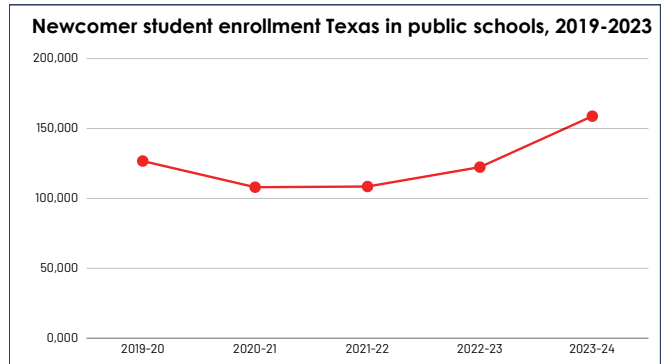


Teacher Support for Newcomer Students

Newcomer students are foreign born students who have been enrolled in U.S. schools for three years or less. They often require tailored instruction to master academic content as they simultaneously acquire language skills. Teachers are at the forefront of efforts to ensure newcomer students succeed, providing the essential guidance and instruction they need to navigate academic content while adapting to a new language and culture. However, the responsibility of supporting newcomer students cannot fall solely on teachers or schools. To ensure sustainable support, school districts must lean on wraparound services and community resources. Partners across Texas have demonstrated how leveraging these resources can create more inclusive and supportive learning environments for students and teachers.

For example, ImmSchools collaborate directly with school districts to implement policies and practices that foster safer, more inclusive environments for immigrant students and their families. Similarly, Communities In Schools (CIS) integrates student support services at schools, providing newcomer students and their families with access to basic needs and more. By placing trained site coordinators on campuses, CIS alleviates pressure on teachers by addressing non-academic challenges that might otherwise fall on educators. Supporting teachers of newcomer students requires a shared commitment between schools and their communities.



Texas continues to see an increase in newcomer immigrant students throughout the years. Texas public schools saw a 30% increase in enrollment of newcomer students from 122,504 in the 2022 school year to 158,832 in 2023.¹

Recommendations for Expanding Impact:

- **Leverage Community Partnerships:** Collaborate with local organizations to provide wraparound services that address non-academic barriers, reducing pressure on teachers and schools.
- **Expand Teacher Training Programs:** Implement ongoing professional development initiatives, such as those in Spring ISD and Pflugerville ISD, to equip educators with the skills needed to support newcomer students effectively.
- **Enhance Family Engagement:** Follow models like Alief ISD's resource fairs, newcomer school and ESL programs to strengthen connections between schools and newcomer families.

Citations

1- "Enrollment in Texas Public Schools, 2023-24." Texas Education Agency, tea.texas.gov/reports-and-data/school-performance/accountability-research/enroll-2023-24.pdf.



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