

# Immigrants Make Florida Stronger



*An estimated **5,798,000** immigrants live in Florida, making up **25%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **30%** of households in Florida.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Florida's economy. Some 28% of Florida's labor force are immigrants, including 39% of the construction industry, 69% of agriculture, 30% of manufacturing, 30% of business services, and 26% of leisure and hospitality.

About 202,000 immigrants in Florida work in STEM-related jobs, of which 18% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 38% of STEM degree holders in Florida are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Florida's communities. Some 2,590,000 immigrants, or about 45% of all immigrants in Florida, are U.S. citizens. About 1,214,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 276,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 12% of individuals in Florida, or some 2,807,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 294,000 U.S. citizen children in Florida live with an undocumented parent, while some 141,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 487,000 undocumented individuals in Florida have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 274,000 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 182,000 and **contribute \$4.5 billion annually to Florida's economy**. They also contribute \$476 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 21,300 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

**Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders**—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—number 358,000 and **contribute \$5.7 billion to Florida's economy each year**. Meanwhile, an estimated 584,000 immigrants in Florida are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$9.3 billion to Florida'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 417,000 workers in Florida's labor force, and paying an estimated \$1.6 billion annually in state and local taxes**.

**\$179 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$49 billion**

Annual combined taxes paid

**666,000**

Self-employed

**13%**

With college or advanced degrees

**85%**

Speak English

**84%**

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](http://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](http://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](mailto:data@fwd.us).