

Immigrants Make Arkansas Stronger

*An estimated **203,000** immigrants live in Arkansas, making up **7%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **8%** of households in Arkansas.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Arkansas's economy.

Some 9% of Arkansas's labor force are immigrants, including 17% of the construction industry, 14% of agriculture, 12% of manufacturing, 12% of business services, and 8% of leisure and hospitality.

About 9,000 immigrants in Arkansas work in STEM-related jobs, of which 32% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 14% of STEM degree holders in Arkansas are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Arkansas's communities. Some 55,000 immigrants, or about 27% of all immigrants in Arkansas, are U.S. citizens. About 35,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 13,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 6% of individuals in Arkansas, or some 184,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 40,000 U.S. citizen children in Arkansas live with an undocumented parent, while some 7,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 49,000 undocumented individuals in Arkansas have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 31,000 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 13,000 and **contribute \$406 million annually to Arkansas's economy.** They also contribute \$54 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 3,700 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 6,000 and **contributed \$123 million to Arkansas's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 18,000 immigrants in Arkansas are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$398 million to Arkansas'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 18,000 workers in Arkansas's labor force, and paying an estimated \$100 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$6.3 billion

Annual spending power

\$1.9 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

11,000

Self-employed

25%

With college or advanced degrees

87%

Speak English

84%

Earn above the minimum needed to live