



**ALIANZA DE DERECHOS
DE LOS INMIGRANTES**

de Carolina del Norte

Legislative Agenda | North Carolina
Supporting Document No. 2-2025
Last updated: March 18th, 2025

Mario Alfaro, Policy Manager

PRO-IMMIGRANT BILLS

HOUSE BILLS 78 AND 80:

HB 78: "AN ACT TO PROHIBIT LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND OFFICERS FROM PARTICIPATING IN IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT IN NORTH CAROLINA PLACES OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP, ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, AND HOSPITALS."

HB 80: "AN ACT TO PROHIBIT LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND OFFICERS FROM PARTICIPATING IN IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ON NORTH CAROLINA FARMLAND AND CONSTRUCTION SITES."

I. PRESENTATION **3**

PRIMARY SPONSORS

II. CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND **3**

III. HOW TO ACT AND PREPARE? **5**

IV. ADMINISTRATION 2025-2029: ANTI-IMMIGRANT POLICIES **6**

OTHER RESOURCES IN SPANISH

V. HOUSE BILL 78 **7**

SUMMARY

VI. HOUSE BILL 80 **9**

SUMMARY

VII. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND DATA **11**

What do HB78 and HB80 propose?
What places do the proposed reforms protect?
Why is it necessary to protect educational, health and religious centers?
Why is the proposal important?

VIII. IMMIGRANT POPULATION IN NORTH CAROLINA **13**

IX. WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC IMPACT **15**

X. CONSTRUCTION SECTOR **19**

XI. AGRICULTURAL SECTOR DATA **26**

XII. COMMENTS **28**

XIII. PRESS ARTICLES **29**

I. PRESENTATION

House bills [HB 78](#) and [HB 80](#) were introduced on February 10th, 2025 in the [House of Representatives](#) of the North Carolina General Assembly ([NCGA](#)) with the signatures of fourteen Democratic representatives of the progressive caucus.

After they passed their first reading (11/2/2025), both bills were referred to the House [Rules, Calendars and Operations](#), under Republican control. The committee is chaired by Representative [John Bell](#) (District 10) and has a total of twenty-seven members, nine Democrats and eighteen Republicans.

PRIMARY SPONSORS



[Renée Price](#)
(District 50)



[Deb Butler](#)
(District 18)



[Pricey Harrison](#)
(District 61)



[María Cervania](#)
(District 41)

Sponsors: [Amber Baker](#), [Mary Belk](#), [Gloristine Brown](#), [Kanina Brown](#), [Laura Budd](#), [Tracy Clark](#), [Allison Dahle](#), [Julia Greenfield](#), [Marcia Morey](#), [Julie von Haefen](#).

II. CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

These bills are not related to HB 10 (new law), but they have generated expectations in the community, precisely because of the lack of information, coupled with the uncertainty and fear caused by the new administration.

During the 2023-2024 session, the NCGA passed the anti-immigrant [House Bill 10](#), which requires North Carolina sheriffs and prison officers to cooperate with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

HB10 amended General Statute GS [GS 162-62](#), which concerns the legal status of persons deprived of liberty. Despite being [vetoed](#) by former Governor [Roy Cooper](#), the proposal became state law ([2024-55](#)) with a unanimous vote from the Republican caucus and the support of three Democratic representatives.



Politic And Government

How House Democrats Helped Override Governor's Veto of HB 10

Three Democratic representatives played a crucial role in reaching the necessary votes

By: **Claudia Rivera Cotto**
4 December, 2024



From left to right, Democratic Representatives Carla Cunningham, Shelly Willingham and Michael H. Wray

Source: <https://enlancelatinonc.org/como-representantes-democratas-ayudaron-a-anular-el-veto-del-gobernador-a-la-ley-hb-10/>

The new law took effect on December 1st, 2024, and requires state prison or jail administrators to communicate with ICE if they cannot determine that an inmate suspected of committing certain "serious crimes" is a legal resident or citizen. This means that it can only be applied in prisons under those specific conditions.

HB10 was the third attempt by Republican lawmakers to force local authorities to work with ICE, in response to the refusal of a group of sheriffs to join the [287 \(g\)](#) program and take on responsibilities such as enforcing federal immigration laws in their communities, particularly in major urban centers.

III. HOW TO ACT AND PREPARE?

[Safe Families, Emergency guide for immigrants](#), edited by El Pueblo, with the collaboration and technical support of the North Carolina Justice Center and ACLU-NC, offers detailed information on HB10 and its application:

HB10 Y LA COOPERACIÓN ENTRE ICE Y LOS ALGUACILES DE CAROLINA DEL NORTE

Una nueva ley de Carolina del Norte exige a los alguaciles del estado a notificar al Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (ICE) cuando no pueda determinar el estatus migratorio de personas que fueron detenidas por ciertos delitos.

La legislación, conocida como HB 10 por el nombre del proyecto de ley original, entró en vigor el **1 de diciembre de 2024** y solo se aplica a las detenciones realizadas después de esa fecha.



¿QUÉ DISPONE LA LEY?

1. Requiere que los alguaciles verifiquen el estatus migratorio de personas bajo su custodia que hayan sido detenidas por ciertos delitos graves, entre ellos posesión de sustancias controladas, violación y otros delitos sexuales, agresiones graves o menores, delitos relacionados con pandillas y violaciones de órdenes de protección por violencia doméstica. Si no se puede determinar el estatus migratorio, el alguacil debe notificar a ICE.
2. Requiere a los alguaciles cumplir con **TODAS** las órdenes de detención emitidas por ICE. Esta es la disposición más problemática porque podría aplicarse a personas detenidas por cualquier motivo, incluso por una infracción de tránsito.
3. Bajo ambas disposiciones, el alguacil está obligado a llevar al individuo ante un magistrado y obtener una orden judicial para mantenerlo bajo custodia hasta por 48 horas desde que se recibió la orden de detención de ICE.

¿QUÉ NO DISPONE LA LEY?

- NO se aplica en ningún lugar fuera de una cárcel. Por ejemplo, los oficiales de policía no tienen ningún deber bajo la HB 10 cuando detienen a las personas que conducen o caminan por la calle, o cuando responden a llamadas o denuncias sobre un delito.
- NO permite que la policía le discrimine por su perfil racial. Los agentes de la ley locales o estatales no pueden detenerlo en función del color de su piel o por sospechas sobre su estado migratorio.
- NO permite que un oficial de policía lo detenga por razones de inmigración. La policía local y estatal solo puede detenerlo si creen que ha cometido un delito basándose en hechos específicos.

