sup> to 12.4% (or 4.5 million people) in [2008](#),<sup>14</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos comprised 21.4% (or 3 million) of California voters in the 2008 elections, and Asians 9.7% (or 1.3 million)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>15</sup> The number of Latino

and Asian voters is one million more than the margin of victory ([3.3 million votes](#)) by which Barack Obama defeated John McCain.<sup>16</sup>

- In California, **nearly nine-in-ten (or 89% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>17</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Immigrant workers, entrepreneurs, and taxpayers are integral to California's economy.***

- **"Immigrants comprise more than one-third of the California labor force.** They figure prominently in key economic sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing and services. Immigrants provide leadership and labor for the expansion of California's growing economic sectors—from telecommunications and information technology to health services and housing construction," according to the [California Immigrant Policy Center](#).<sup>18</sup>
- Immigrants in California [pay](#) roughly **\$30 billion in federal taxes, \$5.2 billion in state income taxes, and \$4.6 billion in sales taxes** each year. In California, "the average immigrant-headed household contributes a net \$2,679 annually to Social Security, which is \$539 more than the average US-born household."<sup>19</sup>
- Immigrants accounted for **34% of total economic output in the Los Angeles metropolitan area, 29% in the San Francisco metropolitan area, 25% in the Riverside metropolitan area, and 23% in the San Diego metropolitan area** in 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>20</sup> In fact, "immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force."<sup>21</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **9.9% of the California's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 1.9 million workers), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>22</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from California, **the state would lose \$164.2 billion in economic activity, \$72.9 billion in gross state product, and approximately 717,352 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>23</sup>

***Immigrant, Latino, and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add hundreds of billions of dollars and a more than a million jobs to California's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of California's Latinos totaled \$252.7 billion—an increase of 263.8% since 1990. Asian buying power totaled \$162.6 billion—an increase of 271.4% since 1990**, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>24</sup>
- California's 427,678 [Latino-owned](#) businesses had sales and receipts of \$57.2 billion and employed 445,820 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>25</sup> The state's 371,530 [Asian-owned](#) businesses had sales and receipts of \$125.8 billion and employed 745,874 people.<sup>26</sup> Together, **businesses owned by Latinos and Asians comprised [more than one-quarter](#) of all businesses in the state**, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2002 Survey of Business Owners.<sup>27</sup>

*Most native-born Californians have experienced wage gains from immigration.*

- “During 1990–2004, **immigration induced a 4 percent real wage increase for the average native worker**,” according to a [2007 study](#) by economist Giovanni Peri of the University of California, Davis.<sup>28</sup>
- The [reason](#) for wage increases is that “**immigrant workers often serve as complements to native workers rather than as their direct competitors for jobs**, thereby increasing total economic output. Native workers benefit because they are able to specialize in more productive work.”<sup>29</sup>

*California’s immigrants move up the socioeconomic ladder over time—learning English, buying homes, and escaping poverty.*

- A [study](#) by demographer Dowell Myers of the University of Southern California found that:<sup>30</sup>
  - The share of California’s foreign-born Latinos who reported being proficient in English as of 2000 rose from 33.4% of those who had been in the United States for less than 10 years to 73.5% among those who had been here for 30 years or longer.
  - The share of **foreign-born Latinos in California who owned their own homes as of 2005 rose** from 16.4% of those who had been in the United States for less than 10 years to 64.6% among those who had lived here for 30 years or more.
  - The share of California’s **foreign-born Latinos who lived below the poverty line as of 2005 dropped** from 28.7% of those who had been in the United States for less than 10 years to 11.8% among those who had been here for 30 years or more.
- The share of immigrants in Los Angeles County who owned their own homes as of 2005-06 rose from 14.8% of those who had come to the United States within the previous 10 years to 63.4% of those who had lived here for more than 30 years—compared to a homeownership rate of 54.2% among the native-born, according to a [study](#) by Manuel Pastor and Rhonda Ortiz at the University of Southern California.<sup>31</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to California’s economy as students.*

- California’s 93,124 **foreign students contributed \$2.8 billion** to the state’s economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>32</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In California, **32.0% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008 had a bachelor’s or higher degree](#), compared to 17.9% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 25.6% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 49.7% of noncitizens.<sup>33</sup>
- The number of immigrants in California with a college degree **increased by 39.8%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>34</sup>

- In California, **76.3% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>35</sup>

## Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>7</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.
- <sup>8</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>9</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.
- <sup>10</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>11</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>12</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.
- <sup>13</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>14</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>15</sup> 2008 Current Population Survey, [Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008](#).
- <sup>16</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).
- <sup>17</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in California](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>18</sup> California Immigrant Policy Center, [Looking Forward: Immigrant Contributions to the Golden State/A Compilation of Recent Research Findings on Immigrants in California](#) (Sacramento, CA: January 2008).
- <sup>19</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>20</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country's 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.
- <sup>21</sup> Ibid., p. 1.
- <sup>22</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009).
- <sup>23</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008).
- <sup>24</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>25</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.
- <sup>26</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.
- <sup>27</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [2002 Survey of Business Owners](#).
- <sup>28</sup> Giovanni Peri, [How Immigrants Effect California Employment and Wages](#) (San Francisco, CA: Public Policy Institute of California, February 2007).
- <sup>29</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>30</sup> Dowell Myers, [Thinking Ahead About Our Immigrant Future: New Trends and Mutual Benefits in Our Aging Society](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, January 2008).
- <sup>31</sup> Manuel Pastor and Rhonda Ortiz, [Immigrant Integration in Los Angeles: Strategic Directions for Funders](#) (Los Angeles, CA: Program for Environmental and Regional Equity & Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration, University of Southern California: January 2009).
- <sup>32</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>33</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [California: Language & Education](#).
- <sup>34</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>35</sup> Ibid.



July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE CENTENNIAL STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Colorado**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for large and growing shares of the economy and electorate in the swing state of Colorado. One in ten Coloradans is an immigrant (foreign-born), and one in five is Latino. Nearly one-third of immigrants in Colorado are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 5.4% of all registered voters in the state. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$26.2 billion in consumer purchasing power. At last count, businesses owned by Latinos and Asians had sales and receipts of \$7.6 billion and employed more than 53,000 people. Immigrant, Latino, and Asian workers, consumers, and entrepreneurs are integral to Colorado’s economy and tax base—and they are an electoral force with which every politician must reckon.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Colorado’s population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Colorado’s population rose from 4.3% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 8.6% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 10.1% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Colorado was home to 499,179 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [Sacramento, California](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **31.8% of immigrants (or 158,866 people) in Colorado were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **5.4% (or 122,867) of all registered voters** in Colorado 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

*1 in 5 Coloradans are Latino—and they vote.*

- **The Latino share of Colorado’s population** grew from 12.9% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 17.1% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 20.2% (or 997,770 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 1.7% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 2.2% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 2.6% (or 128,426 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos comprised 8.4% (or 195,000) of Colorado voters in the 2008 elections**, and Asians 2.1% (or 48,000), according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup> The number of Latino and Asian voters exceeds the margin of victory ([214,987 votes](#)) by which Barack Obama defeated John McCain.<sup>15</sup>

- In Colorado, more than **four-in-five (or 83% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>16</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add tens of billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Colorado's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Colorado's Latinos totaled \$21.4 billion**—an increase of 437.3% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$4.8 billion**—an increase of 517.9% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>17</sup>
- Colorado's 24,054 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$5.1 billion and employed 32,465 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>18</sup> The state's 10,910 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$2.5 billion and employed 21,343 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>19</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Colorado's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **11.6% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 319,617 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>20</sup>
- Immigrants accounted for 10% of total economic output in the Denver metropolitan area as of 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>21</sup> In fact, "immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force."<sup>22</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **5.4% of the state's workforce** (or 150,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>23</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Colorado, **the state would lose \$8.0 billion in economic activity, \$3.6 billion in gross state product, and approximately 39,738 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>24</sup>

*Unauthorized immigrants pay taxes.*

- Unauthorized immigrants in Colorado paid **between \$159 million and \$194 million** in state and local taxes in [2005](#), according to a study by the Bell Policy Center,<sup>25</sup> which includes:
  - \$24 million to \$30 million in state income taxes.
  - \$10 million to \$13 million in property taxes.
  - \$125 million to \$151 million in sales taxes.
- In addition, **Colorado employers paid between \$12 million and \$15 million in unemployment insurance taxes** to the state on behalf of unauthorized workers in 2005, according to the [same study](#). Unauthorized workers are prohibited by state law from collecting unemployment insurance benefits.<sup>26</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Colorado's economy as students.***

- Colorado's 6,857 **foreign students contributed \$187.4 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>27</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In Colorado, **36.3% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 17.7% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 20.7% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 49.3% of noncitizens.<sup>28</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Colorado with a college degree **increased by 48.6%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>29</sup>
- In Colorado, **71.8% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>30</sup>

**Endnotes**

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

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<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

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<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> 2008 Current Population Survey, [Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008](#).

<sup>15</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>16</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Colorado](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>17</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>19</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>20</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>21</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country's 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>23</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009).

<sup>24</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008).

<sup>25</sup> Robin Baker and Rich Jones, [State and Local Taxes Paid in Colorado by Undocumented Immigrants](#) (Denver, CO: The Bell Policy Center, 2006).

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>27</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>28</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Colorado: Language & Education](#).

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE CONSTITUTION STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Connecticut**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Connecticut. Nearly one-in-eight Connecticut residents are immigrants (foreign-born), and almost half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 10.6% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield nearly \$16 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$3.2 billion and employed nearly 22,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Connecticut can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### ***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Connecticut’s population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Connecticut’s population rose from 8.5% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 10.9% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 13.0% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Connecticut was home to 454,002 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is nearly the total population of [Sacramento, California](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **45.2% of immigrants (or 205,305 people) in Connecticut were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **10.6% (or 174,856) of registered voters** in Connecticut 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### ***Roughly one-in-six Connecticut residents are Latino or Asian.***

- **The Latino share of Connecticut’s population** grew from 6.5% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 9.4% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 12.0% (or 420,150 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 1.5% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 2.4% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 3.5% (or 122,544 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 5.5% (or 89,000) of Connecticut voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 1.3% (21,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Connecticut, **more than four-in-five (or 86% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Connecticut's economy.*

- The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Connecticut totaled \$9.9 billion—an increase of 324.6% since 1990. Asian buying power totaled \$6.0 billion—an increase of 459.6% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Connecticut's 9,408 [Latino-owned businesses](#) had sales and receipts of \$1.3 billion and employed 8,762 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 7,170 [Asian-owned businesses](#) had sales and receipts of \$1.9 billion and employed 13,139 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

*Immigrants are essential to Connecticut's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **16.1% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 309,552 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>

*Unauthorized immigrants are integral to Connecticut's economy as workers.*

- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **4.2% of the state's workforce** (or 80,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>20</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Connecticut, **the state would lose \$5.6 billion in economic activity, \$2.5 billion in gross state product, and approximately 24,119 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>21</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Connecticut's economy as students.*

- Connecticut's 9,153 **foreign students contributed \$297.8 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>22</sup>

*Immigrants excel educationally.*

- The number of immigrants in Connecticut with a college degree **increased by 52.2%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>23</sup>
- In Connecticut, **85.0% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>24</sup>

## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*2008 Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties\*](#), May 13, 2009.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.
- <sup>9</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.
- <sup>12</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [\*2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals\*](#).
- <sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in Connecticut\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>20</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.
- <sup>21</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.
- <sup>22</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>23</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*Connecticut: Language & Education\*](#).
- <sup>24</sup> Ibid.



July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE FIRST STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Delaware**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Delaware. One-in-thirteen Delawareans are immigrants (foreign-born), and more than a third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 7.4% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$2.5 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$755.3 million and employed nearly 5,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Delaware can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### ***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Delaware’s population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Delaware’s population rose from 3.3% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 5.7% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 7.7% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Delaware was home to 66,793 immigrants in [2008](#).<sup>4</sup>
- **38.4% of immigrants (or 25,678 people) in Delaware were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>5</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **7.4% (or 30,192) of registered voters** in Delaware 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](#).<sup>6</sup>

### ***Roughly one-in-ten Delawareans are Latino or Asian.***

- **The Latino share of Delaware’s population** grew from 2.4% in [1990](#),<sup>7</sup> to 4.8% in [2000](#),<sup>8</sup> to 6.8% (or 59,370 people) in [2008](#).<sup>9</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 1.3% in [1990](#),<sup>10</sup> to 2.1% in [2000](#),<sup>11</sup> to 2.9% (or 25,320 people) in [2008](#),<sup>12</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 1.7% (or 7,000) of Delaware voters** in the 2008 elections according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>13</sup>
- In Delaware, **nearly nine-in-ten (or 89% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>14</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to Delaware's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Delaware totaled \$1.3 billion**—an increase of 606.8% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$1.2 billion**—an increase of 573.4% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>15</sup>
- Delaware's 879 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$137.4 million and employed 960 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>16</sup> The state's 1,895 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$617.9 million and employed 3,877 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>17</sup>

***Immigrants are essential to Delaware's economy as workers.***

- Immigrants comprised **9.4% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 43,106 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>18</sup>

***Unauthorized immigrants are important to Delaware's economy as workers and consumers.***

- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **4.7% of the state's workforce** (or 20,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>19</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Delaware, **the state would lose \$949.0 million in economic activity, \$421.5 million in gross state product, and approximately 6,300 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>20</sup>

***Immigrants are important to Delaware's economy as students.***

- Delaware's 1,672 **foreign students contributed \$37.4 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>21</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In Delaware, **47.2% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 35.0% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 17.0% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 30.5% of noncitizens.<sup>22</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Delaware with a college degree **increased by 62.7%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>23</sup>
- In Delaware, **72.0% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>24</sup>

## Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>6</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>7</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.
- <sup>8</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>9</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>10</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.
- <sup>11</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>12</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>13</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [\*2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals\*](#).
- <sup>14</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in Delaware\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>15</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>16</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>18</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>19</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.
- <sup>20</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.
- <sup>21</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>22</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*Delaware: Language & Education\*](#).
- <sup>23</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>24</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN OUR NATION'S CAPITAL:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Washington, D.C.**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Washington, D.C. Nearly one-in-eight Washingtonians are immigrants (foreign-born), and more than a third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 9.7% of registered voters in the District. Immigrants are not only integral to the District’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$2.9 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$1.5 billion and employed between 8,986 and 13,935 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Washington, D.C. can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Washington, D.C.’s population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Washington, D.C.’s population rose from 9.7% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 12.9% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 13.2% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Washington, D.C. was home to 77,884 immigrants in [2008](#).<sup>4</sup>
- **35.0% of immigrants (or 27,221 people) in Washington, D.C. were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>5</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **9.7% (or 26,705) of registered voters** in Washington, D.C. 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](#).<sup>6</sup>

*Nearly one-in-eight Washingtonians are Latino or Asian.*

- **The Latino share of Washington, D.C.’s population** grew from 5.4% in [1990](#),<sup>7</sup> to 7.9% in [2000](#),<sup>8</sup> to 8.6% (or 50,898 people) in [2008](#).<sup>9</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 1.8% in [1990](#),<sup>10</sup> to 2.7% in [2000](#),<sup>11</sup> to 3.4% (or 20,122 people) in [2008](#),<sup>12</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 3.6% (or 11,000) of Washington, D.C. voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 1.6% (5,000)** according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>13</sup>
- In Washington, D.C., **more than four-in-five (or 86% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>14</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Washington, D.C.'s economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Washington, D.C. totaled \$1.8 billion**—an increase of 270.2% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$1.1 billion**—an increase of 383.0% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>15</sup>
- Washington, D.C.'s 2,169 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$548.2 million and employed 3,936 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>16</sup> The District's 2,411 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.0 billion and employed between 5,000 and 9,999 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>17</sup>

***Immigrants are essential to Washington, D.C.'s economy as workers and taxpayers.***

- Immigrants comprised **16.9% of the District's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 56,616 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>18</sup>
- Immigrants accounted for **20% of total economic output** in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area as of 2007.<sup>19</sup> In fact, “immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).”<sup>20</sup>
- Immigrant households in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area **contributed \$9.8 billion in taxes** in [2000](#), according to the Urban Institute.<sup>21</sup>

***Unauthorized immigrants are integral to Washington, D.C.'s economy as workers and taxpayers.***

- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **7.1% of the District's workforce** (or 25,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>22</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Washington, D.C., **the District would lose \$1.1 billion in economic activity, \$490.5 million in gross product, and approximately 5,400 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>23</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Washington, D.C.'s economy as students.***

- Washington, D.C.'s 8,485 **foreign students contributed \$304.1 million** to the District's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>24</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In Washington, D.C., **56.5% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008 had a bachelor's or higher degree](#), compared to 41.7% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 14.5% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 33.4% of noncitizens.<sup>25</sup>

- The number of immigrants in Washington, D.C. with a college degree **increased by 34.6%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>26</sup>
- In Washington, D.C., **81.8% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>27</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>10</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>13</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>14</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Washington, D.C.](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>15</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>19</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country's 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>21</sup> Randy Capps, Everett Henderson, Jeffrey Passel and Michael Fix, [Civic Contributions: Taxes Paid by Immigrants in the Washington, DC, Metropolitan Area](#) (Washington, D.C.: The Urban Institute, May 2006)

<sup>22</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United Districts](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>23</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by District and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>24</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>25</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Washington, D.C.: Language & Education](#).

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.



July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE SUNSHINE STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Florida**

There are few states where the growing political and economic clout of immigrants, children of immigrants, and Latinos is as apparent as Florida. Immigrants (the foreign-born) account for nearly one-in-five Floridians, and close to half of them are U.S. citizens eligible to vote. Latinos comprised roughly one-in-seven of the state's voters in the 2008 elections, while immigrants and their children were one-in-seven of the state's registered voters as of 2006. Immigrants not only contribute to the state's economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$116.7 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$52.1 billion and employed more than 300,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Florida would be ill-advised to alienate a significant component of its tax base and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are a large and growing share of Florida's electorate.*

- **The foreign-born** share of Florida's population rose from 12.9% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 16.7% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 18.5% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Florida was home to 3,391,511 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is nearly the total population of [Los Angeles, California](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **47.1% of immigrants (or 1,598,880 people) in Florida were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup> (up from 42.9% in [1990](#)<sup>7</sup>)—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **14% (or 1,099,736) of registered voters** in Florida 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](#).<sup>8</sup>

*1-in-5 Floridians are Latino—and they vote.*

- The **Latino share of Florida's population** grew from 12.2% in [1990](#),<sup>9</sup> to 16.8% in [2000](#),<sup>10</sup> to 21.0% (or 3,848,951 people) in [2008](#).<sup>11</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 1.2% in [1990](#),<sup>12</sup> to 1.7% in [2000](#),<sup>13</sup> to 2.3% (or 421,552 people) in [2008](#),<sup>14</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 15.4%** (or 1,227,000) of Florida voters in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 1.1%** (or 84,000), according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>15</sup> The number of Latino and Asian voters far exceeded the margin of victory ([236,450 votes](#)) by which Barack Obama defeated John McCain in Florida.<sup>16</sup>

- In Florida, **more than four-in-five (or 84% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>17</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Immigrant workers and taxpayers are integral to Florida's economy.***

- Florida's immigrant workers contribute an estimated \$20 billion to the state in taxes each year, according to a 2007 study by [Florida International University](#):<sup>18</sup>
  - \$10.5 billion in federal taxes
  - \$4.5 billion in state and local taxes
  - \$1.3 billion in property taxes
  - \$3.2 billion in sales taxes.
- Immigrants comprised **23.2% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 2,121,988 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **8.2% of the state's workforce** (or 750,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>20</sup>
- Immigrants accounted for **38% of total economic output in the Miami metropolitan area** and **13% of total economic output in the Tampa metropolitan area** as of 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>21</sup> In fact, "immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force."<sup>22</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Florida, **the state would lose \$43.9 billion in economic activity, \$19.5 billion in gross state product, and approximately 262,436 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>23</sup>

***Latino and Asian consumers and business owners are integral to Florida's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Florida totaled \$101.2 billion**—an increase of 408.9% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$15.5 billion**—an increase of 552.5% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>24</sup>
- Florida's 266,688 **[Latino-owned](#) businesses** had sales and receipts of \$40.9 billion and employed 222,516 people in 2002,<sup>25</sup> the last year for which data is available. The state's 41,258 **[Asian-owned](#) businesses** had sales and receipts of \$11.2 billion and employed 91,422 people in 2002,<sup>26</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.

