

# Immigrants Make Texas Stronger



*An estimated **5,923,000** immigrants live in Texas, making up **19%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **26%** of households in Texas.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Texas's economy. Some 22% of Texas's labor force are immigrants, including 38% of the construction industry, 48% of agriculture, 27% of manufacturing, 25% of business services, and 23% of leisure and hospitality.

About 354,000 immigrants in Texas work in STEM-related jobs, of which 27% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 34% of STEM degree holders in Texas are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Texas's communities. Some 2,108,000 immigrants, or about 36% of all immigrants in Texas, are U.S. citizens. About 1,420,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 361,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 12% of individuals in Texas, or some 3,819,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 713,000 U.S. citizen children in Texas live with an undocumented parent, while some 191,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 1,059,000 undocumented individuals in Texas have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 664,000 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 364,000 and **contribute \$9 billion annually to Texas's economy**. They also contribute \$1.1 billion in state and local taxes each year. Some 90,000 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

**Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders**—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—number 125,000 and **contribute \$2.5 billion to Texas's economy each year**. Meanwhile, an estimated 466,000 immigrants in Texas are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$8.7 billion to Texas'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 400,000 workers in Texas's labor force, and paying an estimated \$1.8 billion annually in state and local taxes.**

**\$192.1 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$55.3 billion**

Annual combined taxes paid

**604,000**

Self-employed

**13%**

With college or advanced degrees

**85%**

Speak English

**82%**

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 [www.fwd.us](http://www.fwd.us).

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](http://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 [data@fwd.us](mailto:data@fwd.us).