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Black Immigrants Make the U.S. Stronger

The some 5 million Black immigrants living in the United States represent a vital part of our national fabric. Hailing primarily from Caribbean nations like Haiti and Jamaica, and African countries including Nigeria and Ethiopia, these individuals and families contribute billions to our economy, serve in our hospitals and schools, and strengthen communities from coast to coast. Yet current immigration enforcement policies pose unique threats to Black communities, who face disproportionate targeting through the intersection of racialized policing and immigration enforcement. This fact sheet highlights both the essential contributions of Black immigrants and the urgent need to protect these communities from harmful enforcement practices.

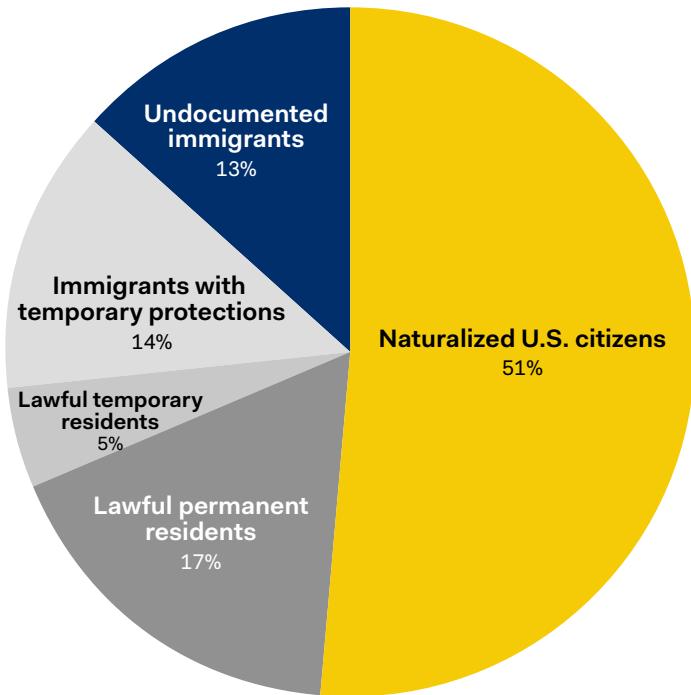
5.1 million Black immigrants live across the United States, making up 12% of all Black residents.

State	Black immigrant population	% of all Black residents
Florida	977,000	27%
New York	840,000	30%
Texas	400,000	10%
New Jersey	277,000	22%
Georgia	277,000	8%
Maryland	273,000	15%
Massachusetts	193,000	39%
California	188,000	9%
Pennsylvania	159,000	12%
Minnesota	152,000	34%
Virginia	139,000	9%
Ohio	130,000	9%
North Carolina	125,000	6%
Connecticut	98,000	24%
Indiana	92,000	15%
Washington	89,000	27%
Illinois	89,000	5%

Nearly half (48%) of Black immigrants, or nearly 2.5 million, were born in Caribbean countries like Haiti (1,134,000), Jamaica (845,000), Trinidad and Tobago (171,000), Dominican Republic (64,000), and Guyana (59,000).

More than half (51%) of Black immigrants are female, slightly lower than Black individuals born in the U.S. (53%).

The overwhelming majority of Black immigrants reside lawfully in the U.S.



Nearly half (47%) of Black immigrants, or more than 2.4 million, were born in African countries like Nigeria (550,000), Ethiopia (314,000), Ghana (219,000), Kenya (170,000), and Somalia (107,000).

On balance, Black immigrants are older (median age 42) than Black individuals born in the U.S. (median age 34).

On average, Black immigrants have lived in the U.S. for 14 years.

Black immigrants contribute an estimated \$182 billion to the U.S. economy each year, and annually pay \$35 billion in federal and payroll taxes and \$25 billion in state and local taxes. Black immigrants contribute billions of dollars each year to metro economies.

New York	\$34.4B	Dallas-Fort Worth	\$6.7B	Orlando	\$4.2B
Miami	\$14.5B	Houston	\$6.4B	Minneapolis	\$4.1B
Washington, D.C.	\$13.3B	Boston	\$5.1B	Baltimore	\$3.9B
Atlanta	\$9.1B	Philadelphia	\$4.9B	Chicago	\$3.2B

3.5 million Black immigrants are in the U.S. workforce.