***Immigrants are integral to Florida's economy as students.***

- Florida's 30,386 **foreign students contributed \$806.6 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>27</sup>

### *Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In Florida, **27.9% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) had a bachelor's or higher degree, compared to 21.9% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 19.9% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 30.2% of noncitizens.<sup>28</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Florida with a college degree **increased by 62.9%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>29</sup>
- In Florida, **79.9% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>30</sup>

### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>8</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>12</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>15</sup> 2008 Current Population Survey, [Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008](#).

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>17</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Florida](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>18</sup> Emily Eisenhauer, et al., [Immigrants in Florida: Characteristics and Contributions](#) (Miami, FL: Research Institute for Social and Economic Policy of the Center for Labor Research and Studies, Florida International University: May 21, 2007).

<sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>20</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>21</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country’s 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>23</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008).

<sup>24</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>25</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>26</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>27</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>28</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Florida: Language & Education](#).

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE PEACH STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Georgia**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Georgia. Nearly one-in-ten Georgians are immigrants (foreign-born), and more than a third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 3.7% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$24.2 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$12.2 billion and employed nearly 75,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Georgia can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Georgia’s population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Georgia’s population rose from 2.7% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 7.1% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 9.4% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Georgia was home to 910,473 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the entire population of [San Francisco, California](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **34.5% of immigrants (or 314,426 people) in Georgia were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **3.7% (or 146,139) of all registered voters** in Georgia 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

***More than one-in-ten Georgians are Latino or Asian.***

- The **Latino share of Georgia’s population** grew from 1.7% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 5.3% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 7.9% (or 765,174 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 1.1% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 2.1% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 2.9% (or 280,887 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos comprised 3.1% (or 128,000) of Georgia voters in the 2008 elections**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Georgia, **more than four-in-five (or 83% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens-of-thousands of jobs to Georgia's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Georgia's Latinos totaled \$15.5 billion**—an increase of 1,063% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$8.7 billion**—an increase of 678.3% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Georgia's 26,925 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$8.0 billion and employed 54,556 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 18,310 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$4.2 billion and employed 20,412 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Georgia's economy as workers.***

- Immigrants comprised **12.6% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 626,836 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **6.3% of the state's workforce** (or 325,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>20</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Georgia, **the state would lose \$21.3 billion in economic activity, \$9.5 billion in gross state product, and approximately 132,460 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>21</sup>

***Unauthorized immigrants contribute to the state's economy.***

- Unauthorized immigrants in Georgia **contributed between \$215.6 million and \$252.5 million** in aggregated sales, income, and property tax, according to a [2006 study](#) by the Georgia Budget and Policy Institute.<sup>22</sup>
- The average unauthorized family in Georgia **contributed between \$2,340 and \$2,470** in state and local sales, income, and property tax, according to the [same study](#). An unauthorized family that does not pay income taxes would have a **sales and property tax contribution of \$1,800 to \$1,860**.<sup>23</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Georgia's economy as students.***

- Georgia's 14,026 **foreign students contributed \$366 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>24</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In Georgia, **39.0% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 24.4% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 14.5% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 36.5% of noncitizens.<sup>25</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Georgia with a college degree **increased by 86.7%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>26</sup>

- In Georgia, **78.6% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>27</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> 2008 Current Population Survey, [Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008](#).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Georgia](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>20</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009).

<sup>21</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008).

<sup>22</sup> Sarah Beth Coffey, [Undocumented Immigrants in Georgia: Tax Contributions and Fiscal Concerns](#) (Atlanta, GA: Georgia Budget and Policy Institute, 2006)

<sup>23</sup> Ibid.

<sup>24</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>25</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Georgia: Language & Education](#).

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.



July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE ALOHA STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Asians, and Latinos in Hawaii**

Immigrants, Asians, and Latinos account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Hawaii. One-in-six Hawaiians are immigrants (foreign-born), and more than half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 15% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$24.2 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$13.1 billion and employed more than 95,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Hawaii can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Hawaii’s population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Hawaii’s population rose from 14.7% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 17.5% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 17.8% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Hawaii was home to 229,348 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [Orlando, Florida](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **53.0% of immigrants (or 121,656 people) in Hawaii were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **15.3% (or 75,329) of registered voters** in Hawaii 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

***Nearly half of all Hawaiians are Asian or Latino.***

- **The Asian share of Hawaii’s population** was 38.5% (or 495,956 people) in [2008](#).<sup>8</sup> **The Latino share of the population** grew from 7.4% in [1990](#)<sup>9</sup> to 8.7% (or 112,073 people) in [2008](#),<sup>10</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Asians accounted for 43.5% (or 199,000) of Hawaii voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Latinos 3.3%** (or 15,000) according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>11</sup>
- In Hawaii, **nearly nine-in-ten (or 89% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>12</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Asian and Latino entrepreneurs and consumers add tens of billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Hawaii's economy.*

- The **2009 purchasing power of Asians in Hawaii totaled \$21.6 billion**—an increase of 73.9% since 1990. **Latino buying power totaled \$2.6 billion**—an increase of 166.6% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>13</sup>
- Hawaii's 44,924 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$12.6 billion and employed 92,218 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>14</sup> The state's 3,095 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$482.6 million and employed 3,655 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>15</sup>

*Immigrants are essential to Hawaii's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **20.6% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 144,408 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>16</sup>

*Unauthorized immigrants are important to Hawaii's economy as workers and consumers.*

- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **4.0% of the state's workforce** (or 25,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>17</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Hawaii, **the state would lose \$2.0 billion in economic activity, \$900.3 million in gross state product, and approximately 8,460 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>18</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Hawaii's economy as students.*

- Hawaii's 5,275 **foreign students contributed \$111.3 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>19</sup>

*Naturalized citizens advance educationally.*

- The number of immigrants in Hawaii with a college degree **increased by 15.1%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>20</sup>
- In Hawaii, **69.7% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>21</sup>

## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*2008 Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties\*](#), May 13, 2009.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>8</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>9</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.
- <sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>11</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [\*2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals\*](#).
- <sup>12</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in Hawaii\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>13</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>14</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>15</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>16</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>17</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.
- <sup>18</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.
- <sup>19</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>20</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*Hawaii: Language & Education\*](#).
- <sup>21</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE GEM STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Idaho**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Idaho. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 5.9% of the state's population, and nearly a third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 4.7% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state's economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$3.2 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$635.7 million and employed nearly 6,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Idaho can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Idaho's population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Idaho's population rose from 2.9% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 5.0% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 5.9% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Idaho was home to 89,489 immigrants in [2008](#).<sup>4</sup>
- **31.3% of immigrants (or 28,023 people) in Idaho were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>5</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **4.7% (or 31,021) of registered voters** in Idaho 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](#).<sup>6</sup>

*Nearly 1 in 9 Idahoans are Latino or Asian.*

- The **Latino share of Idaho's population** grew from 5.3% in [1990](#),<sup>7</sup> to 7.9% in [2000](#),<sup>8</sup> to 10.2% (or 155,429 people) in [2008](#).<sup>9</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.8% in [1990](#),<sup>10</sup> to 0.9% in [2000](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.2% (or 18,286 people) in [2008](#),<sup>12</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 4.7% (or 30,000) of Idaho voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 0.9% (6,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>13</sup>

- In Idaho, **more than four-in-five (or 84%) children in immigrant families are U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>14</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to Idaho's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Idaho totaled \$2.5 billion**—an increase of 527.4% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$650.6 million**—an increase of 477.4% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>15</sup>
- Idaho's 2,775 [Latino-owned businesses](#) had sales and receipts of \$351.8 million and employed 3,149 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>16</sup> The state's 1,111 [Asian-owned businesses](#) had sales and receipts of \$283.9 million and employed 2,837 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>17</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Idaho's economy as workers and taxpayers.***

- Immigrants comprised **7.2% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 55,396 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>18</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **3.1% of the state's workforce** (or 25,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>19</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Idaho, **the state would lose \$428.8 million in economic activity, \$190.4 million in gross state product, and approximately 3,060 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>20</sup>

***Immigrants are important to Idaho's economy as students.***

- Idaho's 2,147 **foreign students contributed \$42.6 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to the [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>21</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In Idaho, **24.6% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 13.7% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 27.6% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 58.7% of noncitizens.<sup>22</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Idaho with a college degree **increased by 94.4%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>23</sup>
- In Idaho, **74.5% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>24</sup>

## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>6</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>7</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.
- <sup>8</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>9</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>10</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.
- <sup>11</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>12</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>13</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [\*2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals\*](#).
- <sup>14</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in Idaho\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>15</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>16</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>18</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>19</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.
- <sup>20</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.
- <sup>21</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>22</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*Idaho: Language & Education\*](#).
- <sup>23</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>24</sup> Ibid.



July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE PRAIRIE STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Illinois**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Illinois. One-in-seven Illinoisans are immigrants (foreign-born), and more than two-fifths of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 10% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$66.2 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$21.9 billion and employed more than 150,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Illinois can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### ***1 in 10 registered voters in Illinois are immigrants or the children of immigrants.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Illinois’ population rose from 8.3% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 12.3% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 13.8% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Illinois was home to 1,782,423 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [Phoenix, Arizona](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **44.4% of immigrants in Illinois (or 791,685 people) were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**—meaning that they are eligible to vote.<sup>6</sup>
- **10% of all registered voters** in Illinois are “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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### ***1 in 5 Illinoisans are Latino or Asian—and they vote.***

- **The Latino share of Illinois’ population** grew from 7.9% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 12.3% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 15.3% (or 1,973,939 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The Asian share of the population grew from 2.5% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 3.4% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 4.3% (or 554,767 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 5.8% (or 314,000) of Illinois voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 1.4% (78,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Illinois, **more than four-in-five (or 87% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Immigrants are essential to the Illinois economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **17.5% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 1,198,293 people), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>16</sup>
- **Immigrants accounted for 18% of total economic output in the Chicago metropolitan area** as of 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>17</sup> In fact, “immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force.”<sup>18</sup>
- Immigrants are a large part of Illinois’ [advancing job sectors](#), representing **27.7% of all net job creation** in the “health diagnosing” sector from 2000 to 2005.<sup>19</sup>
- In just the Chicago metro area, the consumer expenditures of unauthorized immigrants alone **generated more than 31,000 jobs** in the local economy and **added \$5.5 billion annually to the gross regional product**, according to a 2002 [survey](#) by the University of Illinois at Chicago.<sup>20</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Illinois, **the state would lose \$25.6 billion in economic activity, \$11.4 billion in gross state product, and approximately 119,214 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>21</sup>

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add tens of billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Illinois's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Illinois's Latinos totaled \$43.0 billion**—an increase of 387.2% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$23.2 billion**—an increase of 354.1% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>22</sup>
- Illinois’ **39,539 Latino-owned businesses had sales and receipts of \$7.4 billion and employed 60,576 people** in 2002,<sup>23</sup> the last year for which data is available. The state’s **44,477 Asian-owned businesses had sales and receipts of \$14.5 billion and employed 98,305 people**,<sup>24</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2002 Survey of Business Owners.

*Immigrants are integral to Illinois's economy as students.*

- Illinois’ **29,887 foreign students contributed \$823.5 million** to the state’s economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>25</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In Illinois, **34.1% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 23.3% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 21.0% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 39.6% of noncitizens.<sup>26</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Illinois with a college degree **increased by 41.8%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>27</sup>

- In Illinois, **75.6% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>28</sup>
- **38% of all college graduates** entering the Illinois labor force are **foreign-born**, according to a [2006 study](#) by Rob Paral and Associates.<sup>29</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [2008 Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties](#), May 13, 2009.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Illinois](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>17</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country's 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>19</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [Illinois Immigrants: Fueling Prosperity in a Changing Economy](#) (Chicago, IL: Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, October 4, 2006).

<sup>20</sup> Chirag Mehta, et al., [Chicago's Undocumented Immigrants: An Analysis of Wages, Working Conditions, and Economic Contributions](#) (Chicago, IL: Center for Urban and Economic Development, University of Illinois at Chicago, February 2002).

<sup>21</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008).

<sup>22</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>23</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>24</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>25</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>26</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Illinois: Language & Education](#).

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

<sup>29</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [Illinois Immigrants: Fueling Prosperity in a Changing Economy](#) (Chicago, IL: Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, October 4, 2006).

July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE HOOSIER STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Indiana**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Indiana. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 4.0% of the state's population, and more than a third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 2.9% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state's economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$10.1 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$3.4 billion and employed more than 25,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Indiana can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### *Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Indiana's population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Indiana's population rose from 1.7% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 3.1% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 4.0% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Indiana was home to 256,125 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [Lincoln, Nebraska](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **35.6% of immigrants (or 91,266 people) in Indiana were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **2.9% (or 85,425) of registered voters** in Indiana 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### *1 in 15 Hoosiers are Latino or Asian.*

- The **Latino share of Indiana's population** grew from 1.8% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 3.5% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 5.2% (or 331,593 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.7% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.0% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 1.3% (or 82,898 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 1.3% (or 36,000) of Indiana voters** in the 2008 elections, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#). The number of Latino voters was greater than the margin of victory ([28,391 votes](#)) by which Barack Obama defeated John McCain in Indiana.<sup>14</sup>
- In Indiana, **more than four in five (or 83% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Indiana's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Indiana totaled \$7.1 billion**—an increase of 578.2% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$3.0 billion**—an increase of 324.9% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Indiana's 6,078 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$2.6 billion and employed 20,422 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 5,482 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$792.5 million and employed 5,824 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Indiana's economy as taxpayers.***

- Immigrants in Indiana paid an **estimated \$2.3 billion in federal, state, and local taxes** in [2007](#), according to a study by the Sagamore Institute,<sup>19</sup> including:
  - \$1.2 billion paid by naturalized U.S. citizens.
  - \$901.7 million paid by authorized immigrants who were not U.S. citizens.
  - \$255.9 million paid by unauthorized immigrants.

***Immigrants are integral to Indiana's economy as workers.***

- Immigrants comprised **4.8% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 160,066 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>20</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **2.4% of the state's workforce** (or 75,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>21</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Indiana, **the state would lose \$2.8 billion in economic activity, \$1.3 billion in gross state product, and approximately 16,739 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>22</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Indiana's economy as students.***

- Indiana's 17,098 **foreign students contributed \$443.6 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>23</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In Indiana, **34.4% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 24.6% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 18.9% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 40.5% of noncitizens.<sup>24</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Indiana with a college degree **increased by 30.7%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>25</sup>
- **28.5% of Indiana's foreign-born population** age 25 and older **had a bachelor's or higher degree** in [2008](#), compared to 22.6% of native-born persons age 25 and older.<sup>26</sup>
- In Indiana, **69.9% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>27</sup>

## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.
- <sup>9</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.
- <sup>12</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [\*2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals\*](#).
- <sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in Indiana\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>19</sup> Justin Heet, [\*The Impact of Immigration in Indiana\*](#) (Indianapolis, IN: Sagamore Institute, February 2009), p. 44.
- <sup>20</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>21</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009), p. 30.
- <sup>22</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.
- <sup>23</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>24</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*Indiana: Language & Education\*](#).
- <sup>25</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>26</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>27</sup> Ibid.



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## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE HAWKEYE STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Iowa**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and population in Iowa. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 3.7% of the state's population, and more than one-third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 1.7% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state's economy as workers, but also account for tens of million of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield nearly \$4.4 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$744.9 million and employed more than 8,488 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Iowa can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### ***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Iowa's population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Iowa's population rose from 1.6% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 3.1% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 3.7% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Iowa was home to 112,289 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [Springfield, Illinois](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **36.0% of immigrants (or 40,403 people) in Iowa were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **1.7% (or 28,274) of registered voters** in Iowa 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### ***1 in 18 Iowans are Latino or Asian.***

- The **Latino share of Iowa's population** grew from 1.2% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 2.8% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 4.1% (or 123,105 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.9% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.3% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 1.6% (or 48,041 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 1.3% (or 20,000) of Iowa voters** in the 2008 elections, and Asians 0.7% (11,000), according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Iowa, **more than four in five (or 82% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to Iowa's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Iowa totaled \$2.6 billion**—an increase of 732.0% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$1.8 billion**—an increase of 560.0% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Iowa's 1,786 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$456.3 million and employed 5,532 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 1,536 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$288.6 million and employed 2,956 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

***Unauthorized immigrant families are integral to Iowa's economy as taxpayers.***

- Unauthorized immigrant families in Iowa paid **between \$40 million and \$62 million** in state and local taxes in [2007](#),<sup>19</sup> including:
  - \$2.7 million to \$4.1 million in property taxes;
  - \$30.1 million to \$46.5 million in sales and excise taxes; and
  - \$7.4 million to \$11.4 million in income taxes.
- In addition, Iowa employers and unauthorized workers paid **between \$50.3 million and \$77.8 million** in Social Security and Medicare taxes to the federal government in [2007](#)<sup>20</sup>—benefits these workers will never collect.

***Immigrants are integral to Iowa's economy as workers.***

- Immigrants comprised **4.5% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 75,526 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>21</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **2.1% of the state's workforce** (or 35,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>22</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Iowa, **the state would lose \$1.4 billion in economic activity, \$613.4 million in gross state product, and approximately 8,819 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>23</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Iowa's economy as students.***

- Iowa's 9,016 **foreign students contributed \$204 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>24</sup>

### ***Immigrants excel educationally.***

- The number of immigrants in Iowa with a college degree **increased by 45.1%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>25</sup>
- **29.6% of Iowa's foreign-born population** age 25 and older **had a bachelor's or higher degree** in [2008](#), compared to 24.0% of native-born persons age 25 and older.<sup>26</sup>
- In Iowa, **75.2% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>27</sup>

### **Endnotes**

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Iowa](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>19</sup> Beth Pearson and Michael F. Sheehan, [Undocumented Immigrants in Iowa: Estimated Tax Contributions and Fiscal Impact](#) (Mount Vernon, IA: The Iowa Policy Project, October 2007).

