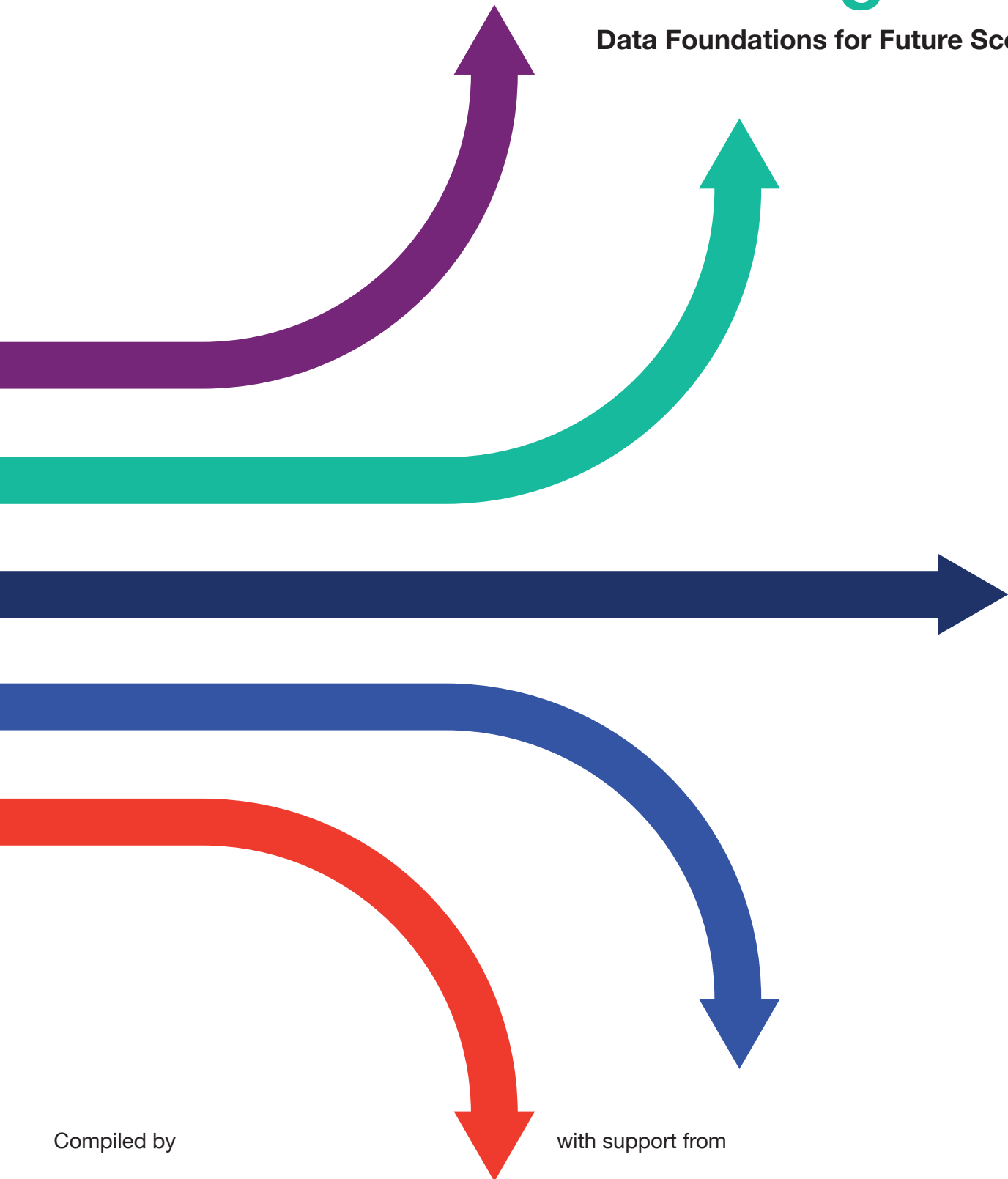


Future of Immigration Briefing Book

Data Foundations for Future Scenarios



Compiled by



INSTITUTE FOR THE FUTURE

with support from



The James Irvine
Foundation



GRANTMAKERS CONCERNED WITH
IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

About this project

Institute for the Future in partnership with The James Irvine Foundation and Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees (GCIR)—convened dozens of experts from diverse disciplines and perspectives to map of four possible immigration futures for the country, its citizens, and its immigrants, designed to help grantmakers, policy makers, and community leaders think together about this epochal issue.

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Institute for the Future

Institute for the Future (ITF) is the world's leading futures thinking organization. For over 50 years, businesses, governments, and social impact organizations have depended upon ITF global forecasts, custom research, and foresight training to navigate complex change and develop world-ready strategies. ITF methodologies and toolsets yield coherent views of transformative possibilities across all sectors that together support a more sustainable future. Institute for the Future is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Palo Alto, California.

iftf.org

The James Irvine Foundation

The James Irvine Foundation is a private, nonprofit grantmaking foundation dedicated to expanding opportunity for the people of California. The Foundation's grantmaking is committed to a California where all low-income workers have the power to advance economically. Since 1937 the Foundation has provided more than \$1.87 billion in grants to nonprofit organizations throughout California.

irvine.org

Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees (GCIR)

GCIR works with more than 130 member foundations and the broader philanthropic community to inform, connect, and catalyze funders to address pressing issues facing newcomers and the communities in which they live and work. GCIR's thought leadership and expertise position philanthropy to adapt to demographic trends, respond to policy developments, engage with cross-sector partners, and support timely and innovative efforts to advance equity, inclusion, and justice for immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. With offices in the Bay Area, as well as staff in Washington, D.C., GCIR works with grantmakers across the country in both traditional immigrant destinations and newer gateways.

gcir.org

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Today, the US—and indeed the world—finds itself at a critical juncture in the long history of human migration. Global commerce, worldwide connectivity, climate-driven catastrophes, corrupt and abusive regimes, and global health crises are all converging to create a pivotal moment for migrants and their host communities.

In response to this moment—and supported by The John Irvine Foundation and Grantmakers Concerned With Immigrants and Refugees (GCIR)—the Institute for the Future convened dozens of experts from diverse disciplines and perspectives to map possible futures for immigration in the US. The workshop produced four distinct paths for the coming decade and beyond. These scenarios are presented in [The Future of Immigration: Four Paths](#).

The foundation for this map is a compilation of data produced by some of the country's leading policy and social research organizations. IFTF assembled the data in this *Briefing Book* to support the conversation about the future of immigration in its expert workshop and in the larger public. The book does not promote any single policy or future scenario. Instead it provides a timeline of US immigration legislation as well as on-the-ground data about the demographics and socio-economic status of immigrants, as well as attitudes toward them and the security apparatus designed to manage them. It concludes with a glossary of terms often used in discussing immigration issues.

This Briefing Book is not meant to be a comprehensive overview of American immigration but rather a set of important data points to help people imagine the best and worst experiences that this decade's immigrants, as well as the country's citizens, may confront together. Ultimately, it's a starting place for thinking about the kind immigration futures we want to create.

United States Immigration Legislation and Actions (1790–2014)

1790 **Naturalization Act**

- » Established requirements for naturalization as: having 2 years of residency, a “good moral character,” and must be a “free white person.” Excluded non-white people from naturalization.
 - » 1795—increased residency requirement to 5 years1798—increased residency requirement to 14 years (also, Alien Friends Act authorized the deportation of immigrants; expired after 2 years; Alien Enemies Act authorized imprisonment or deportation of male citizens during times of war)
 - » 1802—increase residency requirement back to 5 years
-

1864 **Immigration Act of 1864 (aka Act to Encourage Immigration)**

- » Enacted to address labor shortages (due to Civil War); made contracts for immigrant labor formed abroad enforceable by US courts
 - » The first commissioner of immigration was appointed
-

1870 **Naturalization Act of 1870**

- » Amends naturalization requirements to include people of African nativity and descent
-

1875 **Immigration Act (aka Page Law of Asian Exclusion Act)**

- » United State’s first restrictive immigration statute—prohibited immigrant criminals from entering and made contracting forced Asian laborers a felony
 - » 1882—Chinese Exclusion Act banned chinese laborers from immigrating for the next 10 years; barred chinese laborers from naturalizing
 - » 1917—Asiatic Barred Zone Act banned immigration from most Asian countries; required immigrants over the age of 16 to demonstrate basic reading ability in any language (SKILLS BASED)
-

1921 **Emergency Quota Act**

- » First US law to create quotas for immigration based on nationality: 3% of foreign-born population of that nationality in the 1910 census
- » Total annual immigration was capped at 350,000 persons

1924 Labor Appropriation Act & Immigration Act (aka National Origins Quota Act)

- » US Border Patrol was established: a federal law enforcement agency to combat illegal immigration/smuggling
- » Further restricted immigration by decreasing cap to 165,000 persons annually and favored migration from northern and western European countries
- » Asian countries still barred, including a formal restriction on Japanese immigration
- » Denied entry to the US to anyone ineligible to become a citizen because of race (only whites and people of African nativity or descent allowed entry)
- » 1925—Duties were expanded to include patrol of seacoasts

1942 Bracero Agreement

- » Bilateral agreement between the US and Mexico—Mexicans can serve as temporary agricultural workers during WWII labor shortage
- » This required US employers pay Mexican laborers a wage equal to US born farmers, and to pay transportation and living expenses (lasted until 1964)

1943 Magnuson Act

- » Repealed the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1875 and established a new immigration quota of 105 individuals from China
- » Allowed Chinese immigrants the ability to naturalize

1952 Immigration and Nationality Act

- » Formally removed race as an exclusion for immigration and naturalization consideration and established minimum quota of 100 visas annually
- » Consideration based on ancestry NOT nationality or birthplace
- » Created quota preferences for skilled immigrants and family reunification (SKILLS AND FAMILY)

1953 Refugee Relief Act

- » Authorized special non-quota visas (more than 200,000 individuals) and allowed refugees to become permanent residents

1954 Operation Wetback

- » Enforcement initiative created by Director of the US Immigration and Naturalization Service in cooperation with the Mexican government to use military-style tactics to remove Mexican immigrants from the US

1962 Migration and Refugee Assistance Act

- » Formalized the Cuban Refugee Program
 - » Continuance of 1961 program created by JFK to provide medical care, financial aid, education and resettlement, and child welfare for Cuban refugees
-

1965 Immigration and Nationality Act (aka Hart-Cellar Act)

- » Replaced national origins quota system with a seven preferences system favoring family-based and skilled-based immigration (immigrants from Western hemisphere were exempt from preference system until 1976)
 - » No annual visa cap on immediate family members of US citizens
 - » Eastern hemisphere granted 170,000 totals—20,000 cap per country
 - » 1968—Western hemisphere given 120,000 cap on visas—no country limits (SKILLS AND FAMILY)
-

1975 Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act

- » Ford administration evacuated 130,000 Vietnamese (as South Vietnam was becoming communist)
 - » Enacted refugee delineation to those fleeing Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos—funds for relocation and resettlement were created
-

1980 Refugee Act

- » Established policy for admission of refugees and adopted the UN definition of “refugee”, expanding annual admission for refugees while eliminating the preference system for refugees
 - » Annual visa allocation reduced to 270,000
-

1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act

- » Established a pathway to permanent residency to unauthorized immigrant workers who had lived in the US since 1982 or who worked certain agricultural jobs
- » Roughly 2.7 million people granted status
- » Created the H-2A visa for temporary, seasonal agricultural employers
- » Punishes employers who knowingly hire unauthorized workers
- » Minor children who were legalized under this act were protected from deportation