Restricting Black immigrants from doing their jobs will [drive up everyday costs](#) for everyday Americans, raising the prices of health care, food, goods, and essential services.



363,000 nursing personnel
serving hundreds of thousands of patients daily



81,000 computer specialists
assisting hundreds of thousands of people daily



193,000 retail staff
serving millions of customers daily



80,000 caregivers
serving tens of thousands of children and aging parents daily



167,000 cooks and servers
serving millions of meals daily



72,000 information and records clerks
processing hundreds of thousands of documents daily



143,000 delivery drivers
delivering millions of parcels daily



71,000 taxi drivers
moving more than a million people daily



111,000 protection service workers
providing safety to millions of people daily



71,000 custodians
cleaning thousands of buildings daily



99,000 teachers
supporting hundreds of thousands of students daily



67,000 counselors and social workers
helping hundreds of thousands of people daily



90,000 healthcare technicians
treating hundreds of thousands of patients daily



65,000 financial specialists
assisting hundreds of thousands of clients daily



84,000 factory machine operators, stockers, and packers
handling millions of items daily



48,000 business and human resource specialists
serving millions of people daily

1.7 million U.S. citizen children depend on their Black immigrant parent's contributions to the U.S. workforce.

Black immigrants strengthen our communities.

It is critical to ensure they can continue to contribute to our economy and take care of their families.

Black Immigrants Make Our Communities Stronger from Coast to Coast

Florida



598,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 57,000 cooks and servers, 56,000 nursing personnel, 37,000 retail staff, 26,000 delivery drivers, and 21,000 protection service workers

\$26.8 billion in annual economic contributions
\$4.2 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$3.0 billion in annual state and local taxes

Maryland



209,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 30,000 nursing personnel, 13,000 retail staff, 12,000 computer specialists, 8,000 protection service workers, and 6,000 healthcare technicians

\$12.2 billion in annual economic contributions
\$2.7 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$1.8 billion in annual state and local taxes

New York



536,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 57,000 nursing personnel, 48,000 caregivers, 29,000 protection service workers, 28,000 retail staff, and 17,000 teachers

\$28.2 billion in annual economic contributions
\$5.9 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$5.1 billion in annual state and local taxes

Massachusetts



134,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 17,000 nursing personnel, 8,000 cooks and servers, 8,000 retail staff, 6,000 counselors and social workers, and 4,000 healthcare technicians

\$6.8 billion in annual economic contributions
\$1.3 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$0.8 billion in annual state and local taxes

Texas



291,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 28,000 nursing personnel, 14,000 retail staff, 13,000 delivery drivers, 12,000 protection service workers, and 11,000 computer specialists

\$16.8 billion in annual economic contributions
\$3.4 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$1.9 billion in annual state and local taxes

California



134,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 17,000 nursing personnel, 7,000 retail staff, 5,000 delivery drivers, 4,000 teachers, and 4,000 healthcare technicians

\$8.9 billion in annual economic contributions
\$2.1 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$1.3 billion in annual state and local taxes

New Jersey



202,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 23,000 nursing personnel, 10,000 retail staff, 8,000 delivery drivers, 8,000 caregivers, and 7,000 healthcare technicians

\$9.9 billion in annual economic contributions
\$2.0 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$1.4 billion in annual state and local taxes

Pennsylvania



104,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 10,000 nursing personnel, 7,000 retail staff, 3,000 delivery drivers, 3,000 healthcare technicians, and 3,000 counselors and social workers

\$4.8 billion in annual economic contributions
\$0.8 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$0.7 billion in annual state and local taxes

Georgia



191,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 16,000 nursing personnel, 14,000 retail staff, 10,000 cooks and servers, 9,000 delivery drivers, and 8,000 teachers

\$10.3 billion in annual economic contributions
\$2.1 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$1.3 billion in annual state and local taxes

