

Immigrants Make WA-2 Stronger

*An estimated **116,000** immigrants live in WA-2, making up **15%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **18%** of households in WA-2.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of WA-2's economy. Some 17% of WA-2's labor force are immigrants, including 17% of the construction industry, 25% of agriculture, 21% of manufacturing, 19% of business services, and 13% of leisure and hospitality.

About 9,000 immigrants in WA-2 work in STEM-related jobs, of which 22% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 24% of STEM degree holders in WA-2 are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost WA-2's communities. Some 56,000 immigrants, or about 48% of all immigrants in WA-2, are U.S. citizens. About 25,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 7,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 9% of individuals in WA-2, or some 70,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 15,000 U.S. citizen children in WA-2 live with an undocumented parent, while some 5,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 15,000 undocumented individuals in WA-2 have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 9,000 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 6,000 and **contribute \$280 million annually to WA-2's economy**. They also contribute \$35 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 2,000 and **contributed \$50 million to WA-2's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 4,000 immigrants in WA-2 are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$154 million to WA-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 5,000 workers in WA-2's labor force, and paying an estimated \$44 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$5.0 billion

Annual spending power

\$1.8 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

12,000

Self-employed

36%

With college or advanced degrees

95%

Speak English

91%

Earn above the minimum needed to live