1990 **Immigration Act**

- » Increased annual cap to 700,000 (between 1992-94, then 675,000 in 1995 and revised preference categories); 480,000 family-sponsored visas, 140,000 employment-based visas, and 55,000 “diversity immigrant” visas annually
- » Created H-1B visas for highly skilled temp workers and H-2B for seasonal, non-ag workers and revises grounds for exclusion and deportation (esp political and ideological grounds)
- » Authorized “temporary protected status” (TPS) to nationals of countries suffering armed conflicts, natural disasters or other intense/temp conditions

1996 **Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act**

- » Increased enforcement at the US-Mexico border and inside the US
- » Included a mandate to build fences at high incident areas of the border
- » Established or revised measures for worksite enforcement, to remove criminal and other deportable aliens, and to tighten the admission eligibility requirements
- » Expanded restrictions on access to public assistance programs for newly legal permanent residents and unauthorized immigrants

2002 **Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act**

- » Required use of an electronic data system to make available information pertinent to admissions and removal of immigrants
- » Mandated implementation of a visa entry-exit data system

2002 **Homeland Security Act**

- » Transferred almost all the functions of US Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to the new Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- » DHS includes US Customs and Border Protection (CPB), US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) (response to 9/11)

2006 **Secure Fence Act**

- » Mandated the construction of a double-layered fence approximately 700 miles long (never completed, primarily due to insufficient funds)
- » Increased staff and technology at the Southwest US border

2012 **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)**

- » Executive action by President Obama, declaring young adults (ages 15-30) brought to the US illegally as children can apply for temporary deportation relief and a two-year work permit
 - » As of March 31, 2015 about 665,000 applicants had been approved under DACA
-

2014 **Expanded Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) and DACA Program**

- » Second executive action by President Obama which allowed unauthorized immigrant parents who have lived in the US for at least 5 years and have children who are either US citizens or legal permanent residents to apply for deportation relief and a three-year work permit
 - » Expanded eligibility under DACA to any unauthorized immigrants who entered the US illegally as a child
-

2017 **Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States**

- » Two executive orders by President Trump aimed to hinder travel and immigration from six majority Muslim countries (Chad, Iran, Libya, Syria, Yemen, Somalia) as well as North Korea and Venezuela (challenged in US state and federal courts)
-

2019 **American Dream and Promise Act of 2019**

- » Grants 10 years of legal status to Dreamers if they meet certain requirements; after 10 years Dreamers would receive permanent green cards after completing at least two years of higher education or military service, or after working for three years.

Sources: <https://www.pewhispanic.org/2015/09/28/selected-u-s-immigration-legislation-and-executive-actions-1790-2014/>

<https://www.history.com/topics/immigration/immigration-united-states-timeline>

https://www.washingtonpost.com/powerpost/house-poised-to-pass-immigration-bill-that-would-protect-dreamers/2019/06/04/bac5cf98-86d7-11e9-a491-25df61c78dc4_story.html?utm_term=.4b25a53533ca

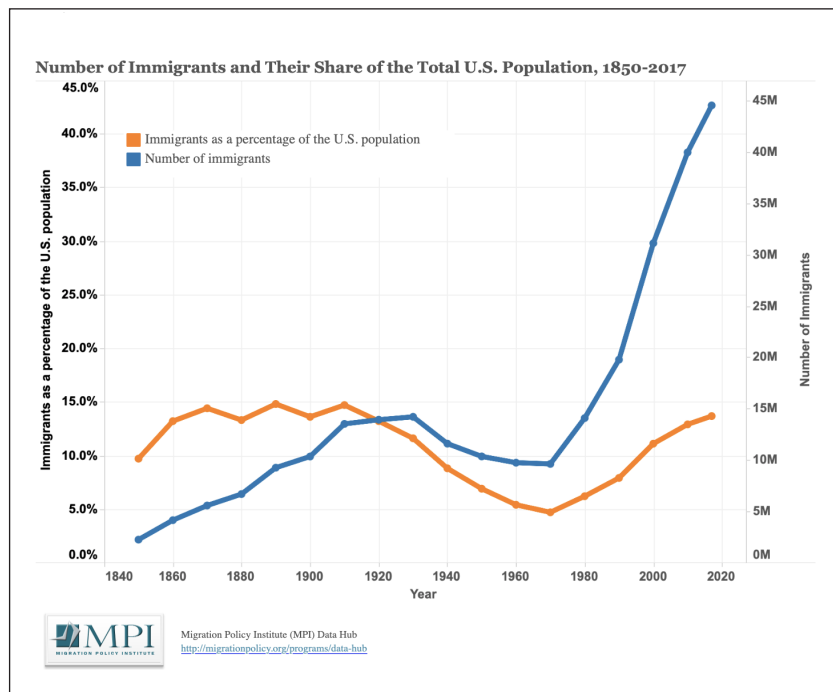
Demographics

An overview of the patterns of US immigrants, including population, origins, destinations, age and gender, religious affiliation—as well as patterns of unauthorized immigrants, refugees, asylees, and recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA).

POPULATION

The number of immigrants in the US reached a record 44.4 million or 13.6% of the US population in 2017. The number of immigrants has risen significantly since 1965, when the US abandoned the quota system in its immigration policy.

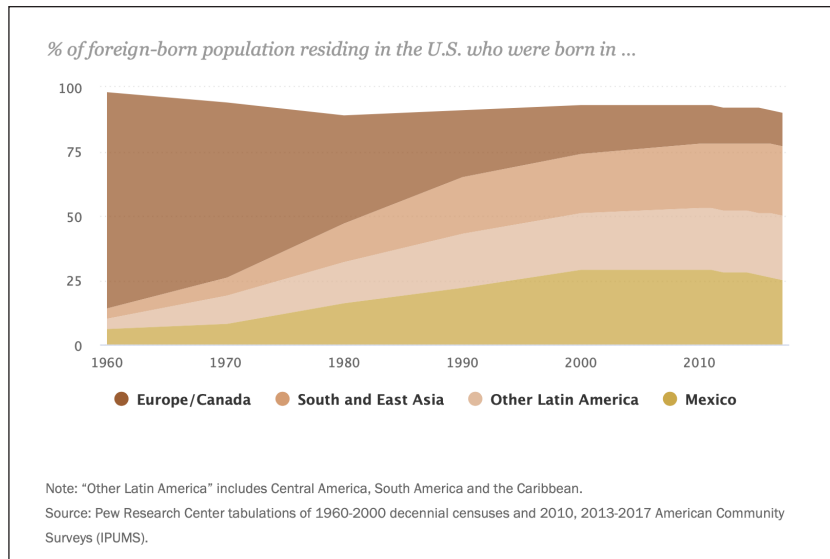
FIGURE 1
Number of Immigrants
and Their Share of the
Total US Population
(1850-2017)



ORIGINS

The proportion of immigrants originating from Europe has declined since the 1960s. Today the vast majority of immigrants come from South and East Asia, or from Latin America and Mexico.

FIGURE 2
Origins of the US
Immigrant Population,
1960-2017

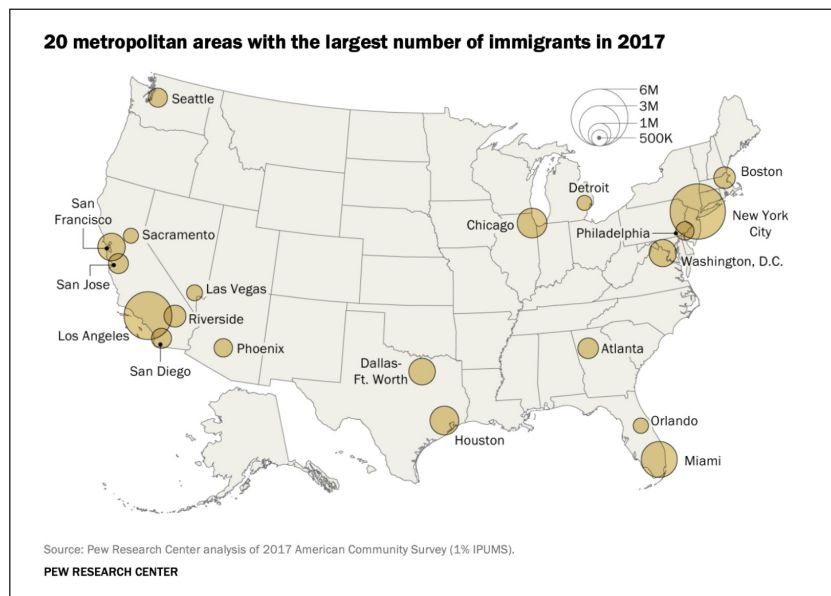


Source: Pew Research Center

DESTINATIONS

Immigrants coming into the United States settle in patterns and destinations following friends and family but also economic and educational opportunities. The vast majority of immigrants can be found residing in 20 main metropolitan areas throughout the US.

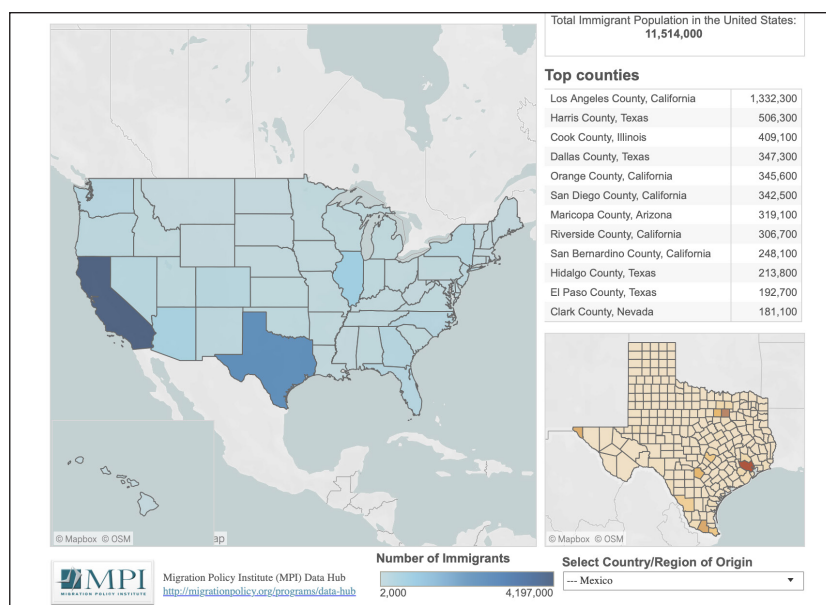
FIGURE 3
20 Metropolitan Areas
with the Largest
Number of Immigrants
in 2017



Source: Pew Research Center. https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/06/17/key-findings-about-u-s-immigrants/ft_19-06-03_keyfindingsimmigrants_20metropolitanareas/

A majority of immigrants in the US live in California with Los Angeles County holding the largest number of immigrants than any county in the US.

FIGURE 4
US Immigrant Population
By State and County,
2013-2017



Source: Migration Policy Institute tabulations of data from the US Census Bureau's pooled 2013-2017 American Community Survey. <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/programs/data-hub/charts/us-immigrant-population-state-and-county>

AGE & GENDER

The median age (e.g. the age which divides the population into two groups, half younger and half older) of the immigrant population in the US reached 57 in 1960, declined to 37 in the 1990s and 2000s, and is now climbing once again to reach 52 in 2017. Data on gender shows that female immigrants have accounted for more than 50% of all immigrants since the 1960s through to today.

