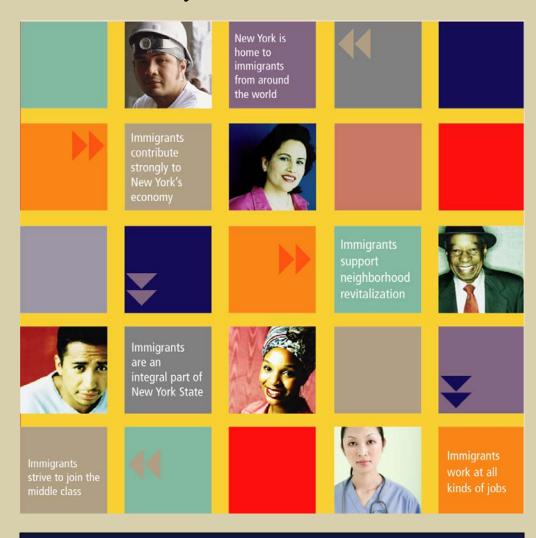
Fiscal Policy Institute



Working for a Better Life

A Profile of Immigrants in the New York State Economy

In an overheated atmosphere, Fiscal Policy Institute set out to take a calm look at the *real role of immigrants* in New York





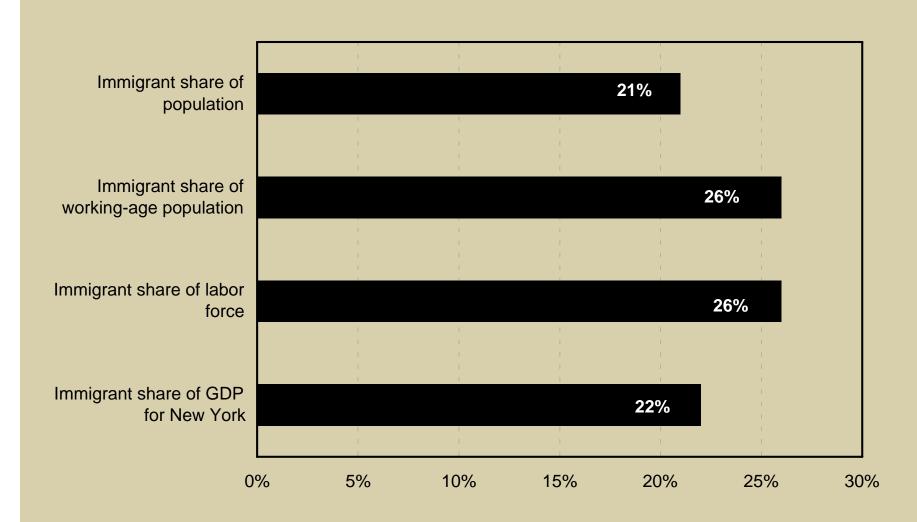




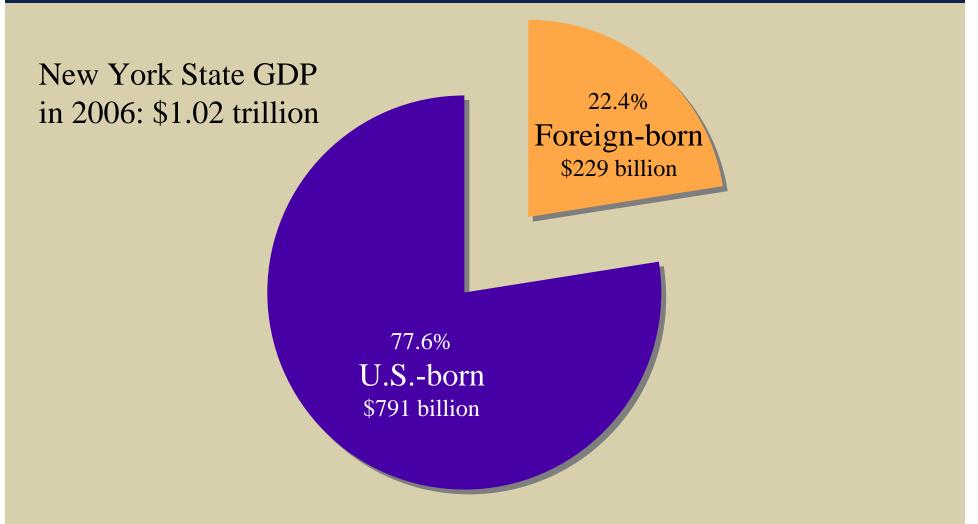




Immigrant **economic** contribution is the same as immigrants share of state population



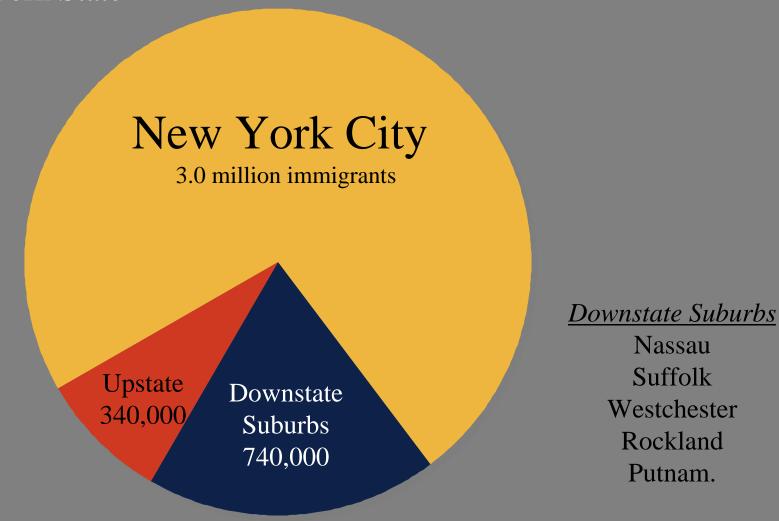
Immigrant **economic** contribution represents nearly a quarter of the New York State economy



Source: FPI calculation based on Bureau of Economic Analysis estimate of Gross Domestic Product by State and ACS PUMS. See *Working for a Better Life*, Appendix B, for details.

