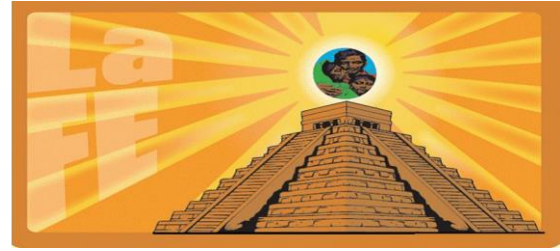




# La Fe Policy Research and Education Center



*Promoviendo Bienestar para Familias y Comunidad con Conocimiento, Confianza y Poder*  
*Promoting Family and Community Well-Being through Knowledge, Trust, and Empowerment*

## **Immigrants: Economically Vital but Disparaged and Unjustly Treated**

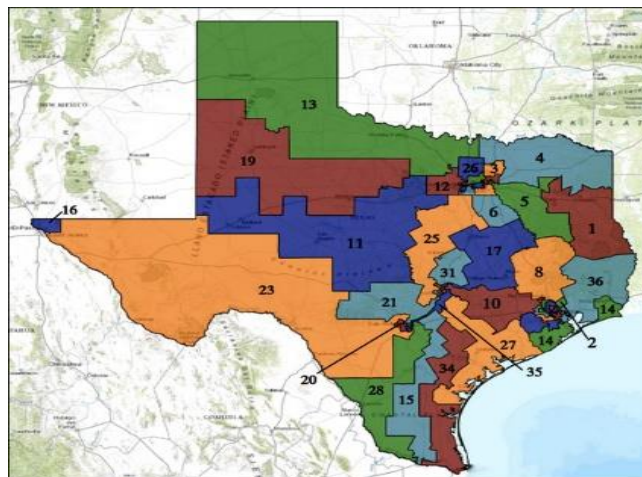
**Juan H. Flores, M.U.P.**

Immigrants are a vital part of Texas' economy. In 2019, they comprised 17.1% (4.9 million) of the state's population, of which nearly 65% are Latino. Over two-thirds of the population are between the work productive ages of 18-64. Their consumer spending power totaled 120.3 billion dollars, and they paid \$40.6 billion dollars in local, state, and federal taxes.<sup>1</sup> Immigrants are significant economic contributors to every Congressional District.

Their contributions as farmworkers, caregivers, construction and hospitality workers, health professionals, and entrepreneurs span the state. Unfortunately, failed immigration policies and xenophobic politics continue to assault immigrants, particularly the undocumented.<sup>2</sup> The Trump presidency was both inhumane, unfair, and corrupt in its conduct of U.S immigration policy.

Texas' congressional and state leadership are opposing President Biden's new immigration policy direction. Governor Abbott's proposal to complete the 'border wall' demonstrates continued support for Trump's nativist and racialized policymaking.<sup>3</sup> However, immigrant resilience and sacrifice prevail even throughout the Covid-19 pandemic – this economic engine will not be stopped.

### **Texas Congressional Districts**



<sup>1</sup> <https://data.newamericaneconomy.org/map-the-impact/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://riograndeguardian.com/contreras-we-need-an-immigration-system-that-benefits-all-workers-farmers-ranchers-and-businesses/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-announces-border-wall-construction-strategy>

