

Immigrants Make IL-6 Stronger

*An estimated **139,000** immigrants live in IL-6, making up **19%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **27%** of households in IL-6.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of IL-6's economy. Some 22% of IL-6's labor force are immigrants, including 35% of the construction industry, 11% of agriculture, 26% of manufacturing, 21% of business services, and 21% of leisure and hospitality.

About 7,000 immigrants in IL-6 work in STEM-related jobs, of which 21% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 29% of STEM degree holders in IL-6 are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost IL-6's communities. Some 72,000 immigrants, or about 52% of all immigrants in IL-6, are U.S. citizens. About 29,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 6,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 9% of individuals in IL-6, or some 69,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 14,000 U.S. citizen children in IL-6 live with an undocumented parent, while some 4,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 19,000 undocumented individuals in IL-6 have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 11,000 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 **\$199 million annually to IL-6's economy**. They also contribute \$31 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 2,000 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 **\$69 million to IL-6's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 3,000 immigrants in IL-6 are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$60 million to IL-6'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 5,000 workers in IL-6's labor force, and paying an estimated \$31 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$5.5 billion

Annual spending power

\$2.1 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

16,000

Self-employed

36%

With college or advanced degrees

95%

Speak English

85%

Earn above the minimum needed to live