

Immigrants Make Kansas City Metro Stronger



*An estimated **206,000** immigrants live in Kansas City, making up **9%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **11%** of households in Kansas City.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Kansas City's economy.

Some 11% of Kansas City's labor force are immigrants, including 19% of the construction industry, 6% of agriculture, 16% of manufacturing, 12% of business services, and 12% of leisure and hospitality.

About 16,000 immigrants in Kansas City work in STEM-related jobs, of which 24% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 18% of STEM degree holders in Kansas City are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Kansas City's communities.

Some 79,000 immigrants, or about 39% of all immigrants in Kansas City, are U.S. citizens. About 32,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 13,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 7% of individuals in Kansas City, or some 165,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 32,000 U.S. citizen children in Kansas City live with an undocumented parent, while some 6,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 38,000 undocumented individuals in Kansas City have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 21,000 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 17,000 and **contribute \$467 million annually to Kansas City's economy.** They also contribute \$59 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 8,000 and **contributed \$127 million to Kansas City's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 16,000 immigrants in Kansas City are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$356 million to Kansas 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 17,000 workers in Kansas City's labor force, and paying an estimated \$79 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$7.4 billion

Annual spending power

\$2.5 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

17,000

Self-employed

34%

With college or advanced degrees

91%

Speak English

85%

Earn above the minimum needed to live