Si usted cree que ha sido detenido o discriminado por la policía debido a su raza, hay organizaciones con las que puedes ponerte en contacto para obtener ayuda, como la Unión Americana de Libertades Civiles de Carolina del Norte. Para pedir ayuda, complete el formulario escaneando este código:



IV. ADMINISTRATION 2025-2029 | ANTI-IMMIGRANT POLICIES

During the last electoral campaign (2024 Elections), the immigrant population was the target of violent attacks and persecution by the Republican Party and its candidates at the federal and state level. All of this based on lies, intolerance, ignorance, racism and manipulation.

Hate speech and fear were used like never before to mobilize a sector of the electorate that feeds on the misinformation promoted by its political leaders and dissemination platforms (media and social networks).

From day one, the Trump-Vance administration has issued executive orders and proclamations to tighten immigration policies. An analysis by the [American Immigration Council](#) warns of the impact that the new provisions have on the immigrant community, particularly on undocumented people:



“The executive orders signed on the first day of President Trump’s second term **radically expand the legal authorities** used to enforce immigration law against immigrants already in the U.S., while calling for an equally **radical expansion** of the infrastructure that would be needed to accomplish the “[mass deportations](#)” the president has promised. Furthermore, they signal efforts to **immiserate unauthorized immigrants** living in the United States, depriving them of the ability to work legally and punishing them for being unable to “register” with the U.S. government—something they have no way of doing.”

+ RESOURCES (SPANISH)

WOLA: [Las órdenes ejecutivas de Trump y América Latina: Lo que hay que saber](#)

CALMATTERS: [Las órdenes ejecutivas de Trump sobre inmigración están generando miedo: Esto es lo que debes saber sobre ellas](#)

HIAS: [Los derechos de los refugiados y la Administración Trump: Segunda semana](#)

National Immigration Project: [SEMANA 1 DEL MANDATO DONALD TRUMP 2.0](#)

CGRS: [El retorno de Trump: Medidas ejecutivas que amenazan los derechos y la protección de las personas refugiadas y migrantes Memorando para organizaciones de la sociedad civil](#)

V. HOUSE BILL 78

Prohibit LEO w/ICE Churches/Schools/Hospitals

House Bill 78

Prohibit LEO w/ICE Churches/Schools/Hospitals.
2025-2026 Session

VIEW BILL DIGEST	
VIEW AVAILABLE BILL SUMMARIES	
EDITION	FISCAL NOTE
Filed	
Edition 1	

Last Action:	Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House on 2/11/2025
Sponsors:	Price; Butler; Harrison; Cervania (Primary) Baker; Belk; G. Brown; K. Brown; Budd; Clark; Dahle; Greenfield; Morey; von Haefen
Attributes:	Public
Counties:	No counties specifically cited
Statutes:	17F (Chapters); 17F-16 (Sections)
Keywords:	BUILDINGS; CJE & TRAINING STANDARDS COMN.; COMMISSIONS; COUNTIES; EDUCATION; EMERGENCY SERVICES; IMMIGRATION; LAW ENFORCEMENT; LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS; LOCAL GOVERNMENT; PERSONNEL; PUBLIC; RELIGION & RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS; SCHOOL BUILDINGS & PROPERTY; SHERIFFS; SHERIFF'S TRAINING COMN.; ALIENS; PROPERTY-LOCAL GOVERNMENT

+Info: <https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookUp/2025/HB%2078>

SUMMARY



SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT

Legislative Reporting Service

Bill Summaries: H78 (2025-2026 Session)

o Bill H 78 (2025-2026)

Summary date: Feb 10 2025 - View summary

Adds new GS 17F-16, preventing law enforcement agencies and officers from participating in immigration enforcement in places of religious worship, elementary and secondary schools, and hospitals. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, bars criminal justice agencies as defined in GS 17C-2 and sheriff's offices and their officers (collectively, "the covered law enforcement") from assisting US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in: (1) the apprehension or arrest of persons for alleged or suspected immigration violations or (2) service of warrants for removal from the United States in any of the following locations:

- o A place of religious worship, including a church, chapel, meetinghouse, synagogue, temple, longhouse, or mosque, or other building that is regularly used, and clearly identifiable, as a place for religious worship.
- o A public or nonpublic school providing elementary or secondary instruction.
- o A hospital, as defined by GS 131E-76(3).

voids current or future agreements made between the covered law enforcement and ICE that violate the above provisions. Directs that willful violation of the above by justice officers or criminal justice officers may be used as grounds for their suspension, revocation, or denial of certification. Specifies that the statute should not be construed to prevent the covered law enforcement from enforcing the laws of the State to the extent provided by law. Directs the Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and the Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission to promulgate rules consistent with the act.

Government, Public Safety and Emergency Management, Immigration
GS 17F

Source: <https://lrs.sog.unc.edu/billsum/h-78-2025-2026>

House Bill 78 | Edition 1
North Carolina General Assembly
Session 2025 – 2026

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

H

I

HOUSE BILL 78

Short Title: Prohibit LEO w/ICE Churches/Schools/Hospitals. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Price, Butler, Harrison, and Cervania (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

February 11, 2025

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO PROHIBIT LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND OFFICERS FROM
PARTICIPATING IN IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT IN NORTH CAROLINA
PLACES OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP, ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS,
AND HOSPITALS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Chapter 17F of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 17F-16. Prohibit law enforcement agencies and officers from participating in immigration enforcement in places of religious worship, elementary and secondary schools, and hospitals.

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no criminal justice agency, as defined by G.S. 17C-2, or sheriff's office shall assist United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement in the (i) apprehension or arrest of persons for alleged or suspected immigration violations or (ii) service of warrants for removal from the United States in any of the following locations:

- (1) A place of religious worship, including a church, chapel, meetinghouse, synagogue, temple, longhouse, or mosque, or other building that is regularly used, and clearly identifiable, as a place for religious worship.
- (2) A public or nonpublic school providing elementary or secondary instruction.
- (3) A hospital, as defined by G.S. 131E-76(3).

(b) Any current or future memorandum, agreement, or contract made between a criminal justice agency or sheriff's office and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall be void to the extent that the performance of the memorandum, agreement, or contract would violate subsection (a) of this section.

(c) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no criminal justice officer, as defined by G.S. 17C-2, or justice officer, as defined by G.S. 17E-2, shall assist United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement in the (i) apprehension or arrest of persons for alleged or suspected immigration violations or (ii) service of warrants for removal from the United States in any of the locations referenced in subsection (a) of this section.

(d) A willful violation of subsection (c) of this section may be used as grounds for the suspension, revocation, or denial of the certification of a criminal justice officer under Chapter 17C of the General Statutes or a justice officer under Chapter 17E of the General Statutes.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit criminal justice agencies, sheriffs' offices, criminal justice officers, or justice officers from enforcing the laws of this State to the extent authorized by law."

SECTION 2. The Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and the Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission shall promulgate rules consistent with G.S. 17F-16, as created by Section 1 of this act.

SECTION 3. This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to assistance provided on or after that date.

VI. HOUSE BILL 80
Prohibit LEO w/ICE at Farm/Construct. Sites

House Bill 80

Prohibit LEO w/ICE at Farm/Construct. Sites.
 2025-2026 Session

VIEW BILL DIGEST	
VIEW AVAILABLE BILL SUMMARIES	
EDITION	FISCAL NOTE
Filed	
Edition 1	

Last Action:	Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House on 2/11/2025
Sponsors:	Butler; Price; Harrison; Cervania (Primary) Baker; Belk; G. Brown; K. Brown; Budd; Clark; Dahle; Morey; von Haefen
Attributes:	Public
Counties:	No counties specifically cited
Statutes:	17F (Chapters); 17F-15 (Sections)
Keywords:	AGRICULTURE; CJE & TRAINING STANDARDS COMN.; COMMISSIONS; CONSTRUCTION; EMERGENCY SERVICES; IMMIGRATION; LAW ENFORCEMENT; LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS; MIGRANT WORKERS; PERSONNEL; PROPERTY; PUBLIC; SHERIFFS; SHERIFF'S TRAINING COMN.; ALIENS; AGRICULTURAL LAND; CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

+Info: <https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookUp/2025/HB80>

SUMMARY

Bill Summaries: H80 (2025-2026 Session)

o Bill H 80 (2025-2026)

Summary date: Feb 10 2025 - View summary

Adds new GS 17F-15, preventing law enforcement agencies and officers from participating in immigration enforcement on farmland and construction sites.

Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, bars criminal justice agencies as defined in GS 17C-2, sheriff's offices and each agency's/office's officers (collectively, "the covered law enforcement") from assisting US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in: (1) the apprehension or arrest of persons for alleged or suspected immigration violations or (2) service of warrants for removal from the United States in any of the following locations:

- o Real property used for any of the following: (1) agriculture or farming, as those terms are defined by GS 106-581.1 or (2) slaughter, processing, or packaging of livestock.
- o A permitted construction site, being a site where a permit, license, or other authorization has been issued by the State or a local governmental entity for the placement of new construction or improvements to real property.

voids current or future agreements made between the covered law enforcement and ICE that violate the above provisions. Directs that willful violation of the above by justice officers or criminal justice officers may be used as grounds for the suspension, revocation, or denial of certification. Specifies that the statute should not be construed to prevent the covered law enforcement from enforcing the laws of the State to the extent provided by law. Directs the Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and the Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission to promulgate rules consistent with the act.

Government, Public Safety and Emergency Management, Immigration
 GS 17F

Source:

<https://lrs.sog.unc.edu/bill-summaries-lookup/H/80/2025-2026%20Session/H80>

House Bill 80 | Edition 1
North Carolina General Assembly
Session 2025 – 2026

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

H

I

HOUSE BILL 80

Short Title: Prohibit LEO w/ICE at Farm/Construct. Sites. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Butler, Price, Harrison, and Cervania (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

February 11, 2025

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND OFFICERS FROM PARTICIPATING IN IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ON NORTH CAROLINA FARMLAND AND CONSTRUCTION SITES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Chapter 17F of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 17F-15. Prohibit law enforcement agencies and officers from participating in immigration enforcement on farmland and construction sites.

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no criminal justice agency, as defined by G.S. 17C-2, or sheriff's office shall assist United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement in the (i) apprehension or arrest of persons for alleged or suspected immigration violations or (ii) service of warrants for removal from the United States in any of the following locations:

- (1) Real property used for any of the following:**
 - a. Agriculture or farming, as those terms are defined by G.S. 106-581.1.**
 - b. The slaughter, processing, or packaging of livestock.**
- (2) A permitted construction site, being a site where a permit, license, or other authorization has been issued by the State or a local governmental entity for the placement of new construction or improvements to real property.**

(b) Any current or future memorandum, agreement, or contract made between a criminal justice agency or sheriff's office and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall be void to the extent that the performance of the memorandum, agreement, or contract would violate subsection (a) of this section.

(c) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no criminal justice officer, as defined by G.S. 17C-2, or justice officer, as defined by G.S. 17E-2, shall assist United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement in the (i) apprehension or arrest of persons for alleged or suspected immigration violations or (ii) service of warrants for removal from the United States in any of the locations referenced in subsection (a) of this section.

(d) A willful violation of subsection (c) of this section may be used as grounds for the suspension, revocation, or denial of the certification of a criminal justice officer under Chapter 17C of the General Statutes or a justice officer under Chapter 17E of the General Statutes.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit criminal justice agencies, sheriffs' offices, criminal justice officers, or justice officers from enforcing the laws of this State to the extent authorized by law."

SECTION 2. The Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and the Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission shall promulgate rules consistent with G.S. 17F-15, as created by Section 1 of this act.

SECTION 3. This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to assistance provided on or after that date.

VII. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND DATA

What do HB78 and HB80 propose?

Create safe spaces for undocumented workers and their families.

Prohibit, through an amendment to the NC General Statutes (state laws), law enforcement agencies (sheriffs' offices and their deputies, police departments, etc.) and judicial officials from aiding or collaborating with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in detaining or arresting individuals for alleged or suspected violations of immigration laws, or to serve and execute deportation orders.

What places do the proposed reforms protect?

HB78



- A place of religious worship, including a church, chapel, meetinghouse, synagogue, temple, longhouse, or mosque, or other building that is regularly used, and clearly identifiable, as a place for religious worship.



- A public or nonpublic school providing elementary or secondary instruction.

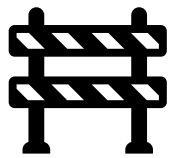


- A hospital, as defined by [G.S. 131E-76\(3\)](#).

HB80



- Real property used for any of the following: (1) agriculture or farming, as those terms are defined by [GS 106-581.1](#), or (2) slaughter, processing, or packaging of livestock.



- A permitted construction site, being a site where a permit, license, or other authorization has been issued by the State or a local governmental entity for the placement of new construction or improvements to real property.

Why is it necessary to protect educational, health and religious centers?

La Noticia™

Schools:

- Children should study without fear.
- The deportation of their parents affects their education and well-being.

Hospitals:

- No one should avoid medical care for fear of being detained.
- Public health is at risk if people are afraid to go to the hospital.

Places of worship:

- Churches and temples are spaces of peace and community.
- Raids in these places violate religious freedom.

Why is the proposal important?

The initiatives protect the rights of undocumented workers and their families, and safeguard the economic activity of strategic sectors, such as agricultural production and the growing real estate sector.

