

## The Costs of Brain Waste among Highly Skilled Immigrants in Texas

By Ariel G. Ruiz Soto, Jeanne Batalova, and Michael Fix

Texas, with approximately 5 million immigrants, ranks second to California in the size of its foreign-born population and fourth in the number of highly skilled immigrants (after California, New York, and Florida).<sup>1</sup> Immigrants across the skills spectrum find jobs and contribute to the Texas economy. Nonetheless, a substantial number of college-educated immigrants in Texas find that they cannot put their academic and professional qualifications to full use.

Using an innovative methodology developed by the Migration Policy Institute (MPI), this fact sheet examines the skill underutilization of highly skilled immigrants—also known as “brain waste”—and its economic costs in Texas. The authors estimate the number and share of college-educated immigrants who work in low-skill jobs or are unemployed in Texas. They identify the key factors underlying this brain waste, and estimate the amount of annual earnings and state and local taxes lost because immigrant college graduates end up working in low-skilled jobs. In general, the analysis employs two types of comparisons: (1) between the foreign born<sup>2</sup> and U.S. born who are college graduates; and (2) between foreign-educated and U.S.-educated immigrants. This fact sheet accompanies a national report on skill underutilization, *Untapped Talent: The Costs of Brain Waste among Highly Skilled Immigrants in the United States*.<sup>3</sup>

### Box 1. What Is Brain Waste? Quick Definitions

Brain waste describes the situation when college graduates cannot fully utilize their skills and education in the workplace despite their high professional qualifications. (The terms *college educated* and *highly skilled* are used interchangeably in this fact sheet.)

Brain waste (or *skill underutilization*) is defined here as comprising two unfavorable labor market outcomes: unemployment and underemployment.

- *Unemployment* occurs when a person who is actively searching for employment is unable to find work.
- *Underemployment* refers to work by the highly skilled in *low-skilled jobs*, that is, jobs that require only moderate on-the-job training or less (e.g., home-health aides, personal-care aides, maids and housekeepers, taxi and truck drivers, and cashiers). These occupations typically require a high school diploma or less.

In contrast, highly skilled individuals who are *adequately employed* work in high- or middle-skilled jobs. *High-skilled* jobs require at least a bachelor’s degree (e.g., surgeons, scientists, and engineers); *middle-skilled* jobs require long-term on-the-job training, vocational training, or an associate’s degree (e.g., carpenters, electricians, and real estate brokers).

Because individuals in middle-skilled jobs are considered adequately employed in this analysis, underemployment refers only to those who are *severely underemployed*, or in positions substantially below their level of training.

## Key Findings

- Texas was home to 594,000 highly skilled immigrants with at least a bachelor's degree during the 2009-13 period.<sup>4</sup> Of this group, 23 percent—or 134,000 people—either worked in low-skilled jobs or were unemployed. That compared to the 25 percent rate of brain waste for college-educated immigrants nationwide.
- Low-skilled employment resulted in immigrant college graduates in Texas forgoing approximately \$2.5 billion in annual earnings. As a result, Texas experienced \$167.4 million in forgone state and local tax revenue. Nationally, immigrant underemployment resulted in more than \$39.4 billion in lost annual earnings and \$3 billion in forgone state and local taxes.
- As with the country as a whole, highly skilled immigrants in Texas experienced higher levels of brain waste than the U.S. born—with 23 percent of college-educated immigrants in the state working in low-skilled jobs or without work, compared to 16 percent of Texans born in the United States.
- Having a degree earned outside the United States increases the likelihood of brain waste: Foreign-educated<sup>5</sup> immigrants in Texas were more likely to be either underemployed or unemployed (25 percent) than U.S.-educated immigrants (19 percent). (Nationally, these shares were 29 percent and 21 percent, respectively). Immigrants in Texas were also more likely to experience skill underutilization if they had limited English skills, had only a bachelor's degree, or were Hispanic or Black.<sup>6</sup> Time in the United States reduced

brain waste for immigrant women more than for men.<sup>7</sup>

- Hispanic and Black immigrants in Texas had similar and high skill underutilization rates (32 percent)—nearly double the share among Asian and White immigrants (17 percent). Nationally, Hispanic immigrants experienced the highest level of brain waste (38 percent).
- Unlike in the country as a whole, highly skilled immigrants in Texas were more likely to be from Mexico and Central America, and their skill underutilization rates were significantly lower in the state than nationwide.

