



New Americans in El Paso, Texas

A Snapshot of the Demographic and Economic Contributions of Immigrants in the Metro Area¹

POPULATION GROWTH

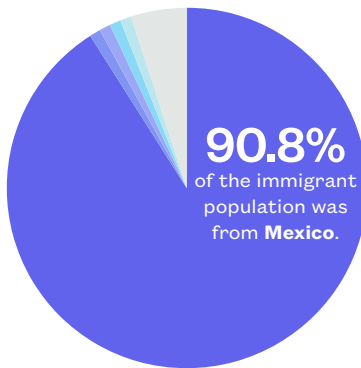
202,200

immigrants² lived in the metro area in 2019, making up



24.1%

of the overall population.



Top five countries of origin for immigrants living in the metro area:

- 1 Mexico 90.8%
- 2 Philippines 1.0%
- 3 Germany 0.9%
- 4 Korea 0.7%
- 5 India 0.5%

SPENDING POWER AND TAX CONTRIBUTIONS

Immigrants in the metro area hold considerable economic power. In 2019, immigrant residents in El Paso contributed **\$8.6B** to the metro area's GDP.³

Amount earned by immigrant households in 2019:

\$4.8B

\$591.8M

 went to federal taxes.⁴

\$440.7M

 went to state & local taxes.⁵

Leaving them with **\$3.8B** in spending power, or **29.2%** of all spending power in El Paso.



SPENDING POWER AND TAX CONTRIBUTIONS (CONTINUED)

In 2019, immigrants in the metro area contributed:

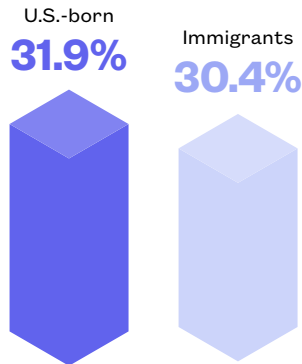
\$437.6M

to Social Security and

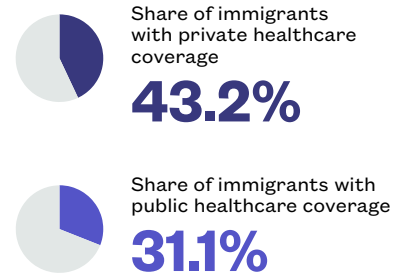
\$108.3M

to Medicare.

Share of residents receiving Medicare or Medicaid in 2019:



Type of healthcare coverage for immigrant residents in 2019:

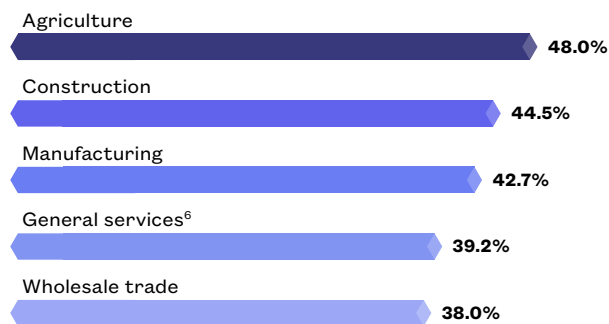


WORKFORCE

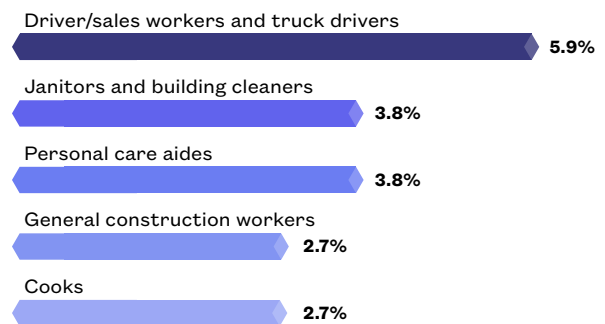
2019 immigrant shares of the...



