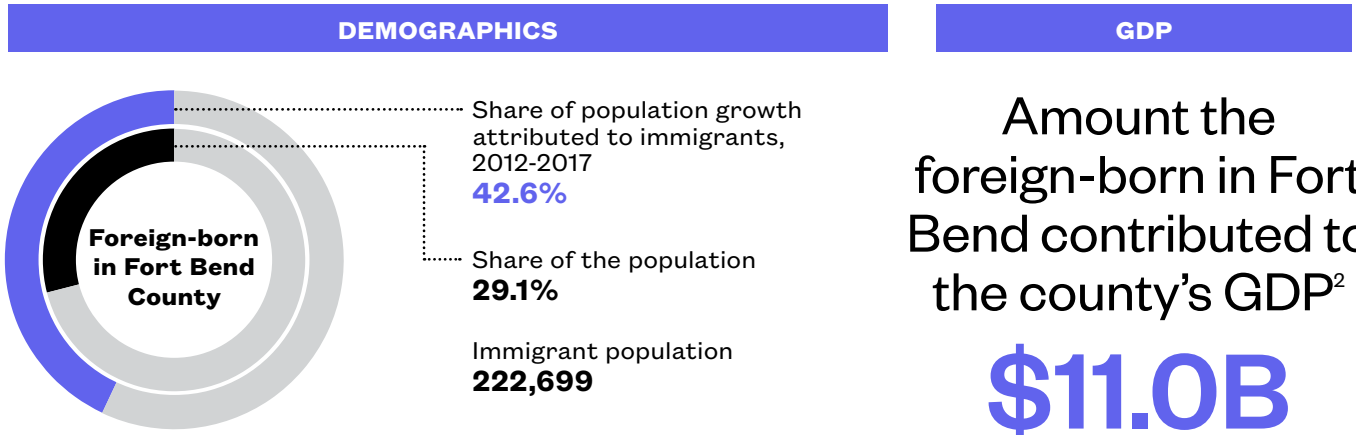


Keeping Pace with Change: The Fort Bend County Business Environment in 2017

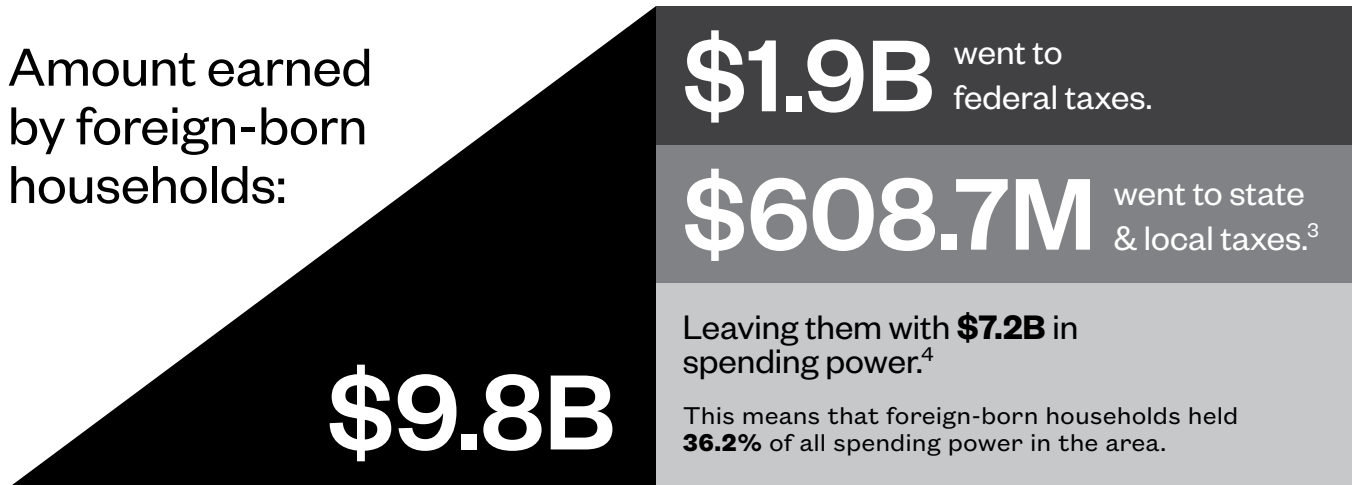
The Effects of Inclusion: A Vibrant Business Scene in Fort Bend County¹

Below is the first in a series of reports on the evolution of the county's business environment.