3 distinct Stories of immigration

in New York State



Sources: American Community Survey 2005 and New York City Department Of City Planning corrected figures, as accepted by the Census Bureau.

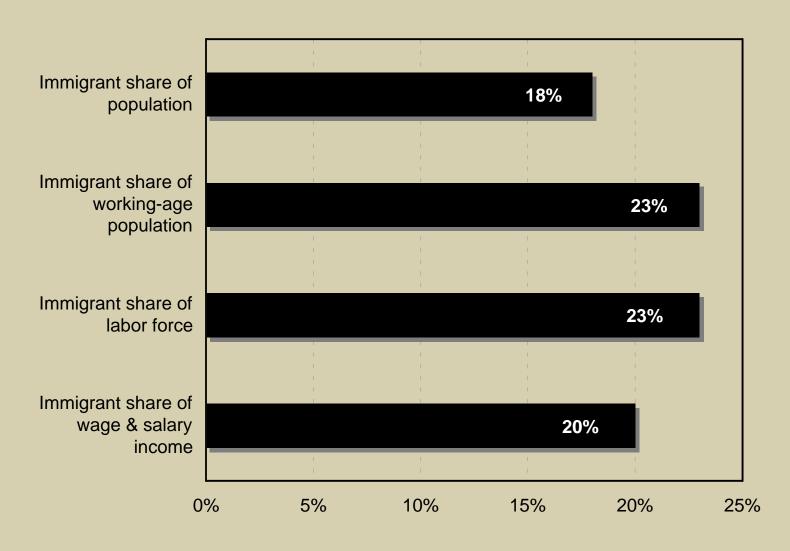


Downstate Suburbs

Growing, and Growing More Diverse



Immigrant contribution to the downstate suburbs



Long Island and the northern suburbs

Breaking it down by County

		Total Percent foreign-			
	Foreign-born	population	born		
Westchester	228,796	915,916	25%		
Rockland	58,066	285,088	20%		
Nassau	261,428	1,310,076	20%		
Suffolk	183,360	1,444,642	13%		
Putnam	11,265	98,303	11%		
Total	742,915	4,054,025	18%		

Source: 2005 ACS (American Factfinder).

