



Critical Assets

The State of Immigrants in Virginia's Economy

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By Sara Okos, Sookyung Oh and Michael Cassidy



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Critical Assets

The State of Immigrants in Virginia's Economy

Virginia's workforce is one of the most productive, highly educated, and highest earning in the nation, forming the backbone of an economy that is routinely ranked as a powerhouse. Immigrants have played a key role in the Commonwealth's success. Without a better understanding and appreciation of what a critical asset the foreign-born population is, Virginia's ability to reach its full economic potential is threatened.

On many measures, Virginia's foreign-born residents not only perform better than immigrants in other states, they also compare favorably to the native-born population nationally.

- **Virginia's immigrant population is growing and diverse.** With over 903,000 foreign-born residents in 2010, Virginia had the ninth-largest immigrant population in the U.S. Between 2000 and 2010, the Commonwealth's foreign-born population grew almost twice as fast as the nation's. No single country of origin accounts for 10 percent or more of the state's immigrants.
- **Virginia's immigrants are well-educated.** In 2010, nearly four of every 10 foreign-born residents in Virginia held a bachelor's or an advanced degree. Only six other states and the District of Columbia are home to more immigrants with a college education or higher. Roughly three-quarters of the state's immigrants speak English well or very well. Such knowledge and skills are crucial to success in today's economy.
- **A major share of the workforce is foreign-born and prospering.** Roughly one out of every seven Virginia workers in 2010 was foreign-born, even though immigrants represented about one-tenth of the overall population. Over the past decade, the median income of foreign-born workers in Virginia grew 6.1 percent, while it fell by a similar amount for their counterparts nationwide. Native-born workers saw their earnings grow by 2.9 percent. The poverty rate for Virginia immigrants is lower than it is for their counterparts nationwide and lower than that of native-born Virginians.
- **Business ownership is widespread among Virginia's immigrants.** Foreign-born Virginians work in all sectors of the state's economy, but they are more likely to be business owners. While immigrants comprise about 11 percent of Virginia's population, they represent roughly 17 percent of its entrepreneurs. Immigrants accounted for over 40 percent of the growth in entrepreneurship in Virginia between 2000 and 2010.

Despite the advances they have made, Virginia's foreign-born residents face some serious challenges. Nearly one in three had no health insurance in 2010, a rate nearly three times higher than native-born Virginians. Since the Great Recession, their wages have stagnated and home ownership among foreign-born Virginians has declined sharply.

This report documents key economic and demographic trends among Virginia's foreign-born population. By highlighting the skills and strengths of Virginia's immigrants, as well as the challenges confronting them, it aims to ensure that policies that affect immigrants are rooted in facts and promote Virginia's economic health, rather than stifle our prosperity.



In this report, the term "foreign-born" is used interchangeably with "immigrant" to refer to anyone living in the U.S. who was not born in the U.S. or to parents who are U.S. citizens.

Who are Virginia's Immigrants?

Virginia is home to a substantial and expanding immigrant population. There were over 903,000 foreign-born residents in 2010. This represents more than one in 10 Virginians – about 11 percent of the population. Nationally, almost 13 percent of U.S. residents in 2010 – about 40 million people – were immigrants.

Only eight other states are home to larger immigrant populations than Virginia. Over half of the country's immigrants live in just four of them: California, New York, Texas, and Florida.

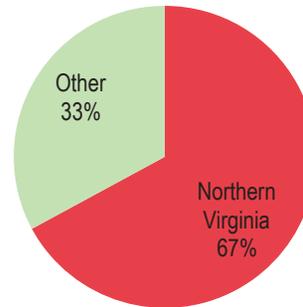
Virginia's foreign-born presence resembles that of the entire South Atlantic region. Across the eight states and the District of Columbia that comprise the region, foreign-born individuals are about 12 percent of the total population, or roughly 7 million people.

Within Virginia, there are regional differences in where the foreign-born population lives. Roughly 67 percent of all immigrants live in Northern Virginia, followed by Central Virginia (12.3 percent), and Hampton Roads (12.2 percent) (see Figure 1).

Nearly 17 percent of Northern Virginia's total population is foreign-born. The lowest concentration of immigrants is in Southwest Virginia (1.2 percent of the area's population). (See Figure 2 and see Appendix for a detailed breakdown of Virginia's foreign-born population by locality.)

Most in Northern Virginia

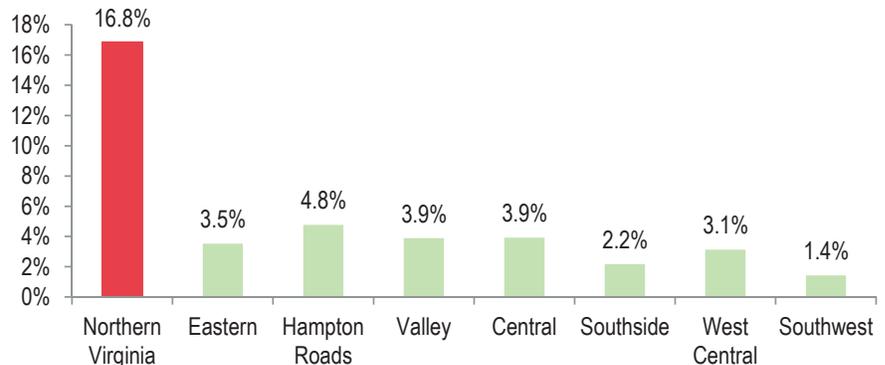
Figure 1: Share of Foreign-Born Population, 2006-2010 (average)



Source: TCI analysis of 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates

Regional Differences

Figure 2: Share of Foreign-Born Population by Region, 2006-2010 (average)

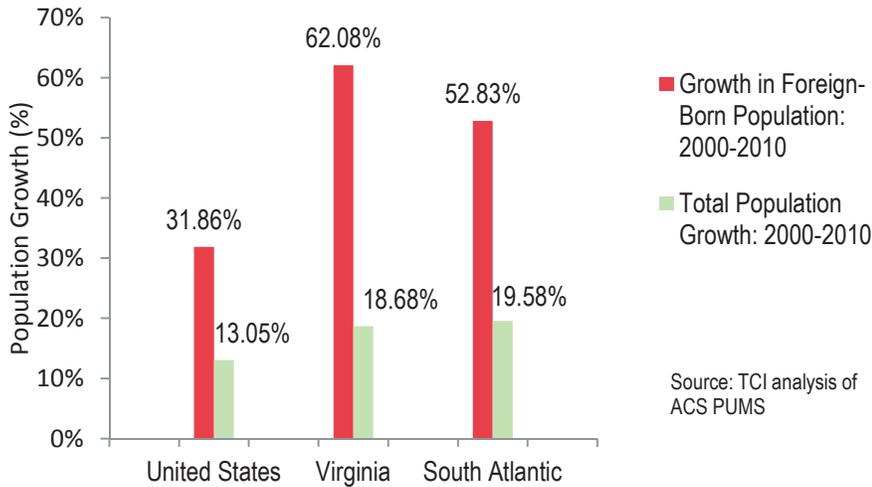


Source: TCI analysis of 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates

Only eight other states are home to larger immigrant populations than Virginia.

