

Immigrants Make Nashville Metro Stronger

*An estimated **243,000** immigrants live in Nashville, making up **11%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **13%** of households in Nashville.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Nashville's economy.

Some 13% of Nashville's labor force are immigrants, including 32% of the construction industry, 14% of agriculture, 14% of manufacturing, 12% of business services, and 15% of leisure and hospitality.

About 15,000 immigrants in Nashville work in STEM-related jobs, of which 34% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 19% of STEM degree holders in Nashville are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Nashville's communities.

Some 76,000 immigrants, or about 31% of all immigrants in Nashville, are U.S. citizens. About 39,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 16,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 9% of individuals in Nashville, or some 197,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant.

Some 36,000 U.S. citizen children in Nashville live with an undocumented parent, while some 7,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 37,000 undocumented individuals in Nashville have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 19,000 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 22,000 and **contribute \$675 million annually to Nashville's economy**. They also contribute \$85 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 9,000 and **contributed \$218 million to Nashville's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 28,000 immigrants in Nashville are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$690 million to Nashville'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 Nashville's labor force, and paying an estimated \$163 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$8.7 billion

Annual spending power

\$2.7 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

28,000

Self-employed

36%

With college or advanced degrees

93%

Speak English

85%

Earn above the minimum needed to live