FIGURE 5
Characteristics of the US Foreign-born Population,
1960-2017

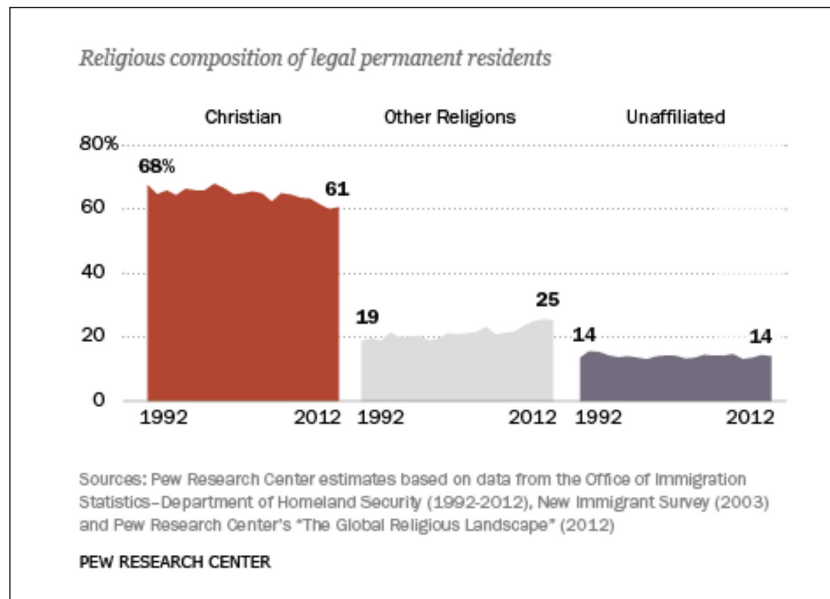
	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2017
Median Age	57	50	39	37	37	41	44
Female	51.1%	54.1%	53.4%	51.1%	50.2%	51.0%	51.7%

Source: "Facts on US Immigrants, 2017 Statistical portrait of the foreign-born population in the United States." Pew Research Center, Washington DC (June 3, 2019) <https://www.pewhispanic.org/2019/06/03/facts-on-u-s-immigrants-trend-data/>.

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

Christians remain by far the largest religious group among legal US immigrants, though their estimated share has decreased from 68% in 1992 to 61% in 2012.

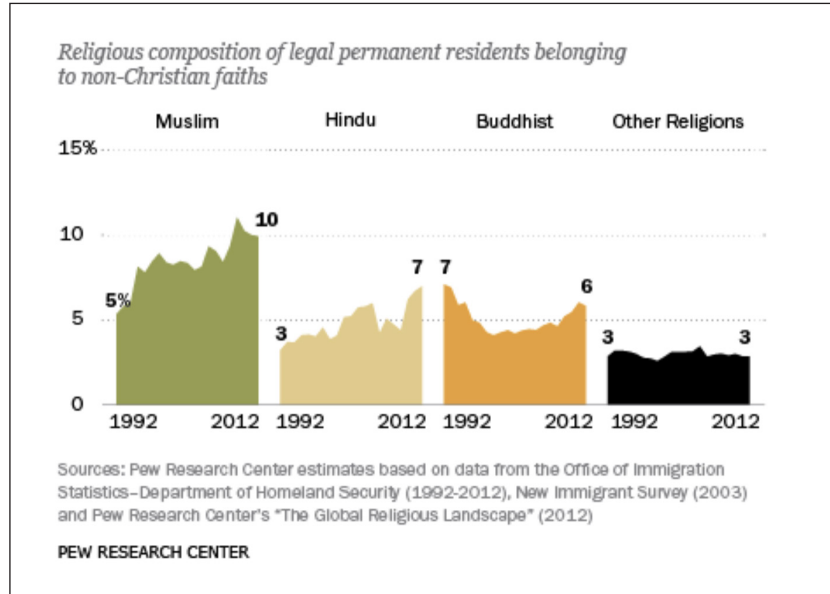
FIGURE 6
Growing Share of Legal Immigrants Belong to Religious Minorities



"The Religious Affiliation of US Immigrants: Majority Christian, Rising Share of Other Faiths." Pew Research Center, Washington DC (May 17, 2013) <https://www.pewforum.org/2013/05/17/the-religious-affiliation-of-us-immigrants/>.

Legal Muslim immigrants entering the US each year has roughly doubled, from about 5% of legal immigrants in 1992 to about 10% in 2012. Hindu immigrants also have increased in number over the past 20 years, rising from about 3% of new permanent residents in 1992 to 7% in 2012.

FIGURE 7
Growing Share of Muslim and Hindu Immigrants



"The Religious Affiliation of US Immigrants: Majority Christian, Rising Share of Other Faiths." Pew Research Center, Washington DC (May 17, 2013) <https://www.pewforum.org/2013/05/17/the-religious-affiliation-of-us-immigrants/>.

UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRATION

The unauthorized immigrant population reached 12.2 million people in 2007. By 2017, the number of unauthorized immigrants fell to 10.5 million, making up 23% of the total foreign-born population in the United States.

FIGURE 8A
Number of Unauthorized Immigrants in the US Declined Over the Past Decade

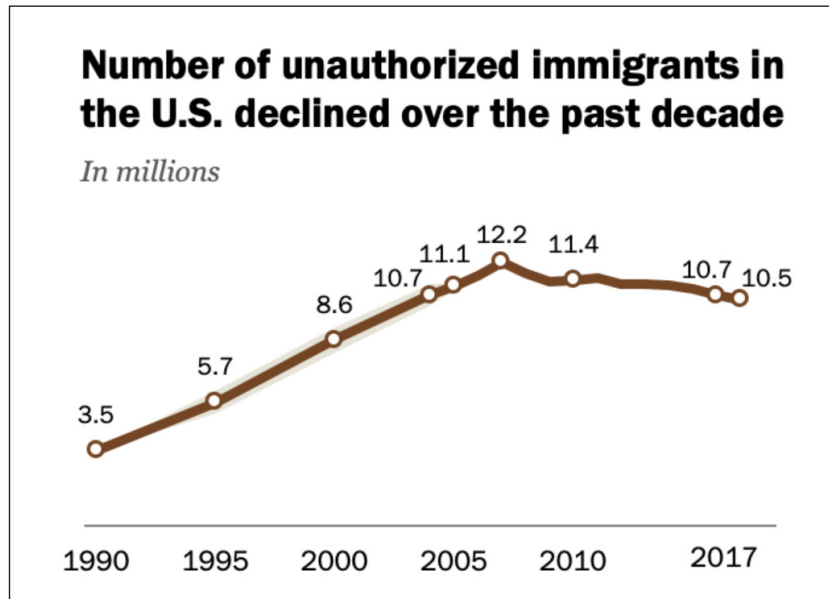
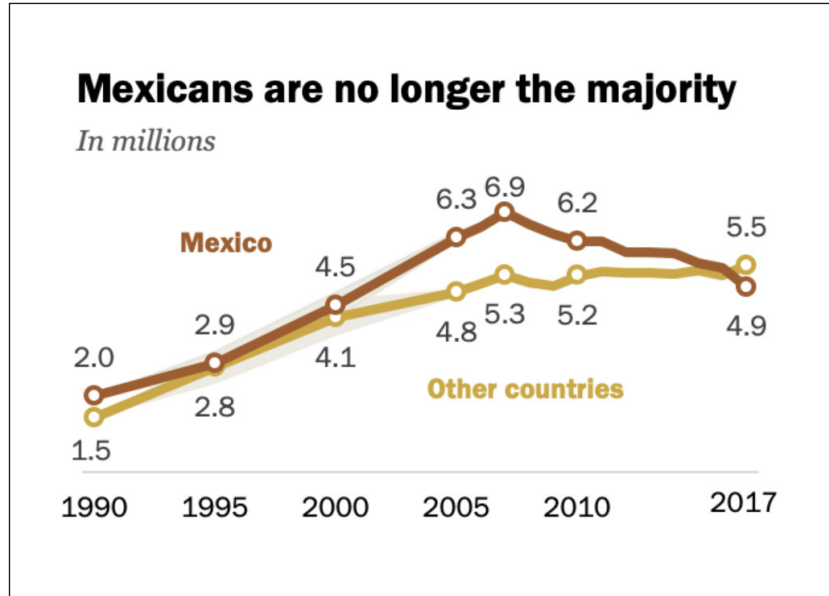
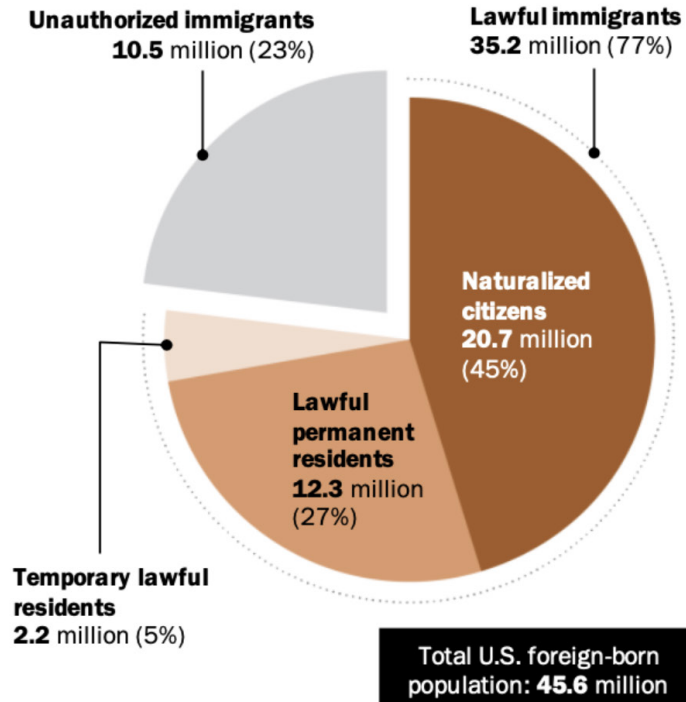


FIGURE 8B
Mexicans are No Longer the Majority



Foreign-born population estimates, 2017

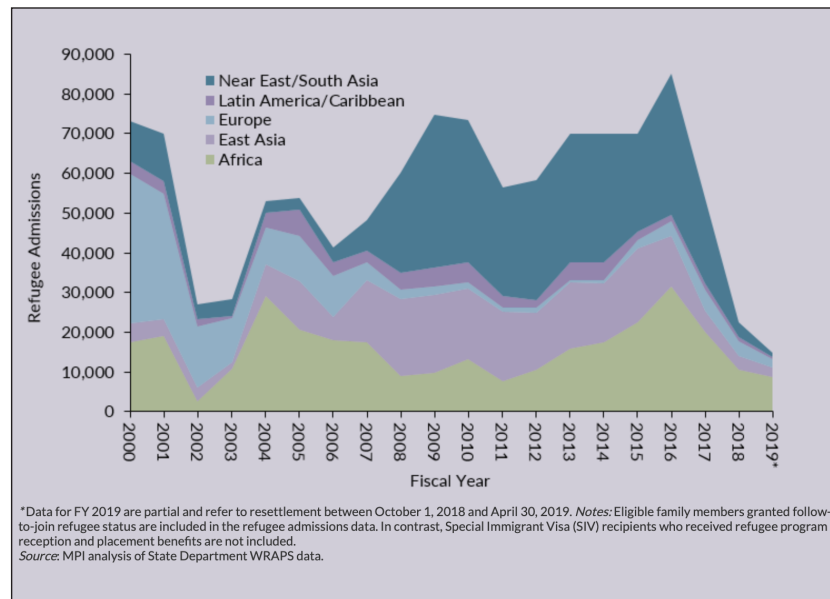
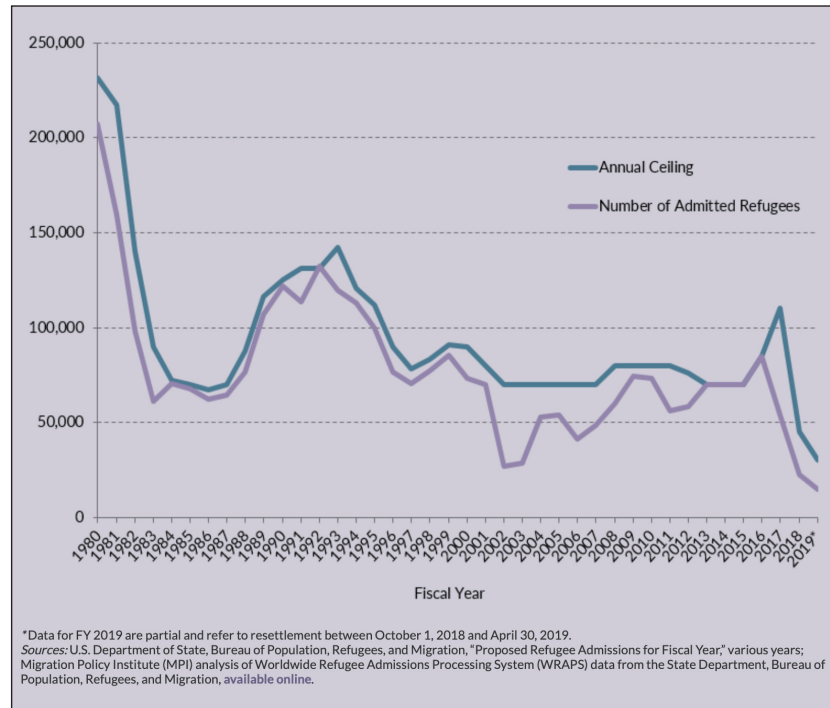


