

Immigrants Make NJ-8 Stronger

*An estimated **416,000** immigrants live in NJ-8, making up **50%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **59%** of households in NJ-8.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of NJ-8's economy. Some 56% of NJ-8's labor force are immigrants, including 85% of the construction industry, 94% of agriculture, 70% of manufacturing, 51% of business services, and 62% of leisure and hospitality.

About 26,000 immigrants in NJ-8 work in STEM-related jobs, of which 42% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 63% of STEM degree holders in NJ-8 are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost NJ-8's communities. Some 148,000 immigrants, or about 36% of all immigrants in NJ-8, are U.S. citizens. About 65,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 42,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 34% of individuals in NJ-8, or some 287,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 48,000 U.S. citizen children in NJ-8 live with an undocumented parent, while some 11,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 59,000 undocumented individuals in NJ-8 have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 31,000 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 16,000 and contribute **\$485 million annually to NJ-8's economy**. They also contribute \$67 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 8,000 and contributed **\$243 million to NJ-8's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 58,000 immigrants in NJ-8 are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$1.5 billion to NJ-8'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 **44,000 workers in NJ-8's labor force, and paying an estimated \$233 million annually in state and local taxes**.

\$15.4 billion

Annual spending power

\$5.5 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

32,000

Self-employed

34%

With college or advanced degrees

85%

Speak English

82%

Earn above the minimum needed to live