

Immigrants Make Nebraska Stronger



*An estimated **180,000** immigrants live in Nebraska, making up **9%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **10%** of households in Nebraska.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Nebraska's economy. Some 10% of Nebraska's labor force are immigrants, including 16% of the construction industry, 8% of agriculture, 29% of manufacturing, 9% of business services, and 10% of leisure and hospitality.

About 8,000 immigrants in Nebraska work in STEM-related jobs, of which 20% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 12% of STEM degree holders in Nebraska are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Nebraska's communities. Some 54,000 immigrants, or about 30% of all immigrants in Nebraska, are U.S. citizens. About 39,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 9,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 7% of individuals in Nebraska, or some 138,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 29,000 U.S. citizen children in Nebraska live with an undocumented parent, while some 6,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 33,000 undocumented individuals in Nebraska have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 20,000 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 12,000 and **contribute \$355 million annually to Nebraska's economy**. They also contribute \$45 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 2,500 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—number 2,000 and **contribute \$78 million to Nebraska's economy each year**. Meanwhile, an estimated 16,000 immigrants in Nebraska are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$303 million to Nebraska'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 13,000 workers in Nebraska's labor force, and paying an estimated \$96 million annually in state and local taxes**.

\$5.4 billion

Annual spending power

\$1.5 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

12,000

Self-employed

10%

With college or advanced degrees

89%

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.