### I. Highly Skilled Immigrants by the Numbers

**Highly Skilled Immigrants.** There were 594,000 immigrant college graduates in the Texas civilian labor force during the 2009-13 period (see Table 1). They accounted for 18 percent of all highly skilled workers in the state—only slightly higher than the share that immigrants made up of the total state population (16 percent). (“College graduates” and the “highly skilled” are used interchangeably in this fact sheet and refer to adults with a bachelor's degree or higher.)

**Brain Waste Levels.** Twenty-three percent (134,000) of college-educated immigrants in Texas were either underemployed or unemployed, compared to 18 percent (446,000) of their U.S.-born counterparts (see Table 1). This is a slightly lower level of underemployment than highly skilled immigrants experienced nationwide (25 percent).

**Table 1. Employment Status of Highly Skilled Adults in Texas and United States, by Nativity (%), 2009-13**

	Texas		United States	
	Immigrants	U.S. Born	Immigrants	U.S. Born
<b>Total labor force</b>	<b>594,000</b>	<b>2,715,000</b>	<b>7,618,000</b>	<b>37,936,000</b>
<i>Percent</i>	100	100	100	100
Unemployed	5	4	6	4
Employed by job type				
High-skilled	59	65	57	62
Middle-skilled	19	19	18	19
Low-skilled	18	13	19	14
<b>Brain waste: Unemployed or in low-skilled jobs</b>				
Number	134,000	446,000	1,918,100	6,974,800
Percent	23	16	25	18

Source: Migration Policy Institute (MPI) analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data from the pooled 2009-13 American Community Survey (ACS) and 2008 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), with legal status assignments by James Bachmeier of Temple University and Jennifer Van Hook of The Pennsylvania State University, Population Research Institute.

## II. Economic Cost of Brain Waste

Beyond the human-capital losses that are felt by individuals and their families, brain waste has broader economic implications. Workers who are either underemployed or lack employment despite their high professional qualifications have lower disposable incomes to spend and invest, and they pay less in taxes as a result of these forgone earnings. At the same time, employers—and the economy—miss an opportunity to hire available workers with needed skills and qualifications.

In this fact sheet, the Migration Policy Institute (MPI) for the first time estimates the value of forgone earnings associated with low-skilled employment of highly skilled immigrants, as well as the state and local taxes that would be generated by those earnings.<sup>8</sup> To do so, the authors compared the average annual earnings of highly skilled immigrants working in low-skilled jobs to those of “adequately” employed immigrants—i.e., those working in middle- and high-skilled jobs. Using decomposition analysis, the authors then estimated the amount of earnings losses attributable to low-skilled employment after controlling for demographic, educational, linguistic, legal status, and other factors.<sup>9</sup>

It is important to note that these figures are in some ways conservative, as they do not account for the lost wages of highly skilled immigrants who were unemployed during the study period, despite wanting to work. Lost wages are also not quantified for highly skilled immigrant workers in occupations that require more than a high school diploma but less than a bachelor’s degree (e.g., dental hygienists, teacher assistants, and electricians).

***Beyond the human-capital losses that are felt by individuals and their families, brain waste has broader economic implications.***

The value of annual earnings that highly skilled immigrants in Texas lost due to their employment in low-skilled jobs amounted to \$2.5 billion during the period surveyed. If these immigrants had instead been adequately employed and remunerated correspondingly, their households would have paid an additional \$167.4 million in state and local taxes. Nationwide, the low-skilled employment of college-educated immigrants resulted in \$39.4 billion in forgone wages and \$3 billion in unrealized state and local taxes annually.<sup>10</sup>

### III. Factors Driving Brain Waste

Several demographic characteristics of highly skilled immigrants in Texas help explain their rates of skill underutilization. Some of these factors are examined below.

**Place of Education.** Of the 594,000 highly skilled immigrants in Texas, 54 percent (321,000) were foreign educated and 46 percent (274,000) obtained their degrees in the United States. Highly skilled immigrants in Texas were slightly more likely than immigrants nationally to have been educated abroad (52 percent).

