



# Immigration Policy



“Born in other countries, yet believing you could be happy in this, our laws acknowledge, as they should do, your right to join us in society, conforming... to our established rules. That these rules shall be as equal as prudential considerations will admit, will certainly be the aim of our legislatures, general and particular.” —**Thomas Jefferson**

## [What are the solutions to illegal immigration in America?](#)

A growing share of the children of illegal immigrants are U.S.-born citizens, illustrating a sensitive, demographic shift in the makeup of America’s undocumented migrant population. The Pew Hispanic Center released a report Tuesday estimating that about 73 percent of the children of illegal immigrant parents were U.S.-born citizens in 2008, up from roughly 63 percent in 2003. During that time frame, the estimated number of children born in the U.S. to undocumented parents increased from 2.7 million to 4 million. The report estimates that at least one in 10 Texas school children has a parent in the country illegally. -- **Houston Chronicle - April 15, 2009**

The number of children born in the U.S. into families with at least one parent here illegally is growing, posing thorny policy questions for U.S. and Mexican officials. A study released Tuesday by the Pew Hispanic Center showed that there were 4 million such children in 2008, up from 2.7 million five years earlier. All children born in this country are U.S. citizens, even if their parents are not. Texas is home to an estimated 1.4 million illegal immigrants. And the Dallas region has the nation's third-highest population of those born in Mexico. Mexicans represent nearly 60 percent of illegal immigrants nationwide, according to the Pew study. -- **Dallas Morning News - April 15, 2009**

- [United States Immigration Support](#)
- [National Council for La Raza](#)
- [American Civil Liberties Union](#)
- [American Immigration Lawyers Association](#)
- [Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund](#)

"The vast majority of immigrants are not eligible to receive any of these [welfare] benefits for many years after their arrival in the United States. . . . Legal permanent residents cannot receive SSI [Supplemental Security Income], which is available only to U.S. citizens, and are not eligible for means-tested public benefits until 5 years after receiving their green cards." -- "**Immigration and Welfare**," **Wall Street Journal**, May 24, 2007 [EReserves](#): Most of them will pay at least as much as they collect.

## [Immigration Law Center](#)

"Anybody who is any good is different from anybody else." —Felix Frankfurter



"**The Battle Over Immigration**," *Washington Post* Special Report Editorial, "**Conservatives & Immigration**," *Wall Street Journal*, July 110, 2006.  
 Commentary, "**A Conservative Statement for Immigration Reform**," *Wall Street Journal*, July 10, 2006, A11.



## ILLEGAL WORKERS IN TEXAS

**They work as maids and busboys. They build homes and highways. They bone chickens on the way to market. They are worth billions of dollars to the Texas economy, but as members of the working poor they also are a drain of hundreds of millions of dollars from taxpayers. They are the 1.4 million illegal immigrants that the federal government estimates live in Texas. Half are divided evenly between the Dallas and Houston areas, according to the Center for Immigration Studies, with an additional 20 percent in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Less than 5 percent live in the traditional Hispanic capital of Texas: San Antonio. -- *Houston Chronicle* - January 3, 2007**



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