

Immigrants Make Massachusetts Stronger



*An estimated **1,308,000** immigrants live in Massachusetts, making up **19%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **25%** of households in Massachusetts.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Massachusetts's economy.

Some 21% of Massachusetts's labor force are immigrants, including 26% of the construction industry, 22% of agriculture, 26% of manufacturing, 24% of business services, and 24% of leisure and hospitality.

About 128,000 immigrants in Massachusetts work in STEM-related jobs, of which 23% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 31% of STEM degree holders in Massachusetts are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Massachusetts's communities.

Some 597,000 immigrants, or about 46% of all immigrants in Massachusetts, are U.S. citizens. About 375,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 112,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 6% of individuals in Massachusetts, or some 442,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 48,000 U.S. citizen children in Massachusetts live with an undocumented parent, while some 21,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 80,000 undocumented individuals in Massachusetts have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 38,000 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 40,000 and **contribute \$993 million annually to Massachusetts's economy.** They also contribute \$119 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 4,400 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—number 20,000 and **contribute \$449 million to Massachusetts's economy each year.** Meanwhile, an estimated 76,000 immigrants in Massachusetts are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$1.7 billion to Massachusetts'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 57,000 workers in Massachusetts's labor force, and paying an estimated \$261 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$55.5 billion

Annual spending power

\$20.0 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

108,000

Self-employed

22%

With college or advanced degrees

89%

Speak English

88%

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.