

Immigrants Make Nebraska Stronger

*An estimated **223,000** immigrants live in Nebraska, making up **11%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **12%** of households in Nebraska.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Nebraska's economy.

Some 13% of Nebraska's labor force are immigrants, including 19% of the construction industry, 17% of agriculture, 27% of manufacturing, 27% of business services, and 13% of leisure and hospitality.

About 7,000 immigrants in Nebraska work in STEM-related jobs, of which 21% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 14% of STEM degree holders in Nebraska are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Nebraska's communities. Some 61,000 immigrants, or about 27% of all immigrants in Nebraska, are U.S. citizens. About 40,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 11,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 9% of individuals in Nebraska, or some 185,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 36,000 U.S. citizen children in Nebraska live with an undocumented parent, while some 7,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 35,000 undocumented individuals in Nebraska have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 21,000 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 \$332 million annually to Nebraska's economy.** They also contribute \$43 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 2,400 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries **contributed \$67 million to Nebraska's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 43,000 immigrants in Nebraska are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$940 million to Nebraska'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 21,000 workers in Nebraska's labor force, and paying an estimated \$149 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$6.6 billion

Annual spending power

\$2.0 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

18,000

Self-employed

24%

With college or advanced degrees

84%

Speak English

79%

Earn above the minimum needed to live