New Arrivals: Who Are the New Immigrants and How Are They Doing?

Thursday, March 28  
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.  
2168 Rayburn HOB—Gold Room

Lunch will be provided  
RSVP: CRDFellow3@dc-crd.com

Moderator:  
Dr. Jeffrey Passel  
Senior Demographer, Pew Research Center

Speakers:  
Dr. Marc Rosenblum  
Deputy Assistant Secretary, Immigration Statistics, Department of Homeland Security

Dr. Guillermina Jasso  
Professor of Sociology, New York University

New Arrivals: Who Are the New Immigrants and How Are They Doing?  
Population Science offers a valuable window into the study of immigration. In fact, a wealth of data exists that enables researchers to evaluate not only who is arriving in the country and where they settle but also how they fare once they make the U.S. their home. Join us for a fascinating exploration of the immigrant experience as revealed by empirical evidence and scholarly analysis by some of the nation’s foremost experts on the topic.
Population Association of America Briefing: Who are the New Immigrants and How Are They Doing?

March 28, 2019

Recent Trends in Legal and Unlawful Immigration

Marc R. Rosenblum, PhD
Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Immigration Statistics
Department of Homeland Security
Overview

• About OIS

• Legal Immigration
  • Lawful Permanent Residents
  • Naturalizations
  • Nonimmigrants
  • Refugees and Asylees

• Unauthorized Immigration
  • Population estimate
  • Estimated illegal flows
About OIS

• About OIS (est. 1870)
  • Yearbook of Immigration Statistics (published since 1890)
  • Five annual Flow Reports
  • Three annual population estimates
  • Annual Border Security Metrics Report
  • Annual Cohort Outcomes Report (Enforcement Lifecycle)
  • Quarterly Border Security Status Reports
  • Quarterly Legal Immigration and Adjustment of Status Report

• DHS Immigration Data Integration Initiative

• All data in this presentation available on OIS website:
  https://www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics
Number of New Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs)

- **361,972** new LPRs in FY 1967 vs. **1,127,167** new LPRs in FY 2017

- In the 15 year span from FY 2002 to FY 2017, the number of adjustments have decreased slightly while the number of new arrivals increased.
New LPRs: Country of Birth and State of Residence

37.8% of LPRs are from the top 5 countries

57.3% of LPRs settle in top 5 states
Lawful Permanent Residents – Estimated Population

LPRs and Eligibility to Naturalize: FY 2002*

LPRs and Eligibility to Naturalize: FY 2015*

*Estimates are in thousands (000). Estimates for 2015 are tentative and may be subject to change.
Naturalizations

- 707,265 were naturalized in 2017 versus 104,902 in 1967.

- Since the 1970’s Asia has overtaken Europe as the largest region of origin for naturalizations following the 1965 amendments to the Immigration and Nationality Act and arrival of Indochinese refugees.
During FY 2017, DHS granted a total of more than 181 million nonimmigrant admissions.

Admissions included 103 million admissions of business and pleasure travelers from Canada and Mexico who were exempt from filling out I-94 forms and 78 million admissions of nonimmigrants who were issued Form I-94/I-94W—the subject of most OIS reporting.

There are two major breaks in I-94 data. The number of I-94 admissions recorded increased in 2010 as a result of changes in recording at land ports, and in 2013 because of I-94 automation at air and sea ports.

Nonimmigrant Admissions

- Temporary visitors for pleasure and business make up the majority of I-94/I-94W travelers every year.

- 38 countries currently participate in the Visa Waiver Program (I-94W). VWP visitors accounted for 19 million out of 62 million visitors for pleasure (31%), and 3.2 out of 8.5 million temporary visitors for business (38%).

![Nonimmigrant Admissions by Major Class of Admission (I-94/I-94W): FY 2017](chart)

New York (7.4 million), Miami (6.1), and Los Angeles (5.3) were the top 3 ports of entry for Nonimmigrants.

California, Florida, New York, Texas, and Hawaii were the most reported states of destination for Nonimmigrants.

Nonimmigrant Population Estimate

- DHS estimates that there are 2.3 million nonimmigrants residing in the U.S. as of 2016. More than 60% of temporary residents were citizens of Asian countries and 15% each were from Europe and North America.

- Nearly 50% of temporary residents were temporary workers and nearly 40% were students.
Refugee Admissions

- The United States admitted 54,000 refugees in FY 2017.*
- Dependents such as spouses and children make up the majority of refugees entering the United States.

