

Immigrants Make Salem Metro Stronger

*An estimated **70,000** immigrants live in Salem, making up **14%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **18%** of households in Salem.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of Salem's economy.

Some 19% of Salem's labor force are immigrants, including 23% of the construction industry, 57% of agriculture, 33% of manufacturing, 20% of business services, and 16% of leisure and hospitality.

About 1,000 immigrants in Salem work in STEM-related jobs, of which 28% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 14% of STEM degree holders in Salem are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Salem's communities.

Some 22,000 immigrants, or about 32% of all immigrants in Salem, are U.S. citizens. About 21,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 1,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 11% of individuals in Salem, or some 53,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant.

Some 9,000 U.S. citizen children in Salem live with an undocumented parent, while some 3,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 17,000 undocumented individuals in Salem have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 14,000 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 4,000 and **contribute \$105 million annually to Salem'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.

An estimated 4,000 immigrants in Salem are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, contributing \$96 million to Salem'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 8,000 workers in Salem's labor force, and paying an estimated \$30 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$2.0 billion

Annual spending power

\$566 million

Annual combined taxes paid

5,000

Self-employed

14%

With college or advanced degrees

81%

Speak English

84%

Earn above the minimum needed to live