

New Americans in Northern Kentucky

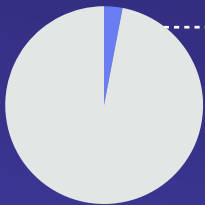
The Demographic and Economic Contributions of Immigrants¹ in the Region²



State & Local

Population Growth in Northern KY Area Development District³

Immigrants made up



3.2%
of the total population in the Northern Kentucky Area Development District in 2017.

18.7%
of total population growth in the district was attributable to immigrants.

Between 2012 and 2017, the immigrant population in the district increased by:

21.2%,
from 11,981 to **14,521**.

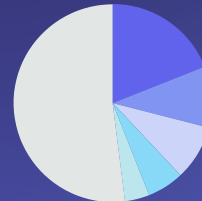
199,407 people worked in the district in 2017. The **8,575** immigrants made up



4.3%
of all the workers in the district in 2017.

14,521 immigrants lived in the district in 2017. Their top five countries of origin were:

1. Mexico **18.7%**
2. India **9.5%**
3. Guatemala **8.7%**
4. Japan **6.4%**
5. Germany **3.5%**



The overall population grew by:

3.1%,
from 439,424 to **453,034**.

Spending Power & Tax Contributions in Northern KY Area Development District

Given their income, immigrants contributed significantly to state and local taxes, including property, sales, and excise taxes levied by state and local governments. Amount earned by immigrant households in 2017:

\$456.0M

\$82.2M

went to federal taxes.⁴

FEDERAL

\$41.4M

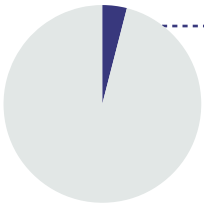
went to state and local taxes.⁵

STATE AND LOCAL

Leaving them with **\$332.5M** in spending power, or **3.5%** of all spending power in the district. This was more than their 3.2% share of the population.

Population Growth in Northern KY⁶

Immigrants made up



3.5%
of the total population
in Northern Kentucky
in 2017.

17.8%
of total population growth
in the region was attributable
to immigrants.

Between 2012 and
2017, the immigrant
population in the region
increased by:

39.2%,
from 9,561 to **13,308.**

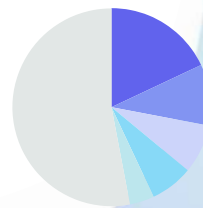
The overall
population grew by:

5.8%,
from 361,685 to **382,724.**

13,308

immigrants lived in the
region in 2017. Their top five
countries of origin were:

1. Mexico **17.6%**
2. India **9.7%**
3. Guatemala **8.2%**
4. Japan **6.9%**
5. Germany **3.6%**



Spending Power & Tax Contributions in Northern KY

Given their income, immigrants
contributed significantly to state
and local taxes, including property,
sales, and excise taxes levied by
state and local governments.
Amount earned by immigrant
households in 2017:

\$428.7M

\$77.6M

went to federal taxes.

FEDERAL

\$38.9M

went to state and
local taxes.

STATE AND LOCAL

Leaving them with **\$312.1M** in spending power, or **3.8%** of all spending
power in the district. This was more than their 3.5% share of the population.

Immigrants in the region also supported federal social programs. In 2017,
they contributed **\$45.5M** to Social Security and **\$11.5M** to Medicare.

SOCIAL SECURITY

\$45.5M

MEDICARE

\$11.5M

Spending Power & Tax Contributions in Northern KY (Continued)

14.9%

of immigrants in the region received Medicare or Medicaid, compared with

30.5%

of U.S.-born residents in 2017.

IMMIGRANTS



U.S.-BORN



PRIVATE



PUBLIC



65.5%

of immigrants had private healthcare coverage, while

15.1%

had public healthcare coverage in 2017.

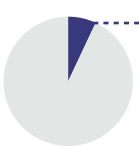
Workforce in Northern KY

Although the foreign-born made up **3.5%** of the region's overall population, they represented **4.4%** of its working-age⁷ population, **4.4%** of its employed labor force, and **7.7%** of its STEM⁸ workers in 2017.

Immigrant shares of the...

POPULATION	3.5%
WORKING-AGE POPULATION	4.4%
EMPLOYED LABOR FORCE	4.4%
STEM WORKERS	7.7%

Immigrants played a critical role in several **key industries** in the region. This included:



7.0%

of workers in the manufacturing industry were foreign-born in 2017.