Median family income in Nassau, Suffolk,

Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam counties

Families with at least one immigrant adult:

\$71,000

Families with only U.S.-born adults:

\$86,000

Day laborers attract a lot of attention, but day laborers are

less than a half of one

percent of immigrants, and a small portion even of undocumented immigrants.

A good number of construction workers, maids, and grounds maintenance workers are immigrants.

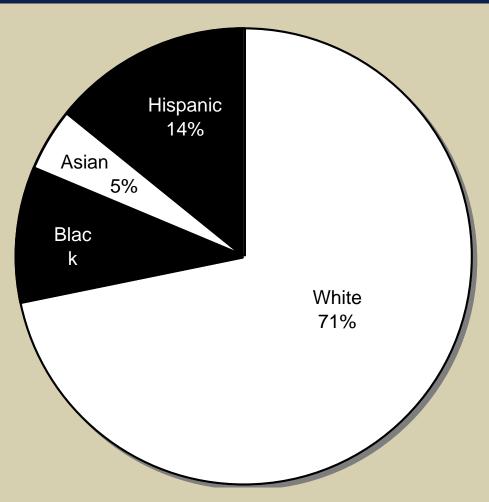
But...

the top occupation of immigrants in the downstate suburbs is registered nurse (29% of RNs are foreign born)

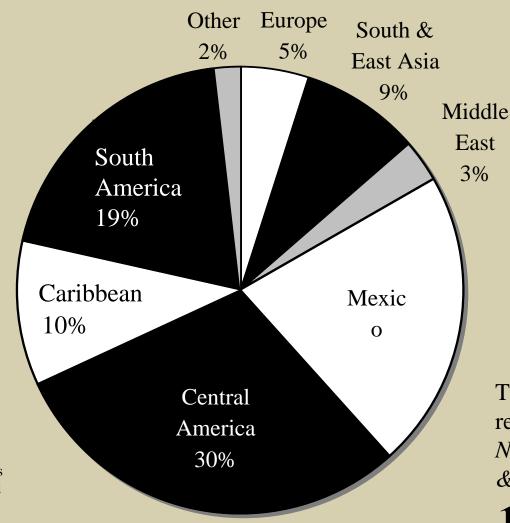
41% of all physicians and surgeons are foreign-born