**Table 1: Texas Immigrant Economic Impact by Congressional District**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Immigrant Residents</b>	<b>Immigrant Share of Population</b>	<b>Immigrant Taxes Paid</b>	<b>Immigrant Spending Power</b>	<b>Immigrant Entrepreneurs</b>
<b>Texas<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>4,948,998</b>	<b>17.1%</b>	<b>\$40.6 B</b>	<b>\$120.3B</b>	<b>386,165</b>
<b>CD 1<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>54,225</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>\$314.4M</b>	<b>\$993.5M</b>	<b>3,357</b>
<b>CD 2</b>	<b>164,021</b>	<b>21.4%</b>	<b>\$1.6B</b>	<b>\$5.0B</b>	<b>8,584</b>
<b>CD 3</b>	<b>168,793</b>	<b>20.7%</b>	<b>\$2.0B</b>	<b>\$6.4B</b>	<b>6,653</b>
<b>CD 4</b>	<b>46,593</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	<b>\$300M</b>	<b>\$947.8M</b>	<b>2,194</b>
<b>CD 5</b>	<b>107,947</b>	<b>14.6%</b>	<b>\$597.6M</b>	<b>\$1.9B</b>	<b>6,852</b>
<b>CD 6</b>	<b>101,969</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>\$747.8M</b>	<b>\$2.4B</b>	<b>5,307</b>
<b>CD 7</b>	<b>222,161</b>	<b>28.8%</b>	<b>\$2.4B</b>	<b>\$7.7B</b>	<b>12,086</b>
<b>CD 8</b>	<b>98,626</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>\$924.1M</b>	<b>\$2.9B</b>	<b>7,740</b>
<b>CD 9</b>	<b>265,365</b>	<b>34.0%</b>	<b>\$1.7B</b>	<b>\$5.4B</b>	<b>16,513</b>
<b>CD 10</b>	<b>133,937</b>	<b>16.5%</b>	<b>\$1.2B</b>	<b>\$3.8B</b>	<b>7,545</b>
<b>CD 11</b>	<b>68,265</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>\$544.1M</b>	<b>\$1.7B</b>	<b>4,284</b>
<b>CD 12</b>	<b>81,834</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>\$621.2M</b>	<b>\$2.0B</b>	<b>3,669</b>
<b>CD 13</b>	<b>66,454</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>\$414.3M</b>	<b>\$1.3B</b>	<b>2,752</b>
<b>CD 14</b>	<b>79,166</b>	<b>10.7%</b>	<b>\$610.6M</b>	<b>\$1.9B</b>	<b>3,521</b>
<b>CD 15</b>	<b>170,869</b>	<b>22.3%</b>	<b>\$860.3M</b>	<b>\$2.7B</b>	<b>16,392</b>
<b>CD 16</b>	<b>178,158</b>	<b>24.3%</b>	<b>\$1.1B</b>	<b>\$3.4B</b>	<b>9,198</b>
<b>CD 17</b>	<b>91,006</b>	<b>12.1%</b>	<b>\$615.8M</b>	<b>\$1.9B</b>	<b>5,388</b>
<b>CD 18</b>	<b>165,085</b>	<b>21.5%</b>	<b>\$1.1B</b>	<b>\$3.5B</b>	<b>10,496</b>
<b>CD 19</b>	<b>56,690</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>\$328M</b>	<b>\$1.0B</b>	<b>2,157</b>
<b>CD 20</b>	<b>116,021</b>	<b>14.9%</b>	<b>\$696.9M</b>	<b>\$2.2B</b>	<b>6,199</b>
<b>CD 21</b>	<b>75,313</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>\$633.5M</b>	<b>\$2.0B</b>	<b>4,747</b>
<b>CD 22</b>	<b>207,430</b>	<b>24.6%</b>	<b>\$2.6B</b>	<b>\$8.2B</b>	<b>8,543</b>
<b>CD 23</b>	<b>128,546</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>\$778.2M</b>	<b>\$2.5B</b>	<b>5,726</b>
<b>CD 24</b>	<b>182,136</b>	<b>23.5%</b>	<b>\$1.8B</b>	<b>\$5.8B</b>	<b>9,149</b>
<b>CD 25</b>	<b>60,137</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>\$611.5M</b>	<b>\$1.9B</b>	<b>3,234</b>
<b>CD 26</b>	<b>104,490</b>	<b>12.7%</b>	<b>\$1.0B</b>	<b>\$3.3B</b>	<b>4,809</b>
<b>CD 27</b>	<b>60,852</b>	<b>8.3%</b>	<b>\$427.9M</b>	<b>\$1.4B</b>	<b>4,938</b>
<b>CD 28</b>	<b>159,404</b>	<b>21.5%</b>	<b>\$821.6M</b>	<b>\$2.6B</b>	<b>12,347</b>
<b>CD 29</b>	<b>245,504</b>	<b>33.2%</b>	<b>\$1.3B</b>	<b>\$4.3B</b>	<b>16,200</b>
<b>CD 30</b>	<b>132,549</b>	<b>17.4%</b>	<b>\$808.6M</b>	<b>\$2.6B</b>	<b>6,502</b>
<b>CD 31</b>	<b>84,117</b>	<b>10.4%</b>	<b>\$726.8M</b>	<b>\$2.3B</b>	<b>4,359</b>
<b>CD 32</b>	<b>161,451</b>	<b>21.5%</b>	<b>\$1.3B</b>	<b>\$4.2B</b>	<b>9,592</b>
<b>CD 33</b>	<b>236,555</b>	<b>32.5%</b>	<b>\$1.2B</b>	<b>\$3.8B</b>	<b>12,296</b>
<b>CD 34</b>	<b>141,843</b>	<b>19.7%</b>	<b>\$662.1M</b>	<b>\$2.1B</b>	<b>10,868</b>
<b>CD 35</b>	<b>130,613</b>	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>\$684.3M</b>	<b>\$2.2B</b>	<b>7,853</b>
<b>CD 36</b>	<b>74,857</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>\$572.1M</b>	<b>\$1.8B</b>	<b>3,530</b>

June 2021

<sup>4</sup> 2019 Data<sup>5</sup> CD = Congressional Districts, 2017 Data