

Immigrants Make Boston Metro Stronger

*An estimated **1,067,000** immigrants live in Boston, making up **21%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **28%** of households in Boston.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Boston's economy.

Some 25% of Boston's labor force are immigrants, including 31% of the construction industry, 10% of agriculture, 31% of manufacturing, 26% of business services, and 27% of leisure and hospitality.

About 120,000 immigrants in Boston work in STEM-related jobs, of which 21% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 33% of STEM degree holders in Boston are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Boston's communities. Some 500,000 immigrants, or about 47% of all immigrants in Boston, are U.S. citizens. About 302,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 84,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 8% of individuals in Boston, or some 400,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 52,000 U.S. citizen children in Boston live with an undocumented parent, while some 16,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 67,000 undocumented individuals in Boston have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 32,000 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 33,000 and **contribute \$949 million annually to Boston's economy.** They also contribute \$117 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 2,000 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 22,000 and **contributed \$642 million to Boston's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 51,000 immigrants in Boston are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$1.3 billion to Boston'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 49,000 workers in Boston's labor force, and paying an estimated \$247 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$50.5 billion

Annual spending power

\$18.9 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

74,000

Self-employed

44%

With college or advanced degrees

90%

Speak English

88%

Earn above the minimum needed to live