Minnesota



120,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 15,000 nursing personnel, 9,000 retail staff, 7,000 delivery drivers, 5,000 taxi drivers, and 5,000 cooks and servers

\$5.0 billion in annual economic contributions
\$0.8 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$0.6 billion in annual state and local taxes

Virginia



102,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 8,000 cooks and servers, 7,000 nursing personnel, 6,000 retail staff, 5,000 computer specialists, and 5,000 delivery drivers

\$5.8 billion in annual economic contributions
\$1.2 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$0.8 billion in annual state and local taxes

Connecticut



77,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 17,000 nursing personnel, 7,000 retail staff, 5,000 delivery drivers, 4,000 teachers, and 4,000 healthcare technicians

\$3.7 billion in annual economic contributions
\$0.7 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$0.6 billion in annual state and local taxes

Ohio



89,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 9,000 nursing personnel, 7,000 delivery drivers, 3,000 computer specialists, 3,000 factory machine operators, stockers and packers, and 3,000 cooks and servers

\$4.3 billion in annual economic contributions
\$0.8 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$0.6 billion in annual state and local taxes

Indiana



62,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 8,000 delivery drivers, 6,000 factory machine operators, stockers, and packers, 4,000 nursing personnel, 4,000 custodians, and 3,000 retail staff

\$2.7 billion in annual economic contributions
\$0.4 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$0.4 billion in annual state and local taxes

North Carolina



87,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 7,000 nursing personnel, 5,000 delivery drivers, 5,000 factory machine operators, stockers, and packers, 4,000 retail staff, and 3,000 teachers

\$4.4 billion in annual economic contributions
\$0.8 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$0.5 billion in annual state and local taxes

Washington



66,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 6,000 nursing personnel, 3,000 retail staff, 3,000 delivery drivers, and 3,000 taxi drivers

\$3.7 billion in annual economic contributions
\$0.7 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$0.5 billion in annual state and local taxes

Illinois



63,000 Black immigrant workforce, including 6,000 nursing personnel, 3,000 taxi drivers, 2,000 healthcare technicians, and 2,000 delivery drivers

\$3.7 billion in annual economic contributions
\$0.7 billion in annual federal and payroll taxes
\$0.6 billion in annual state and local taxes

Data, Methods, Notes

Population and worker estimates are based on augmented 2024 American Community Survey (ACS). Estimates include population adjustments for likely undercounting of immigrants. All estimates were prepared by Dr. Phillip Connor, Research Fellow at Princeton University. See philip-connor.com for more information on the ACS methodology. Black immigrants include those who self-classify their race as Black and not other races or two or more races. Economic contribution is the total annual income after the payment of taxes. Federal and payroll taxes are based on [tax rates](#) from the Congressional Budget Office. State and local taxes are derived from the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy's [state tax rates](#) and include all forms of state and local taxation. States and metros are top locations of residence for Black immigrants as derived from the ACS analysis. Occupational categories were collapsed to provide meaningful groups, rounded to thousands. Descriptions of worker services and produced goods are based on researched multipliers and are conservative estimates, refraining from an exact estimate as two or more Black immigrants might be serving the same person or producing the same item. The word choice (millions, hundreds of thousands, etc.) is based on the following multipliers: patients served daily by nursing assistants is based on a 1:5 nurse to patient ratio; maximum work capacity for a cashier is 30-40 transactions per hour, but conservatively limited to 10 per hour for an 8 hour daily shift; meal count is based on 5 meals per labor hour for daily 8 hour shifts; parcels delivered each day is based on 100 packages per day; protections service workers are assumed to work under a 1:100 person ratio; teachers are assumed to support the nation's average class size of 19; healthcare technicians, as medical staff, are estimated to see 2.8 patients per hour for an 8 hour shift; computer specialists work on software and products as well as support individuals, including up to 200 per technician each day; caregivers are assumed to care for 1.5 people daily; people moved each day is based on 2 passengers per hour for 8 hours daily; counselors and social workers, similar to therapists, see 4 to 6 clients per day; mid-professional vehicle cleaners detail about 5 to 7 cars each day.