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Foreign Born of Cass County

An estimated 11,176 of the 26,715 (42 percent) foreign-born residents in the state reside in Cass County, making it by far the largest concentration. Those in Cass County tend to be younger, averaging 32 years old with the non-US citizen group averaging 29 years of age; two years younger than those statewide.

Those in Cass County are more likely to be Asian, who make up 35 percent of the statewide total and 43 percent in Cass County. Blacks are the second-largest group in the county at 29 percent of the cohort. Hispanics, meanwhile, make up just 6 percent of the cohort in Cass County compared to 15 percent statewide.

Source: Census Bureau ACS 2017 5-Year File Table S0501

ND Foreign-Born Residents: Then/Now

In the Census of 1890, just after being recognized as a state, 47 percent of the residents of North Dakota were born outside the country compared to 15 percent nationally. That represented almost every other person in the state, a rate far higher than any other state at that time. Our neighbors to the east and west had similar high percentages in this category.

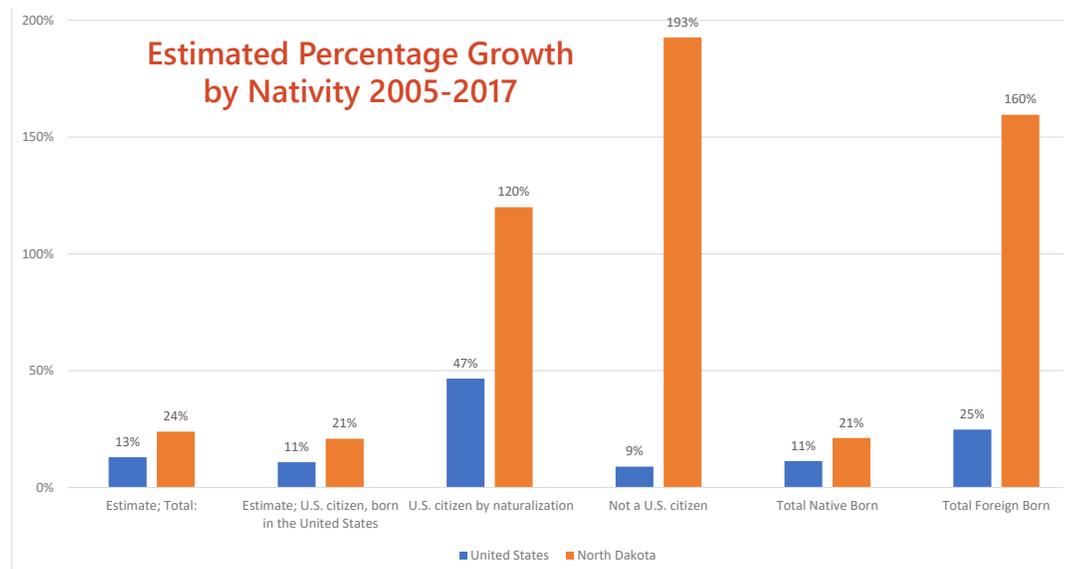
By Census 1900, the foreign-born percentage had dropped to 35 percent. Although this figure had grown from 81,500 to 113,000, the number of U.S.-born residents had grown much faster. After 1900, the foreign-born count climbed to 156,000 in 1910. Afterwards, both the percentage and count of this cohort began to drop off. North Dakota became a net out-migration state after 1930 through the end of the century.

Read More: www.census.gov/library/stories/2019/05/where-nations-foreign-born-live-has-changed-over-time.html

By Census 2000, only an estimated 12,114 (1.9 percent of the state's population compared to 11.1 percent of the nation's population) was foreign-born. Only West Virginia, Mississippi, Montana and South Dakota had lower percentages than North Dakota.