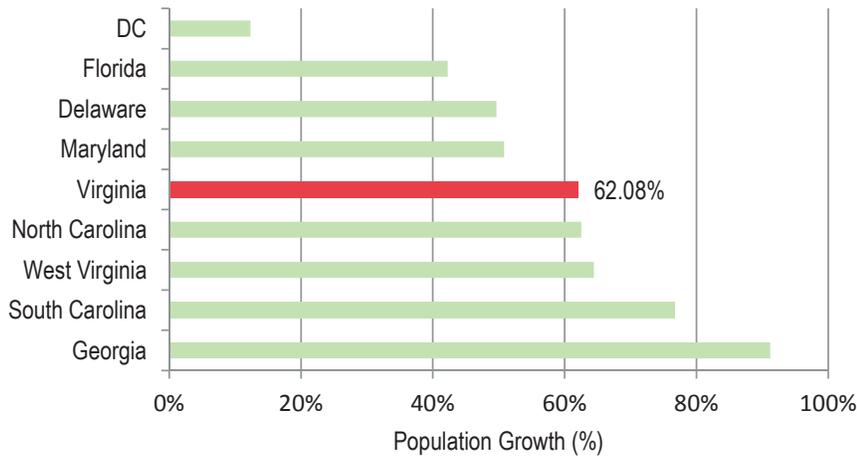
Growing Populations

Figure 3: Growth in Foreign-Born Population and Total Population Growth, 2000-2010



Virginia Falls in the Middle

Figure 4: Growth in the Foreign-Born Population for South Atlantic States, 2000-2010



A Growing Presence

Between 2000 and 2010, the Commonwealth's foreign-born population grew almost twice as fast as the immigrant population of the U.S. (see Figure 3). Virginia's total population grew by roughly 1.3 million, and just over a quarter of this growth – 27 percent – was attributable to the foreign-born. Nationally, the foreign-born also accounted for 27 percent of total population growth.

Compared to other South Atlantic states, Virginia's immigrant population growth (62 percent) falls in the middle of the pack (see Figure 4). Georgia's grew the fastest (91.2 percent).

Even during the recession (2007-2010), growth in Virginia's foreign-born population was robust, growing by nearly 15 percent, almost three times the national rate (see Figure 5, p.6). That was the 12th-highest rate nationally over the course of the recession and second only to Maryland in the South Atlantic.

Within the state, all eight regions experienced growth in the foreign born population between 2000 and 2006-2010.¹ The two regions with the highest growth rates were Central Virginia (91.7 percent) and Hampton Roads (91.1 percent); Northern Virginia was a close third (89 percent).

A Diverse Population

Virginia's immigrants are more diverse than their counterparts in other South Atlantic states and the rest of the nation.

People coming from Mexico account for roughly 3 in every 10 immigrants nationwide. In the South Atlantic, Mexico is the top country of origin, representing over 13 percent of the foreign-born. In Virginia, however, no single nation accounts for 10 percent or more of the immigrant population. At the start of the decade, Mexico was not even within the

¹ In order to get a more complete local picture in Virginia, it's necessary to use the American Community Survey's 5 year data (2006-2010), which is available for all areas. Three and single year estimates are not available for smaller localities.

top 10 countries of origin in our state. While ranked second in 2010, Mexican immigrants still represent just over 7 percent of Virginia's foreign-born population.

El Salvador was the top country of origin, a spot it has held since 2000. The top five homelands have changed slightly over time (see Figure 6).

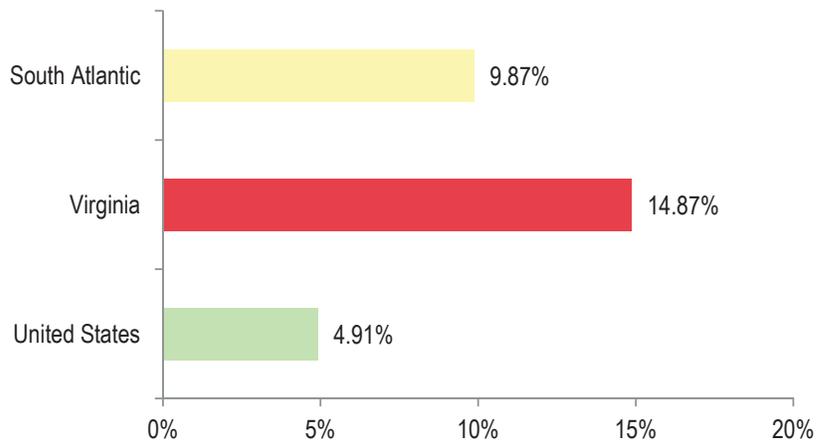
And while the concentrations from some countries increased, the number of nations with significant representation in Virginia is still high compared to the rest of the nation.

In addition to being diverse, Virginia's foreign-born population shows signs of being settled and stable. A large and growing share are naturalized citizens – individuals who were not born as U.S. citizens but are granted citizenship after fulfilling legal requirements.

In 2010, 45.7 percent of foreign-born Virginians were naturalized citizens – up from 40.7 percent in 2000. This is above the national share of 43.7 percent. In fact, Virginia's 78 percent growth in the number of naturalized citizens between 2000 and 2010 was the 9th highest increase among all states and the District of Columbia (see Figure 7). This trend is likely to continue: Among all states, Virginia had the 9th largest permanent resident population eligible to naturalize in 2010.

Growth During Downturn

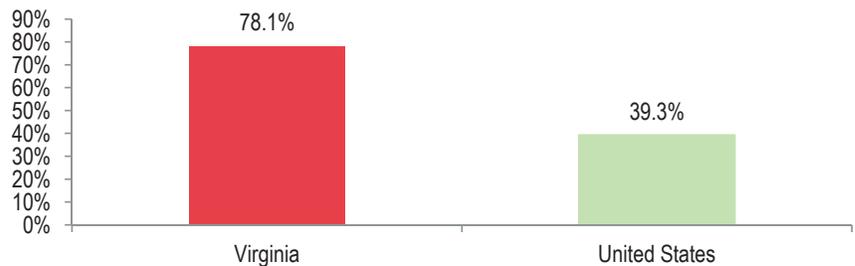
Figure 5: Growth in the Foreign-Born Population, 2007-2010



Source: TCI analysis of ACS PUMS

Increasing Naturalization in Virginia

Figure 7: Growth in Number of Naturalized Citizens Between 2000 and 2010, Virginia and U.S.



Source: TCI analysis of 2000 Census and 2010 ACS data retrieved through IPUMS

National Diversity

Figure 6: Top Five Countries of Origin and Percentage of Total Foreign-Born Population, 2000 and 2010

| United States | | | | Virginia | | | | South Atlantic | | | |
|----------------|--------|-------------|--------|----------------|-------|-------------|-------|----------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| 2000 | 2010 | | | 2000 | 2010 | | | 2000 | 2010 | | |
| 1) Mexico | 29.34% | Mexico | 29.43% | 1) El Salvador | 7.52% | El Salvador | 9.72% | 1) Cuba | 12.57% | Mexico | 13.55% |
| 2) Philippines | 4.30% | India | 4.50% | 2) India | 6.38% | Mexico | 7.20% | 2) Mexico | 11.74% | Cuba | 11.86% |
| 3) India | 3.54% | Philippines | 4.43% | 3) Philippines | 6.07% | India | 6.70% | 3) Jamaica | 4.60% | Haiti | 4.39% |
| 4) Vietnam | 3.48% | China | 4.02% | 4) Guatemala | 4.43% | Korea | 6.15% | 4) Colombia | 4.15% | El Salvador | 4.09% |
| 5) China | 3.08% | Vietnam | 3.12% | 5) Korea | 3.88% | Vietnam | 5.17% | 5) Canada | 3.80% | India | 3.95% |

Source: TCI analysis of ACS PUMS

Contributing to Our Economy

An Educated Population

A common misperception is that immigrants are less educated than native-born residents. In reality, Virginia's immigrants are among the most educated immigrants in the nation, and a larger share of them have college and graduate-level degrees than the Commonwealth's native-born population. This positions them to be major contributors to Virginia's economy, since a skilled, knowledgeable workforce is in high demand.

Nearly four of every 10 foreign-born Virginia residents (38 percent) held a bachelor's degree or an advanced degree (master's or doctorate) in 2010 (see Figure 8). This compares to 34 percent of the state's native-born population, and 28.5 percent of the national native-born population.

