

Immigrants Make NJ-2 Stronger

*An estimated **88,000** immigrants live in NJ-2, making up **11%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **14%** of households in NJ-2.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of NJ-2's economy. Some 16% of NJ-2's labor force are immigrants, including 13% of the construction industry, 54% of agriculture, 14% of manufacturing, 13% of business services, and 27% of leisure and hospitality.

About 3,000 immigrants in NJ-2 work in STEM-related jobs, of which 16% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 17% of STEM degree holders in NJ-2 are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost NJ-2's communities. Some 42,000 immigrants, or about 48% of all immigrants in NJ-2, are U.S. citizens. About 16,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 3,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 8% of individuals in NJ-2, or some 64,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 14,000 U.S. citizen children in NJ-2 live with an undocumented parent, while some 4,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 15,000 undocumented individuals in NJ-2 have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 8,000 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 5,000 and **contribute \$133 million annually to NJ-2's economy.** They also contribute \$20 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 1,000 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

An estimated 6,000 immigrants in NJ-2 are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$116 million to NJ-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 6,000 workers in NJ-2's labor force, and paying an estimated \$20 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$2.7 billion

Annual spending power

\$869 million

Annual combined taxes paid

9,000

Self-employed

25%

With college or advanced degrees

91%

Speak English

92%

Earn above the minimum needed to live