How
Immigrants
Help
Startups

Going Global with an International team

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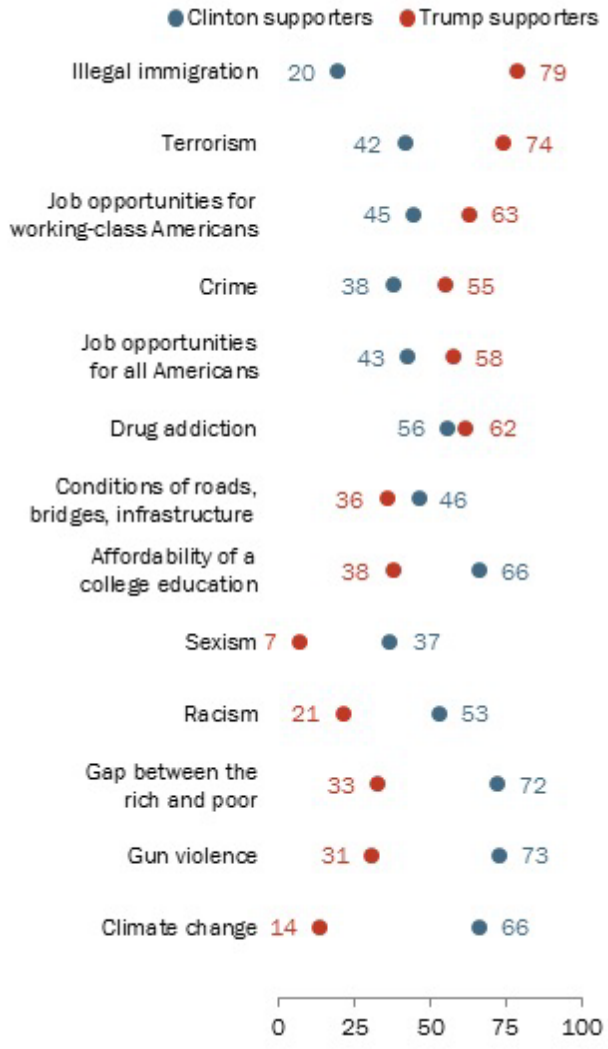
Questions for You

Views on Immigration

Clinton, Trump voters sharply diverged on seriousness of an array of problems

% of voters who said each is a 'very big problem' in the country today ...



Source: Pew Research Center, "A Divided and Pessimistic Electorate," 2016

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The Immigrant Learning Center

- **1992: The ILC** is started to provide free English classes for foreign-born adults – 10,000 to date.

- **2003: The ILC Public Education Institute** is established to counter anti-immigrant sentiments.

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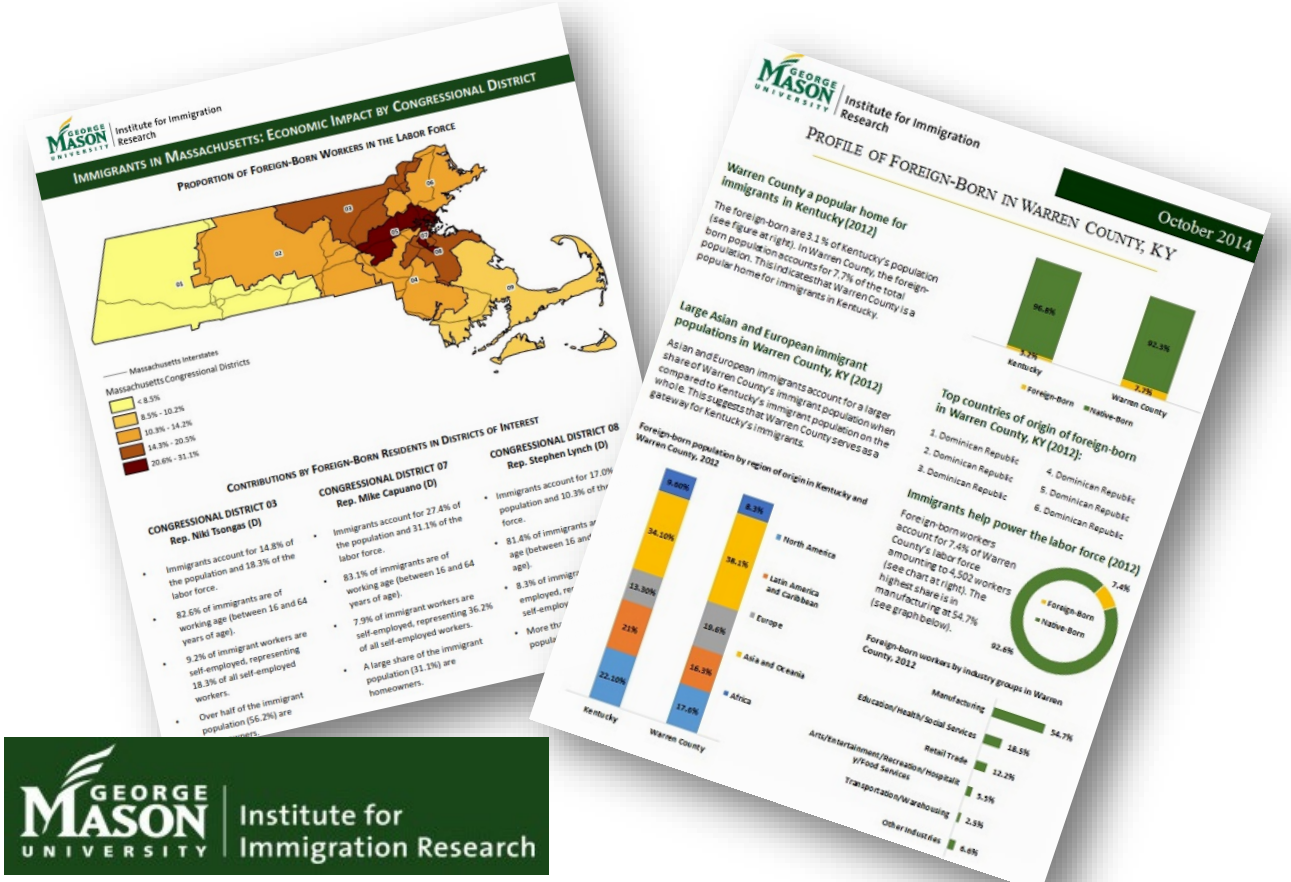
The ILC Public Education Institute

- First to push the other side of the story:
  Immigrants as assets, not deficits/in need
- Commissioned research to develop credible, alternative narrative
- 13 studies to document immigrant contributions
- Webinars, public appearances, conf. presentations, fact sheets inform policy, media, public, field

Institute for Immigration Research



Institute for Immigration Research at GMU:
iir.gmu.edu/idod

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The ILC Immigrant Entrepreneur Awards Dinner