<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>22</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>23</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>24</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>25</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Iowa: Language & Education](#).

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

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## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE SUNFLOWER STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Kansas**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Kansas. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 5.9% of the state's population, and more than one-third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 1.8% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state's economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield more than \$7.3 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of more than \$1.6 billion and employed more than 16,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Kansas can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### ***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Kansas's population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Kansas's population rose from 2.5% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 5.0% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 5.9% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Kansas was home to 164,118 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is nearly the total population of [Salt Lake City, Utah](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **36.5% of immigrants (or 59,901 people) in Kansas were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **1.8% (or 22,936) of registered voters** in Kansas 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### ***1 in 9 Kansans are Latino or Asian.***

- **The Latino share of Kansas's population** grew from 3.8% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 7.0% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 9.1% (or 254,994 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 1.2% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.7% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 2.1% (or 58,845 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 3.2% (or 39,000) of Kansas voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 1.6% (19,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Kansas, **more than four in five (or 85% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add tens of billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to Kansas's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos totaled \$5.2 billion**—an increase of 488.1% since 1990. **Asian buying power in Kansas totaled \$2.1 billion**—an increase of 418.6% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Kansas's 3,547 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$895.6 million and employed 8,535 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 4,176 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$659.6 million and employed 7,493 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Kansas's economy as workers and taxpayers.*

- Immigrants comprised **7.3% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 112,322 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **2.8% of the state's workforce** (or 40,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>20</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Kansas, **the state would lose \$1.8 billion in economic activity, \$807.2 million in gross state product, and approximately 11,879 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>21</sup>

*Immigrants are important to Kansas's economy as students.*

- Kansas's 8,668 **foreign students contributed \$159.4 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to the [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>22</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In Kansas, **32.6% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 24.6% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 26.9% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 43.5% of noncitizens.<sup>23</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Kansas with a college degree **increased by 81.6%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>24</sup>
- In Kansas, **75.8% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>25</sup>

## Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.
- <sup>9</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.
- <sup>12</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>13</sup> 2007 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [\*2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals\*](#).
- <sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in Kansas\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>20</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.
- <sup>21</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.
- <sup>22</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>23</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*Kansas: Language & Education\*](#).
- <sup>24</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>25</sup> Ibid.



July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE BLUEGRASS STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Kentucky**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of Kentucky's economy and population. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 2.8% of the state's population, and more than a third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 1.0% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only important to the state's economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$3.9 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$2.2 billion and employed nearly 12,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Kentucky can ill-afford to alienate a significant component of its tax base and business community.

***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Kentucky's population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Kentucky's population rose from 0.9% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 2.0% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 2.8% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Kentucky was home to 119,503 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [Springfield, Illinois](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **34.0% of immigrants (or 40,613 people) in Kentucky were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **1.0% (or 22,399) of registered voters** in Kentucky 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

***Latinos and Asians make up 3.3% of Kentucky's population.***

- **The Latino share of Kentucky's population** grew from 0.6% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 1.5% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 2.3% (or 98,193 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 0.5% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 0.7% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 1.0% (or 42,692 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- In Kentucky, **nearly four-in-five (or 79% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>14</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to Kentucky's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Kentucky totaled \$2.1 billion**—an increase of 837% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$1.8 billion**—an increase of 495% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>15</sup>
- Kentucky's 3,236 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.4 billion and employed 11,966 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>16</sup> The state's 2,094 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$769.6 million in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>17</sup>

***Immigrants contribute to Kentucky's economy as workers and taxpayers.***

- Immigrants comprised **3.8% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 77,770 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>18</sup>
- Immigrants contributed more than \$30 million in state sales and excise taxes to Kentucky in [2000](#), according a 2002 report by the Legislative Research Commission.<sup>19</sup>

***Unauthorized immigrants contribute to Kentucky's economy as workers and consumers.***

- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **1.3% of the state's workforce** (or 25,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>20</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Kentucky, **the state would lose \$1.7 billion in economic activity, \$756.8 million in gross state product, and approximately 12,059 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>21</sup>

***Immigrants contribute to Kentucky's economy as students.***

- Kentucky's 4,760 **foreign students contributed \$92.5 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>22</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In Kentucky, **39.4% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 28.3% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 15.0% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 30.6% of noncitizens.<sup>23</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Kentucky with a college degree **increased by 54.6%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>24</sup>
- In Kentucky, **64.4% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>25</sup>

## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*2008 Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties\*](#), May 13, 2009.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.
- <sup>9</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.
- <sup>12</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>14</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in Kentucky\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>15</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>16</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>18</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>19</sup> Lauren Anderson, et al., [\*Immigration in Kentucky: A Preliminary Description\*](#), Research Report No. 305 (Frankfurt, KY: Legislative Research Commission, March 2002).
- <sup>20</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.
- <sup>21</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.
- <sup>22</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>23</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*Kentucky: Language & Education\*](#).
- <sup>24</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>25</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE PELICAN STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Louisiana**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for large and growing shares of the economy and population in Louisiana. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 3.1% of the state's population, and 45% of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 1.7% of all registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state's economy as workers, but also account for tens of million of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$7.0 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$3.7 billion and employed more than 33,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Louisiana can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### ***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Louisiana's population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Louisiana's population rose from 2.1% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 2.6% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 3.1% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Louisiana was home to 134,704 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the population of [Syracuse, New York](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **44.9% of immigrants (or 60,591 people) in Louisiana were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **1.7% (or 37,048) of registered voters** in Louisiana 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### ***Roughly 1 in 20 Louisianans are Latino or Asian.***

- **The Latino share of Louisiana's population** grew from 2.2% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 2.4% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 3.4% (or 149,967 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 1.0% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.2% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 1.5% (or 66,162 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 1.5% (or 32,000) of Louisiana voters** in the 2008 elections, and, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).
- In Louisiana, **nearly nine-in-ten (or 88% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>14</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Louisiana's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Louisiana totaled \$4.7 billion**—an increase of 295.1% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$2.3 billion**—an increase of 378.8% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>15</sup>
- Louisiana's 8,218 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.8 billion and employed 17,376 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>16</sup> The state's 7,645 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.9 billion and employed 16,319 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>17</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Louisiana's economy as workers and consumers.*

- Immigrants comprised **4.0% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 85,457 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>18</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **3.1% of the state's workforce** (or 60,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>19</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Louisiana, **the state would lose \$947 million in economic activity, \$421 million in gross state product, and approximately 6,660 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>20</sup>

*Latino workers have been essential to rebuilding the Gulf Coast region after Hurricane Katrina.*

- The number of Latino workers in New Orleans' reconstruction zone (Jefferson and Orleans Parishes) **more than doubled from 60,000 in 2006 to 150,000 in 2008**, according to a [study](#) by the Americas Society and Council of the Americas.<sup>21</sup>
- Latino workers contributed to **making 86.9% of households habitable** after Hurricane Katrina in six parishes surrounding New Orleans in 2008, according to the [same study](#).<sup>22</sup>

*Immigrants contribute to Louisiana's economy as students.*

- Louisiana's 6,213 **foreign students contributed \$118.9 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>23</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In Louisiana, **29.3% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 22.5% of noncitizens. At the same time, 26.4% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 34.4% of noncitizens.<sup>24</sup>
- **25.9% of Louisiana's foreign-born population** age 25 and older **had a bachelor's or higher degree** in [2008](#), compared to 20.0% of native-born persons age 25 and older.<sup>25</sup>

- In Louisiana, **75.2% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>26</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Louisiana](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>15</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>19</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>20</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>21</sup> Americas Society and Council of the Americas, [U.S. Business and Hispanic Integration: Expanding the Economic Contributions of Immigrants](#) (New York, NY: Americas Society and Council of the Americas, July 2008).

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>24</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Louisiana: Language & Education](#).

<sup>25</sup> Ibid.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE PINE TREE STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Maine**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for significant and growing shares of the economy and population in Maine. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 3.0% of the state's population, and more than half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$760.6 million in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$318 million and employed more than 3,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Maine can ill-afford to alienate an important component of its labor force, tax base, and business community—especially since the state's population is aging rapidly and a growing number of retirees are depending on a declining number of workers.

***Immigrants and their children are significant shares of Maine's population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Maine's population was 3.0% in [2008](#),<sup>1</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Maine was home to 39,378 immigrants in [2008](#).<sup>2</sup>
- **56.7% of immigrants (or 22,315 people) in Maine were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>3</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **1.8% (or 14,596) of registered voters** in Maine 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](#).<sup>4</sup>

***Maine is home to significant numbers of Latinos and Asians.***

- The **Latino share of Maine's population** grew from 0.7% in [2000](#)<sup>5</sup> to 1.0% (or 13,165 people) in [2008](#).<sup>6</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.7% in [2000](#)<sup>7</sup> to 0.8% (or 10,532 people) in [2008](#).<sup>8</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- In Maine, **more than four in five (or 84% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>9</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Immigrant, Latino, and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add hundreds of millions of dollars and hundreds of jobs to Maine's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Maine's Latinos totaled \$453.1 million**—an increase of 482.9% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$307.5 million**—an increase of 277%



since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>10</sup>

- Maine's 833 [Asian-owned businesses](#) had sales and receipts of \$205 million and employed 2,364 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>11</sup> The state's 731 [Latino-owned businesses](#) had sales and receipts of \$113 million and employed 637 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>12</sup>

*Immigrants are important to Maine's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **2.8% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 19,937 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>13</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised less than **0.5% of the state's workforce** (or fewer than 3,550 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>14</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Maine, **the state would lose \$137 million in economic activity, \$60.9 million in gross state product, and approximately 1,080 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>15</sup>
- The importance of immigrant workers is growing as Maine's population becomes older. Over the next two decades, the ratio of seniors (age 65 and older) to prime-working-age adults (age 25 to 64) in Maine **will increase by 93%**, according to a study by the [University of Southern California](#).<sup>16</sup>

*Immigrants contribute to Maine's economy as students.*

- Maine's 1,256 **foreign students contributed \$31.2 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>17</sup>

*Immigrants have helped revitalize Lewiston.*

- Roughly **3,500 Somali migrants** came to Lewiston between 2001 and 2007, and now comprise 10% of the town's population—the highest concentration of Somalis in America, according to a report by the [United Nations Development Program](#).<sup>18</sup>
- Although enrollment at the University of Maine has declined statewide since 2002, the student population at its Lewiston campus **increased 16% between 2002 and 2007**. Moreover, Andover College opened a Lewiston campus in 2004 and had to begin expanding almost immediately to handle the flood of applications.<sup>19</sup>

*Immigrants excel educationally.*

- The number of immigrants in Maine with a college degree **increased by 17.6%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>20</sup>
- 28.5% of Maine's foreign-born population age 25 and older **had at least a bachelor's degree** in [2008](#), compared to 25.2% of native-born persons age 25 and older.<sup>21</sup>

- In Maine, **77.2% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>22</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>6</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>8</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>9</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Maine](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>10</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>12</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>15</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>16</sup> Dowell Meyers, [Immigrants Contributions in an Aging America](#) (Los Angeles, CA: University of Southern California, Summer 2008), p. 1.

<sup>17</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>18</sup> Hassan Sheikh and Sally Healy, [Somalia’s Mission Million: The Somali Diaspora and its Role in Development](#) (United Nations Development Program, March 2009), p. 10.

<sup>19</sup> Jesse Ellison, “[The Refugees Who Saved Lewiston](#),” *Newsweek*, January 2009.

<sup>20</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Maine: Language & Education](#).

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE OLD LINE STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Maryland**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Maryland. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up one-in-eight Marylanders, and nearly half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 6.5% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$23.2 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$9.5 billion and employed nearly 70,000 people at last count. As high-skilled workers, immigrants accounted for more than one quarter of all scientists in the state, and more than one fifth of all health-care practitioners. At a time of economic recession, Maryland can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Maryland’s population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Maryland’s population rose from 6.6% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 9.8% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 12.4% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Maryland was home to 697,609 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [Memphis, Tennessee](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **46.2% of immigrants (or 322,504 people) in Maryland were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **6.5% (or 176,805) of registered voters** in Maryland 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

*1 in 9 Marylanders are Latino or Asian.*

- The **Latino share of Maryland’s population** grew from 2.6% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 4.3% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 6.6% (or 371,817 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 2.9% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 4.0% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 5.1% (or 287,313 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 3.5% (or 91,000) of Maryland voters** in the 2008 elections, and Asians 2.4% (62,000), according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>

- In Maryland, **more than four in five (or 85% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Maryland's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Maryland totaled \$11.1 billion**—an increase of 516.5% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$12.1 billion**—an increase of 372.5% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Maryland's 26,184 [Asian-owned](#) businesses had sales and receipts of \$7.1 billion and employed 50,471 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 15,353 [Latino-owned](#) businesses had sales and receipts of \$2.4 billion and employed 18,751 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Maryland's economy as workers and taxpayers.***

- Immigrants comprised **15.9% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 501,158 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>
- **Immigrants accounted for 9% of total economic output in the Baltimore metropolitan area** as of 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>20</sup> In fact, "immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force."<sup>21</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **6.7% of the state's workforce** (or 200,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>22</sup>
- Immigrants were **1-in-3 workers** in Montgomery County, **1-in-4 workers** in Prince George's County, and **1-in-5 workers** in Howard County [in 2006](#),<sup>23</sup> according a study by the Urban Institute.
- Roughly **27% of all scientists in Maryland were foreign-born in 2006**, as were **21% of health-care practitioners**, and **19% of mathematicians and computer specialists**, according to the [same study](#).<sup>24</sup>
- Immigrant households paid **18% (or \$4.0 billion) of all taxes collected in Maryland in 2000**, according to a study by the Urban Institute.<sup>25</sup> This included:
  - \$2.9 billion in federal income, Social Security, and Medicare taxes.
  - \$562 million in state income, sales, and auto taxes.
  - \$536 million in local property, income, sales, auto, and utility taxes.
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Maryland, **the state would lose \$15.3 billion in economic activity, \$6.8 billion in gross state product, and approximately 73,267 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>26</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Maryland's economy as students.***

- Maryland's 14,232 **foreign students contributed \$390.2 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to the [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>27</sup>

***Immigrants excel educationally.***

- In Maryland, **46.6% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 35.7% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 11.3% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 28.6% of noncitizens.<sup>28</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Maryland with a college degree **increased by 45.3%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>29</sup>
- **41.2% of Maryland's foreign-born population** age 25 and older **had a bachelor's or higher degree** in [2008](#), compared to 34.1% of native-born persons age 25 and older.<sup>30</sup>
- In Maryland, **78.8% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>31</sup>

**Endnotes**

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Maryland](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>20</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country's 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>22</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>23</sup> Randy Capps and Karina Fortuny, [The Integration of Immigrants in Maryland's Growing Economy](#) (Washington, DC: The Urban Institute, March 2008).

<sup>24</sup> Ibid.

<sup>25</sup> Randy Capps, Everett Henderson, Jeffrey S. Passel, and Michael Fix, [Civic Contributions: Taxes Paid by Immigrants in the Washington, DC, Metropolitan Area](#) (Washington, DC: The Urban Institute, May 2006).

<sup>26</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

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<sup>27</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>28</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Maryland: Language & Education](#).

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid.

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## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE BAY STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Massachusetts**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Massachusetts. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up roughly one-in-seven Bay Staters, and nearly half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for one-in-eight registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$25.1 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$7.1 billion and employed more than 50,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Massachusetts can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Massachusetts’s population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Massachusetts’s population rose from 9.5% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 12.2% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 14.4% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Massachusetts was home to 937,200 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [San Francisco, California](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **49.0% of immigrants (or 459,123 people) in Massachusetts were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **12.7% (or 403,915) of registered voters** in Massachusetts 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

*Roughly 1 in 7 Bay Staters are Latino or Asian—and they vote.*

- The **Latino share of Massachusetts’s population** grew from 4.8% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 6.8% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 8.6% (or 558,825 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 2.4% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 3.8% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 5.0% (or 324,898 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 2.5% (or 77,000) of Massachusetts voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 2.5%** (76,000), according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Massachusetts, **more than four in five (or 86% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.



*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add tens of billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to the Massachusetts economy.*

- The 2009 purchasing power of Asians in Massachusetts totaled \$12.7 billion—an increase of 494.8% since 1990. Latino buying power totaled \$12.4 billion—an increase of 381.5% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Massachusetts's 18,081 [Asian-owned](#) businesses had sales and receipts of \$5.0 billion and employed 37,193 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 15,933 [Latino-owned](#) businesses had sales and receipts of \$2.1 billion and employed 15,319 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Massachusetts's economy as workers and taxpayers.*

- Immigrants comprised **17.3% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 626,751 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>
- **Immigrants accounted for 16% of total economic output in the Boston metropolitan area** as of 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>20</sup> In fact, "immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force."<sup>21</sup>
- Immigrant-headed households in Massachusetts paid **\$1.2 billion in state income taxes** in [2005](#), according to a report by the Institute for Asian American Studies at the University of Massachusetts-Boston.<sup>22</sup>
- Immigrant-headed households in Massachusetts paid **\$346 million in sales and excise taxes** in [2006](#) and nearly **\$1.1 billion in local property taxes** in [2007](#), according to the same study.<sup>23</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **4.3% of the state's workforce** (or 140,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>24</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Massachusetts, **the state would lose \$12.0 billion in economic activity, \$5.3 billion in gross state product, and approximately 55,467 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>25</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Massachusetts's economy as students.*

- Massachusetts's 33,838 **foreign students contributed \$1.1 billion** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to the [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>26</sup>

*Immigrants excel educationally.*

- The number of immigrants in Massachusetts with a college degree **increased by 44.4%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>27</sup>

- In Massachusetts, **80.0% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>28</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Massachusetts](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>20</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country's 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>22</sup> Alan Clayton-Mathews, John W. McCormack, and Paul Watanabe, Ph.D., [Massachusetts Immigrants by the Numbers: Demographic Characteristics and Economic Footprint](#) (Boston, MA: The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc., June 2009).

<sup>23</sup> Ibid.

<sup>24</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>25</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>26</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>27</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Massachusetts: Language & Education](#).

