

IMMIGRANTS ARE A VITAL PART OF WASHINGTON STATE'S FUTURE

Just as we came together from different places and races to build Washington in past decades, a strong future for our state includes immigrants

Immigrant workers and business owners grow Washington's economy

1.2 million immigrants reside in Washington. Immigrants work in low-wage, middle-wage, and higher-wage jobs in sectors across our state's economy.



29% of Main Street business owners in Washington are immigrants,

operating storefront shops that help keep downtown areas vibrant

19% of workers in Washington are immigrants, including:



34% of personal care aides



19% of accountants

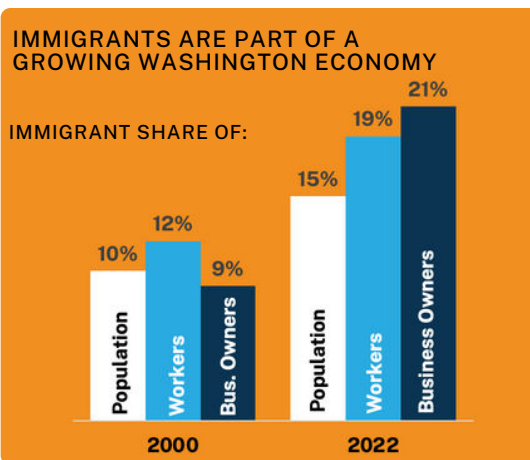


28% of physicians

It turns out that immigrant workers and business owners generate **\$145 billion of economic output** in Washington. Immigrant contribution to GDP is about the same as immigrant share of the labor force.

Immigration increases opportunity for Washington

When immigrants move to Washington, 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 our population ages, we'll need more workers

As people in Washington get older, 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 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, manufacturing, and our care economy with strong labor standards. Regardless of race or country of birth, we all do better when we unite for policies that grow jobs and wages.