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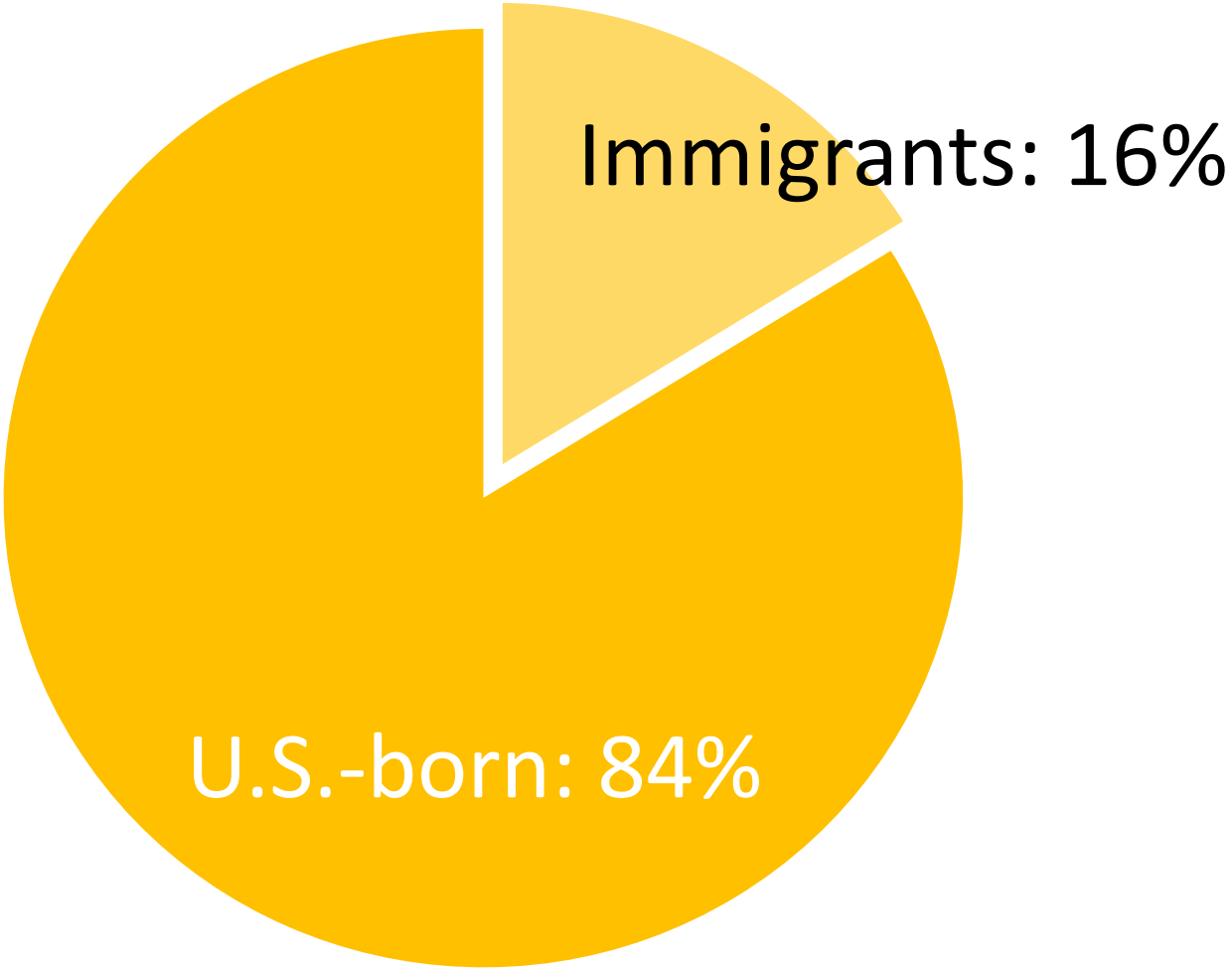
Terminology