MANUFACTURING	7.0%
HOSPITALITY	6.4%
RETAIL TRADE	6.2%
CONSTRUCTION	5.1%
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ⁹	4.3%

Immigrant Share of Population: 3.5%

Because of the role immigrants play in the workforce helping companies keep jobs on U.S. soil, we estimate that immigrants living in the region helped create or preserve **612 local manufacturing jobs** that would have otherwise vanished or moved elsewhere by 2017.¹⁰

SPOTLIGHT ON

Johannes “Hans” Frederik Philippo

OWNER, HOLLAND ROOFING

It was 1977, and Johannes “Hans” Frederik Philippo was working on his civil engineering degree in Holland when his girlfriend’s father asked him the question: “We are moving to the United States. Are you coming also?” His future father-in-law, a tulip-bulb exporter, wanted to get into the horse business. Kentucky was his destination.

“And in 1978 we moved,” says Philippo. “August 24th, my birthday. I was 23 years old, I had no clue. I had \$1,500 in my pocket.”

Philippo stayed, married the girl, and in 1986 launched his own business. Holland Roofing now has 30 offices across the Midwest and upwards of 450 employees, most of whom were born in the United States. He had learned about roofing after his father-in-law sold the tulip business in 1980 to breed horses, and a man seeking workers asked if he could read blueprints. “I can draw them for you,” Philippo answered.

Philippo was born and raised in Lisse, Holland, the tulip capital of the world. He sold tulips briefly in the United States for his father-in-law, “on the road,” he says, “talking only to Americans,” thus mightily improving his English. And you might say that later he planted many more bulbs of his own.

In addition to Holland Roofing, Philippo leases real estate; owns Lisse Steakhouse restaurant and House of Orange sports bar; has an insurance company, antique shops, a banquet hall, and more; raises Angus cows for beef on his South Kentucky farm; and owns an amateur soccer team, the Dutch Lions.

The Lions sponsor events to promote soccer, and his businesses donate to causes throughout the region. In 2017, the Kingdom of the Netherlands appointed him an Honorary Consul in Cincinnati. His claim to fame, he says, is that both his adult children live in his zip code. He loves the Midwest.

“The American people accept people so easily and give them a big chance,” he says. “And they’re fine with people succeeding, and it’s awesome. So all I want to say is thank you.”

SPOTLIGHT ON

Fatou Souare

OPERATIONS MANAGER, STAFFMARK

Fatou Souare grew up in Senegal, West Africa, and never so much as thought of America. But then she fell in love, with an American. “My dream was to stay in Senegal and try to help the people there. That’s the heart that God gave me,” she says. “Then I went to my cousin’s wedding in the city.”

There she met a teacher from Louisiana. A year later, in 1998, they married, and she moved to the United States. Things went well, except he insisted she stay home. So when their fourth child entered preschool and she wanted to attend college, he objected. She moved out.

That, she explains, is how she ended up in Hebron, Kentucky, temporarily at a friend’s home. “I didn’t have a car, but I found a school right next to me—American National University.” Souare finished her associate’s and bachelor’s degrees in business administration and accounting, and landed a front desk job at the Comfort Inn in Florence. At the same time, she raised her children and reached out to assist other new arrivals from Africa.

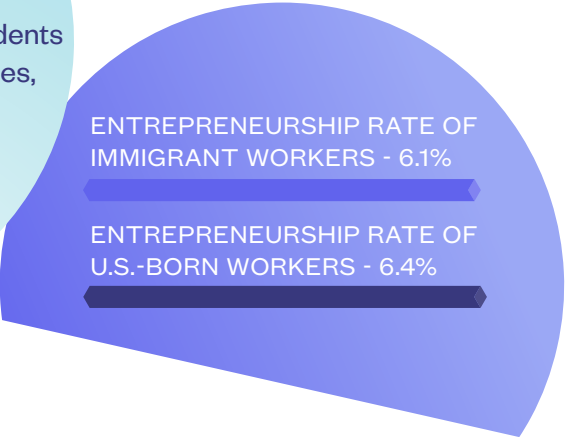
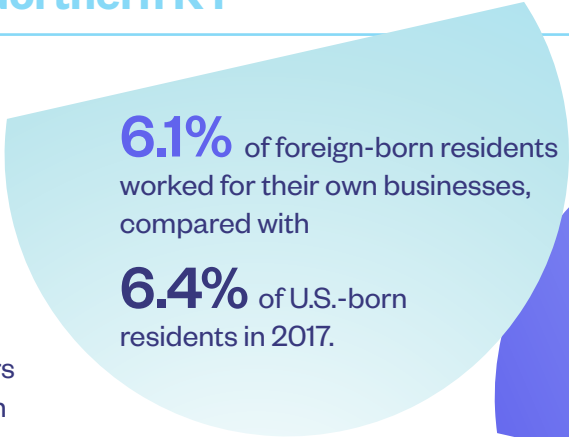
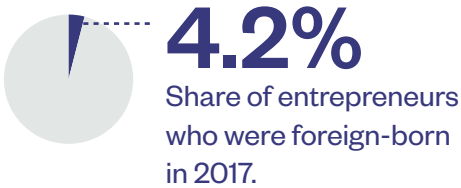
“I would go to the African store and say, ‘If you know someone who is having trouble—an application for a job, for housing, or doesn’t know their way—I don’t know everything, but a lot of stuff I’ve already figured out how to do.’”

