

Immigrants Make Connecticut Stronger



*An estimated **715,000** immigrants live in Connecticut, making up **19%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **22%** of households in Connecticut.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Connecticut's economy. Some 21% of Connecticut's labor force are immigrants, including 29% of the construction industry, 37% of agriculture, 20% of manufacturing, 21% of business services, and 17% of leisure and hospitality.

About 38,000 immigrants in Connecticut work in STEM-related jobs, of which 21% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 27% of STEM degree holders in Connecticut are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Connecticut's communities. Some 283,000 immigrants, or about 40% of all immigrants in Connecticut, are U.S. citizens. About 142,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 39,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 10% of individuals in Connecticut, or some 387,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 37,000 U.S. citizen children in Connecticut live with an undocumented parent, while some 14,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 71,000 undocumented individuals in Connecticut have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 42,000 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 27,000 and **contribute \$794 million annually to Connecticut's economy**. They also contribute \$111 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 3,000 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—number 8,000 and **contribute \$637 million to Connecticut's economy each year**. Meanwhile, an estimated 51,000 immigrants in Connecticut are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$883 million to Connecticut'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 30,000 workers in Connecticut's labor force, and paying an estimated \$231 million annually in state and local taxes**.

\$24.3 billion

Annual spending power

\$8.7 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

58,000

Self-employed

18%

With college or advanced degrees

93%

Speak English

76%

Earn above the minimum needed to live

FWD.us is a bipartisan political organization founded by leaders in technology and business communities that believe America's families, communities, and economy thrive when more individuals are able to achieve their full potential. To learn more, go to www.fwd.us.

Data sources: FWD.us analysis of augmented 2023 American Community Survey data with immigrant status assignment according to FWD.us methodology and adjustments for 2024 population estimates (fwd.us/acs-methodology). Estimates may differ slightly from U.S. Census Bureau estimates because of adjustments made for undocumented immigrants and other immigrant groups, including most recent arrivals. For more information or additional data analysis, email data@fwd.us.