New Americans in Northern Virginia

Contributions of Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Region

Mo Kantner
*Director, State and Local Initiatives*

*In partnership with:*
We are the bipartisan research and advocacy organization fighting to change the narrative about immigrants in America.
500 Republican, Independent, and Democratic mayors and CEOs in all 50 states agree: **Immigration is critical to America’s economic success.**
Americans Were Split on Whether Immigration Helps Our Economy

% WHO SAY IMMIGRANTS...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>BURDEN COUNTRY</th>
<th>STRENGTHEN COUNTRY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Pew Research Center / Majority of Americans continue to say immigrants strengthen the U.S. (2019)
Zero.

The Number of Major U.S. Metros that Grew Without Immigrants, 1970-2013

Population Growth in Northern Virginia

- 10.8% Overall population increase
- 19.4% Immigrant population increase
- 45.7% of the overall population growth in the area came from immigrants.

Population in Northern Virginia

670,272

Immigrant population of Northern Virginia in 2017

FOREIGN-BORN SHARE OF TOTAL POPULATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Virginia</td>
<td>27.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Average</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Countries of Origin in Northern Virginia

- El Salvador: 12.5%
- India: 9.1%
- Korea: 6.3%
- Vietnam: 5.0%
- Ethiopia: 3.8%
- Other Countries: 63.3%

The Median Age of the U.S. is Climbing

U.S. MEDIAN AGE, 1970—2065*

* Projection

Source: U.S. Census and Pew Research Center
Immigrants Are More Likely to Be Working Age

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates
Spending Power & Tax Contributions in Northern Virginia

$57.7B
Immigrant contributions to the region’s GDP

$2.1B — State & Local Taxes Paid

$5.9B — Federal Taxes Paid

$20.3B
Immigrant spending power — 24.3% of total spending power

Housing Wealth in Northern Virginia

In 2017, 56.7% of immigrant households owned their home, with a total property value of $71.8B.

About 43.3% of immigrants were renters, paying $2.0B in annual rent.

Immigrants in the Labor Force in Northern Virginia

Foreign-born shares of...

- **Total Population**: 27.4%
- **STEM Workers**: 31.3%
- **Construction Workers**: 59.5%

In Virginia in 2016, there were 9 STEM job postings published online for every unemployed STEM worker.

Immigrants in Key Industries in Northern Virginia

The Top 10 industries with the largest share of foreign-born workers:

- **59.5%** Construction
- **49.2%** Transportation
- **46.8%** Hospitality
- **40.7%** Retail Trade
- **39.8%** General Services
- **39.0%** Healthcare
- **34.1%** Finance
- **33.6%** Wholesale Trade
- **29.0%** Professional Services
- **28.7%** Manufacturing

Immigrant Contributions to Social Programs in Northern Virginia

$2.9B
to Social Security in 2017

$784.3M
to Medicare in 2017

Immigrants are Helping Medicare Stay Afloat

From 1996-2011, immigrants contributed $182 billion more to Medicare than they drew down.

Source: New American Economy, “Staying Covered: How Immigrants Have Prolonged the Solvency of One of Medicare’s Key Trust Funds and Subsidized Care for U.S. Seniors” (2014)
Immigrants Are Starting More New Businesses

RATE OF NEW ENTREPRENEURS (MONTHLY AVERAGE)

Source: “2017 Kauffman Index of Startup Activity,” Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation
Immigrants Are More Likely to Be Entrepreneurs

1 in 5 entrepreneurs are immigrants—3.2 million total.

They employ 8 million Americans and generate $1.3 trillion in sales.
Entrepreneurship in Northern Virginia

Foreign-born residents are **46.9% more likely** than U.S.-born residents to be business owners.

- **27.4%** Immigrant Share of the Population
- **42.5%** Immigrant Share of Entrepreneurs

**47,837** Immigrant Entrepreneurs

**$1.3B** Business Income Generated by Immigrant Entrepreneurs

Immigrant Entrepreneurs in Key Industries in Northern Virginia

The Top 3 sectors with largest concentration of foreign-born entrepreneurs:

23.4%  Professional and Technical Services

17.1%  Construction

15.4%  General Services

52% of Fortune 500 companies were founded by immigrants or their children in 2018.

Undocumented Spending Power & Tax Contributions in Northern Virginia

$3.9B
Total undocumented immigrant household income in 2017

$150.9M — State & Local Taxes Paid

$320.7M — Federal Taxes Paid

$3.4B
Total Spending Power

More than 22,500 Virginians are currently eligible for DACA. 91.9% of them are employed, earning a total annual income of $482.9M.

$44.7M went to state & local taxes...

$71.9M went to federal taxes...

Leaving them with $366.3M in spending power.

Source: New American Economy, September 2017
**Naturalization** in Northern Virginia

- **51.3%** Share of immigrants that have naturalized
- **12.5%** Share of non-citizens who are likely eligible to naturalize

- **344,184** Naturalized immigrants
- **83,883** Eligible for naturalization

*Source: New American Economy, "One Region: Welcoming New Americans in Northern Virginia" (2020)*
COVID and New Americans in Northern Virginia

The Impact of COVID on Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Region

Mo Kantner
Director, State and Local Initiatives
COVID-19 work

Research
- COVID-19 portal updated weekly.
  - Topics include essential workers (healthcare, food services), broadband access, undocumented + DACA, construction + infrastructure, students + teachers, mental health workers

States
- Healthcare shortage briefs
- Supporting states by providing technical assistance on a variety of topics:
  - Cash assistance funds for undocumented
  - Contact tracing (Partners in Health)
  - Licensing reform: transitioning from short- to long-term

Local
- Local COVID briefs
- Local language access briefs
- Gateways for Growth integration
Population in Northern Virginia

681,000

Immigrant population of Northern Virginia in 2018

FOREIGN-BORN SHARE OF TOTAL POPULATION

Northern Virginia

Virginia

National Average

27.6%

12.5%

13.6%

Source: New American Economy, "Immigrants in Northern Virginia" (2018) / U.S. Census Bureau
Immigrants in the Essential Labor Force in Northern Virginia

Foreign-born shares of...