Note: All numbers are rounded. Unauthorized immigrants include some with temporary protection from deportation under Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Temporary Protected Status (TPS), as well as pending asylum cases.
Source: Pew Research Center estimates based on augmented U.S. Census Bureau data.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

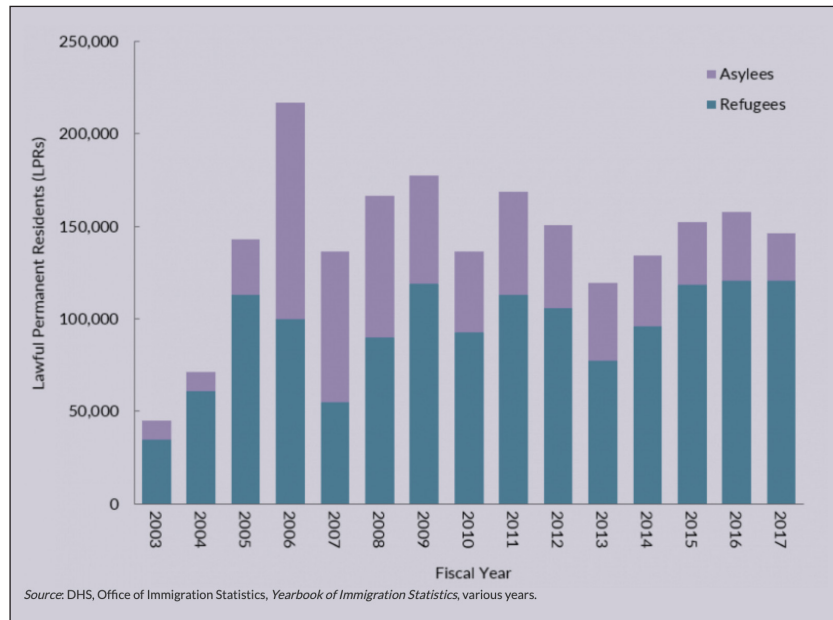
FIGURE 9
Unauthorized Immigrants
are Almost a Quarter
of the US Foreign-born
Population

REFUGEES & ASYLEES



Source: "Refugees and Asylees in the United States," Migration Policy Institute (June 13, 2019) <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/refugees-and-asylees-united-states>

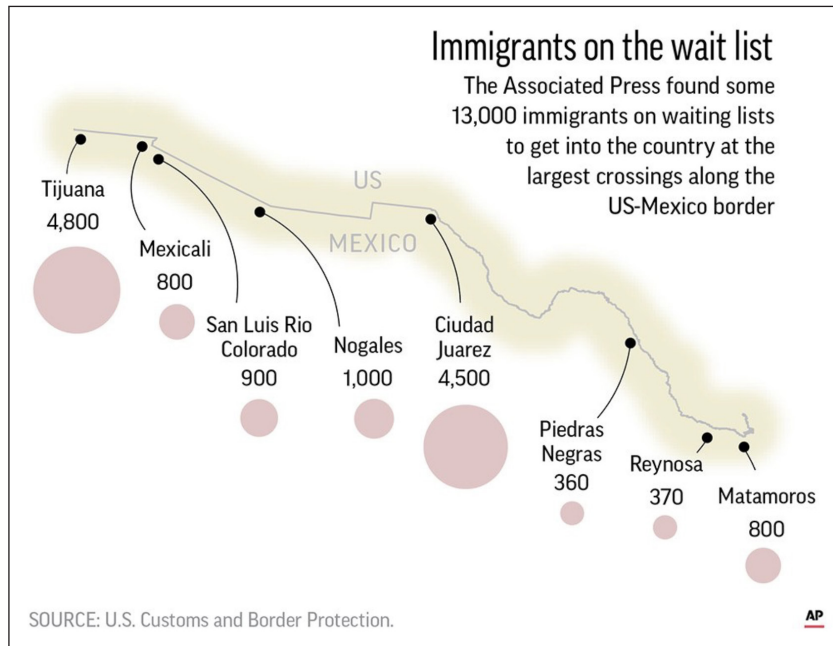
FIGURE 12
Refugees and Asylees
Granted Lawful
Permanent Residence
(2003-2017)



Source: "Refugees and Asylees in the United States," Migration Policy Institute (June 13, 2019) <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/refugees-and-asylees-united-states>.

There are roughly 13,000 asylum seekers on waiting lists to cross the US border from Mexico as of May 9, 2019.

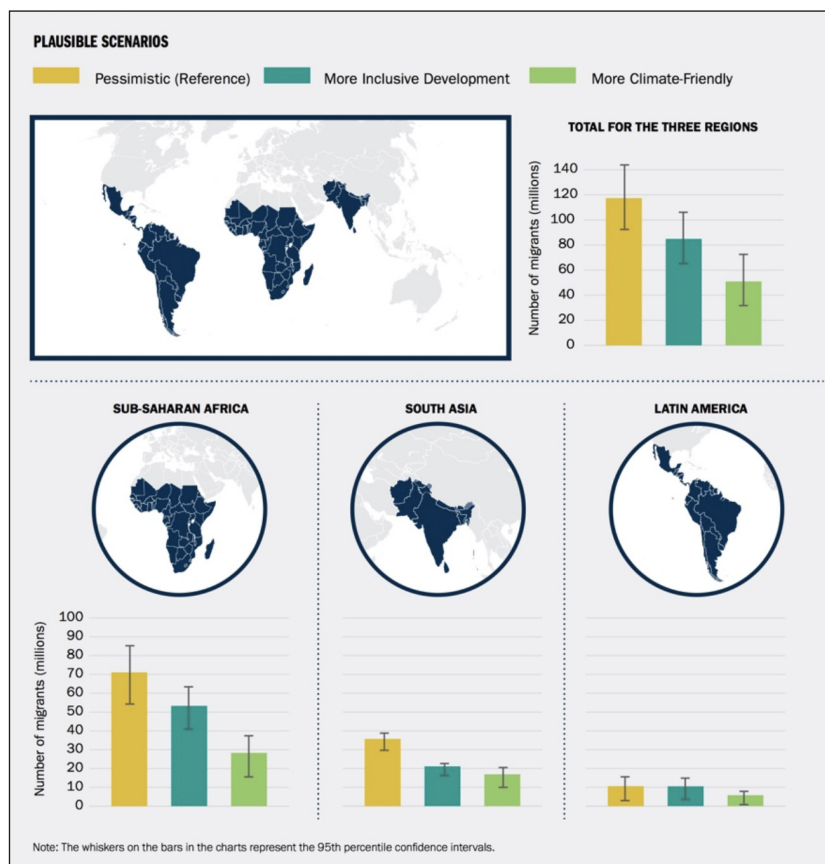
FIGURE 13
Immigrants on the
Wait List (2019)



Source: "For thousands of asylum seekers, all they can do is wait," AP News, May 9, 2019, <https://www.apnews.com/ed7885b4269407381d79e588b6c1dc2>.

A 2018 climate scenarios report from the World Bank found that climate change could push tens of millions of people to migrate within their countries by 2050 (internal migrants).

FIGURE 14
Plausible Migration
Scenarios Responding to
Climate Change



Source: Rigaud, Kanta Kumari; de Sherbinin, Alex; Jones, Bryan; Bergmann, Jonas; Clement, Viviane; Ober, Kayly; Schewe, Jacob; Adamo, Susana; McCusker, Brent; Heuser, Silke; Midgley, Amelia. 2018. Groundswell : Preparing for Internal Climate Migration. World Bank, Washington, DC. World Bank. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/29461> License: CC BY 3.0 IGO.

DACA COHORT

Most Dreamers (DACA recipients) are 25 years old or younger.

FIGURE 15
Percentage of Current
DACA Enrollees (2017)

Gender	
Male	47%
Female	53%
Age	
Under 16	<0.5
10-20	29%
11-25	37%
26-30	24%
31-36	11%
Marital Status	
Single	83%
Married	15%

Source: "Key facts about unauthorized immigrants enrolled in DACA," Pew Research Center, Washington DC (Sept 25, 2017) <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/09/25/key-facts-about-unauthorized-immigrants-enrolled-in-daca/>.

FIGURE 16
Approximate Active DACA
Recipients, By Top 10
Countries of Birth as of
April 30, 2019

Country of Birth	Number (rounded)
<i>Grand total:</i>	669,080
Mexico	535,980 (80.1%)
El Salvador	25,590
Guatemala	17,470
Honduras	16,010
Peru	6,670
South Korea	6,620
Brazil	5,380
Ecuador	5,020
Colombia	4,510
Argentina	3,570

Source: "Approximate Active DACA Recipients Demographics," US Citizenship and Immigration Services, 2017. <https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/USCIS/Resources/Reports%20and%20Studies/Immigration%20Forms%20Data/AIR%20Form%20Types/DACA/Approximate%20Active%20DACA%20Recipients%20Demographics.pdf>.

FIGURE 17
Approximate Active DACA
Recipients, by Top 10
States as of
April 30, 2019

State	Number (rounded)
<i>Grand total</i>	669,080
California	190,840 (>28%)
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA	83,520
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA	23,380
Texas	110,430
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX	36,200
Illinois	35,380
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI	33,740
New York	29,870
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA	43,560
Florida	25,830
Arizona	24,990
North Carolina	24,750
Georgia	21,360
New Jersey	17,040

Source: "Approximate Active DACA Recipients Demographics," US Citizenship and Immigration Services, 2017. https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/USCIS/Resources/Reports%20and%20Studies/Immigration%20Forms%20Data/All%20Form%20Types/DACA/Approximate_Active_DACA_Recipients_Demographics_-_Apr_30_2019.pdf.

