The Demographic and Economic Contributions of New Americans to Chittenden County

Between 2009 and 2015, the foreign born population rapidly increased, rising to **12,498**\(^1\)

That's around **7.8%** of Chittenden's population.

Over the last 6 years, the foreign born population grew by **3,320**

In the last decade, more than **one in three** people moving to the county have been foreign-born

Which means that the share of the population that is foreign-born in the county rose substantially

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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In 2015, foreign-born residents of Chittenden County contributed more than $90.3M to federal, state, and local taxes:

- $27.2M \textsuperscript{2} — State and local tax contributions
- $43.3M \textsuperscript{3} — Federal tax contributions
- $16.1M \textsuperscript{4} — Social Security contributions
- $3.8M — Medicare contributions

This left foreign-born residents with over $168M to spend in local communities.

Which accounted for more than 6.1% of the total spending power in the county.

Since the Great Recession, new immigrants have added $25M to the value of the county's housing stock.

As a result of the New American population, over 3,374 US born residents have moved to Chittenden County.

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Each year, New Americans contribute more than $712M to the GDP of Chittenden County.

In fact, immigrants are over-represented in key industries within the county:

- Manufacturing: 7.8% Share of Population, 13.7% of GDP
- Education and Health Care: 8.6% of GDP
- Recreation and Accommodation: 8.0% of GDP
- Other Services: 9.1% of GDP

Immigrants make up only 7.8% of the population in Chittenden County...
But they make up 8.6% of the area’s working age population...
And 8.0% of the employed labor force in 2015.

282 immigrants in Chittenden County are self employed at businesses they own.

Because of the vital role that immigrants play in the Chittenden economy, it can be estimated that New Americans helped create or preserve 272 local manufacturing jobs that would have vanished or moved elsewhere.
Endnotes

1. Unless otherwise specified, data comes from a 5-year-samples of the American Community Survey from 2009 and 2015, and figures refer to Chittenden County.


7. This figure derives from calculations based on the foreign-born residents share of wage income and self-employment income from the 5-year ACS sample from 2014 and the statistics of GDP from the NACo County Explorer, maintained by the National Association of Counties.


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