Like the country as a whole, foreign-educated immigrants in Texas were more likely to be either underemployed or unemployed (25 percent) than U.S.-educated immigrants (19 percent). These higher rates of skill underutilization among the foreign educated reflect a number of factors, among them real and perceived differences in the quality of U.S. and foreign education, adult newcomers' access to professional networks, and the difficulties that immigrants can face in getting their foreign credentials and professional experiences recognized by employers and professional licensing bodies.

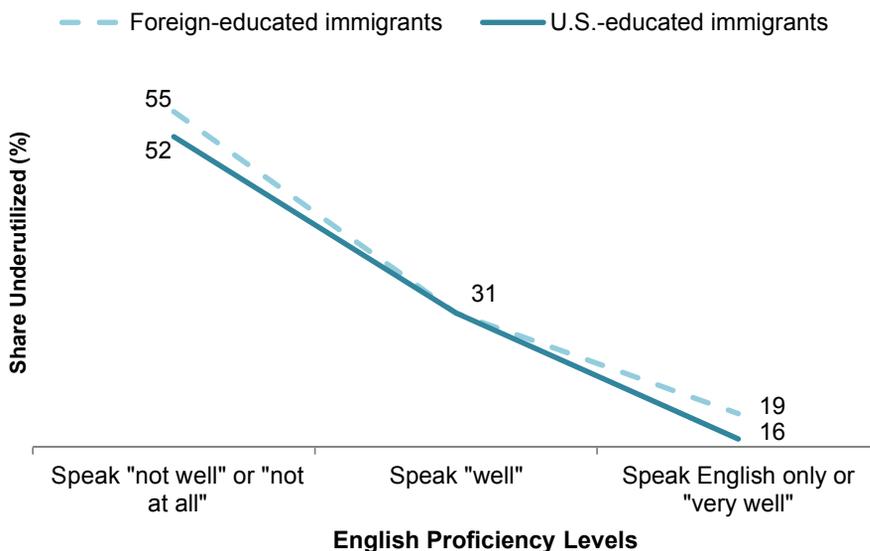
**English Proficiency.** The majority of high-skilled immigrants in Texas were English proficient: 67 percent of the foreign educated and 85 percent of the U.S. educated (compared to 67 percent and 86 percent respectively at the national level).<sup>11</sup>

Limited English skills contribute significantly to higher risk of brain waste. Immigrants in Texas who spoke English "not well" or "not at all" were approximately three times more likely to be underemployed or unemployed than those who spoke English "only" or "very well" (see Figure 1).

**Level of Degree.** College-educated immigrants in Texas were more likely than the U.S. born to have advanced degrees:<sup>12</sup> 42 percent and 32 percent, respectively. Nationally, immigrants were also more likely to hold a graduate degree than the U.S. born (43 percent versus 37 percent).

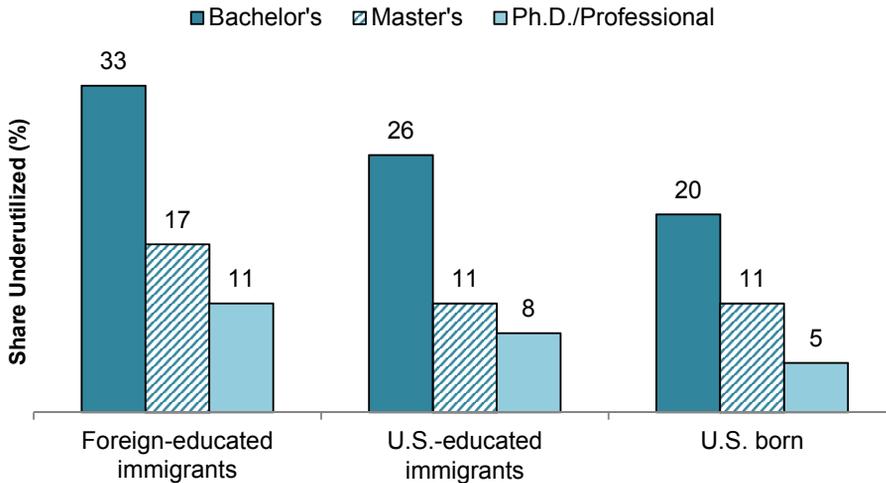
Regardless of place of birth or education, bachelor degree holders had much higher rates of skill underutilization than those with advanced degrees. Among the foreign educated in Texas, 33 percent of bachelor degree holders expe-