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

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## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE GREAT LAKES STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Michigan**

Immigrants, Latinos, Asians, and Arab Americans account for large and growing shares of the economy and the electorate in Michigan. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 5.8% of the state's population, and nearly half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account 5.2% of all registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state's economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$17.5 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$8.3 billion and employed more than 60,000 people at last count. Michigan is also home to the largest proportion of Arab Americans in the country, who generate an estimated \$544 million in state tax revenue each year. At a time of economic recession, Michigan can ill-afford to alienate such an important component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### *Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Michigan's population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Michigan's population rose from 3.8% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 5.3% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 5.8% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Michigan was home to 582,742 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is nearly the total population of [Boston, Massachusetts](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **49.3% of immigrants (or 287,481 people) in Michigan were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **5.2% (or 273,323) of all registered voters** in Michigan are "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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### *6.4% of Michiganians are Latino or Asian—and they vote.*

- **The Latino share of Michigan's population** grew from 2.2% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 3.3% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 4.1% (or 410,140 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The Asian share of the population grew from 1.1% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.8% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 2.3% (or 230,079 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos comprised 1.4% (or 70,000) of Michigan voters in the 2008 elections, and Asians 1.1% (or 53,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>

- In Michigan, **more than four in five (or 85% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Michigan has the highest proportion of Arab Americans in the nation, and they contribute to the state's economy.***

- **The share of Michigan's population reporting Arab ancestry** rose from 0.8% in [1990](#),<sup>16</sup> to 1.2% in [2000](#),<sup>17</sup> to 1.5% (or 151,966 people) in [2008](#),<sup>18</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Dearborn, Michigan, has the largest proportion** of Arab Americans in the United States, representing nearly 30% of the city's population in [2000](#) (the last year for which data is available). By way of comparison, Arab Americans represented 0.9% of the population in New York and 0.7% in Los Angeles as of 2000.<sup>19</sup>
- Arab American employment accounted for **\$7.7 billion in total earnings** in the four counties of the Detroit metropolitan area in southeast Michigan, generating an estimated \$544 million in state tax revenue in 2005, according to the [Center for Urban Studies](#) at Wayne State University.<sup>20</sup>
- Arab American business and consumer spending **supported an estimated 141,541 jobs** in the four-county region in 2005, according to the same [study](#).<sup>21</sup>

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Michigan's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Michigan's Latinos totaled \$8.9 billion**—an increase of 310.3% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$8.6 billion**—an increase of 361.6% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>22</sup>
- Michigan's 15,337 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$5.1 billion and employed 44,587 people in 2002,<sup>23</sup> the last year for which data is available. The state's 9,841 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$3.2 billion and employed 15,930 people in 2002,<sup>24</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.

***Immigrants are essential to Michigan's economy as workers.***

- Immigrants comprised **6.7% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 338,621 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>25</sup>
- **Immigrants accounted for 11% of total economic output in the Detroit metropolitan area** as of 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>26</sup> In fact, "immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force."<sup>27</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **1.3% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 65,000 workers), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>28</sup>

- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Michigan, **the state would lose \$3.8 billion in economic activity, \$1.7 billion in gross state product, and approximately 20,339 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>29</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Michigan's economy as students.*

- Michigan's 23,617 **foreign students contributed \$592.4 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to the [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>30</sup>

*Immigrants excel educationally.*

- In Michigan, **38.3% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 34.4% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 19.3% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 30.5% of noncitizens.<sup>31</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Michigan with a college degree **increased by 26.9%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>32</sup>
- 36.5% of Michigan's foreign-born population age 25 and older **had a bachelor's or higher degree** in [2008](#), compared to 23.8% of native-born persons age 25 and older.<sup>33</sup>
- In Michigan, **77.2% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>34</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> 2008 Current Population Survey, [Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008](#).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Michigan](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Arab Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>19</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Arab Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>20</sup> Center for Urban Studies, [Arab American Economic Contribution Study](#) (Detroit, MI: Wayne State University: March 2007).

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.

<sup>22</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>23</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>24</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

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<sup>25</sup> 2007 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>26</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [\*Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country's 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas\*](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>28</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009).

<sup>29</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>30</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>31</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Michigan: Language & Education](#).

<sup>32</sup> Ibid.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE NORTH STAR STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Minnesota**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for large and growing shares of the economy and population in Minnesota. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 6.5% of the state's population, and 44.5% of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 3.5% of all registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state's economy as workers, but also account for tens of million of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$10.2 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$2.3 billion and employed more than 21,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Minnesota can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### ***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Minnesota's population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Minnesota's population rose from 2.6% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 5.3% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 6.5% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Minnesota was home to 340,657 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is nearly the population of [St. Louis, Missouri](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **44.5% of immigrants (or 151,485 people) in Minnesota were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **3.5% (or 100,171) of registered voters** in Minnesota 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### ***Roughly 1 in 13 Minnesotans are Latino or Asian.***

- The **Latino share of Minnesota's population** grew from 1.2% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 2.9% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 4.1% (or 214,036 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 1.8% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 2.9% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 3.5% (or 182,714 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Asians comprised 2.0% (or 56,000) of Minnesota voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Latinos accounted for 1.3% (or 35,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).
- In Minnesota, **more than four in five (or 85% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>14</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.



***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Minnesota's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Minnesota's Asians totaled \$5.4 billion**—an increase of 589.2% since 1990. **Latino buying power totaled \$4.8 billion**—an increase of 843.7% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>15</sup>
- Minnesota's 7,700 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.8 billion and employed 16,887 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>16</sup> The state's 3,984 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$462.7 million and employed 4,596 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>17</sup>

***Minnesota's diverse immigrant population adds hundreds of millions of dollars to the state's economy.***

- In the Twin Cities metro area, **138 immigrant-owned businesses** created **386 new jobs** and **spent \$5.6 million on payroll, rent, and supplies** in 2002, according to a [study](#) from the University of Minnesota.<sup>18</sup>
- More than **1,000 Mexican-American businesses** operated in Minnesota, **generating an estimated \$200 million in sales**; while Latino workers employed in south-central agricultural industries added nearly **\$25 million to the local economy**, according to a [2004 report](#) by the Minneapolis Foundation.<sup>19</sup>
- More than **16,000 Asian-Indians living in Minnesota** accounted for **\$500 million in consumer purchasing power**, paid **\$5.2 million in real estate taxes** and **\$2.3 million in rent**, and owned **400 companies that employed more than 6,000 people**, according to the [same report](#).<sup>20</sup>
- Minnesota was home to **60,000 Hmong**, whose **businesses generated an estimated \$100 million in revenue**, according to the [same report](#).<sup>21</sup>
- Minnesota is home to the country's largest Somali population, which numbered roughly **15,000 people** as of 2002.<sup>22</sup> Somalis in Minnesota accounted for **\$164 million in buying power** and owned **600 businesses** as of 2006.<sup>23</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Minnesota's economy as workers.***

- Immigrants comprised **7.5% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 224,273 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>24</sup>
- **Immigrants accounted for 8% of total economic output in the Minneapolis metropolitan area** as of 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>25</sup> In fact, "immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force."<sup>26</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **2.3% of the state's workforce** (or 70,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>27</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Minnesota, **the state would lose \$4.4 billion in economic activity, \$2.0 billion in gross state product, and approximately 24,299 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>28</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Minnesota's economy as students.***

- Minnesota's 10,848 **foreign students contributed \$232.8 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to the [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>29</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In Minnesota, **36.3% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 28.5% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 19.0% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 33.8% of noncitizens.<sup>30</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Minnesota with a college degree **increased by 63.4%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>31</sup>
- In Minnesota, **68.5% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>32</sup>

**Endnotes**

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Minnesota](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>15</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> Katherine Fennelly and Anne Huat, [The Economic Impact of Immigrants in Minnesota](#) (Minneapolis, MN: Hubert H. Humphrey Institute, University of Minnesota, 2009), p. 19.

<sup>19</sup> The Minneapolis Foundation, [Immigration in Minnesota: Discovering Common Ground](#) (Minneapolis, MN: The Minneapolis Foundation, 2004), p. 9.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid., p. 4.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., pp. 12-13.

<sup>22</sup> Paula Woessner, "[Size of Twin Cities Muslim Population Difficult to Determine](#)," *Community Dividend* (Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis), August 2002.

<sup>23</sup> Bruce P. Corrie, Ph.D., "[Economic Contributions of Somalis in Minnesota](#)" (St. Paul, MN: Concordia University, 2006).

<sup>24</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>25</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country's 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>27</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>28</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>29</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>30</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Minnesota: Language & Education](#).

<sup>31</sup> Ibid.

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<sup>32</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE MAGNOLIA STATE:  
The Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Mississippi**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of Mississippi's population and economy. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 2.1% of the state's population, and nearly one-third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. Immigrants not only contribute to the state's economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$2.5 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$1.4 billion and employed more than 11,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Mississippi would be ill-advised to alienate such an important component of its tax base and business community.

***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Mississippi's population.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Mississippi's population rose from 0.8% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 1.4% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 2.1% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Mississippi was home to 60,555 immigrants in [2008](#).<sup>4</sup>
- **30.4% of immigrants (or 18,419 people) in Mississippi were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>5</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.

***2.8% of Mississippians are Latino or Asian.***

- The **Latino share of Mississippi's population** grew from 0.6% in [1990](#),<sup>6</sup> to 1.4% in [2000](#),<sup>7</sup> to 2.0% (or 58,772 people) in [2008](#).<sup>8</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.5% in [1990](#)<sup>9</sup> to 0.8% (or 23,509 people) in [2008](#),<sup>10</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- In Mississippi, **more than four-in-five (or 85% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>11</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to Mississippi's economy.***

- The **2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Mississippi totaled \$1.6 billion**—an increase of 902.8% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$862.1 million**—an increase of 564.4% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>12</sup>

- Mississippi's 1,326 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$213 million and employed 2,080 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>13</sup> The state's 2,921 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.2 billion and employed 9,232 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>14</sup>

*Immigrants contribute to Mississippi's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **2.8% of the state's workforce** in **2008** (or 38,786 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>15</sup>

*Unauthorized immigrants contribute to Mississippi's economy as workers and taxpayers.*

- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **1.8% of the state's workforce** (or 25,000 workers) in **2008**, according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>16</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants in Mississippi contributed **\$44.2 million** in taxes in **2005**,<sup>17</sup> according to a 2006 study by the Mississippi Office of the State Auditor.
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Mississippi, **the state would lose \$583 million in economic activity, \$259 million in gross state product, and approximately 4,680 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the **Perryman Group**.<sup>18</sup>

*Immigrants contribute to Mississippi's economy as students.*

- Mississippi's 2,589 **foreign students contributed \$44.3 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to **NAFSA: Association of International Educators**.<sup>19</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In Mississippi, **28.8% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in **2008 had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 24.1% of noncitizens. At the same time, 23.3% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 44.0% of noncitizens.<sup>20</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Mississippi with a college degree **increased by 42.5%** between 2000 and 2008, according to **data** from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>21</sup>
- In Mississippi, **74.1% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of **2008**.<sup>22</sup>

## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>6</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.
- <sup>7</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>8</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>9</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.
- <sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>11</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in Mississippi\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>12</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>13</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>14</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>15</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>16</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.
- <sup>17</sup> Phil Bryant, [\*The Impact of Illegal Immigration on Mississippi: Costs and Population Trends\*](#) (Jackson, MS: Office of the State Auditor, 2006).
- <sup>18</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.
- <sup>19</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>20</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*Mississippi: Language & Education\*](#).
- <sup>21</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>22</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE SHOW ME STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Missouri**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Missouri. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 3.6% of the state's population, and 40% of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 3.1% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state's economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$7.5 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$2.6 billion and employed more than 20,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Missouri can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Missouri's population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Missouri's population rose from 1.6% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 2.7% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 3.6% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Missouri was home to 215,214 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [Arlington, Virginia](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **40.5% of immigrants (or 87,108 people) in Missouri were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **3.1% (or 98,271) of registered voters** in Missouri 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

*Nearly 5% of Missourians are Latino or Asian.*

- **The Latino share of Missouri's population** grew from 1.2% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 2.1% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 3.2% (or 189,171 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 0.8% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.1% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 1.4% (or 82,762 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 0.7% (or 20,000) of Missouri voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 0.5% (14,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Missouri, **more than four-in-five (or 82% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.



***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to Missouri's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Missouri totaled \$4.3 billion**—an increase of 496.2% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$3.2 billion**—an increase of 400.1% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Missouri's 6,376 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.9 billion and employed 15,170 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 3,652 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$682.0 million and employed 5,507 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Missouri's economy as workers and taxpayers.***

- Immigrants comprised **4.3% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 134,569 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>
- **Immigrants accounted for 5% of total economic output in the St. Louis metropolitan area** as of 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>20</sup> In fact, "immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force."<sup>21</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **0.8% of the state's workforce** (or 25,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>22</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants **contribute between \$29 million to \$57 million in property, state income, and excise taxes** each year, according to a [2006](#) study by the Missouri Budget Project.<sup>23</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Missouri, **the state would lose \$2.3 billion in economic activity, \$1.0 billion in gross state product, and approximately 13,859 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>24</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Missouri's economy as students.***

- Missouri's 11,285 **foreign students contributed \$270.9 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to the [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>25</sup>

***Immigrants excel educationally.***

- In [2008](#), **33.3% of Missouri's foreign-born population** age 25 and older **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 24.6 percent of native-born persons.<sup>26</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Missouri with a college degree **increased by 36.7%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>27</sup>
- In Missouri, **73.1% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>28</sup>

## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.
- <sup>9</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.
- <sup>12</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [\*2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals\*](#).
- <sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in Missouri\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>20</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [\*Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country's 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas\*](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.
- <sup>21</sup> Ibid., p. 1.
- <sup>22</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.
- <sup>23</sup> Ruth Ehresman, [\*Undocumented Workers: Impact on Missouri's Economy\*](#) (St. Louis, MO: Missouri Budget Project, June 2006), p. 2.
- <sup>24</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.
- <sup>25</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>26</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*Missouri: Language & Education\*](#).
- <sup>27</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>28</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE TREASURE STATE:  
The Economic and Political Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Montana**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for a significant share of the population and economy in Montana. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 1.7% of the state's population, and more than half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 2.3% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only important to the state's economy as workers, but also account for tens of million of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$791 million in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of nearly \$200 million and employed 1,519 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Montana can ill-afford to alienate a significant component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are significant shares of Montana's population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Montana's population was 1.7% in [2008](#) (21,285 people),<sup>1</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **52.7% of immigrants (or 11,214 people) in Montana were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>2</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **2.3% (or 11,779) of registered voters** in Montana 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](#).<sup>3</sup>

*3.2% of Montanans are Latino or Asian.*

- The **Latino share of Montana's population** grew from 1.5% in [1990](#),<sup>4</sup> to 2.0% in [2000](#),<sup>5</sup> to 2.8% (or 27,088 people) in [2008](#).<sup>6</sup> The **Asian share of the population** was 0.7% (or 6,772 people) in [2008](#),<sup>7</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 1.7% (or 8,000) of Montana voters** in the 2008 elections, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>8</sup>
- In Montana, **more than nine-in-ten (or 94%) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#), according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.<sup>9</sup>

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add millions of dollars and thousands of jobs to Montana's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Montana totaled \$599.4 million—an increase of 596.3% since 1990. Asian buying power totaled \$192.0 million—an increase of 378.9% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.**<sup>10</sup>
- Montana's 511 [Asian-owned](#) businesses had sales and receipts of \$99.9 million and employed 1,519 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>11</sup> The state's 964 [Latino-owned](#) businesses had sales and receipts of \$99.1 million in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>12</sup>

***Immigrants are important to Montana's economy as workers.***

- Immigrants comprised **2.1% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 10,807 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>13</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised less than **0.5% of the state's workforce** (or fewer than 10,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>14</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Montana, **the state would lose \$96.3 million in economic activity, \$42.8 million in gross state product, and approximately 720 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>15</sup>

***Immigrants are important to Montana's economy as students.***

- Montana's 1,227 **foreign students contributed \$28.4 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>16</sup>

***Immigrants excel educationally.***

- The number of immigrants in Montana with a college degree **increased by 32.1 percent** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>17</sup>
- In Montana, **81.5% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>18</sup>

## Endnotes

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<sup>1</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [\*2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals\*](#).

<sup>9</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in Montana\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>10</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.

<sup>12</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>15</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>16</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>17</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*Montana: Language & Education\*](#).

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE CORNHUSKER STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Nebraska**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and population in Nebraska. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 5.5% of the state's population, and roughly one-third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 2.7% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state's economy as workers, but also account for tens of million of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$3.9 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$1.1 billion and employed more than 9,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Nebraska can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### ***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Nebraska's population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Nebraska's population rose from 1.8% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 4.4% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 5.5% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Nebraska was home to 97,815 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is nearly the total population of [Berkeley, California](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **32.9% of immigrants (or 32,181 people) in Nebraska were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **2.7% (or 23,006) of registered voters** in Nebraska 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### ***1 in 11 Nebraskans are Latino or Asian.***

- **The Latino share of Nebraska's population** grew from 2.3% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 5.5% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 7.8% (or 139,108 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 0.8% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.3% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 1.5% (or 26,752 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 2.8% (or 24,000) of Nebraska voters** in the 2008 elections, and Asians 0.9% (or 8,000), according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Nebraska, **more than half (or 55%) of the children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Nebraska's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Nebraska totaled \$2.9 billion**—an increase of 753.8% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$1.0 billion**—an increase of 640.9% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Nebraska's 1,456 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$685.6 million and employed 6,191 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 1,966 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$433.8 million and employed 2,862 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

*Immigrants make vital economic contributions to Nebraska's state and local economy:*

- Immigrant spending accounted for **\$1.6 billion worth of total production in Nebraska's economy** and generated roughly **12,000 jobs for the state** in 2006, according to a [study](#) at the University of Nebraska-Ohama.<sup>19</sup>
- The impact of immigrant spending made a large impact on the state's local economies [in 2006](#),<sup>20</sup> including:
  - \$1.14 billion in production and 8,331 jobs in Omaha and Lincoln.
  - \$204 million in production and 1,275 jobs in Nebraska's Eastern region.
  - \$238 million in production and 1,896 jobs in Nebraska's Western region.
- Nebraska's immigrants also **contributed roughly \$154 million in property, income, sales, and gas tax revenue** in 2006, according to the [same study](#).<sup>21</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Nebraska's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **6.8% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 68,142 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>22</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **2.8% of the state's workforce** (or 30,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>23</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Nebraska, **the state would lose \$852.4 million in economic activity, \$378.6 million in gross state product, and approximately 5,400 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>24</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Nebraska's economy as students.*

- Nebraska's 4,335 **foreign students contributed \$88.6 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>25</sup>

*Naturalized Citizens Excel Educationally.*

- In Nebraska, **33.4% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized citizens in [2008](#) lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 50.5% of noncitizens.<sup>26</sup>



- The number of immigrants in Nebraska with a college degree **increased by 64.4%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>27</sup>
- In Nebraska, **73.7% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>28</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Nebraska](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>19</sup> Christopher S. Decker, [Nebraska's Immigrant Population: Economic and Fiscal Impacts](#) (Omaha, NE: Office of Latino/Latin American Studies, University of Nebraska at Omaha, October 2008).

<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.

<sup>22</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>23</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>24</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>25</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>26</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Nebraska: Language & Education](#).