- **27.6%** Total Population
- **47.9%** Essential Workers
- **60.1%** Construction Workers

# Immigrants in Essential Industries in Northern Virginia

The Top 10 essential industries with the **largest share** of foreign-born workers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>60.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essential Services</td>
<td>56.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation &amp; Warehousing</td>
<td>51.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Service</td>
<td>50.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essential Retail Trade</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Manufacturing</td>
<td>47.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>40.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essential Wholesale Trade</td>
<td>36.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>28.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essential Manufacturing</td>
<td>25.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Immigrants in Essential Industries in Northern Virginia

The Top 10 occupations in essential industries with the largest share of foreign-born workers:

- **93.8%** Maids and housekeeping cleaners
- **86.6%** Shuttle drivers and chauffeurs
- **84.4%** Painters and wallpaper hangers
- **84.2%** Taxi drivers
- **83.9%** Carpenters
- **78.0%** Construction day laborers
- **77.6%** Janitor and building cleaners
- **72.8%** Cooks
- **71.9%** Chefs and head cooks
- **59.9%** Childcare workers

Aging Seniors Increase Demand for Health Care Professionals

By 2025, America will face a shortage of 46 to 90 thousand doctors.

Immigrants are Twice as Likely to be Doctors and Home Health Aides

PERCENTAGE OF EMPLOYEES IN THE HEALTH CARE SECTOR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>U.S.-Born</th>
<th>Foreign-Born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physicians &amp; Surgeons</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing, Psychiatric, &amp; Home Health Aides</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Nurses</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: New American Economy and The Brookings Institution, "Immigrant Workers in the U.S. Labor Force" (March 2012)
**Healthcare Workforce Contributions** in Northern Virginia

The Top 5 essential healthcare industries with the **highest concentrations** of foreign-born workers in Northern Virginia:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Industry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65%</td>
<td>Home health care services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63%</td>
<td>Nursing care facilities (skilled nursing facilities)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Residential care facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37%</td>
<td>General medical and surgical hospitals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32%</td>
<td>Outpatient care centers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Healthcare Workforce Contributions in Northern Virginia

The Top 5 occupations in essential healthcare industries with the highest concentrations of foreign-born workers in Northern Virginia:

- 71% Nursing assistants
- 69% Personal care aides
- 54% Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians
- 53% Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses
- 43% Physicians

Entrepreneurship in Northern Virginia

Foreign-born residents are **46.9% more likely** than U.S.-born residents to be business owners.

- **27.6%** Immigrant Share of the Population
- **42.5%** Immigrant Share of Entrepreneurs

47,837 Immigrant Entrepreneurs

$1.3B Business Income Generated by Immigrant Entrepreneurs

Immigrant Entrepreneurs in Non-Essential Industries in Northern Virginia

The Top 3 non-essential industries with largest concentration of foreign-born entrepreneurs:

- **59.3%** Personal Services
- **41.5%** Retail Trade
- **33.1%** Social Services and Non-Essential Healthcare

Healthcare and *immigrants* in Northern Virginia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number of Uninsured</th>
<th>Share of Population, Uninsured</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S.-Born</td>
<td>78,100</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign-Born</td>
<td>143,800</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>221,900</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Languages Spoken at Home other than English in Northern Virginia

- Spanish: 31.1%
- Korean: 5.5%
- Arabic: 4.5%
- Vietnamese: 4.4%
- Amharic: 3.9%
- Other Languages: 50.5%

### Household size and immigrants in Northern Virginia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Income Quintile</th>
<th>Avg Household Size, U.S.-Born</th>
<th>Avg Household Size, Foreign-Born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lowest 20%</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Quintile</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle 20%</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Quintile</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest 20%</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.4</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.2</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Internet Access and Immigrants in Northern Virginia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number Without Internet Access at Home</th>
<th>Share of Population Without Internet Access at Home</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S.-Born</td>
<td>56,100</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign-Born</td>
<td>41,800</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>97,900</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Case Study: Hispanic Immigrants in Northern Virginia

ESSENTIAL INDUSTRIES

- Hispanic foreign-born workers account for over:
  - 50 percent of Construction workers
  - 40 percent of Essential Service workers
  - 25 percent of Food Service workers

HEALTHCARE, UNINSURED

- 4.4 percent of the U.S.-born
- 21.1 percent of the foreign-born
- 38.7 percent of the Hispanic foreign-born

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE

- 2.4 for the U.S.-born
- 3.2 for the foreign-born
- 3.8 for the Hispanic foreign-born

LACK OF INTERNET ACCESS

- 3.1 percent of the U.S.-born
- 6.1 percent of the foreign-born
- 11.8 percent of the Hispanic foreign-born

**Northern Virginia COVID-19 Resources**

Local governments, food banks, and philanthropy are providing myriad resources to residents impacted by COVID-19. You can find a listing of them and other information on NVRC’s coronavirus website:

https://www.coronavirus-novaregion.org/local-state-resources
Map the Impact: Interactive map

www.MapTheImpact.org
Thank You!

Mo Kantner
Director, State and Local Initiatives
mo@newamericaneconomy.org

In partnership with: