

Immigrants Make New Mexico Stronger

*An estimated **236,000** immigrants live in New Mexico, making up **11%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **15%** of households in New Mexico.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of New Mexico's economy.

Some 13% of New Mexico's labor force are immigrants, including 22% of the construction industry, 25% of agriculture, 18% of manufacturing, 18% of business services, and 13% of leisure and hospitality.

About 10,000 immigrants in New Mexico work in STEM-related jobs, of which 18% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 14% of STEM degree holders in New Mexico are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost New Mexico's communities. Some 82,000 immigrants, or about 35% of all immigrants in New Mexico, are U.S. citizens. About 65,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 8,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 8% of individuals in New Mexico, or some 166,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 39,000 U.S. citizen children in New Mexico live with an undocumented parent, while some 9,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 42,000 undocumented individuals in New Mexico have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 27,000 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 13,000 and **contribute \$284 million annually to New Mexico's economy.** They also contribute \$38 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 4,500 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 3,000 and **contributed \$101 million to New Mexico's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 15,000 immigrants in New Mexico are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$358 million to New Mexico'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 15,000 workers in New Mexico's labor force, and paying an estimated \$86 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$6.7 billion

Annual spending power

\$2.0 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

20,000

Self-employed

21%

With college or advanced degrees

82%

Speak English

79%

Earn above the minimum needed to live