Immigrants play a critical role in several key industries in the metro area. This includes:



Immigrants tend to concentrate in these occupations in the metro area:



Because of the role immigrants play in the workforce helping companies keep jobs on U.S. soil, we estimate that, by 2019, immigrants living in the metro area had helped create or preserve **9,300 local manufacturing jobs** that would have otherwise been eliminated or moved elsewhere.⁷

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

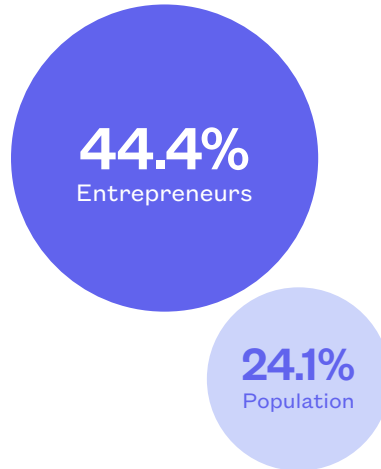
13,000

immigrants worked for their own businesses, generating

\$285.1M

in business income.

2019 immigrant share of:



In the metro area, immigrants were

+109.7%

more likely to be entrepreneurs than their U.S.-born counterparts.



EDUCATION AND LONG-TERM ECONOMIC IMPACTS

1,711

students enrolled in colleges and universities in the metro area were temporary residents in 2020.⁸ These students supported

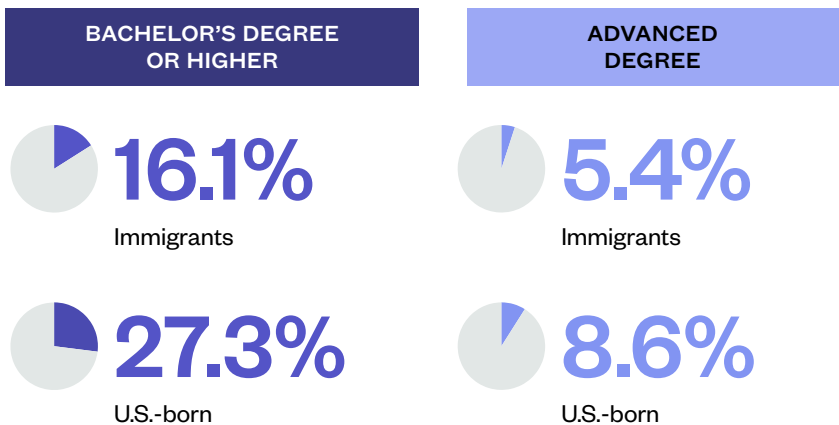
600

local jobs and contributed

\$46.5M

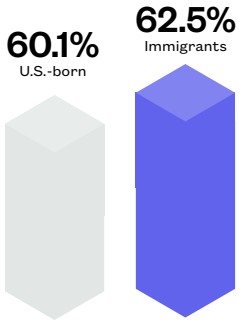
in spending in the 2020-21 academic year.⁹

Share of the metro area's population aged 25 or older that held a:



HOUSING WEALTH

Share of residents in El Paso who owned their homes in 2019:

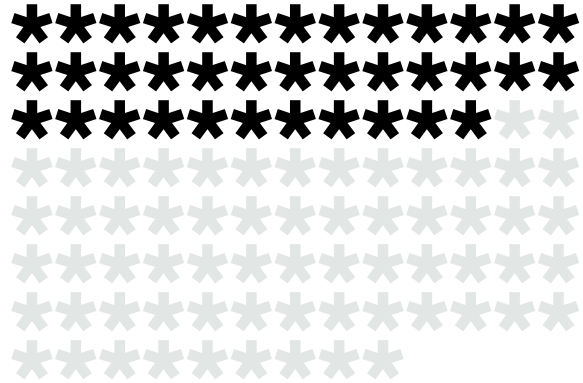


The total property value of immigrant households in 2019 was

\$7.4B

Share of immigrant residents in El Paso who rented their homes in 2019:

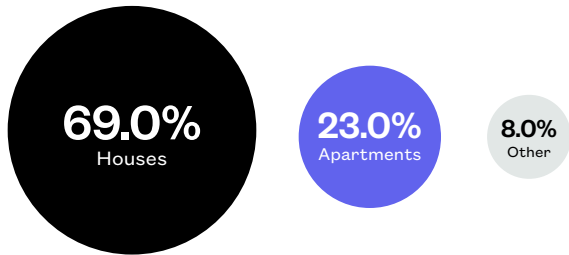
37.5%



The total annual rent paid by immigrant households in 2019 was

\$257.2M

Share of immigrants living in:



NATURALIZATION

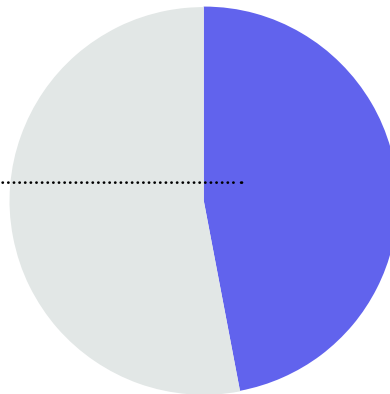
In 2019,

95,200

immigrants, or

47.1%

of the immigrant population in the metro area, were naturalized citizens.