Only six other states and the District of Columbia are home to higher shares of immigrants with a college education or advanced degree. And only 11 other states and the District of Columbia are home to higher shares of immigrants with graduate degrees.

Widespread English Proficiency

English language skills are another critically important asset when it comes to participating in the economy, and Virginia's immigrants have above-average levels of English proficiency compared to immigrants nationwide.

Over half of Virginia's foreign-born residents report being able to speak English "very well," and another 24 percent say they are able to speak English "well." This means that roughly three

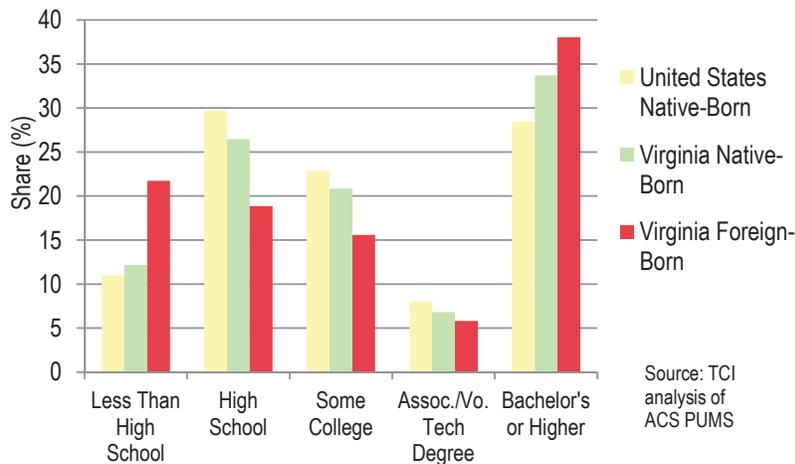
in every four of the state's immigrants have the skills necessary to communicate in English. Nationally, the share of immigrants who reported speaking English "very well" or "well" was almost 10 percentage points lower. Virginia also had a higher English proficiency rate than the average for the South Atlantic region (67.6 percent).

Fewer than 6 percent of Virginia's immigrants reported being able to speak English "not at all" in 2010. This is roughly half the national rate, and substantially below the South Atlantic rate of 10.9 percent.

Services such as English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), which assist limited English proficient (LEP) children, are crucial to sustaining the above-average

Highly Educated

Figure 8: Educational Attainment for population 25 and Older, 2010



Virginia's immigrants are among the most educated immigrants in the nation, and a larger share of them have college and graduate-level degrees than the Commonwealth's native-born population.

language skills of Virginia's immigrants. LEP students were 9.3 percent of total enrollment in the 2009-2010 school year.

While growth of LEP students has outpaced total student enrollment, some of that growth is leveling off. Between 2008 and 2012, the average annual growth in LEP enrollment was 6.1 percent, compared to 12.1 percent between 2004 and 2008 (see Figure 9).

Above-Average Labor Force Participation

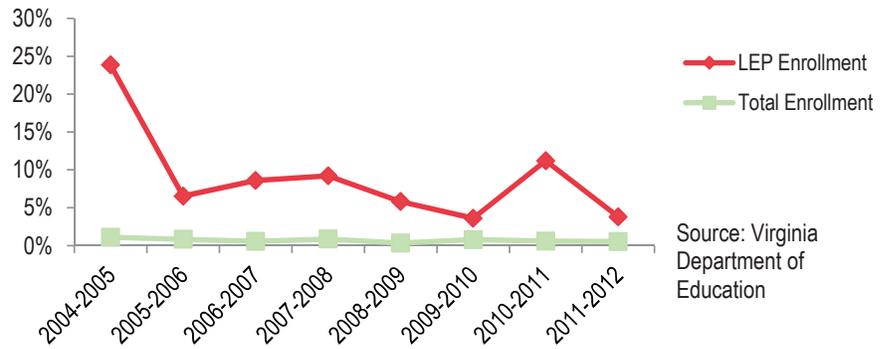
One measure of the significant economic contributions of Virginia's immigrants is their disproportionate representation in the state's labor force. While just about one in every 10 Virginians was foreign-born in 2010, roughly one in every seven workers fit that category (see Figure 10).

In fact, Virginia had the fifth-highest share of immigrants either working or looking for work in the entire country. The labor force participation rate was 74.7 percent among the foreign-born in Virginia, compared to 65.5 percent for the native-born (see Figure 11). This is due in part to the foreign-born population tending to be younger than the native-born population. In 2010, 75 percent of Virginia's foreign-born population was of working-age – 25 to 64 – compared to 52 percent of the native-born population.

The trend has benefitted the entire Virginia economy, especially during the Great Recession when immigrants continued to increase their labor force participation rate another 3.1 percent, while the native-born rate dropped 1.3 percent.

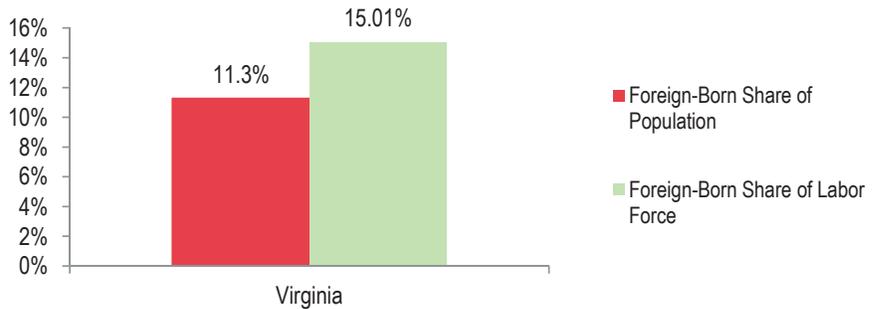
Leveling Off

Figure 9: Year-to-Year Growth in Enrollment of All Students and Limited English Proficient (LEP) Students, Virginia



