

2020 Update: How Many Illegal Aliens Live in the United States?

By Spencer Raley, Madison McQueen, and Jason Pena | December 31, 2020

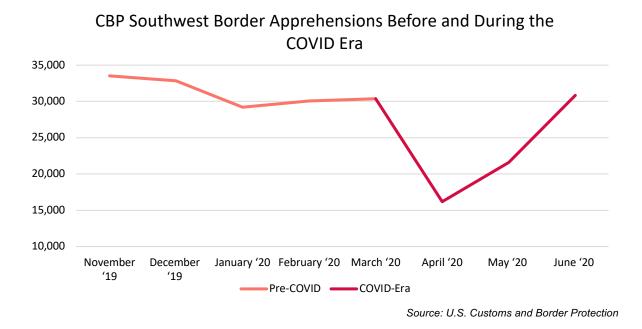
As of 2020, FAIR estimates that there are approximately 14.5 million illegal aliens residing within the United States. This number is marginally higher than FAIR's previous estimate of 14.3 million in 2019.

Based on FAIR's most recent comprehensive fiscal cost study, illegal aliens are likely imposing a net fiscal burden of at least \$133.7 billion.¹ That's an increase of nearly \$2 billion over the past year.



Despite these alarming figures, the increase in the illegal alien population grew at a lower-thanexpected rate. This can be attributed to a variety of reasons, including:

• The effects of the coronavirus pandemic. As many as 60 percent of all new illegal aliens in any given year are those who have overstayed visas.² Thanks to a timely travel freeze implemented by the Trump administration to stop the spread of the virus, far fewer people entered the United States in recent months, so far fewer people had the opportunity to overstay their visas. Additionally, with fewer available jobs in the United States, especially in industries that attract illegal aliens, traffic at the southern border slowed significantly for several months during a time of year when apprehensions typically increase significantly.



The implementation of the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP).³ Prior to this program, there was a dramatic increase in fraudulent asylum claims made by illegal aliens trying to enter the United States for purely economic reasons. Thousands of these asylum applicants would be released into the United States, then never show up for their hearings. The MPP requires that many asylum applicants wait outside the United States while their case is processed, providing they have a safe country that will host them, such as Mexico.

Several issues persist that continue to drive illegal aliens into the United States or encourage them to stay here. These include:

- An increasing number of sanctuary jurisdictions throughout the United States, where local and state law enforcement are prohibited from cooperating with federal immigration law enforcement.
- Many corporations continue to exploit illegal labor to lower labor costs and pad their profits.
- An increasing number of states and jurisdictions offering social welfare programs and other benefits to illegal aliens, including in-state tuition, driver's licenses, and even COVID-19 relief funds.
- A massively backlogged immigration court system.
- The promise of a wide-sweeping amnesty from the incoming administration.

President-elect Joe Biden pledges to dramatically decrease immigration enforcement, remove methods of deterrence, and offer amnesty to millions of illegal aliens. Due to these promises, FAIR projects that the illegal alien population under a Biden administration will increase dramatically.⁴ More information can be found about President-elect Biden's plans to dramatically increase legal and illegal immigration in FAIR's report "By the Numbers: How the Biden/Harris Immigration Platform Will Fuel a Staggering Increase of Immigrants and Population Growth."⁵

Difficulty in Estimating the Illegal Alien Population

Estimating the size, distribution, and characteristics of the illegal alien population is an inexact science. The methods used by those claiming to have calculated a definitive figure should be viewed skeptically due to the fact that there is no completely reliable source of information on illegal aliens. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) only (loosely) counts foreign nationals who enter and leave the United States in a lawful manner. In truth, we do not know exactly how many people cross the border unlawfully and evade immigration authorities. We can only estimate these figures based on how many individuals U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) believe slip through their detection.

Most current estimates regarding the total number of illegal aliens are based on U.S. Census Bureau data or survey data collected by private research organizations. Far too many of these studies presume that nearly all unlawful migrants respond to demographic questionnaires and that they provide accurate information to federal census agents. As people whose very presence in the United States is an ongoing violation of law, many illegal aliens understandably see no personal value in revealing any information about their legal status. Therefore, when asked about how, when, and why they entered the United States, illegal aliens have a strong motive to either lie, claiming they are lawful migrants or citizens, or refuse to respond at all.

Indeed, there are few mechanisms in place to verify the accuracy of the information respondents provide. Because of this, the Census Bureau's weighted results from the "American Community Survey" (ACS) can vary by millions, depending on what information is requested and how questions are phrased.⁶ Because of this, it is important to not solely rely on Census-related information.

