

Immigrants Make Louisiana Stronger

*An estimated **279,000** immigrants live in Louisiana, making up **6%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **7%** of households in Louisiana.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Louisiana's economy.

Some 8% of Louisiana's labor force are immigrants, including 23% of the construction industry, 11% of agriculture, 7% of manufacturing, 7% of business services, and 9% of leisure and hospitality.

About 8,000 immigrants in Louisiana work in STEM-related jobs, of which 29% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 13% of STEM degree holders in Louisiana are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Louisiana's communities. Some 86,000 immigrants, or about 31% of all immigrants in Louisiana, are U.S. citizens. About 49,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 14,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

Some 208,000 are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 33,000 U.S. citizen children in Louisiana live with an undocumented parent, while some 8,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 30,000 undocumented individuals in Louisiana have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 10,000 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 11,000 and **contribute \$335 million annually to Louisiana's economy.** They also contribute \$46 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 1,400 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 9,000 and **contributed \$134 million to Louisiana's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 37,000 immigrants in Louisiana are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$733 million to Louisiana'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 26,000 workers in Louisiana's labor force, and paying an estimated \$132 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$7.8 billion

Annual spending power

\$2.4 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

36,000

Self-employed

25%

With college or advanced degrees

82%

Speak English

72%

Earn above the minimum needed to live