

Immigrants Make VA-7 Stronger

*An estimated **143,000** immigrants live in VA-7, making up **17%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **22%** of households in VA-7.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of VA-7's economy. Some 22% of VA-7's labor force are immigrants, including 41% of the construction industry, 15% of agriculture, 25% of manufacturing, 22% of business services, and 25% of leisure and hospitality.

About 7,000 immigrants in VA-7 work in STEM-related jobs, of which 6% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 23% of STEM degree holders in VA-7 are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost VA-7's communities. Some 70,000 immigrants, or about 49% of all immigrants in VA-7, are U.S. citizens. About 28,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 3,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 10% of individuals in VA-7, or some 81,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 14,000 U.S. citizen children in VA-7 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 VA-7 have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 11,000 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 8,000 and contribute **\$234 million annually to VA-7's economy**. They also contribute \$31 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 5,000 and contributed **\$172 million to VA-7's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 4,000 immigrants in VA-7 are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$64 million to VA-7'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 9,000 workers in VA-7's labor force, and paying an estimated \$48 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$5.3 billion

Annual spending power

\$1.8 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

16,000

Self-employed

32%

With college or advanced degrees

95%

Speak English

88%

Earn above the minimum needed to live