

# Immigrants Make Hawaii Stronger

*An estimated **257,000** immigrants live in Hawaii, making up **18%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **29%** of households in Hawaii.*

**Immigrants contribute to every sector of Hawaii's economy.**

Some 22% of Hawaii's labor force are immigrants, including 15% of the construction industry, 37% of agriculture, 22% of manufacturing, 22% of business services, and 31% of leisure and hospitality.

**About 8,000 immigrants in Hawaii work in STEM-related jobs**, of which 9% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 21% of STEM degree holders in Hawaii are immigrants.

**Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Hawaii's communities.** Some 143,000 immigrants, or about 56% of all immigrants in Hawaii, are U.S. citizens. About 62,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 7,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

**An estimated 10% of individuals in Hawaii, or some 138,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant.** Some 20,000 U.S. citizen children in Hawaii live with an undocumented parent, while some 5,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 24,000 undocumented individuals in Hawaii have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 11,000 of those living in the U.S. for more than 20 years.

**Dreamers**—undocumented immigrants who came to the U.S. as children before 2021 and are either in school or have graduated from high school—number 11,000 and **contribute \$327 million annually to Hawaii's economy.** They also contribute \$58 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 300 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

**Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders**—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries **contributed \$7 million to Hawaii's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 3,000 immigrants in Hawaii are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$55 million to Hawaii's economy annually.

**Immigrant groups currently protected from deportation**—DACA recipients, TPS holders, people seeking asylum, and those waiting for a permanent residency visa—**have access to work authorizations, making up an estimated 3,000 workers in Hawaii's labor force, and paying an estimated \$27 million annually in state and local taxes.**

**\$9.4 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$3.4 billion**

Annual combined taxes paid

**23,000**

Self-employed

**31%**

With college or advanced degrees

**97%**

Speak English

**90%**

Earn above the minimum needed to live