Socioeconomic Status

A summary of educational attainment, employment and economic status, occupation, and tax contributions of immigrants

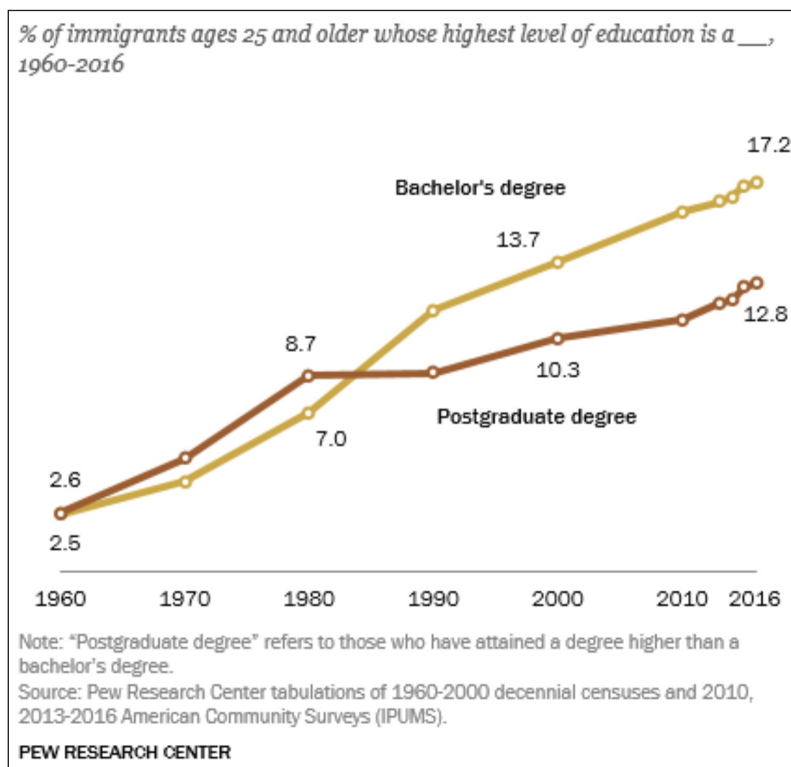
Roughly half of foreign-born individuals from South and East Asia and the Middle East have a bachelor's or a higher degree, however student visas have been declining since President Trump took office in 2016. The number and percentage of foreign-born individuals in the labor force has also been increasing since the 1965 immigration reform, with over half of the foreign-born population currently participating in the labor force.

Incomes vary with respect to an individual's national origin and region of birth. Immigrants from South and East Asia and Europe/Canada are the highest earners in the US immigrant population, whereas immigrants from the Caribbean, Mexico and Central America are in the lowest income quintile. Foreign-born workers were more likely than US-born workers to be employed in service occupations and less likely to be employed in management, professional, and related occupations. Immigrant households pay over \$223 billion in federal and over \$104 billion in state and local taxes. Undocumented immigrants also contribute significantly to state and local taxes at \$11.4 billion a year. Changes in policies to make immigration more inclusive could lead to an increase in wages and correspondingly an increase in tax revenue.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

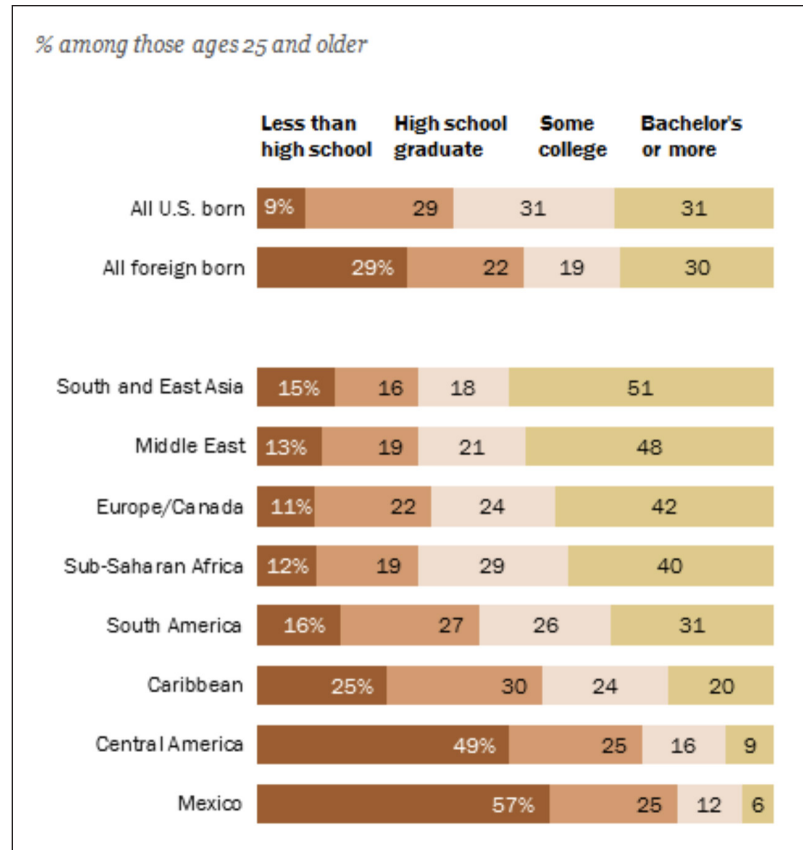
Educational attainment among US immigrants has been steadily increasing from 1960 to 2017.

FIGURE 18
Educational Attainment
Among US Immigrants
(1960-2017)



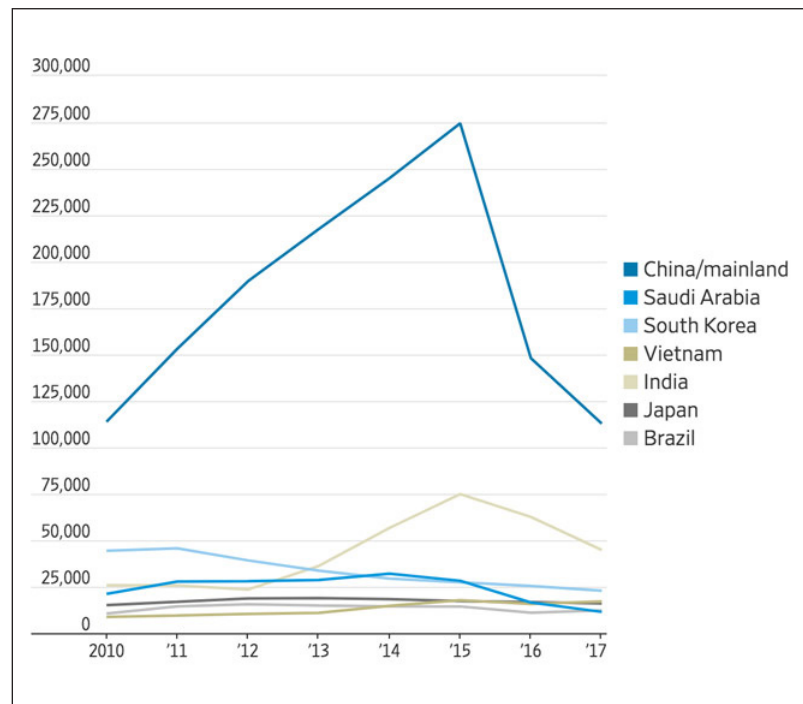
Source: "Education levels of US immigrants are on the rise." Pew Research Center, Washington DC (September 14, 2018) <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/09/14/education-levels-of-u-s-immigrants-are-on-the-rise/>.

FIGURE 19
Educational Attainment
Among US Immigrants
(2017)



Source: Pew Research Center

FIGURE 20
Student Visas to the US
(by country of origin)



Source: US State Department (2017).
<https://monitor.icef.com/2018/03/us-f-1-visas-down-nearly-17-in-2017/>
<https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/nonimmigrant-visas-by-individual-class-of-admission-fy1987-2014>.

FIGURE 21
US Student Visas (by class, for fiscal years 2013-2017)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
F-1 (academic study)	534,320	595,569	644,233	471,728	393,573
M-1 (vocational study)	11,320	11,706	11,058	10,305	9,587
J-1 (exchange visitor)	312,522	331,068	332,540	339,712	343,811

Source: US State Department (2017). <https://monitor.icef.com/2018/03/us-f-1-visas-down-nearly-17-in-2017/>.

FIGURE 22
Characteristics of the US Foreign-born population (1960-2017)

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2017
In labor force (age 16+)	47.5%	48.3%	55.4%	64.2%	47.5%	67.7%	66.0%
Median personal earnings	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$27,518	\$28,576	\$27,008	\$30,000
Median household income	N/A	N/A	\$42,211	\$27,518	\$51,367	\$55,427	\$56,000
Homeownership in family household	88.0%	86.5%	85.9%	87.4%	87.9%	87.0%	73.1%
Living in poverty	19.1%	14.6%	15.2%	17.7%	17.7%	18.7%	15.2%

Source: US State Department (2017). <https://monitor.icef.com/2018/03/us-f-1-visas-down-nearly-17-in-2017/>.

EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMIC STATUS

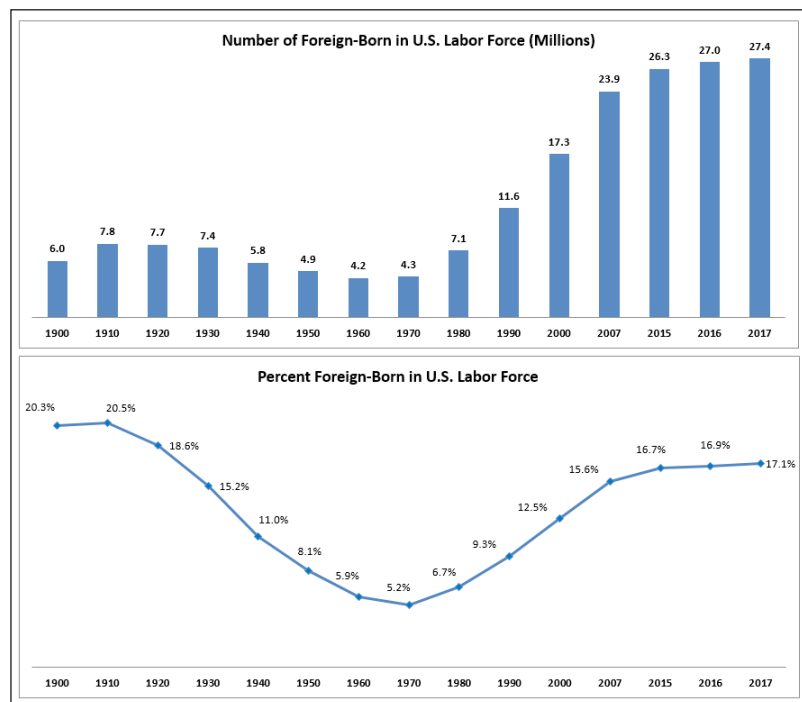
FIGURE 23
Foreign-Born versus Native-Born Employment (2018)

Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2018	Foreign-born			Native-born		
	Men	Women	Total	Total	Men	Women
Total employed (in thousands)	15,714	11,502	27,217	128,544	66,984	61,560

Source: US State Department (2017). <https://monitor.icef.com/2018/03/us-f-1-visas-down-nearly-17-in-2017/>.

The number (in millions) and percent of foreign-born individuals in the US labor force has been steadily increasing since the 1965 immigration reform.

FIGURE 24
Number and Percent of Foreign-Born in US Labor Force



Source: American Community Survey Report (2017).

Immigrants from South and East Asia and Europe/Canada are the highest earners in the US immigrant population whereas immigrants from the Caribbean, Mexico and Central America are in the lowest income quintile.