- Immigrants: Anyone in the U.S. born in another country

- “Immigrants” and “foreign-born” used interchangeably

Immigrants' Role in Economy

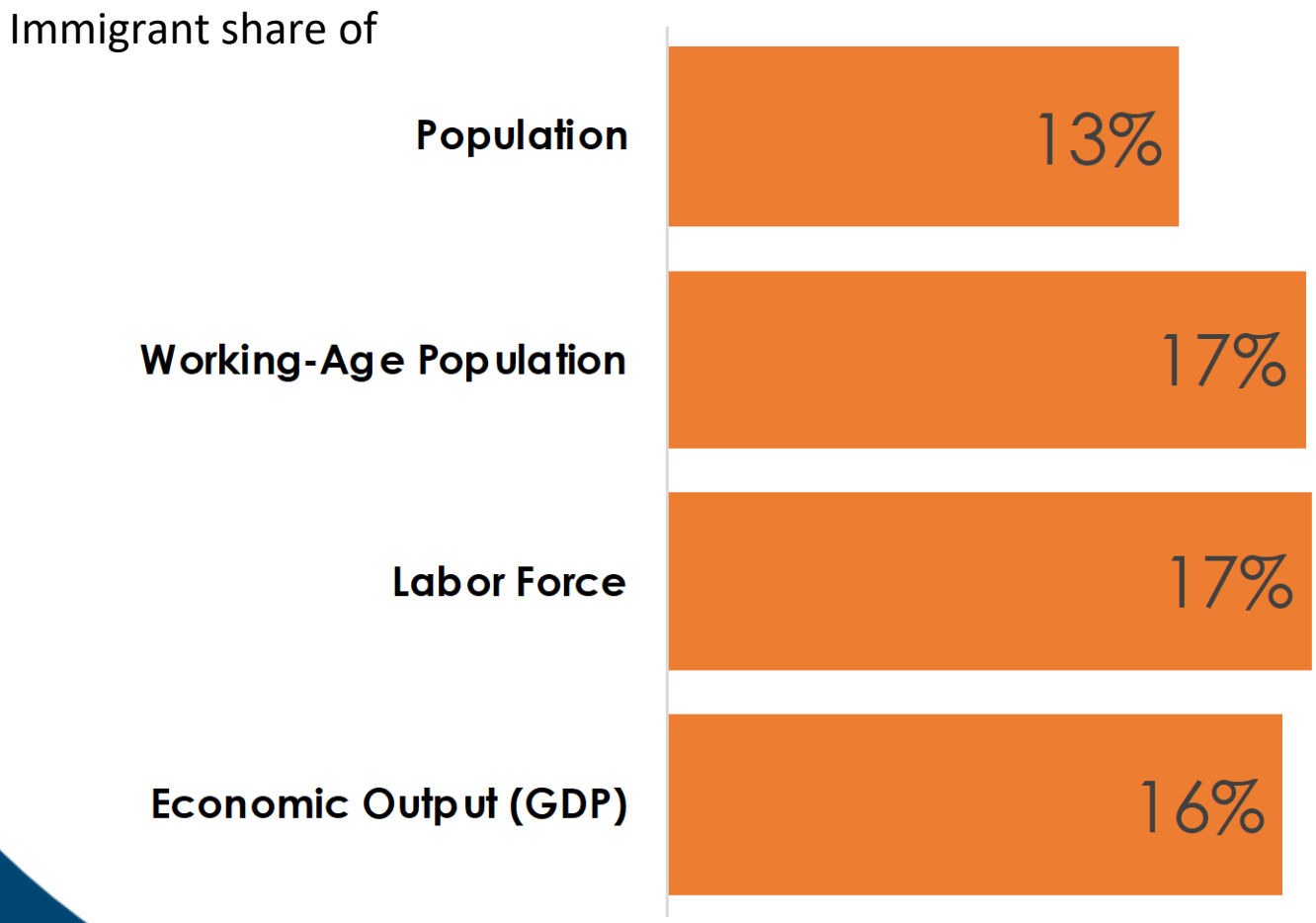


Source: Fiscal Policy Institute analysis of American Community Survey (ACS) 2015. Share of GDP is gauged by share of total wage and salary earnings plus proprietor's income.

How Can Immigrant Share of GDP

be that BIG?

1. Immigrants Are of Working Age

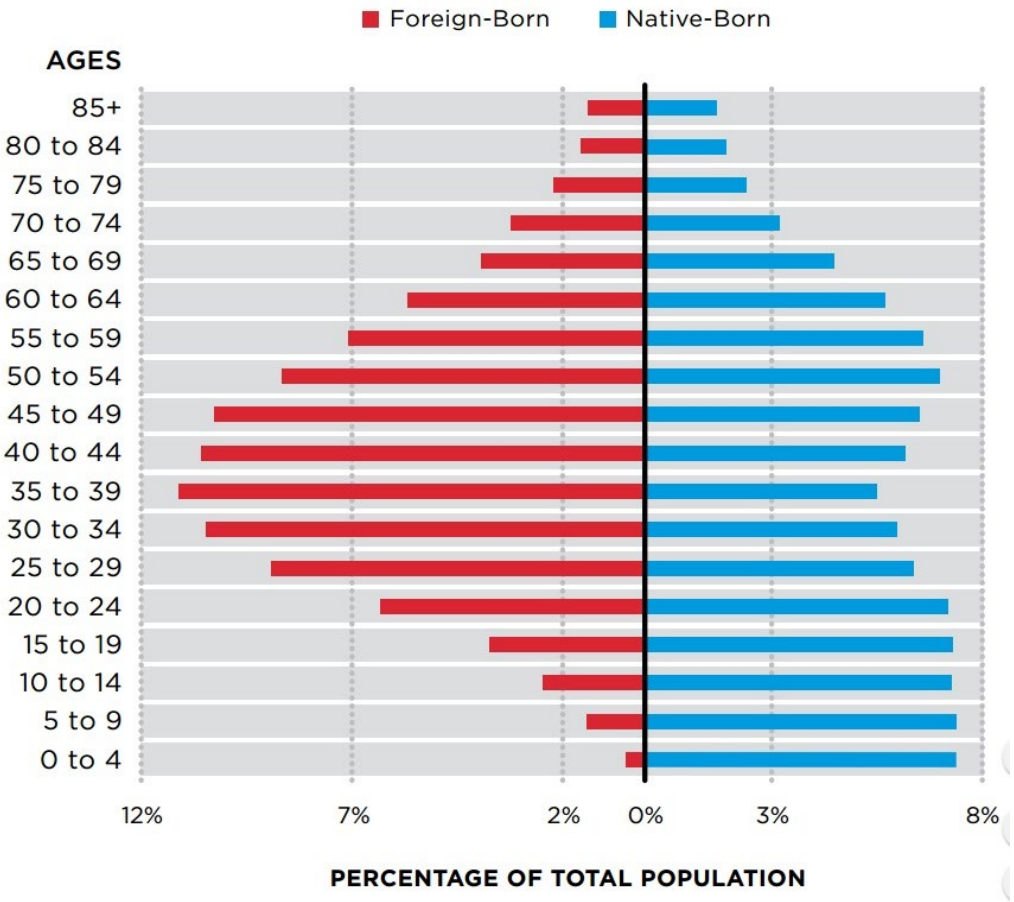


Source: Fiscal Policy Institute analysis of American Community Survey (ACS) 2015.

Immigrants Are of Working Age

Immigrants make up 16.7% of the labor force, more than share of population (2015).

More than 70% of immigrants are between 25 and 54 compared to 50% of natives.

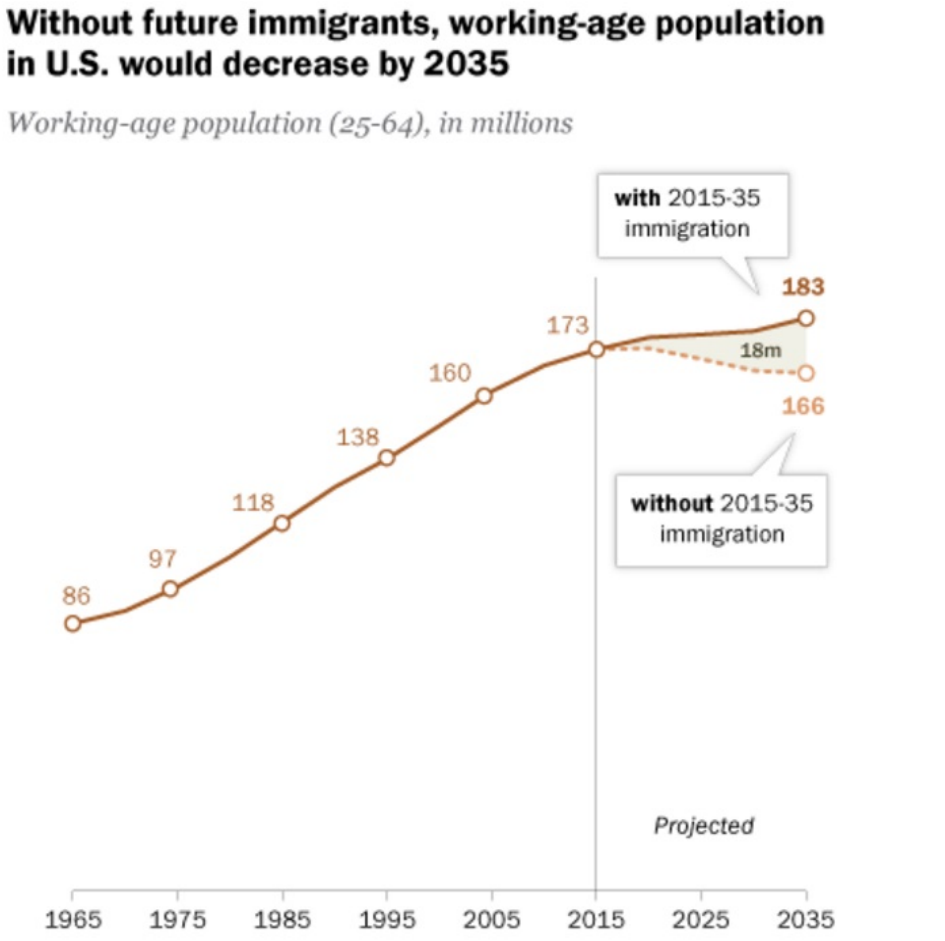


Sources: Migration Policy Institute, Age-Sex Pyramids of U.S. Immigrant and Native-Born Populations, 1970-Present, 2015; *America's Advantage: A Handbook on Immigration and Economic Growth*, 2015; Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Labor Force Characteristics of Foreign-born Workers Summary," 2016.

