The contributions of foreign-born, non-citizen workers to the Washington region’s workforce

Presentation to:

Alexandria-Arlington Regional Workforce Council

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Foreign Born, Non-Citizen Workers
Greater Washington Region

Foreign born, non-citizen workers as a % of total workforce

- Greater Washington Jurisdictions
- 2% - 5%
- 5.1% - 10%
- 10.1% - 14.6%
- 14.7% - 30%
- 30.1% - 46%

Area Mean = 14.7%

Source: 2016 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) files
Most Foreign Born, Non-Citizens originate from Latin America

- El Salvador: 23.5%
- India: 6.2%
- Guatemala: 6.1%
- Mexico: 5.8%
- Honduras: 5.6%
- Ethiopia: 3.1%
- China: 3.0%
- Bolivia: 2.9%
- Philippines: 2.7%
- Canada: 1.0%
- Bangladesh: 0.7%

Source: US Census Bureau ACS 2016, GMU Center for Regional Analysis
Majority of foreign-born, non-citizen workers have been here 10 years or more

Source: US Census Bureau ACS 2016, GMU Center for Regional Analysis
Foreign-born, non-citizen workers are about as likely to have a post-secondary degree as all workers nationwide.

Source: US Census Bureau ACS 2016, GMU Center for Regional Analysis
Several occupational groups rely heavily on foreign-born, non-citizen workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation Group</th>
<th>Foreign-Born, Non-Citizen Workers</th>
<th>% of Total Occupation Workforce</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction &amp; extraction</td>
<td>65,940</td>
<td>52.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning &amp; maintenance</td>
<td>52,750</td>
<td>48.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farming, fishing, &amp; forestry</td>
<td>1,150</td>
<td>38.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food preparation &amp; serving</td>
<td>43,770</td>
<td>32.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production</td>
<td>14,220</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare support</td>
<td>10,300</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal care &amp; service</td>
<td>21,160</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation &amp; material moving</td>
<td>22,870</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life, physical, &amp; social science</td>
<td>10,890</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation, maintenance, &amp; repair</td>
<td>9,190</td>
<td>16.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>33,990</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer &amp; mathematical</td>
<td>21,520</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2016 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) files
Key takeaways

• Account for almost **15 percent** of workers in the Greater Washington region.
• Less than **20 percent** arrived since 2010.
• Almost **1 in 4** come from El Salvador
• Employers in the construction and hospitality industries rely heavily on foreign-born, non-citizen workers.
  • **Half** of the workers in construction, and cleaning and maintenance occupations
  • **One third** of the region’s food service workers
Thank You
Questions

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