**Figure 1. Underemployment and Unemployment of Highly Skilled Immigrants in Texas, by Place of Education and English Proficiency (%), 2009-13**



Source: MPI analysis of 2009-13 ACS and 2008 SIPP data from the U.S. Census Bureau, with legal status assignments by Bachmeier and Van Hook.

**Figure 2. Underemployment and Unemployment of Highly Skilled in Texas, by Nativity, Place of Education, and Degree Level (%), 2009-13**



Source: MPI analysis of 2009-13 ACS and 2008 SIPP data from the U.S. Census Bureau, with legal status assignments by Bachmeier and Van Hook.

rienced brain waste compared to 11 percent of those with a Ph.D. or professional degree, such as a law or medical degree (see Figure 2). Foreign-educated immigrants at all degree levels were more likely to be underemployed or unemployed than those with U.S. degrees. In contrast, there was little difference among U.S.-educated immigrants with advanced degrees and their U.S.-born counterparts.

**Legal Status/Citizenship.** Fifty-two percent of highly skilled immigrants in Texas were naturalized U.S. citizens, 27 percent were legal permanent residents (LPRs), 12 percent were unauthorized immigrants, and 10 percent were temporary visa holders. Highly skilled immigrants in Texas were less likely to be naturalized U.S. citizens than the trend nationwide, where 57 percent of immigrant college graduates were naturalized.

As in the rest of the country, temporary visa holders had the lowest rates of skill underutilization—owing in large part to visa requirements.<sup>13</sup> For instance, many temporary visa holders have visas such as the H-1B (for highly skilled workers) or the L-1 (for intracompany transfers), meaning they have presumably been

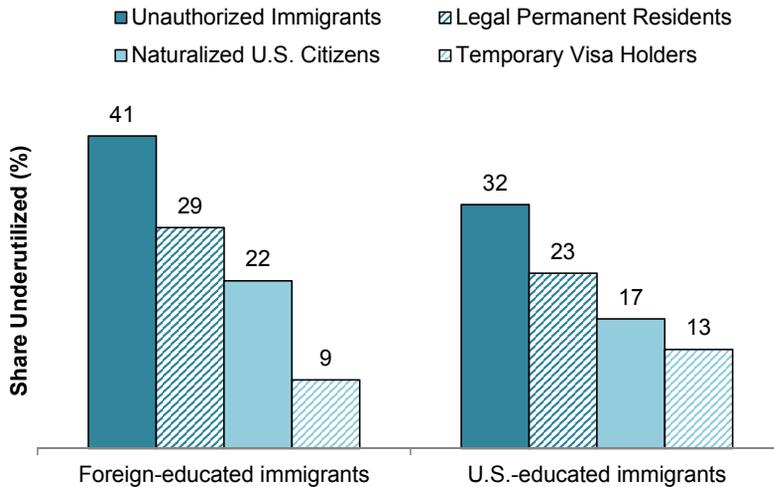
sponsored by a company or nonprofit institution to perform a job commensurate with their experience and skill level.

U.S. citizenship appeared to reduce brain waste levels for both foreign- and U.S.-educated immigrants. Among foreign-educated immigrants, the skill underutilization rate for naturalized U.S. citizens (22 percent) was lower than that of LPRs (29 percent) (see Figure 3). Similarly, only 17 percent of naturalized U.S. citizens educated in the United States were underemployed or unemployed compared to 23 percent of LPRs.

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Unauthorized immigrants had the highest risk of brain waste, with 41 percent of those who were foreign educated and 32 percent of the U.S. educated being either underemployed or unemployed. Nonetheless, it is noteworthy that more than 50 percent of college-educated unauthorized immigrants worked in middle- or high-skilled jobs.