Immigrants Are of Working Age

Immigrants are driving overall workforce growth in the U.S.

Without immigrants, there would be 18 million fewer working-age adults in 2035 because of the dearth of U.S.-born children with U.S.-born parents.



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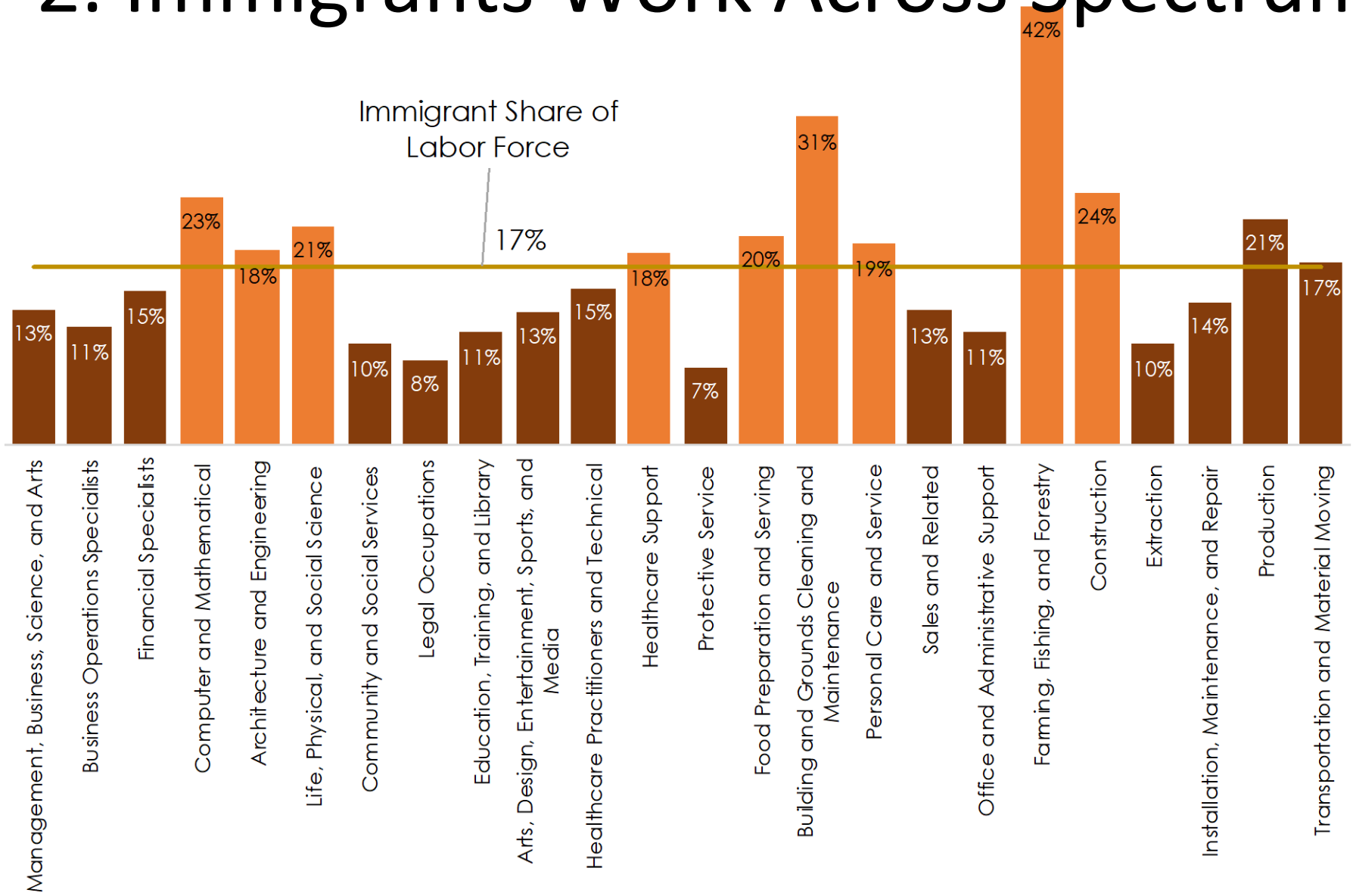
2. Immigrants Work Across Spectrum



Immigrants Across Healthcare

Immigrants are **13.5%** of the U.S. population but:

28%
physicians/surgeons

22%
nursing, psychiatric and home health aides

15%
nurses

40%
medical scientists in manufacturing R&D

50+%
biotechnology workers

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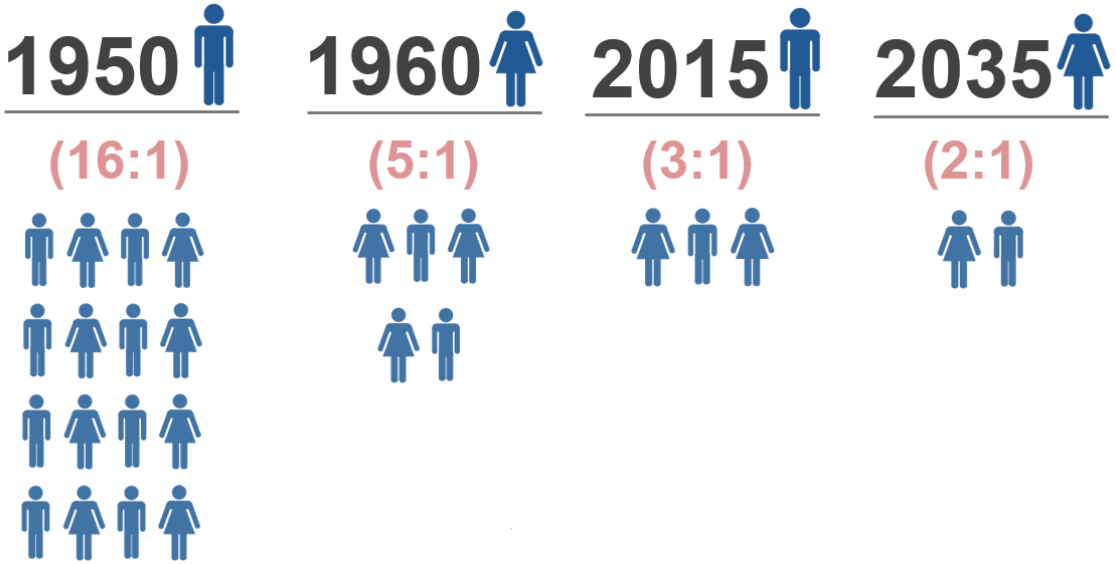
Source: The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc. and the Institute for Immigration Research at George Mason University, *Immigrants in Health Care: Keeping Americans Healthy Through Care and Innovation*, 2016; Renew Our Economy: America's Aging Crisis: How Immigration Reform Can Strengthen the U.S. Health Care System, 2015

