

Immigrants Make Missouri Stronger



*An estimated **317,000** immigrants live in Missouri, making up **5%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **7%** of households in Missouri.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Missouri's economy. Some 6% of Missouri's labor force are immigrants, including 7% of the construction industry, 6% of agriculture, 8% of manufacturing, 8% of business services, and 7% of leisure and hospitality.

About 27,000 immigrants in Missouri work in STEM-related jobs, of which 28% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 15% of STEM degree holders in Missouri are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Missouri's communities. Some 122,000 immigrants, or about 38% of all immigrants in Missouri, are U.S. citizens. About 79,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 36,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 151,000 of individuals in Missouri, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 25,000 U.S. citizen children in Missouri live with an undocumented parent, while some 5,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 46,000 undocumented individuals in Missouri have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 28,000 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 19,000 and **contribute \$378 million annually to Missouri's economy**. They also contribute \$40 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 2,600 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—number 4,000 and **contribute \$88 million to Missouri's economy each year**. Meanwhile, an estimated 14,000 immigrants in Missouri are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$260 million to Missouri'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 11,000 workers in Missouri's labor force, and paying an estimated \$60 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$11.5 billion

Annual spending power

\$3.3 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

24,000

Self-employed

19%

With college or advanced degrees

95%

Speak English

87%

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.