**Figure 3. Underemployment and Unemployment of Highly Skilled Immigrants in Texas, by Place of Education and Legal Status (%), 2009-13**

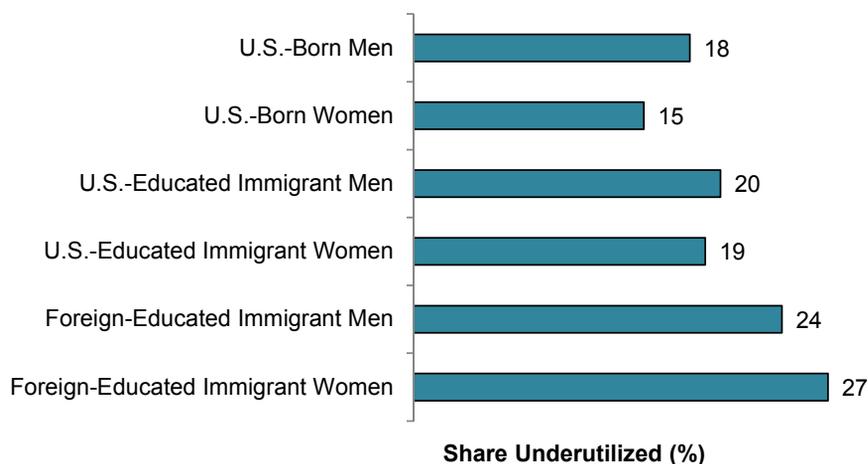


Source: MPI analysis of 2009-13 ACS and 2008 SIPP data from the U.S. Census Bureau, with legal status assignments by Bachmeier and Van Hook.

**Gender.** Women represented 42 percent of the 594,000 highly skilled immigrants in Texas and 49 percent of the state’s 2.7 million U.S.-born college graduates. Foreign-educated immigrant women had the highest skill underutilization rates of all college-educated workers in the state (27 percent) (see Figure 4).

**Time in the United States.** Length of residence in the United States had a bigger impact on the skill underutilization of immigrant women than of men—a change that may owe to shifting social norms within immigrant families as well as a need for higher household earnings.<sup>14</sup> The levels of brain waste among immigrant women decreased from 32 percent of recent arrivals

**Figure 4. Underemployment and Unemployment of Highly Skilled in Texas, by Nativity, Place of Education, and Gender (%), 2009-13**



Source: MPI analysis of 2009-13 ACS and 2008 SIPP data from the U.S. Census Bureau, with legal status assignments by Bachmeier and Van Hook.

**Table 2. Race and Ethnicity of the Highly Skilled in Texas, by Nativity and Place of Education (%), 2009-13**

Race/Ethnicity	Texas		
	Foreign-Educated Immigrants	U.S.-Educated Immigrants	U.S. Born
<b>Number</b>	<b>321,000</b>	<b>274,000</b>	<b>2,715,000</b>
<i>Percent</i>	100	100	100
Hispanic	27	30	13
Non-Hispanic Black	8	7	10
Non-Hispanic Asian	44	44	1
Non-Hispanic White	21	19	76

Source: MPI analysis of 2009-13 ACS and 2008 SIPP data from the U.S. Census Bureau, with legal status assignments by Bachmeier and Van Hook.

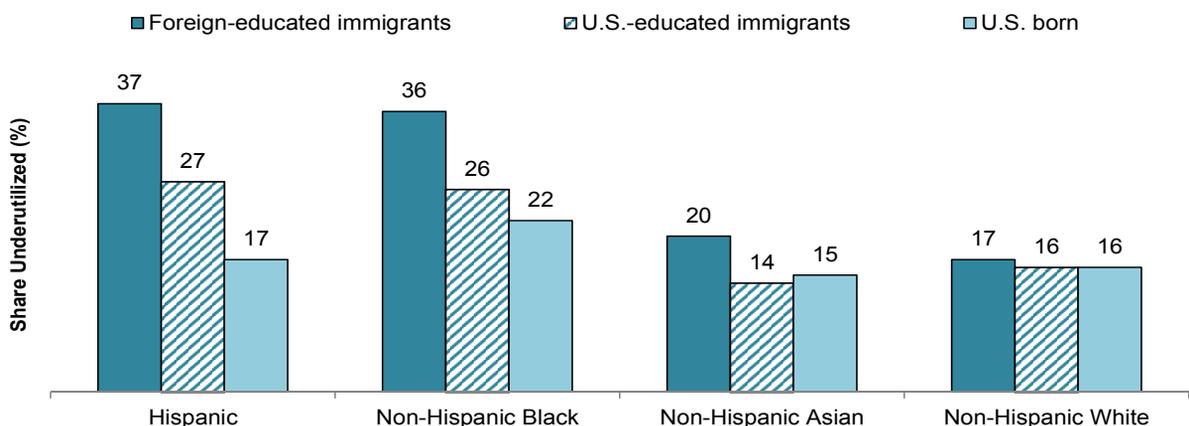
(i.e., in the country for five years or less) to 20 percent of long-term residents (i.e., in the country for 15 years or more). By contrast, skill underutilization rates for immigrant men declined only slightly: from 24 percent of recent arrivals to 21 percent of long-term residents.