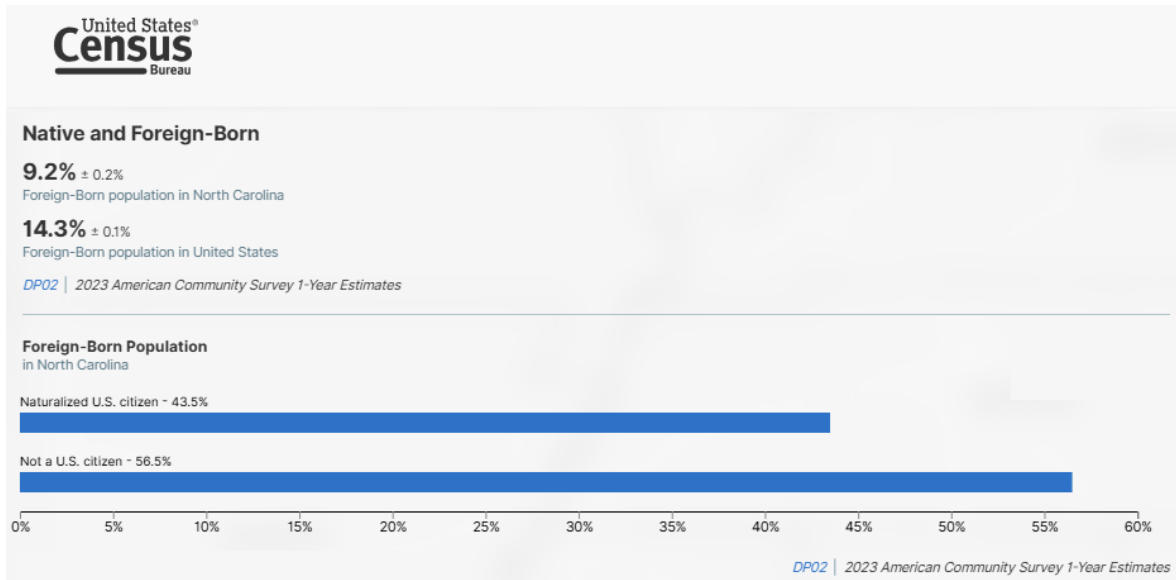
ICE immigration raids result in:

- a. Labor shortages (absence of workers)
- b. Delays in construction projects (commercial or private)
- c. Loss of crops, reduction of production (agriculture)
- d. Increased costs (for developers and end consumers)

VIII. IMMIGRANT POPULATION IN NORTH CAROLINA

Data from the U.S. [Census Bureau](#) reveals that the Hispanic/Latino population exceeds 65 million people, representing almost 20% of the country's total population.

- According to the same [Census Bureau](#), the Hispanic/Latino community in North Carolina represents almost 11% of the state's total population (more than 1.1 million people).
- 9.2% of North Carolina residents are foreign-born (43.5% are naturalized and 56.5% non-citizens).
- Data from 2024 published by the [Pew Research Center](#) estimates that the number of undocumented people in the state varies between **325,000 and 350,000**.



By 2022, the Center for Immigration Studies ([CMS](#)) estimated in [326,465](#) the number of undocumented residents in North Carolina. More than 33 percent (33%) work in **construction and maintenance** jobs.

Occupation

	2022	Pct. Dist.
Natural resources, construction & maintenance	74,307	33.7%

Source: <http://data.cmsny.org/>

IMMIGRANTS ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS IN NC

Demography

9.3%
of the population in North Carolina are immigrants.

1,003,500
immigrants live in the state.

34.1%
of immigrants that live in NC are undocumented (342,100)

Taxes

\$11.4 billion
of taxes paid by immigrants each year in NC. From that amount, **\$3.8 billion** are for state and local taxes.

\$1.9 billion
of taxes paid by undocumented immigrants each year in NC. Of that amount, **\$691.1 millions** are for state and local taxes.

\$4.5
billion immigrants contribute to Social Security.

\$1.2
billion immigrants contribute to Medicare.

Spending power

\$33.7 billion is the spending power of immigrants in NC.
\$7.2 billion is the spending power of undocumented immigrants in NC.

Housing

253,100 homeowners in NC are immigrants.
\$106.5 billion is the housing wealth held by immigrant households.

Workforce *

- 12%** of the workforce in NC are immigrants.
- 4.1%** of the workforce in NC are undocumented immigrants.
- By industry +**
 - 29%** of all construction workers are immigrants.
 - 23.5%** immigrants work in the agricultural sector.
 - 18.3%** work in the accommodation and food services industry.
 - 17.2%** work in manufacturing.

\$2.6 billion is the amount paid by immigrant-led households in rent.

Business

78,500 of immigrants are entrepreneurs in NC.
27,600 of those entrepreneurs are undocumented.

\$2.6 billion in profits are generated each year by businesses owned by immigrants.

Sources:

+The Impact of Immigration on North Carolina's Workforce (NCDOC, 2023)



*New Americans in North Carolina (American Immigration Council, 2023)



(919) 835-1525
www.elpueblo.org



IX. WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC IMPACT ¹



A [press release](#) published in 2024² by the [NC Budget & Tax Center](#), using data from the [Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy](#), notes that in North Carolina:

“Undocumented immigrants contributed **\$692.2** million in state and local taxes in 2022, a figure that would increase to **\$843.6** million if these taxpayers were granted work authorization.”



Key findings from ITEP's study:

- Nationwide, undocumented immigrants contributed **\$96.7 billion** in federal, state, and local taxes in 2022. Of this amount, **\$37.3 billion** went to state and local governments.
- For every million undocumented immigrants residing in the country, public services receive **\$8.9 billion** in additional tax revenue. On the other hand, for every million undocumented immigrants who are deported, public services may lose **\$8.9 billion** in tax revenue.
- Nationally, providing access to work authorization to all current undocumented immigrants would increase their tax contributions from **\$40.2 billion** a year to **\$136.9 billion**.
- More than one-third of the tax dollars paid by undocumented immigrants go to payroll taxes intended to fund programs, such as Social Security and Medicare, that these workers cannot access.
- Similarly, undocumented immigrants' income tax payments are affected by laws that require them to pay more than similarly U.S. citizens.

¹ Bibliographic references provided by María López González, NC Budget & Tax Center.

² “National Study: Undocumented Immigrants Contribute \$692,200,000 in North Carolina Taxes a Year”. NC Budget & Tax Center. North Carolina, US. Consulted 2/18/2025. [Online] Available [here](#).

- In a large majority of states (40), including NC, **undocumented immigrants pay higher state and local tax rates than the top 1 percent (1%) of households** living within their borders.