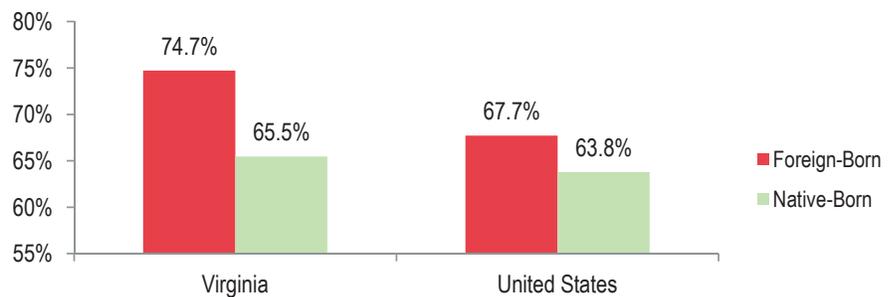
Overrepresented

Figure 10: Foreign-Born Share of Total Population and Labor Force, 2010



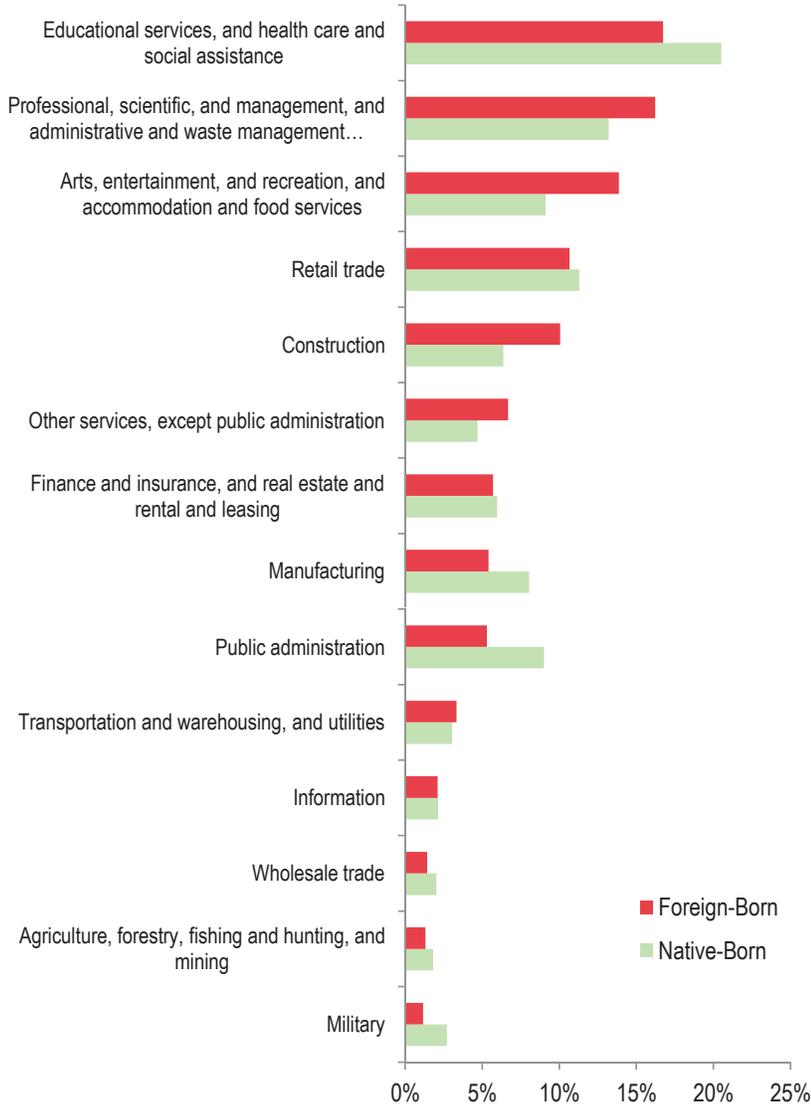
In the Game

Figure 11: Labor Force Participation Rates, Virginia and U.S., 2010



Shoulder to Shoulder

Figure 12: Virginia's Employment by Industry, Foreign-Born vs Native-Born, 2010



Source: TCI analysis of ACS PUMS

The employment patterns of Virginia's immigrants track those of Virginia's native-born workers fairly closely.

Immigrants' Employment Bucks Stereotypes

Immigrants are commonly portrayed as being crowded in a few minimum wage jobs – such as agriculture and food service or, on the other end of the spectrum, dominating jobs in engineering, science and information technology, squeezing out native-born workers. Neither stereotype holds when it comes to Virginia's immigrants.

Their employment patterns track those of Virginia's native-born workers fairly closely (see Figure 12).

The employment patterns of foreign-born Virginians differ from immigrants in other states in several respects, however (see Figure 13, p.10). For example, while over one in 20 Virginia immigrants worked in public administration in 2010, only one in every 44 immigrants nationwide did so. Likewise, the military employs more than 1 percent of foreign-born Virginians, but less than half a percent of immigrants nationally. Virginia immigrants are under-represented in other professions compared to their counterparts nationally.

Manufacturing, for example, is the fourth-largest employer of immigrants nationwide, but ranks eighth in Virginia. Only 1.33 percent of Virginia immigrants are employed in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining – a sector that would include migrant workers – compared to over 3 percent of foreign-born workers nationally. Some 10 percent of Virginia's education, health care and social service workers are foreign born, while nationwide the figure is 18.2 percent.

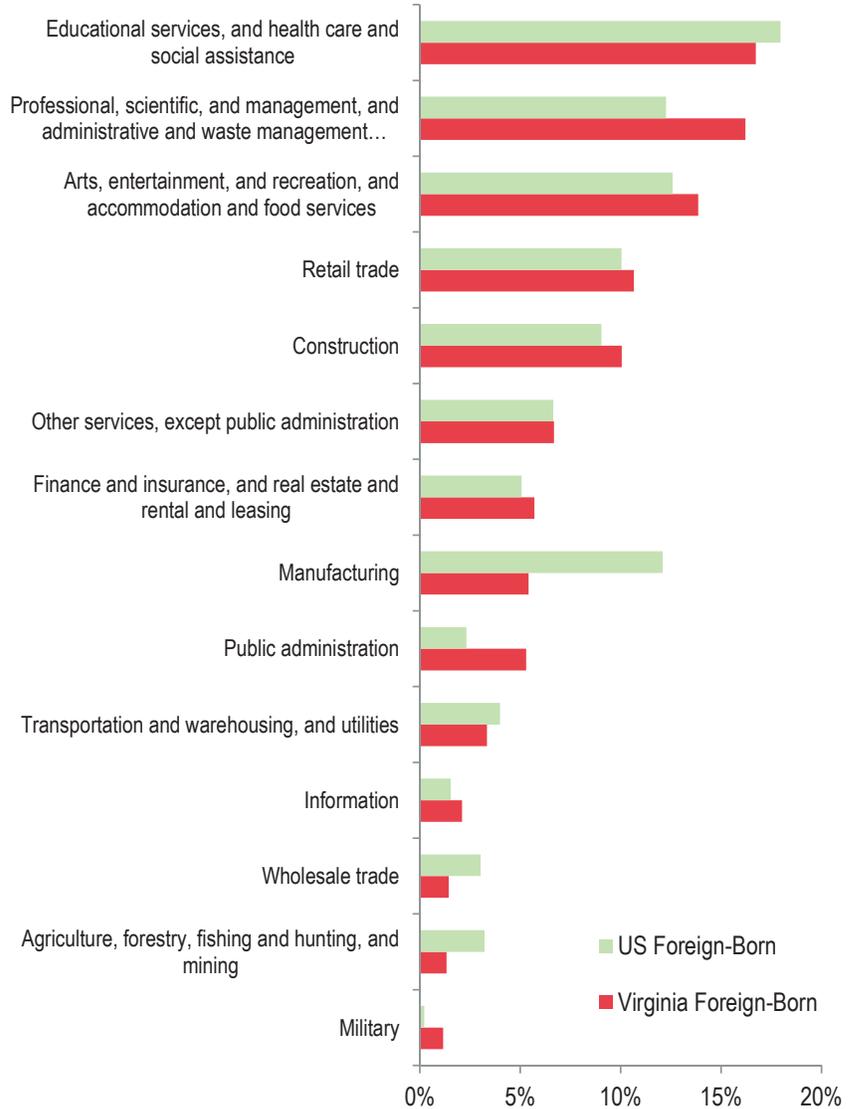
Some of these differences, such as the higher concentration of Virginia immigrants in government-related jobs, are likely due to Virginia's close proximity to Washington, D.C. and the importance of public administration to Virginia's economy. Others, such as their lower levels of employment in agriculture and manufacturing, may be the result of the above-average education and language abilities of the Commonwealth's foreign-born.

Sharp Rise – then Stagnation – in Wages

Given that Virginia is a high-income state, it is not surprising that Virginia's immigrants earn more than immigrants nationally (see Figure 14, p.11). Both Virginia's foreign-born and native-born workers out-earned their national counterparts in 2010. While native-born Virginians earned about 11 percent more than their counterparts nationally, the difference was even greater among foreign-born workers: They earned roughly 21 percent more than foreign-born workers nationally.