**Race and Ethnicity.** The racial and ethnic composition of highly skilled immigrants in Texas was roughly the same by place of education (see Table 2): 44 percent were Asian, 27-30 percent were Hispanic, 19-21 percent were White, and 7-8 percent were Black. The racial and ethnic

makeup of U.S.-born college graduates was predominantly White, with that group making up 76 percent of the population. Hispanics accounted for more than one-quarter of college-educated immigrants in Texas, a larger share than nationwide (18 percent).

Hispanic and Black immigrants had similar skill underutilization rates: More than one-third of the foreign educated and more than one-quarter of the U.S. educated experienced brain waste (see Figure 5). Skill underutilization among Whites and Asians was relatively low (14-20

**Figure 5. Underemployment and Unemployment of Highly Skilled in Texas, by Nativity, Place of Education, and Race/Ethnicity (%), 2009-13**



Source: MPI analysis of 2009-13 ACS and 2008 SIPP data from the U.S. Census Bureau, with legal status assignments by Bachmeier and Van Hook.

**Table 3. Region/Country of Birth and Place of Education for Highly Skilled Immigrants in Texas and United States (%), 2009-13**

Region or Country of Birth	Texas		United States	
	Foreign-Educated Immigrants (%)	U.S.-Educated Immigrants (%)	Foreign-Educated Immigrants (%)	U.S.-Educated Immigrants (%)
<b>Total (Number)</b>	<b>321,000</b>	<b>274,000</b>	<b>3,992,000</b>	<b>3,626,000</b>
<i>Percent</i>	100	100	100	100
East Asia	13	11	16	16
China	9	8	9	10
Japan/Asian Tigers*	4	3	6	6
Southeast Asia	11	14	13	14
Philippines	8	4	10	6
Southwest Asia	22	21	20	17
India	16	15	15	12
Middle East	2	3	3	3
Central America	19	25	7	11
Mexico	17	22	5	7
Caribbean	2	3	5	9
South America	8	5	8	7
Canada	2	2	3	3
Australia/Oceania	<1	<1	1	<1
European Union/EEA**	8	7	12	11
Rest of Europe	2	2	6	4
Africa	9	7	7	5

\* Japan/Asian Tigers refers to Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, and South Korea.

\*\* European Union/EEA refers to the 28 European countries that were part of the European Union as of 2013, plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway, which are part of the European Economic Area (EEA).

Source: MPI analysis of 2009-13 ACS and 2008 SIPP data from the U.S. Census Bureau, with legal status assignments by Bachmeier and Van Hook.

percent) regardless of nativity or place of education. Among the U.S. born, Black college graduates experienced the highest levels of brain waste (22 percent).

There were wide differences between the skill underutilization rates of Hispanic foreign-educated immigrants (37 percent), U.S.-educated Hispanic immigrants (27 percent), and U.S.-born Hispanics (17 percent). No other group evidenced such large declines by place of birth and education.

**Region and Country of Birth.** Immigrants from India and other Southwest Asian countries ac-

counted for the largest share (22 percent) of foreign-educated immigrants in Texas, while Central American immigrants accounted for the largest share (25 percent) of U.S.-educated immigrants (see Table 3). Central American immigrants represented significantly higher shares in Texas than nationwide.

