The New Metropolitan Geography of U.S. Immigration

Mayors’ Institute on City Design
Rethinking Neighborhoods for Immigrants
February 21-23, 2006
More than 1/3 of U.S. population growth was driven by Immigration in the 1990s

Components of population change, 1990-2000

- Net Immigration, 34.7%
- Natural Increase, 65.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Births</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>115,864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>50,342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>45,397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>40,659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Salvador</td>
<td>28,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>26,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>22,133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>14,777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>14,415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>13,951</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Foreign Born Legal Status Estimates

**Legal Status of Immigrants**

- Legal Permanent Resident (LPR): 10.4 million (29%)
- Aliens: 10.4 million (29%)
- Unauthorized Migrants (10.3 million): 29%
- Temporary Legal Residents: 1.2 million (3%)
- Naturalized Citizens (former LPRs): 11.3 million (32%)
- Refugee Arrivals (Post-'80): 2.5 million (7%)

**35.7 Million Foreign-Born in 2004**

(Demographic estimates based on March 2004 CPS with allowance for omissions)

Source: Passel 2005

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION
METROPOLITAN POLICY PROGRAM
More immigrants entered the United States in the 1990s than in any previous decade.

Immigrants are settling in many new places with little history of immigration.

The challenges of incorporating immigrants is a growing issue in many places in the United States.
The share of the U.S. population that is foreign-born is lower at the end of the 20th century than at the start.

Source: Lindsay and Singer, “Changing Faces: Immigrants and Diversity in the Twenty-First Century,” June 2003
Few cities maintained their status as gateways throughout the 20th century

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Foreign Born Population</th>
<th>Share Foreign Born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>1.270,080</td>
<td>37.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>587,112</td>
<td>34.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>295,340</td>
<td>22.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>197,129</td>
<td>35.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>124,631</td>
<td>32.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>116,885</td>
<td>34.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>111,356</td>
<td>19.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>104,252</td>
<td>29.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>96,503</td>
<td>33.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>88,991</td>
<td>31.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>2,871,032</td>
<td>35.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,512,720</td>
<td>40.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>628,903</td>
<td>21.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>516,105</td>
<td>26.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>329,757</td>
<td>36.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>314,227</td>
<td>25.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>290,436</td>
<td>24.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>285,541</td>
<td>36.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>257,325</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>215,739</td>
<td>59.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Source countries have shifted—from primarily European to primarily non-European.
Many states are being transformed by immigration

Percent Change in the Foreign Born Population by State for 1990-2000

From Northeast and Southwest

To Southeast and Mountain West
Metropolitan Washington now ranks 7th in number of foreign-born residents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Metropolitan Area</th>
<th>NUMBER</th>
<th>PERCENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>3,449,444</td>
<td>36.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>3,139,647</td>
<td>33.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>1,425,978</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>1,147,765</td>
<td>50.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>854,669</td>
<td>20.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Orange County</td>
<td>849,899</td>
<td>29.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Washington DC</td>
<td>832,016</td>
<td>16.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Riverside-San Bernardino</td>
<td>612,359</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>606,254</td>
<td>21.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>591,169</td>
<td>16.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: US Census Bureau
Former gateways are no longer major destinations

Percent of Foreign Born in Cities by Gateway Types, 1900-2000

Former gateways:
- Baltimore
- Buffalo
- Cleveland
- Detroit
- Milwaukee
- Philadelphia
- Pittsburgh
- St. Louis

Graph shows the percent of foreign born in cities over time, with a decline from 1900 to 2000.
Continuous gateways have always attracted more than their fair share of immigrants

Percent of Foreign Born in Cities by Gateway Types, 1900-2000

Continuous gateways have always attracted more than their fair share of immigrants.

- Continuous
- Boston
- Chicago
- Jersey City
- Newark
- New York
- Bergen Passaic, NJ
- Middlesex-Somerset, NJ
- Nassau-Suffolk, NY
- San Francisco
Post-WWII gateways became destinations during the past 50 years

Percent of Foreign Born in Cities by Gateway Types, 1900-2000

Post-WWII gateways became destinations during the past 50 years.

