

# Immigrants Make TX-26 Stronger

*An estimated **163,000** immigrants live in TX-26, making up **18%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **23%** of households in TX-26.*

Immigrants contribute to every sector of TX-26's economy. Some 23% of TX-26's labor force are immigrants, including 27% of the construction industry, 6% of agriculture, 27% of manufacturing, 26% of business services, and 24% of leisure and hospitality.

About 25,000 immigrants in TX-26 work in STEM-related jobs, of which 28% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 42% of STEM degree holders in TX-26 are immigrants.

Immigrants of all backgrounds boost TX-26's communities. Some 78,000 immigrants, or about 48% of all immigrants in TX-26, are U.S. citizens. About 22,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 16,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

An estimated 11% of individuals in TX-26, or some 101,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant. Some 23,000 U.S. citizen children in TX-26 live with an undocumented parent, while some 4,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 25,000 undocumented individuals in TX-26 have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 12,000 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 8,000 and contribute **\$215 million annually to TX-26's economy**. They also contribute \$26 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 5,000 and contributed **\$102 million to TX-26's economy** in 2024. Meanwhile, an estimated 9,000 immigrants in TX-26 are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim, and contribute \$252 million to TX-26'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 **11,000 workers in TX-26's labor force**, and paying an estimated **\$49 million annually in state and local taxes**.

**\$8.0 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$2.8 billion**

Annual combined taxes paid

**15,000**

Self-employed

**55%**

With college or advanced degrees

**97%**

Speak English

**94%**

Earn above the minimum needed to live