

Immigrants Make California Stronger

*An estimated **11,835,000** immigrants live in California, making up **29%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **41%** of households in California.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of California's economy.

Some 35% of California's labor force are immigrants, including 43% of the construction industry, 71% of agriculture, 45% of manufacturing, 45% of business services, and 33% of leisure and hospitality.

About 764,000 immigrants in California work in STEM-related jobs, of which 23% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 45% of STEM degree holders in California are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost California's communities. Some 5,718,000 immigrants, or about 48% of all immigrants in California, are U.S. citizens. About 3,353,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 530,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 13% of individuals in California, or some 5,180,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 803,000 U.S. citizen children in California live with an undocumented parent, while some 208,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 1,484,000 undocumented individuals in California have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 983,000 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 424,000 and **contribute \$13.5 billion annually to California's economy.** They also contribute \$1.9 billion in state and local taxes each year. Some 149,700 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 63,000 and **contributed \$1.9 billion to California's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 367,000 immigrants in California are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$10.9 billion to California'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 462,000 workers in California's labor force, and paying an estimated \$2.8 billion annually in state and local taxes.**

\$463 billion

Annual spending power

\$181 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

1,174,000

Self-employed

31%

With college or advanced degrees

88%

Speak English

88%

Earn above the minimum needed to live