Source: <https://itep.org/undocumented-immigrants-taxes-2024/>

Another [article](#) published in 2023 by the [NC Budget & Tax Center](#) states that "immigrants make an outsized economic contribution to the state":

- **Immigrants account for 11 percent (11%) of North Carolina's GDP.** This means that immigrants contribute **\$59.6 billion** to the state's economy.
- Immigrants account for 11 percent (11%) of the **working-age population** and 11 percent (11%) of the **state's workforce**.
- Immigrants generate wealth from their essential work, which is too often poorly paid: low-wage jobs are defined as those earning less than two-thirds of the state median wage, which in North Carolina is \$31,000 (poverty).
- About 34 percent (34%) of immigrants, documented and undocumented, work in low-wage jobs, compared to 24 percent (24%) of U.S.-born workers. These low-wage jobs are often essential jobs, and many of them are service or production jobs.

A 2023 [publication](#) by the Immigration Research Initiative (IRI), using data from the [Center for Immigration Studies](#), reported that there are **212,500 undocumented workers** in the North Carolina workforce, and a high percentage of them are full-time, year-round workers.

Undocumented immigrants may account for about half of all low-wage immigrant workers in the United States.

Among low-wage occupations, by far the most common for immigrants are in service occupations. Some 7,386 work as janitors and building cleaners, with a median wage of \$24,699, and 7,920 as landscapers, with a median wage of \$27,816. Many others work in restaurants, including 8,220 cooks, with a median wage of \$23,961.

More than 4,136 immigrants work in low-wage occupations in the healthcare industry, including 2,817 who work as nursing assistants with a median wage of \$28,607, 666 personal care workers, and 261 home health care aides.

In all, 53,315 immigrants working full-time, year-round are in low-wage service occupations, as are 268,051 U.S.-born workers. Immigrants make up 17 percent of all low-wage service workers, well higher than immigrants' 11 percent share of the labor force overall.

It is difficult to get precise wage data for undocumented immigrants, but there is little doubt that the large majority work in low-wage jobs, or perhaps slightly above the low-wage threshold. There are an estimated 212,500 workers who are undocumented in the North Carolina labor force, according to [estimates from the Center for Migration Studies](#), with a high percentage of them year-round, full-time workers. At a rough estimate, undocumented immigrants may make up around half of all low-wage workers who are immigrants across the United States. Among North Carolina workers who are undocumented, 35 percent work in construction, maintenance, and related jobs; 25 percent in services jobs; 17 percent in production and transportation, 16 percent in managerial and professional specialty occupations; and 8 percent in technical, sales, and administrative support.

IRI's Earning Ranges for N.C. Occupations

Immigration Research Initiative used data from American Community Survey's 2021, 5-year data set to establish our earnings range about the median earnings in N.C. of \$46,600.

Occupations where the median wage for immigrants was less than \$31,000 were defined as low wage. When the median wage for immigrants was more than \$93,000, we defined the job as upper wage.

We defined all jobs with a median wage between \$31,000 and \$93,000 as middle wage.

Source: <https://cmsny.org/>

IMMIGRANTS ARE A VITAL PART OF NORTH CAROLINA'S FUTURE

A strong future for our state includes immigrants

Immigrant workers and business owners grow North Carolina's economy

Nearly 1 million immigrants reside in North Carolina. Immigrants work in low-wage, middle-wage, and higher-wage jobs in sectors across our state's economy.

11% of North Carolinian workers are immigrants, including:



22% of Main Street business owners in North Carolina are immigrants, operating storefront shops that help keep downtown areas vibrant



32% of construction laborers



8% of registered nurses

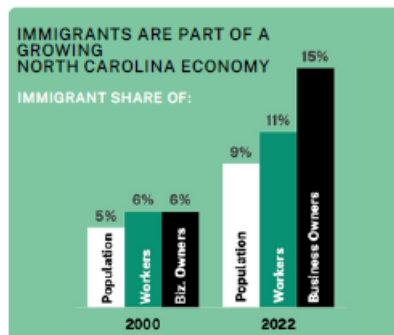


33% of software developers

It turns out that immigrant workers and business owners generate **\$86 billion of economic output** in North Carolina. Immigrant contribution to GDP is about the same as immigrant share of the labor force.

Immigration increases opportunity for North Carolinians

When immigrants move to North Carolina, the economy grows. That doesn't mean fewer jobs, it means more jobs: there are more consumers, more workers, and more business owners. Study after study shows there is no fixed number of jobs in a state. Immigration creates opportunities that benefit U.S.-born workers too.



As North Carolinians age, we'll need more workers

As our population ages, new immigrants help keep our economy growing at a sustainable rate. Immigrants help meet growing needs for health care, home care, and supportive services that are key for older North Carolinians to have a dignified retirement.

Some people try to scapegoat immigrants to keep us divided. We don't have to fall for it.

After decades of stagnating wages, today wage growth is starting to move in the right direction. We know how to create a good economy for workers. It requires uniting around policy choices like investments in infrastructure, manufacturing, and our care economy with strong labor standards. Regardless of race or country of birth, we all do better when we unite for policies that grow jobs and wages.



For details visit immresearch.org/publications/states

Source: <https://ncbudget.org/immigrants-are-a-vital-part-of-north-carolinas-future/>

X. CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

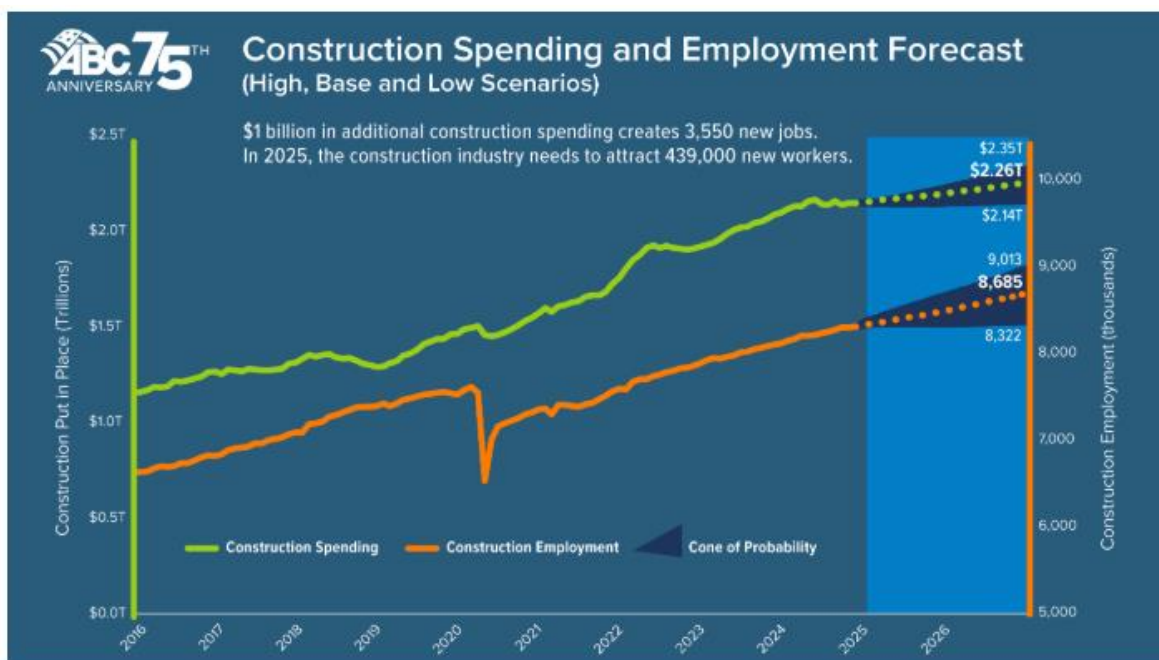
In 2024, the Association of General Contractors of the Carolinas ([CarolinaAGC](#)) reported that “labor availability has resumed being the top challenge for many contractors.”

