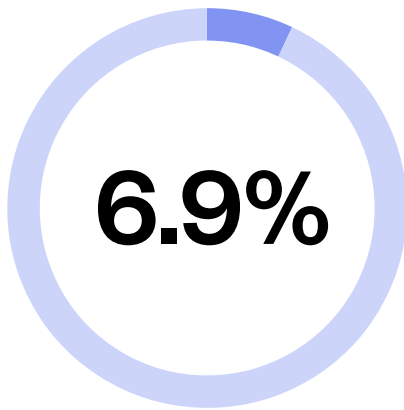


Contributions of New Americans in Michigan

The Demographic and Economic Contributions of Immigrants¹ in the State²

POPULATION



Immigrant share of the Michigan population in 2022. This represented a total of **687,700** immigrants living in the state at that time.³

POPULATION GROWTH

57.7%

of the population growth in Michigan between 2012 and 2022 was attributable to immigrants moving to the state. The immigrant population grew by **87,000** during this time.

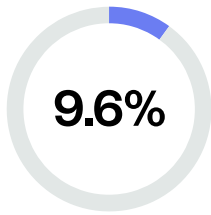
1.5%
Total population growth

14.5%
Immigrant population growth

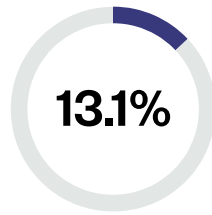
2012
Immigrant population:
600,700

2022
Immigrant population:
687,700

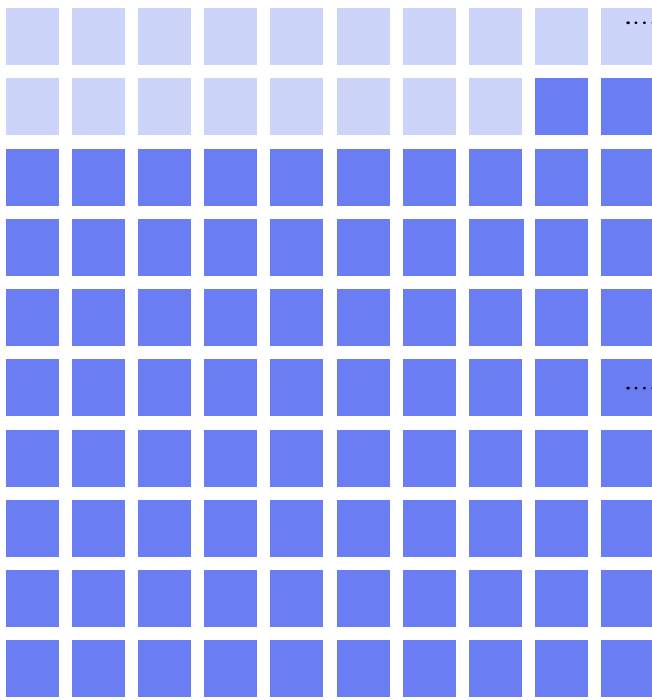
DEMOGRAPHICS



Share of households in Michigan in 2022 that had at least one immigrant.



Share of children in Michigan that live with at least one immigrant parent.



17.9%

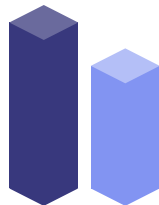
Share of immigrants in Michigan who were recent arrivals, with five years of residency in the United States or less.

82.1%

Share of immigrants in Michigan who resided in the United States for more than five years.

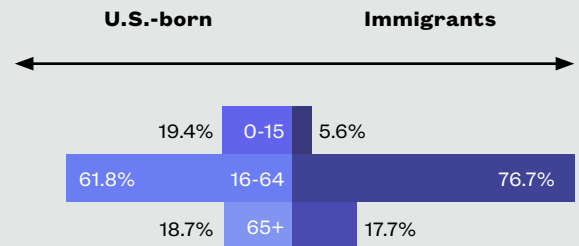
Immigrants were

24.1%



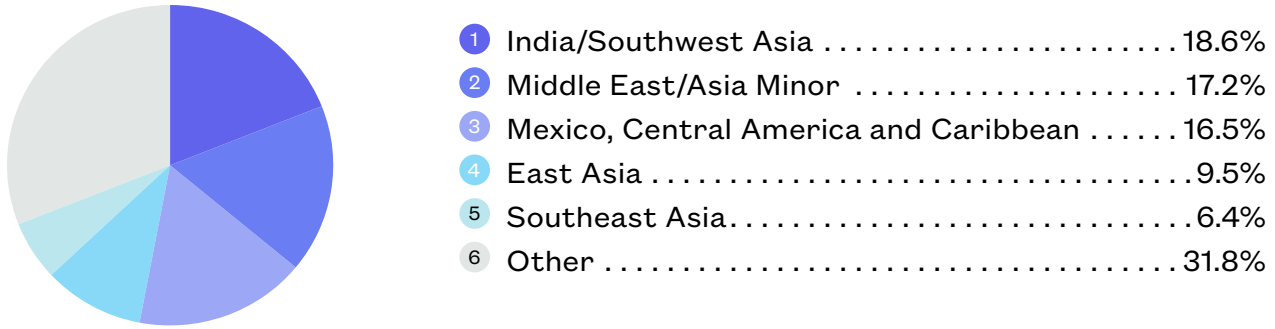
more likely to be of working age than their U.S.-born counterparts, allowing them to actively participate in the labor force and contribute to the economy as taxpayers and consumers.⁴

Share of population by age:⁵

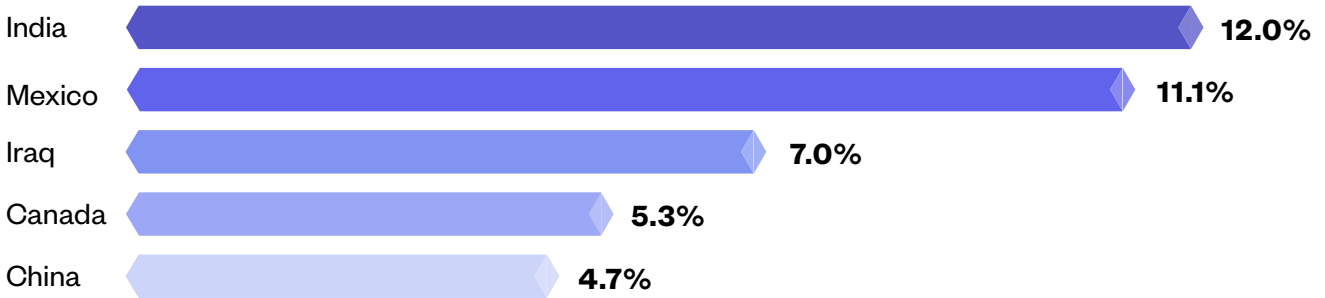


DEMOGRAPHICS (CONTINUED)

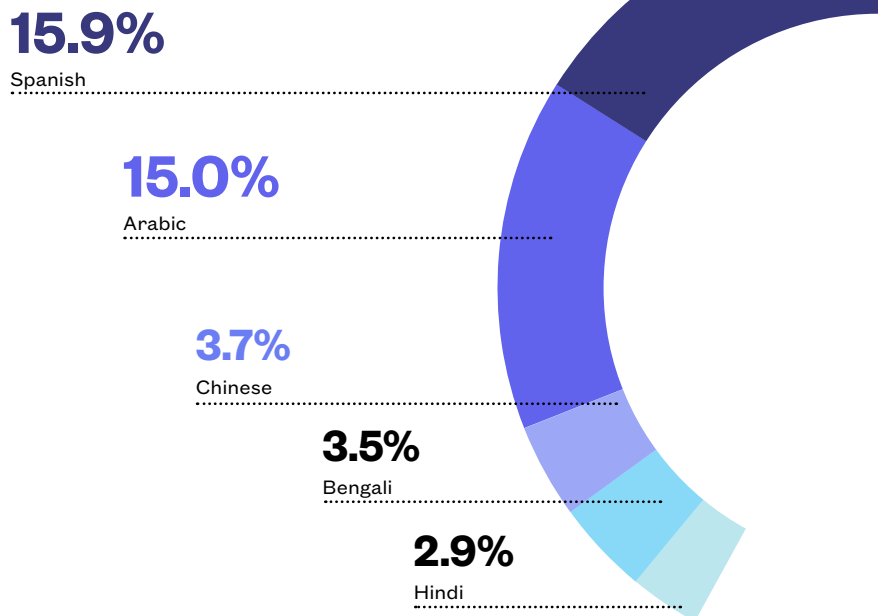
The top regions of origin for immigrants living in the state:



The top countries of origin for immigrants living in the state:



The top languages spoken at home other than English among immigrants:



IMMIGRANTS WITH LIMITED ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

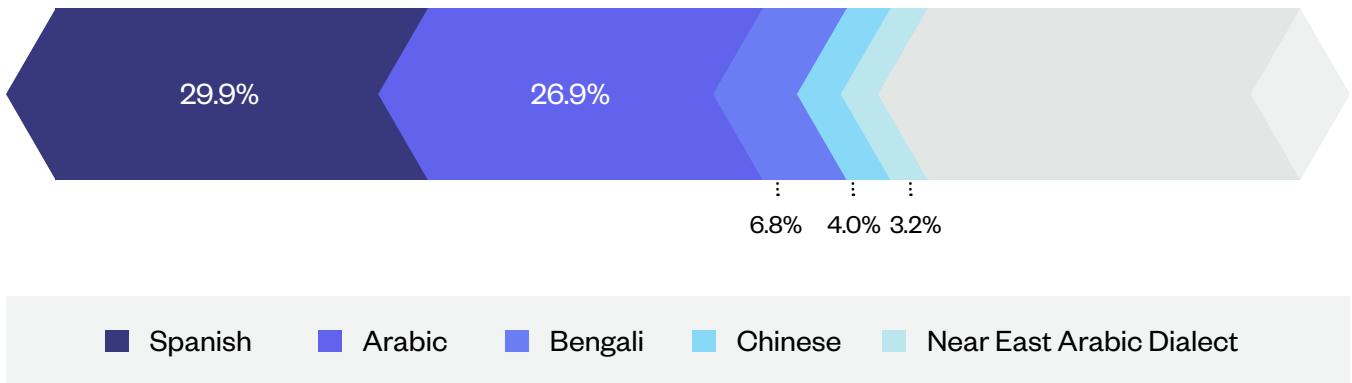
82.5%

of immigrants in Michigan were proficient in English in 2022.

