

# Immigrants Make Virginia Stronger

*An estimated **1,251,000** immigrants live in Virginia, making up **14%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **18%** of households in Virginia.*

**Immigrants contribute to every sector of Virginia's economy.**

Some 18% of Virginia's labor force are immigrants, including 30% of the construction industry, 13% of agriculture, 13% of manufacturing, 13% of business services, and 20% of leisure and hospitality.

**About 117,000 immigrants in Virginia work in STEM-related jobs**, of which 15% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 27% of STEM degree holders in Virginia are immigrants.

**Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Virginia's communities.** Some 614,000 immigrants, or about 49% of all immigrants in Virginia, are U.S. citizens. About 225,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 73,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

**An estimated 8% of individuals in Virginia, or some 652,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant.** Some 118,000 U.S. citizen children in Virginia live with an undocumented parent, while some 24,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 142,000 undocumented individuals in Virginia have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 62,000 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 54,000 and **contribute \$1.4 billion annually to Virginia's economy.** They also contribute \$183 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 7,800 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

**Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders**—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 28,000 and **contributed \$844 million to Virginia's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 82,000 immigrants in Virginia are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$2.0 billion to Virginia'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 80,000 workers in Virginia's labor force, and paying an estimated \$399 million annually in state and local taxes.**

**\$54.0 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$19.7 billion**

Annual combined taxes paid

**108,000**

Self-employed

**45%**

With college or advanced degrees

**94%**

Speak English

**89%**

Earn above the minimum needed to live