Refugee Admissions and Ceilings: FY 1990 to FY 2017

*Estimates for 2017 are tentative and may be subject to change.
Refugee Admissions

- From 2000 to 2017*, the U.S. has admitted over 170,000 refugees from Burma, nearly 150,000 from Iraq, and about 740,000 from all other countries.
- Since FY 2008, most refugees originated from countries in the Near East/South Asia region. Ceilings were also the highest in this region.

Refugee Arrivals by Top Country of Nationality: FY 2000 to FY 2017

- Afghanistan
- Syria
- Vietnam
- Liberia
- Russia
- Sudan
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Ukraine
- Cuba
- Iran
- Bhutan
- Somalia
- Iraq
- Burma
- All Other Countries

*Estimates for 2017 are tentative and may be subject to change.
Asylees

- Affirmative asylum applications reached nearly 140,000 in FY 2017*, 21% more than the year before and close to a 150% increase since 2014. 2017 saw the highest number of affirmative applications since 1995.

- Defensive Asylum application also increased, from 63,223 receipts in 2015 to 81,733 in 2016, and 142,961 in 2017. The largest numbers of receipts were from citizens of the Northern Triangle countries and Mexico.

- A total of 26,568 people were granted asylum in FY 2017. The three leading countries of nationality were China, El Salvador, and Guatemala, accounting for 45% of asylum recipients.

*Estimates for 2017 are tentative and may be subject to change.
In FY 2018 572,566 apprehensions/arrests were made by Border Patrol (USBP) and ICE.

Of all DHS apprehensions/arrests 69 percent were USBP apprehensions along the SW border.

Mexico and the Northern Triangle continued to dominate apprehensions, but other countries saw major increases.
USBP apprehensions have shifted from mostly Mexicans citizens to mostly citizens of Northern Triangle countries.

- Apprehensions of aliens from other countries have also increased.

- About 98 percent of USBP apprehensions each year are made along the southwest border.
• Apprehensions have also shifted to include greater shares of family units and unaccompanied children.

• Roughly 75 percent of unaccompanied children apprehended since 2015 are from Northern Triangle countries.

• 83 - 94 percent of family units apprehended since 2015 are from Northern Triangle countries.
Enforcement – Inadmissible Aliens

OFO Inadmissible Passengers: FY 2012 to 2018

- Roughly half of the inadmissibility determinations in the last few years were made at Southwest border ports.
- Almost 10 percent of all inadmissibles in 2017 were family units and unaccompanied children along the Southwest border.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Passengers</td>
<td>351,551,007</td>
<td>362,333,988</td>
<td>374,974,750</td>
<td>383,200,225</td>
<td>390,592,745</td>
<td>397,407,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inadmissibles</td>
<td>197,362</td>
<td>205,920</td>
<td>224,927</td>
<td>254,637</td>
<td>292,614</td>
<td>216,157</td>
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Estimated Illegal Entries

- DHS estimates that unlawful entries between ports along SW border fell from over 2 million in FY 2000 to 160 thousand in FY 2017.

- Fewer than 60 thousand unlawful entries were undetected.

- OIS’ model-based apprehension rate increased from a low of 32 percent in FY 2003 to a recent high of 73 percent in FY 2016.
Unauthorized Population

- DHS estimated the unauthorized population to be 12.0 million as of January 1, 2015.

- The population grew by an average of 70,000 people per year from 2010 to 2015, compared to 470,000 per year during the years leading up to the Great Recession (2000-2007).

- DHS estimates the unauthorized population by using Census data to estimate the total foreign-born population and using DHS data to estimate the legally resident foreign-born population. The difference between them (or “residual”) is the estimated unauthorized population.

• The top 5 leading states of residence for the unauthorized population were California, Texas, Florida, New York, and Illinois.

• Nearly 60% of the unauthorized population falls within the 25 to 44 age group.

• About 55 percent of the unauthorized population in 2015 was from Mexico, down from 60 percent in 2010.