Same year, in early 2024, the Associated Builders and Contractors ([ABC](#)) estimated that the U.S. construction industry would need to attract about half a million new workers to “balance supply and demand.”

According to an ABC analysis using data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Value of Construction Put in Place Survey, and payroll construction employment, sourced from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the construction industry closed out 2024 with **217,000 job openings**, the lowest hiring record since 2020.

This year, ABC also released its projections for 2025 and 2026, though it cautioned that these are “conservative estimates”, meaning the worker shortage could be more severe than anticipated:

“The construction industry will need to attract an estimated 439,000 net new workers in 2025 to meet anticipated demand for construction services (...). In 2026, the industry will need to bring **in 499,000 new workers** as spending picks up in response to presumed lower interest rates.”



“While the construction workforce has become younger and more plentiful in recent years, the industry still must attract **439,000 new workers in 2025 to balance demand and supply**. If it fails to do so, industrywide labor cost escalation will accelerate, exacerbating already high construction costs and reducing the volume of work that is financially feasible.”

Anirban Basu, ABC Chief Economist

ABC also warned that changes in **federal government immigration policies** “will limit the availability of workers,” so they advocate for a **visa system** for the construction industry:

“There are also factors that could render this model overly conservative, meaning worker shortages could be more severe than predicted in 2025,” said Basu. “While [the consensus forecast](#) has construction spending increasing by less than 3% in 2025, that same forecast has underestimated growth by a significant margin during each of the past three years. If inflation dissipates in coming months, borrowing costs will subside and construction volumes will increase. Faster-than-expected immigration over the past few years has also bolstered labor supply, and potential changes to immigration policy will likely constrain worker availability.”

“Another solution to addressing the shortage is a merit-based, market-based visa system,” said Bellaman. “ABC’s goal is to work with the Trump administration and Congress to create a visa system that allows people who want to contribute to society and work legally in the construction industry to do so.”

“President Trump and the 119th Congress have a significant opportunity to advance policies and regulations that protect free enterprise, reduce regulatory burdens, expand workforce development and create a fair and level playing field for all construction workers, regardless of their labor affiliation,” said Bellaman. “Legislation like the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the Employee Rights Act, the Fair and Open Competition Act and permitting reform can create the conditions for the construction workforce to rebuild America’s infrastructure. The construction industry thrives when all [8.3 million workers](#) are given the opportunity to build America with fewer obstacles.”

Source: <https://www.abc.org/News-Media/News-Releases/abc-construction-industry-must-attract-439000-workers-in-2025>

SECTOR EXPECTATIONS | 2025

The American Institute of Architects ([AIA](#)) has released its “consensus forecast” for 2025 and 2026, which predicts “softness expending” in commercial, industrial and institutional construction. Industry experts expect “increases of only 2.2% this year and 2.6% in 2026.”

January 2025 AIA Consensus Construction Forecast

JANUARY 17, 2025

After increasing in 2023 and 2024, construction spending for nonresidential buildings is projected to slow dramatically in 2025 and 2026.

Consensus		Actual		Forecast	
		2024	2025	2025	2026
Dodge Construction Network	Nonresidential Total	-	2.2	2.6	
S&P Global, Market Intelligence	Commercial Total	-	1.7	4.2	
	Office	-	3.6	4.8	
Moody's Analytics	Data Centers	-	21.9	14.6	
	Retail & Other Commercial	-	0.6	3.4	
FMI	Hotel	-	4.7	8.9	
ConstructConnect	Warehouse	-	2.8	2.3	
	Manufacturing	-	2.6	2.5	
Associated Builders and Contractors	Institutional Total	-	6.8	3.4	
	Health	-	4.3	3.8	
Wells Fargo Securities	Education	-	3.9	3.7	
Markstein Advisors	Amusement & Recreation	-	5.8	1.6	

Source: <https://www.aia.org/resource-center/january-2025-aia-consensus-construction-forecast>

“The modest outlook for construction spending is partly based on a few expected headwinds to building activity, including potential tariffs on imports from selected countries, as well as the enforcement of **stricter immigration policy**. The threat of increased tariffs is a major source of concern regarding reigniting inflation.

[...]

However, **perhaps the biggest policy concern for the construction industry is how emerging immigration policy might impact the construction labor force. There are approximately 12 million construction workers nationally, of which about three million are foreign-born. It is estimated that half of these immigrants are undocumented, so it is likely that about one in eight construction workers nationally is undocumented. The concern is not only the potential deportation of undocumented workers but also the chilling effect on potential new immigrants who might otherwise fill construction positions in the coming years.**”

Source: <https://www.aia.org/resource-center/january-2025-aia-consensus-construction-forecast>

In February 2025, [Carolinas AGC](#) shared its annual forecasts, published in the study "[A Year in the Balance: The 2025 Construction Hiring and Business Outlook](#)".

At the end of each year, AGC of America and Sage survey commercial construction companies to gather information such as their expectations for various market segments, staffing plans, and workforce challenges.



"Most contractors expect to add to their headcount in 2025. Among the firms that plan to hire, nearly 80 percent say it is difficult to find qualified hourly craft workers to hire and **88 percent predict that it will remain difficult or get even harder to hire in 2025.**



In addition to existing labor shortages, **contractors are worried that the incoming administration's approach to immigration may further diminish the supply of qualified workers to hire.**"

According to the study, the sector's main concerns are related to the "workforce" (cost, shortage and quality of labor).

AGC is also advocating to the federal government for "new temporary work visa programs for the construction industry."

