

# Immigrants Make TX-21 Stronger

*An estimated **96,000** immigrants live in TX-21, making up **11%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **18%** of households in TX-21.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of TX-21's economy. Some 14% of TX-21's labor force are immigrants, including 25% of the construction industry, 26% of agriculture, 19% of manufacturing, 16% of business services, and 15% of leisure and hospitality.

About 5,000 immigrants in TX-21 work in STEM-related jobs, of which 29% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 19% of STEM degree holders in TX-21 are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost TX-21's communities. Some 38,000 immigrants, or about 40% of all immigrants in TX-21, are U.S. citizens. About 18,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 6,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 7% of individuals in TX-21, or some 57,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 8,000 U.S. citizen children in TX-21 live with an undocumented parent, while some 3,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 11,000 undocumented individuals in TX-21 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 4,000 and contribute **\$109 million annually to TX-21's economy**. They also contribute \$13 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 1,000 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

**Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders**—immigrants who cannot safely return to their home countries—numbered 2,000 and contributed **\$41 million to TX-21's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 8,000 immigrants in TX-21 are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$197 million to TX-21'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 TX-21's labor force**, and paying an estimated **\$34 million annually in state and local taxes**.

**\$3.9 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$1.3 billion**

Annual combined taxes paid

**8,000**

Self-employed

**39%**

With college or advanced degrees

**87%**

Speak English

**83%**

Earn above the minimum needed to live