

# Immigrants Make Visalia Metro Stronger

*An estimated **136,000** immigrants live in Visalia, making up **26%** of the total population.*

*Immigrants live in **39%** of households in Visalia.*

## Immigrants contribute to every sector of Visalia's economy.

Some 35% of Visalia's labor force are immigrants, including 34% of the construction industry, 72% of agriculture, 35% of manufacturing, 35% of business services, and 34% of leisure and hospitality.

**About 1,000 immigrants in Visalia work in STEM-related jobs**, of which 31% are temporary immigrants on H-1B and other temporary work visas. In all, 17% of STEM degree holders in Visalia are immigrants.

## Immigrants of all backgrounds boost Visalia's communities.

Some 43,000 immigrants, or about 32% of all immigrants in Visalia, are U.S. citizens. About 59,000 are lawful permanent residents, and 2,000 are temporary immigrants (including nonimmigrant visa holders and international students).

## An estimated 13% of individuals in Visalia, or some 70,000, are either undocumented immigrants or live with an undocumented immigrant.

Some 15,000 U.S. citizen children in Visalia live with an undocumented parent, while some 3,000 U.S. citizen spouses are married to an undocumented immigrant. Some 25,000 undocumented individuals in Visalia have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, with 15,000 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 \$81 million annually to Visalia's economy**. They also contribute \$12 million in state and local taxes each year. Some 2,000 are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients.

**An estimated 3,000 immigrants in Visalia are waiting for a decision on their asylum claim**, contributing \$54 million to Visalia'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 5,000 workers in Visalia's labor force, and paying an estimated \$18 million annually in state and local taxes.**

**\$3.2 billion**

Annual spending power

**\$884 million**

Annual combined taxes paid

**10,000**

Self-employed

**6%**

With college or advanced degrees

**76%**

Speak English

**79%**

Earn above the minimum needed to live