

# Immigrants Make NJ-5 Stronger

*An estimated **232,000** immigrants live in NJ-5, making up **29%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **43%** of households in NJ-5.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of NJ-5's economy. Some 35% of NJ-5's labor force are immigrants, including 36% of the construction industry, 32% of agriculture, 38% of manufacturing, 36% of business services, and 32% of leisure and hospitality.

About 19,000 immigrants in NJ-5 work in STEM-related jobs, of which 19% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 47% of STEM degree holders in NJ-5 are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost NJ-5's communities. Some 141,000 immigrants, or about 61% of all immigrants in NJ-5, are U.S. citizens. About 33,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 16,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 11% of individuals in NJ-5, or some 86,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 12,000 U.S. citizen children in NJ-5 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 NJ-5 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 6,000 and **contribute \$180 million annually to NJ-5's economy**. They also contribute \$25 million in state and local taxes each year.

**Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders**—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 2,000 and **contributed \$32 million to NJ-5's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 11,000 immigrants in NJ-5 are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$227 million to NJ-5'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 10,000 workers in NJ-5's labor force, and paying an estimated \$40 million annually in state and local taxes.**

**\$11.0 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$4.5 billion**

Annual combined taxes paid

**25,000**

Self-employed

**51%**

With college or advanced degrees

**93%**

Speak English

**92%**

Earn above the minimum needed to live