

# Immigrants Make VA-8 Stronger

*An estimated **235,000** immigrants live in VA-8, making up **29%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **35%** of households in VA-8.*

**Immigrants contribute to every sector of VA-8's economy.** Some 32% of VA-8's labor force are immigrants, including 78% of the construction industry, 16% of agriculture, 24% of manufacturing, 23% of business services, and 47% of leisure and hospitality.

**About 19,000 immigrants in VA-8 work in STEM-related jobs,** of which 17% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 31% of STEM degree holders in VA-8 are immigrants.

**Immigrants of all backgrounds boost VA-8's communities.** Some 110,000 immigrants, or about 47% of all immigrants in VA-8, are U.S. citizens. About 43,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 18,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

**An estimated 15% of individuals in VA-8, or some 118,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant.** Some 19,000 U.S. citizen children in VA-8 live with an undocumented parent, while some 6,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 25,000 undocumented individuals in VA-8 have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 10,000 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 \$178 million annually to VA-8's economy.** They also contribute \$23 million in state and local taxes each year.

**Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders**—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 6,000 and **contributed \$189 million to VA-8's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 20,000 immigrants in VA-8 are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$472 million to VA-8'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 VA-8's labor force, and paying an estimated \$77 million annually in state and local taxes.**

**\$10.1 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$3.7 billion**

Annual combined taxes paid

**20,000**

Self-employed

**44%**

With college or advanced degrees

**92%**

Speak English

**85%**

Earn above the minimum needed to live