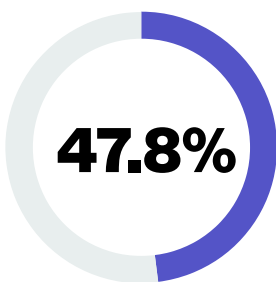
17.5%

of immigrants living in the state (119,800 people) had limited English language proficiency, defined for this report as those who do not speak English at all or do not speak English well.

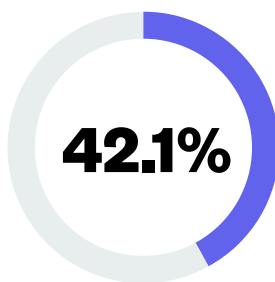
Among those with limited English proficiency, the top languages spoken at home were:



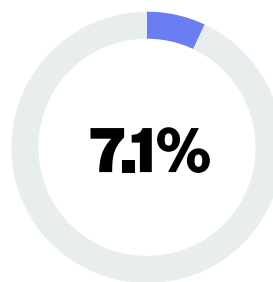
Among those with limited English language proficiency aged 25 or above, educational attainment was as follows:



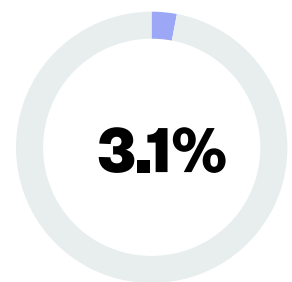
Less than a high school diploma



High school or some college



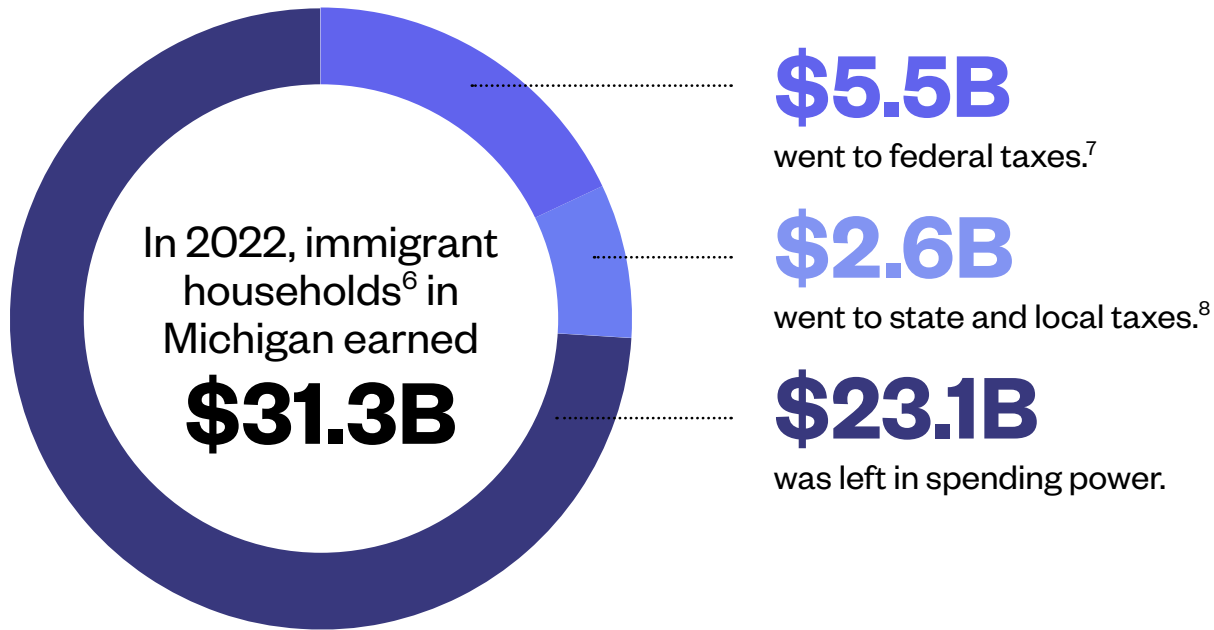
Bachelor's degree



Advanced degree

SPENDING POWER & TAX CONTRIBUTIONS

Immigrants living in Michigan paid a significant amount in federal, state and local taxes, including property, sales, and excise taxes levied by state and local governments.



In 2022, immigrants in Michigan contributed

\$67.8B

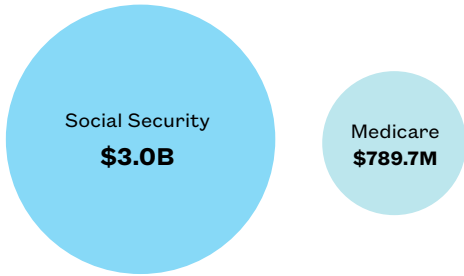
to the state's gross domestic product (GDP), or **9.9%** of the total GDP for the year.⁹

8.6%

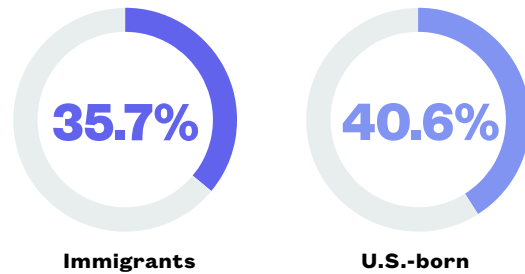
of all spending power in the state was attributable to immigrants in 2022.

SPENDING POWER & TAX CONTRIBUTIONS (CONTINUED)

Immigrants in Michigan also supported federal social programs. In 2022, they contributed **\$3.0B** to Social Security and **\$789.7M** to Medicare.



35.7% of immigrants in the state received Medicare or Medicaid in 2022, compared with **40.6%** of U.S.-born residents.



64.4% of immigrants had private healthcare coverage, while **36.0%** had public healthcare coverage.¹⁰ **9.7%** of immigrants were uninsured.

70.6% of U.S.-born residents had private healthcare coverage, while **41.2%** had public healthcare coverage. **4.4%** of U.S.-born residents were uninsured.

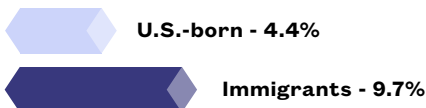
Private healthcare coverage



Public healthcare coverage



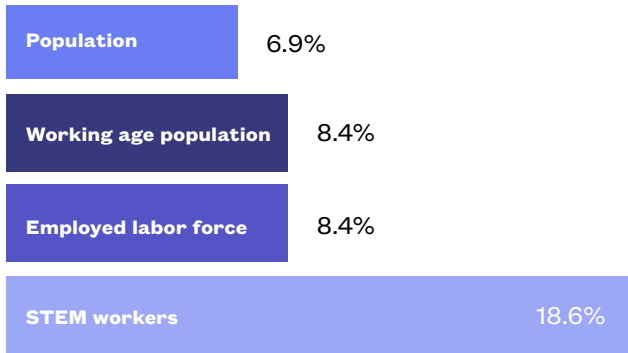
Uninsured



WORKFORCE

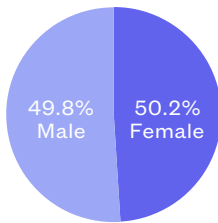
Although immigrants made up **6.9%** of the state's total population, they represented **8.4%** of its working age population, **8.4%** of its employed labor force, and **18.6%** of its workers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields in 2022.¹¹

Immigrant shares of the...

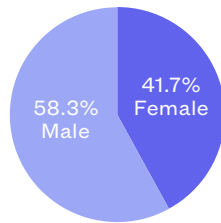


Immigrants by sex:

Working Age Population



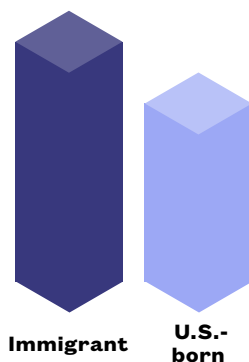
Employed Population



In Michigan, immigrants were

24.1%

more likely to be of working age than their U.S.-born counterparts.



