

# Immigrants Make Reading Metro Stronger

*An estimated **66,000** immigrants live in Reading, making up **15%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **17%** of households in Reading.*

## **Immigrants contribute to every sector of Reading's economy.**

Some 17% of Reading's labor force are immigrants, including 21% of the construction industry, 54% of agriculture, 28% of manufacturing, 12% of business services, and 12% of leisure and hospitality.

## **Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Reading's communities.**

Some 24,000 immigrants, or about 37% of all immigrants in Reading, are U.S. citizens. About 17,000 are lawful permanent residents.

## **An estimated 11% of individuals in Reading, or some 46,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant.**

Some 7,000 U.S. citizen children in Reading live with an undocumented parent, while some 1,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 7,000 undocumented individuals in Reading have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 4,000 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 2,000 and **contribute \$58 million annually to Reading's economy.** They also contribute \$8 million in state and local taxes each year.

**Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders**—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 6,000 and **contributed \$125 million to Reading's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 9,000 immigrants in Reading are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$134 million to Reading'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 6,000 workers in Reading's labor force, and paying an estimated \$25 million annually in state and local taxes.**

**\$1.9 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$594 million**

Annual combined taxes paid

**5,000**

Self-employed

**24%**

With college or advanced degrees

**76%**

Speak English

**76%**

Earn above the minimum needed to live