Immigrants Support Social Systems



- Number of seniors will double by 2050
- Ratio of seniors to workers will soar by <70% by 2040
- Immigrants are subsidizing Medicare's core trust fund
- More workers needed, especially in healthcare

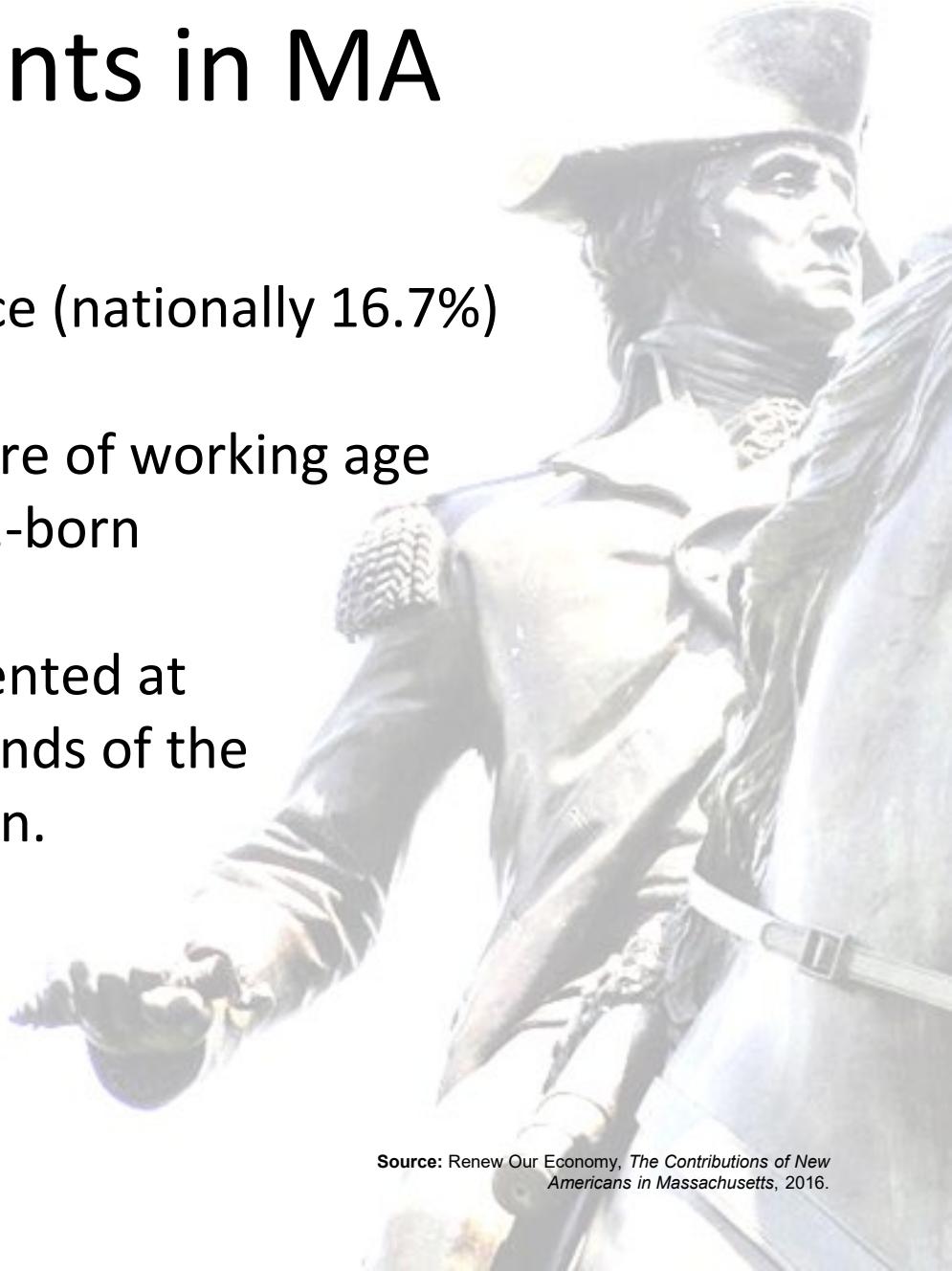
Sources: New American Economy, "Staying Covered: How Immigrants Have Prolonged the Solvency of One of Medicare's Key Trust Funds and Subsidized Care for U.S. Seniors," 2014; New American Economy, "America's Aging Crisis: How Immigration Reform can Strengthen the U.S. Workforce," 2015

Immigrants in MA

18%: Share of labor force (nationally 16.7%)

70.7% of foreign-born are of working age compared to 50.8% U.S.-born

Immigrants overrepresented at both the high and low ends of the occupational distribution.



Source: Renew Our Economy, *The Contributions of New Americans in Massachusetts*, 2016.

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Immigrants in MA

Occupations with largest share of foreign-born workers:

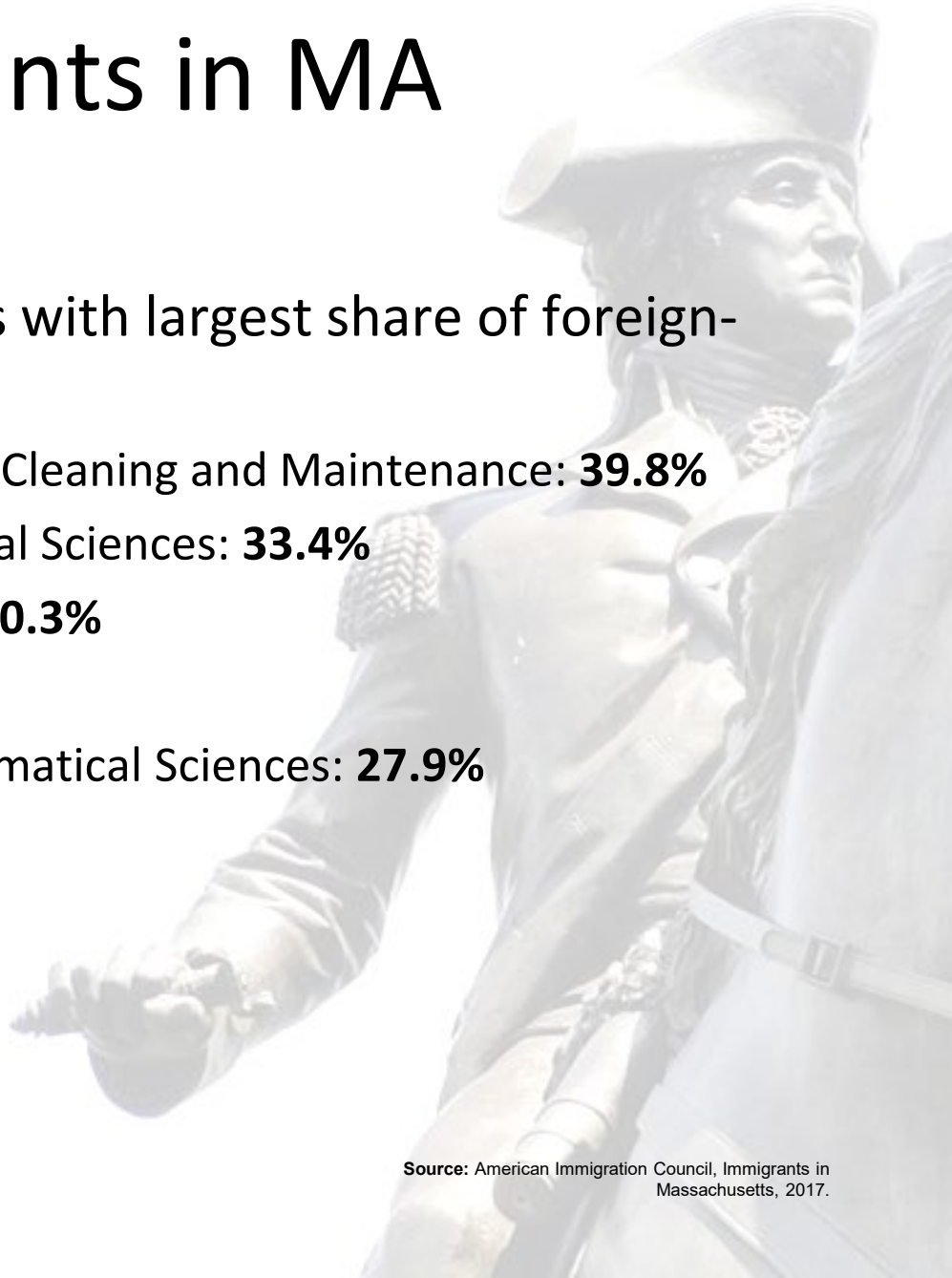
1. Maids and Housekeeping, cleaners: **65%**
2. Medical and life scientists: **59%**
3. Chefs and head cooks: **44%**
4. Physical scientists: **42%**
5. Taxi drivers and chauffeurs: **37%**
6. Painters, construction and maintenance: **35%**
7. Software developers: **35%**
8. Nursing, psychiatric and home health aides: **35%**

Source: Renew Our Economy, *The Contributions of New Americans to Massachusetts*, 2016.

Immigrants in MA

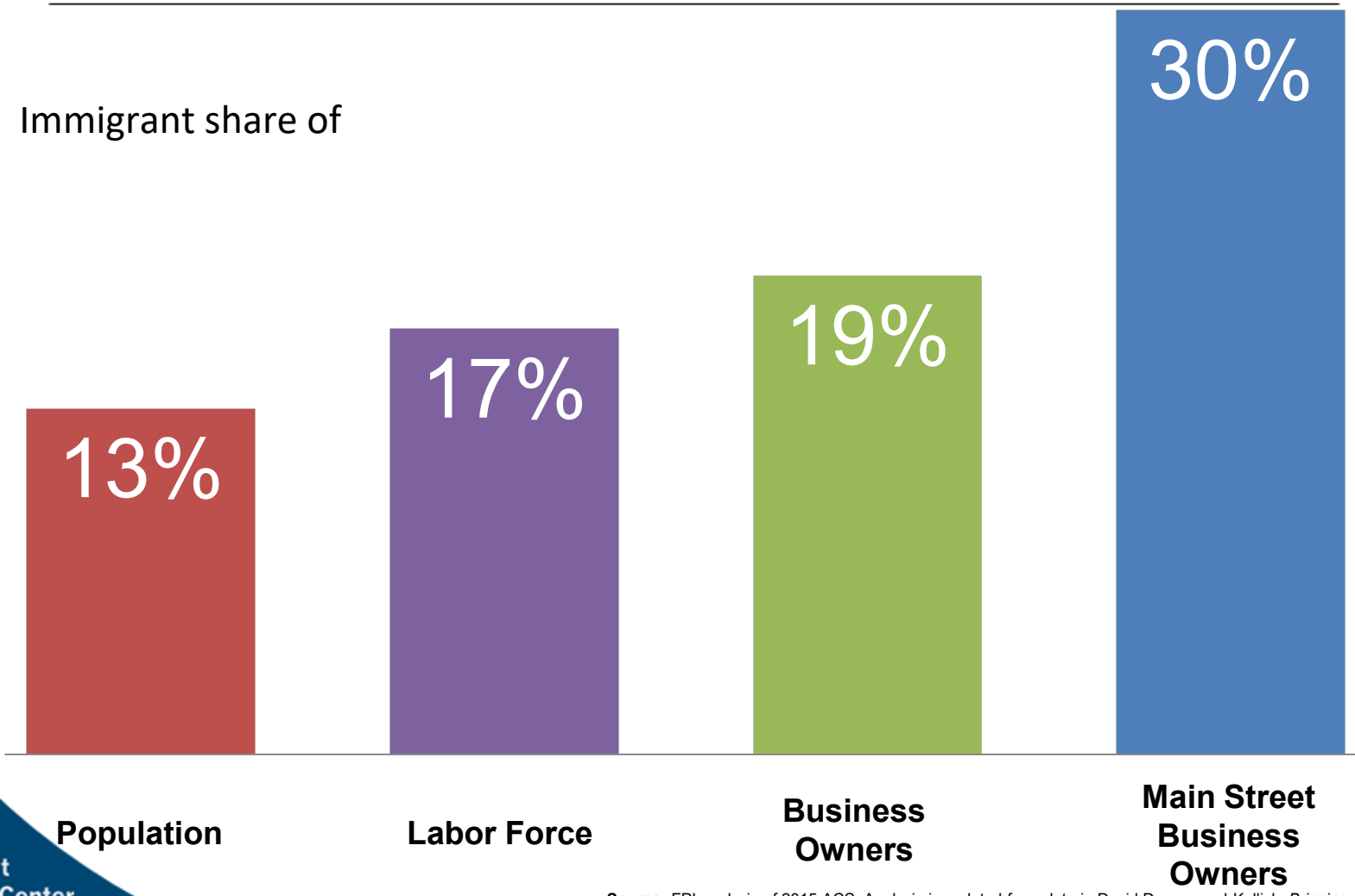
Occupation categories with largest share of foreign-born workers:

1. Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance: **39.8%**
2. Life, Physical and Social Sciences: **33.4%**
3. Healthcare Support: **30.3%**
4. Production: **30.0%**
5. Computer and Mathematical Sciences: **27.9%**



Source: American Immigration Council, Immigrants in Massachusetts, 2017.