SPOTLIGHT

Bing Goei

President and CEO of Eastern Floral

Bing Goei arrived in Grand Rapids on January 9, 1960, six years after he and his five siblings, father, and pregnant mother fled Indonesia with one suitcase and \$100 off the black market. In 1950s post-colonial Indonesia, a period rocked by chaos and growing authoritarianism, Goei's family had obtained permission to leave, but then all of their possessions and bank accounts were seized. They lived in the Netherlands until being approved for resettlement in the United States.

Bing's family were among the early Indonesian immigrants in Grand Rapids—now a primary destination for refugees from Africa and Southeast Asia. Yet, Goei believes his family's transition was easier than those of today, despite the growth of refugee agencies and communities.

When his family—now toting seven children—stepped off the train in 1960, they were greeted on the platform by deacons of the former Fuller Avenue Christian Reform Church (CRC), who helped them settle into a house on Logan Street.

"We were overwhelmed," Bing recalls. "I remember my mother crying because she'd never seen a refrigerator stocked so full of food. We'd never seen a home this big. For us, it was God's gift to us."

The deacons introduced the family at church and got Bing's father—a teacher not yet credentialed to teach in the U.S.—a janitorial job at Florist Supply Co., Inc.

"There was an immediate feeling of belonging. We had immediate access to 300-plus people," Bing says. "We didn't have to go through an agency. We could go directly to members of our church family."

"Today's refugees may not be coming to America with that wonderful asset. It's a different process for them." Bing wants to help ease that process.


He has done well for himself—he now owns Eastern Floral and spearheaded the creation of the 65,000 square foot Goei Center through the redevelopment of a shuttered furniture factory in an underserved Grand Rapids neighborhood. Between Eastern Floral and the Goei Center, Bing's enterprises employ 65 full-time and part-time employees generating over \$5 million dollars in revenues. Yet, Bing's mission is to give back and to help advance Black and minority communities. He was recently appointed to represent the third ward on the Grand Rapids City Commission. Prior to that, Bing served as the first director of the Michigan Office for New Americans, founded the International Center of Entrepreneurial Excellence, and chaired the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, among other endeavors.

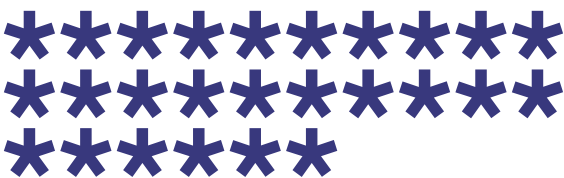
"We have done very good work in the city, and a lot of that is attributed to our kind and compassionate nature," he says. "But we can always do better. "Every immigrant family that arrives will come with their own unique challenges."

"Immigrants from all walks of life have built this country, and we should celebrate that," he adds. "This country has given me and my family so much, and this city has given me so much ... For however long I live, I will do everything I can to try and be a blessing to others."

WORKFORCE (CONTINUED)

In 2022, there were 26 open STEM job postings for every available unemployed STEM worker in Michigan.¹²

 = 26



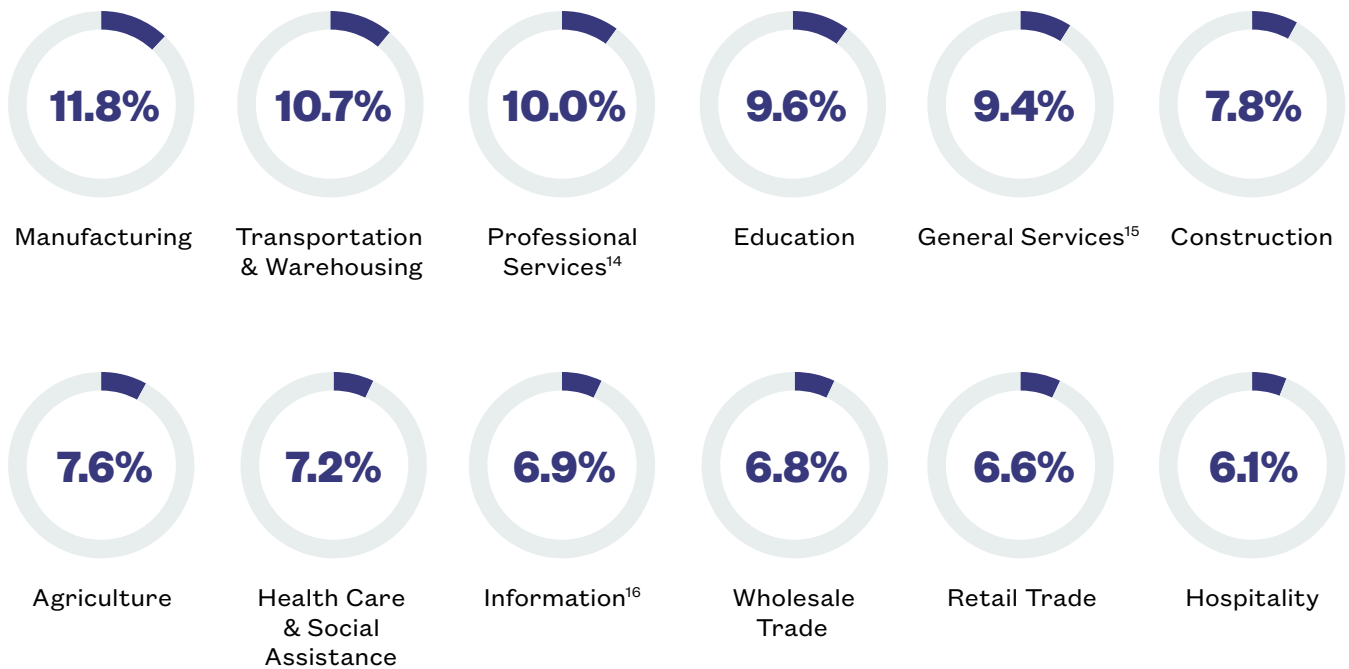
Due to the role immigrants play in the workforce helping companies keep jobs on U.S. soil, our research shows that immigrants living in the state helped create or preserve

31,600

manufacturing jobs

that would have otherwise been eliminated or moved elsewhere by 2022.¹³

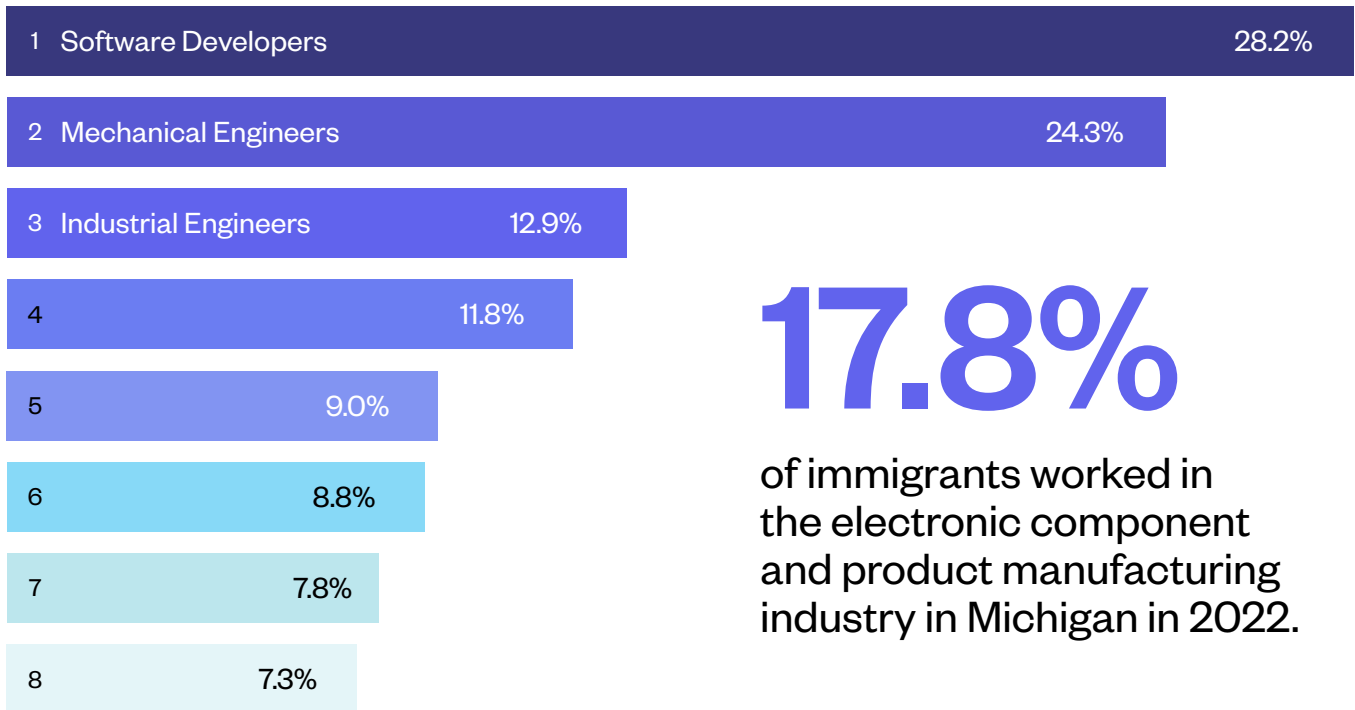
Immigrants played a critical role in several key industries in the state. The immigrant share of workers was highest in the following **industries:**



WORKFORCE (CONTINUED)

While immigrants made up **6.9% of Michigan’s population** and **8.4% of its workforce**, immigrants made up significant portions of the workforce in critical fields in the Michigan economy.