Among contractors' top concerns nationally for 2025, the three most frequently listed are all workforce related. Sixty-two percent picked rising direct labor costs as one of their top three concerns, while 59 percent listed the insufficient supply of workers or subcontractors, and 56 percent name worker quality. The only other concern cited by a majority – 54 percent – of respondents is materials costs. Given the supply chain improvements, this concern is likely related to President Trump's threats to impose a broad range of new tariffs.

AGC officials are urging the new administration to work with Congress to establish new programs for temporary work visas that are dedicated to the construction industry. They are also urging President Trump and Congress to pass the Stronger Workforce for America Act, which boosts funding for post-secondary construction training programs and to boost funding for high-school construction training programs.

Contractors Have Optimistic Business Outlook, Yet Continue to Worry about Labor and Materials

Charlotte, NC – February 3, 2025 – Nationally, construction contractors are optimistic about certain private-sector segments and have high hopes for most types of public-sector work, according to survey [results](#) the [Associated General Contractors of America](#) and Sage released today. Yet they have very low expectations for several private-sector market segments, remain concerned about labor shortages and are worried materials prices will climb amid threats of new tariffs, according to [A Year in the Balance: The 2025 Construction Hiring and Business Outlook](#).

Locally in the Carolinas, [Carolinas AGC \(CAGC\)](#) President & CEO Dave Simpson is optimistic. “While we have concerns about the workforce shortage and drawing good talented people into excellent careers in construction, look for good times ahead for the next few years for the commercial construction industry in the Carolinas,” said Simpson. To help combat the workforce shortage, CAGC is working through its [Construction Bootcamps](#) and [Construction Business Academies](#) to attract new workers into the industry and address the top concerns of our members

View [North Carolina Business Outlook results](#).

View [South Carolina Business Outlook results](#).

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Click [here](#) for *A Year in the Balance: The 2025 Construction Hiring and Business Outlook*.

Click [here](#) for the survey results.

Click [here](#) to watch a quick video about the results.

Carolinas AGC (CAGC) is a construction trade association made up of small and large commercial contractors and construction-related firms that perform building, utility, and/or highway work in the Carolinas. CAGC is a chapter of AGC of America and ARTBA. Visit us at www.cagc.org, [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [X](#), and [LinkedIn](#). Learn about [CAGC membership here](#).

Media Contact: Lori McGovern, lmcgovern@carolinasagc.org.

Source:

[https://www.agc.org/sites/default/files/users/user21902/2025%20Construction%20Hiring%20and%20Business%20Outlook%20Report%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.agc.org/sites/default/files/users/user21902/2025%20Construction%20Hiring%20and%20Business%20Outlook%20Report%20(1).pdf)

Undocumented Workers | Construction in North Carolina

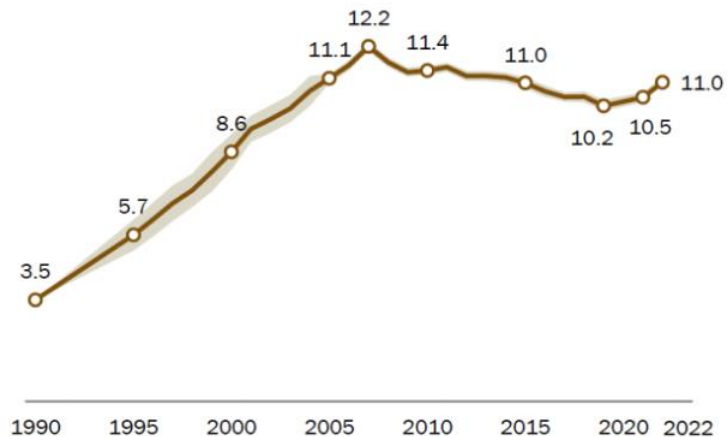
The latest estimates from the [Pew Research Center](#) based on the 2022 American Community Survey, the most recent year available, indicated that the undocumented immigrant population increased to **11 million in 2022**, about **4.8% of the entire U.S. labor force in 2022**.

“In 2022, about **8.3 million U.S. workers were unauthorized immigrants**, up from 7.4 million in 2019. The 2022 number is essentially the same as the previous peaks in 2008 and 2011.”

These new estimates do not reflect events since mid-2022. The U.S. unauthorized immigrant population has likely grown over the past two years, based on several alternative data sources. For example, encounters with migrants at U.S. borders [reached record levels throughout 2022-23](#), and the [number of applicants waiting for decisions on asylum claims](#) increased by about 1 million by the end of 2023.

The number of unauthorized immigrants in the U.S. grew from 2019 to 2022

Unauthorized immigrant population in the U.S., in millions



Note: Shading shows the range of the estimated 90% confidence interval. The data points labeled are 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2007 (peak), 2010, 2015, 2019, 2021 and 2022. Source: Pew Research Center estimates based on augmented U.S. Census Bureau data.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Source: <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2024/07/22/what-we-know-about-unauthorized-immigrants-living-in-the-us/>

In North Carolina, the Pew Research Center estimates the number of undocumented people at **325,000**, representing **3% of the state's total population** and **34% of all immigrants** living in the state.

Unauthorized immigrants and characteristics for states, 2022

State	Unauthorized immigrant population	Unauthorized immigrant % of population	Unauthorized immigrant % of all immigrants	Households with 1+ unauthorized immigrants	Share of households in state	% of K-12 students with unauthorized immigrant parent(s)	Mexican % of unauthorized immigrants	Country of birth with most unauthorized immigrants**	% of unauthorized immigrant adults in U.S. 5 years or less	Change in unauthorized immigrant population, 2019-2022
Total	11,000,000	3.3%	23%	6,300,000	4.8%	7.4%	37%	Mexico	23%	+825,000
North Carolina	325,000	3.0%	34%	180,000	4.1%	8.9%	39%	Mexico	20%	n.s.

Note: Populations are rounded. See Methodology for rounding rules and details of derivation for estimates and margins of error --

<https://www.pewresearch.org/hispanic/2018/11/27/unauthorized-immigration-estimate-methodology/>

Percentages based on unrounded numbers.

** -- fewer than 5,000 unauthorized immigrants in state.

n.s. -- 2019-2022 change is not statistically significant at 90% confidence level.

Data for 2016 can be found here:

<https://www.pewresearch.org/hispanic/interactives/u-s-unauthorized-immigrants-by-state/>

** The original version released on July 22, 2024 had data from the 2021 ACS; this version has the correct countries based on the 2022 ACS.

Source: Pew Research Center estimates based on augmented U.S. Census Bureau data -- American Community Survey 2021 (IPUMS).

Publication: <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2024/07/22/what-we-know-about-unauthorized-immigrants-living-in-the-us/>

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Of the total undocumented population, at least **220,000 are workers**, representing **4.3% of North Carolina's total workforce**.