- Fort Lauderdale
- Houston
- Los Angeles
- Orange County
- Riverside-San Bernardino
- San Diego
- Miami
Emerging gateways experienced very recent and rapid growth in their foreign-born population.
Re-Emerging gateways are once again major destinations for immigrants

Percent of Foreign Born in Cities by Gateway Types, 1900-2000

Re-Emerging gateways
- Denver
- Minneapolis-St. Paul
- Oakland
- Phoenix
- Portland
- Sacramento
- San Jose
- Seattle
- Tampa
Emerging gateways represent a new context for immigrant integration.
Six types of metropolitan immigrant gateways in 2000

**Former**
- Baltimore
- Buffalo
- Cleveland
- Detroit
- Milwaukee
- Philadelphia
- Pittsburgh
- St. Louis

**Continuous**
- Boston
- Chicago
- Jersey City
- Newark
- New York
  - Bergen Passaic NJ
  - Middlesex-Somerset NJ
  - Nassau-Suffolk, NY
  - San Francisco

**Post-WWII**
- Fort Lauderdale
- Houston
- Los Angeles
  - Orange County
  - Riverside-San Bernardino
- San Diego
- Miami

**Emerging**
- Atlanta
- Dallas
- Fort Worth
- Las Vegas
- Orlando
- Washington, DC
- West Palm Beach

**Re-Emerging**
- Denver
- Minneapolis-St. Paul
- Oakland
- Phoenix
- Portland
- Sacramento
- San Jose
- Seattle
- Tampa

**Pre-Emerging**
- Austin
- Charlotte
- Greensboro-Winston Salem
- Raleigh-Durham
- Salt Lake City
Continuous and Post-WWII Gateways still dominate, but Emerging and Re-Emerging are growing faster.
Population growth in *Continuous* and *Post-WWII* Gateways depends more on immigration than in *Emerging* Gateways.
Most of the cities would not have gained population in the 1990s without immigrants.
Immigrant characteristics vary by gateway type...

- Suburban settlement patterns
- National origins
- English language proficiency
The share of overall population that is foreign-born tends to be higher in central cities than in suburbs…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Suburbs</th>
<th>Metro</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
...but growth during the 1980s and 1990s was greater in suburban areas, yielding more immigrant residents in absolute terms

Foreign Born in Cities and Suburbs, 45 metro areas (in millions)

1980
- Suburbs: 5.0
- Cities: 4.9

1990
- Suburbs: 7.7
- Cities: 6.9

2000
- Suburbs: 12.9
- Cities: 9.8
Immigrants in *Emerging* Gateways are more likely to live in the suburbs

Share of Foreign-Born Population That Live in the Suburbs by Gateway Type, 1970-2000

- Emerging
- Former
- Post-WWII
- Re-emerging
- Pre-emerging
- Continuous
The five largest country of origin groups in the U.S. include Mexico and four Asian countries.
But cities have distinct national origin compositions

Baltimore
Trinidad and Tobago 8%

Boston
Haiti 10%

Charlotte
Mexico 28%

Chicago
Mexico 47%

Dearborn
Lebanon 41%

Miami
Cuba 57%

St. Petersburg
Canada 8%, Vietnam 6%
All gateway types doubled the number of refugees resettled in the 1990s, except for Post-World War II gateways.
English language skills are most limited in *Post-WWII* and *Pre-Emerging* Gateways.

- **Former**:
  - Does not speak English well: 17.4
  - Speaks English "well": 82.6

- **Continuous**:
  - Does not speak English well: 26.4
  - Speaks English "well": 73.6

- **Post W.W.II**:
  - Does not speak English well: 34.7
  - Speaks English "well": 65.3

- **Emerging**:
  - Does not speak English well: 29.3
  - Speaks English "well": 70.7

- **Re-Emerging**:
  - Does not speak English well: 27.5
  - Speaks English "well": 72.5

- **Pre-Emerging**:
  - Does not speak English well: 34.2
  - Speaks English "well": 65.8
Six Implications for Local Leaders

1. Understand local immigration dynamics
2. Bring cultural and language sensitivity to service delivery
3. Build English language capacity
4. Provide workforce support
5. Create linkages to mainstream institutions
6. Encourage civic engagement