

Immigrants Make Sarasota Metro Stronger

*An estimated **153,000** immigrants live in Sarasota, making up **17%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **20%** of households in Sarasota.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Sarasota's economy.

Some 21% of Sarasota's labor force are immigrants, including 37% of the construction industry, 23% of agriculture, 27% of manufacturing, 22% of business services, and 19% of leisure and hospitality.

About 4,000 immigrants in Sarasota work in STEM-related jobs, of which 11% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 23% of STEM degree holders in Sarasota are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Sarasota's communities.

Some 71,000 immigrants, or about 47% of all immigrants in Sarasota, are U.S. citizens. About 27,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 3,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 10% of individuals in Sarasota, or some 93,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant.

Some 16,000 U.S. citizen children in Sarasota live with an undocumented parent, while some 3,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 19,000 undocumented individuals in Sarasota have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 12,000 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 7,000 and **contribute \$184 million annually to Sarasota's economy**. They also contribute \$21 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 1,000 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 6,000 and **contributed \$267 million to Sarasota's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 15,000 immigrants in Sarasota are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$310 million to Sarasota'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 Sarasota's labor force, and paying an estimated \$59 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$5.9 billion

Annual spending power

\$1.7 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

21,000

Self-employed

35%

With college or advanced degrees

94%

Speak English

89%

Earn above the minimum needed to live