

Immigrants Make NC-2 Stronger

*An estimated **137,000** immigrants live in NC-2, making up **17%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **21%** of households in NC-2.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of NC-2's economy. Some 20% of NC-2's labor force are immigrants, including 43% of the construction industry, 25% of manufacturing, 17% of business services, and 14% of leisure and hospitality.

About 17,000 immigrants in NC-2 work in STEM-related jobs, of which 25% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 27% of STEM degree holders in NC-2 are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost NC-2's communities. Some 55,000 immigrants, or about 40% of all immigrants in NC-2, are U.S. citizens. About 27,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 12,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 10% of individuals in NC-2, or some 82,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 14,000 U.S. citizen children in NC-2 live with an undocumented parent, while some 3,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 18,000 undocumented individuals in NC-2 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 \$137 million annually to NC-2's economy.** They also contribute \$16 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 2,000 and **contributed \$89 million to NC-2's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 9,000 immigrants in NC-2 are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$231 million to NC-2'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 NC-2's labor force, and paying an estimated \$46 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$5.9 billion

Annual spending power

\$2.0 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

11,000

Self-employed

51%

With college or advanced degrees

91%

Speak English

85%

Earn above the minimum needed to live