

Immigrants Make Indianapolis Metro Stronger



*An estimated **271,000** immigrants live in Indianapolis, making up **12%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **15%** of households in Indianapolis.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Indianapolis' economy.

Some 16% of Indianapolis' labor force are immigrants, including 18% of the construction industry, 40% of agriculture, 18% of manufacturing, 14% of business services, and 17% of leisure and hospitality.

About 17,000 immigrants in Indianapolis work in STEM-related jobs, of which 32% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 20% of STEM degree holders in Indianapolis are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Indianapolis' communities. Some 90,000 immigrants, or about 33% of all immigrants in Indianapolis, are U.S. citizens. About 70,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 23,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 8% of individuals in Indianapolis, or some 170,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant.

Some 34,000 U.S. citizen children in Indianapolis live with an undocumented parent, while some 9,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 32,000 undocumented individuals in Indianapolis have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 18,000 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 13,000 and **contribute \$354 million annually to Indianapolis' economy.** They also contribute \$47 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 14,000 and **contributed \$295 million to Indianapolis' economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 26,000 immigrants in Indianapolis are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$604 million to Indianapolis' 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 24,000 workers in Indianapolis' labor force, and paying an estimated \$115 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$9.8 billion

Annual spending power

\$3.1 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

19,000

Self-employed

37%

With college or advanced degrees

93%

Speak English

86%

Earn above the minimum needed to live