Although they represented lower shares of highly skilled immigrants in Texas, those from the Caribbean had the highest rates of skill underutilization (45 percent) among the foreign educated (see Table 4). Central American immigrants had the highest levels of brain waste (29 percent) among those educated in the United

**Table 4. Underemployment and Unemployment of Highly Skilled Immigrants, by Place of Education and Region/ Country of Birth in Texas and United States (%), 2009-13**

Region or Country of Birth	Texas		United States	
	Foreign-Educated Immigrants (%)	U.S.-Educated Immigrants (%)	Foreign-Educated Immigrants (%)	U.S.-Educated Immigrants (%)
<b>Total (%)</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>21</b>
East Asia	13	12	20	16
China	10	11	16	14
Japan/Asian Tigers*	21	14	25	20
Southeast Asia	24	14	35	20
Philippines	21	13	35	21
Southwest Asia	23	16	23	16
India	17	12	18	13
Middle East	30	16	28	21
Central America	40	29	51	36
Mexico	39	28	47	36
Caribbean	45	23	44	24
South America	25	19	37	25
Canada	7	9	12	15
Australia/Oceania	8	5	16	18
European Union/EEA**	11	16	18	19
Rest of Europe	18	16	33	23
Africa	33	25	37	26

\* Japan/Asian Tigers refers to Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, and South Korea.

\*\* European Union/EEA refers to the 28 European countries that were part of the European Union as of 2013, plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway, which are part of the European Economic Area (EEA).

Source: MPI analysis of 2009-13 ACS and 2008 SIPP data from the U.S. Census Bureau, with legal status assignments by Bachmeier and Van Hook.

States. Regardless of place of education, Central American immigrants had significantly lower skill underutilization rates in the state than at the national level.

## IV. Conclusion

In sum, 23 percent of the 594,000 college-educated immigrants living in Texas were either underemployed or unemployed during the 2009-13 period. Low-skilled employment among these highly skilled immigrants comes with a price tag: \$2.5 billion in lost earnings annually.

And if this income had not been forgone, immigrant households would have paid an additional \$167.4 million in state and local taxes.

The scale of that economic impact suggests that policymakers would do well to examine the barriers to full employment that immigrants—particularly those who are foreign educated—face in the Texas labor market. Given the costs documented here, policies that promote the recognition of foreign credentials, make licensing requirements more transparent, and expand access to courses that teach professional English and fill educational gaps should provide substantial returns on public investment.