How We Reached our Estimate

To determine FAIR's estimate of the total number of illegal aliens in the United States, we first calculated an approximate total number of all foreign-born residents currently presumed to be living here. In order to do this, we first analyzed the latest relevant information available from the Census Bureau's 2018 ACS.⁷

Again, it's important to realize that the ACS does not capture the entire illegal alien population in the United States. In the past, most reputable research organizations have considered a raw calculation based on ACS data to be anywhere from 15-35 percent lower than the actual suspected total illegal alien population. This is also in line with the most recent estimates from the federal government.⁸ However, most research organizations that produce estimates of the illegal alien population are pro-mass migration, and they dishonestly purport that ACS data is fully accurate in order to create a false impression that the illegal alien population in the United States is smaller than it really is.

So, after we subtracted the total number of lawfully present migrants in the country from the total foreign-born population to reach our base illegal alien population, we assume that this total is underestimated by approximately 30 percent.⁹¹⁰ We then estimated the net number of illegal aliens suspected to have entered the country since 2018. We do this by applying estimates from CBP, ICE, and other federal agencies regarding how many illegal aliens successfully enter the country balanced against how many are apprehended and deported. Finally, after combining these two numbers, we reached our estimate of 14.5 million.

Who is an Illegal Alien?

An illegal alien is anyone who:

- Entered the United States without authorization, or
- Anyone who unlawfully remained in the United States once their authorized time of stay expired.

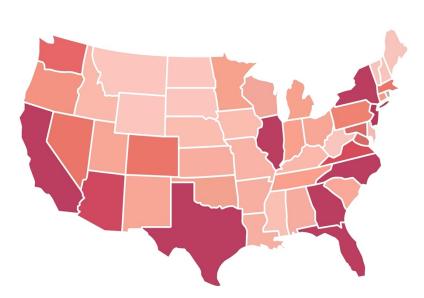
It is important to define exactly who is and is not an illegal alien because many organizations deliberately misclassify some illegal aliens in a dishonest effort to portray that population as smaller than it is in reality. Many organizations and mainstream media sources incorrectly classify unaccompanied alien minors (UAMs), recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), and/or those with Temporary Protected Status (TPS) as being lawfully present in the United States.

Such classifications are inaccurate. Individuals who have been granted any form of deferred action or who have received TPS have not been granted "lawful status." Rather, federal immigration authorities have acknowledged their unlawful presence and have opted to defer their removal from the country temporarily. These types of limited relief from removal are subject to revocation or rescission in a wide variety of circumstances.

FAIR offers a detailed explanation of who should be considered an illegal alien in a study titled "Why 'Illegal Alien' is the Correct Term."¹¹

Where do Illegal Aliens Live in the United States?

Unsurprisingly, illegal aliens tend to live near the United States' border with Mexico or in states with sanctuary policies that offer welcoming environments and protection from immigration enforcement. The ten states with the largest estimated illegal alien populations account for just under three-fourths (71%) of the national illegal alien total.



However, this is not to suggest that states which hold a comparatively small share of the illegal alien population are unaffected by its negative effects. In fact, as FAIR has pointed out in other studies, illegal immigration often hits these states the hardest.¹²

The following graphics estimate how many illegal aliens reside in each state, as well an estimate for the total number of illegal aliens and their children.