Key Differences

Figure 13: Foreign-Born Employment by Industry, 2010

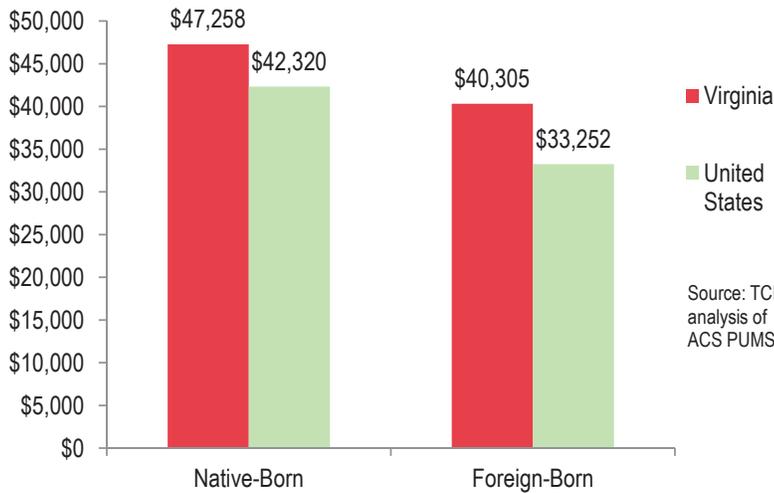


Source: TCI analysis of ACS PUMS



Earning More in Virginia

Figure 14: Median Earnings for Population 16 and Over Full-Time Year-Round Workers, 2010

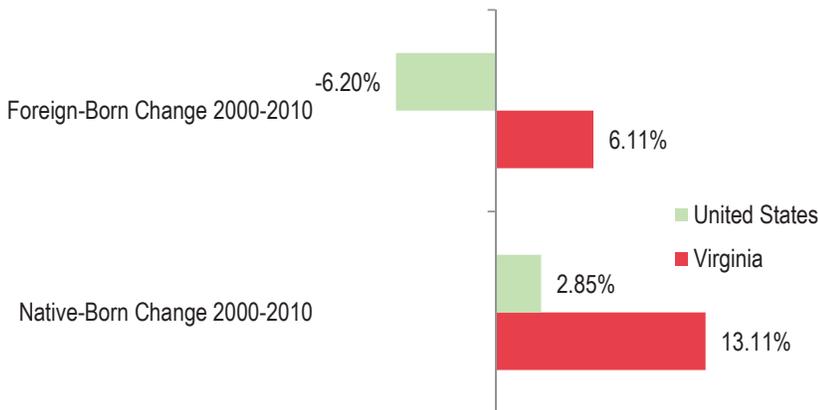


Over the past decade, Virginia’s workers – both native- and foreign-born – have experienced greater earnings growth, adjusted for inflation, than their national counterparts. Native-born Virginia workers saw their earnings grow 13 percent, compared to 3 percent for their counterparts nationally. The difference is even more pronounced among foreign-born workers. In Virginia, their earnings grew by 6.1 percent, while foreign-born workers nationally saw their earnings drop by over 6 percent (see Figure 15).

More recent trends, however, tell a changing story for Virginia’s foreign-born. Since the start of the recession in 2007, their earnings have been mostly stagnant, while nationally the earnings of foreign-born workers increased about 4 percent. By contrast, Virginia’s native-born workers saw a 4 percent increase in inflation-adjusted median earnings between 2007 and 2010, while nationally, their counterparts experienced a slight decline in earnings – about 1 percent – over this same time period.

A Decade of Growth in Virginia

Figure 15: Growth in Real Median Earnings, 16 and Older, Full-Time Year-Round Workers, 2000-2010



Nonetheless, poverty did not rise markedly for Virginia's foreign-born population over the course of the recession, growing by only half a percentage point, compared to 2.6 percentage points for native-born Virginians and 3.2 percentage points for immigrants nationally (see Figures 16).

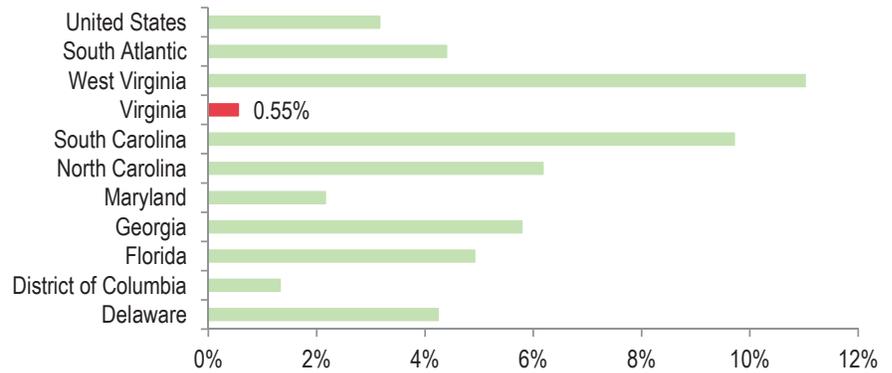
Immigrant Entrepreneurs

Virginia's immigrants are strongly entrepreneurial. (For this analysis, an entrepreneur is defined as being self-employed in one's own incorporated or unincorporated business, professional practice, or farm.)

Despite only making up about 11 percent of Virginia's population, the foreign-born are responsible for roughly 17 percent of all entrepreneurial activity in the state (see Figure 17). In fact, business enterprise among immigrants is not only substantial, it is thriving. Over 40 percent of the growth in entrepreneurship in Virginia between 2000 and 2010 was driven by immigrants.

Smallest Increase

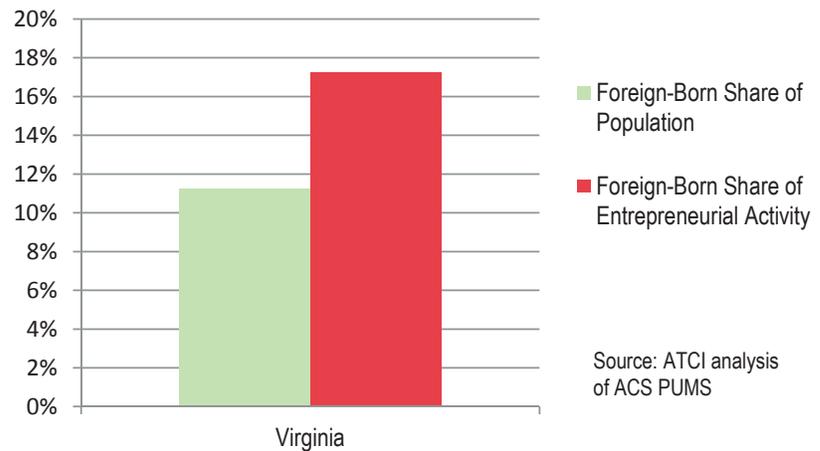
Figure 16: Change in Overall Poverty Rate Between 2007-2010 in Foreign-Born population



Source: TCI analysis of 2010 and 2007 ACS data retrieved through IPUMS

Thriving Entrepreneurship

Figure 17: Foreign-Born Share of the State Population and Share of State Entrepreneurial Activity for South Atlantic States, 2010



Source: ATCI analysis of ACS PUMS



Challenges

Health Insurance

Nearly one in three Virginia immigrants lacked health insurance in 2010, a rate nearly three times higher than native-born Virginians (see Figure 18). Most of them, 60.7 percent, are poor, but unable to get coverage through Medicaid or Medicare because they are not U.S. citizens or do not have the required length of legal permanent resident status.

Among foreign-born Virginians who are insured, 91.3 percent get coverage through private sources – their work or direct purchase – compared to 82.7 percent of native-born Virginians who are insured.

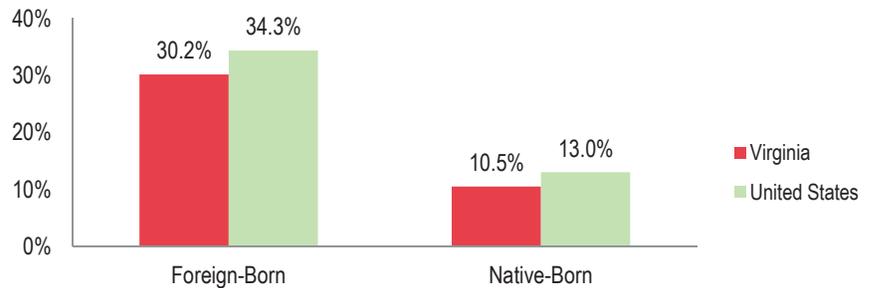
Homeownership

Homeownership among foreign-born Virginians is less common than the native-born population – almost 12 percentage points lower in 2010 (57.5 percent versus 69.2 percent).