• After Mexico, the next leading source countries were El Salvador, Guatemala, India, Honduras, and the Philippines.
Contact Information

Marc Rosenblum
Marc.Rosenblum@hq.dhs.gov
202-447-3581

https://www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics
New Arrivals: Who are the New Immigrants and How are they doing? Insights from the New Immigrant Survey

Guillermina Jasso
New York University

PAA Congressional Briefing
March 28, 2019
Overview

- US Immigration Context
- New Immigrant Survey
- Maximizing the Payoff
Overview

- US Immigration Context
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- Maximizing the Payoff
The United States is enormously attractive:

- Unleashes talents
- Enables pursuit of happiness
- Constitution a jewel
Background

More people would like to live in the U.S. than current or foreseeable law permit

- Backlogs for the 366,000 numerically limited visas granted yearly around 3 to 4 million
- Illegals almost 12 million
- Every year millions of people in low-demand countries apply for 50,000 lottery visas
  - 2016: 11.4 million covering 17.5 million persons
  - 2017: 12.4 million covering 19.3 million persons
  - 2018: 14.7 million covering 23.1 million persons
Today’s Focus: LPRs

May have been
- Legal temporary resident
- Illegal

May become
- Citizen
- Illegal
  - fail to remove LPR conditionality restrictions
  - denaturalized
New LPRs – FY 2017 – 1,127,167

Numerically unlimited visas 516,508
- spouses of U.S. citizens 292,909
- parents of adult U.S. citizens 148,610
- minor children of U.S. citizens 74,989

Numerically limited visas 421,685
- family preferences 232,238
- employment preferences 137,855
- diversity 51,592

Humanitarian 146,029
Legalization & Other 42,945
Visa Process

- Lasts from filing of first application (e.g., by sponsor) to granting of LPR
- May involve multiple agencies
- Visa wait has two components
  - Wait for numerically limited visa
  - Processing once the visa is available
  - In numerically limited family and employment visa cases, the priority date is the date that the first document was filed (e.g., by sponsor to USCIS or to the Dept of Labor)
Immigrant Characteristics and Behavior Shaped by . . .

- Pre-migration experiences
- Origin country characteristics
- Immigrant class of admission (visa type)
- Whether new arrival or adjustee
- Previous illegal experience
Immigrant Class of Admission Determines . . .

- Whether visa numerically unlimited (spouses, parents, and minor children of U.S. citizens) – or numerically limited
- If numerically limited, the wait for a visa
- Whether derivative visas are available for spouse and minor children
- Whether a sponsor is required – i.e., family and employment visas
- Whether other agencies are involved – i.e., Dept of Labor in employment visas
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Objective of NIS

- Create new public-use data base on legal immigrants and their children
- Answer fundamental questions about migration behavior and the impacts of immigration
NIS Design

- Representative samples of new LPRs (DHS records)
  - both new arrivals and adjustees
- Sample new cohorts periodically
- Obtain information about sampled immigrant, plus
  - Family members in the household
  - Family members elsewhere
  - Others in the household
  - Children, including those born later
- Re-interview them periodically
- Histories: prospective and retrospective
- Child assessments
Visa Composition of NIS-2003

- Spouse of Native Born US citizen: 16.2%
- Spouse of Foreign Born US citizen: 17.9
- Parent of US citizen: 11.9
- Minor child of US citizen: 3.38
- Sibling of US citizen: 3.94
- Spouse of sibling: 2.49
- Spouse of LPR: 2.44
- Employment principal: 6.02
- Employment spouse: 3.63
- Diversity principal: 5.53
- Diversity spouse: 2.58
- Refugee/asylee/parolee principal: 5.35
- Refugee/asylee/parolee spouse: 1.22
- Legalization principal: 7.98
Screening for Skill - 1

In both family and employment immigration sponsors screen for skills

- Employers seek to fill immediate job vacancy
- Family seeks longer-term well-being
  - assortative mating
  - U.S. law incentivizes sponsors to choose immigrants with an eye to their financial future (via the Affidavit of Support) – sponsors become financially responsible until immigrant becomes a U.S. citizen or can be credited with 40 quarters of work

Thus, not much difference at entry between spouses of U.S. citizens (most numerous) and employment-based (13.5 years vs 15.4 years)

Higher-skill adult children sponsored first
Family sponsors may have superior information about the future contributions of the immigrants they sponsor.

