

Immigrants Make Brownsville Metro Stronger



*An estimated **106,000** immigrants live in Brownsville, making up **24%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **46%** of households in Brownsville.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Brownsville's economy.

Some 29% of Brownsville's labor force are immigrants, including 39% of the construction industry, 51% of agriculture, 36% of manufacturing, 37% of business services, and 26% of leisure and hospitality.

About 2,000 immigrants in Brownsville work in STEM-related jobs, of which 10% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 43% of STEM degree holders in Brownsville are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Brownsville's communities.

Some 35,000 immigrants, or about 33% of all immigrants in Brownsville, are U.S. citizens. About 31,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 3,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 21% of individuals in Brownsville, or some 93,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 28,000 U.S. citizen children in Brownsville live with an undocumented parent, while some 5,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 27,000 undocumented individuals in Brownsville have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 18,000 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 6,000 and **contribute \$112 million annually to Brownsville's economy.** They also contribute \$14 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 2,000 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

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 4,000 workers in Brownsville's labor force, and paying an estimated \$20 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$2.5 billion

Annual spending power

\$0.6 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

13,000

Self-employed

18%

With college or advanced degrees

69%

Speak English

72%

Earn above the minimum needed to live