

English 201

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION MYTHS

THE KYLE KERN REPORT



Introduction

Immigration is a very hot topic. When Trump came into office, this topic imploded, and has now become a minefield. According to Pew Research Center, 63% of people favor a “path to citizenship”. So even though majority of people are supportive of making illegal immigrants citizens, we still see heated debates about it. The purpose of this article is not to take a stance on this issue, there is plenty of those articles already. The purpose of this article is to talk about myths to make anyone’s argument more valid.

Myth# 1: Immigrants don't pay taxes. So, this myth has layers to it because it is hard to tell exactly how much taxes are paid, however, according to Vox illegal immigrants paid 20 billion dollars in income tax in 2015. Whether or not this number is exactly correct, the myth is definitely disproved. Illegal immigrants absolutely contribute to the tax system. It is worth noting however, that Illegal immigrants may cost us even more. Finding these stats are hard but using some basic math skills we can make a rough estimate. According to the Center for Immigration Studies, 63% of illegal immigrant households (meaning households that are lead by a non-citizen) receive welfare benefits. The average welfare benefits are around \$9000 a year(according to Forbes). 63% of all illegal immigrants is around 7.1 million. Take that number, multiply it by \$9000 a year, you have around 65 billion a year in benefits given to illegal immigrants. Again, this is all a rough estimate but it is safe to say that illegal immigrants pay a lot in taxes, and receive a lot in benefits.

DID YOU KNOW THE CLAIM THAT UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS DON'T PAY TAXES



...is wrong?

Undocumented immigrants paid **\$10.6 Billion** in state and local taxes in 2010.

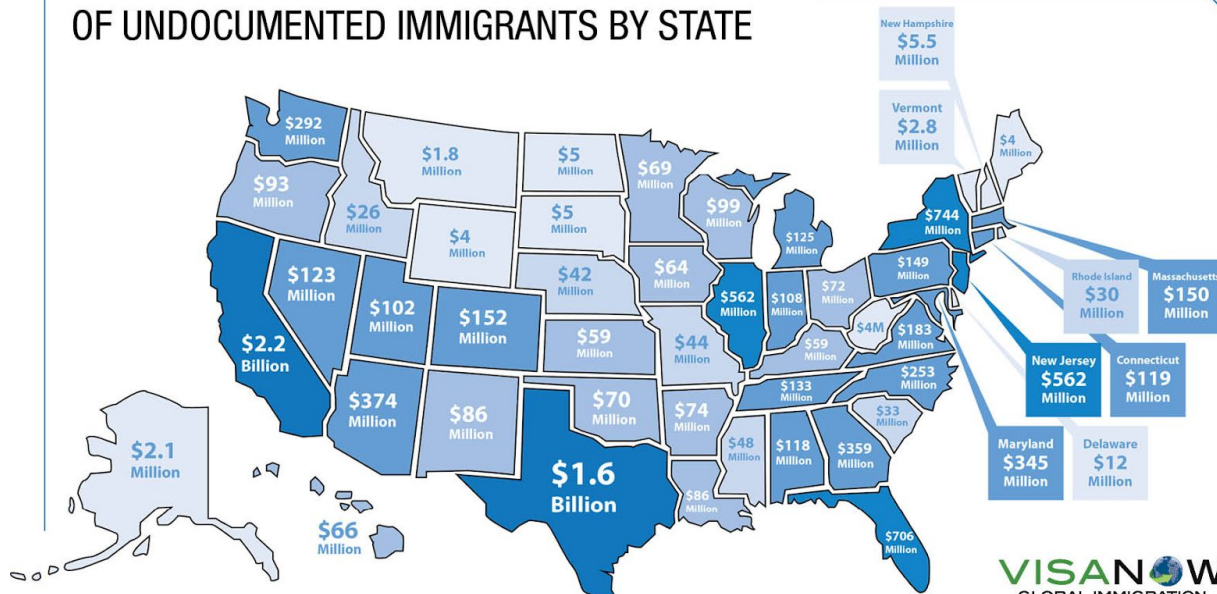
\$1.2 Billion in personal income taxes

\$1.2 Billion in property taxes

\$8.2 Billion in sales and excise taxes

Giving undocumented immigrants the right to work legally would increase their state & local tax payments by an estimated **\$2 Billion** each year.