Skill gap at entry between spouses of U.S. citizens and employment immigrants may narrow over time:

- In the 1977 LPR cohort, the skill gap (measured by the average earnings of the occupation at entry and at naturalization) narrowed through 1990.
- Employment immigrants shifted to lower-earnings occupations.
- Spouse immigrants shifted to higher-earning occupations.
Marriage and Skin Color

- Native Born sponsors marrying darker
- Foreign Born sponsor women marrying darker but men marrying lighter
- NB American women especially promoting both general color diversity and couple color diversity
Marriage and Skin Color

NB U.S. Citizen sponsor age significant

- Propensity to marry darker increases to age 38, then declines
- Reaching out across color line peaked for NB women born in 1965, at the height of the Civil Rights Movement
- Suggests integrationist parental influences during the formative years.
Previous Illegal Experience of New LPRs: NIS-2003

Based on administrative record alone
- 35.7 %

Based on survey data alone
- 20.5 %

Total (based on both record & survey)
- 38.4 %
  - men: 40.3
  - women: 37.0
Percent Formerly Illegal: NIS-2003

- Spouse of NB US citizen (16.2%): 55.3%
- Spouse of FB US citizen (17.9%): 47.7
- Parent of US citizen (11.9%): 23.5
- Minor child of US citizen (3.38%): 38.6
- Sibling of US citizen (3.94%): 10.4
- Spouse of sibling (2.49%): 2.70
- Spouse of LPR (2.44%): 57.5
- Employment principal (6.02%): 20.8
- Employment spouse (3.63%): 16.0
- Diversity principal (5.53%): 4.98
- Diversity spouse (2.58%): .992
- RAP principal (5.35%): 46.5
- RAP spouse (1.22%): 14.8
- Legalization (7.98%): 100
Pathways to Legalization: Top Five Visa Categories Among Formerly Illegal NIS-2003

- Spouse of NB US citizen 23.3 %
- Spouse of FB US citizen 22.3
- Legalization 20.8
- Parent of US citizen 7.31
- Ref/asy/parolee principal 6.47
Past and Future, by Sex: NIS 2003

Wanted to be LPR in the US

- Never: Men 14.8, Women 21.3
- Specific Year: Men 53.6, Women 50.8
- Always: Men 31.5, Women 27.9

Intention to Stay in U.S.

- No: Men 9.1, Women 11
- Uncertain: Men 10.3, Women 12.6
- Yes: Men 80.6, Women 76.5
Past and Future: by Previous Illegal Experience

Wanted to be LPR in U.S.

- Never: 19% Not Previously Illegal, 17.7% Previously Illegal
- Specific year: 56.1% Not Previously Illegal, 45.9% Previously Illegal
- Always: 24.9% Not Previously Illegal, 36.4% Previously Illegal

Intention to Stay in U.S.

- No: 11.6% Not Previously Illegal, 7.94% Previously Illegal
- Uncertain: 14% Not Previously Illegal, 7.86% Previously Illegal
- Yes: 74.5% Not Previously Illegal, 84.2% Previously Illegal
English Fluency

- All adult immigrants: 41.2%
- Parents of children 8-12: 26.0%
- Children 8-12: 68%
Children’s English Fluency

Leveling in English fluency across children 8-12 of new adult immigrants

- No gender difference
- Children born in U.S. more fluent than children brought before age four
- Dramatic similarity across parental visa type
- Dramatic similarity across parental origin country
- Increased use of English if parents had illegal experience
  - Suggests possibility of compensation and/or experience interpreting for parents
Overview

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Maximize NIS Payoff

As per original design

- Field more rounds for the 1996 and the 2003 immigrant cohorts
- Survey new cohorts
  - every five years
  - or whenever U.S. or world conditions warrant
Maximize Scientific Payoff: Link NIS Data to DHS Data

- Removal of conditionality restrictions on LPR
- Green card renewal
- Residential mobility
- Naturalization among adults
- Derived citizenship via parental naturalization
- Sponsorship
Maximize Scientific Payoff: Cohort Comparisons

Compare

- 1996 Cohort
- 2003 Cohort

Examine differences in

- Removal of conditionality restrictions
- Green card renewal
- Acquisition of citizenship
- English fluency
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New Immigrant Survey

public-use data

http://nis.princeton.edu
Principal Investigators

Guillermina Jasso | New York University
Douglas S. Massey | Princeton University
Mark R. Rosenzweig | Yale University
James P. Smith | RAND Corporation
Sources of Support

National Institutes of Health
  NICHD and NIA
National Science Foundation
Department of Homeland Security
  UCSIS
Department of Health and Human Services
  ASPE
PEW Research
More than three-in-four U.S. immigrants are lawful residents

- Unauthorized Immigrants: 10.7 million (24%)
- Naturalized Citizens: 20.2 million (45%)
- Lawful Permanent Residents: 12.2 million (27%)
- Temporary Lawful Residents: 2.1 million (5%)

Total U.S. foreign-born Population: 45.1 million

Source: Pew Research Center based on augmented 2016 ACS.

Pew Research Center

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