22% of accountants are foreign-born

The downstate suburbs are becoming diverse and global



Even undocumented immigration is more diverse than you may think

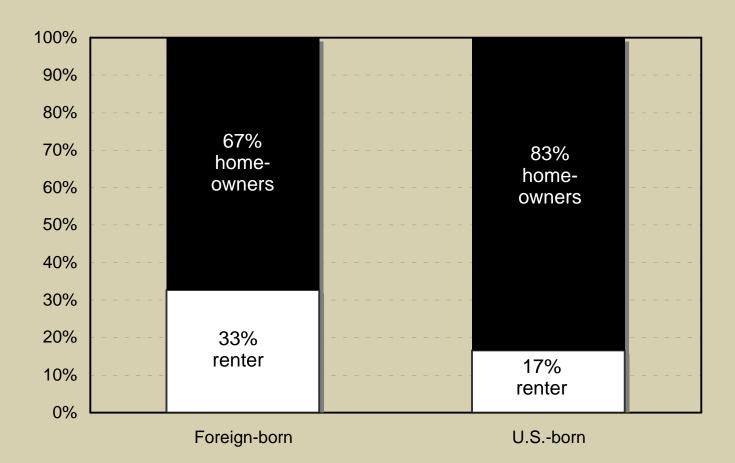


Source: Prepared for FPI by Jeffrey S. Passel, Pew Hispanic Center, 2007. Based on Pew Hispanic Center data from March 2000-2006, CPS with legal status assigned. Middle East includes Asian countries west of and including Iran, south of and including Turkey plus Cyprus and North Africa. Rockland and Putnam counties are included in upstate rather than downstate suburbs for this analysis. For more information, see *Working for a Better Life*, Appendix A.

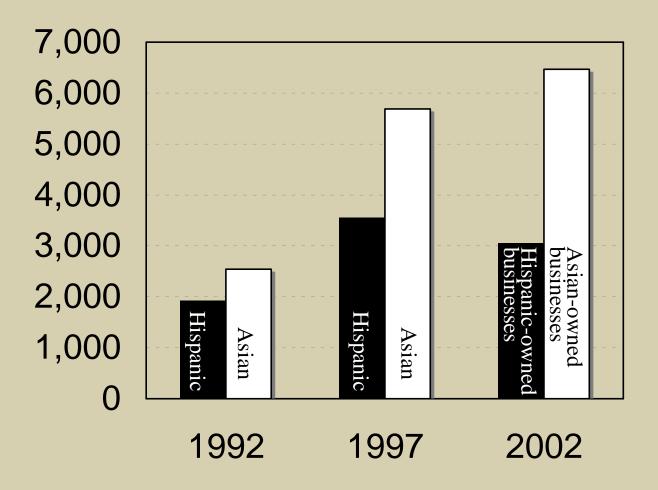
Total undocumented residents in Nassau, Suffolk & Westchester

130,000

Immigrants *OWN homes*

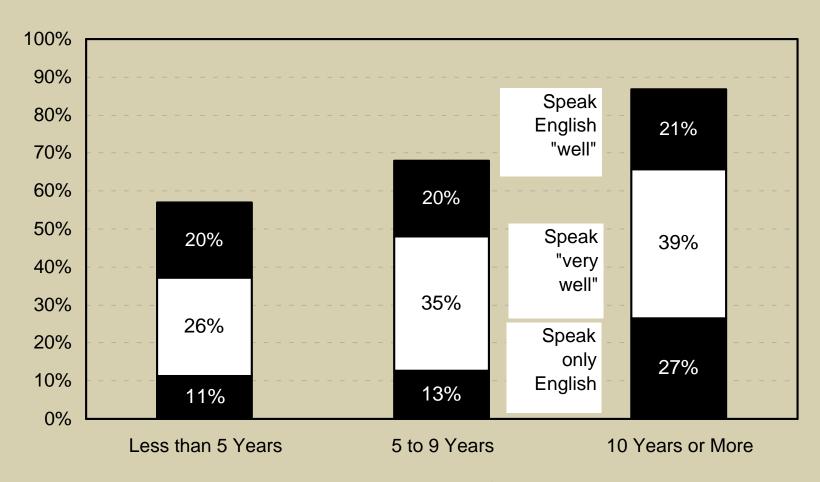


Immigrants *Start businesses*



Source: FPI analysis of 1992, 1997, and 2002 Economic Census (2002 data released August 2006). Analysis is of firms with employees, and excludes firms without employees.

