

Immigrants Make TX-18 Stronger

*An estimated **267,000** immigrants live in TX-18, making up **31%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **39%** of households in TX-18.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of TX-18's economy. Some 36% of TX-18's labor force are immigrants, including 63% of the construction industry, 82% of agriculture, 43% of manufacturing, 36% of business services, and 45% of leisure and hospitality.

About 9,000 immigrants in TX-18 work in STEM-related jobs, of which 26% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 41% of STEM degree holders in TX-18 are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost TX-18's communities. Some 69,000 immigrants, or about 26% of all immigrants in TX-18, are U.S. citizens. About 45,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 12,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 27% of individuals in TX-18, or some 233,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 45,000 U.S. citizen children in TX-18 live with an undocumented parent, while some 5,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 51,000 undocumented individuals in TX-18 have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 31,000 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 **\$450 million annually to TX-18's economy**. They also contribute \$56 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 4,000 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 14,000 and contributed **\$320 million to TX-18's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 38,000 immigrants in TX-18 are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$886 million to TX-18'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 31,000 workers in TX-18's labor force, and paying an estimated \$169 million annually in state and local taxes.**

\$8.1 billion

Annual spending power

\$2.4 billion

Annual combined taxes paid

23,000

Self-employed

23%

With college or advanced degrees

77%

Speak English

74%

Earn above the minimum needed to live