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE SILVER STATE: The Economic and Political Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Nevada**

There are few states where the growing political and economic clout of immigrants, Latinos, and Asians is as apparent as in Nevada. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up roughly one-in-five Nevadans, and 37% of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. Immigrants and the children of immigrants account for nearly 15% of all registered voters in the state. Latinos (both foreign-born and native-born) account for one quarter of all Nevadans and wield over \$14 billion in consumer purchasing power. At last count, the sales and receipts of businesses owned by Latinos and Asians totaled \$3.6 billion and employed more than 25,000 people. Immigrant, Latino, and Asian workers, consumers, and entrepreneurs are integral to Nevada's economy and tax base—and they are an electoral force with which every politician must reckon.

*Nearly 15% of registered voters in Nevada are immigrants or the children of immigrants.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Nevada's population rose from 8.7% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 15.8% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 18.9% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Nevada was home to 490,717 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is roughly equal to the total population of [Atlanta, Georgia](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **36.8% of immigrants in Nevada (or 180,554 people) were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**—meaning that they are eligible to vote.<sup>6</sup>
- **14.8% (or 133,890) of all registered voters** in Nevada are “New Americans”—naturalized citizens or the U.S.-born children of immigrants who were raised during the current era of large-scale immigration from Latin America and Asia which began in 1965—according to an analysis of 2006 Census Bureau data by [Rob Paral & Associates](#).<sup>7</sup>

*Latinos make up one quarter of all Nevadans—and they vote.*

- The **Latino share of Nevada's population** grew from 10.4% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 19.7% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 25.7% (or 668,243 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The Asian share of the population grew from 2.9% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 4.5% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 6.0% (or 156,010 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos comprised 11.6% (or 119,000) of Nevada voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 3.4% (or 35,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup> The numbers of Latino and Asian voters exceeded Barack Obama's margin of victory over John McCain ([120,909 votes](#)) in this electoral battleground state.<sup>15</sup>

- In Nevada, **nearly three-fifths (or 58%) of the children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>16</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Immigrants are essential to Nevada's economy as workers and taxpayers.*

- Immigrants comprised **24.1% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 333,302 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>17</sup>
- Latino immigrants in Nevada paid roughly **\$2.6 billion in federal taxes** and **\$1.6 billion in state and local taxes** (including \$500 million in sales taxes) in 2005. The money that Latino immigrants “earn and spend in Nevada accounts for about 25% of the State's Gross State Product,” and Latino immigrant “employment, income and spending results in the creation of 108,380 jobs in Nevada,” according to a [2007 report](#) from the Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada.<sup>18</sup>
- Latino immigrants comprised about **16% of the state's entire workforce** in 2005, and an even higher share in select industries: 81% of the agricultural workforce, 47% of the construction and mining workforce, and 22% of the entertainment and tourist services workforce, according to a [2007 report](#) from the Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada.<sup>19</sup>

*Unauthorized immigrants are integral to Nevada's economy as workers and consumers.*

- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **12.2% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 170,000 workers), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>20</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Nevada, **the state would lose \$9.7 billion in economic activity, \$4.3 billion in gross state product, and approximately 45,533 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>21</sup>

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add tens of billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Nevada's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Nevada's Latinos totaled \$14.3 billion**—an increase of 955.3% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$6.1 billion**—an increase of 980.7% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>22</sup>
- Nevada's 9,741 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.6 billion and employed 12,874 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>23</sup> The state's 8,872 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$2 billion and employed 12,713 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>24</sup>

*Immigrants are important to Nevada's economy as students.*

- Nevada's 3,006 **foreign students contributed \$70.5 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>25</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In Nevada, **27.3% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 13.2% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 22.6% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 46.5% of noncitizens.<sup>26</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Nevada with a college degree **increased by 136.7%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>27</sup>
- In Nevada, **74.1% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>28</sup>

**Endnotes**

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> 2008 Current Population Survey, [Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008](#).

<sup>15</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>16</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Nevada](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>17</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>18</sup> Robert Ginsberg, Ph.D., [Vital Beyond Belief: The Demographic and Economic Facts about Hispanic Immigrants in Nevada](#) (Las Vegas, NV: Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada, 2007).

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

<sup>20</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009).

<sup>21</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008).

<sup>22</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>23</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>24</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>25</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>26</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Nevada: Language & Education](#).

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE GRANITE STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in New Hampshire**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in New Hampshire. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up one-in-twenty Granite Staters, and more than half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 5.1% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$1.9 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of nearly \$600 million and employed close to 6,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, New Hampshire can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of New Hampshire’s population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of New Hampshire’s population rose from 3.7% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 4.4% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 5.0% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. New Hampshire was home to 65,581 immigrants in [2008](#).
- **53.5% of immigrants (or 35,099 people) in New Hampshire were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>4</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **5.1% (or 35,030) of registered voters** in New Hampshire 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](#).<sup>5</sup>

*Nearly 1 in 20 Granite Staters are Latino or Asian.*

- The **Latino share of New Hampshire’s population** grew from 1.0% in [1990](#),<sup>6</sup> to 1.7% in [2000](#),<sup>7</sup> to 2.6% (or 34,211 people) in [2008](#).<sup>8</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.8% in [1990](#),<sup>9</sup> to 1.3% in [2000](#),<sup>10</sup> to 2.0% (or 26,316 people) in [2008](#),<sup>11</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 1.1% (or 8,000) of New Hampshire voters** in the 2008 elections, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>12</sup>

- In New Hampshire, **nearly nine-in-ten (or 89% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to New Hampshire's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Asians in New Hampshire totaled \$963.2 million—an increase of 540.9% since 1990. Latino buying power totaled \$902.4 million—an increase of 511.8% since 1990**, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>14</sup>
- New Hampshire's 1,528 [Asian-owned businesses](#) had sales and receipts of \$403.6 million and employed 4,119 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>15</sup> The state's 913 [Latino-owned businesses](#) had sales and receipts of \$194.0 million and employed 1,742 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>16</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to New Hampshire's economy as workers and taxpayers.***

- Immigrants comprised **5.6% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 42,229 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>17</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **1.7% of the state's workforce** (or 15,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>18</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from New Hampshire, **the state would lose \$893.2 million in economic activity, \$396.7 million in gross state product, and approximately 5,220 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>19</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to New Hampshire's economy as students.***

- New Hampshire's 2,371 **foreign students contributed \$75.8 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>20</sup>

***Naturalized Citizens Excel Educationally.***

- In New Hampshire, **35.8% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**.<sup>21</sup>
- The number of immigrants in New Hampshire with a college degree **increased by 63.9%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>22</sup>
- In New Hampshire, **82.7% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>23</sup>

## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>6</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.
- <sup>7</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>8</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>9</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.
- <sup>10</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>11</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>12</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [\*2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals\*](#).
- <sup>13</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in New Hampshire\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>14</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>15</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>16</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>17</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>18</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.
- <sup>19</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.
- <sup>20</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>21</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*New Hampshire: Language & Education\*](#).
- <sup>22</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>23</sup> Ibid.



July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE GARDEN STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in New Jersey**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for large and growing shares of the economy and electorate in New Jersey. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up roughly 20% of the state's population, and half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 15.1% of all registered voters in the state. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield roughly \$68 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$25.7 billion and employed more than 125,000 people at last count. Immigrant workers contributed at least \$47 billion to the state economy in 2006. At a time of economic recession, New Jersey can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of New Jersey's population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of New Jersey's population rose from 12.5% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 17.5% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 19.8% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. New Jersey was home to 1,718,034 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the population of [Phoenix, Arizona](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **49.9% of immigrants (or 857,649 people) in New Jersey were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **15.1% (or 526,565) of registered voters** in New Jersey 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

*Nearly one-in-four New Jerseyans are Latino or Asian.*

- **The Latino share of New Jersey's population** grew from 9.6% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 13.3% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 16.3% (or 1,415,274 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 3.5% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 5.7% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 7.6% (or 659,882 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos comprised 9.3% (or 337,000) of New Jersey voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 5.9% (or 215,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#). The number of Latino and Asian voters in New Jersey is equivalent to more than 90% of Barack Obama's margin of victory ([602,215 votes](#)) over John McCain.<sup>14</sup>

- In New Jersey, **nearly nine-in-ten (or 89% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to New Jersey's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of New Jersey's Latinos totaled \$36.8 billion**—an increase of 307.2% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$31.6 billion**—an increase of 459.5% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- New Jersey's 51,957 [Asian-owned businesses](#) had sales and receipts of \$18.5 billion and employed 85,171 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 49,841 [Latino-owned businesses](#) had sales and receipts of \$7.2 billion and employed 40,422 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to New Jersey's economy as workers.***

- Immigrants comprised **25.0% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 1,168,770 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>
- **Immigrant workers contributed at least \$47 billion** to New Jersey's gross state product in 2006, according to a [study](#) at the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University.<sup>20</sup>
- **More than 40% of the state's scientists and engineers** with advanced degrees were foreign-born in 2006, according to the same [study](#).<sup>21</sup>
- Immigration to New Jersey **raised the wages of native-born workers without a high-school diploma by 3.0%** between 1990 and 2000, according to the same [study](#).<sup>22</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **9.2% of the state's workforce** (or 425,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>23</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from New Jersey, **the state would lose \$24.2 billion in economic activity, \$10.7 billion in gross state product, and approximately 103,898 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>24</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to New Jersey's economy as students.***

- New Jersey's 14,785 **foreign students contributed \$435.7 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>25</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In New Jersey, **39.7% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) had a bachelor's or higher degree, compared to 32.1% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 15.5% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 28.0% of noncitizens.<sup>26</sup>
- The number of immigrants in New Jersey with a college degree **increased by 43.8%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>27</sup>
- **36.2% of New Jersey's foreign-born population** age 25 and older had a bachelor's or higher degree in [2008](#), compared to 33.8% of native-born persons age 25 and older.<sup>28</sup>
- In New Jersey, **81.7% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>29</sup>

**Endnotes**

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *The Foreign-Born Population: 2000*, December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, *The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children* (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *The Hispanic Population: 2000*, May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *The Asian Population: 2000*, February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, *2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals*.

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, *Children in Immigrant Families in New Jersey* (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, *The Multicultural Economy 2009* (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002*, August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *Asian-Owned Firms: 2002*, August 2006.

<sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>20</sup> Ira N. Gang and Anne Morrison Piehl, *Destination, New Jersey: How Immigrants Benefit the State Economy* (New Brunswick, NJ: Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University, December 2008), p. 17.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid, p. 11.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid, p. 16.

<sup>23</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, *A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States* (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>24</sup> The Perryman Group, *An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry* (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>25</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, *The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis* (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>26</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, *New Jersey: Language & Education*.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE LAND OF ENCHANTMENT:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in New Mexico**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in New Mexico. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up nearly one-in-ten New Mexicans, and more than a quarter of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 3.8% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$19 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$5.3 billion and employed more than 52,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, New Mexico can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of New Mexico’s population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of New Mexico’s population rose from 5.3% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 8.2% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 9.6% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. New Mexico was home to 191,025 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is nearly the total population of [Fort Lauderdale, Florida](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **28.8% of immigrants (or 55,108 people) in New Mexico were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **3.8% (or 36,122) of registered voters** in New Mexico 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

*Nearly half of all New Mexicans are Latino or Asian.*

- **The Latino share of New Mexico’s population** grew from 38.2% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 42.1% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 44.9% (or 890,976 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 0.9% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.1% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 1.4% (or 27,781 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 34.2% (or 289,000) of New Mexico voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 1.4% (14,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup> The number of Latino and Asian voters was more than double the margin of victory ([125,590 votes](#)) by which Barack Obama defeated John McCain in New Mexico.

- In New Mexico, **more than four-in-five (or 84% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add tens of billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to New Mexico's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in New Mexico totaled \$17.9 billion**—an increase of 260.5% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$1.1 billion**—an increase of 492.3% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- New Mexico's 29,708 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$4.7 billion and employed 44,896 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 2,364 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$631.3 million and employed 7,508 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to New Mexico's economy as workers and taxpayers.*

- Immigrants comprised **11.9% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 115,193 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants in New Mexico contributed **\$64.7 million in sales, income, and property taxes** to the state economy in [2004](#), according to a study by New Mexico Fiscal Policy Project.<sup>20</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **4.5% of the state's workforce** (or 40,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>21</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from New Mexico, **the state would lose \$1.8 billion in economic activity, \$809.1 million in gross state product, and approximately 12,239 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>22</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to New Mexico's economy as students.*

- New Mexico's 2,622 **foreign students contributed \$49.9 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>23</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In New Mexico, **21.9% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 11.2% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 32.7% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 60.4% of noncitizens.<sup>24</sup>
- The number of immigrants in New Mexico with a college degree **increased by 42.0%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>25</sup>

- In New Mexico, **81.0% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>26</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [2008 Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties](#), May 13, 2009.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in New Mexico](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>20</sup> New Mexico Fiscal Policy Project, [Undocumented Immigrants in New Mexico: State Tax Contributions and Fiscal Concerns](#) (Albuquerque, NM: NM Voices, May 2006), p. 4.

<sup>21</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>22</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>23</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>24</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [New Mexico: Language & Education](#).

<sup>25</sup> Ibid.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.



July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE EMPIRE STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in New York**

Immigrants, Latinos and Asians account for large and growing shares of the economy and the electorate in New York. Immigrants (the foreign-born) account for more than one-in-five residents of New York—and more than half of them are U.S. citizens eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 17.9% of all registered voters in the state. Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) account for nearly one quarter of New Yorkers and wield \$126.6 billion in consumer purchasing power. At last count, the sales and receipts of businesses owned by Latinos and Asians totaled more than \$42.7 billion and employed more than 230,000 people. New York’s immigrants are responsible for \$229 billion in economic output. Not only is New York one of the most ethnically diverse states in the nation, but it is also a historic gateway for immigrants from virtually every part of the world. Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians are a political and economic powerhouse in New York.

*Immigrants account for more than one in five New Yorkers*

- **The foreign-born share** of New York’s population rose from 15.9% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 20.4% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 21.7% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. New York was home to 4,236,768 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [Los Angeles, California](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **51.9% of immigrants (or 2,200,696 people) in New York were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **17.9% (or 1,457,574) of all registered voters** in New York are “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](#).<sup>7</sup>

*Latinos and Asians comprise a powerful share of the New York electorate.*

- **The Latino share of New York’s population** grew from 12.3% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 15.1% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 16.7% (or 3,254,880 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 3.8% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 5.5% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 7.0% (or 1,364,321 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos comprised 9.8% (or 743,000) of New York voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 3.3% (or 248,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>



- In New York, **nearly nine-in-ten (or 89% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Immigrants are essential to New York's economy as workers and consumers.*

- Immigrants comprised **26.9% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 2,715,694 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>16</sup>
- "New York's immigrants are responsible for **\$229 billion in economic output** in New York State," or 22.4% of the total New York State GDP, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>17</sup>
- Immigrants accounted for **28% of total economic output in the New York metropolitan area** as of 2007, according to another study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>18</sup> In fact, "immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force."<sup>19</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from New York in 2008, **the state would lose \$28.7 billion in economic activity, \$12.7 billion in gross state product, and approximately 137,013 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>20</sup>

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add tens of billions of dollars and hundreds of thousands of jobs to New York's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of New York's Latinos totaled \$76.0 billion**—an increase of 223% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$50.6 billion**—an increase of 317.2% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>21</sup>
- New York's 145,108 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$30.4 billion and employed 164,316 people in 2002,<sup>22</sup> the last year for which data is available. The state's 163,588 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$12.3 billion and employed 70,183 people in 2002,<sup>23</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.

*Immigrants are integral to New York's economy as students.*

- New York's 74,934 **foreign students contributed \$2.2 billion** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>24</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In New York, **31.7% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) had a bachelor's or higher degree, compared to 24.5% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 23.2% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 34.4% of noncitizens.<sup>25</sup>
- The number of immigrants in New York with a college degree **increased by 35.1% between 2000 and 2008**, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>26</sup>

- In New York, **77.0% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>27</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> 2008 Current Population Survey, [Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008](#).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in New York](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>17</sup> Fiscal Policy Institute, [Working for a Better Life: A Profile of Immigrants in the New York State Economy](#) (New York, NY: November 2007)

<sup>18</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country's 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>20</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008).

<sup>21</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2008).

<sup>22</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>23</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>24</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>25</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [New York: Language & Education 2007](#).

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE TAR HEEL STATE:  
The Economic and Political Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in North Carolina**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and population in the electoral swing state of North Carolina. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 7% of the state's population, while nearly one-in-ten North Carolinians are Latino or Asian. Although Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) comprised less than 3% of North Carolina voters in the 2008 election, their numbers far exceeded the narrow margin by which Barack Obama won the state. Moreover, Latinos and Asians wield \$18.8 billion in consumer purchasing power. At last count, businesses owned by Latinos and Asians had sales and receipts of \$5.3 billion and employed more than 44,000 people. At a time of economic recession, North Carolina can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

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

- The **foreign-born share** of North Carolina's population rose from 1.7% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 5.3% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 7.0% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. North Carolina was home to 641,130 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is roughly equal to the total population of [Charlotte, North Carolina](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **28.3% of immigrants (or 181,436 people) in North Carolina were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **1.9% (or 79,033) of registered voters** in North Carolina 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

***Nearly one-in-ten North Carolinians are Latino or Asian.***

- The **Latino share of North Carolina's population** grew from 1.2% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 4.7% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 7.4% (or 682,459 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.8% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.4% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 1.9% (or 175,226 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos comprised 1.8% (or 77,000) of North Carolina voters** in the 2008 elections, and Asians about 1% (or 43,000), according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup> Although the numbers of Latino and Asian voters were relatively small, they far exceeded the very narrow margin of victory ([14,177 votes](#)) by which Barack Obama defeated John McCain.<sup>15</sup>

- In North Carolina, **nearly half (or 46%) of the children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>16</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add tens of billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to North Carolina's economy.***

- The **2009 purchasing power of North Carolina's Latinos totaled \$12.8 billion**—an increase of 1,424.0% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$6.0 billion**—an increase of 743.2% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>17</sup>
- **Spending by Latinos** in North Carolina generated **89,600 spin-off jobs** and an additional \$2.4 billion in labor income, \$455 million in state tax revenue, and \$661 million in federal tax revenue in 2004, according to a study by researchers at the [University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill](#).<sup>18</sup>
- North Carolina's 13,695 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$3.5 billion and employed 32,759 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>19</sup> The state's 9,043 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.8 billion and employed 11,615 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>20</sup>

***Immigrants are essential to North Carolina's economy as workers and consumers.***

- Immigrants comprised **9.1% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 436,889 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>21</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **5.3% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 250,000 workers), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>22</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from North Carolina, **the state would lose \$14.5 billion in economic activity, \$6.4 billion in gross state product, and approximately 101,414 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>23</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to North Carolina's economy as students.***

- North Carolina's 12,220 **foreign students contributed \$276.6 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>24</sup>

***Naturalized immigrants excel educationally.***

- The number of immigrants in North Carolina with a college degree **increased by 84.3%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>25</sup>
- 38.8% of North Carolina's foreign-born population age 25 and over who were naturalized U.S. citizens **had at least a bachelor's degree** in [2008](#), compared to 21.9% of noncitizens and 26.0% of native-born citizens.<sup>26</sup>

- In North Carolina, **68.0% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>27</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> 2008 Current Population Survey, [Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008](#).

