## **Immigrants Make Colorado Stronger**

An estimated 598,000 immigrants live in Colorado, making up 10% of the total population. Immigrants live in 14% of households in Colorado.

**Immigrants contribute to every sector of Colorado's economy.** Some 12% of Colorado's labor force are immigrants, including 21% of the construction industry, 17% of agriculture, 12% of manufacturing, 12% of business services, and 12% of leisure and hospitality.

**About 43,000 immigrants in Colorado work in STEM-related jobs,** of which 21% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 14% of STEM degree holders in Colorado are immigrants.

**Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Colorado's communities.** Some 238,000 immigrants, or about 40% of all immigrants in Colorado, are U.S. citizens. About 137,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 37,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 6% of individuals in Colorado, or some 378,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 72,000 U.S. citizen children in Colorado live with an undocumented parent, while some 24,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 111,000 undocumented individuals in Colorado have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 71,000 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 41,000 and **contribute \$1.3 billion annually to Colorado's economy.** They also contribute \$145 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 12,000 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

**Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders**—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—number 12,000 and **contribute \$375 million to Colorado's economy each year.** Meanwhile, an estimated 26,000 immigrants in Colorado are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$752 million to Colorado'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 49,000 workers in Colorado's labor force, and paying an estimated \$206 million annually in state and local taxes.



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Annual spending power



Annual combined taxes paid

64,000

Self-employed

**16**%

With college or advanced degrees

**94**%

Speak English

88%

Earn above the minimum needed to live

FWD.us is a bipartisan political organization founded by leaders in technology and business communities that believe America's families, communities, and economy thrive when more individuals are able to achieve their full potential. To learn more, go to <u>www.fwd.us.</u>

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 (<u>fwd.us/acs-methodology</u>). 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>.