By 2016, only four years after moving to Kentucky, Souare landed her dream job. As an operations manager at Staffmark, she helps businesses and workers alike, and is particularly adept at guiding new arrivals, directing them to English classes and outlining how they must painstakingly work their way back up the career ladder. She also co-founded the Kentucky African Women’s Association, a nonprofit that helps people in need.

“You can see, people who had a big job in Africa, they’ll say, ‘I was a lawyer.’ I say, ‘It doesn’t count here. You’re starting all over.’ I know it’s hard for them, but they have to understand that it was their decision [to seek safety in the United States]. It was their life, or their job,” she says.

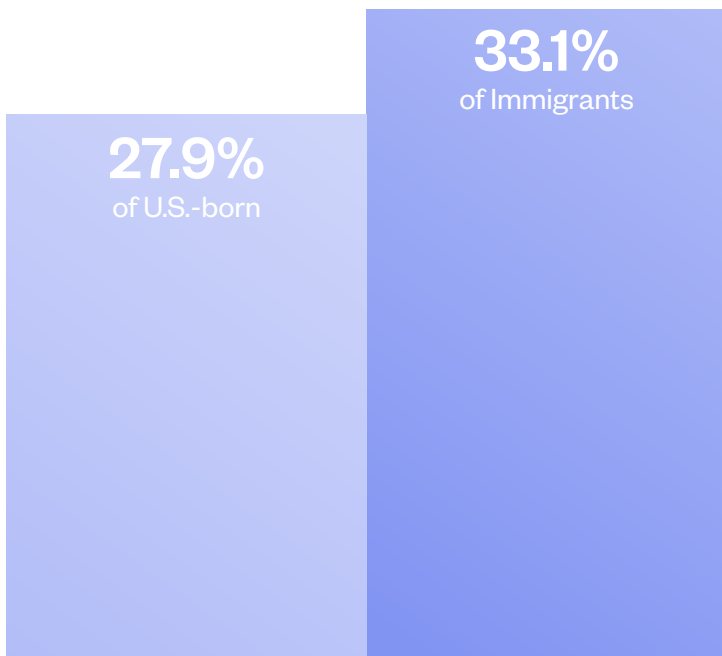
Entrepreneurship in Northern KY

Despite making up **3.5%** of the population, immigrants made up **4.2%** of the business owners in the region in 2017.



Education in Northern KY

Share of the region's population aged 25 or older that held a **bachelor's degree or higher** in 2017:



Share of the region's population aged 25 or older that held an **advanced degree** in 2017:



Education in Northern KY (Continued)

414

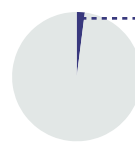
students who were enrolled in colleges and universities in the region during the fall of 2015 were temporary residents.¹¹

82

local jobs were supported by international students.