<sup>15</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>16</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in North Carolina](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>17</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>18</sup> John D. Kasarda and James H. Johnson, Jr., [The Economic Impact of the Hispanic Population on the State of North Carolina](#) (Chapel Hill, North Carolina: Frank Hawkins Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: January 2006).

<sup>19</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>20</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>21</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>22</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009).

<sup>23</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008).

<sup>24</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>25</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [North Carolina: Language & Education](#).

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE PEACE GARDEN STATE:  
The Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in North Dakota**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of North Dakota's population and economy. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 2.3% of the state's population, and more than two-fifths of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. Immigrants not only contribute to the state's economy as workers, but also account for millions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$651 million in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$123.5 million and employed more than 1,600 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, North Dakota would be ill-advised to alienate a significant component of its tax base and business community.

*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](#),<sup>1</sup> to 1.9% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 2.3% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. North Dakota was home to 15,013 immigrants in [2008](#).<sup>4</sup>
- **43.5% of immigrants (or 6,535 people) in North Dakota were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>5</sup>—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](#).<sup>6</sup>

*Nearly 18,000 North Dakotans are Latino or Asian.*

- The **Latino share of North Dakota's population** grew from 0.7% in [1990](#),<sup>7</sup> to 1.2% in [2000](#),<sup>8</sup> to 2.0% (or 12,830 people) in [2008](#).<sup>9</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.5% in [1990](#),<sup>10</sup> to 0.6% in [2000](#),<sup>11</sup> to 0.8% (or 5,132 people) in [2008](#),<sup>12</sup> 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](#),<sup>13</sup> 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](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>14</sup>
- North Dakota's 230 **[Latino-owned](#) businesses** had sales and receipts of \$15.9 million and employed 210 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>15</sup> The state's 277 **[Asian-owned](#) 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.<sup>16</sup>

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

- Immigrants comprised **2.5% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 9,129 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>17</sup>

***Unauthorized immigrants contribute to North Dakota's economy as workers and taxpayers.***

- Unauthorized immigrants comprised less than **1.0% of the state's workforce** (or fewer than 10,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>18</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from North Dakota, **the state would lose \$55.1 million in economic activity, \$24.5 million in gross state product, and approximately 360 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>19</sup>

***Immigrants contribute to North Dakota's economy as students.***

- North Dakota's 2,607 **foreign students contributed \$51.5 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>20</sup>

***Immigrants excel educationally.***

- The number of immigrants in North Dakota with a college degree **increased by 24.6%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>21</sup>
- In [2008](#), **36.9% of North Dakota's foreign-born population** age 25 and older had a bachelor's or higher degree, **compared to 26.6% of native-born persons** above age 25.<sup>22</sup>
- In North Dakota, **70.7% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>23</sup>



## Endnotes

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>10</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>13</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in North Dakota\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>14</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>15</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.

<sup>17</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>18</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>19</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>20</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>21</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*North Dakota: Language & Education\*](#).

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE BUCKEYE STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Ohio**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for large and growing shares of the economy and population in the electoral swing state of Ohio. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up nearly 4% of the state's population, and almost half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 2.4% of all registered voters in the state. Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) account for slightly more than 4% of all Ohioans and wield \$13.7 billion in consumer purchasing power. At last count, the sales and receipts of businesses owned by Latinos and Asians totaled \$6.4 billion. Ohio is also home to the nation's second largest Somali population, whose many businesses contribute to the state's economy. At a time of economic recession, Ohio can ill-afford to alienate an important component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### ***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Ohio's population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Ohio's population rose from 2.4% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 3.0% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 3.7% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Ohio was home to 427,040 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is roughly equal to the total population of [Miami, Florida](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **48.3% of immigrants (or 206,449 people) in Ohio were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **2.4% (or 142,061) of all registered voters** in Ohio 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### ***4.1% of Ohioans are Latino or Asian.***

- **The Latino share of Ohio's population** grew from 1.3% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 1.9% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 2.6% (or 298,634 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 0.8% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.2% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 1.5% (or 172,289 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos comprised 1.3% (or 74,000) of Ohio voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians just under 1% (or 51,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup> Although the numbers of Latino and Asian voters were relatively small, they were equivalent to nearly half of the narrow margin of victory ([258,897 votes](#)) by which Barack Obama won this key battleground state.<sup>15</sup>

- In Ohio, **seven-in-ten (or 70% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>16</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Franklin County is home to roughly a quarter of Ohio's foreign-born population—especially the Somali refugee community—and they contribute to the state's political and economic landscape.*

- **The share of Franklin County's foreign-born population** increased from 3.4% in [1990](#),<sup>17</sup> to 6.0% in [2000](#),<sup>18</sup> to 8.6% (or 96,589 people) in [2007](#),<sup>19</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Columbus, Ohio, ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in percent of new foreign-born residents** (those who came to the United States since 2000) compared to other major metropolitan areas, according to a study by [Community Research Partners](#).<sup>20</sup>
- The [Somali Community Access Network](#) estimates that Central Ohio is home to **more than 45,000 Somali Americans**—making it the second largest Somali population in the United States; second only to Minneapolis, Minnesota.<sup>21</sup>
- Somalis own **more than 400 small businesses** in Columbus, Ohio, which contribute revenue to the local economy.<sup>22</sup>
- Somali community leaders estimate that as **much as 30% of the Somali population** in Central Ohio (roughly 14,000 people) has now gained U.S. citizenship—and they vote, according to [news reports](#).<sup>23</sup>

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add tens of billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Ohio's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Ohio's Latinos totaled \$6.8 billion**—an increase of 334.7% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$6.9 billion**—an increase of 270.4% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>24</sup>
- Ohio's 13,740 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$5.1 billion and employed 42,955 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>25</sup> The state's 7,109 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.3 billion and employed 11,348 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>26</sup>

*Immigrants are essential to Ohio's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **4.2% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 253,096 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>27</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **1.1% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 65,000 workers), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>28</sup>
- Immigrants accounted for **7% of total economic output** in the Cleveland metropolitan area and **5% of economic output** in the Cincinnati metropolitan area as of 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>29</sup> In fact, “immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force.”<sup>30</sup>

- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Ohio, **the state would lose \$4.0 billion in economic activity, \$1.8 billion in gross state product, and approximately 25,019 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>31</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Ohio's economy as students.***

- Ohio's 20,725 **foreign students contributed \$506.7 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>32</sup>

***Immigrants in Ohio excel educationally.***

- The number of immigrants in Ohio with a college degree **increased by 33.2% between 2000 and 2008**, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>33</sup>
- 40.1% of Ohio's foreign-born population age 25 and older **had a bachelor's or higher degree in 2008**, compared to 23.3% of native-born persons age 25 and older.<sup>34</sup>
- In Ohio, **71.6% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>35</sup>

**Endnotes**

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> 2008 Current Population Survey, [Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008](#).

<sup>15</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>16</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Ohio](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Franklin County Estimates](#), 1990.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Franklin County Estimates](#), 2000.

<sup>19</sup> 2007 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>20</sup> Community Research Partners, [Benchmarking Central Ohio 2009](#) (Columbus, OH: Community Research Partners, March 2009).

<sup>21</sup> Jibril Hirsi, "[The Somali Community is a Promising Economic Powerhouse in Ohio Source](#)," *SomaliCAN Outreach Newsletter*, August 2009.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup> Tom Bergerding, "[Columbus Somalis Gain U.S. Citizenship, Head For The Polls](#)," WOSU News, October 29, 2008.

<sup>24</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>25</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>26</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>27</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

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<sup>28</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, *[A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#)* (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009).

<sup>29</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, *[Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country’s 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#)* (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>31</sup> The Perryman Group, *[An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#)* (Waco, TX: April 2008).

<sup>32</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, *[The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#)* (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>33</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Ohio: Language & Education](#).

<sup>34</sup> Ibid.

<sup>35</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE SOONER STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Oklahoma**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Oklahoma. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up one-in-twenty Oklahomans, and one-third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 2.6% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$7.9 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$2.0 billion and employed more than 17,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Oklahoma can ill-afford to alienate such an important component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Oklahoma’s population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Oklahoma’s population rose from 2.1% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 3.8% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 5.0% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Oklahoma was home to 183,249 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [Salt Lake City, Utah](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **33.3% of immigrants (or 61,025 people) in Oklahoma were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **2.6% (or 46,175) of registered voters** in Oklahoma 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

*Nearly one-in-eleven Oklahomans are Latino or Asian.*

- **The Latino share of Oklahoma’s population** grew from 2.7% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 5.2% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 7.7% (or 280,462 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 1.0% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.4% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 1.7% (or 61,920 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 2.2% (or 33,000) of Oklahoma voters** in the 2008 elections, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Oklahoma, **more than four-in-five (or 85% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Oklahoma's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Oklahoma totaled \$5.8 billion**—an increase of 708.2% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$2.1 billion**—an increase of 386.9% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Oklahoma's 5,442 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.1 billion and employed 8,161 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 4,583 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$929.1 million and employed 9,452 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Oklahoma's economy as workers and taxpayers.*

- Immigrants comprised **6.7% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 121,218 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **2.2% of the state's workforce** (or 40,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>20</sup>
- If one-half (roughly 50,000 people) of all the state's immigrant labor force was removed, Oklahoma's economy would be reduced by **1.32% in the short run—a reduction of nearly \$1.8 billion** relative to 2006 production levels, according to a 2008 study by the [Economic Impact Group](#).<sup>21</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Oklahoma, **the state would lose \$580.3 million in economic activity, \$257.8 million in gross state product, and approximately 4,680 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>22</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Oklahoma's economy as students.*

- Oklahoma's 8,460 **foreign students contributed \$178 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>23</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In Oklahoma, **27.7% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 19.3% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 26.2% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 48.4% of noncitizens.<sup>24</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Oklahoma with a college degree **increased by 51.1%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>25</sup>
- In Oklahoma, **77.3% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>26</sup>



## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *The Foreign-Born Population: 2000*, December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *2008 Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties*, May 13, 2009.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, *The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children* (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *The Hispanic Population: 2000*, May 2001.
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- <sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
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- <sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, *The Multicultural Economy 2009* (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002*, August 2006.
- <sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *Asian-Owned Firms: 2002*, August 2006.
- <sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>20</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, *A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States* (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.
- <sup>21</sup> Economic Impact Group, LLC, *A Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) Analysis of the Impact of the Oklahoma Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act of 2007* (Edmond, OK: Economic Impact Group, 2008).
- <sup>22</sup> The Perryman Group, *An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry* (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.
- <sup>23</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, *The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis* (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
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July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE BEAVER STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Oregon**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Oregon. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up nearly one-in-ten Oregonians, and more than one third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 6.5% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$11.7 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$3.6 billion and employed more than 30,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Oregon can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### ***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Oregon’s population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Oregon’s population rose from 4.9% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 8.5% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 9.7% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Oregon was home to 366,405 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is nearly the total population of [Minneapolis, Minnesota](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **36.1% of immigrants (or 132,238 people) in Oregon were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **6.5% (or 125,082) of registered voters** in Oregon 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### ***Nearly one-in-seven Oregonians are Latino or Asian.***

- **The Latino share of Oregon’s population** grew from 4.0% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 8.0% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 11.0% (or 416,907 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 2.3% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 3.0% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 3.4% (or 128,862 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 2.1% (or 39,000) of Oregon voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 1.8% (33,000)** according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Oregon, **more than four-in-five (or 84% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Oregon's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Oregon totaled \$7.0 billion**—an increase of 660.9% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$4.7 billion**—an increase of 425.0% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Oregon's 6,360 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.4 billion and employed 8,272 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 9,046 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$2.2 billion and employed 22,714 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

*Immigrants are essential to Oregon's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **12.2% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 239,997 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>

*Unauthorized immigrants are integral to Oregon's economy as workers and taxpayers.*

- Immigrants accounted for **12% of total economic output** in the Portland metropolitan area as of 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>20</sup> In fact, "immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force."<sup>21</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **5.4% of the state's workforce** (or 100,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>22</sup>
- Unauthorized workers in Oregon paid **between \$134 million and \$187 million** in taxes in [2005](#),<sup>23</sup> according to a 2007 study by the Oregon Center for Public Policy, including:
  - \$65 million to \$90 million in state income, excise, and property taxes.
  - \$56 million to \$79 million in Social Security taxes.
  - \$13 million to \$18 million in Medicare taxes.
- In addition, Oregon employers paid **between \$97 million and \$136 million** in taxes on behalf of unauthorized workers in [2005](#),<sup>24</sup> including:
  - \$56 million to \$79 million in Social Security taxes.
  - \$13 million to \$18 million in Medicare taxes.
  - \$28 million to \$39 million in state unemployment insurance taxes.
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Oregon, **the state would lose \$3.4 billion in economic activity, \$1.5 billion in gross state product, and approximately 19,259 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>25</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Oregon's economy as students.***

- Oregon's 6,648 **foreign students contributed \$188 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>26</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In Oregon, **33.5% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 19.2% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 19.6% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 43.4% of noncitizens.<sup>27</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Oregon with a college degree **increased by 51.9%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>28</sup>
- In Oregon, **74.1% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>29</sup>

**Endnotes**

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [2008 Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties](#), May 13, 2009.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Oregon](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>20</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country's 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>22</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>23</sup> Oregon Center for Public Policy, [Undocumented Workers Are Taxpayers, Too](#) (Silverton, OR: Oregon Center for Public Policy, 2007).

<sup>24</sup> Ibid.

<sup>25</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>26</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>27</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Oregon: Language & Education](#).

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<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE KEYSTONE STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Pennsylvania**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for large and growing shares of the economy and population in the electoral swing state of Pennsylvania. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 5.3% of the state's population, and roughly half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 5.2% of all registered voters in the state. Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) account for more than 7% of all Pennsylvanians and wield \$24.2 billion in consumer purchasing power. At last count, businesses owned by Latinos and Asians had sales and receipts of \$8.2 billion and employed nearly 53,000 people. At a time of economic recession, Pennsylvania can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Pennsylvania's population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Pennsylvania's population rose from 3.1% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 4.1% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 5.3% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Pennsylvania was home to 660,426 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is roughly equal to the total population of [Memphis, Tennessee](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **48.8% of immigrants (or 322,607 people) in Pennsylvania were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **5.2% (or 311,525) of all registered voters** in Pennsylvania were "New Americans"—immigrants or the children of immigrants—according to an analysis of 2006 Census Bureau data by [Rob Paral & Associates](#).<sup>7</sup>

*Nearly 1 in 14 Pennsylvanians are Latino or Asian.*

- The **Latino share of Pennsylvania's population** grew from 2.0% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 3.2% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 4.8% (or 597,517 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 1.1% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.8% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 2.4% (or 298,759 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos comprised 2.8% (or 161,000) of Pennsylvania voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians about one-half of one percent (or 31,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup> Although the numbers of Latino and Asian voters were relatively small, they were equivalent to nearly one-third of the margin of victory ([624,551 votes](#)) by which Barack Obama defeated John McCain.<sup>15</sup>

- In Pennsylvania, **more than four-in-five (85% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>16</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add tens of billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Pennsylvania's economy.***

- The **2009 purchasing power of Pennsylvania's Latinos totaled \$12.7 billion**—an increase of 491.2% since 1990. **Asian buying power also totaled \$11.5 billion**—an increase of 398.9% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>17</sup>
- Pennsylvania's 22,631 [Asian-owned businesses](#) had sales and receipts of \$6.5 billion and employed 42,743 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>18</sup> The state's 11,023 [Latino-owned businesses](#) had sales and receipts of \$1.7 billion and employed 10,051 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>19</sup>

***Immigrants are essential to Pennsylvania's economy as workers.***

- Immigrants comprised **6.3% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 407,726 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>20</sup>
- Immigrants accounted for **nearly three-quarters of labor-force growth in Philadelphia** between 2000 and 2006, according to a report by the [Brookings Institution](#).<sup>21</sup>
- Immigrants accounted for **10% of total economic output** in the Philadelphia metropolitan area and **4% of economic output** in the Pittsburgh metropolitan area as of 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>22</sup> In fact, "immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force."<sup>23</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **1.5% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 100,000 workers), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>24</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Pennsylvania, **the state would lose \$5.3 billion in economic activity, \$2.3 billion in gross state product, and approximately 27,718 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>25</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Pennsylvania's economy as students.***

- Pennsylvania's 27,529 **foreign students contributed \$820.3 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>26</sup>

***Immigrants in Pennsylvania Excel Educationally.***

- The number of immigrants in Pennsylvania with a college degree **increased by 47.2%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>27</sup>



- 37.5% of Pennsylvania’s foreign-born population age 25 and older **had at least a bachelor’s degree** in [2008](#), compared to 25.5% of native-born persons age 25 and older.<sup>28</sup>
- In Pennsylvania, **75.2% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>29</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> 2008 Current Population Survey, [Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008](#).

<sup>15</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>16</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Pennsylvania](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>17</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>19</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>20</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>21</sup> Audrey Singer, et al., [Recent Immigration to Philadelphia: Regional Change in a Re-Emerging Gateway](#) (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, November 2008).

<sup>22</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country’s 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>24</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009).

<sup>25</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008).

<sup>26</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>27</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Pennsylvania: Language & Education](#).