Immigrants learn English



Time in United States

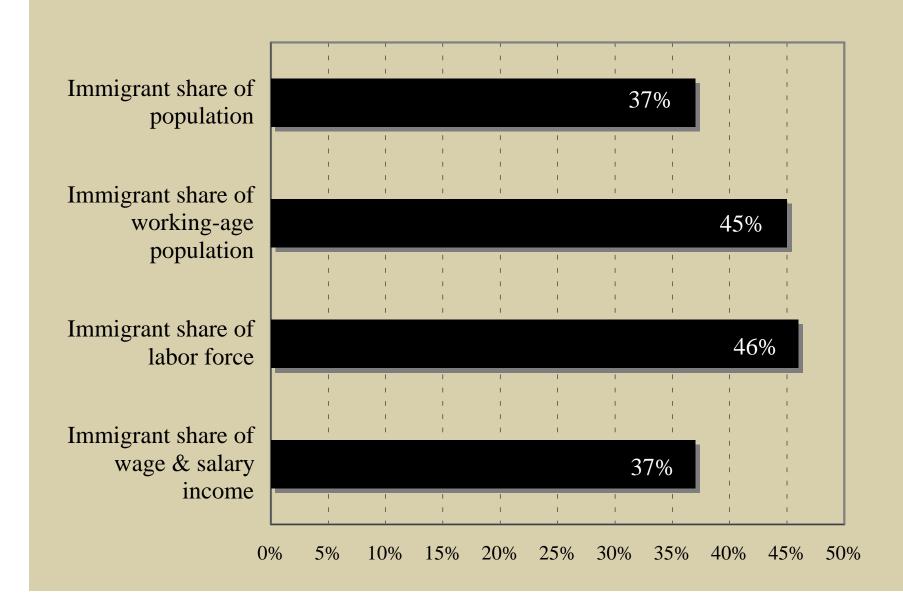
Source: FPI analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS. Universe: Immigrants 5 years of age and older.

New York City

Immigration Fuels Growth and Builds the Middle Class



Immigrant contributions make up almost half of the $New\ York\ City$ economy



Immigrants in NYC are more likely to live in families in the middle income brackets

Living in families

With 1ncome of

Families with

Families with

immigrant adult only U.S.-born adults

\$20,000-\$80,000

55%

44%

Immigrants represent a significant portion of workers

in virtually every occupation in New York City

Business

A quarter of of CEOs (8,000)

5 in 10 accountants

3 in 10 office clerks

3 in 10 receptionists

5 in 10 building cleaners

Health Care

5 in 10 doctors

6 in 10 registered nurses

7 in 10 nursing aids

Real estate

3 in 10 of brokers

4 in 10 property managers

4 in 10 architects

7 in 10 construction laborers

Finance

3 in 10 financial managers
3 in 10 securities, commodities and
financial service sales agents

31 percent of COMMUTERS are immigrants

Percent of commuters who are

Commuters to New York City, by type of work foreign-born

commutation to italia fork only, by type of mork	Toroigir Borri
Management, business, and financial	24%
Professional and related	34%
Service	39%
Sales and related	27%
Office and administrative support	28%
Construction and extraction	33%
Installation, maintenance and repair	29%
Production	49%
Transportation and material moving	40%
All	31%

What about undocumented workers?

