

IMMIGRANTS ARE A VITAL PART OF WISCONSIN'S FUTURE

Behind the statistics lie individual narratives of resilience, adaptation, and aspiration that shape the diversity of and strengthen Wisconsin.

Immigrant workers and business owners grow Wisconsin's economy

Nearly 300,000 immigrants reside in Wisconsin. Immigrants work in low-wage, middle-wage, and higher-wage jobs in sectors across our state's economy.



11% of Main Street business owners in Wisconsin are immigrants, operating storefront shops that help keep downtown areas vibrant

6% of Wisconsin workers are immigrants, including:

11% of cooks

9% of construction laborers

17% of college professors

63% of manicurists and pedicurists

7% of auto mechanics

16% of physicians

6% of childcare workers

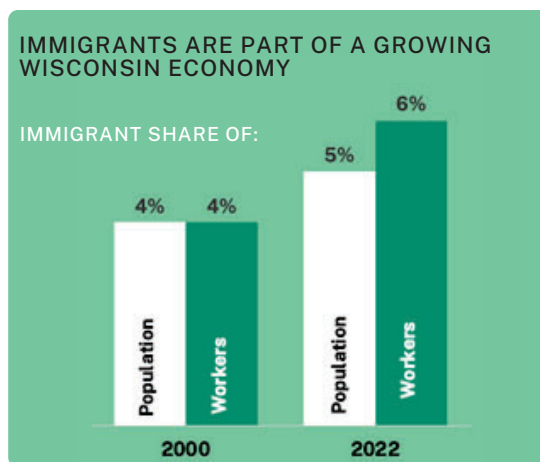
24% of packing machine operators

17% of software developers

Immigrant workers and business owners generate **\$23 billion of economic output** in Wisconsin. Immigrant contribution to GDP is about the same as immigrant share of the labor force.

Immigration increases opportunity for Wisconsin residents

When immigrants move to Wisconsin, the economy grows. That doesn't mean fewer jobs, it means more jobs: there are more consumers, more workers, and more business owners. Study after study shows there is no fixed number of jobs in a state. Immigration creates opportunities that benefit U.S.-born workers too.



As Wisconsin residents age, we'll need more workers

As our population ages, new immigrants help keep our economy growing at a sustainable rate. Immigrants help meet growing needs for health care, home care, and supportive services that are key for older Wisconsin residents to have a dignified retirement.

Some people try to scapegoat immigrants to keep us divided. We don't have to fall for it.

After decades of stagnating wages, today wage growth is starting to move in the right direction. We know how to create a good economy for workers. It requires uniting around policy choices like investments in infrastructure and manufacturing with strong labor standards and livable wages. Regardless of race or country of birth, we **all** do better when we unite for policies that prioritize the wellbeing of **all** children and families living in Wisconsin.