32,800

immigrants, or

16.2%

of immigrants in the El Paso Metro Area were potentially eligible for naturalization in 2019.¹⁰

UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS

In 2019, approximately

46,200

undocumented immigrants lived in the metro area, making up



of the immigrant population.

Mexico was the most common country of origin for undocumented immigrants in the metro area.



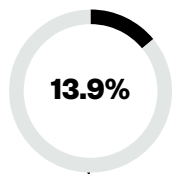
of the undocumented population is Mexican-born.

REFUGEES

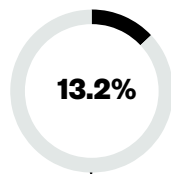


of the immigrant population, or less than 1,000 people, were refugees in 2019.¹¹

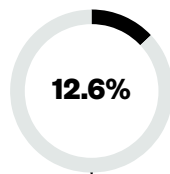
Undocumented immigrants tend to concentrate and work in these industries in 2019:



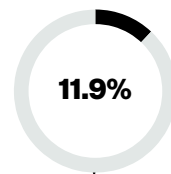
Construction: 13.9 percent of undocumented immigrants worked in this industry in 2019



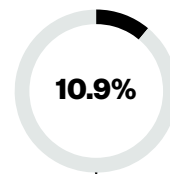
Hospitality



Health Care and Social Assistance



Manufacturing



Professional Services¹²

Amount earned by undocumented immigrant households in 2019:

\$757.4M

\$35.2M

went to federal taxes.¹³

\$37.5M

went to state & local taxes.¹⁴

\$684.7M

left in spending power.

ENDNOTES

1. Unless otherwise specified, data comes from 5-year samples of the American Community Survey (ACS) from 2014 and 2019 and figures refer to the El Paso, TX metropolitan statistical area.
2. Except where otherwise noted (e.g., “undocumented immigrant” or “DACA-eligible”), we define an immigrant as anyone born outside the country to non-U.S. citizen parents who resides in the United States. This includes naturalized citizens, green card holders, individuals with temporary immigration status, refugees, asylees, and undocumented immigrants, among others.
3. These figures derive from our calculations based on immigrants’ share of wage income and self-employment income in the 5-year ACS sample from 2019 and the statistics on GDP from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.
4. U.S. Congressional Budget Office, *The Distribution of Household Income and Federal Taxes*, 2018 (Washington, DC: 2021), <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/57404>.
5. Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, *Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of the Tax Systems in All Fifty States* (Washington, DC: 2018), <https://itep.org/whopays/>.
6. General services include personal services (e.g. laundry services, barber shops, and repair and maintenance), religious organizations, social services, and labor unions.
7. Jacob Vigdor, *Immigration and the Revival of American Cities: From Preserving Manufacturing Jobs to Strengthening the Housing Market* (New York, NY: Americas Society/Council of the Americas and New American Economy, 2013), <http://www.newamericaneconomy.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/revival-of-american-cities.pdf>.
8. Data on total student enrollment in the metro area 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.
9. Economic data is derived from the International Student Economic Value Tool maintained by NAFSA, the association of international educators.
10. An immigrant is eligible to naturalize if they are documented, have resided in the United States for five years or more, and speak English well or fluently, as well as immigrants in military service who meet certain requirements such as speaking English well. Those who do not fit these criteria are deemed to be not eligible or currently ineligible to naturalize.
11. New American Economy, *From Struggle to Resilience: The Economic Impact of Refugees in America*, (New York, NY: 2017), <https://research.newamericaneconomy.org/report/from-struggle-to-resilience-the-economic-impact-of-refugees-in-america/>.
12. 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.
13. U.S. Congressional Budget Office, *The Distribution of Household Income and Federal Taxes*, 2018 (Washington, DC: 2021), <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/57404>.
14. Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, *Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of the Tax Systems in All Fifty States* (Washington, DC: 2018), <https://itep.org/whopays/>.