INDUSTRY DESCRIPTION
In the United States, workers in public administration serve to maintain the governmental structures and services that organize and preserve social order at the national, state, and local level. Without these structures and services the nation’s standard of living and overall quality of life would decline.

Immigrant workers play an important role in public administration. Their hard work and commitment, as politicians, administrators, and service workers, contributes to the health and resilience of the U.S. economy and society.

INDUSTRY WORKFORCE
In 2012, immigrants accounted for 7.6 percent of all workers in U.S. public administration, which amounted to an estimated 553,868 workers. Approximately 49 percent of these immigrant workers were female.

Immigrant workers in public administration were divided among five major occupational groups. These groups were 1) office and administrative support, 2) non-military protective services, 3) management, 4) financial specialists, as well as 5) computer and mathematical occupations.

About 19.7 percent, or approximately 109,000 of these workers were concentrated in office and administrative support occupations, where they worked as office clerks, secretaries, assistants, and typists.

INDUSTRY PRODUCTIVITY
In 2012, workers in public administration earned an estimated $398 billion. Immigrants working in the industry accounted for approximately $31 billion, or 7.9 percent of the public administration earnings. This averaged to $56,202.76 per immigrant worker for the entire year, which was higher than the income of the industry’s average worker.

Also, 15.9 percent of immigrants working in public administration were employed in non-military protective service occupations. This amounted to 87,835 immigrants working in a number of different occupations, such as correctional officers, police officers, firefighters, criminal investigators, and fish and game wardens.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office and Administrative Support Occupations</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protective Service Occupations</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Occupations</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Specialist Occupations</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer and Mathematical Occupations</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Occupations</td>
<td>42.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IMMIGRANTS OF NOTE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Throughout U.S. history many noteworthy immigrants have served in U.S. public administration. Many of these immigrants have held positions in the President’s cabinet, as advisors and secretaries for various dimensions of the federal government. The following profiles highlight but a few of these noteworthy individuals

Albert Gallatin, U.S. Secretary of Treasury, [1801-1814]

Albert Gallatin, originally Swiss-born, emigrated from France to the United States in 1780. Upon arriving in the U.S., Gallatin became a member of the Jeffersonian Republican Party, and served as party spokesperson on public finance in the House of Representatives from 1795 – 1801. Subsequently, Gallatin served as U.S. Secretary of Treasury under President Thomas Jefferson [1801 – 1809] and President James Madison [1809 – 1817]. While serving as Secretary of Treasury, Gallatin focused on eliminating the national debt and improving public infrastructures along the Nation’s eastern seaboard.

Carl Schurz, U.S. Secretary of the Interior, [1877-1881]

Carl Schurz emigrated from Germany to the United States in 1852. In 1855 he became a member of the Republican Party and was a staunch advocate of the anti-slavery movement. Between July and December of 1861, Schurz served as U.S. Ambassador to Spain. Schurz also served as Union Brigadier General during the Civil War. Following the war he was elected as a U.S. Senator for Missouri [1868 – 1875], and in 1876 Schurz was appointed to Secretary of the Interior by President Rutherford B. Hayes.

Madeleine Albright, U.S. Secretary of State, [1997-2001]

Madeleine Albright emigrated with her family from Czechoslovakia to the United States in 1948. She spent her teenage years in Denver, Colorado and later graduated from Wellesley College in Massachusetts with a degree in political science. Albright also received an MA and PhD in international relations from Columbia University. Following a brief career in academia, Albright was appointed U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations in 1993 under President Bill Clinton. She also served as U.S. Secretary of State during President Clinton’s second term.

Elaine L. Chao, U.S. Secretary of Labor, [2001-2009]

Elaine Chao and her family emigrated from Taiwan to the United States in 1961. She received her BA in economics from Mount Holyoke College in 1975 and her MBA from Harvard University in 1979. In 1989 Chao was appointed Deputy Secretary of Transportation by President George H. W. Bush. From 1991 – 1992 Chao served as the director of the Peace Corps. Subsequently, Chao worked as the CEO for the United Way Foundation until 1996, when she began working with the Heritage Foundation as a distinguished fellow. In 2001 Chao returned to public administration as Secretary of Labor under President George W. Bush. She served for all eight years of Bush’s presidency in this capacity.

For more information on immigrants working in the public administration industry, contact the Institute for Immigration Research at iir@gmu.edu.

The Institute for Immigration Research can also be found on Twitter (@IIRGMU) and Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/iir.gmu).