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE OCEAN STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Rhode Island**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Rhode Island. Roughly one-in-eight Rhode Islanders are immigrants (foreign-born), and almost half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 11.6% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$3.0 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$539.8 billion and employed more than 3,800 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Rhode Island can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Rhode Island’s population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Rhode Island’s population rose from 9.5% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 11.4% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 12.2% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Rhode Island was home to 128,453 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the entire population of [Hartford, Connecticut](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **48.5% of immigrants (or 62,275 people) in Rhode Island were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **11.6% (or 62,232) of registered voters** in Rhode Island 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

*Nearly one-in-seven Rhode Islanders are Latino or Asian.*

- **The Latino share of Rhode Island’s population** grew from 4.6% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 8.7% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 11.6% (or 121,891 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 1.8% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 2.3% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 2.9% (or 30,473 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 3.9% (or 20,000) of Rhode Island voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 1.8% (9,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Rhode Island, **nearly nine-in-ten (or 89% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to Rhode Island's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Rhode Island totaled \$2.2 billion**—an increase of 436.7% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$810.4 million**—an increase of 288.3% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Rhode Island's 3,415 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$213.7 million and employed 1,185 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 1,529 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$326.1 million and employed 2,618 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

***Immigrants are essential to Rhode Island's economy as workers.***

- Immigrants comprised **14.2% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 80,746 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>

***Unauthorized immigrants are integral to Rhode Island's economy as workers and taxpayers.***

- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **3.6% of the state's workforce** (or 20,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>20</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Rhode Island, **the state would lose \$698.0 million in economic activity, \$310.0 million in gross state product, and approximately 3,780 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>21</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Rhode Island's economy as students.***

- Rhode Island's 4,114 **foreign students contributed \$142.7 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>22</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In Rhode Island, **22.4% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 16.5% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 33.1% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 43.5% of noncitizens.<sup>23</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Rhode Island with a college degree **increased by 37.4%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>24</sup>
- In Rhode Island, **78.8% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>25</sup>

## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*2008 Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties\*](#), May 13, 2009.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.
- <sup>9</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
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- <sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [\*2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals\*](#).
- <sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in Rhode Island\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>20</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.
- <sup>21</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.
- <sup>22</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>23</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*Rhode Island: Language & Education\*](#).
- <sup>24</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>25</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE PALMETTO STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in South Carolina**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for large and growing shares of the economy and population in the state of South Carolina. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 4.4% of the state's population and more than one-third of immigrants in South Carolina are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 1.3% of all registered voters in the state. Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield nearly \$6 billion in consumer purchasing power. At last count, businesses owned by Latinos and Asians had sales and receipts of \$2.8 billion and employed more than 20,000 people. At a time of economic recession, South Carolina can ill-afford to alienate such an important component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of South Carolina's population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of South Carolina's population rose from 1.4% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 2.9% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 4.4% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. South Carolina was home to 195,069 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the entire population of [Little Rock, Arkansas](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **34.7% of immigrants (or 67,762 people) in South Carolina were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **1.3% (or 25,812) of all registered voters** in South Carolina 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

*Roughly one-in-twenty South Carolinians are Latino or Asian—and they vote.*

- The **Latino share of South Carolina's population** grew from 0.9% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 2.4% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 4.1% (or 183,672 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.6% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 0.9% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 1.1% (or 49,278 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos comprised 0.9% (or 18,000) of South Carolina voters in the 2008 elections**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>

- In South Carolina, **more than four-in-five (or 82%) of children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to South Carolina's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of South Carolina's Latinos totaled \$3.8 billion**—an increase of 925.1% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$2.0 billion**—an increase of 544.2% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- South Carolina's 4,414 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$2.1 billion and employed 15,011 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 3,015 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$691 million and employed 5,584 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to South Carolina's economy as workers.***

- Immigrants comprised **5.6% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 124,917 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **2.2% of the state's workforce** (or 50,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>20</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from South Carolina, **the state would lose \$1.8 billion in economic activity, \$782.9 million in gross state product, and approximately 12,059 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>21</sup>

***Immigrants are important to South Carolina's economy as students.***

- South Carolina's 3,966 **foreign students contributed \$88.2 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>22</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In South Carolina, **29.6% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 21.2% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 18.2% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 37.3% of noncitizens.<sup>23</sup>
- The number of immigrants in South Carolina with a college degree **increased by 48.6%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>24</sup>
- In South Carolina, **71.2% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>25</sup>

## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.
- <sup>9</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.
- <sup>12</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>14</sup> 2008 Current Population Survey, [\*Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008\*](#).
- <sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in South Carolina\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>20</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009).
- <sup>21</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008).
- <sup>22</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>23</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*South Carolina: Language & Education\*](#).
- <sup>24</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>25</sup> Ibid.



July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE MOUNT RUSHMORE STATE:  
The Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in South Dakota**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of South Dakota's population and economy. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 1.9% of the state's population, and nearly half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. Immigrants not only contribute to the state's economy as workers, but also account for millions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$682.8 million in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$209.5 million and employed more than 1,200 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, South Dakota would be ill-advised to alienate a significant component of its tax base and business community.

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

- **The foreign-born share** of South Dakota's population rose from 1.1% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 1.8% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 1.9% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. South Dakota was home to 14,894 immigrants in [2008](#).<sup>4</sup>
- **45.5% of immigrants (or 6,773 people) in South Dakota were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>5</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **1.3% (or 5,789) of registered voters** in South 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](#).<sup>6</sup>

***Nearly 26,000 South Dakotans are Latino or Asian.***

- The **Latino share of South Dakota's population** grew from 0.8% in [1990](#)<sup>7</sup> to 1.4% in [2000](#),<sup>8</sup> to 2.4% (or 19,301 people) in [2008](#).<sup>9</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew 0.4% in [1990](#),<sup>10</sup> to 0.6% in [2000](#),<sup>11</sup> to 0.8% (or 6,434 people) in [2008](#),<sup>12</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- In South Dakota, **nearly seven-in-ten (or 70% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

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

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in South Dakota totaled \$477.1 million**—an increase of 990.8% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$205.5 million**—an increase of 614.3% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>14</sup>
- South Dakota's 355 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$121.9 million and employed 660 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>15</sup> The state's 300 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$87.6 million and employed 582 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>16</sup>

*Immigrants contribute to South Dakota's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **2.2% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 9,950 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>17</sup>

*Unauthorized immigrants are important to South Dakota's economy as workers and consumers.*

- Unauthorized immigrants comprised less than **1.5% of the state's workforce** (or fewer than 10,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>18</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from South Dakota, **the state would lose \$190.5 million in economic activity, \$84.6 million in gross state product, and approximately 1,440 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>19</sup>

*Immigrants are important to South Dakota's economy as students.*

- South Dakota's 931 **foreign students contributed \$13.9 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>20</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In South Dakota, **42.1% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 25.2% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 19.3% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 23.0% of noncitizens.<sup>21</sup>
- The number of immigrants in South Dakota with a college degree **increased by 64.5%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>22</sup>
- In South Dakota, **78.0% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>23</sup>

## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>6</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>7</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.
- <sup>8</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>9</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>10</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.
- <sup>11</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>12</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>13</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in South Dakota\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>14</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>15</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>16</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>17</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>18</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.
- <sup>19</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.
- <sup>20</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>21</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*South Dakota: Language & Education\*](#).
- <sup>22</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>23</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE VOLUNTEER STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Tennessee**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for large and growing shares of the economy and population in Tennessee. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up roughly 4% of the state's population, and nearly one-third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) account for one-in-twenty Tennesseans and wield \$8.2 billion in consumer purchasing power. At last count, the sales and receipts of businesses owned by Latinos and Asians totaled \$3.2 billion and employed roughly 30,000 people. The Memphis metropolitan area is home to the state's largest proportion of Latinos, whose economic contributions totaled \$1.02 billion in 2001. At a time of economic recession, Tennessee can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Tennessee's population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Tennessee's population rose from 1.2% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 2.8% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 4.0% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Tennessee was home to 248,483 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is roughly equal to the total population of [Lincoln, Nebraska](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **32.3% of immigrants (or 80,145 people) in Tennessee were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **1.3% (or 36,764) of all registered voters** in Tennessee are “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](#).<sup>7</sup>

*One-in-twenty Tennesseans are Latino or Asian—and they vote.*

- The **Latino share of Tennessee's population** grew from 0.7% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 2.2% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 3.7% (or 229,951 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.6% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.0% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 1.3% (or 80,794 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- Latinos comprised 1.4% (or 34,000) of Tennessee voters in the 2008 elections, and Asians 0.7% (or 18,000), according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>

- In Tennessee, **more than four-in-five (or 82% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*The Memphis metropolitan area has the largest proportion of Latinos in the state, and they contribute to the economy.*

- **The Latino share of the population in the Memphis metropolitan area** rose from 0.75% in [1990](#),<sup>16</sup> to 2.4% in [2000](#),<sup>17</sup> to 3.6% (or 46,291 people) in [2007](#),<sup>18</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- Latino workers had a **total economic impact of \$1.02 billion** in the Memphis area, according to a 2001 report from the [University of Memphis](#).<sup>19</sup>
- Latino workers in the Memphis area earned **\$570.8 million in wages and salaries** in 2000, paid at least **\$85.6 million in payroll and income taxes**, and generated approximately **\$12.3 million in local and state sales tax**, according to the [same study](#).<sup>20</sup>
- Latinos spent more than **\$359 million in the local Memphis area economy** in [2000](#),<sup>21</sup> including:
  - \$45 million in local grocery stores
  - \$20.2 million in restaurants
  - \$74.8 million for housing
  - \$49.4 million for utilities, furnishings and household supplies
  - \$23.1 million for clothing
  - \$69.0 million for transportation or car operation
  - \$14.2 million for health care services
  - \$38.1 million for other consumption items
  - \$26.0 million for savings in local banks

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to Tennessee's economy.*

- The 2009 **purchasing power of Tennessee's Latinos totaled \$5.1 billion**—an increase of 1,186.1% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$3.1 billion**—an increase of 544.9% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>22</sup>
- Tennessee's 7,241 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$2.2 billion and employed 21,971 people in 2002,<sup>23</sup> the last year for which data is available. The state's 4,301 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.0 billion and employed 7,995 people in 2002,<sup>24</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.

*Immigrants are essential to Tennessee's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **5.2% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 164,029 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>25</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **3.6% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 110,000 workers), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>26</sup>

- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Tennessee, **the state would lose \$3.8 billion in economic activity, \$1.7 billion in gross state product, and approximately 25,919 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>27</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Tennessee's economy as students.***

- Tennessee's 5,690 **foreign students contributed \$139.5 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>28</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In Tennessee, **37.3% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) had a bachelor's or higher degree, compared to 24.5% of noncitizens. Only 15.0% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 37.4% of noncitizens.<sup>29</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Tennessee with a college degree **increased** by 55.4% between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>30</sup>
- 29.0% of Tennessee's foreign-born population age 25 and older **had a bachelor's or higher degree** in [2008](#), compared to 22.6% of native-born persons age 25 and older.<sup>31</sup>
- In Tennessee, **73.8% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>32</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> 2008 Current Population Survey, [Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008](#).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Tennessee](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [1990 Census of Population and Housing](#).

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [2000 Census of Population and Housing](#).

<sup>18</sup> 2007 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>19</sup> Marcela Mendoza, David H. Ciscel, and Barbara Ellen Smith, [Latino Immigrants in Memphis, Tennessee: Their Local Economic Impact](#) (Memphis, TN: University of Memphis, 2001).

<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.

<sup>22</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>23</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>24</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

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<sup>25</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>26</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, April 14, 2009).

<sup>27</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008).

<sup>28</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>29</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Tennessee: Language & Education](#).

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid.

<sup>32</sup> Ibid.



July 2010

### **NEW AMERICANS IN THE LONE STAR STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Texas**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Texas. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up roughly one-in-six Texans, and nearly one-third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for nearly 1-in-10 registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield more than \$208.8 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$62.9 billion and employed more than 450,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Texas can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Texas’s population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Texas’s population rose from 9.0% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 13.9% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 16.0% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Texas was home to 3,887,224 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is roughly the total population of [Los Angeles, California](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **31.4% of immigrants (or 1,220,063 people) in Texas were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **9.3% (or 899,841) of registered voters** in Texas 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

*More than one-in-three Texans are Latino or Asian—and they vote.*

- **The Latino share of Texas’s population** grew from 25.5% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 32.0% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 36.5% (or 8,879,346 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 1.8% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 2.7% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 3.5% (or 851,444 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 20.1% (or 1,697,000) of Texas voters** in the 2008 elections, and Asians 1.4% (118,000), according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Texas, **more than four-in-five (85% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add tens of billions of dollars and hundreds of thousands of jobs to Texas's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Texas totaled \$175.3 billion**—an increase of 429.3% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$33.5 billion**—an increase of 626.8% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Texas's 319,340 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$42.2 billion and employed 280,156 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 77,834 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$20.7 billion and employed 176,571 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Texas's economy as workers and taxpayers.***

- Immigrants comprised **20.4% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 2,482,924 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>
- Immigrants accounted for **21% of total economic output** in the Houston metropolitan area and **16% of economic output** in the Dallas metropolitan area as of 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>20</sup> In fact, "immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force."<sup>21</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants paid nearly **\$1.6 billion in taxes and fees** in [2005](#), according a report by the Texas State Comptroller.<sup>22</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **7.9% of the state's workforce** (or 925,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>23</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Texas, **the state would lose \$69.3 billion in economic activity, \$30.8 billion in gross state product, and approximately 403,174 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>24</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Texas's economy as students.***

- Texas's 58,188 **foreign students contributed \$1.2 billion** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>25</sup>

***Naturalized citizens excel educationally.***

- In Texas, **28.6% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 14.4% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 30.6% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 55.8% of noncitizens.<sup>26</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Texas with a college degree **increased by 66.7%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>27</sup>

- In Texas, **70.9% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>28</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Texas](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>20</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country's 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>22</sup> Carole Keeton Strayhorn, Texas Comptroller, [Undocumented Immigrants in Texas: A Financial Analysis of the Impact to the State Budget and Economy](#) (Austin, TX: December 2006), p. 20.

<sup>23</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>24</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>25</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>26</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Texas: Language & Education](#).

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE BEEHIVE STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Utah**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for large and growing shares of the economy and population in Utah. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 8.3% of the state's population, and nearly one-third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 4.1% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state's economy as workers, but also account for tens of millions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$7.5 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$1.3 billion and employed more than 12,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Utah can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### ***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Utah's population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Utah's population rose from 3.4% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 7.1% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 8.3% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Utah was home to 226,440 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [Winston-Salem, North Carolina](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **32.0% of immigrants (or 72,399 people) in Utah were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **4.1% (or 38,195) of registered voters** in Utah 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### ***Roughly one-in-seven Utahns are Latino or Asian—and they vote.***

- **The Latino share of Utah's population** grew from 4.9% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 9.0% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 12.0% (or 328,371 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 1.5% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.7% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 2.0% (or 54,728 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 2.2% (or 21,000) of Utah voters** in the 2008 elections, and Asians 1.2% (11,000) according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).
- In Utah, **nearly three-in-five (or 57% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>14</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Utah's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Utah totaled \$5.8 billion**—an increase of 679.2% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$1.7 billion**—an increase of 402.5% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>15</sup>
- Utah's 2,824 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$707.0 million and employed 7,145 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>16</sup> The state's 5,177 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$555.1 million and employed 5,251 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>17</sup>

***Mexican immigrants are integral to Utah's economy as taxpayers.***

- Mexican immigrants in Utah **"own property valued at \$984 million,"** have more than **\$1.0 billion in purchasing power**, and paid more than **\$67 million in state and local taxes in 2000**, according to a report by the Institute of Public and International Affairs at the University of Utah,<sup>18</sup> including:
  - \$7.5 million in income tax;
  - \$52.2 million in sales tax; and
  - \$7.6 million in property tax.

***Immigrants are integral to Utah's economy as workers.***

- Immigrants comprised **11.2% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 154,290 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **5.8% of the state's workforce** (or 80,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>20</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Utah, **the state would lose \$2.3 billion in economic activity, \$1.0 billion in gross state product, and approximately 14,219 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>21</sup>

***Immigrants are integral to Utah's economy as students.***

- Utah's 6,301 **foreign students contributed \$115.8 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to the [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>22</sup>

***Latinos are one of the fastest growing groups of new converts to the Mormon Church.***

- Mormons now make up **58% percent of Utah's population**, according to the [Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life](#).<sup>23</sup>
- Latinos make up **30% of all current Mormon Church members**. The Mormon Church also has roughly [2.5 million Latin American members](#)—up more than 70% from four years ago.<sup>24</sup>

- Latinos will represent more than **an estimated 50% of Mormon Church members by 2020**, according [Armando Solorzano](#), researcher at the University of Utah.<sup>25</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In Utah, **29.6% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 17.7% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 20.7% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 38.5% of noncitizens.<sup>26</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Utah with a college degree **increased by 64.8%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>27</sup>
- In Utah, **75.1% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>28</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Utah](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>15</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> Institute of Public and International Affairs, [Mexico and Utah: A Complex Economic Relationship](#) (Salt Lake City, UT: University of Utah, 2005), xi-xii.

<sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>20</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts., April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>21</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>22</sup> Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: National Association of Foreign Student Advisors, 2009).

<sup>23</sup> Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, [U.S. Religious Landscape Survey: Utah](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, November 24, 2009).

<sup>24</sup> Daniel González, “[LDS members conflicted on church's illegal-migrant growth](#),” *The Arizona Republic*, April 3, 2009.

<sup>25</sup> Ann Bardsley, [U of U Researcher Reports Latino Immigrants' Experiences in Utah to be Mixed](#) (Salt Lake City, UT: News Center, The University of Utah, 2005).

<sup>26</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Utah: Language & Education](#).

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.



July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE GREEN MOUNTAIN STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Vermont**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Vermont. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 3.9% of the state's population, and well over half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 4.3% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only important to the state's economy as workers, but also account for millions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$430.3 million in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of more than \$100 million at last count. At a time of economic recession, Vermont can ill-afford to alienate such a significant component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Vermont's population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Vermont's population rose from 3.1% in [1990](#)<sup>1</sup> to 3.9% in [2008](#),<sup>2</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Vermont was home to 24,525 immigrants in [2008](#).
- **56.8% of immigrants (or 13,919 people) in Vermont were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>3</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **4.3% (or 14,818) of registered voters** in Vermont 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](#).<sup>4</sup>

*Roughly 2.5% of Vermonters are Latino or Asian.*

- The **Latino share of Vermont's population** grew from 0.7% in [1990](#),<sup>5</sup> to 0.9% in [2000](#),<sup>6</sup> to 1.2% (or 7,455 people) in [2008](#).<sup>7</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.6% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 0.9% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 1.2% (or 7,455 people) in [2008](#),<sup>10</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- In Vermont, **more than nine-in-ten (or 94% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>11</sup> 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 Vermont's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos totaled \$251.6 million**—an increase of 441.7% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$178.7 million**—an increase of 402.8% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>12</sup>
- Vermont's 434 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$67 million in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>13</sup> The state's 452 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$38 million and employed 229 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>14</sup>

*Immigrants are important to Vermont's economy as workers and taxpayers.*

- Immigrants comprised **4.1% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 14,702 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>15</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised less than **0.5% of the state's workforce** (or fewer than 10,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>16</sup>
- More than half of the milk produced in the state comes from the **roughly 2,000 Hispanic migrant farm workers living and working in Vermont**, according to a [survey](#) by the Vermont Farm Bureau.<sup>17</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Vermont, **the state would lose \$794.8 million in economic activity, \$294.6 million in gross state product, and approximately 5,143 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>18</sup>

*Immigrants are important to Vermont's economy as students.*

- Vermont's 1,022 **foreign students contributed \$28.9 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>19</sup>

*Immigrants excel educationally.*

- **36.4% of Vermont's foreign-born population age 25 and older** had a bachelor's or higher degree in [2008](#), compared to 31.9% of native-born persons age 25 and older.<sup>20</sup>
- In Vermont, **83.3% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>21</sup>

## Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.
- <sup>2</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>3</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>4</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [\*The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children\*](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).
- <sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>7</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.
- <sup>9</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>11</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in Vermont\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).
- <sup>12</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).
- <sup>13</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>14</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.
- <sup>15</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).
- <sup>16</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.
- <sup>17</sup> Chris Urban and Sky Barsch, “[Helping Hands: Migrant labor provides essential help for dairy farms](#),” *Vermont Life Magazine*, Summer 2008.
- <sup>18</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.
- <sup>19</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).
- <sup>20</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Vermont: Language & Education](#).
- <sup>21</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE OLD DOMINION STATE:  
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Virginia**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for large and growing shares of the economy and electorate in Virginia. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up more than 10% of the state's population, and 45% of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 6.4% of all registered voters in the state. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield more than \$29 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they owned had sales and receipts of \$11.1 billion and employed nearly 100,000 people at last count. Immigrant, Latino, and Asian workers and entrepreneurs are integral to Virginia's economy and tax base—and they are an electoral force with which every politician must reckon.