2010 STATE AND LOCAL TAX CONTRIBUTIONS OF UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS BY STATE

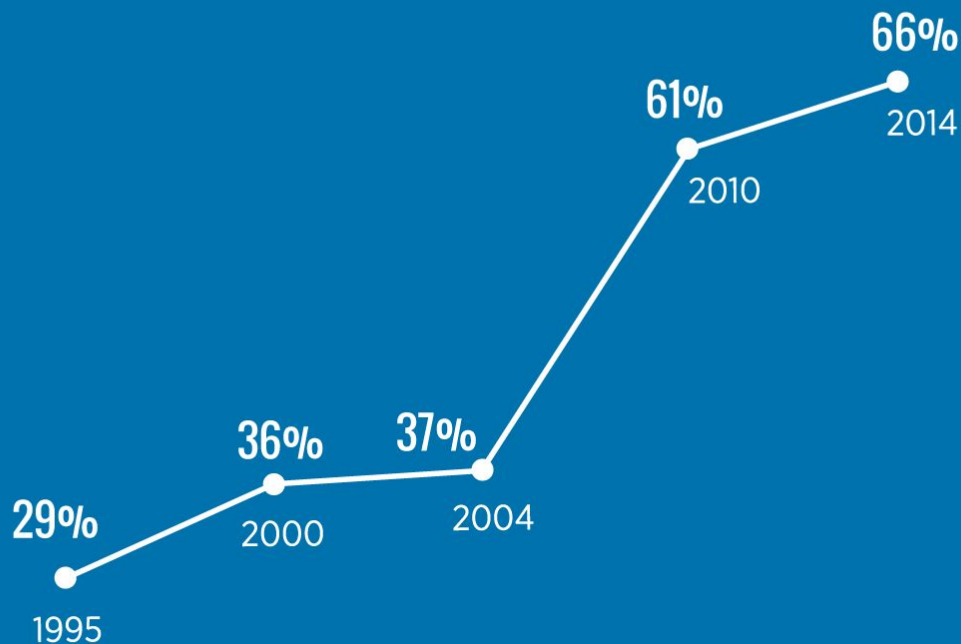


SOURCE: INSTITUTE ON TAXATION AND ECONOMIC POLICY - WWW.ITEP.ORG/IMMIGRATION



Myth #2: All illegal immigrants got here by crossing the border. Well, this is highly wrong too. Here is a fact from the center for migration studies. **“Arriving by air and overstaying temporary visas has been the primary way of entering the US undocumented population over the entire seven-year period covered by this report.”** The reason this myth is detrimental to society is because it saves us billions. People are constantly preaching that we have to spend more money on border patrol, and we have to spend billions on a wall. Yet border patrol and a wall do nothing to deal with overstayed visas. Our budget is tight as it is, and we can’t let uninformed individuals continue to perpetuate an inaccurate fact that could further stress that budget.

Share of Those Here Illegally Who Overstayed Visas on the Rise



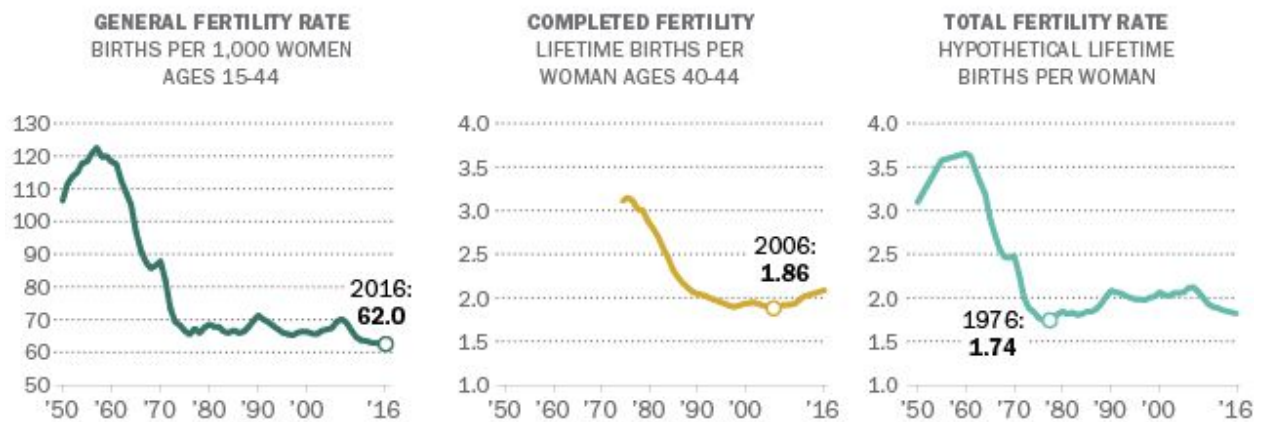
Source: Estimates by Center for Migration Studies

(S)DailySignal.com

Myth #3: Illegal Immigrants are stealing the jobs. According to *pewhispanic.org*, 4.8% of the labor force is made up of undocumented immigrants. Not to mention, this 4.8 is more filling a gap than they are stealing. How? The U.S Birthrate in Women is at 1.8 right now, opposed to the 3.65 in 1960. This means, that in the future our workforce will actually be smaller than it is right now. This will create a noticeable gap, immigrants fill that gap. In Canada, they experienced labor constraint. They fixed this by making immigration easier. In fact, Toronto is 46% immigrant. This is to assist with labor constraints. The U.S would need to do this in the future if the birth rate remains the same as it is now.

U.S. fertility hit all-time low in 2016 ... and 2006 ... and 1976

Fertility indicators



Note: Completed fertility data available since 1976 only. Where necessary, TFR and completed fertility values are interpolated. All values based upon live births.

Source: Data for GFR obtained from National Center for Health Statistics and Heuser (1976); for completed fertility, U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey; for TFR, National Center for Health Statistics.

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Myth #4: Illegal immigrants are invading. Here is a colorful quote from our president himself, “Last month, more than 76,000 illegal migrants arrived at our border. We’re on track for a million illegal aliens to rush our borders. People hate the word ‘invasion’ but that’s what it is. It’s an invasion of drugs and criminals and people. You have no idea who they are.” -Donald Trump. According to the Pew Research Center, in 2016 there were 10.7 million unauthorized immigrants in the U.S. That number, which seems big by itself, is only 3.3% of the United States population. So according to Trump, a 3.3% of our population are invaders. Also, the statement that we have no idea who these people are, is inaccurate. Trump is correct when saying that we received a spike of illegals who arrived at the border and then were apprehended. What he doesn’t mention, is that according to US today, 53,000 of these people were parents and children. Not gun slinging, drug dealing, invaders. Families, desperate families seeking a better life. So we do know who most of these immigrants

are.



Disclaimer: This image is take from the Washington Post.

SOURCES

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