

Immigrants Make Fayetteville Metro Stronger

*An estimated **85,000** immigrants live in Fayetteville, making up **14%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **17%** of households in Fayetteville.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Fayetteville's economy.

Some 18% of Fayetteville's labor force are immigrants, including 35% of the construction industry, 27% of agriculture, 28% of manufacturing, 17% of business services, and 14% of leisure and hospitality.

About 5,000 immigrants in Fayetteville work in STEM-related jobs, of which 39% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 24% of STEM degree holders in Fayetteville are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Fayetteville's communities.

Some 21,000 immigrants, or about 24% of all immigrants in Fayetteville, are U.S. citizens. About 14,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 4,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 14% of individuals in Fayetteville, or some 86,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant.

Some 22,000 U.S. citizen children in Fayetteville live with an undocumented parent, while some 2,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 24,000 undocumented individuals in Fayetteville have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 15,000 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 \$280 million annually to Fayetteville's economy**. They also contribute \$38 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 1,000 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 5,000 and **contributed \$98 million to Fayetteville's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 11,000 immigrants in Fayetteville are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$244 million to Fayetteville'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 12,000 workers in Fayetteville's labor force, and paying an estimated \$68 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$3.0 billion

Annual spending power

\$954 million

Annual combined taxes paid

3,000

Self-employed

26%

With college or advanced degrees

81%

Speak English

90%

Earn above the minimum needed to live