Immigrant share of **select occupations** in Michigan in 2022:



17.8%

of immigrants worked in the electronic component and product manufacturing industry in Michigan in 2022.

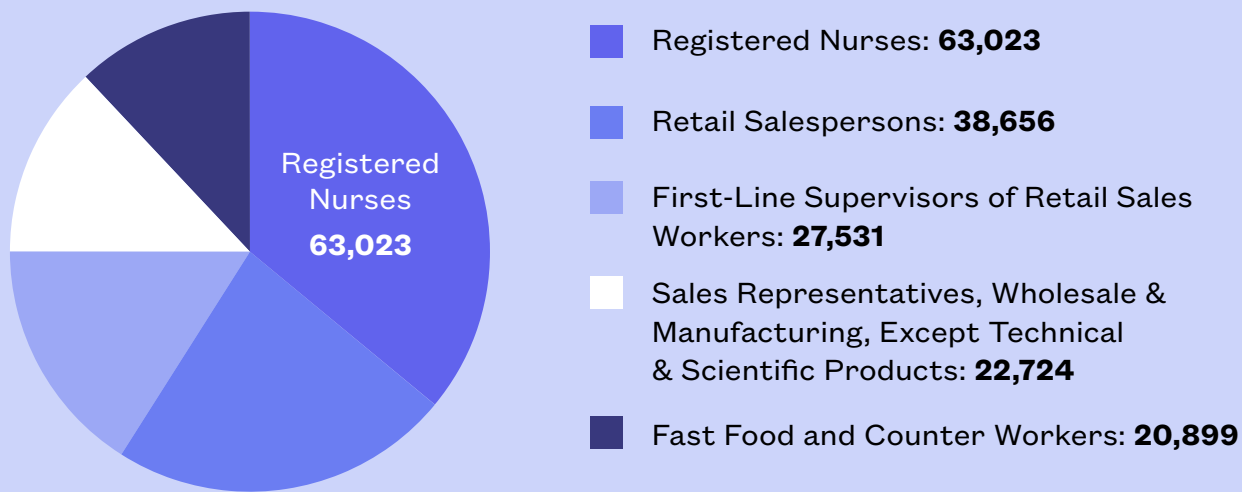
- 1 Software Developers
- 2 Mechanical Engineers
- 3 Industrial Engineers, Including Health & Safety
- 4 Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers
- 5 Misc. Production Workers, Including Equipment Operators & Tenders
- 6 First-Line Supervisors Of Production & Operating Workers
- 7 Registered Nurses
- 8 Other Assemblers & Fabricators

SPOTLIGHT

Job Demand in Michigan in 2023

Not only were immigrants more likely to be of working age than the U.S.-born, but they were also a crucial part of the state’s economy and helped meet the needs of its fastest growing and most in-demand fields.¹⁷

The top in-demand jobs in the state, by number of open job postings, were:



Immigrants help fill many high-demand roles, especially as the need for bilingual and culturally competent workers increases.

The top five industries with the highest demand for bilingual workers:¹⁸

1. Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services: 1,376
2. Educational Services: 1,167
3. Administrative and Support Services: 1,088
4. Chemical Manufacturing: 754
5. Administration of Economic Programs: 584

The top five occupations with the highest demand for bilingual workers were:

1. Police and Sheriff’s Patrol Officers: 597
2. Customer Service Representatives: 568
3. Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products: 529
4. First-Line Supervisors of Retail Salespersons: 478
5. Retail Salespersons: 466

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

46,200

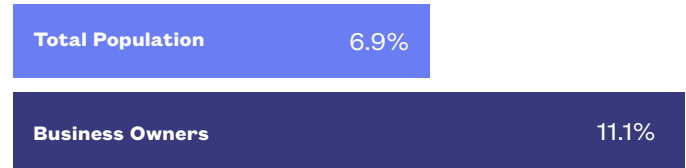
immigrant entrepreneurs generated

\$1.4B

in business income in Michigan.

Immigrants represented **11.1%** of the business owners in the state in 2022 despite making up **6.9%** of the population.

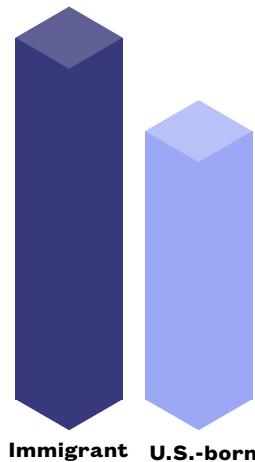
Immigrant shares of Michigan's...



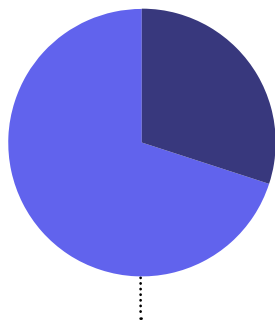
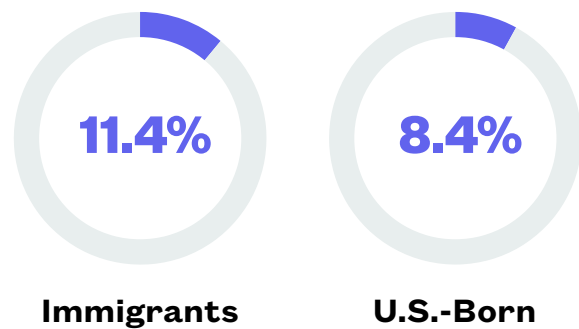
In the state, immigrants were

35.5%

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

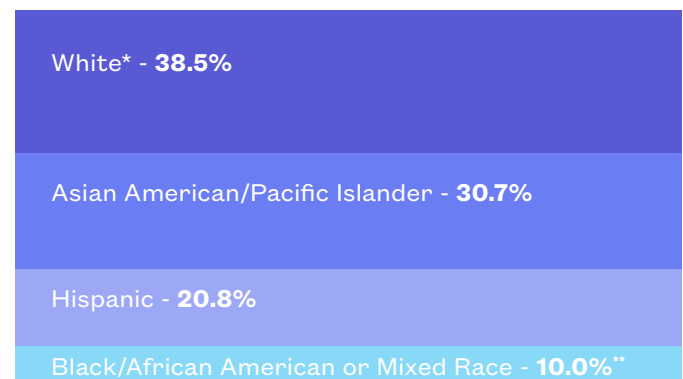


Share of the population who worked for their own businesses:¹⁹



Immigrant entrepreneurs self-identified as **34.7%** female and **65.3%** male.

Immigrant entrepreneurs by race and ethnicity:

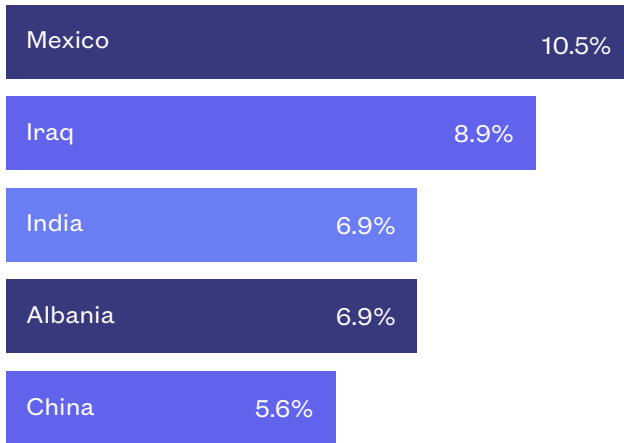


*The U.S. Census Bureau does not have a separate categorization for those from the Middle East/North Africa (MENA) and therefore many are likely included under the 'white' category, though these individuals can self-identify as any racial group.

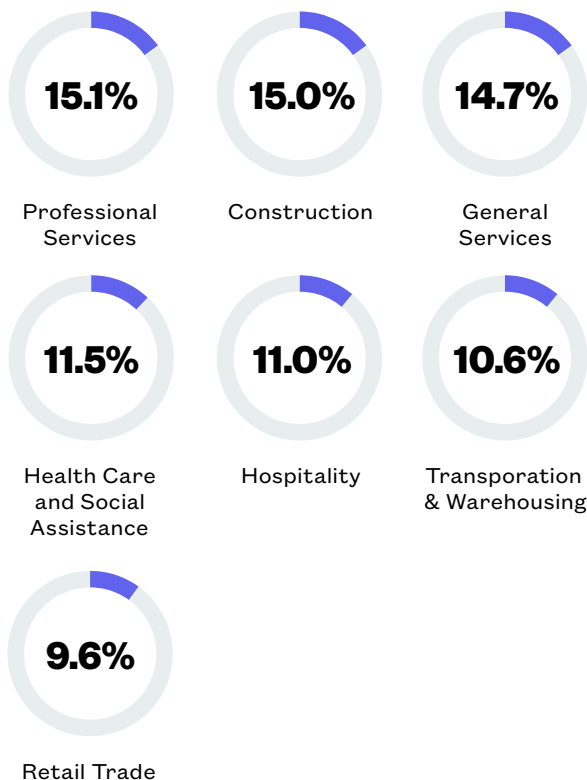
**Due to small sample sizes of the categories of "Black/African American" and "Mixed/Other Race", these two categories were combined for this datapoint so that the estimate could be included.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP (CONTINUED)

The **top countries of origin** for immigrant entrepreneurs were:



The immigrant share of entrepreneurs was highest in the following **industries**:



SPOTLIGHT

Manish Senta

Founder/Managing Director of TekWissen

Manish Senta left a successful family and possibilities at home to pursue graduate studies in nanotechnology at Purdue University in Indiana.

