

GLOBAL LOUISVILLE

A DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT OF THE FOREIGN BORN

POPULATION GROWTH

Over the past decade, New Americans have played a significant role in Louisville's overall growth, accounting for nearly half of the metro's population increase from 2000 to 2012. Despite these gains, Louisville's international community is still relatively small when compared to the nation's 50 largest metros (5 percent vs. 18.1 percent) and the country overall (5 percent vs. 12.9 percent).¹

BETWEEN 2000 AND 2012:

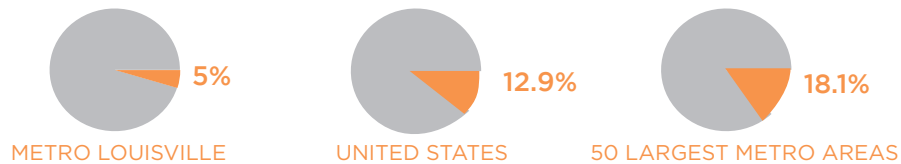


The foreign born were responsible for nearly half (48.1 percent) of Louisville's population growth.²



Louisville's foreign-born population grew by 107.3 percent, while the native-born population grew by just 8.4 percent.³

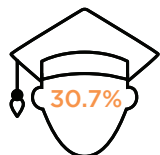
FOREIGN BORN SHARE OF THE OVERALL POPULATION:



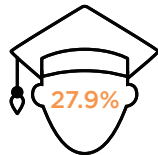
EDUCATION

Louisville's foreign-born population is also highly-educated: They are more likely to hold a bachelor's degree than the foreign-born population within the U.S., and a large share of international students studying at local universities are working towards advanced degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields. Despite these advantages, Louisville has a much smaller share of international students studying at its universities than in other metros, and fails to keep pace with the nation when it comes to retaining international students as workers.⁴

LOUISVILLE'S FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION IS **MORE LIKELY TO HOLD A BACHELOR'S DEGREE** THAN THE FOREIGN BORN NATIONWIDE



IN LOUISVILLE



IN UNITED STATES

LOUISVILLE'S FOREIGN STUDENT POPULATION **BEATS THE NATIONAL AVERAGE** IN TERMS OF STEM ENROLLMENT



More than 3/4 enrolled in master's or doctoral programs.



Nearly 42% are studying in STEM fields, beating the average of 37% among foreign students at U.S. institutions nationwide.

YET MANY TALENTED INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ARE LEAVING AFTER GRADUATION

2,078

STUDENTS ON TEMPORARY VISAS IN THE LOUISVILLE METROPOLITAN AREA (2008-2012)

2nd LOWEST

FOREIGN STUDENT ENROLLMENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT AMONG 118 METROS, OUTPERFORMING ONLY NORFOLK, VA

JUST 36%

FOUND EMPLOYMENT AND MAINTAINED RESIDENCE IN THE METRO AREA, FALLING BEHIND 48 OTHER METROS AND THE NATIONAL AVERAGE OF 45%

LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT

■ U.S.-BORN
■ FOREIGN-BORN

Immigrants in the Louisville region are more likely to be active in the labor force than their native-born counterparts. Nearly three quarters of foreign-born individuals age 16 or older are in the labor force, compared to about two thirds of native-born individuals. Additionally, Louisville's share of foreign born in the labor force is higher than the U.S. as a whole, and is higher than in Louisville's closest peer metros (Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Nashville, and St. Louis).⁵

WORKERS EMPLOYED
IN STEM FIELDS

10.2%

13.5%

FOREIGN-BORN
EMPLOYEES
COMPRISE 5.9%
OF THE EMPLOYED
WORKFORCE, BUT
ARE 7.5% OF ALL
STEM WORKERS.

NEW AMERICANS PUNCH ABOVE THEIR WEIGHT
CLASS IN SEVERAL KEY INDUSTRIES



18.2%
MANUFACTURING
SECTOR



15.3%
ART, ENTERTAINMENT
& HOSPITALITY



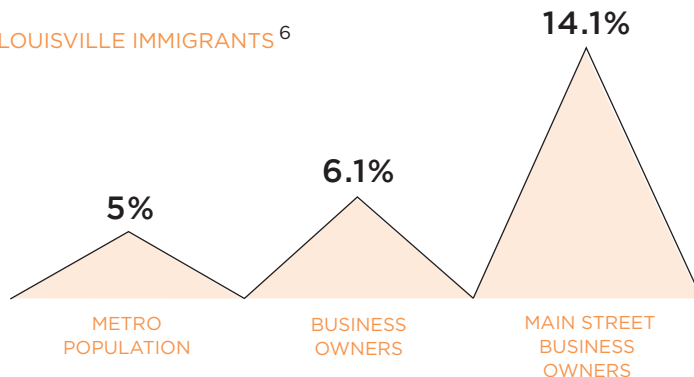
18.5%
EDUCATION
& HEALTH



12.9%
PROFESSIONAL &
BUSINESS SERVICES

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

LOUISVILLE IMMIGRANTS⁶



Immigrants make up just 5 percent of Louisville's population, but they represent more than 6 percent of business owners, and **more than 14 percent of "main street" business owners.**

Self-employed foreign-born residents are also **more likely to work in STEM fields** than are self-employed native-born residents (10 percent vs. 3 percent).

HOUSING

The growth in Louisville's foreign-born population has increased demand for housing and raised the median home values in Jefferson County, resulting in a total increase in the county's housing wealth of nearly \$625 million between 2000 and 2010.⁷

Note: Throughout the memo, unless otherwise noted, "Louisville" refers to the 12 county metro area.



¹ Matthew Ruther, "Louisville: Immigration Rebirth," (Internal memo, *Americas Society/Council of the Americas*, 2015.)

² Partnership for a New American Economy analysis of 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

³ Matthew Ruther, "Louisville: Immigration Rebirth," (Internal memo, *Americas Society/Council of the Americas*, 2015.)

⁴ Neil G. Ruiz, Brookings, "The Geography of Foreign Students in U.S. Higher Education: Origins and Destinations" (Aug. 29, 2014). Available here: <http://www.brookings.edu/research/interactives/2014/geography-of-foreign-students#/M10420>.

⁵ Matthew Ruther, "Louisville: Immigration Rebirth," (Internal memo, *Americas Society/Council of the Americas*, 2015.)

⁶ Fiscal Policy Institute Analysis of American Community Survey 2013 5-Year Data

⁷ 2010 U.S. Census and the Impact of Immigration on the Housing Market, *Americas Society/Council of the Americas* and the Partnership for a New American Economy, retrieved from www.renewoureconomy.org/housingmap