

TALKING POINTS

Here some important facts about immigration that you can use in letters to the editor, articles, speeches, or in other public education efforts, depending on your needs.

- √ Over 1.5 million immigrants enter the U.S. every year. (*Immigration and Naturalization Service.*)
- √ Immigrants and their children now account for more than 70 percent of U.S. population growth. (*Center for Immigration Studies, Washington, D.C.*)
- √ If present immigration trends continue, the population of the U.S. will exceed 500 million by 2050. (*U.S. Census Bureau*)
- √ More than 25 percent of federal prison inmates are aliens. (*U.S. Department of Justice*)
- √ More than 11 million aliens live in the U.S. illegally. (*Corrected U.S. Census Bureau estimates*)
- √ If current immigration trends continue, no racial or ethnic group will be a majority by 2050. (*U.S. Census Bureau*)
- √ The poverty rate for immigrants is 50 percent higher than that of the native-born. (*Center for Immigration Studies, Washington, D.C.*)
- √ The proportion of immigrant households on welfare is 30 percent to 50 percent higher than that of natives. (*Center for Immigration Studies, Washington, D.C.*)
- √ 71 percent of immigrants live in just six states: California, New York, Florida, Texas, Illinois, and New Jersey. 25 percent of all aliens in the U.S. live in California. (*U.S. Census Bureau.*)
- √ Welfare benefits for the children of illegal aliens alone cost U.S. taxpayers more than \$1 billion each year. (*General Accounting Office, Washington, D.C.*)
- √ The net cost to taxpayers for immigration since 1997 will reach \$865 billion by 2006. (*Public assistance to immigrants minus the taxes they pay. Prof. Donald Huddle, Rice University.*)
- √ The rate of TB infection among aliens in the U.S. is five times the infection rate for Americans. The immigrant TB rate is 32.9 cases for every 100,000 persons. The rate for the native-born is just 5.8 per 100,000. (*Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, Georgia.*)

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- √ An estimated 1.88 million U.S. workers have been displaced from their jobs because of immigration. (*Prof. Donald Huddle, Rice University.*)
- √ 44 percent of the decline in real wages for low-skilled American workers between 1980 and 1994 was due to the mass immigration of low-skilled workers. (*National Research Council, Washington, D.C.*)
- √ The U.S. loses more than 1 million acres of undeveloped land annually due to the urbanization, transportation needs, and industrial expansion caused by immigration-fueled population growth. (*Dr. David Pimentel, Cornell University.*)
- √ 54 percent of all Americans favor restricting immigration to less than 100,000 a year; more than 70 percent favor reducing immigration levels to less than 300,000 per year. Current policy allows more than 1 million per year to enter legally. (*Roper Organization poll, 1997.*)
- √ The average adult Mexican immigrant costs U.S. taxpayers \$55,200 in public services over his entire lifetime, after accounting for taxes paid by the immigrant. (*Center for Immigration Studies, Washington, D.C.*)
- √ As of December 2001, the Immigration and Naturalization Service was unable to account for the whereabouts of 300,000 illegal aliens who had been ordered deported. (*Immigration and Naturalization Service*)
- √ All 19 of the suicide hijackers responsible for the September 11 attacks entered the U.S. with permission of U.S. authorities. (*The Washington Times, Associated Press*)
- √ Mass immigration costs American workers \$133 billion per year in depressed wages and lost jobs. (*Prof. George Borjas, Harvard University*)
- √ Currently, 1.6 acres of arable land are available for every person in the U.S. By 2050 at current immigration rates, only 0.6 acres will be available. (*Population-Environment Balance, Washington, D.C.*)
- √ Mass immigration hurts the Social Security system. In 1993, immigrants had paid \$13 billion into the Social Security system but were receiving \$16 billion in benefits. (*Prof. Donald Huddle, Rice University*)