“A lot of people think, Oh, he moved to the United States because he didn’t have opportunities in India,” says Manish, now of Ann Arbor. “I came to the United States because I wanted to see what the other side of the world looked like.”

That was in 2005. Today Manish is putting other people to work in this country, as the managing director and founder of TekWissen, a Michigan-based consulting and workforce management firm specializing in technology, energy, utilities, engineering and scientific fields. By doing so, he is also helping American companies get the workers they need to stay on U.S. soil. TekWissen has over 800 employees and U.S. revenues over \$142 million.

Many of these workers are highly skilled immigrants, people who are already in the United States with work authorization and have talent that’s ready to be deployed. Some are refugees, and some are international students who recently graduated from a U.S. college or university.

“When international students stay in the United States, and bring skill sets, they are helping employers reach certain objectives,” Manish says.

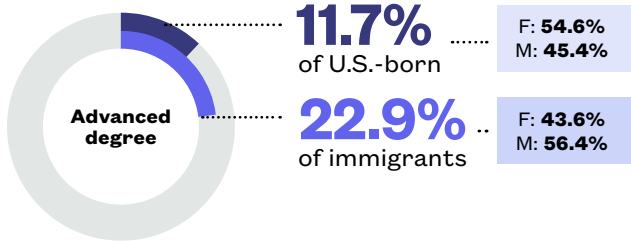
A case in point: an international life sciences company recently had trouble staffing its biomedical device plant in Pennsylvania. The company couldn’t find skilled talent locally, and not enough existing workers were signing up for up-skill training. “The employer had run out of options,” says Manish. TekWissen was able to recruit skilled workers from around the country.

“At the end of the day, the company needs to fulfill its obligation,” says Manish. “If they can’t find talent, they will be compelled to look in other markets.” In other words, companies will choose to build their facilities in other countries.

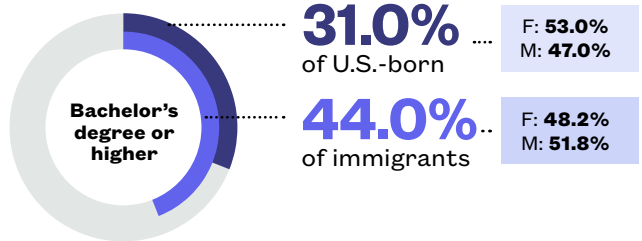
“In a way, it was creating jobs that other [local] people could take advantage of.”

EDUCATION

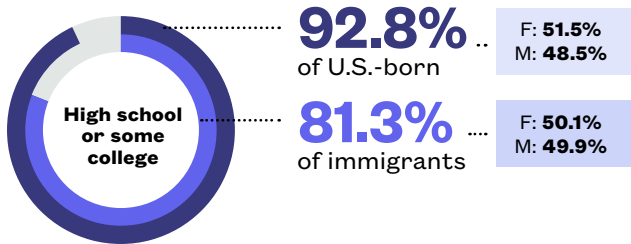
Share of the state’s population aged 25 or above that held an **advanced degree** in 2022:



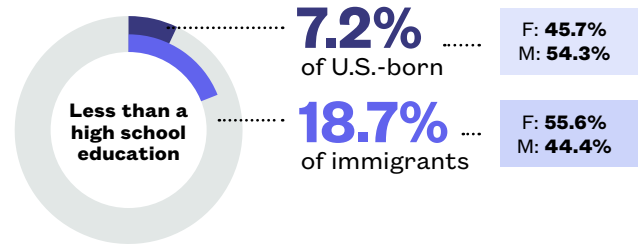
Share of the state’s population aged 25 or above that held a **bachelor’s degree or higher** in 2022:



Share of the state’s population aged 25 or above that had **at least a high school education or some college** in 2022:



Share of the state’s population aged 25 or above that had **less than a high school education** in 2022:



of K-12 students in Michigan were immigrants in 2022.



of K-12 students in the state lived with at least one immigrant parent in 2022.²⁰



of all Michigan high school students were from immigrant households in 2021.²¹ The total was greater in Michigan’s most populous counties.

1/2

Half of Michigan residents lived in a county where at least 20% of the high school students were from immigrant families.²²

SPOTLIGHT

University Population in Michigan

33,500

international students lived in Michigan during the 2022-2023 school year.²³

International students supported

11,355 jobs

in the state and contributed

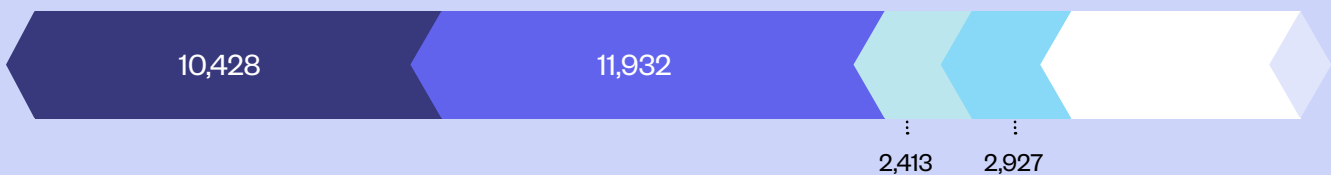
\$1.3B

in spending to the Michigan economy through tuition, housing, goods and services, and entertainment purchases.²⁵



- University of Michigan - Ann Arbor - **10,411**
- Michigan State University - **5,074**
- Trine University - Detroit Regional - **3,420**
- Western Michigan University - **2,399**
- Wayne State University - **1,731**

The breakdown of international students is as follows:²⁶



- Full-time undergraduate students
- Full-time graduate students
- Part-time undergraduate students
- Part-time graduate students

SPOTLIGHT: UNIVERSITY POPULATION IN MICHIGAN (CONTINUED)

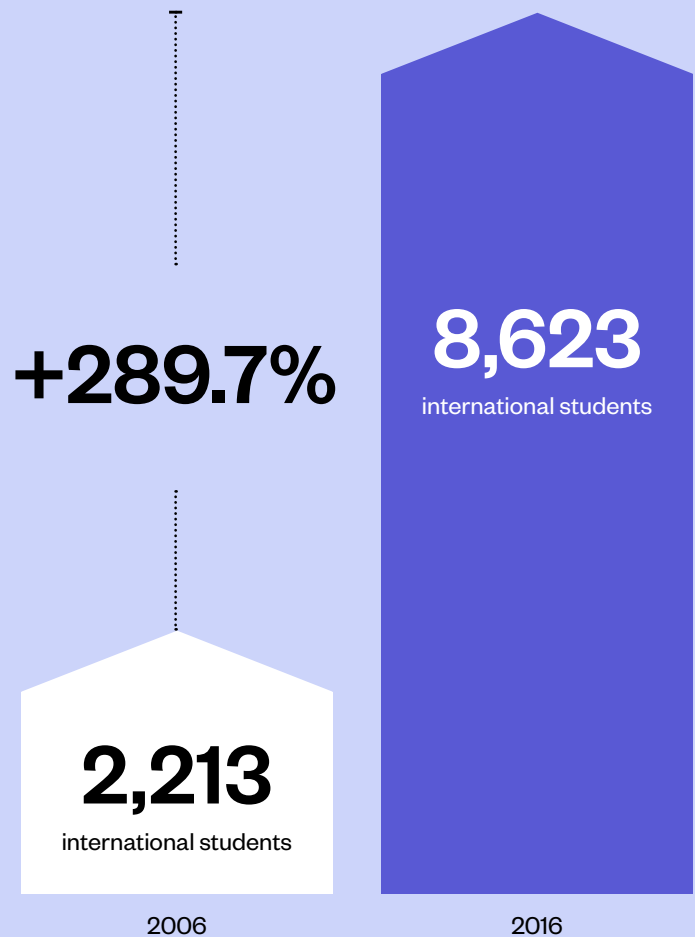
3,144

degrees were awarded to international students with a **primary major** in a STEM field in the 2022-2023 academic year.

120

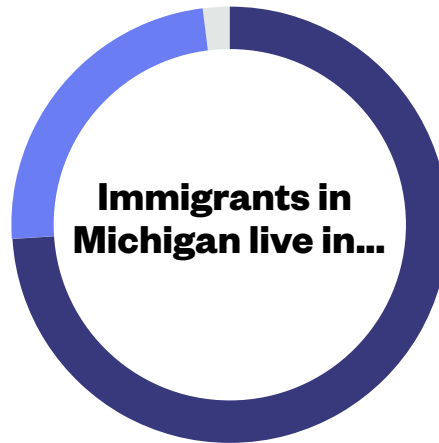
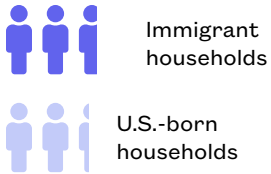
degrees were awarded to international students with a **secondary major** in a STEM field during the same period.

