

Immigrants Make Delaware Stronger

*An estimated **124,000** immigrants live in Delaware, making up **12%** of the total population.*

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

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Delaware's economy.

Some 15% of Delaware's labor force are immigrants, including 17% of the construction industry, 21% of agriculture, 21% of manufacturing, 21% of business services, and 13% of leisure and hospitality.

About 11,000 immigrants in Delaware work in STEM-related jobs, of which 30% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 25% of STEM degree holders in Delaware are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Delaware's communities. Some 53,000 immigrants, or about 42% of all immigrants in Delaware, are U.S. citizens. About 21,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 10,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 7% of individuals in Delaware, or some 78,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 17,000 U.S. citizen children in Delaware live with an undocumented parent, while some 4,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 15,000 undocumented individuals in Delaware have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 8,000 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 6,000 and **contribute \$169 million annually to Delaware's economy.** They also contribute \$19 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 1,100 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 3,000 and **contributed \$59 million to Delaware's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 10,000 immigrants in Delaware are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$235 million to Delaware'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 10,000 workers in Delaware's labor force, and paying an estimated \$37 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$5.3 billion

Annual spending power

\$1.7 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

15,000

Self-employed

36%

With college or advanced degrees

90%

Speak English

94%

Earn above the minimum needed to live