

# Immigrants Make Salt Lake City Stronger

*An estimated **208,000** immigrants live in Salt Lake City metro area, making up **15%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **20%** of households in Salt Lake City.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Salt Lake City's economy. Some 18% of Salt Lake City's labor force are immigrants, including 37% of the construction industry, 7% of agriculture, 27% of manufacturing, 13% of business services, and 19% of leisure and hospitality.

About 12,000 immigrants in Salt Lake City work in STEM-related jobs, of which 25% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 25% of STEM degree holders in Salt Lake City are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Salt Lake City's communities. Some 62,000 immigrants, or about 30% of all immigrants in Salt Lake City, are U.S. citizens. About 33,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 14,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 12% of individuals in Salt Lake City, or some 171,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 28,000 U.S. citizen children in Salt Lake City live with an undocumented parent, while some 5,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 31,000 undocumented individuals in Salt Lake City have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 24,000 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 15,000 and contribute \$410 million annually to Salt Lake City's economy. They also contribute \$50 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 3,700 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

**Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders**—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—number 17,000. Meanwhile, an estimated 42,000 immigrants in Salt Lake City are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$614 million to Salt Lake City'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 33,000 workers in Salt Lake City's labor force, and paying an estimated \$108 million annually in state and local taxes.

**\$6.0 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$1.7 billion**

Annual combined taxes paid

**15,000**

Self-employed

**31%**

With college or advanced degrees

**78%**

Speak English

**76%**

Earn above the minimum needed to live