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## Endnotes

- 1 Authors' tabulations of U.S. Census Bureau data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS).
- 2 The foreign born (or immigrants) are persons who were not U.S. citizens at birth. The U.S. born (or natives) are persons who were U.S. citizens at birth, even if they were born outside of the country.
- 3 See Jeanne Batalova, Michael Fix, and James D. Bachmeier, *Untapped Talent: The Costs of Brain Waste among Highly Skilled Immigrants in the United States* (Washington, DC: Migration Policy Institute, New American Economy, and World Education Services, 2016), [www.migrationpolicy.org/research/untapped-talent-costs-brain-waste-among-highly-skilled-immigrants-united-states](http://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/untapped-talent-costs-brain-waste-among-highly-skilled-immigrants-united-states). State-level fact sheets examining brain waste for college-educated immigrants cover California, Florida, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Texas, and Washington, and can be found at [www.migrationpolicy.org/topics/brain-waste-credential-recognition](http://www.migrationpolicy.org/topics/brain-waste-credential-recognition).
- 4 All estimates in this fact sheet refer to civilian adults ages 25 and older and are based on analysis of U.S. Census Bureau pooled 2009-13 ACS data unless otherwise stated. The data were pooled to increase the precision of the estimates. James Bachmeier at Temple University, in consultation with Jennifer Van Hook at The Pennsylvania State University and researchers at the Migration Policy Institute (MPI) developed techniques to link the ACS data to the Census Bureau's 2008 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) to allow for estimates by legal status. The 2009-13 data were the most recent at the time of the analysis.
- 5 The term "foreign educated" refers to immigrants who have at least a bachelor's degree and arrived in the United States at age 25 or later. They were likely to have obtained all of their formal education abroad; "U.S. educated" refers to college-educated immigrants who came to the United States before age 25 and are likely to have been educated in the United States.
- 6 Persons identified as Black, Asian, and White refer to non-Hispanic individuals. Persons identified as Hispanic are of any race.
- 7 The national report that accompanies this fact sheet employs logistic regression models to test the effect of place of education, time in the United States, level of educational attainment, English skills, race and ethnicity, and citizenship and legal status on the odds of low-skilled employment of immigrant men and women. The report finds that each of these variables had an independent and statistically significant impact on the likelihood of low-skilled employment. The analysis assumes that the relationships observed at the national level hold at the state level as well. See Batalova, Fix, and Bachmeier, *Untapped Talent*.
- 8 MPI in 2008 first estimated the size of the immigrant population experiencing brain waste. See Jeanne Batalova and Michael Fix with Peter A. Creticos, *Uneven Progress: The Employment Pathways of Skilled Immigrants in the United States* (Washington, DC: MPI, 2008), [www.migrationpolicy.org/research/uneven-progress-employment-pathways-skilled-immigrants-united-states](http://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/uneven-progress-employment-pathways-skilled-immigrants-united-states).
- 9 The analysis of forgone earnings was done separately by place of education and gender. See Batalova, Fix, and Bachmeier, *Untapped Talent*, Appendix A-3 for additional discussion of the decomposition methodology. Estimates of forgone tax contributions at the state and local level were computed for MPI by the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP). See Batalova, Fix, and Bachmeier, *Untapped Talent*, Appendix A-4 for additional discussion of the tax estimation methodology. The value of forgone federal taxes associated with low-skilled employment of immigrants in Texas was not estimated.
- 10 The national report also estimates the amount of unrealized federal taxes associated with immigrant low-skilled employment: approximately \$10.2 billion. See Batalova, Fix, and Bachmeier, *Untapped Talent*.

- 11 Persons who reported speaking English only or “very well” in the ACS are considered to be English proficient. Persons who reported speaking English “not well” or “not at all” are considered to have low levels of English proficiency.
- 12 Refers to master, doctoral, and professional degrees.
- 13 Foreigners on temporary visas include those on work visas such as the H-1B visa or the L-1 intracompany transferee visa, or international students on F-1 visas. To obtain an H1-B visa, for instance, foreign workers must have a sponsoring employer (i.e., they will have a job) and the position for which they are hired (in most cases) requires at least a bachelor’s degree (i.e., their job per the definition used in this fact sheet is “highly skilled”).
- 14 See Mary C. Waters and Marisa Gerstein Pineau, eds., *The Integration of Immigrants into American Society* (Washington, DC: The National Academies Press), [www.nap.edu/catalog/21746/the-integration-of-immigrants-into-american-society](http://www.nap.edu/catalog/21746/the-integration-of-immigrants-into-american-society).

## About the Authors



**Ariel G. Ruiz Soto** is a Research Assistant at the Migration Policy Institute (MPI), where he provides quantitative research support across MPI programs. His research focuses on the impact of U.S. immigration policies on immigrant experiences of socioeconomic integration across varying geographical and political contexts. More recently, Mr. Ruiz Soto has analyzed methodological approaches to estimate sociodemographic trends of the unauthorized immigrant population in the United States.



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**Michael Fix** is President of MPI, a position he assumed in 2014 after serving as CEO and Director of Studies. He joined the Institute in 2005, and was previously Senior Vice President and Co-Director of MPI’s National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy. His research focus is on immigrant integration and the education of immigrant children in the United States and Europe, as well as citizenship policy, immigrant children and families, the effect of welfare reform on immigrants, and the impact of immigrants on the U.S. labor force.

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World Education Services (WES) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping immigrants in the United States and Canada achieve their academic and professional goals through the recognition of their education and training earned abroad. Its Global Talent Bridge program conducts outreach and provides training, tools, and resources designed to ensure the successful integration of immigrant professionals.

WES also hosts IMPRINT, a national coalition of nonprofit organizations that identifies and promotes best practices, and advocates for policies that facilitate the integration of immigrant professionals into the U.S. economy.

[WES.ORG/GLOBALTALENTBRIDGE](http://WES.ORG/GLOBALTALENTBRIDGE)