FIGURE 25
Households By Income, Nativity and Region of Birth, 2016

Universe: 2016 households

	1st quintile (Up to \$23,600)	2nd quintile (\$23,601-\$45,000)	3rd quintile (\$45,001-\$72,000)	4th quintile (\$72,001-\$116,000)	5th quintile (\$116,001+)	Total
All U.S. born	19,994,431	20,395,410	20,077,166	20,315,620	20,268,867	101,051,494
All foreign born	3,819,514	3,930,427	3,391,167	3,193,203	3,474,248	17,808,559
Mexico	1,109,658	1,375,386	1,032,111	723,818	336,969	4,577,942
South and East Asia	755,778	665,669	712,394	933,885	1,455,107	4,522,833
Europe/Canada	539,253	492,035	467,272	515,693	755,390	2,769,643
Caribbean	496,191	438,427	365,203	298,597	221,167	1,819,585
Central America	306,802	366,888	276,875	208,238	123,598	1,282,401
South America	230,391	252,383	243,178	232,236	224,496	1,182,684
Middle East	212,373	147,807	125,605	120,905	192,515	799,205
Sub-Saharan Africa	157,004	178,858	152,975	138,207	133,721	760,765
All other	12,064	12,974	15,554	21,624	31,285	93,501
Total	23,813,945	24,325,837	23,468,333	23,508,823	23,743,115	118,860,053
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION						
All U.S. born	19.8 %	20.2 %	19.9 %	20.1 %	20.1 %	100.0 %
All foreign born	21.4	22.1	19.0	17.9	19.5	100.0
Mexico	24.2	30.0	22.5	15.8	7.4	100.0
South and East Asia	16.7	14.7	15.8	20.6	32.2	100.0
Europe/Canada	19.5	17.8	16.9	18.6	27.3	100.0
Caribbean	27.3	24.1	20.1	16.4	12.2	100.0
Central America	23.9	28.6	21.6	16.2	9.6	100.0
South America	19.5	21.3	20.6	19.6	19.0	100.0
Middle East	26.6	18.5	15.7	15.1	24.1	100.0
Sub-Saharan Africa	20.6	23.5	20.1	18.2	17.6	100.0
All other	12.9	13.9	16.6	23.1	33.5	100.0
All	20.0 %	20.5 %	19.7 %	19.8 %	20.0 %	100.0 %

Note: Quintiles are based upon 2016 total household income distribution. Due to the way in which the IPUMS adjusts annual incomes, these data will differ from those that might be provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. Middle East consists of Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Israel/Palestine, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, Yemen, Algeria, Egypt, Morocco and Sudan. The household population excludes persons living in institutions, college dormitories and other group quarters. Households are classified by the nativity and region of birth of the household head.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of 2016 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS).
 "Statistical Portrait of the Foreign-Born Population in the United States, 2016"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Source: "Characteristics of the US foreign-born population: 2016." Pew Research Center, Washington DC (2016)
https://assets.pewresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2018/09/Pew-Research-Center-Statistical-Portrait-of-the-Foreign-Born-2016-CURRENT-DATA_2018-9-13.pdf.

OCCUPATION

In 2018, foreign-born men and women are more likely than native-born workers to be employed in service, natural resources, construction, maintenance, production, transportation and material moving occupations. The greatest employment disparity among foreign-born and native-born men is in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations, with a 7.7% gap; whereas among foreign-born and native-born women, the gap was largest in services occupations at 13.5%.

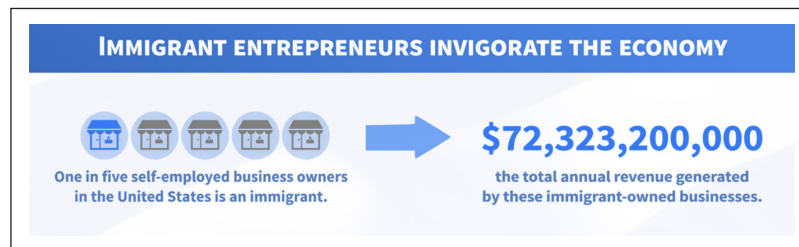
FIGURE 26
Employed Foreign-born and Native-born Persons 16 Years and Over By Occupation and Sex
(2018, Occupation as percent of total employed)

Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2018	Foreign-born			Native-born		
	Men	Women	Total	Total	Men	Women
Management, professional, and related occupations	30.7%	35.5%	32.7%	41.6%	38%	45%
Service occupations (includes healthcare, food prep, janitorial)	16.6%	32.5%	23.3%	15.9%	13.1%	19%
Sales and office occupations	11.2%	19.9%	14.9%	22.9%	16.8%	29.5%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	22.8%	2.0%	14.0%	8.3%	15.1%	0.8%
Production, transportation, material moving	18.6%	10.1%	15.0%	11.3%	16.9%	5.1%

Source: "Foreign-born Workers: Labor Force Characteristics—2018." News Release, Bureau of Labor Statistics (May 16, 2019) <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/forbm.pdf>.

One in five self-employed business owners in the US is an immigrant, which generates over \$72 billion in the US economy.

FIGURE 27
Immigrant Entrepreneurs
Invigorate the Economy



Source: Fact Sheet: Immigrants in the United States. American Immigration Council, (October 4, 2017) <https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/research/immigrants-in-the-united-states>.

TAX CONTRIBUTION

Immigrant households pay over \$223 billion in federal and over \$104 billion in state and local taxes.

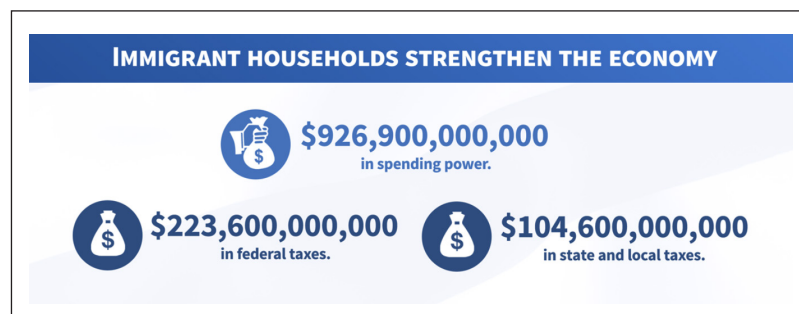
Undocumented immigrants contribute significantly to state and local taxes, collectively paying an estimated **\$11.74 billion** a year. Contributions range from almost \$2.2 million in Montana with an estimated undocumented population of 4,000 to more than \$3.1 billion in California, home to more than 3 million undocumented immigrants.

Undocumented immigrants nationwide pay on average an estimated 8 percent of their incomes in state and local taxes (this is their effective state and local tax rate). To put this in perspective, the top 1 percent of taxpayers pay an average nationwide effective tax rate of just 5.4 percent.

Granting legal status to all undocumented immigrants in the United States as part of a comprehensive immigration reform and allowing them to work legally would increase their state and local tax contributions by an estimated \$2.1 billion a year. **Their nationwide effective state and local tax rate would increase to 8.6 percent.**

Source: "Undocumented Immigrants' State & Local Tax Contributions." Institute on Taxation & Economic Policy, Washington DC (March 2017) <https://itep.org/wp-content/uploads/immigration2017.pdf>.

FIGURE 28
Immigrant Households
Strengthen the Economy

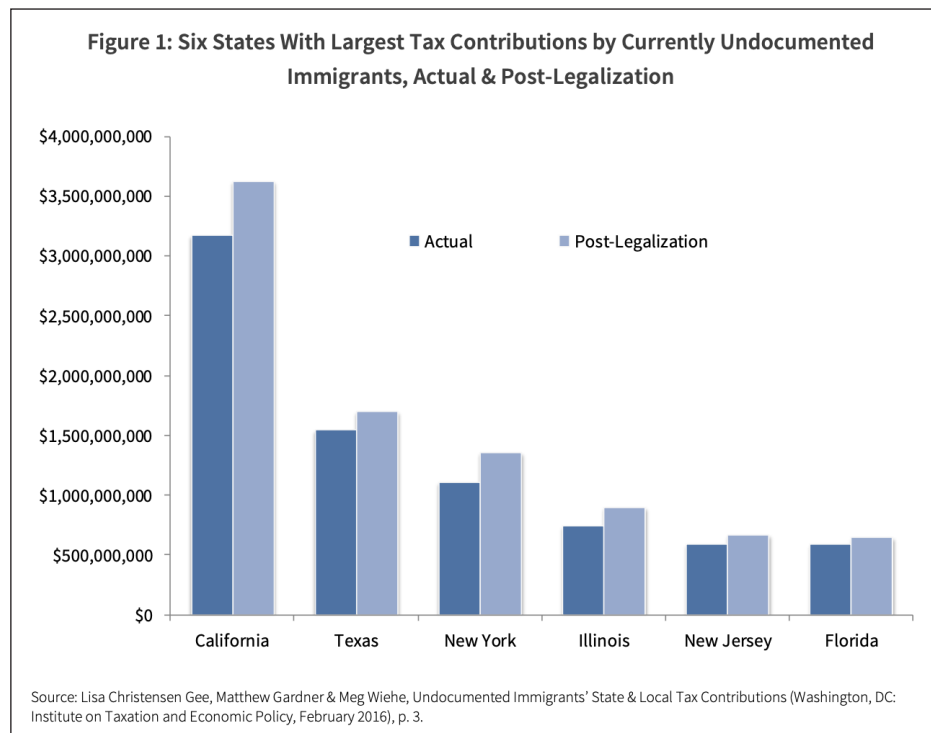


Source: Fact Sheet: Immigrants in the United States. American Immigration Council, (October 4, 2017) <https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/research/immigrants-in-the-united-states>.

In their 2015 report, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) examined several immigration policy proposals and their varying effects on the federal budget. In their analysis, they find a **net positive effect of a more inclusive immigration policy; increasing the flow of immigrant workers into the US labor force and economy “might result in increased tax revenues” due to higher wages workers could earn as a result of legalization in addition to taxes from more workers who are currently not paying taxes.**

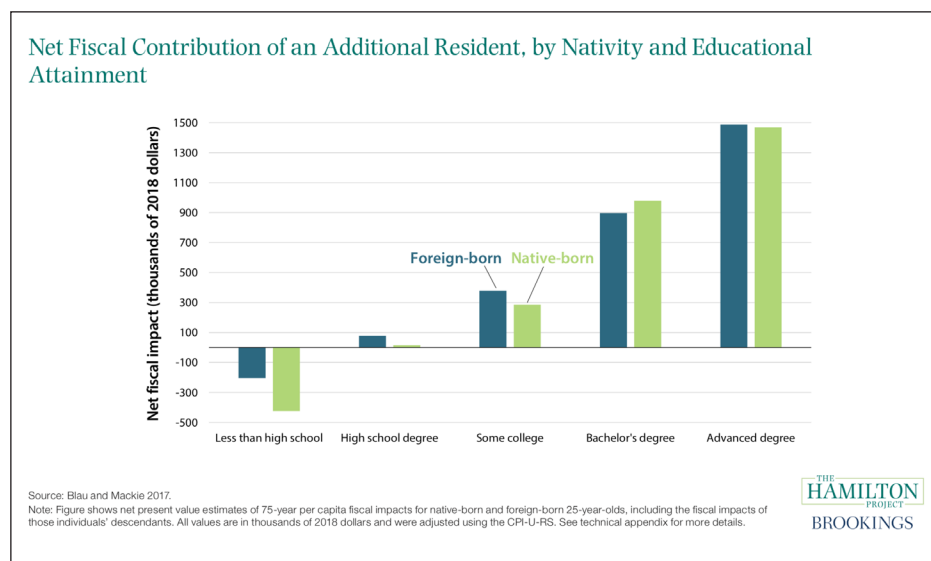
Implementing proposals to expand the existing E Verify program could lead to lower revenues. Expanding border security would require more funding which could reduce spending on emergency services for unauthorized immigrants but reducing the number of unauthorized immigrants, who also pay income taxes, might lead to a loss of tax revenues.

FIGURE 29
The Six States
with the Largest
Tax Contributions
by Currently
Undocumented
Immigrants (actual
and post legalization)



Immigrants contribute positively to government finances over the long run, and high-skilled immigrants make especially large contributions (The Hamilton Project, Brookings).