Between 2000 and 2005, just four states showed an estimated decrease in the size of this cohort, North Dakota being one with fewer than 12,000. From 2005, this cohort begins to grow and by 2010, it had grown to 16,639. It was estimated to be 31,062 in 2017. For comparison, the size of the state's total foreign-born population is larger

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Highest Foreign-Born Residents by County

Cass County has by far the highest percentage of population born outside the country. For the five years ending in 2017, an estimated 6,826 residents were born outside the country. Cass was followed distantly by Grand Forks and Ward counties, nearly tied with estimates of 2,075 and 2,074 foreign-born each.

Burleigh County was a distant fourth in terms of count with an estimated 1,248 individuals.

As a percentage of the population, Cass County was again highest ranked with 6.6 percent of the population. Cass was followed by several counties in northern half of the state. These include Pembina with 4.7 percent, Grand Forks at 4.6 percent and Walsh and Ward each at 4.5 percent. Divide and Williams with 4.2 percent and 4 percent, respectively, were the other counties that exceeded the state average of 3.6 percent.

Every county in the state was estimated to have some of its population born outside the U.S., although in Pierce County only five individuals or 0.1 percent of the population was estimated to be included in this cohort.

Source: Census Bureau ACS 2017 5-Year File Table B05002

Characteristics of North Dakota's Recent Foreign-Born Residents

ACS data breaks down the state's foreign-born population into two categories: naturalized citizens and non-U.S. citizens. Data describing this population tend to be limited to data files that cover a five-year time frame with the most recent being from 2013-2017. The data suggests that many foreign-born individuals arriving as non-citizens become naturalized citizens later in life.

Thirty percent of this cohort in the state is estimated to be Asian, a rate higher than found nationally (27 percent). Additionally, nearly one in four individuals foreign-born in the state is estimated to be Black, a rate nearly three times what is found nationally.

While this cohort has about the same sex ratio as the native (born as a U.S. citizen) population, the naturalized group has a higher percentage of females while the non-U.S. resident group is over represented among males. The naturalized citizens also tend to be older (39.6) than the native population of the state (35.3), while non-U.S. citizens tend to be younger (30.9).

Foreign-born populations are represented in all categories of income. An estimated 21 percent of this cohort is below the poverty line, with the naturalized citizen group at 17 percent and the non-U.S. citizen group at 24 percent. This compares to 11 percent for the native population of the state.

Twenty-three percent of foreign-born individuals are in households of \$75,000 or more. This cohort also is slightly more likely to be found in the labor force at 74 percent compared to 70 percent for the native population and average a higher number of workers per household.

In educational attainment, the state's foreign-born population among those age 25 and over are more likely to be represented at both the upper and lower bands measured. Approximately 16 percent of foreign-born are estimated to have less than a high school education compared to just 7 percent of the native population. Sixteen percent of this cohort is estimated to have a graduate-level education compared to just 7 percent of the native population.

When we compare this cohort to that found nationally, we find that those foreign-born in North Dakota are more highly educated than what is found nationally.

For example, while 17 percent of this cohort in state have attained an education of less than a high school graduate, the rate nationally is 29 percent. The same is true at the upper end of the educational band. While 16 percent of this cohort in the state hold a graduate or professional degree, nationally the rate is 13 percent.

Probably most pronounced are the school enrollment rates. An estimated 64 percent of this cohort is enrolled in college or graduate school compared to just 30 percent of the native population, again a rate higher than found nationally (55 percent). Of those who are not U.S. citizen, the rate climbs to 66 percent, higher than what is found nationally for their peers residing across the county (49 percent).

Source: Census Bureau ACS 2017 5-Year File Table S0501

Census: Story Continued from Page 1

than the size of the city of Williston, estimated at 27,100.

Data from the ACS breaks this cohort further into those that are naturalized U.S. citizens and not U.S. citizens. Both groups experienced growth. In 2005, the naturalized group had an estimated 5,450 individuals while the non-citizen group was estimated to have 6,518. By 2017, the naturalized

group had grown to 11,988, while the non-citizen group was estimated at 19,074. In 2017, 61 percent of the foreign-born population consisted of non-citizens.

Censuses of 1890 through 1920, 2000, ACS 5-Year File 2005 and 2017 Table B05001, Census