

Economic Implications of Pennsylvania's Foreign-Born Population

Fact Sheet 1: The Foreign-Born Share of the Workforce in Rural Pennsylvania

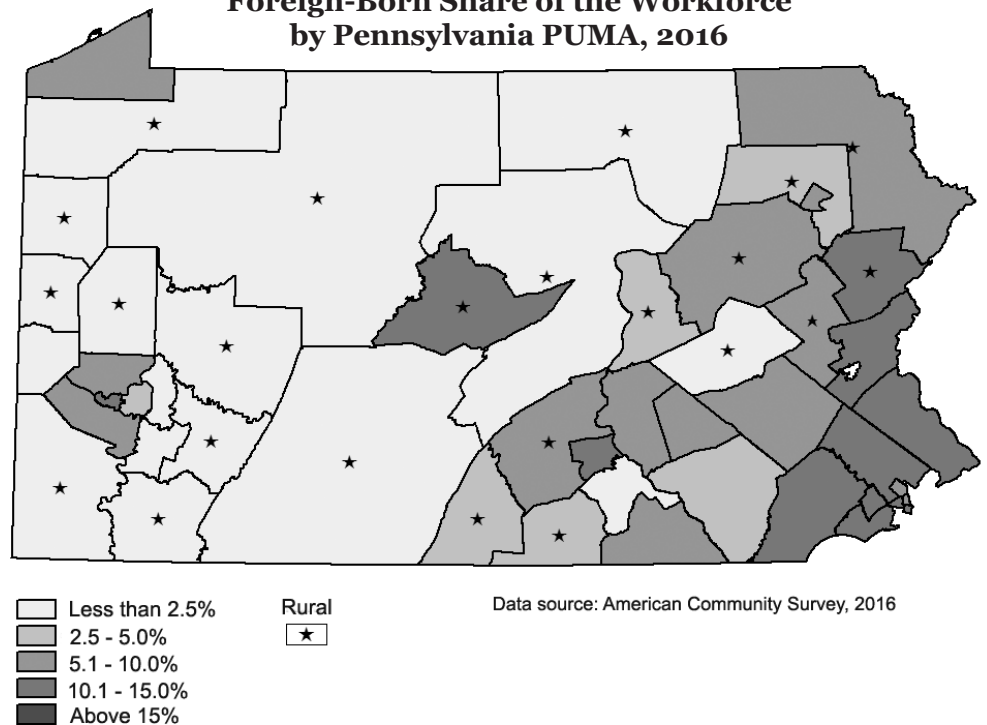
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Research findings

- 3.5 percent of rural Pennsylvania's workforce was foreign-born in 2016. In urban Pennsylvania, 10.7 percent of the workforce was foreign-born.
- The geographic distribution of the foreign-born workforce was uneven across Pennsylvania in 2016, as illustrated in the map below.
- The largest concentration of foreign-born individuals of working age is in the eastern region of Pennsylvania, with the highest percentages (10+ percent) of foreign-born individuals in the workforce being in the eastern urban PUMAs. In Pennsylvania's rural PUMAs, the largest concentrations of foreign-born individuals are in Monroe County (9.3%), Centre County (8.1%), Carbon and northern Lehigh counties (6.2%), Pike, Wayne, and Susquehanna counties (5.2%), and Columbia and Luzerne counties (5.0%).
- The representation of the foreign-born among rural Pennsylvania's workforce has increased from 2.8 percent in 2010, and from 2.0 percent in 2000. This increase is large on a proportional basis but is smaller than the absolute increase in the foreign-born share of the urban workforce from 6.3 percent in 2000.

Foreign-Born Share of the Workforce
by Pennsylvania PUMA, 2016



Data and methods

This profile is from the study, *Economic Implications of Pennsylvania's Foreign-Born Population*, which analyzed individual-level data from the 2016 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year sample, U.S. Census Bureau. It also examined trends over time by analyzing the 2010 ACS 1-year sample and the 2000 Decennial Census. The foreign-born population includes all individuals born in a foreign-country, excluding individuals born abroad to U.S.-citizen parents (e.g., on military bases). The workforce includes all individuals aged 16-64 who are working or potentially available to work (i.e., both in and out of the labor force). The rural population is defined as individuals living in Public-Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs) with a population density below the Pennsylvania-wide average. The research report, *Economic Implications of Pennsylvania's Foreign-Born Population*, is available at www.rural.palegislature.us.

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