FIGURE 30
Net Fiscal
Contribution of
an Additional
Resident, by Nativity
and Educational
Attainment



Source: Blau and Mackie (2017). https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/ImmigrationFacts_Web_1008_540pm.pdf.

“Moreover, recent immigrants have tended to experience better labor market outcomes than the overall immigrant population; in part this is due to the more-recent arrivals being better educated, which leads to them having an even more-positive fiscal impact (Orrenius 2017).” — [The Hamilton Project, Brookings](#).

Attitudes Towards Immigrants

A glimpse at how Americans view immigrants and how those views vary across generations

IMMIGRANTS MAKE US STRONGER

Immigrants today make our country stronger because of their work and talents OR Immigrants today are a burden on our country because they take our jobs and social benefits

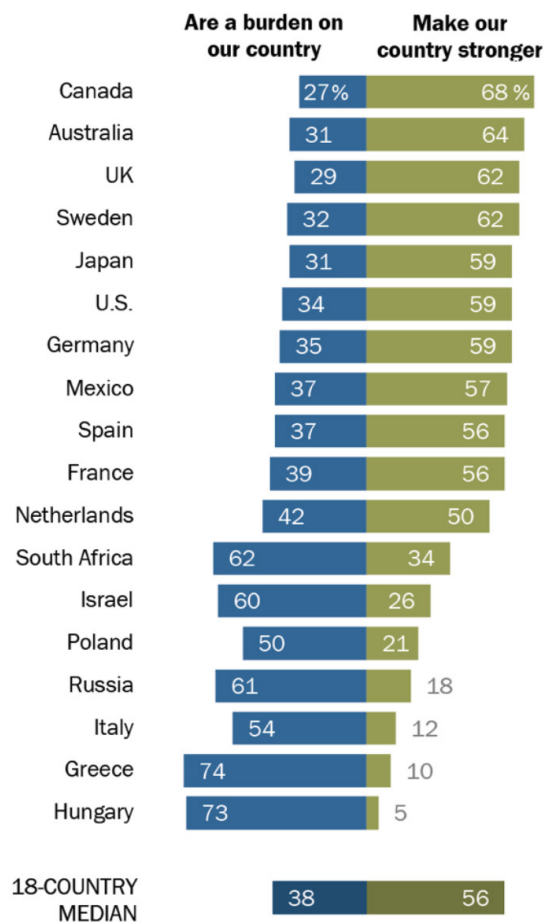


FIGURE 31
Half or More in Many
Destination Countries
View Immigrants
as a Strength

Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q54a.
"Around the World, More Say Immigrants Are a Strength Than a Burden"

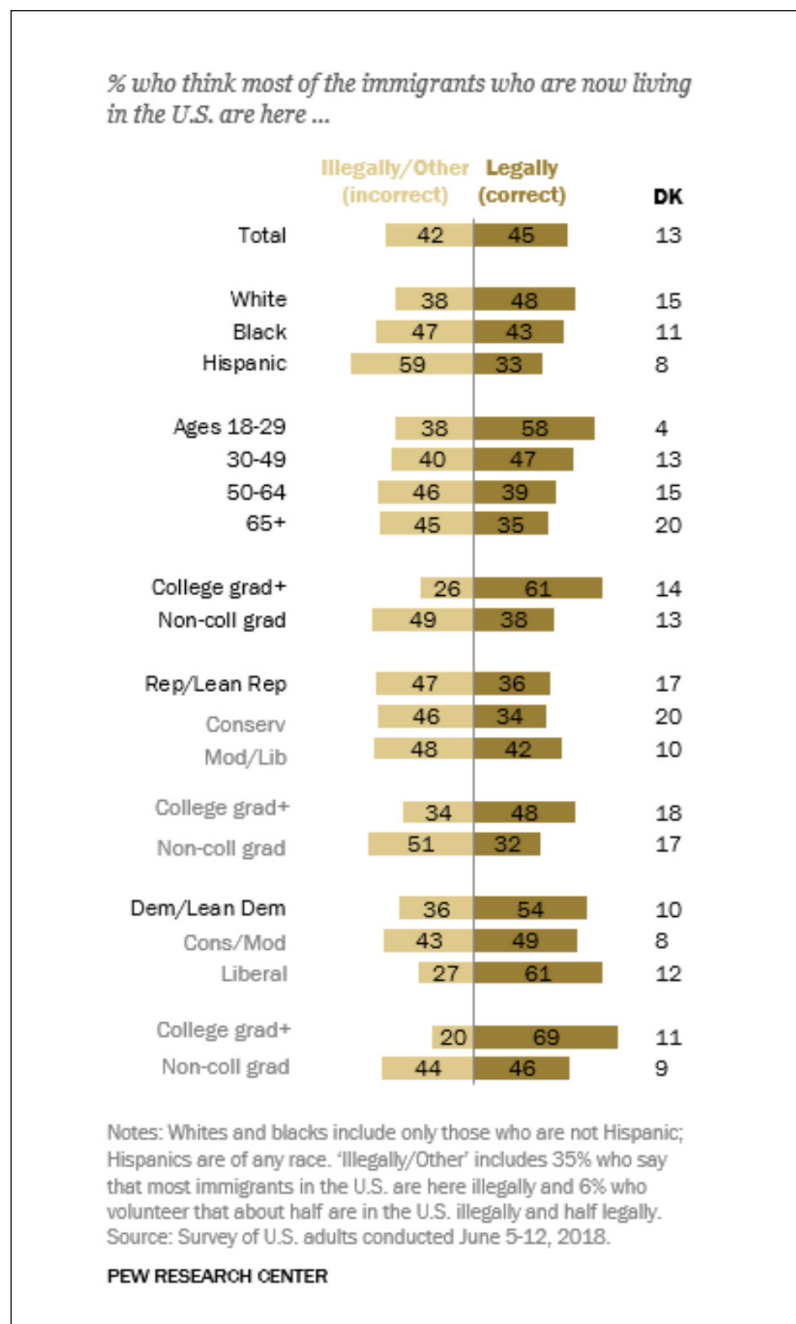
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Source: "Half or more in many destination countries view immigrants as a strength" Pew Research Center, Washington DC, (March 12, 2019)
https://www.pewresearch.org/global/2019/03/14/around-the-world-more-say-immigrants-are-a-strength-than-a-burden/pgmd_2019-03-14_global-migration-attitudes_0-01/

GENERATIONAL DIFFERENCES IN VIEWS

While about three-quarters of immigrants in the US are in the country legally, only 45% of Americans correctly responded that most immigrants are in the country legally.

FIGURE 32
Fewer than Half Know
that Most Immigrants in
the US are Here Legally

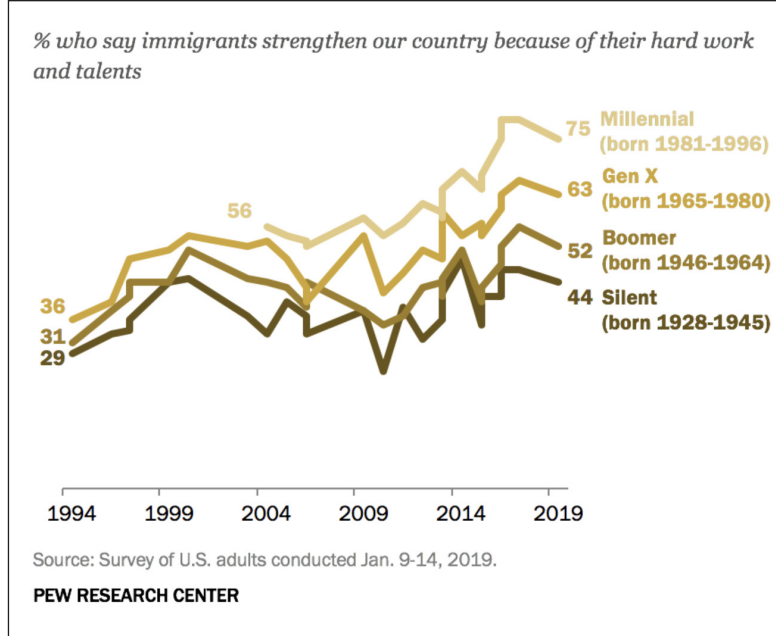


Source: "How Americans see illegal immigration, the border wall and political compromise," Pew Research Center, Washington DC (January 16, 2019) <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/01/16/how-americans-see-illegal-immigration-the-border-wall-and-political-compromise/>.

MOST IMMIGRANTS ARE LEGAL

In the US, younger generations consistently view immigrants as “strengthen[ing] the country because of their hard work and talents” compared to previous generations, all are steadily increasing.

FIGURE 33
Generational Differences
in Views of Immigrants



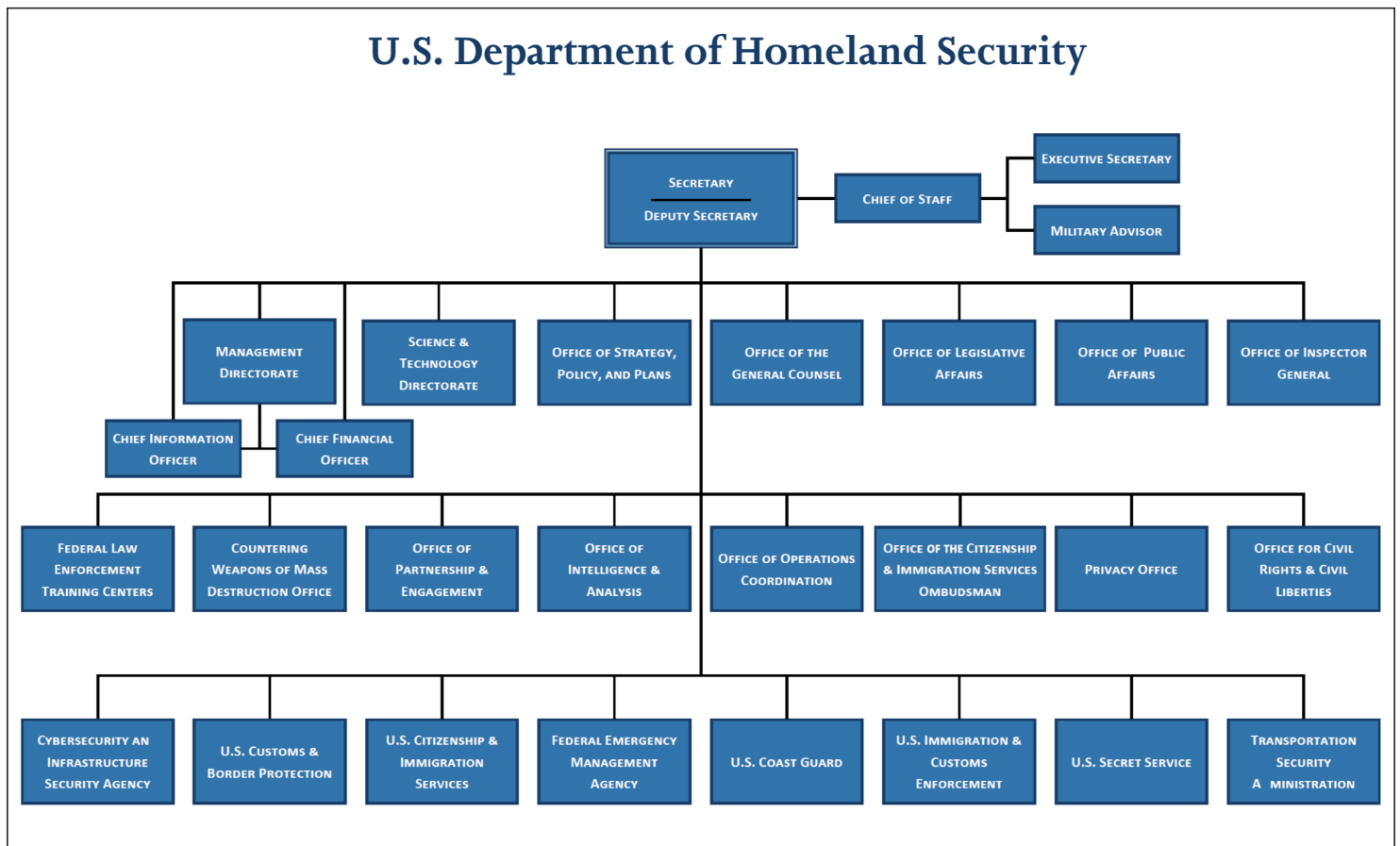
Source: "Majority of Americans continue to say immigrants strengthen the US" Pew Research Center, Washington DC (January 31, 2019) <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/01/31/majority-of-americans-continue-to-say-immigrants-strengthen-the-u-s/>

