Chinese Immigration: New York Metropolitan Area Compared to Top Metropolitan Areas

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Abstract

New York established an extensive past of immigration. Chinese immigrants advanced into one of the largest groups in New York City. This highlights the interest of this paper. To determine the reasons why the Chinese population in is much larger in New York compared to other large cities in the United States. Chinese communities have demonstrated the acceptance of New York to new cultures with Chinatown. We are utilizing data analysis, anecdotal evidence, and articles to explore the connection between Chinese immigrants and New York. The importance of this research is to recognize why Chinese immigrants advanced into one of the largest New York Metropolitan Area Compared to Top Metropolitan Areas. The reasoning provided explains the data from the chart and graph that shows New York city has the highest number of Chinese immigrants. Furthermore, understanding the reasons for Chinese immigrants moving to New York City, we can establish ways to further improve the current factors that make New York appealing and implement those in other cities to make it more welcoming for not only Chinese but for all new immigrants.

Findings

Why the Chinese specifically choose New York:
- "The Chinese bus companies, located in Manhattan’s Chinatown, came into being precisely because they aim to serve the need of recent Chinese immigrants who find jobs in Chinese restaurants located in far away destinations, typically the non-gateway settings such as Rhode Island, Maine, or even Ohio…As it turns out, the immigrant owned bus companies have flexible schedules, convenient pick-up/drop off points, and less expensive bus fares, thus we have the report on the Wall Street Journal."
- "Many major Chinese News Media which cover international and local news are located in New York. For example, the World Journal located in Queens is a "nation-wide Chinese newspaper. . . [that] expresses the standpoint of the North American Chinese people."
- "New York City has a noticeably good public transportation system compared to other famous cities in the U.S. This encourages Chinese immigrants to move to New York City because it is very convenient because there is no need to own a vehicle to commute to anywhere."

Why Chinese immigrants choose the U.S.:
- Nowadays Chinese immigrants choose America because of "political reform, infrastructure improvements, pollution, and education." More specifically, “Chinese schools are oriented toward one make-or-break college admission exam offered at the end of high school: the "gaokao." Held over two days, the gaokao lasts nine hours, and is so brutally competitive.” This causes “China’s very best schools… to have) admission rates of less than half of 1 percent. That’s 12 times harder to get into than Harvard.”
- "The integration of Chinatown in urban areas across the U.S. San Francisco, New York City, Chicago, Seattle, Philadelphia, Honolulu, Boston, Los Angeles.

Interview

We conducted an interview with Kenny and Frank’s parents about the reason they moved to New York City: Antonio and Ana emigrated to New York City with their two twin sons. Their goal was to provide a better future for their sons in the United States and escape the political and economic problems from their home country. They chose New York City because they had relatives before coming here. making the transition easier. This is also known as "chain migration" which refers to the term that people moved to places where they have relatives that are already established there.

Methodology

We used U.S. Census data, first person interviews and data gathered from scholarly reports. Additional analysis was drawn from newspaper articles and peer-reviewed articles.

Sources


Conclusion

The main goal of this research is to analyze the components that make New York City hospitable for Chinese immigrants. Chinese immigrants decide to immigrate to the United States as a whole because of the political reform, the desire to get away from China’s pollution, education and the flourishing China towns seen spread across the United States. We concluded that the driving forces of Chinese immigration specifically to New York are the abundance of Chinese run businesses, major Chinese news coverage located in Queens, and the public transportation systems found throughout the city. The reasoning provided explains the data from the chart and graph that shows New York city has the highest number of Chinese immigrants. Furthermore, understanding the reasons for Chinese immigrants moving to New York City, we can establish ways to further improve the current factors that make New York appealing and implement those in other cities to make it more welcoming for not only Chinese but for all new immigrants.

Table 1: Top Concentrations by Metropolitan Area for Chinese Immigrants, 2014-18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metropolitan Area</th>
<th>Immigrant Population from China</th>
<th>% of Metro Area Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New York-Norwalk, Jersey City, NY - NJ - PA</td>
<td>475,000</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA</td>
<td>244,000</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA</td>
<td>262,000</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Jose-San Francisco-Oakland, CA</td>
<td>318,000</td>
<td>0.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boston-Cambridge-Wellesley, MA-NH</td>
<td>67,000</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago-Naperville-St. Charles, IL-IN-WI</td>
<td>70,000</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV</td>
<td>99,000</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providence-Newport, RI-MA</td>
<td>65,000</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honolulu, HI</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD</td>
<td>49,000</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Figure 1: Top Metropolitan Destinations for Chinese Immigrants in the United States, 2014-18

Figure 2: Top Chinese Migration Flows to the United States, 2014-18

Figure 3: Top Metropolitan Destinations for Chinese Immigrants in the United States, 2014-18