Estimated undocumented *residents* in New York City: 535,000

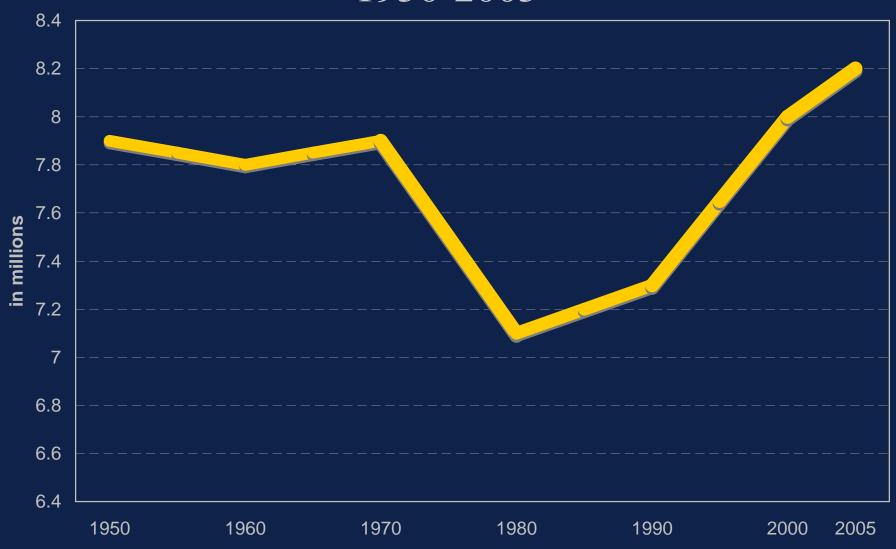
Estimated undocumented workers 374,000

Portion of New York City workers who are undocumented: 10%

Source: Prepared for FPI by Jeffrey S. Passel, Pew Hispanic Center, 2007. Based on Pew Hispanic Center data from March 2000-2006, CPS with legal status assigned. Occupations included in this table have an average of at least 5,000 workers and the share of undocumented exceeds the New York City share of undocumented workers. For more information, see *Working for a Better Life*, Appendix A.

New York City Population

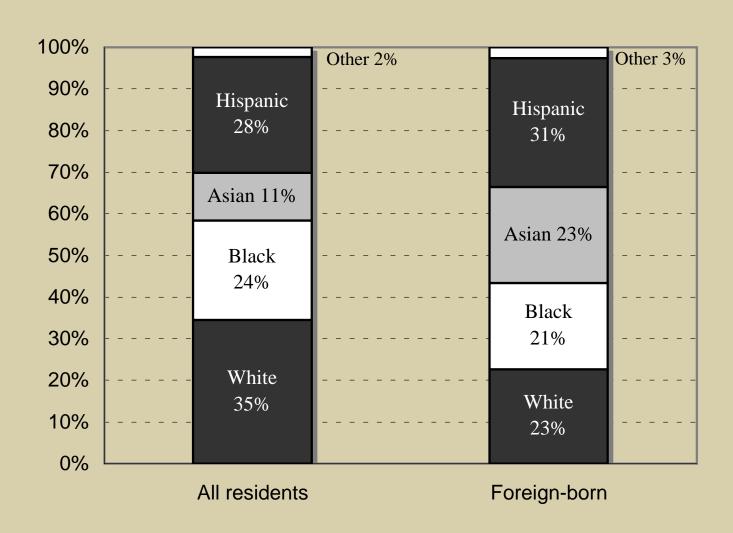
1950-2005



NYC Popu	ılation Trends			
				trend
1980	1990	2000	2005	1980-2005
Native-born				
5.4 million	5.2 million	5.1 million	5.2 million	-194,000
Foreign-born				
1.7 million	2.1 million	2.9 million	3.0 million	+1.3 million
Total NYC				
7.0 million	7.3 million	8.0 million	8.2 million	+1.2 million
Immigrant share of pop.				
24%	28%	35%	37%	

Source: NYC Dept. of City Planning analysis of Census and ACS.

