



# Recent Immigration Has Been Good for Native Employment

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A common refrain among opponents of immigration is that it increases competition for jobs, which leads to declines in native-born employment. However, new quantitative research calls this assertion into question, and suggests instead that immigration and employment serve as complementary forces.



*New quantitative research suggests that immigration and employment serve as complementary forces.*

This study employs a difference in differences estimation to distill the effect of increasing levels of immigration on native-born employment, and finds that immigration is positively correlated with enhanced employment opportunities for natives. These results lend credence to the belief that immigrants boost the economic prospects of America and its workers writ large.




## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Over the past decade, increases in the foreign-born labor force have been associated with rising native employment rates.
- Specifically, an increase of 20 immigrant workers is associated with about one native job created.
- This pattern holds true across a diverse set of U.S. regions and does not reflect any exodus of native workers from the labor force.
- The positive effect of immigration is stronger among natives with more education.
- The results remain consistent even after controlling for several variables that could also affect employment rates, such as: race, educational attainment, and gender.

This research ultimately provides compelling evidence that foreign- and native-born workers do not compete for jobs. Rather, native workers might combine with new immigrant labor in productive ways that create more employment opportunities for natives. Ultimately, the economy is dynamic, and higher levels of workers leads to increases in productivity and wealth generation, which benefits the United States as a whole.



Read the report at [bipartisanpolicy.org/immigration](http://bipartisanpolicy.org/immigration)

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