The most recent data on international students living and working on **Optional Practical Training (OPT)** in Michigan – which is from 2016 – indicates that Michigan employers hired 8,623 international students on OPT in 2016, a significant increase from the 2,213 international students on OPT in 2006.²⁷

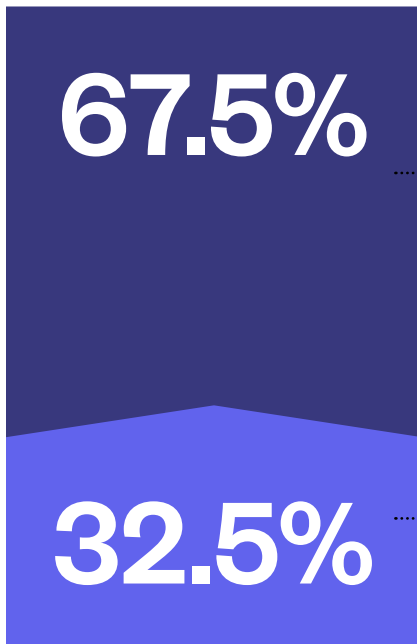


HOUSING

The average household size for immigrants in Michigan was **2.8** compared with **2.2** for U.S.-born households.



- Houses (222,700, or **73.7%**)
- Apartments (73,600, or **24.4%**)
- Other Types of Housing²⁸ (5,800, or **1.9%**)



Share of immigrant households in Michigan who owned their homes in 2022, compared to **73.7%** of U.S.-born households.

The total property value of immigrant households was

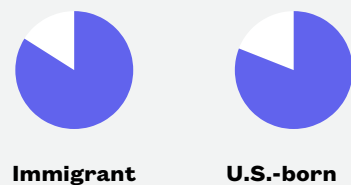
\$67.6B

Share of immigrant households in Michigan rented their homes.

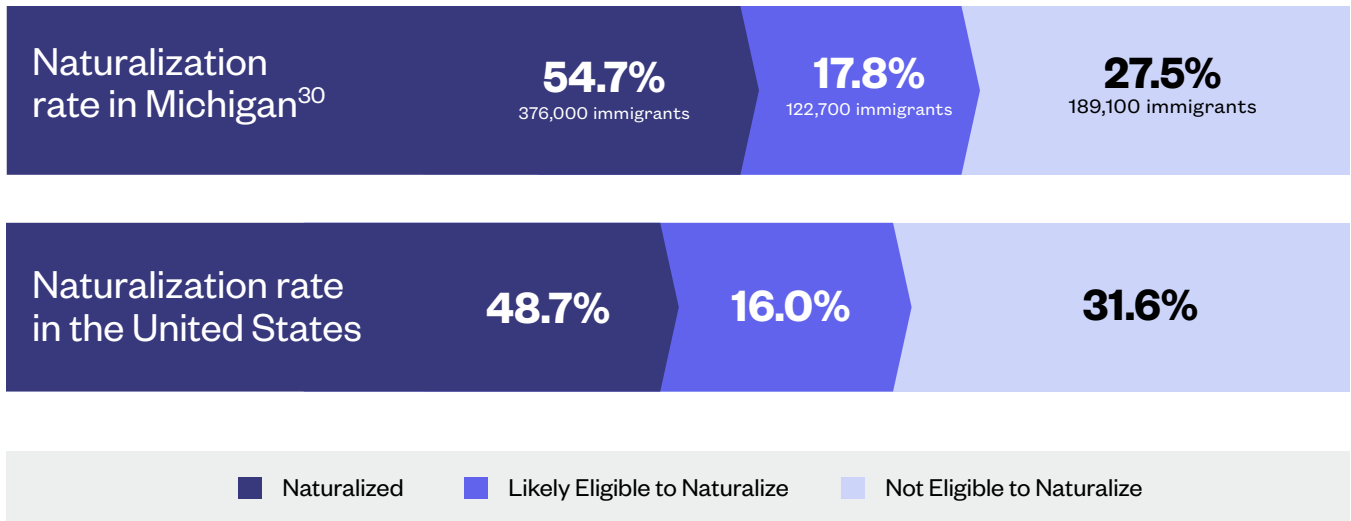
Immigrants' total annual rent paid was

\$1.2B

83.7% of immigrant households in the state had access to broadband connection in their place of residence as compared with **80.6%** of U.S.-born households in 2022.²⁹

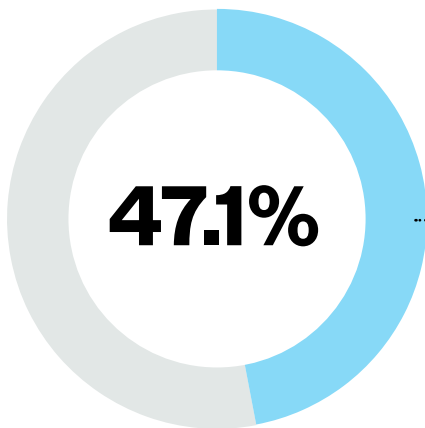
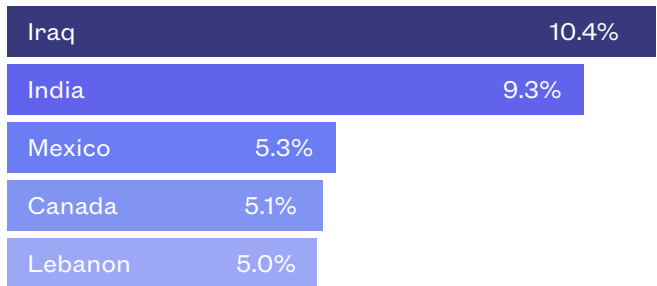


NATURALIZATION



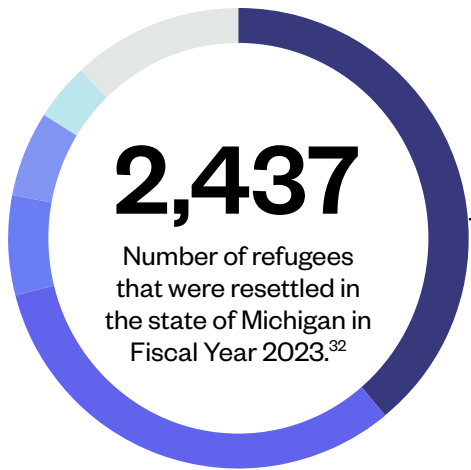
When eligible immigrants naturalize, their income increases by **8.9%** on average.³¹

The top five countries of origin for naturalized citizens in Michigan were:



Of those eligible to naturalize, 47.1% have household incomes below the median income level.

REFUGEES

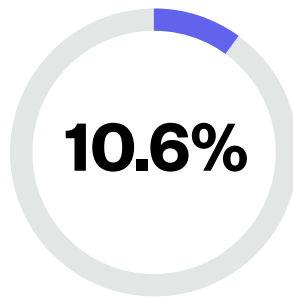


Top countries of origin for refugees resettled in Michigan in Fiscal Year 2023:

- Syria - **958**
- Democratic Republic of the Congo - **782**
- Iraq - **171**
- Afghanistan - **156**
- Burma - **101**

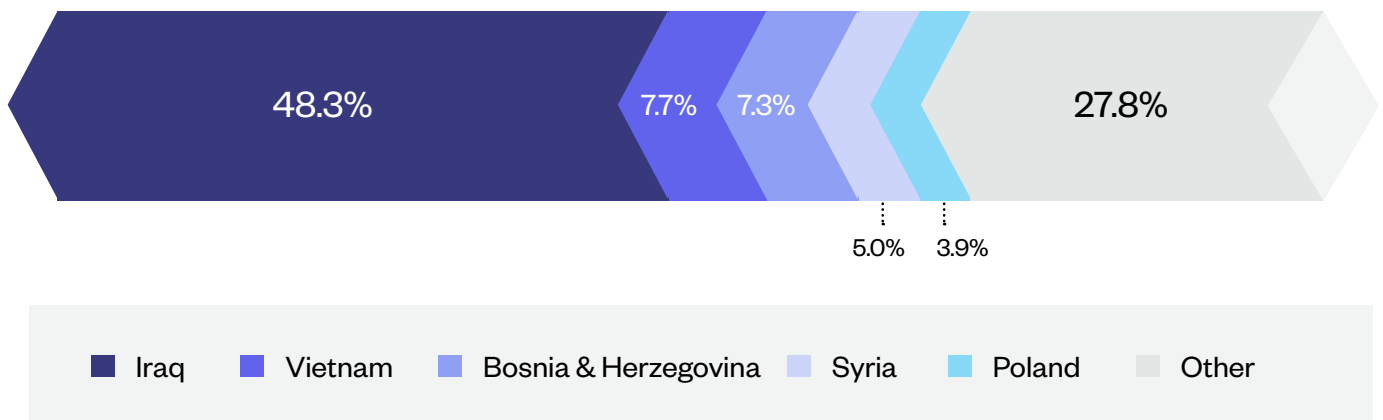
72,700

immigrants in Michigan were likely refugees in 2022.^{33,34}



Share of immigrant residents in Michigan who were likely refugees in 2022.