In addition, the decline in homeownership caused by the recession hit the foreign-born harder than the native-born at the state level and nationally. Home ownership by immigrants decreased 7.5 percent in Virginia and 3.4 percent nationally, while for the native-born it dropped 1.6 percent in Virginia and 2.5 percent nationally (see Figure 19).

More Likely Uninsured

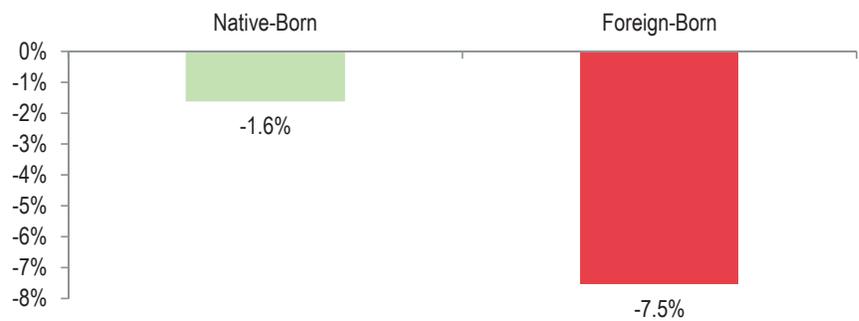
Figure 18: Foreign-Born Uninsurance Rates in Virginia and U.S., 2010



Source: TCI analysis of 2010 ACS data retrieved from IPUMS

Lost Homes

Figure 19: Change in Homeownership Rates in Virginia, 2007 and 2010



Source: TCI analysis of 2010 ACS data retrieved through IPUMS



Appendix: Data on Foreign-Born Population

| Locality Name | 2000 | | | 2006 - 2010 (average)* | | | Change | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| | Total Population | Foreign-born Population | Percent Foreign-Born | Total Population | Foreign-Born Population | Percent Foreign-Born | Total Population Change | Foreign-Born Population Change | Foreign-Born Population Change in Rate |
| Virginia | 7,078,515 | 570,279 | 8.1% | 7,845,700 | 848,182 | 10.8% | 9.8% | 48.7% | 34.2% |
| Accomack County | 38,305 | 1,625 | 4.2% | 34,066 | 2,054 | 6.0% | - 12.4% | 26.4% | 42.1% |
| Albemarle County | 79,236 | 5,753 | 7.3% | 96,633 | 8,701 | 9.0% | 18.0% | 51.2% | 24.0% |
| Alexandria City | 128,283 | 32,600 | 25.4% | 133,647 | 32,101 | 24.0% | 4.0% | - 1.5% | - 5.5% |
| Alleghany County | 12,926 | 112 | 0.9% | 16,406 | 269 | 1.6% | 21.2% | 140.2% | 89.2% |
| Amelia County | 11,400 | 80 | 0.7% | 12,517 | 507 | 4.1% | 8.9% | 533.8% | 477.2% |
| Amherst County | 31,894 | 388 | 1.2% | 32,315 | 635 | 2.0% | 1.3% | 63.7% | 61.5% |
| Appomattox County | 13,705 | 188 | 1.4% | 14,653 | 220 | 1.5% | 6.5% | 17.0% | 9.5% |
| Arlington County | 189,453 | 52,693 | 27.8% | 197,467 | 45,654 | 23.1% | 4.1% | - 13.4% | - 16.9% |
| Augusta County | 65,615 | 925 | 1.4% | 73,201 | 1,447 | 2.0% | 10.4% | 56.4% | 40.2% |
| Bath County | 5,048 | 216 | 4.3% | 4,779 | 72 | 1.5% | - 5.6% | - 66.7% | - 64.8% |
| Bedford City | 6,299 | 98 | 1.6% | 6,177 | 172 | 2.8% | - 2.0% | 75.5% | 79.0% |
| Bedford County | 60,371 | 1,098 | 1.8% | 67,697 | 1,196 | 1.8% | 10.8% | 8.9% | - 2.9% |
| Bland County | 6,871 | 56 | 0.8% | 6,873 | 243 | 3.5% | 0.0% | 333.9% | 333.8% |
| Botetourt County | 30,496 | 289 | 0.9% | 32,867 | 619 | 1.9% | 7.2% | 114.2% | 98.7% |
| Bristol City | 17,367 | 251 | 1.4% | 17,704 | 146 | 0.8% | 1.9% | - 41.8% | - 42.9% |
| Brunswick County | 18,419 | 130 | 0.7% | 17,707 | 218 | 1.2% | - 4.0% | 67.7% | 74.4% |
| Buchanan County | 26,978 | 77 | 0.3% | 24,459 | 343 | 1.4% | - 10.3% | 345.5% | 391.3% |
| Buckingham County | 15,623 | 118 | 0.8% | 16,874 | 247 | 1.5% | 7.4% | 109.3% | 93.8% |
| Buena Vista City | 6,349 | 33 | 0.5% | 6,653 | 16 | 0.2% | 4.6% | - 51.5% | - 53.7% |
| Campbell County | 51,078 | 587 | 1.1% | 54,174 | 1,122 | 2.1% | 5.7% | 91.1% | 80.2% |
| Caroline County | 22,121 | 382 | 1.7% | 27,844 | 586 | 2.1% | 20.6% | 53.4% | 21.9% |
| Carroll County | 29,245 | 255 | 0.9% | 29,985 | 420 | 1.4% | 2.5% | 64.7% | 60.6% |
| Charles City County | 6,926 | 87 | 1.3% | 7,205 | 46 | 0.6% | 3.9% | - 47.1% | - 49.2% |
| Charlotte County | 12,472 | 100 | 0.8% | 12,644 | 262 | 2.1% | 1.4% | 162.0% | 158.4% |
| Charlottesville City | 45,049 | 3,107 | 6.9% | 42,267 | 4,972 | 11.8% | - 6.6% | 60.0% | 70.6% |
| Chesapeake City | 199,184 | 5,971 | 3.0% | 219,268 | 9,652 | 4.4% | 9.2% | 61.6% | 46.8% |
| Chesterfield County | 259,903 | 13,523 | 5.2% | 308,633 | 23,869 | 7.7% | 15.8% | 76.5% | 48.6% |
