Immigrants as Economic Drivers in the Kansas City Metro Area in 2015

A Snapshot of the Demographic and Economic Contributions of New Americans

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

Amount earned by foreign-born households:

$3.7B

This leaves them with $3.0B in spending power.

Amount to GDP contributed by the foreign-born

$8.6B

GDP

DEMOGRAPHICS

Share of population growth attributed to immigrants, 2010-2015
17.5%

Share of the population
6.5%

SPENDING POWER & TAXES

Amount earned by foreign-born households:

$3.7B

$629.8M went to federal taxes.

$309.3M went to state and local taxes.

New American Economy | State & Local

GLOBAL TALENT CHAMBER NETWORK

KC CHAMBER FOR A GREATER KANSAS CITY
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L LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION

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

- Share of the foreign-born who are working age: 83.1%
- Share of the U.S.-born who are working age: 63.2%

- Share of the foreign-born in the labor force: 71.1%
- Share of the U.S.-born in the labor force: 67.9%

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

M MANUFACTURING

Because of the role immigrants play in the workforce helping companies keep jobs on U.S. soil, it is estimated that immigrants living in Kansas City in 2015 helped create or preserve 6,294 local manufacturing jobs that would have otherwise vanished or moved elsewhere.

E ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Number of immigrant entrepreneurs in the Kansas City metro area: 7,085

- Share of the population who are entrepreneurs:
  - Foreign-born: 8.4%
  - U.S.-born: 8.2%

S SKILLED LABOR FORCE

Immigrants have higher levels of education than the U.S.-born.

- 15.7% of the foreign-born have an advanced degree...

- Compared to 13% of the U.S.-born.
### Immigrants as Economic Drivers in the Kansas City Metro Area in 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STEM WORKERS</th>
<th>INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Share of students graduating with STEM degrees who are temporary residents</strong>&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td><strong>College-educated immigrants who moved to the Kansas City metro area in 2014</strong>&lt;sup&gt;7&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>6,406</td>
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<td><strong>Foreign-born share of the population</strong>&lt;sup&gt;6&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.5%</td>
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<td><strong>Share of the foreign-born who are STEM workers</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Share of the U.S.-born who are STEM workers</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7.3%</td>
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</tbody>
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- **International students enrolled in Fall 2015**<sup>8</sup>:
  - UM Kansas City: 1,608
  - Park University: 419
  - William Jewel College: 48
  - **Total**: 3,680

- **Share of international students who stayed in the metro area to work through OPT,**<sup>*</sup> 2008-2012<sup>2</sup>:
  - 37.7%

*Optional Practical Training is a government program that authorizes employment*

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1. We define the Kansas City metropolitan area using the Office of Management and Budget definition of the Kansas City, MO-KS Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). Unless otherwise specified, data comes from 1-year samples of the American Community Survey from 2010 and 2016, and figures refer to the Kansas City metro area.

2. These figures derive from our calculations based on immigrants’ share of wage income and self-employment income in the one-year ACS sample from 2016 and the statistics of GDP by Metropolitan Area from the Bureau of Economic Analysis.


6. Data on STEM graduates in the metro area is derived from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System maintained by the National Center for Education Statistics.

7. Sample size is below 100

8. Data on total student enrollment in the city is derived from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System maintained by the National Center for Education Statistics.