

Immigrants Make El Paso Metro Stronger

*An estimated **202,000** immigrants live in El Paso, making up **22%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **42%** of households in El Paso.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of El Paso's economy. Some 25% of El Paso's labor force are immigrants, including 35% of the construction industry, 45% of agriculture, 40% of manufacturing, 30% of business services, and 20% of leisure and hospitality.

About 5,000 immigrants in El Paso work in STEM-related jobs, of which 13% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 40% of STEM degree holders in El Paso are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost El Paso's communities. Some 94,000 immigrants, or about 47% of all immigrants in El Paso, are U.S. citizens. About 56,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 7,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 13% of individuals in El Paso, or some 115,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 28,000 U.S. citizen children in El Paso live with an undocumented parent, while some 8,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 25,000 undocumented individuals in El Paso 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 9,000 and contribute **\$205 million annually to El Paso's economy**. They also contribute \$25 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 3,000 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 1,000 and contributed **\$19 million to El Paso's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 4,000 immigrants in El Paso are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$105 million to El Paso'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 7,000 workers in El Paso's labor force, and paying an estimated \$34 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$5.3 billion

Annual spending power

\$1.5 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

18,000

Self-employed

22%

With college or advanced degrees

81%

Speak English

78%

Earn above the minimum needed to live