

# Immigrants Make Colorado Stronger

*An estimated **720,000** immigrants live in Colorado, making up **12%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **16%** of households in Colorado.*

**Immigrants contribute to every sector of Colorado's economy.**

Some 14% of Colorado's labor force are immigrants, including 22% of the construction industry, 14% of agriculture, 14% of manufacturing, 14% of business services, and 14% of leisure and hospitality.

**About 46,000 immigrants in Colorado work in STEM-related jobs**, of which 22% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 15% of STEM degree holders in Colorado are immigrants.

**Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Colorado's communities.** Some 269,000 immigrants, or about 37% of all immigrants in Colorado, are U.S. citizens. About 149,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 47,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

**An estimated 8% of individuals in Colorado, or some 458,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant.** Some 80,000 U.S. citizen children in Colorado live with an undocumented parent, while some 23,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 110,000 undocumented individuals in Colorado have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 65,000 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 41,000 and **contribute \$1.2 billion annually to Colorado's economy.** They also contribute \$136 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 12,000 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

**Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders**—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 28,000 and **contributed \$498 million to Colorado's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 75,000 immigrants in Colorado are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$1.7 billion to Colorado'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 63,000 workers in Colorado's labor force, and paying an estimated \$279 million annually in state and local taxes.**

**\$28.7 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$9.5 billion**

Annual combined taxes paid

**66,000**

Self-employed

**35%**

With college or advanced degrees

**92%**

Speak English

**84%**

Earn above the minimum needed to live