

# Immigrants Make Washington Stronger

*An estimated **1,391,000** immigrants live in Washington, making up **17%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **23%** of households in Washington.*

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

Some 22% of Washington's labor force are immigrants, including 23% of the construction industry, 56% of agriculture, 22% of manufacturing, 22% of business services, and 20% of leisure and hospitality.

**About 177,000 immigrants in Washington work in STEM-related jobs**, of which 37% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 33% of STEM degree holders in Washington are immigrants.

**Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Washington's communities.** Some 587,000 immigrants, or about 42% of all immigrants in Washington, are U.S. citizens. About 264,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 141,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

**An estimated 10% of individuals in Washington, or some 762,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant.** Some 138,000 U.S. citizen children in Washington live with an undocumented parent, while some 31,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 223,000 undocumented individuals in Washington have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 127,000 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 70,000 and **contribute \$2.5 billion annually to Washington's economy.** They also contribute \$316 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 13,500 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

**Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders**—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 15,000 and **contributed \$424 million to Washington's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 81,000 immigrants in Washington are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$3.1 billion to Washington'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 83,000 workers in Washington's labor force, and paying an estimated \$543 million annually in state and local taxes.**

**\$72.1 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$27.3 billion**

Annual combined taxes paid

**115,000**

Self-employed

**42%**

With college or advanced degrees

**92%**

Speak English

**89%**

Earn above the minimum needed to live