Top countries of origin for Michigan's refugee population:



REFUGEES (CONTINUED)

Median household income:

\$64,000

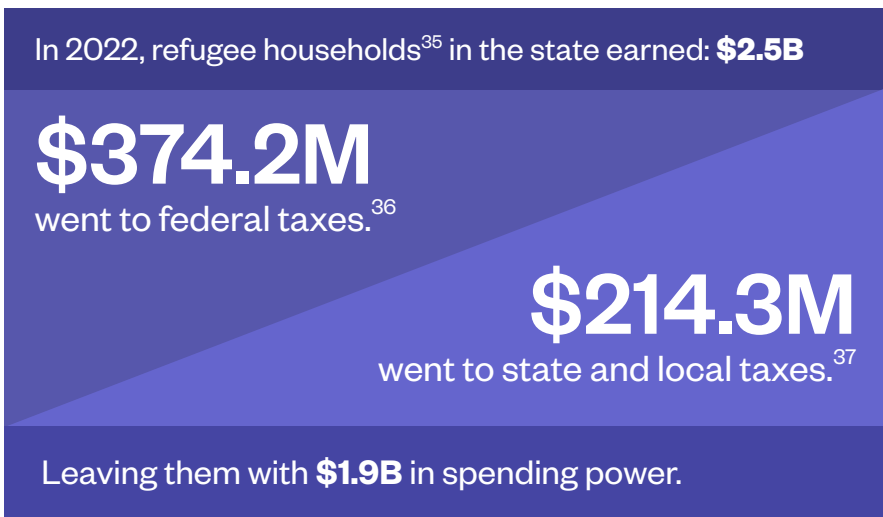
Refugee households

\$68,000

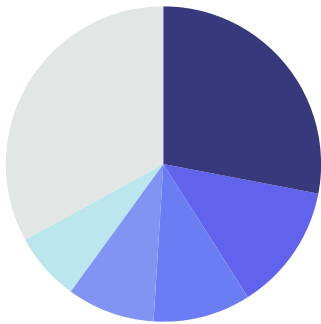
U.S.-born households

\$80,000

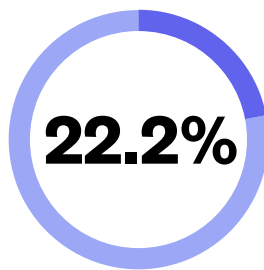
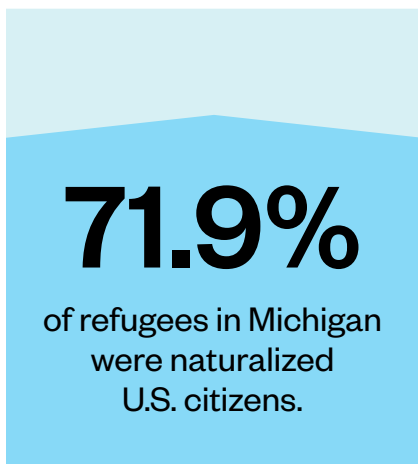
Non-refugee immigrant households



Industries with largest number of employed refugee workers were:

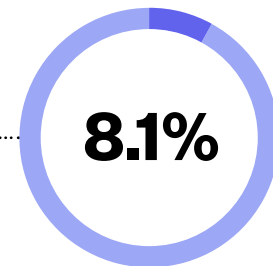


- Manufacturing - **27.8%** (Employed non-refugee workers - **17.8%**)
- Health Care & Social Assistance - **13.0%** (Employed non-refugee workers - **14.7%**)
- Transportation & Warehousing - **9.7%** (Employed non-refugee workers - **4.1%**)
- Retail Trade - **9.3%** (Employed non-refugee workers - **10.8%**)
- General Services - **6.9%** (Employed non-refugee workers - **4.5%**)



Share of refugees who held a **bachelor's degree or higher**

Share of refugees who held an **advanced degree**

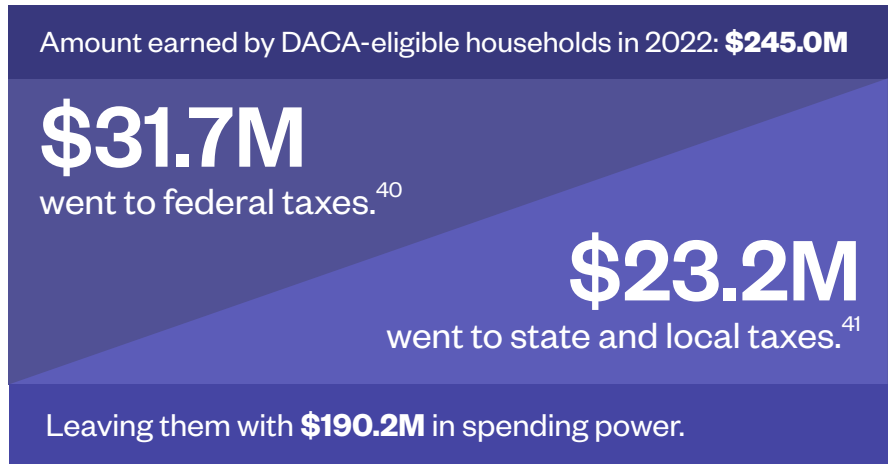


DACA-ELIGIBLE POPULATION

Approximately,

10,300

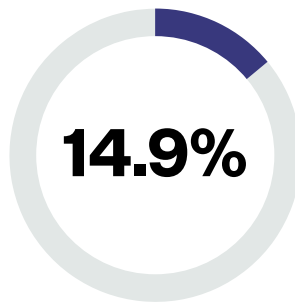
immigrants, or **1.5%** of the immigrant population in Michigan, were eligible for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)³⁸ in 2022.³⁹



UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS

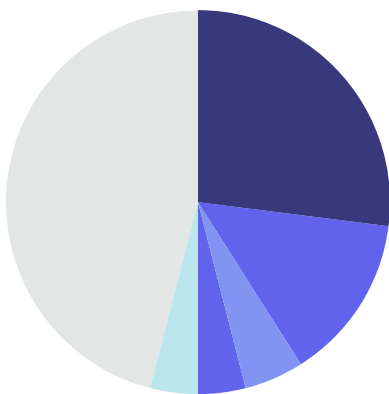
102,700

undocumented immigrants lived in Michigan in 2022.⁴²



Share of the state's immigrant population that was undocumented in 2022.

Top countries of origin for undocumented immigrants in the state:



■ Mexico 27.1%
■ India 14.2%
■ Japan 5.0%
■ Guatemala 4.4%
■ China 3.5%
■ Other 45.8%

UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS (CONTINUED)



of undocumented immigrants in Michigan were of working age in 2022.⁴³

Undocumented immigrants by age:⁴⁴



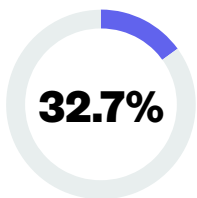
Amount earned by undocumented households⁴⁵ in 2022: **\$3.0B**

\$240.1M
went to federal taxes.⁴⁶

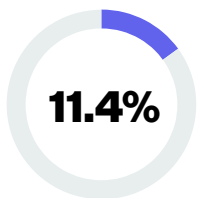
\$128.7M
went to state and local taxes.⁴⁷

Leaving them with **\$2.6B** in spending power.

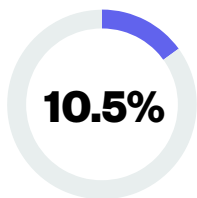
Undocumented immigrants were highly active in the labor force. The undocumented immigrant share of workers was highest in the following industries:



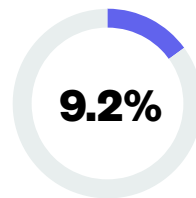
Manufacturing



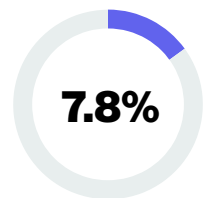
Professional Services



Retail Trade



Construction



Hospitality

The top occupation among undocumented immigrants was **Other Managers (6.9%)**.

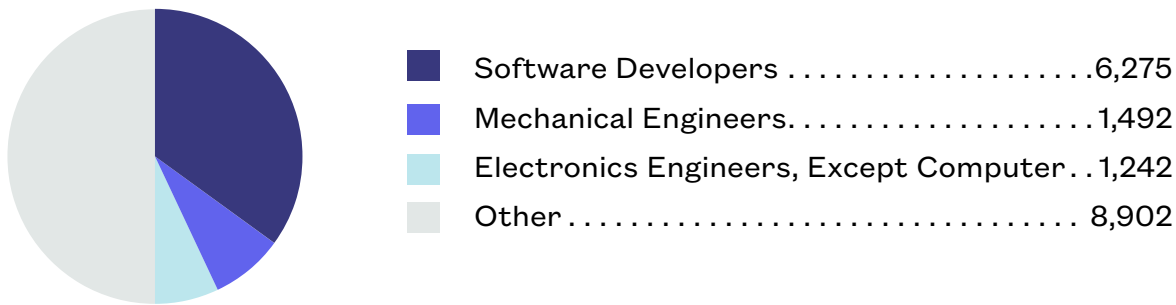
H-1B AND H-2B VISAS

The H-1B visa is a temporary visa that allows foreign professionals to work in “specialty occupations” that require at least a bachelor’s degree or the equivalent.