| Clarke County | 12,652 | 312 | 2.5% | 14,013 | 521 | 3.7% | 9.7% | 67.0% | 50.8% |
| Clifton Forge City | 4,289 | 11 | 0.3% | 3,946 | 95 | 2.4% | - 8.7% | 763.6% | 838.7% |
| Colonial Heights City | 16,897 | 836 | 4.9% | 17,472 | 941 | 5.4% | 3.3% | 12.6% | 8.9% |
| Covington City | 6,303 | 148 | 2.3% | 5,989 | 53 | 0.9% | - 5.2% | - 64.2% | - 62.3% |
| Craig County | 5,091 | 16 | 0.3% | 5,173 | 17 | 0.3% | 1.6% | 6.3% | 4.6% |
| Culpeper County | 34,262 | 1,193 | 3.5% | 45,749 | 3,289 | 7.2% | 25.1% | 175.7% | 106.5% |
| Cumberland County | 9,017 | 118 | 1.3% | 9,855 | 278 | 2.8% | 8.5% | 135.6% | 115.6% |
| Danville City | 48,411 | 700 | 1.4% | 43,787 | 1,360 | 3.1% | - 10.6% | 94.3% | 114.8% |
| Dickenson County | 16,395 | 31 | 0.2% | 15,966 | 31 | 0.2% | - 2.7% | 0.0% | 2.7% |
| Dinwiddie County | 24,533 | 339 | 1.4% | 27,449 | 576 | 2.1% | 10.6% | 69.9% | 51.9% |
| Emporia City | 5,665 | 183 | 3.2% | 5,822 | 165 | 2.8% | 2.7% | - 9.8% | - 12.3% |
| Essex County | 9,989 | 140 | 1.4% | 10,901 | 259 | 2.4% | 8.4% | 85.0% | 69.5% |
| Fairfax City | 21,498 | 5,451 | 25.4% | 22,058 | 5,596 | 25.4% | 2.5% | 2.7% | 0.1% |
| Fairfax County | 969,749 | 237,677 | 24.5% | 1,048,554 | 301,594 | 28.8% | 7.5% | 26.9% | 17.4% |
| Falls Church City | 10,377 | 1,667 | 16.1% | 11,465 | 2,057 | 17.9% | 9.5% | 23.4% | 11.7% |
| Fauquier County | 55,139 | 1,982 | 3.6% | 64,546 | 3,882 | 6.0% | 14.6% | 95.9% | 67.3% |
| Floyd County | 13,874 | 211 | 1.5% | 15,030 | 189 | 1.3% | 7.7% | - 10.4% | - 17.3% |
| Fluvanna County | 20,047 | 469 | 2.3% | 25,308 | 502 | 2.0% | 20.8% | 7.0% | - 15.2% |
| Franklin City | 8,346 | 62 | 0.7% | 8,549 | 220 | 2.6% | 2.4% | 254.8% | 246.4% |
| Franklin County | 47,286 | 639 | 1.4% | 54,938 | 1,599 | 2.9% | 13.9% | 150.2% | 115.4% |
| Frederick County | 59,209 | 1,406 | 2.4% | 75,835 | 4,010 | 5.3% | 21.9% | 185.2% | 122.7% |
| Fredericksburg City | 19,279 | 997 | 5.2% | 23,375 | 2,153 | 9.2% | 17.5% | 115.9% | 78.1% |
| Galax City | 6,837 | 588 | 8.6% | 6,936 | 418 | 6.0% | 1.4% | - 28.9% | - 29.9% |
| Giles County | 16,657 | 125 | 0.8% | 17,205 | 138 | 0.8% | 3.2% | 10.4% | 6.9% |
| Gloucester County | 34,780 | 653 | 1.9% | 36,610 | 694 | 1.9% | 5.0% | 6.3% | 1.0% |
| Goochland County | 16,863 | 331 | 2.0% | 21,136 | 630 | 3.0% | 20.2% | 90.3% | 51.9% |
| Grayson County | 17,917 | 212 | 1.2% | 15,855 | 86 | 0.5% | - 13.0% | - 59.4% | - 54.2% |
| Greene County | 15,244 | 250 | 1.6% | 18,082 | 729 | 4.0% | 15.7% | 191.6% | 145.8% |
| Greensville County | 11,560 | 31 | 0.3% | 12,181 | 160 | 1.3% | 5.1% | 416.1% | 389.8% |
| Halifax County | 37,355 | 388 | 1.0% | 36,311 | 563 | 1.6% | - 2.9% | 45.1% | 49.3% |
| Hampton City | 146,437 | 5,778 | 3.9% | 139,046 | 7,585 | 5.5% | - 5.3% | 31.3% | 38.3% |
| Hanover County | 86,320 | 1,527 | 1.8% | 99,172 | 3,069 | 3.1% | 13.0% | 101.0% | 74.9% |
| Harrisonburg City | 40,468 | 3,733 | 9.2% | 47,406 | 6,401 | 13.5% | 14.6% | 71.5% | 46.4% |
| Henrico County | 262,300 | 17,465 | 6.7% | 300,053 | 31,753 | 10.6% | 12.6% | 81.8% | 58.9% |
| Henry County | 57,930 | 1,588 | 2.7% | 54,860 | 1,854 | 3.4% | - 5.6% | 16.8% | 23.3% |
| Highland County | 2,536 | 9 | 0.4% | 2,395 | 5 | 0.2% | - 5.9% | - 44.4% | - 41.2% |
| Hopewell City | 22,354 | 435 | 1.9% | 22,506 | 1,000 | 4.4% | 0.7% | 129.9% | 128.3% |
| Isle of Wight | 29,728 | 335 | 1.1% | 34,762 | 747 | 2.1% | 14.5% | 123.0% | 90.7% |
| James City County | 48,102 | 1,993 | 4.1% | 64,386 | 4,689 | 7.3% | 25.3% | 135.3% | 75.8% |
| King and Queen County | 6,630 | 58 | 0.9% | 6,926 | 96 | 1.4% | 4.3% | 65.5% | 58.4% |

