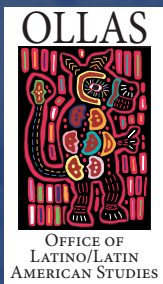




The Economic Impact of Latin American & other Immigrants in Iowa, Nebraska & the Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Area

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Executive Summary

The complete report, along with this summary, can be found on our website: www.unomaha.edu/ollas

Although recent research from the Pew Hispanic Center suggests that the rate of recent immigration to the United States has slowed considerably, other studies clearly show that immigrants make substantial economic contributions to the communities in which they settle.

Using the US Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS) data for the sample period 2006-2010, this report focuses attention on the quantitative economic impact of first-generation, foreign-born individuals on the Omaha-Council Bluffs economy as well as the Nebraska and Iowa state economies in 2010.

While much of the report is focused on the total immigrant group, some particular attention is paid to those immigrants from Mexico, Central America, South America and the

Caribbean (henceforth labeled Central/South American in origin), and their impact on the three economies of interest.

It should be emphasized that this study follows closely the 2008 study by Christopher S. Decker and colleagues, which primarily focused on the impact of immigrants on the Nebraska economy. While the main focus of this study is on the Omaha-Council Bluffs economy (which particular attention to the Central and South American immigrant population), we do offer some updated information on Nebraska. That said, since different data sources and modeling platforms are employed here, correlations between results here and the 2008 report are made only where possible and one should exercise substantial caution in making further comparisons.

Impact of Total Foreign-born Spending	Production Impact (\$ millions)	Employment Impact (# jobs)
Omaha-Council Bluffs	\$1,393	8,315
Iowa	\$2,826	22,599
Nebraska	\$2,151	17,478
Impact of Removing Total Foreign-born Labor	Production Impact (\$ millions)	Production Impact (# jobs)
Omaha-Council Bluffs	-\$6,476	-33,952
Iowa	-\$12,015	-61,688
Nebraska	-\$18,155	-82,032
Fiscal Contributions and Costs for Total Foreign-born Population	Iowa	Nebraska
Contributions (percent of total)	3.4%	4.3%
Costs (percent of total)	3.1%	4.1%

Source: Authors’ calculations using IMPLAN 3.0. Figures reflect 2010 dollars.

¹ http://www.brookings.edu/~media/research/files/papers/2012/3/15%20immigrant%20workers%20singer/0315_immigrant_workers_singer.pdf : accessed on May 28th, 2010.

² “Total production” or “total output” is a measure of the dollar value of all goods and services bought (demanded) and sold (supplied) in an economy.

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