

# Immigrants Make VA-2 Stronger

*An estimated **66,000** immigrants live in VA-2, making up **8%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **12%** of households in VA-2.*

**Immigrants contribute to every sector of VA-2's economy.** Some 10% of VA-2's labor force are immigrants, including 16% of the construction industry, 14% of manufacturing, 6% of business services, and 8% of leisure and hospitality.

**About 4,000 immigrants in VA-2 work in STEM-related jobs,** of which 25% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 19% of STEM degree holders in VA-2 are immigrants.

**Immigrants of all backgrounds boost VA-2's communities.** Some 34,000 immigrants, or about 51% of all immigrants in VA-2, are U.S. citizens. About 14,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 5,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

**Some 27,000 are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant.** Some 4,000 U.S. citizen children in VA-2 live with an undocumented parent, while some 1,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 5,000 undocumented individuals in VA-2 have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 2,000 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 4,000 and **contribute \$96 million annually to VA-2's economy.** They also contribute \$12 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 1,000 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

**An estimated 4,000 immigrants in VA-2 are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim,** and contribute \$65 million to VA-2'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 3,000 workers in VA-2's labor force, and paying an estimated \$10 million annually in state and local taxes.**

**\$2.8 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$939 million**

Annual combined taxes paid

**6,000**

Self-employed

**43%**

With college or advanced degrees

**97%**

Speak English

**93%**

Earn above the minimum needed to live