

Immigrants Make Oklahoma Stronger

*An estimated **272,000** immigrants live in Oklahoma, making up **7%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **9%** of households in Oklahoma.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Oklahoma's economy. Some 8% of Oklahoma's labor force are immigrants, including 18% of the construction industry, 15% of agriculture, 11% of manufacturing, 9% of business services, and 12% of leisure and hospitality.

About 11,000 immigrants in Oklahoma work in STEM-related jobs, of which 25% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 15% of STEM degree holders in Oklahoma are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Oklahoma's communities. Some 92,000 immigrants, or about 34% of all immigrants in Oklahoma, are U.S. citizens. About 63,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 13,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 5% of individuals in Oklahoma, or some 197,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 48,000 U.S. citizen children in Oklahoma live with an undocumented parent, while some 17,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 60,000 undocumented individuals in Oklahoma 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 19,000 and **contribute \$468 million annually to Oklahoma's economy**. They also contribute \$55 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 5,300 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 \$210 million to Oklahoma's economy each year**. Meanwhile, an estimated 18,000 immigrants in Oklahoma are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$327 million to Oklahoma'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 23,000 workers in Oklahoma's labor force, and paying an estimated \$97 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$7.9 billion

Annual spending power

\$2.1 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

25,000

Self-employed

9%

With college or advanced degrees

89%

Speak English

85%

Earn above the minimum needed to live