17,911

H-1B visas were requested by employers and certified by the Department of Labor⁴⁸ in Michigan during Federal Fiscal Year 2023.

The top occupations among certified H-1B visa applications, by number of certifications, were:



The H-2B program allows U.S. employers to temporarily hire nonimmigrant⁴⁹ employees to perform nonagricultural labor for a one-time occurrence, seasonal, temporary, or intermittent need.

6,876

H-2B visas were requested by employers and certified by the Department of Labor⁵⁰ in Michigan during Federal Fiscal Year 2023.

The top occupations among certified H-2B visa applications, by number of certifications, were:



ENDNOTES

- 1 Estimates provided in this report may slightly undercount the immigrant population. The American Community Survey historically undersamples the immigrant population, especially among lower income, more recently arrived, and less English-fluent immigrant populations.
- 2 Unless otherwise specified, data comes from 1-year samples of the American Community Survey from 2012 and 2022 and figures refer to the state of Michigan.
- 3 We define “immigrant” as any non-citizen or any naturalized U.S. citizen. They include naturalized citizens, green card holders, temporary visa holders, refugees, asylees, and undocumented immigrants, among others.
- 4 We define working age as 16-64 years of age.
- 5 Totals may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.
- 6 Immigrant households refer to those with an immigrant as head of the unit.
- 7 U.S. Congressional Budget Office, The Distribution of Household Income and Federal Taxes, 2019 (Washington, DC: 2022), <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/58353>.
- 8 Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of the Tax Systems in All Fifty States (Washington, DC: 2018), <https://itiep.org/whopays>.
- 9 These figures derive from our calculations based on immigrants’ share of wage income and self-employment income in the 5-year ACS sample from 2022 and the statistics of GDP from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.
- 10 Including people who have both public and private healthcare coverage.
- 11 STEM refers to occupations that require background or expertise in science, technology, engineering, and/or math.
- 12 Data is obtained from Lightcast Technologies for the time period between January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022.
- 13 Jacob Vigdor, Immigration and the Revival of American Cities: From Preserving Manufacturing Jobs to Strengthening the Housing Market (New York, NY: AmericasSociety/ Council of the Americas and New American Economy, 2013), <https://www.newamericaneconomy.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/revival-of-american-cities.pdf>.
- 14 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.
- 15 General services include personal services (e.g. laundry services, barber shops, and repair and maintenance), religious organizations, social services, and labor unions.
- 16 Information includes: Newspaper, magazine, book, and directory publishers, software publishing, motion pictures and video industries, sound recording industries, broadcasting (except internet), internet publishing and broadcasting and web search portals, wired telecommunications (telephone) carriers, telecommunications (cell phone and mobile) except wired telecommunications carriers, data processing, hosting, and related services, and libraries and archives.
- 17 Data was obtained from Lightcast Technologies for the time period between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023 on March 14, 2024.
- 18 Data was obtained from Lightcast Technologies for the time period between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023 on March 14, 2024.
- 19 Data obtained from the ACS may not capture those who work in informal jobs and businesses, and as a result may not capture immigrants’ full entrepreneurial contributions within the state.
- 20 Children of immigrants includes both U.S.-born and immigrants who are under the age of 18 with at least one immigrant parent.
- 21 Global Detroit, “High School Kids in Immigrant Families,” 2023, <https://globaldetroitmi.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/HS-Kids-in-Immigrant-Families-Report-PDF-FINAL-8-24-23.pdf>.
- 22 Ibid.
- 23 Economic data is derived from the International Student Economic Value Tool maintained by NAFSA: the Association of International Educators.
- 24 Global Detroit, “International Student Talent in the Michigan Workforce”, 2022, <https://globaldetroitmi.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/OPT-Report-2022-Draft-9.pdf>. The OPT data was obtained by the Pew Research Center in August 2017 through the Freedom of Information Act.
- 25 Data on total student enrollment in the state is derived from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System maintained by the National Center for Education Statistics.
- 26 Data on student enrollment by degree level and full-time status is derived from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System maintained by the National Center for Education Statistics.
- 27 Open Doors, “State Facts and Figures 2023 - Michigan,” 2023, https://opendoorsdata.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/OpenDoors_FactSheets_Michigan_2023.pdf.
- 28 “Other” housing includes mobile homes, trailers, boats, tents, vans, and housing that is not considered a single-family home or multi-family building.
- 29 This data point reports whether the respondent or any member of their household subscribed to the internet using broadband (high speed) internet service such as cable, fiber optic, or DSL.
- 30 Naturalization is the process through which one can become a U.S. citizen, dependent on certain eligibility requirements. We identify immigrants who are potentially eligible for naturalization based on a set of criteria of eligibility identified by the USCIS, such as immigration status, age, English language proficiency, and length of stay in the United States. Learn more here: <https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/research/how-united-states-immigration-system-works>.
- 31 Maria E. Enchautegui and Linda Giannarelli, The Economic Impact of Naturalization on Immigrants and Cities, Urban Institute, 2015, <https://www.urban.org/research/publication/economic-impact-naturalization-immigrants-and-cities>.

- 32 U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) refugee case management system, Refugee Arrivals by State and Nationality Fiscal Year 2023, <https://www.wrapsnet.org/documents/FY%202023%20Refugee%20Arrivals%20by%20State%20and%20Nationality%20as%20of%2030%20Sep%202023.pdf>
- 33 Refugees are admitted to the United States based upon an inability to return to their home countries because of a “well-founded fear of persecution” due to their race, membership in a particular social group, political opinion, religion, or national origin. Learn more here: <https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/research/how-united-states-immigration-system-works>.
- 34 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/>.
- 35 Refugee households refer to those with a refugee as head of the unit.
- 36 U.S. Congressional Budget Office, The Distribution of Household Income and Federal Taxes, 2019 (Washington, DC: 2021), <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/58353>.
- 37 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/>.
- 38 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) is a program established in 2012 which permits certain individuals who were brought to the United States while under the age of 16 and who have resided continuously in the United States since June 15, 2007, to remain in the U.S. and work lawfully for at least two years, so long as they meet certain eligibility requirements. Learn more here: <https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/research/how-united-states-immigration-system-works>.
- 39 Due to ongoing legal challenges to the DACA program, any first-time DACA applications not granted as of July 16, 2021 are unable to be processed, though the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) can still accept these applications. The current court ruling alongside the ongoing uncertainty about the future of the DACA program has resulted in a lack of afforded protections for those who are DACA-eligible but are unable to apply.
- 40 U.S. Congressional Budget Office, The Distribution of Household Income and Federal Taxes, 2019 (Washington, DC: 2021), <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/58353>.
- 41 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/>.
- 42 Undocumented immigrants are identified by applying the methodological approach outlined by Harvard University economist George Borjas in his work: George Borjas, The Labor Supply of Undocumented Immigrants (Harvard University, Labour Economics, volume 46, pages 1-3, 2017), <https://scholar.harvard.edu/files/gborjas/files/le2017.pdf>. Immigrants who do not meet a set of criteria for legal status are identified as being undocumented. More on our methodology here: <https://map.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/methodology/>.
- 43 We define working age as 16-64 years of age.
- 44 Totals may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.
- 45 Undocumented immigrant households refer to people living in a housing unit with an undocumented immigrant being the head of their unit.
- 46 U.S. Congressional Budget Office, The Distribution of Household Income and Federal Taxes, 2019 (Washington, DC: 2021), <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/58353>.
- 47 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/>.
- 48 Before an employer can file a petition with United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to hire an employee using an H-1B visa, the employer must take steps to ensure that hiring the foreign worker will not adversely affect U.S. workers. To do this, employers file a labor condition application (LCA) to be certified by the Department of Labor (DOL), which ensures that employment of the H-1B worker will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of similarly employed U.S. workers. The number of certified H-1B visas is therefore a good indication of the demand for immigrant workers of a given occupation in a given region. More information on the H-1B process can be found here: <https://www.uscis.gov/working-in-the-united-states/h-1b-specialty-occupations>.
- 49 Nonimmigrants are foreign nationals admitted temporarily to the United States. Examples of nonimmigrant classes of admission include foreign government officials, temporary visitors for business and pleasure, academic and vocational students, and temporary workers. More information can be found here: <https://www.dhs.gov/ohss/topics/immigration/nonimmigrants/classes-of-admission>.
- 50 Similar to the H-1B process, in order for an employer to obtain an H-2B certification, the DOL must determine that there are not enough U.S. workers available to do the temporary job being petitioned for, and that employing H-2B workers will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of similar workers. Additionally, the need for the worker must be temporary. Certified jobs are not necessarily the jobs filled, though they do indicate a level of demand for temporary immigrant workers in a particular occupation. More information on the H-2B process can be found here: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/foreign-labor/programs/h-2b>.