

# Immigrants Make IL-11 Stronger

*An estimated **138,000** immigrants live in IL-11, making up **18%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **23%** of households in IL-11.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of IL-11's economy. Some 22% of IL-11's labor force are immigrants, including 19% of the construction industry, 9% of agriculture, 27% of manufacturing, 24% of business services, and 23% of leisure and hospitality.

About 14,000 immigrants in IL-11 work in STEM-related jobs, of which 23% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 32% of STEM degree holders in IL-11 are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost IL-11's communities. Some 61,000 immigrants, or about 44% of all immigrants in IL-11, are U.S. citizens. About 24,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 13,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 11% of individuals in IL-11, or some 81,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 16,000 U.S. citizen children in IL-11 live with an undocumented parent, while some 4,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 25,000 undocumented individuals in IL-11 have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 16,000 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 8,000 and contribute **\$230 million annually to IL-11's economy**. They also contribute \$36 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 4,000 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 **\$94 million to IL-11's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 5,000 immigrants in IL-11 are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$159 million to IL-11'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 **9,000 workers in IL-11's labor force, and paying an estimated \$57 million annually in state and local taxes**.

**\$5.7 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$2.2 billion**

Annual combined taxes paid

**14,000**

Self-employed

**46%**

With college or advanced degrees

**96%**

Speak English

**92%**

Earn above the minimum needed to live