New Americans in Macomb County
A Snapshot of the Demographic and Economic Contributions of Immigrants in the County

POPULATION GROWTH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Macomb County PUMAs</th>
<th>Foreign-born Population</th>
<th>Share of Foreign-born Residents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sterling Heights City</td>
<td>36,610</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Macomb County</td>
<td>20,052</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren &amp; Center Line Cities</td>
<td>14,799</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Clemens &amp; Fraser Area</td>
<td>7,493</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Clair Shores, Roseville &amp; Eastpointe Area</td>
<td>5,162</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Macomb County*</td>
<td>4,866</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Growth in the foreign-born population accounted for **12.2%** of overall growth in the county between 2009 and 2014.

As a result of the new immigrants who came, **4,868** U.S.-born residents were attracted to the county.²
In 2014, given their income, foreign-born residents contributed greatly to federal, state, and local taxes, including property, income, sales, and excise taxes levied by either the State of Michigan or by municipal governments.\(^3\)

- **$193M** — State and local tax contributions
- **$362M** — Federal tax contributions\(^4\)
- **$1.7B** — Remaining spending power

This constituted **10.1%** of the county’s total spending power.

Asian immigrants in particular held **$452.8M** in spending power.\(^6\)

In 2014, foreign-born households contributed **$4.1B** to the GDP of Macomb County.\(^6\)

Foreign-born residents also support federal social programs. That same year, immigrants in the area contributed more than **$237.3M** to Social Security and almost **$56.7M** to Medicare.
### HOUSING WEALTH

Between 2000 and 2014, immigration to Macomb County increased the total housing value in the county by **$723.5M**.

Looking at just the period after the Great Recession, 2009 to 2014, immigrants increased the total housing value in the county by **$137.5M**.

### LABOR FORCE

Immigrants made up only 10.4% of the population in Macomb County...

But they made up 12.3% of the area’s working-age population...

And an outsized 11.9% of the employed labor force in 2014.

In fact, immigrants are overrepresented in key industries in Macomb County, including:

- Transportation & Warehousing* 20.5%
- Agriculture* 19.4%
- Professional Services 16.8%
- Health Care and Social Assistance 15.7%
- Retail Trade* 15%

Because of the role immigrants play in the workforce helping companies keep jobs on U.S. soil, we estimate that the immigrants living in Macomb in 2014 helped create or preserve 4,093 local manufacturing jobs that would have vanished or moved elsewhere.
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

4,773

immigrants in Macomb County are self-employed.

Their businesses generated $52.4M in business income in 2014.*

15.4%

of the self-employed population is foreign-born, much more than their share of the population, 10.4%.

Foreign-born residents are more likely than U.S.-born residents to start new businesses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity of Residents in Macomb County</th>
<th>Number of Firms with Paid Employees</th>
<th>Number of Paid Employees</th>
<th>Sales Revenue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>13,212</td>
<td>141,693</td>
<td>$28.9B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>587</td>
<td>5,355</td>
<td>$738.4M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>1,748</td>
<td>$573.3M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African-American</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>906</td>
<td>$251.7M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2014, 7.3% of U.S.-born residents in Macomb County were self-employed.

Meanwhile, 9.9% of foreign-born residents were self-employed.*
EDUCATIONAL AND LONG-TERM ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Foreign-born residents tend to have significantly higher levels of education than U.S.-born citizens in Macomb County.

![Bar chart showing educational levels of foreign-born and U.S.-born residents.]

315

Number of students holding temporary resident visas enrolled in Macomb County colleges and universities during fall of 2014.¹

LANGUAGE

Share of Macomb County residents speaking a language other than English at home, 2014:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Share of Youth</th>
<th>Residents</th>
<th>Share of Citizens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YOUTH UNDER 18</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>15,598</td>
<td>82.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADULTS</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
<td>87,824</td>
<td>72.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹12% of youth, or 15,598 Macomb County residents, speak a language other than English at home. Of these young people, 82.6% are U.S. citizens.

²13.5% of adults, or 87,824 Macomb County residents, speak a language other than English at home. Of these adults, 72.3% are U.S. citizens.
In 2014, 33,552 residents of Macomb County were non-citizens. 12,011 of them, or 35.8%, were eligible for naturalization.

In 2014, 91.6% of the foreign-born had been in Macomb County for more than a year.
### Migration (Continued)

8.4% of foreign-born residents were recent arrivals to Macomb County.

**41.1%**
came from within Michigan...

**38.3%**
came from other countries...

And **20.6%**
came from other U.S. states.*

---

#### Top five countries of origin:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>24.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India*</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines*</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh*</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Want more information about this region? See our state report: [The Contributions of New Americans in Michigan](#)
Endnotes

1. Unless otherwise specified, data comes from one-year samples of the American Community Survey from 2009 and 2014, as well as the five-percent sample from 2000 census, and figures refer to Macomb County.


5. 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.

6. These figures derive from our calculations based on immigrants’ share of wage income and self-employment income in the one-year ACS sample from 2014 and the statistics of GDP by the National Association of Counties.

7. 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. Estimates of the increase in total housing value as a result of the rising immigrant population are derived from this report, which found that each immigrant moving in a county increased the value of each housing unit in that county by 11.6 cents. We apply this multiplier to the change in the foreign-born population between 2000 and 2014 and between 2009 and 2014 to produce our estimates.

8. Most of these industries include professions that require a degree or a license, such as legal services, accounting, scientific research, consulting services, etc.

9. Vigdor, Jacob. (2013.)

10. Sales revenue represents all firms, with or without paid employees.

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