and immigrants fit right in to the racial and ethnic mix of New York City





Upstate New York

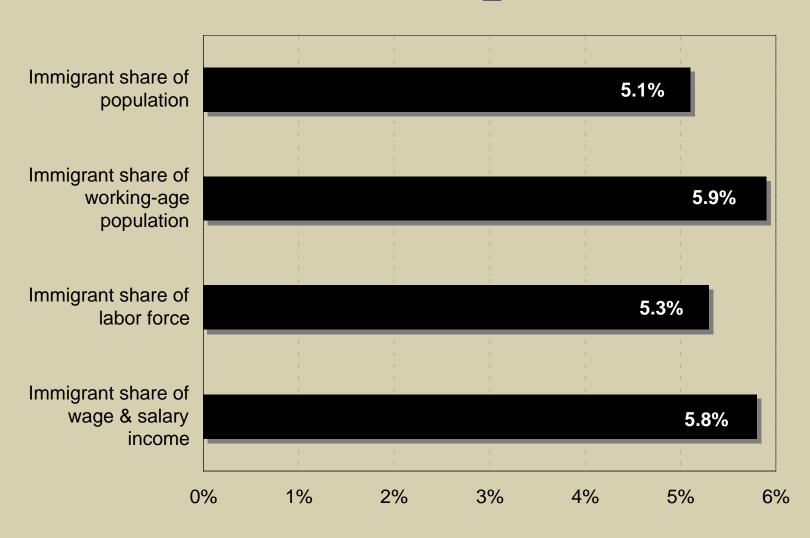


Immigrants Play a Key Role in Fields Important to Future Growth

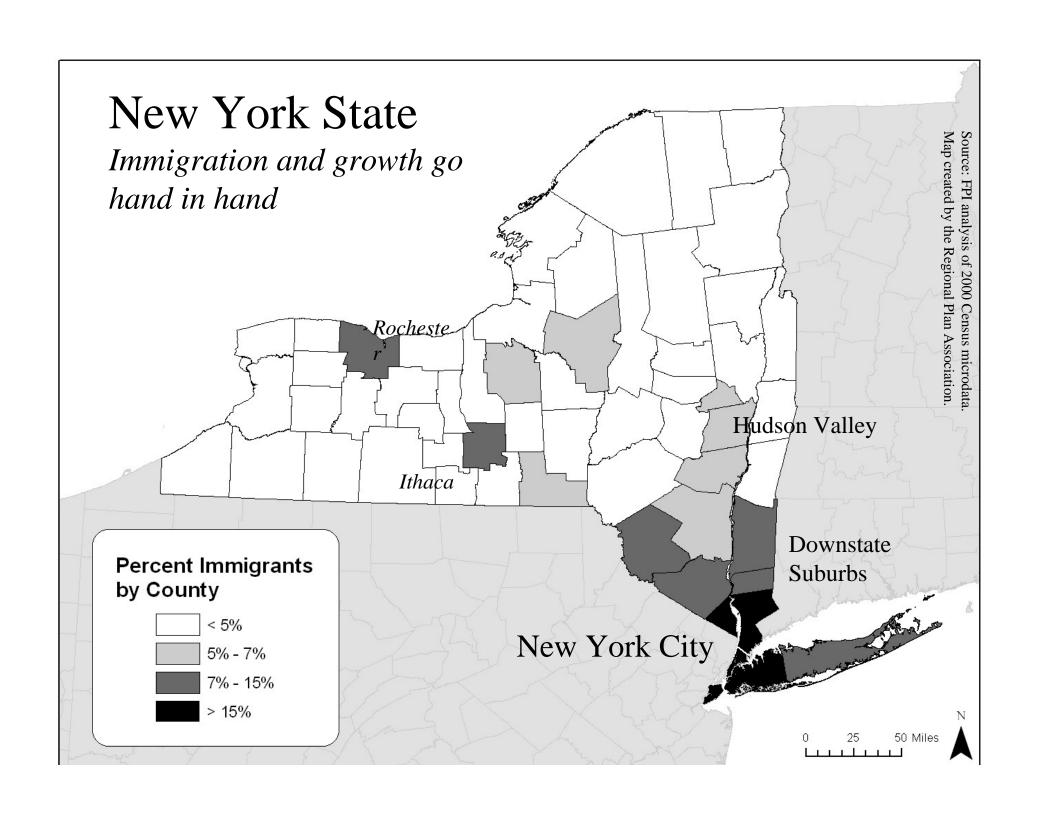




Immigrant contribution to the upstate economy



Source: FPI analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS. Working age is 16-64 years old.



Immigrants are especially important to four sectors that are

critical to upstate growth & culture

Health Care

35% of doctors

Higher Education

20% of professors

Research & Development

20% of computer software engineers

Farming

80% of seasonal farm workers

Source: FPI analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS.