Construction is the industry and occupation with the highest number and percentage of undocumented workers in North Carolina.

Unauthorized immigrants in the labor force for states, 2022

State	Unauthorized immigrant workers	Unauthorized immigrant % of labor force	Industry with the most unauthorized immigrant workers	Industry with the largest % of workers who are unauthorized immigrants	Occupation with the most unauthorized immigrant workers	Occupation with the largest % of workers who are unauthorized immigrants
Total	8,250,000	4.8%	Construction	Construction	Service	Farming
North Carolina	220,000	4.3%	Construction	Construction	Construction	Construction

Note: Populations are rounded. Methodology for rounding rules and details of derivation for estimates and margins of error are here:

<https://www.pewresearch.org/hispanic/2018/11/27/unauthorized-immigration-estimate-methodology/>

Percentages based on each state's total civilian labor force.

Industries and occupations based on Census Bureau categories for "major" groups. Refer to Methodology for definitions.

"z" indicates fewer than 5,000 unauthorized immigrants in state labor force.

Source: Pew Research Center estimates based on augmented U.S. Census Bureau data -- American Community Survey 2022 (IPUMS).

Publication: https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2024/07/22/what-we-know-about-unauthorized-immigrants-living-in-the-us

Data for 2016 can be found here:

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PEW RESEARCH CENTER

2024 North Carolina AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Agriculture is the largest industry in North Carolina and the eighth largest in the United States within the sector (Census of Agriculture, 2022). The [Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services](#) estimates that agricultural production and agribusiness contribute **\$111.1 billion** to the North Carolina economy.

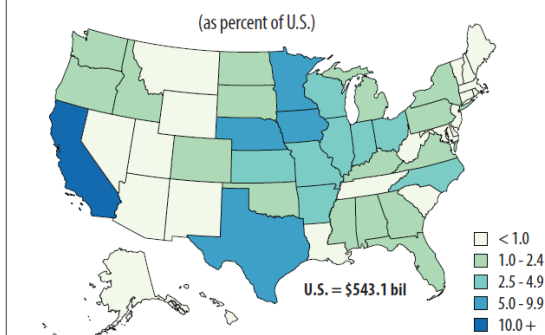


United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus

U.S. Production by State

Agriculture Sales by State, 2022



The annual report "[North Carolina Agricultural Statistics 2024](#)" is published each year by the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

According to the publication, which uses data from the Economic Research Service (USDA), the total value of agricultural production in North Carolina **exceeded \$17.5 billion in 2023, with net income of \$4.08 billion.**

In the United States, **more than sixty percent (60%)** of farmers and harvesters are foreign-born Hispanics/Latinos. Local authorities estimate that, in North Carolina, they represent **fifty percent (50%)**.

³ Bibliographic references provided by María López González, NC Budget & Tax Center.

El informe anual "[Estadísticas agrícolas de Carolina del Norte 2024](#)" es publicado cada año por el Servicio Nacional de Estadísticas Agrícolas del USDA y el Departamento de Agricultura y Servicios al Consumidor de Carolina del Norte.

De acuerdo con la publicación, que utiliza datos⁴ del Servicio de Investigación Económica (USDA), el valor total de la producción agrícola en Carolina del Norte superó los **\$17,5 billones** en 2023, con ingresos netos de **\$4.08 billones**.

En los Estados Unidos, más del sesenta por ciento (60%) de los agricultores y recolectores son Hispanos/Latinos, nacidos en el extranjero. Autoridades locales calculan que, en Carolina del Norte, representan el 50 por ciento (50%).



Demographic characteristics of U.S. hired farmworkers and all wage and salary workers, 2022

Item	Farm laborers, graders and sorters	Farm managers, inspectors, and supervisors	All other occupations in agriculture	Agriculture: All occupations	All U.S. private wage and salary workers
Race/Ethnicity/Ancestry					
Percent White, not Hispanic	31	63	62	46	57
Percent Black, not Hispanic	3	2	4	3	11
Percent other, not Hispanic	4	6	6	5	11
Percent Hispanic: Mexican origin	55	23	23	40	12
Percent Hispanic: Other	8	6	5	7	8
Percent born in U.S. (includes Puerto Rico)	46	76	79	61	81
Percent U.S. citizens	56	83	87	70	91

Source: [National demographics of farmworkers \(2022\)](#).

⁴ Data as of September 5, 2024.

- **Correlation of forces.** HB78 and HB80 were referred to the House [Rules, Calendar and Operations](#) Committee, which operates under Republican control (17 R/10 D).
- During the last sessions, no progressive-oriented Democratic proposal was considered by that committee, previously chaired by [Destin Hall](#) (District 87), current Speaker of the House and one of the primary sponsors of the anti-immigrant bill HB10.
- It is important to collaborate and promote the proposals within and outside the NCGA, but without generating false expectations in the immigrant community. The priority task of social organizations and grassroots groups must be to inform and prepare the community, in the face of the threat posed by the immigration policies of the new administration.
- **Opportunity.** By introducing each bill separately, it allows working and collaborating with very different groups, with very specific interests and approaches, which could favor that, at least, one of the initiatives receive non-traditional support from the private sector.
- HB78 requires building a strategy that involves faith leaders and religious congregations, educational authorities and organizations, parents and students, as well as the health sector.
- HB80 poses the challenge of approaching and generating alliances with economic interest groups, employers of undocumented people, and that could influence elected officials and decision makers in the state, such as the agro-industrial sector and the real estate or construction sector.
- **Data.** The available information (statistics) can help raise awareness among legislators so that they recognize that undocumented immigrants play a vital role in the economy and in their communities.
- The United States needs comprehensive immigration reform, including work visas and the regularization of undocumented workers, not only to improve and humanize the system, but to maximize the contributions of the immigrant population to the economy (tax collection, job creation, investment).

FOX8: [North Carolina Democrats push to keep immigration enforcement away from schools, churches, construction sites](#)

Enlace Latino NC: [Proyectos buscan prohibir participación de oficiales con ICE en granjas, construcciones y lugares sensibles en Carolina del Norte](#)

The NC Beat: [North Carolina Lawmakers Introduce Bills to Limit Local Law Enforcement's Role in Immigration Enforcement](#)

The Carolina Journal: [NC Dems push bill to restrict immigration enforcement at certain locations](#)

La Noticia: [Ley busca frenar redadas migratorias en Carolina del Norte](#)

Qué Pasa: [Buscan prohibir redadas en iglesias, escuelas y obras en NC](#)

NC NEWSLINE: [NC Democratic lawmakers introduce bills to protect immigrants in sensitive locales](#)

Enlace Latino NC: [Advierten que inacción legislativa amenaza la seguridad de inmigrantes y la economía de Carolina del Norte](#)