

Immigrants Make St. Louis Metro Stronger

*An estimated **163,000** immigrants live in St. Louis, making up **6%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **8%** of households in St. Louis.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of St. Louis' economy.

Some 7% of St. Louis' labor force are immigrants, including 6% of the construction industry, 8% of agriculture, 7% of manufacturing, 12% of business services, and 5% of leisure and hospitality.

About 19,000 immigrants in St. Louis work in STEM-related jobs, of which 26% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 19% of STEM degree holders in St. Louis are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost St. Louis' communities.

Some 75,000 immigrants, or about 46% of all immigrants in St. Louis, are U.S. citizens. About 27,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 16,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

Some 88,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 17,000 U.S. citizen children in St. Louis live with an undocumented parent, while some 3,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 23,000 undocumented individuals in St. Louis 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 9,000 and **contribute \$306 million annually to St. Louis' economy.** They also contribute \$37 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 1,000 and **contributed \$44 million to St. Louis' economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 9,000 immigrants in St. Louis are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$244 million to St. Louis' 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 7,000 workers in St. Louis' labor force, and paying an estimated \$39 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$7.4 billion

Annual spending power

\$2.5 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

13,000

Self-employed

50%

With college or advanced degrees

95%

Speak English

85%

Earn above the minimum needed to live