SPENDING POWER & TAXES

Given their income, foreign-born residents contributed significantly to state and local taxes, including property, income, sales, and excise taxes levied by either the State of Texas or by municipal governments.



HOUSING

Share of U.S.-born population who were homeowners

75.0%

Share of foreign-born population who were homeowners

80.3%

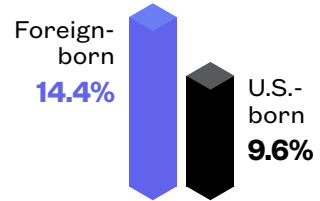
This made foreign-born residents **7.0%** more likely than the U.S.-born to be homeowners.

Between 2012 and 2017, the arrival of immigrants increased the total housing value in the county by

\$580.2M⁵

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Share of the population who were entrepreneurs



This made foreign-born residents **49.0%** more likely than the U.S.-born to be self-employed.

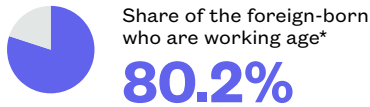
Business income generated by foreign-born entrepreneurs

\$508.0M

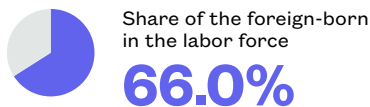
This accounted for **37.9%** of the total business income in the area.

LABOR FORCE

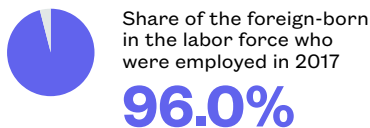
Immigrants are **36.2%** more likely to be working age than the U.S.-born.



Immigrants are **1.4%** more likely to be in the labor force than the U.S.-born.



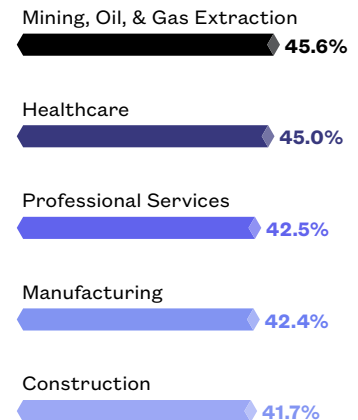
Immigrants are **2.4%** more likely to be employed than their U.S.-born counterparts.



* Working age refers to people ages 16-64 years old. The labor force is comprised of individuals 16 or older who are either employed or looking for work.

KEY INDUSTRIES

Top industries by immigrant share of workforce

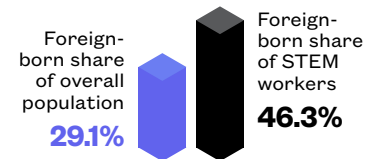


MANUFACTURING

Immigrants fill critical gaps in the workforce, allowing companies to keep jobs on U.S. soil. In 2017, immigrants helped create or preserve

10,244 local manufacturing jobs that would have otherwise vanished or moved elsewhere.⁶

STEM



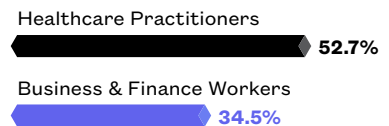
This made foreign-born residents **48.1%** more likely than the U.S.-born to be STEM workers.

SKILLED LABOR FORCE

Immigrants are **25.2%** more likely than the U.S.-born to have at least a bachelor's degree.⁷



Key occupations by immigrant share of workforce



Immigrants are **68.4%** more likely than the U.S.-born to have an advanced degree.



Between 2016 and 2017, a net total of

8,814 college-educated immigrants moved to Fort Bend County.

For more city, district, and state-level data, visit MapTheImpact.org and explore our interactive map.



1 Unless otherwise specified, data comes from one-year samples of the American Community Survey from 2012 and 2017.
 2 This is a conservative estimate based on 2017 GDP data from the National Association of Counties.
 3 Tax estimates are based on state and local tax rates from the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. 2015. "Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of the Tax Systems in All Fifty States."
 4 Estimates are based on federal tax rates from the U.S. Congressional Budget Office, and state and local tax rates from the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. U.S. Congressional Budget Office. 2014. "The Distribution of Household Income and Federal Taxes, 2011."

5 Vigdor, Jacob. 2013. "Immigration and the Revival of American Cities: From Preserving Manufacturing Jobs to Strengthening the Housing Market." Partnership for a New American Economy.
 6 Ibid.
 7 For educational attainment indicators, per U.S. Census Bureau conventions, we limit the population to only those 25 and older.