Immigrants Make Alaska Stronger

An estimated 52,000 immigrants live in Alaska, making up 7% of the total population. Immigrants live in 11% of households in Alaska.

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Alaska's economy. Some 9% of Alaska's labor force are immigrants, including 9% of agriculture, 29% of manufacturing, 12% of business services, and 7% of leisure and hospitality.

About 2,000 immigrants in Alaska work in STEM-related jobs. In all, 10% of STEM degree holders in Alaska are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Alaska's communities. Some 30,000 immigrants, or about 58% of all immigrants in Alaska, are U.S. citizens. About 14,000 are lawful permanent residents.

An estimated 14,000 individuals in Alaska, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 2,000 U.S. citizen children in Alaska live with an undocumented parent. Some 3,000 undocumented individuals in Alaska 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 1,000 and **contribute \$45 million annually to Alaska's economy.** They also contribute \$3 million in state and local taxes each year.

An estimated 2,000 immigrants in Alaska are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$29 million to Alaska'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 2,000 workers in Alaska's labor force.



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Annual spending power

\$500 million

Annual combined taxes paid

2,000 Self-employed

8%

With college or advanced degrees

97%

Speak English

95% Earn above the minimum needed to live



Data sources: FWD.us analysis of augmented 2023 American Community Survey data with immigrant status assignment according to FWD.us methodology and adjustments for 2024 population estimates (fwd.us/acs-methodology). Estimates may differ slightly from U.S. Census Bureau estimates because of adjustments made for undocumented immigrants and other immigrant groups, including most recent arrivals. For more information or additional data analysis, email <u>data@fwd.us</u>.