3. Immigrants Are Entrepreneurial

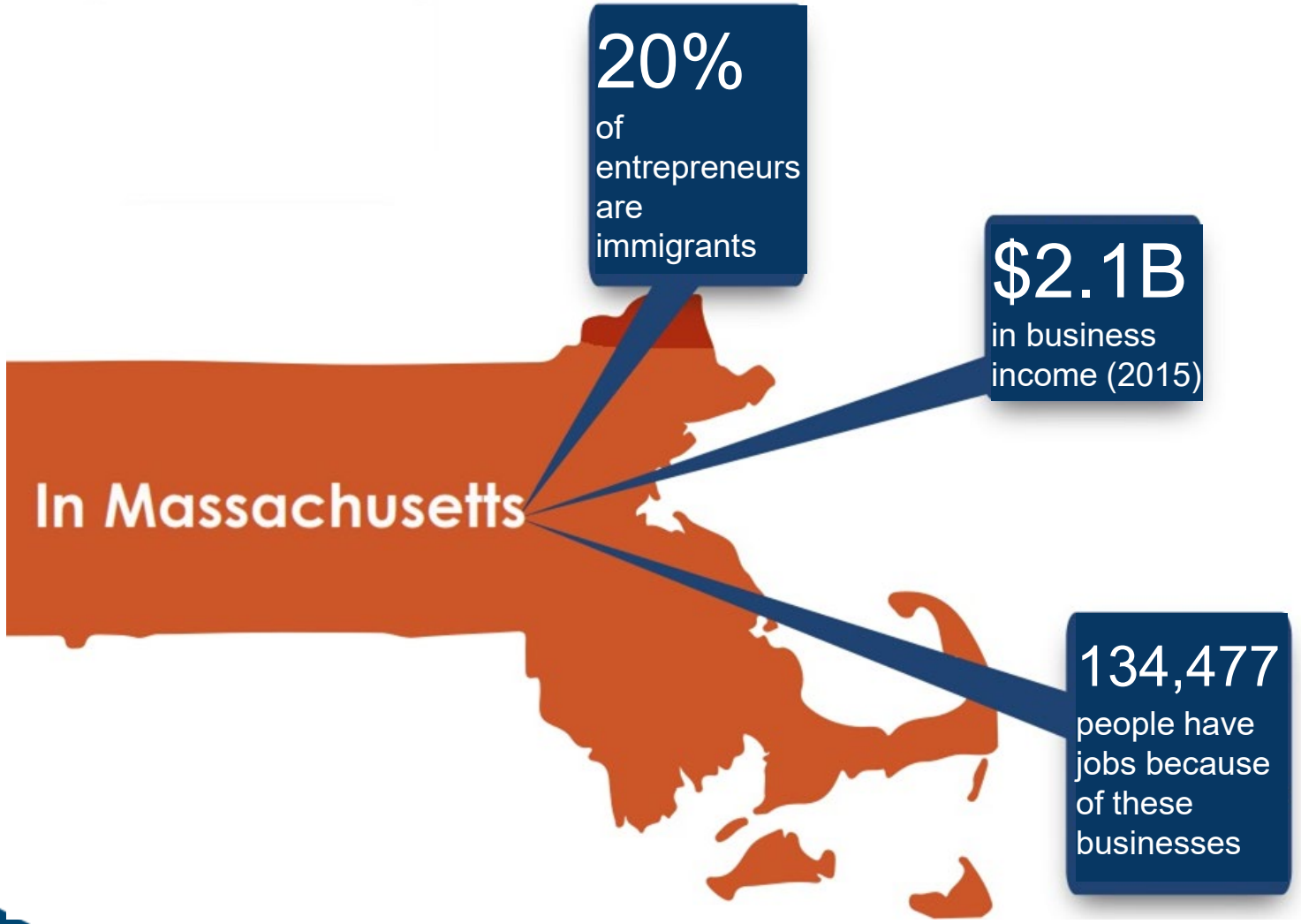


Source: FPI analysis of 2015 ACS. Analysis is updated from data in David Dyssegaard Kallick, *Bringing Vitality to Main Street*, Fiscal Policy Institute and Americas Society/Council of the Americas, 2015.

Immigrants Create Jobs

Source: The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc. Public Education Institute, 2016

Immigrant Entrepreneurship in MA



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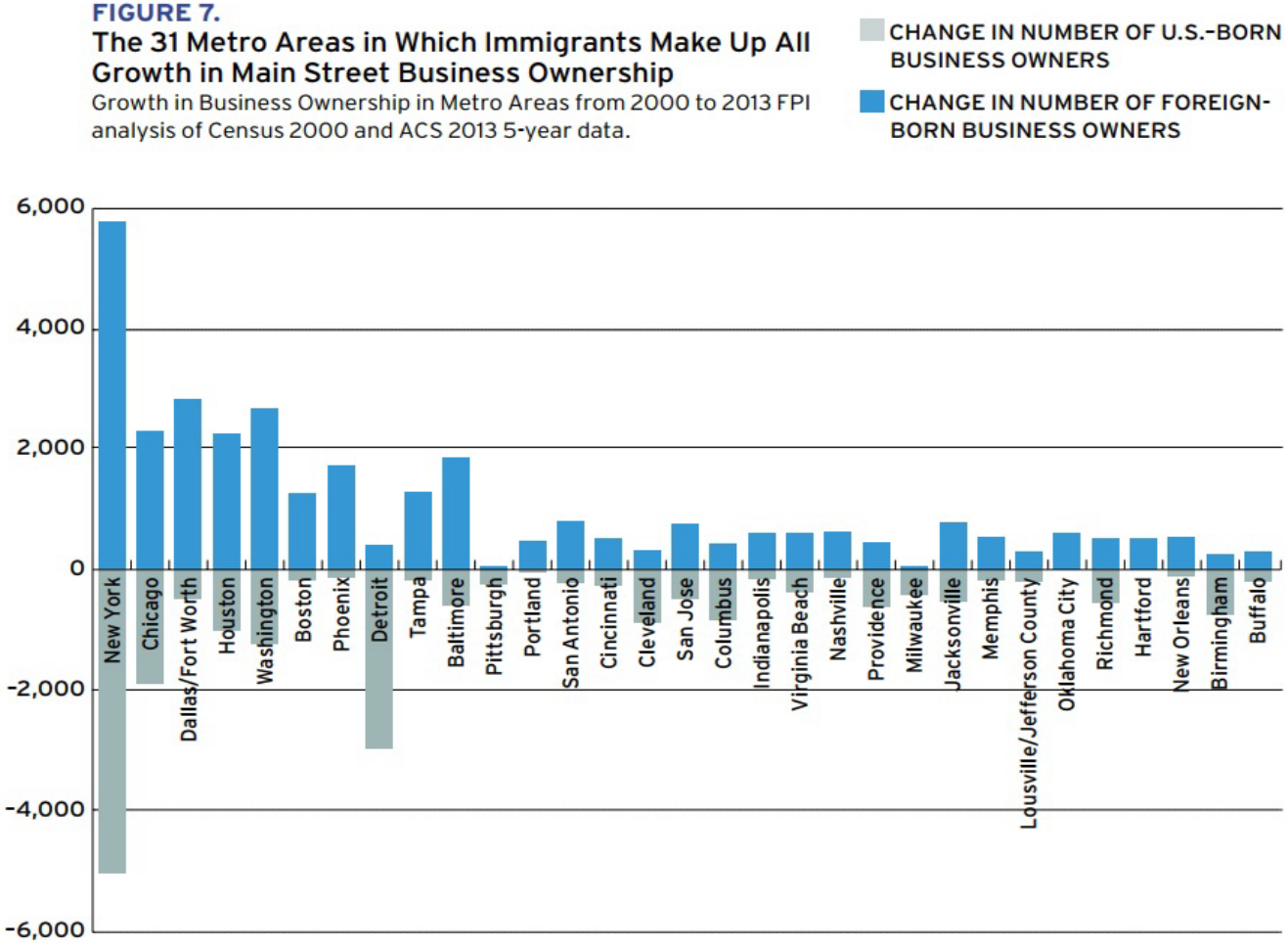
Main Streets

