

# Immigrants Make Bridgeport Metro Stronger



*An estimated **251,000** immigrants live in Bridgeport, making up **26%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **34%** of households in Bridgeport.*

**Immigrants contribute to every sector of Bridgeport's economy.**

Some 32% of Bridgeport's labor force are immigrants, including 53% of the construction industry, 22% of agriculture, 36% of manufacturing, 31% of business services, and 34% of leisure and hospitality.

**About 12,000 immigrants in Bridgeport work in STEM-related jobs**, of which 26% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 37% of STEM degree holders in Bridgeport are immigrants.

**Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Bridgeport's communities.** Some 109,000 immigrants, or about 43% of all immigrants in Bridgeport, are U.S. citizens. About 48,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 17,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

**An estimated 15% of individuals in Bridgeport, or some 151,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant.** Some 29,000 U.S. citizen children in Bridgeport live with an undocumented parent, while some 5,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 35,000 undocumented individuals in Bridgeport have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 17,000 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 8,000 and **contribute \$268 million annually to Bridgeport's economy.** They also contribute \$39 million in state and local taxes each year.

**Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders**—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 5,000 and **contributed \$125 million to Bridgeport's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 23,000 immigrants in Bridgeport are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$480 million to Bridgeport'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 18,000 workers in Bridgeport's labor force, and paying an estimated \$80 million annually in state and local taxes.**

**\$11.8 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$4.8 billion**

Annual combined taxes paid

**30,000**

Self-employed

**36%**

With college or advanced degrees

**90%**

Speak English

**89%**

Earn above the minimum needed to live