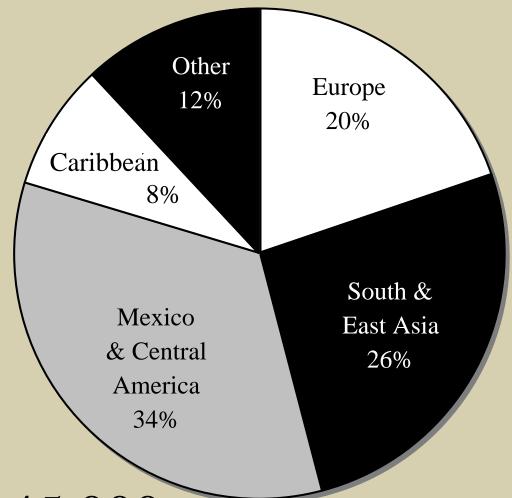
What would you guess are the

top 10 countries Immigrants to upstate NY come from

- 1. Canada
 - 2. India
 - 3. Germany
 - 4. Mexico
 - 5. Italy
 - 6. China
 - 7. Korea
 - 8. Jamaica
 - 9. Poland
 - 10. Bosnia and Herzegovina

Source: FPI analysis of 2005 ACS PUMS.

Undocumented immigrants, too, are a very mixed group



Source: Prepared for FPI by Jeffrey S. Passel, Pew Hispanic Center, 2007. Based on Pew Hispanic Center data from March 2000-2006, CPS with legal status assigned. Rockland and Putnam counties are included in upstate rather than downstate suburbs for this analysis. For more information, see *Working for a Better Life*, Appendix A.

45,000 undocumented immigrants live in upstate NY, including Rockland & Putnam

Undocumented workers play a particularly large role in upstate New York faming, working tough jobs at low wages.

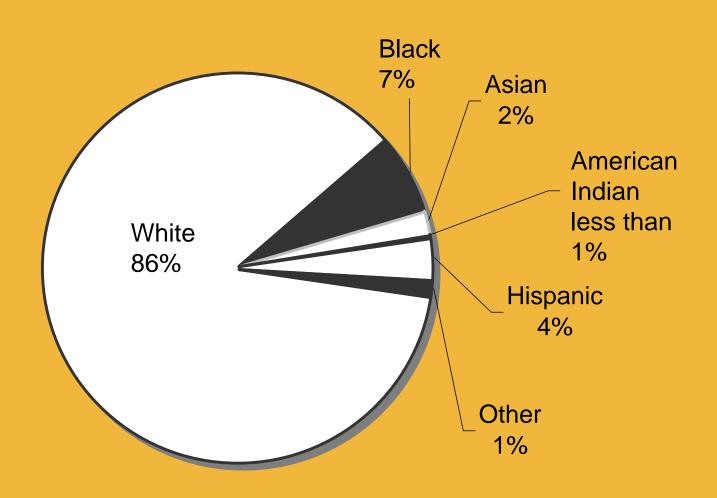
Of 41,000 seasonal farm workers, it is estimated that roughly *two thirds* are undocumented

2,000-2,500 foreign farm workers come *legally* to work in New York on H2A visas

Of 19,000 year-round farm workers, a *much smaller portion* are undocumented

Source: Prepared for FPI by Max Pfeffer, professor of development sociology, Cornell University, based on the Census of Agriculture and studies of undocumented farm workers in New York State. See *Working for a Better Life* for details.

Overall level of diversity upstate...



In the end, we have to work it out

How many children are growing up in families with at least one immigrant adult

Upstate New York: 8%

Downstate suburbs: 31%

New York City: 57%

New York State Average: 34%

Fiscal Policy Institute's
Working for a Better Life

is the first in a series

The Truth about Immigrants

a joint project of

Fiscal Policy Institute and The New York Immigration Coalition

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