\$14.9M

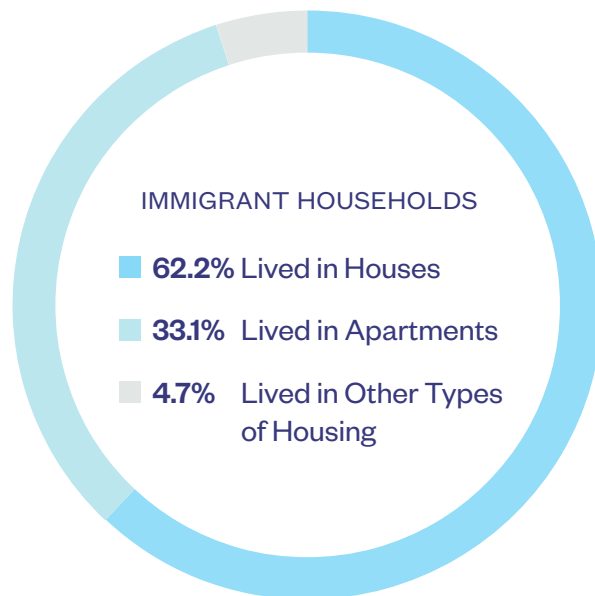
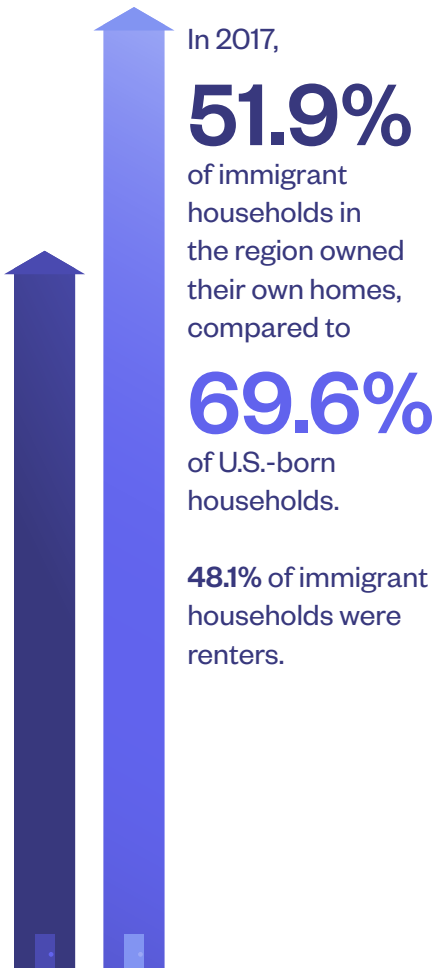
was spent by international students in the 2017-18 academic year.¹²



1.6%

of public school students under 18 were born abroad.

Housing Wealth in Northern KY



Total property value of immigrant households:

\$690.8M

Their total annual rent paid:

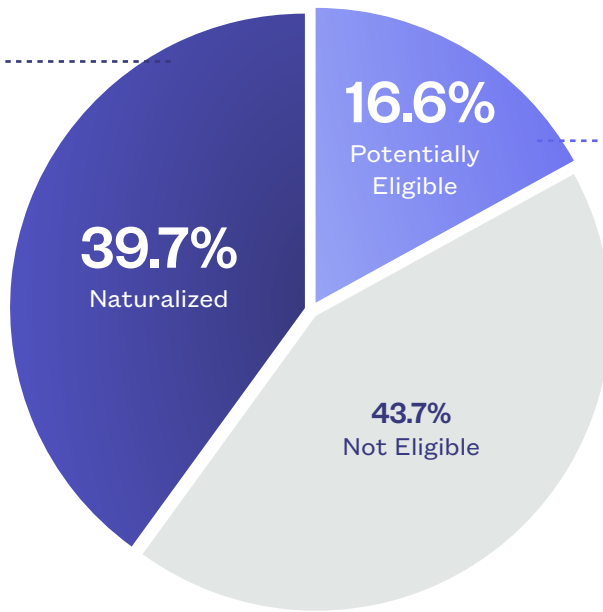
\$24.6M

Naturalization in Northern Kentucky

Share of immigrants in the region who were naturalized U.S. citizens. This represents a total of

5,277
immigrants.

Nationally, **49.4%** of all immigrants are naturalized.



Share of immigrants in the region who were likely eligible to naturalize. This represents a total of

2,208
immigrants.

- 1 We define an immigrant and foreign-born as anyone born outside the country to non-U.S. citizen parents who is a resident in the United States. This includes naturalized citizens, green card holders, temporary visa holders, refugees, asylees, and undocumented immigrants, among others.
- 2 Unless otherwise specified, data comes from 5-year samples of the American Community Survey from 2012 and 2017.
- 3 Northern Kentucky Area Development District includes the counties of Boone, Campbell, Carroll, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Owen, and Pendleton in Kentucky.
- 4 U.S. Congressional Budget Office. 2018. "The Distribution of Household Income, 2015."
- 5 Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. 2015. "Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of the Tax Systems in All Fifty States."
- 6 Northern Kentucky includes the counties of Boone, Campbell, and Kenton in Kentucky.
- 7 We define working age as 16-64 years of age.

- 8 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math
- 9 Professional services: Most of these industries include professions that require a degree or a license, such as legal services, accounting, scientific research, consulting services, etc.
- 10 Vigdor, Jacob. 2013. "Immigration and the Revival of American Cities: From Preserving Manufacturing Jobs to Strengthening the Housing Market." *New American Economy*.
- 11 Data on total student enrollment in the region is derived from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System maintained by the National Center for Education Statistics. Temporary residents refer to people who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- 12 Economic data is derived from the International Student Economic Value Tool maintained by NAFSA, the association of international educators.