

# Entertainment *media*

## FOREIGN-BORN CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

By Erin M. Stephens and James C. Witte

*The Media & Entertainment (M&E) industry in the United States is a major contributor to the national economy. This fact sheet explores foreign-born contributions to M&E in terms of film production, broadcasting, sound recording, sports & performance arts using data from the 2008-2012 American Community Survey.*



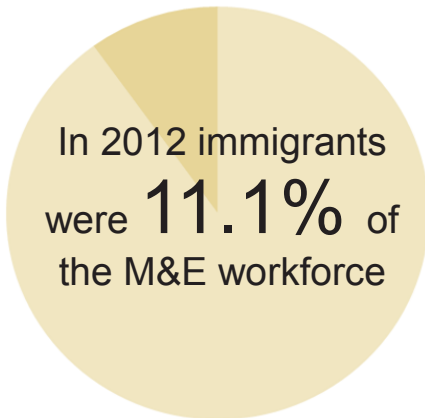
### ACTOR, PRODUCER & POLITICIAN

Arnold Schwarzenegger (1947-) was born in Austria and became a naturalized citizen of the United States in 1983. The award-winning actor is also well known for serving as the governor of California from 2003-2011.

## THE WORKFORCE

Out of the 2,232,589 people in the Media & Entertainment (M&E) workforce in 2012, foreign-born workers accounted for 11.1%. This amounted to 247,589 immigrants

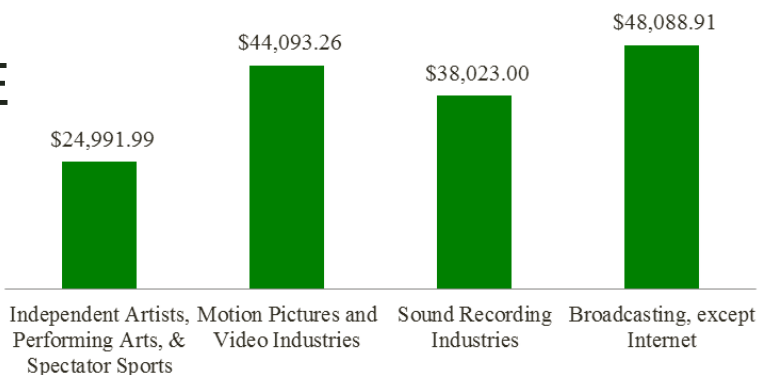
working as designers, writers, news analysts, photographers, radio equipment workers, and athletes. The top five occupations among foreign-born workers were: musicians and singers (8.1%), artists and related workers (6.7%), producers and directors (5.8%), managers (4.3%) and telecommunications line installers 3.6%).



## \$9.1 BILLION = TOTAL WAGES OF FOREIGN BORN WORKERS IN M&E

Workers in the M&E industry earned \$76.2 billion in 2012, with foreign-born workers accounting for 11.9%, or \$9.1 billion, of the earnings. On average, immigrant workers made \$36,722 annually, slightly higher than the industry average.

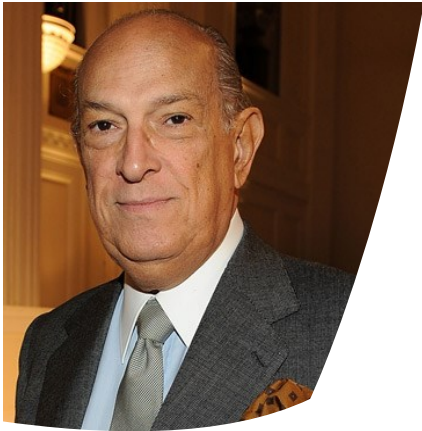
Average Annual Earnings for Foreign-Born M&E Workers



Earning values range from \$0 to \$633,000 in the sample

# 38% OF FOREIGN BORN M&E WORKERS ARE WOMEN

Of the 247,589 immigrant workers in the M&E industry, 94,198 are women. Of these women, 7.9% worked as artists, 6.9% as producers and directors, and 5.1% as musicians and singers.



## FASHION DESIGNER

Oscar de la Renta (1932-2014) was born in the Dominican Republic and became an American citizen in 1971. His designs have been worn by First Ladies such as Jacqueline Kennedy, Hillary Clinton and Laura Bush.



## ATHLETE

Meb Keflezighi (1975-) was born in Eritria, but fled with his family during a civil war. The three-time Olympian marathon runner became a naturalized citizen in 1998.



## SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

Arianna Huffington (1950-) was born in 1950 in Greece and became a naturalized citizen in 1990. She is the chair, president and editor-in-chief of Huffington Post Media Group.

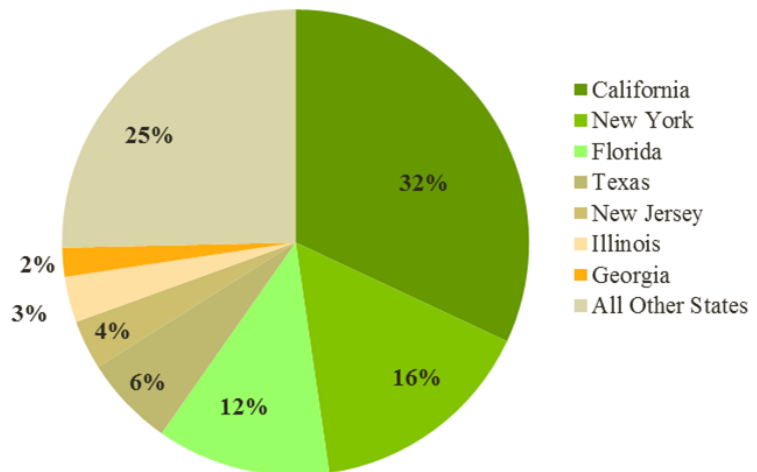


## ACTOR & FILMAKER

Salma Hayek (1966-) was born in Mexico. The award winning actress is also a director, producer and activist.

# 32% LIVE IN CALIFORNIA

## States with the Highest Concentration of Foreign-Born Workers in the Media & Entertainment Industry



# 16.1% ARE FROM MEXICO

## Top 5 Countries of Origin for Foreign-Born M&E Workers

Mexico	39,855	16.1%
Canada	13,7564	5.6%
Philippines	9,491	3.8%
Korea	7,887	3.2%
Cuba	7,224	2.9%