Immigration and Security

A profile of the Department of Homeland Security, which manages immigration in the US

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

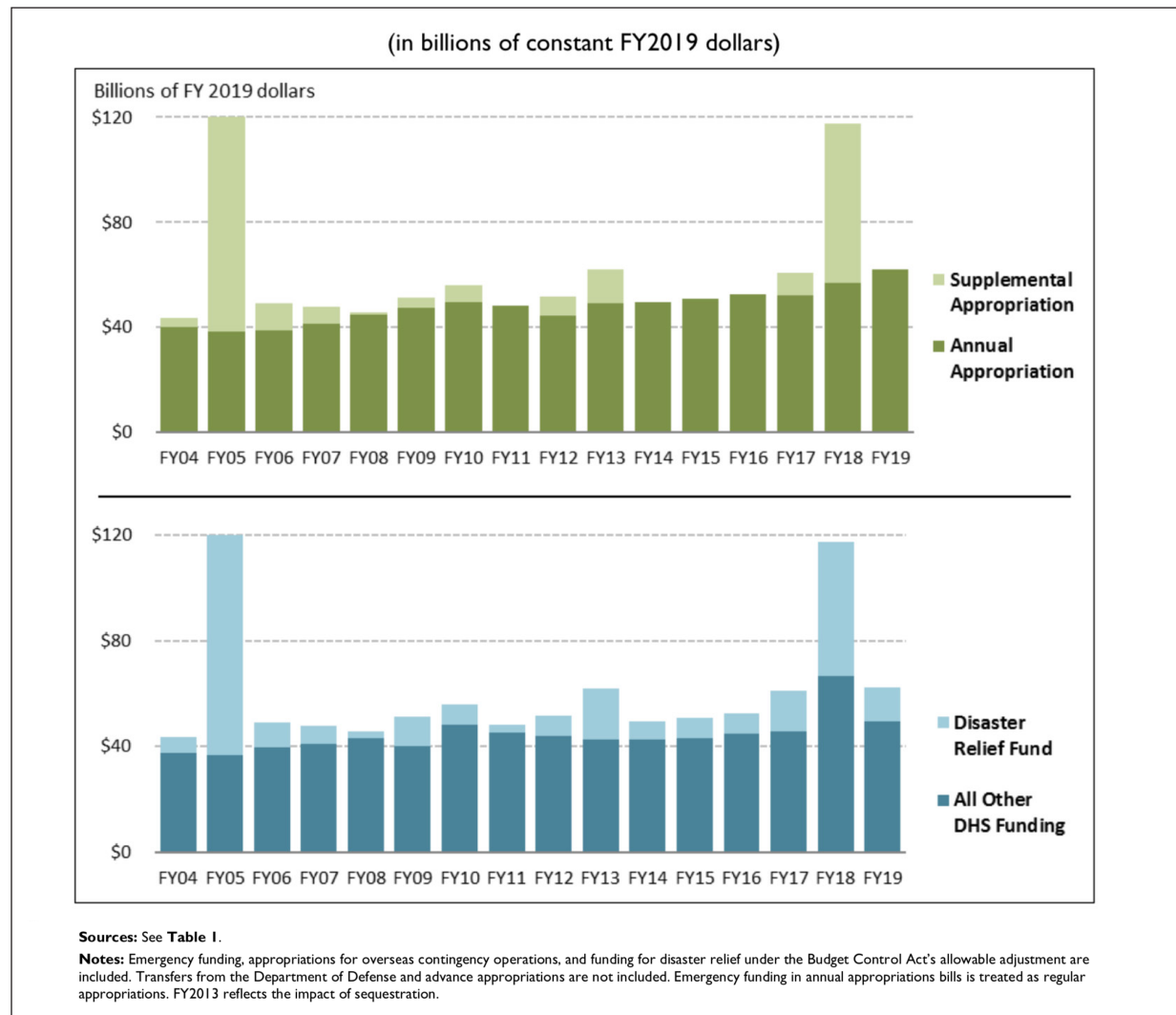
FIGURE 34
Organizational Chart of the US Department of Homeland Security



Source: https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/19_0628_dhs-organizational-chart.pdf.

DHS SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

FIGURE 35
Department of Homeland Security Appropriations (Fiscal Year 2004-2019, Showing Supplemental Appropriations and the Disaster Relief Fund)



Asylee | An alien in the United States or at a port of entry who is found to be unable or unwilling to return to his or her country of nationality, or to seek the protection of that country because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution. Persecution or the fear thereof must be based on the alien's race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. For persons with no nationality, the country of nationality is considered to be the country in which the alien last habitually resided. Asylees are eligible to adjust to lawful permanent resident status after one year of continuous presence in the United States. These immigrants are limited to 10,000 adjustments per fiscal year ([DHS](#)).

Asylum | Protection granted by a nation to someone who has left their native country for fear they will suffer persecution due to: race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion professional immigration ([USCIS](#)).

Chain migration | The social process by which migrants from a particular place follow others from that place to a new particular destination. Immigration following this process in the US is officially known as "family reunification" under US federal law and is specifically the process by which green card holders or legal US residents may sponsor a family member for immigration to the United States.

Citizenship by investment | The process that grants citizenship status to an individual and their immediate family members, contingent upon a specified and quantifiable investment in the country. This type of visa is also known as a "golden visa".

Climate migrants | People who move because of climate change-induced migration. This term generally refers to those moving within countries, at spatial scales of over 14 kilometers, and at decadal temporal scales. Shorter distance or shorter term mobility (such as seasonal or cyclical migration) is not captured by this term (World Bank, Groundswell Report 2018).

Foreign-born | Anyone who is not a US citizen at birth (Pew Research). This includes naturalized US citizens, lawful permanent residents (immigrants), temporary migrants (such as foreign students), humanitarian migrants (such as refugees and asylees), and unauthorized migrants (DHS).

Immigrant | People residing in the United States who were not US citizens at birth (also known as the foreign-born). This population includes naturalized citizens, lawful permanent residents (LPRs), certain legal nonimmigrants (e.g., persons on student or work visas), those admitted under refugee or asylee status, and persons illegally residing in the United States (Migration Policy Institute).

Genius visa (O-1 visa) | Priority visas issued by the USCIS to foreign citizens who are able to demonstrate "extraordinary ability in the sciences, arts, education, business or athletics" or a significant achievement in those areas. Criteria includes: national or international recognition of achievements, publications of scientific or business nature, and commercial success. Proof of continued work in the area of extraordinary ability in the US, and proof that the work is beneficial to US national interests is required ([USCIS](#)).

Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) | Non-citizens who are lawfully authorized to live permanently within the United States. LPRs may accept an offer of employment without special restrictions, own property, receive financial assistance at public colleges and universities, and join the Armed Forces. They also may apply to become US citizens if they meet certain eligibility requirements. Also known as "green card" holders (DHS).

Migrant | A person who leaves his/her country of origin to seek residence in another country ([USCIS](#))

Nonimmigrant | A foreign national who is admitted to the United States for a specific temporary period of time. There are clear conditions on their stay. There are a large variety of nonimmigrant categories, and each exists for a specific purpose and has specific terms and conditions. ([USCIS](#))

Glossary

Refugee | A person who is located outside of the US, is of special humanitarian concern to the US, demonstrates that they were persecuted or fear persecution due to race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion, is not firmly resettled in another country, and is admissible to the US ([USCIS](#))

A refugee does not include any person who ordered, incited, assisted, or otherwise participated in the persecution of any person on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) | Status designated to immigrants from a foreign country due to conditions in the country that temporarily prevent the country's nationals from returning safely, or in certain circumstances, where the country is unable to handle the return of its nationals adequately. Reasons for TPS include: ongoing armed conflict, environmental disaster, or an epidemic. During a designated period, individuals who are TPS beneficiaries are not removable from the US, can obtain an employment authorization document (EAD), and may be granted travel authorization (USCIS).

Visa | A document that allows the bearer to apply for entry to the US in a certain classification such as: student (F), visitor (B) or temporary worker (H). A visa does not grant the bearer the right to enter the United States. The Department of State is responsible for visa adjudication at US Embassies and Consulates outside of the US. The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) immigration inspectors determine admission, length of stay, and conditions of stay at a port of entry.

Articles

California gov signs health care bill extending coverage to some undocumented residents

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/07/10/politics/california-gavin-newsom-medicaid-coverage-undocumented-immigrants/index.html>

DHS: Lawful Permanent Residents

<https://www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics/lawful-permanent-residents>

DHS: Refugees and Asylees

<https://www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics/refugees-asylees>

Emerging Immigrant Settlement Patterns and Effects in Immigrant and Host Communities

<https://pages.vassar.edu/children-of-immigration/2014/12/15/emerging-immigrant-settlement-patterns-and-effects-in-immigrant-and-host-communities/>

Health Coverage of Immigrants

<https://www.kff.org/disparities-policy/fact-sheet/health-coverage-of-immigrants/>

How Trump Manipulates the Migration Debate: The Use and abuse of extra-factual information

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/united-states/2018-07-05/how-trump-manipulates-migration-debate>

Immigration, Health Care and Health

<https://www.rwjf.org/en/library/research/2017/09/immigration-status-and-health.html>

Maps of Immigrants in the United States

<https://www.migrationpolicy.org/programs/data-hub/maps-foreign-born-united-states>

Modern Immigration Wave Brings 59 Million to US, Driving Population Growth and Change Through 2065

<https://www.pewhispanic.org/2015/09/28/modern-immigration-wave-brings-59-million-to-u-s-driving-population-growth-and-change-through-2065/>

Southwest Border Migration FY 2019

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/sw-border-migration>

Trends in Migration to the US

<https://www.prb.org/us-migration-trends/>

Trends in the Timing and Size of DHS Appropriations: In Brief

<https://fas.org/sgp/crs/homesec/R44604.pdf>

What Would Giving Healthcare to Undocumented Immigrant Mean?

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/03/health/undocumented-immigrants-health-care.html>

Yearbook of Immigration Statistics 2017

<https://www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics/yearbook/2017>

The Venezuelan Refugee Crisis Is Not Just a Regional Problem

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/venezuela/2019-07-26/venezuelan-refugee-crisis-not-just-regional-problem>

Signals

[Bernie Sanders is using his massive email list to warn immigrants about ICE raids](#)

<https://www.vox.com/2019/6/25/18715627/bernie-sanders-email-list-warn-immigrants-ice-raids-2020>

DHS Citizen Application (App) Directory

<https://www.dhs.gov/dhs-citizen-application-directory>

MyImmiTracker

<https://myimmitracker.com/>