| Locality Name | 2000 | | | 2006 - 2010 (average)* | | | Change | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| | Total Population | Foreign-born Population | Percent Foreign-Born | Total Population | Foreign-Born Population | Percent Foreign-Born | Total Population Change | Foreign-Born Population Change | Foreign-Born Population Change in Rate |
| King George County | 16,803 | 225 | 1.3% | 22,794 | 511 | 2.2% | 26.3% | 127.1% | 67.4% |
| King William County | 13,146 | 162 | 1.2% | 15,509 | 178 | 1.1% | 15.2% | 9.9% | - 6.9% |
| Lancaster County | 11,567 | 201 | 1.7% | 11,478 | 269 | 2.3% | - 0.8% | 33.8% | 34.9% |
| Lee County | 23,589 | 108 | 0.5% | 25,434 | 322 | 1.3% | 7.3% | 198.1% | 176.5% |
| Lexington City | 6,867 | 274 | 4.0% | 6,990 | 406 | 5.8% | 1.8% | 48.2% | 45.6% |
| Loudoun County | 169,599 | 19,116 | 11.3% | 291,653 | 63,426 | 21.7% | 41.8% | 231.8% | 92.9% |
| Louisa County | 25,627 | 330 | 1.3% | 32,248 | 652 | 2.0% | 20.5% | 97.6% | 57.0% |
| Lunenburg County | 13,146 | 163 | 1.2% | 12,968 | 291 | 2.2% | - 1.4% | 78.5% | 81.0% |
| Lynchburg City | 65,269 | 2,073 | 3.2% | 73,726 | 3,115 | 4.2% | 11.5% | 50.3% | 33.0% |
| Madison County | 12,520 | 279 | 2.2% | 13,342 | 520 | 3.9% | 6.2% | 86.4% | 74.9% |
| Manassas City | 35,135 | 4,973 | 14.2% | 36,067 | 8,894 | 24.7% | 2.6% | 78.8% | 74.2% |
| Manassas Park City | 10,290 | 1,543 | 15.0% | 13,195 | 3,877 | 29.4% | 22.0% | 151.3% | 95.9% |
| Martinsville City | 15,416 | 412 | 2.7% | 14,029 | 415 | 3.0% | - 9.9% | 0.7% | 10.7% |
| Mathews County | 9,207 | 198 | 2.2% | 9,004 | 179 | 2.0% | - 2.3% | - 9.6% | - 7.6% |
| Mecklenburg County | 32,380 | 524 | 1.6% | 32,774 | 936 | 2.9% | 1.2% | 78.6% | 76.5% |
| Middlesex County | 9,932 | 208 | 2.1% | 10,831 | 317 | 2.9% | 8.3% | 52.4% | 39.8% |
| Montgomery County | 83,629 | 4,813 | 5.8% | 92,527 | 7,455 | 8.1% | 9.6% | 54.9% | 40.0% |
| Nelson County | 14,445 | 271 | 1.9% | 14,989 | 407 | 2.7% | 3.6% | 50.2% | 44.7% |
| New Kent County | 13,462 | 115 | 0.9% | 17,655 | 224 | 1.3% | 23.7% | 94.8% | 48.5% |
| Newport News City | 180,150 | 8,610 | 4.8% | 181,822 | 12,506 | 6.9% | 0.9% | 45.2% | 43.9% |
| Norfolk City | 234,403 | 11,634 | 5.0% | 242,143 | 16,572 | 6.8% | 3.2% | 42.4% | 37.9% |
| Northampton County | 13,093 | 447 | 3.4% | 12,572 | 755 | 6.0% | - 4.1% | 68.9% | 75.9% |
| Northumberland County | 12,259 | 194 | 1.6% | 12,419 | 257 | 2.1% | 1.3% | 32.5% | 30.8% |
| Norton City | 3,904 | 43 | 1.1% | 3,886 | 15 | 0.4% | - 0.5% | - 65.1% | - 65.0% |
| Nottoway County | 15,725 | 226 | 1.4% | 15,819 | 401 | 2.5% | 0.6% | 77.4% | 76.4% |
| Orange County | 25,881 | 480 | 1.9% | 32,730 | 1,361 | 4.2% | 20.9% | 183.5% | 124.2% |
| Page County | 23,177 | 352 | 1.5% | 24,116 | 393 | 1.6% | 3.9% | 11.6% | 7.3% |
| Patrick County | 19,407 | 282 | 1.5% | 18,643 | 308 | 1.7% | - 4.1% | 9.2% | 13.7% |
| Petersburg City | 33,740 | 769 | 2.3% | 32,303 | 1,085 | 3.4% | - 4.4% | 41.1% | 47.4% |
| Pittsylvania County | 61,745 | 635 | 1.0% | 63,147 | 1,383 | 2.2% | 2.2% | 117.8% | 113.0% |
| Poquoson City | 11,566 | 340 | 2.9% | 12,099 | 527 | 4.4% | 4.4% | 55.0% | 48.2% |
| Portsmouth City | 100,565 | 1,595 | 1.6% | 96,785 | 2,686 | 2.8% | - 3.9% | 68.4% | 75.0% |
| Powhatan County | 22,377 | 326 | 1.5% | 27,758 | 801 | 2.9% | 19.4% | 145.7% | 98.1% |
| Prince Edward County | 19,720 | 271 | 1.4% | 22,723 | 477 | 2.1% | 13.2% | 76.0% | 52.8% |
| Prince George County | 33,047 | 1,503 | 4.5% | 35,129 | 1,477 | 4.2% | 5.9% | - 1.7% | - 7.6% |
| Prince William County | 280,813 | 32,186 | 11.5% | 379,415 | 80,860 | 21.3% | 26.0% | 151.2% | 85.9% |
| Pulaski County | 35,127 | 216 | 0.6% | 34,963 | 447 | 1.3% | - 0.5% | 106.9% | 107.9% |
| Radford City | 15,859 | 399 | 2.5% | 16,318 | 744 | 4.6% | 2.8% | 86.5% | 81.2% |
| Rappahannock County | 6,983 | 223 | 3.2% | 7,376 | 191 | 2.6% | 5.3% | - 14.3% | - 18.9% |
| Richmond City | 197,790 | 7,643 | 3.9% | 201,828 | 14,392 | 7.1% | 2.0% | 88.3% | 84.5% |
| Richmond County | 8,809 | 165 | 1.9% | 9,328 | 348 | 3.7% | 5.6% | 110.9% | 99.2% |
| Roanoke City | 94,911 | 2,904 | 3.1% | 95,793 | 6,014 | 6.3% | 0.9% | 107.1% | 105.2% |
| Roanoke County | 85,778 | 2,631 | 3.1% | 91,583 | 4,572 | 5.0% | 6.3% | 73.8% | 62.8% |
| Rockbridge County | 20,808 | 416 | 2.0% | 22,217 | 250 | 1.1% | 6.3% | - 39.9% | - 43.7% |
| Rockingham County | 67,725 | 2,223 | 3.3% | 74,922 | 3,441 | 4.6% | 9.6% | 54.8% | 39.9% |
| Russell County | 30,308 | 112 | 0.4% | 28,842 | 457 | 1.6% | - 5.1% | 308.0% | 328.8% |
| Salem City | 24,747 | 523 | 2.1% | 24,641 | 1,139 | 4.6% | - 0.4% | 117.8% | 118.7% |
| Scott County | 23,403 | 71 | 0.3% | 23,234 | 147 | 0.6% | - 0.7% | 107.0% | 108.5% |
| Shenandoah County | 35,075 | 1,080 | 3.1% | 41,468 | 1,734 | 4.2% | 15.4% | 60.6% | 35.8% |
| Smyth County | 33,081 | 159 | 0.5% | 32,383 | 300 | 0.9% | - 2.2% | 88.7% | 92.7% |
| Southampton County | 17,482 | 51 | 0.3% | 18,493 | 116 | 0.6% | 5.5% | 127.5% | 115.0% |
| Spotsylvania County | 90,395 | 2,917 | 3.2% | 120,212 | 7,304 | 6.1% | 24.8% | 150.4% | 88.3% |
| Stafford County | 92,446 | 3,713 | 4.0% | 124,587 | 9,802 | 7.9% | 25.8% | 164.0% | 95.9% |
| Staunton City | 23,853 | 474 | 2.0% | 23,806 | 776 | 3.3% | - 0.2% | 63.7% | 64.0% |
| Suffolk City | 63,677 | 1,180 | 1.9% | 82,544 | 2,522 | 3.1% | 22.9% | 113.7% | 64.9% |
| Surry County | 6,829 | 33 | 0.5% | 7,039 | 149 | 2.1% | 3.0% | 351.5% | 338.0% |
| Sussex County | 12,504 | 119 | 1.0% | 12,167 | 172 | 1.4% | - 2.8% | 44.5% | 48.5% |
| Tazewell County | 44,598 | 431 | 1.0% | 44,706 | 659 | 1.5% | 0.2% | 52.9% | 52.5% |
| Virginia Beach City | 425,257 | 28,276 | 6.6% | 435,996 | 38,988 | 8.9% | 2.5% | 37.9% | 34.5% |
| Warren County | 31,584 | 677 | 2.1% | 37,044 | 1,291 | 3.5% | 14.7% | 90.7% | 62.6% |
| Washington County | 51,103 | 470 | 0.9% | 54,322 | 562 | 1.0% | 5.9% | 19.6% | 12.5% |
| Waynesboro City | 19,520 | 471 | 2.4% | 20,885 | 607 | 2.9% | 6.5% | 28.9% | 20.5% |
| Westmoreland County | 16,718 | 512 | 3.1% | 17,237 | 697 | 4.0% | 3.0% | 36.1% | 32.0% |
| Williamsburg City | 11,998 | 622 | 5.2% | 13,421 | 1,145 | 8.5% | 10.6% | 84.1% | 64.6% |
| Winchester City | 23,585 | 1,604 | 6.8% | 25,953 | 3,885 | 15.0% | 9.1% | 142.2% | 120.1% |
| Wise County | 40,123 | 183 | 0.5% | 41,496 | 589 | 1.4% | 3.3% | 221.9% | 211.2% |
| Wythe County | 27,599 | 140 | 0.5% | 29,005 | 107 | 0.4% | 4.8% | - 23.6% | - 27.3% |
| York County | 56,297 | 2,931 | 5.2% | 64,846 | 4,584 | 7.1% | 13.2% | 56.4% | 35.8% |

*Sources: 2000 Census, 2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates



THE
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INSTITUTE

1329 E. Cary St., #202
Richmond, VA 23219

www.thecommonwealthinstitute.org