

Economic Implications of Pennsylvania's Foreign-Born Population

Fact Sheet 2: The Socioeconomic Characteristics of Rural Pennsylvania's Foreign-Born Workforce

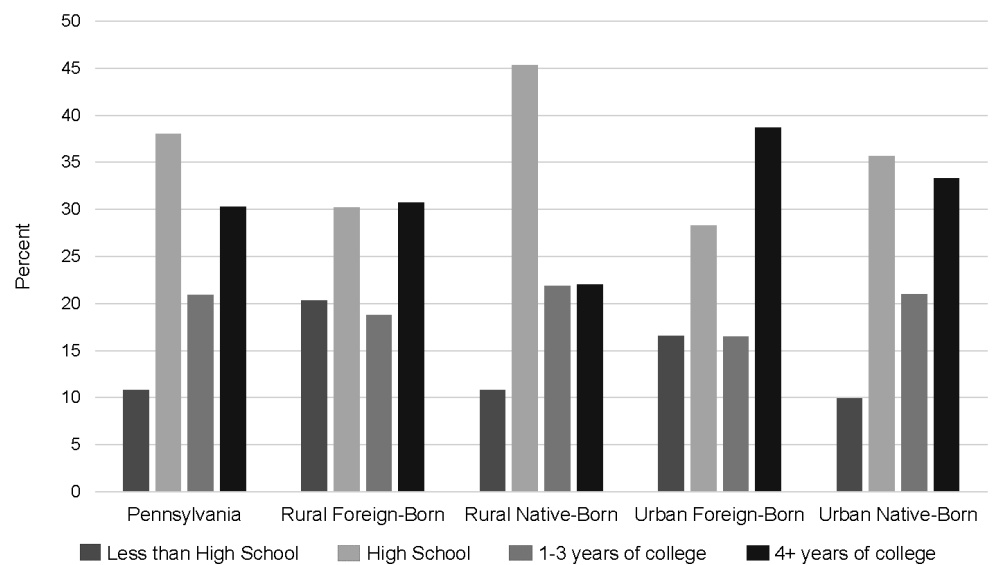
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Research findings

- Educational attainment among the rural foreign-born workforce is bifurcated. Relative to the native-born population in rural areas, the foreign-born workforce has disproportionate shares of individuals with both (a) less than a high school degree, and (b) a bachelor's degree or higher.
- The rural foreign-born population is much more racially and ethnically diverse than the native-born population, more than 90 percent of whom identify as non-Hispanic white. Among the rural foreign-born population, 36.1 percent identified as Hispanic, 26.9 percent as Asian/Pacific Islander, and 8.1 percent as non-Hispanic black.
- Almost eight in 10 (79.1%) of the foreign-born rural workforce has resided in the United States for 6 or more years, and a majority (53.2%) of individuals in this population have attained U.S. citizenship.
- More than one-fifth (21.2%) of foreign-born individuals in the rural workforce reported speaking only English, 62.4 percent speak English either well or very well, and less than 4 percent (3.8%) spoke no English.

PA Workforce Educational Attainment Levels, 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. The sample was limited to members of the workforce, defined as individuals aged 16-64 years old. Individuals were classified as rural residents if they lived in a Public-Use Microdata Area (PUMA) with a population density below the Pennsylvania-wide average. The report, *Economic Implications of Pennsylvania's Foreign-Born Population*, is available at www.rural.palegislature.us.

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