FIGURE 7.
The 31 Metro Areas in Which Immigrants Make Up All Growth in Main Street Business Ownership
Growth in Business Ownership in Metro Areas from 2000 to 2013 FPI analysis of Census 2000 and ACS 2013 5-year data.



Source: David Dyssegaard Kallick, *Bringing Vitality to Main Streets: How Immigrant Small Businesses Help Local Economies Grow*, Fiscal Policy Institute and the Americas Society/Council of the Americas.

Engineering and Tech

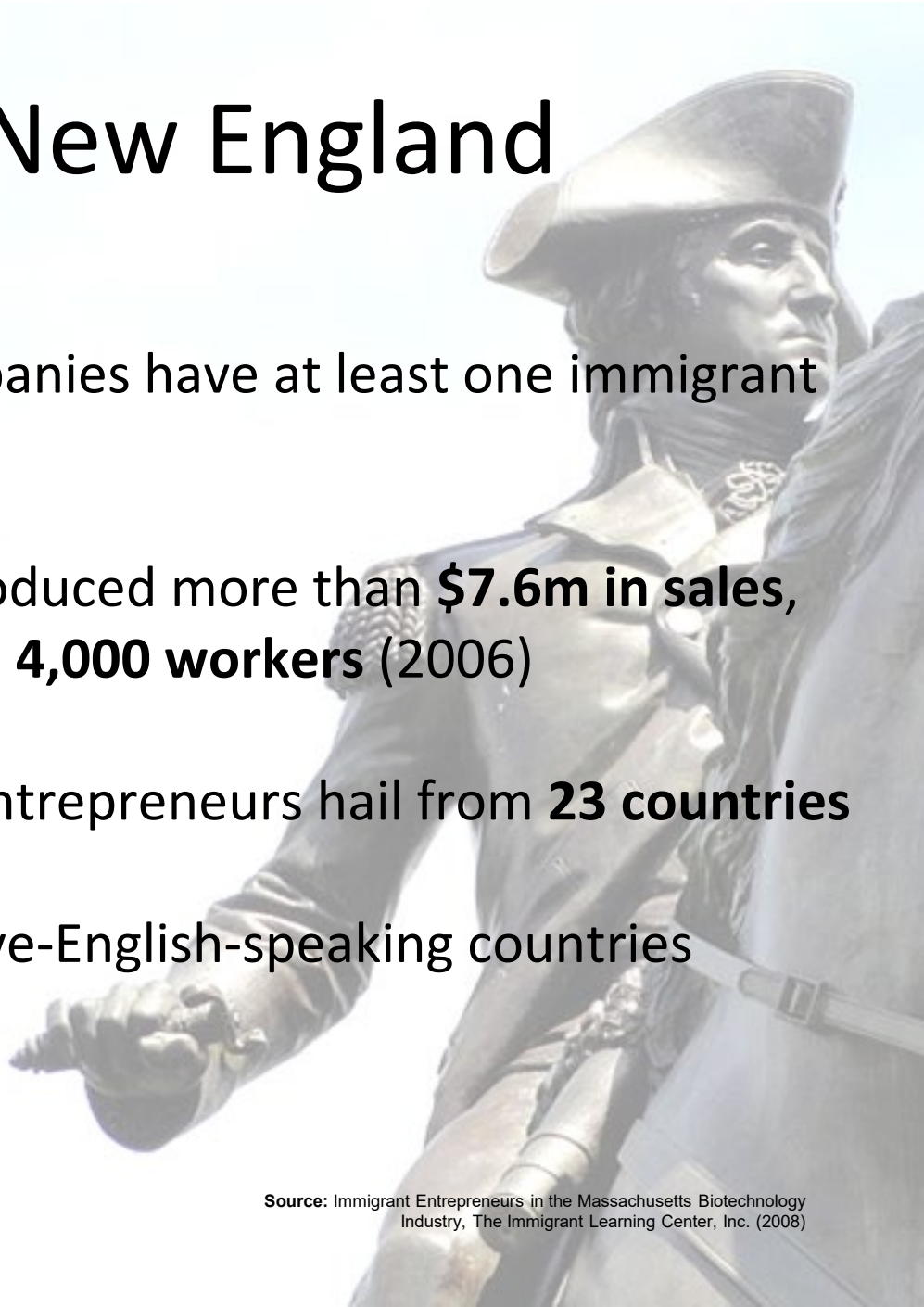
- **One-quarter** of engineering and tech companies started in the U.S. had at least one immigrant founder (2006-12)

- These companies generated $63b in sales, employed 560,000 workers (2012)

Source: Kauffman Foundation Entrepreneurship Policy Digest, 2015.

Biotech in New England

- **26%** of biotech companies have at least one immigrant founder
- These companies produced more than **$7.6m in sales**, employed more than **4,000 workers** (2006)
- Immigrant biotech entrepreneurs hail from **23 countries**
- **28%** came from native-English-speaking countries



Source: Immigrant Entrepreneurs in the Massachusetts Biotechnology Industry, The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc. (2008)

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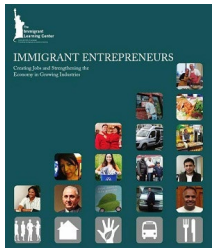
Thank You



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