***More than 1 in 10 Virginians are immigrants.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Virginia's population rose from 5.0% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 8.1% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 10.2% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Virginia was home to 795,712 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [Austin, Texas](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **45.3% of immigrants (or 360,108 people) in Virginia were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **6.4% of all registered voters** in Virginia are "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](#).<sup>7</sup>

***1 in 9 Virginians are Latino or Asian—and they vote.***

- The **Latino share of Virginia's population** grew from 2.6% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 4.7% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 6.8% (or 528,298 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> The Asian share of the population grew from 2.5% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 3.7% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 4.8% (or 372,916 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos comprised 2.0% (or 74,000) of Virginia voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 3.7% (or 136,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup> The number of Latino and Asian voters roughly equaled the margin of victory ([234,527 votes](#)) by which Barack Obama defeated John McCain in Virginia.<sup>15</sup>
- In Virginia, **more than four-in-five (or 84% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>16</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

***Unauthorized immigrants contribute to Virginia's economy.***

- Unauthorized immigrants in Virginia paid **between \$260 million and \$311 million** in taxes in [2007](#),<sup>17</sup> including:
  - \$145 million to \$174 million in state income, excise, and property taxes
  - \$93 million to \$111 million in Social Security taxes
  - \$22 million to \$26 million in Medicare taxes
- In addition, Virginia employers paid **between \$119 million and \$142 million** in taxes on behalf of unauthorized workers in [2007](#),<sup>18</sup> including:
  - \$93 million to \$111 million in Social Security taxes
  - \$22 million to \$26 million in Medicare taxes
  - \$4 million to \$5 million in state unemployment insurance taxes
- The state's unauthorized population, which **earned between \$2.6 billion and \$3.1 billion** in [2007](#),<sup>19</sup> even *after* accounting for remittances sent back to their home countries, uses their income to purchase Virginia's goods and services.

***Immigrants are essential to Virginia's economy as workers.***

- Immigrants comprised **13.3% of the state's workforce** (or 560,300 workers) in [2008](#),<sup>20</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Virginia, **the state would lose \$11.2 billion in economic activity, \$5.5 billion in gross state product, and approximately 62,918 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>21</sup>

***Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and tens-of-thousands of jobs to Virginia's economy.***

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Virginia's Latinos totaled \$14.4 billion**—an increase of 560.3% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$14.8 billion**—an increase of 470.3% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>22</sup>
- Virginia's 30,457 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$7.7 billion and employed 70,026 people in 2002,<sup>23</sup> the last year for which data is available. The state's 18,987 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$3.4 billion and employed 29,769 people in 2002,<sup>24</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2002 Survey of Business Owners.

***Immigrants are integral to Virginia's economy as students.***

- Virginia's 14,606 **foreign students contributed \$337.9 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>25</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In Virginia, **44.2% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 34.6% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 13.7% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 29.9% of noncitizens.<sup>26</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Virginia with a college degree **increased** by 59.7% between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>27</sup>
- 39.3% of Virginia's foreign-born population age 25 and older had a bachelor's or higher degree in [2008](#), compared to 32.9% of native-born persons age 25 and older.<sup>28</sup>
- In Virginia, **77.1% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>29</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population](#), December 2003

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Power of Immigrants and their Children](#). (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008)

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> 2008 Current Population Survey, [Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008](#).

<sup>15</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>16</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Virginia](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>17</sup> Michael Cassidy and Sarah Okos, [Fiscal Facts: Tax Contributions of Virginia's Undocumented Immigrants](#) (Richmond, VA: The Commonwealth Institute, 2009).

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

<sup>20</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-year Estimates).

<sup>21</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008).

<sup>22</sup> Jeffery M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>23</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>24</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>25</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>26</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Virginia: Language and Education](#).

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE EVERGREEN STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Washington**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in Washington. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up one-in-eight Washingtonians, and 44% of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 7.5% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$30 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$8.6 billion and employed more than 60,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Washington can ill-afford to alienate such a critical component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### *Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Washington’s population and electorate.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Washington’s population rose from 6.6% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 10.4% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 12.3% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Washington was home to 804,364 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is roughly the total population of [San Francisco, California](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **44.0% of immigrants (or 353,780 people) in Washington were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **7.5% (or 231,755) of registered voters** in Washington 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### *Nearly 1 in 6 Washingtonians are Latino or Asian—and they vote.*

- **The Latino share of Washington’s population** grew from 4.4% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 7.5% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 9.8% (or 641,824 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 4.0% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 5.5% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 6.5% (or 425,700 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 4.8% (or 148,000) of Washington voters** in the 2008 elections, and **Asians 4.3% (132,000)**, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Washington, **more than four-in-five (or 83% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.



*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add tens of billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs to Washington's economy.*

- The **2009 purchasing power of Asians in Washington totaled \$16.6 billion**—an increase of 454.6% since 1990. **Latino buying power totaled \$13.4 billion**—an increase of 552.2% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Washington's 26,890 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$7.1 billion and employed 44,938 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 10,261 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.5 billion and employed 15,852 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Washington's economy as workers and taxpayers.*

- Immigrants comprised **14.8% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 515,102 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>19</sup>
- Immigrants contributed **\$1.48 billion in tax revenue** to the Washington state economy in [2007](#), accounting for 13.2% of all taxes paid in the state, according to a 2009 study by OneAmerica.<sup>20</sup>
- Immigrants accounted for **16% of total economic output** in the Seattle metropolitan area as of 2007, according to a study by the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#).<sup>21</sup> In fact, "immigrants contribute to the economy in direct relation to their share of the population. The economy of metro areas grows in tandem with the immigrant share of the labor force."<sup>22</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **3.5% of the state's workforce** (or 120,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>23</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Washington, **the state would lose \$14.5 billion in economic activity, \$6.4 billion in gross state product, and approximately 71,197 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>24</sup>

*Immigrants are integral to Washington's economy as students.*

- Washington's 15,943 **foreign students contributed \$384.8 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to the [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#) (NAFSA).<sup>25</sup>

*Naturalized citizens excel educationally.*

- In Washington, **33.9% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 28.2% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 17.0% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 35.5% of noncitizens.<sup>26</sup>
- The number of immigrants in Washington with a college degree **increased by 61.3%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>27</sup>



- In Washington, **70.4% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>28</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [2008 Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties](#), May 13, 2009.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Washington](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>19</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>20</sup> Pramila Jayapal and Sarah Curry, [Building Washington's Future: Immigrant Workers' Contributions to Our State Economy](#) (Seattle, WA: OneAmerica, April 2009), p. 29.

<sup>21</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, [Immigrants in the Economy: Contribution of Immigrant Workers to the Country's 25 Largest Metropolitan Areas](#) (New York, NY: Fiscal Policy Institute, December 2009), p. 11.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

<sup>23</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>24</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>25</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>26</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Washington: Language & Education](#).

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE MOUNTAIN STATE:  
The Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in West Virginia**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of West Virginia's population and economy. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 1.3% of the state's population, and nearly half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. Immigrants not only contribute to the state's economy as workers, but also account for millions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$1.1 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$622.4 million and employed more than 5,500 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, West Virginia would be ill-advised to alienate a significant component of its tax base and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of West Virginia's population.*

- **The foreign-born share** of West Virginia's population rose from 0.9% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 1.1% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 1.3% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. West Virginia was home to 23,273 immigrants in [2008](#).<sup>4</sup>
- **45.6% of immigrants (or 10,618 people) in West Virginia were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2008](#)<sup>5</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.

*Nearly 30,000 West Virginians are Latino or Asian.*

- The **Latino share of West Virginia's population** grew from 0.5% in [1990](#),<sup>6</sup> to 0.7% in [2000](#),<sup>7</sup> to 1.1% (or 19,959 people) in [2008](#).<sup>8</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.4% in [1990](#)<sup>9</sup> to 0.5% (or 9,072 people) in [2008](#),<sup>10</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- In West Virginia, **nearly nine-in-ten (or 89% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>11</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add hundreds of millions of dollars and thousands of jobs to West Virginia's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in West Virginia totaled \$549.6 million**—an increase of 491.2% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$567.7 million**—an increase of 183% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>12</sup>

- West Virginia's 648 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$187.3 million and employed 1,395 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>13</sup> The state's 1,234 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$435.1 million and employed 4,329 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>14</sup>

*Immigrants contribute to West Virginia's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **1.6% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 13,647 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>15</sup>

*Unauthorized immigrants contribute to West Virginia's economy as workers and taxpayers.*

- Unauthorized immigrants comprised less than **0.5% of the state's workforce** (or under 10,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>16</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from West Virginia, **the state would lose \$26.6 million in economic activity, \$11.8 million in gross state product, and approximately 180 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>17</sup>

*Immigrants contribute to West Virginia's economy as students.*

- West Virginia's 2,732 **foreign students contributed \$59.7 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>18</sup>

*Naturalized citizens advance educationally.*

- In West Virginia, **44.0% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**. At the same time, only 11.3% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 20.6% of noncitizens.<sup>19</sup>
- The number of immigrants in West Virginia with a college degree **increased by 19.0%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>20</sup>
- In [2008](#), **44.6% of West Virginia's foreign-born population** age 25 and older had a bachelor's or higher degree, **compared to 16.7% of native-born persons** above age 25.
- In West Virginia, **69.7% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>21</sup>

## Endnotes

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Foreign-Born Population: 2000\*](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Hispanic Population: 2000\*](#), May 2001.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*The Asian Population: 2000\*](#), February 2002.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [\*Children in Immigrant Families in West Virginia\*](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>12</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [\*The Multicultural Economy 2009\*](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>13</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [\*Asian-Owned Firms: 2002\*](#), August 2006.

<sup>15</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>16</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [\*A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States\*](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>17</sup> The Perryman Group, [\*An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry\*](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>18</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [\*The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis\*](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>19</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [\*West Virginia: Language & Education\*](#).

<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.

July 2010

## **NEW AMERICANS IN THE BADGER STATE: The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Wisconsin**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and population in Wisconsin. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up 4.4% of the state's population, and two-fifths of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. "New Americans"—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 3.0% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants are not only integral to the state's economy as workers, but also account for tens of million of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$8.7 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$2.5 billion and employed more than 20,500 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Wisconsin can ill-afford to alienate such a significant component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

### ***Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Wisconsin's population and electorate.***

- **The foreign-born share** of Wisconsin's population rose from 2.5% in [1990](#),<sup>1</sup> to 3.6% in [2000](#),<sup>2</sup> to 4.4% in [2008](#),<sup>3</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Wisconsin was home to 247,649 immigrants in [2008](#),<sup>4</sup> which is more than the total population of [Jersey City, New Jersey](#).<sup>5</sup>
- **41.4% of immigrants (or 102,607 people) in Wisconsin were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>6</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **3.0% (or 88,438) of registered voters** in Wisconsin 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

### ***Roughly 1 in 14 Wisconsinites are Latino or Asian—and they vote.***

- **The Latino share of Wisconsin's population** grew from 1.9% in [1990](#),<sup>8</sup> to 3.6% in [2000](#),<sup>9</sup> to 5.1% (or 287,026 people) in [2008](#).<sup>10</sup> **The Asian share of the population** grew from 1.1% in [1990](#),<sup>11</sup> to 1.7% in [2000](#),<sup>12</sup> to 2.0% (or 112,559 people) in [2008](#),<sup>13</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 2.3% (or 66,000) of Wisconsin voters** in the 2008 elections, and Asians 1.1% (31,000), according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>14</sup>
- In Wisconsin, **more than four-in-five (or 86% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>15</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and ten of thousands of jobs to Wisconsin's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Wisconsin totaled \$5.7 billion**—an increase of 627.4% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$3.0 billion**—an increase of 472.1% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>16</sup>
- Wisconsin's 4,957 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$1.5 billion and employed 11,603 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>17</sup> The state's 3,750 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$975.5 million and employed 9,011 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>18</sup>

*Migrant workers are integral to Wisconsin's economy as laborers and taxpayers.*

- Migrant workers constituted **more than 40% of all hired dairy employees** (totaling roughly 5,316 individuals) in [2008](#), according to a study at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.<sup>19</sup>
- **More than 5,000 migrant workers, plus 1,000 dependents, arrive annually** in Wisconsin to work in canning, food-processing, and agriculture, according to 2003 [study](#) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.<sup>20</sup>
- Migrant workers' direct spending generated about **\$14.9 million per year in income** to Wisconsin residents and business, **roughly \$8.7 million in tax revenue** to state and local governments and the creation of **417 jobs for Wisconsinites** annually, according to the [same study](#).<sup>21</sup>

*Immigrants are important to Wisconsin's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **5.0% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 156,440 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>22</sup>
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised **1.8% of the state's workforce** (or 55,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>23</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Wisconsin, **the state would lose \$2.6 billion in economic activity, \$1.2 billion in gross state product, and approximately 14,579 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>24</sup>

*Immigrants are important to Wisconsin's economy as students.*

- Wisconsin's 8,647 **foreign students contributed \$195.3 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to the [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#) (NAFSA).<sup>25</sup>

*Naturalized citizens advance educationally.*

- In Wisconsin, **30.3% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared to 25.2 of noncitizens. At the same time, only

24.1% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 36.5% of noncitizens.<sup>26</sup>

- The number of immigrants in Wisconsin with a college degree **increased by 43.3%** between 2000 and 2008, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.<sup>27</sup>
- In Wisconsin, **75.4% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English “very well” as of [2008](#).<sup>28</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *The Foreign-Born Population: 2000*, December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, *The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children* (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *The Hispanic Population: 2000*, May 2001.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *The Asian Population: 2000*, February 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Electoral College, *2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals*.

<sup>15</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, *Children in Immigrant Families in Wisconsin* (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>16</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, *The Multicultural Economy 2009* (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002*, August 2006.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *Asian-Owned Firms: 2002*, August 2006.

<sup>19</sup> Jill Harrison, Sarah Lloyd, and Trish O’Kane, *Overview of Immigrant Workers on Wisconsin Dairy Farms* (Madison, WI: Program on Agricultural Technology Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, February 2009), p. 2.

<sup>20</sup> Doris P. Slesinger and Steven Deller, *Economic Impact of Migrant Workers on Wisconsin’s Economy* (Madison, WI: Center for Demography and Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, February 2003), p. 27.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., p. 26.

<sup>22</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>23</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, *A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States* (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts., April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>24</sup> The Perryman Group, *An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry* (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>25</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, *The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis* (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>26</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, *Wisconsin: Language & Education*.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.



July 2010

**NEW AMERICANS IN THE EQUALITY STATE:  
The Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians in Wyoming**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of Wyoming's population and economy. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make 2.3% of the state's population, and more than a third of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. Immigrants not only contribute to the state's economy as workers, but also account for millions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$1.5 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of \$305 million and employed nearly 5,000 people at last count. At a time of economic recession, Wyoming would be ill-advised to alienate a significant component of its tax base and business community.

*Immigrants and their children are growing shares of Wyoming's population.*

- **The foreign-born share** of Wyoming's population rose from 1.7% in [1990](#)<sup>1</sup> to 2.3% in [2008](#),<sup>2</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Wyoming was home to 12,372 immigrants in [2008](#).<sup>3</sup>
- **36.5% of immigrants (or 4,513 people) in Wyoming were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#)**<sup>4</sup>—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- **1.5% (or 3,798) of registered voters** in Wyoming 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](#).<sup>5</sup>

*Roughly one-in-twelve Wyomingites are Latino or Asian.*

- The **Latino share of Wyoming's population** grew from 5.7% in [1990](#),<sup>6</sup> to 6.4% in [2000](#),<sup>7</sup> to 7.7% (or 41,015 people) in [2008](#).<sup>8</sup> The **Asian share of the population** grew 0.6% in [1990](#)<sup>9</sup> to 0.7% (or 3,729 people) in [2008](#),<sup>10</sup> according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 2.8% (or 7,000) of Wyoming voters** in the 2008 elections, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).<sup>11</sup>
- In Wyoming, **more than four-in-five (or 86% of) children in immigrant families were U.S. citizens** in [2007](#),<sup>12</sup> according to the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis at the University of Albany.

*Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add hundreds of millions of dollars and thousands of jobs to Wyoming's economy.*

- **The 2009 purchasing power of Latinos in Wyoming totaled \$1.3 billion**—an increase of 382.0% since 1990. **Asian buying power totaled \$214.9 million**—an increase of 635.4% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.<sup>13</sup>
- Wyoming's 1,320 **Latino-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$220.6 million and employed 3,604 people in 2002, the last year for which data is available.<sup>14</sup> The state's 401 **Asian-owned businesses** had sales and receipts of \$84.4 million and employed 1,237 people in 2002, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.<sup>15</sup>

*Immigrants contribute to Wyoming's economy as workers.*

- Immigrants comprised **2.8% of the state's workforce** in [2008](#) (or 8,303 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>16</sup>

*Unauthorized immigrants are important to Wyoming's economy as workers and consumers.*

- Unauthorized immigrants comprised less than **2.0% of the state's workforce** (or fewer than 10,000 workers) in [2008](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.<sup>17</sup>
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from Wyoming, **the state would lose \$194.3 million in economic activity, \$86.3 million in gross state product, and approximately 1,260 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).<sup>18</sup>

*Immigrants are important to Wyoming's economy as students.*

- Wyoming's 890 **foreign students contributed \$16.9 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).<sup>19</sup>

*Naturalized citizens advance educationally.*

- In Wyoming, **21.7% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2008](#) **had a bachelor's or higher degree**, compared 18.5% of noncitizens. At the same time, only 9.2% of naturalized citizens lacked a high-school diploma, compared to 22.4% of noncitizens.<sup>20</sup>
- In Wyoming, **81.1% of all children** between the ages of 5 and 17 in families that spoke a language other than English at home also spoke English "very well" as of [2008](#).<sup>21</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

<sup>2</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Rob Paral and Associates, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Law Foundation, October 2008).

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

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<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

<sup>10</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

<sup>12</sup> Center for Social and Demographic Analysis, [Children in Immigrant Families in Wyoming](#) (Albany, NY: University of Albany, SUNY, September 2009).

<sup>13</sup> Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2009](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2009).

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Hispanic-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>15</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Asian-Owned Firms: 2002](#), August 2006.

<sup>16</sup> 2008 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

<sup>17</sup> Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn, [A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States](#) (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 14, 2009), p. 30.

<sup>18</sup> The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

<sup>19</sup> NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2008-2009 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#) (Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 2009).

<sup>20</sup> Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [Wyoming: Language & Education](#).

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.