State Total Number of Illegal Aliens by State and Their U.S. Born Children 1,007,000 Toxas 2,073,000 2,766,000 Florida 1,104,000 1,485,000 New York 1,007,000 1,353,000 New Jersey 649,000 873,000 Georgia 479,000 645,000 Arizona 422,000 566,000 Virginia 390,000 525,000 Marthan 323,000 434,000 Washington 323,000 348,000 Nevada 273,000 366,000 Vassachusetts 272,000 366,000 Colorado 229,000 348,000 Pennesylvania 234,000 375,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Connecticut 155,000 228,000 Michigan 172,000 173,000 Oregon 168,000 173,000 Utah 123,000 146,000 Michigan 172,000 173,000<	2020 Illegal Allen Population Estimate		
Aliens by State and Their U.S. Born Children California 3.042.000 4.072.000 Texas 2.073.000 2.786.000 Florida 1.104.000 1.435.000 New York 10.07.000 1.333.000 New Jersey 649.000 873.000 Billinois 565.000 787.000 Georgia 479.000 645.000 North Carolina 422.000 568.000 Virginia 390.000 525.000 Maryland 326.000 438.000 Washington 323.000 434.000 Nevada 273.000 366.000 Colorado 259.000 348.000 Menesticu 150.00 209.000 Menesticu 150.00 209.000 Georgia 168.000 223.000 Markana 130.000 175.000 Markana 127.000 174.000 Connecticut 150.00 175.000 Markana 127.000 174.000 Marka	Stata	Total Number of Illegal	Total Number of Illegal Aliens
California 3,042,000 4,072,000 Texas 2,073,000 2,786,000 Florida 1,104,000 1,485,000 New York 1,007,000 1,353,000 New Jersey 649,000 873,000 Illinois 555,000 767,000 Georgia 479,000 645,000 North Carolina 455,000 868,000 Virginia 390,000 525,000 Martzona 422,000 568,000 Virginia 323,000 438,000 Nevada 273,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Penneylvaria 234,000 315,000 Michigan 172,000 230,000 Indiana 143,000 193,000 Indiana 133,000 175,000 Minnesota 130,000 175,000 Virah 128,000 173,000 Okahoma 127,000 171,000 Minnesota 130,000 175,000 New Mexic	State	Aliens by State	-
Texas 2,073,000 2,786,000 Florida 1,104,000 1,485,000 New York 1,007,000 1,353,000 Illinois 686,000 873,000 Illinois 686,000 874,000 Georgia 479,000 645,000 North Carolina 422,000 568,000 Arizona 422,000 458,000 Waryland 326,000 438,000 Washington 323,000 434,000 Newada 273,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Vasington 234,000 315,000 Massachusetts 272,000 360,000 Conrecticut 155,000 209,000 Oregon 168,000 173,000 Connecticut 150,000 175,000 Mineesta 130,000 175,000 Indiana 143,000 174,000 Mineesta 130,000 174,000 Ohio 123,000 165,000 New Mexico<	California	-	
Florida 1,104,000 1,485,000 New York 1,007,000 1,353,000 New York 1,007,000 13,35,000 New York 649,000 873,000 Georgia 479,000 645,000 North Carolina 425,000 668,000 Virginia 390,000 525,000 Maryland 326,000 438,000 Washington 323,000 434,000 Newada 273,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 386,000 Vashington 323,000 434,000 Nevada 272,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Pensylvania 224,000 315,000 Mchigan 172,000 26,000 Connecticut 155,000 209,000 Tennessee 151,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 173,000 Okiaboma 127,000 171,000 Okiaboma 127,000 174,000 Minnesct			
New York 1,007,000 1,353,000 New Jersey 649,000 873,000 Illinois 565,000 767,000 Georgia 479,000 645,000 North Carolina 455,000 612,000 Arizona 422,000 568,000 Virginia 390,000 525,000 Maryland 326,000 438,000 Washington 323,000 434,000 Nevada 273,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Massachusetts 272,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Temessee 151,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 175,000 Utah 128,000 173,000 Okiahoma 127,000 171,000 Okiahoma 122,000 146,000 Visconsin 104,000 146,000 Missouri			
New Jersey 649,000 873,000 Illinois 555,000 787,000 Georgia 479,000 645,000 North Carolina 455,000 668,000 Arizona 422,000 568,000 Virginia 390,000 525,000 Maryland 326,000 438,000 Nevada 273,000 366,000 Wasshington 323,000 434,000 Nevada 273,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Pennsylvania 234,000 315,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Colorado 299,000 231,000 Oregon 168,000 173,000 Indiana 143,000 193,000 Indiana 143,000 193,000 Minnesota 127,000 171,000 Oklahoma 127,000 173,000 Oklahoma 127,000 140,000 New Kexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina			
Illinois 585,000 787,000 Georgia 479,000 645,000 North Carolina 455,000 612,000 Arizona 422,000 568,000 Virginia 390,000 525,000 Washington 323,000 438,000 Washington 323,000 367,000 Massachusetts 272,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Pennsylvania 234,000 315,000 Michigan 172,000 231,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Connecticut 155,000 209,000 Tennessee 151,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 193,000 Michigan 127,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 165,000 Massas 97,000 146,000 Viahoma 127,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 165,000 Kosonsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas <t< th=""><th></th><th></th><th></th></t<>			
Georgia 479,000 645,000 North Carolina 425,000 612,000 Arizona 422,000 568,000 Virginia 390,000 525,000 Maryland 323,000 434,000 Nevada 273,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Pennsylvania 234,000 315,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Orregon 168,000 226,000 Connecticut 155,000 209,000 Tennessee 151,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 175,000 Utah 128,000 177,000 Okihorma 127,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 146,000 Visconsin 104,000 142,000 Alabama 81,000 77,000 Alabama 81,000 78,000 Visconsin 104,000 142,000 Alabama 85,000 </th <th></th> <th></th> <th></th>			
North Carolina 455,000 612,000 Arizona 422,000 568,000 Virginia 390,000 525,000 Maryland 326,000 438,000 Washington 323,000 434,000 Nevada 273,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Pennsylvania 234,000 315,000 Michigan 172,000 231,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Connecticut 155,000 209,000 Tennessee 151,000 193,000 Idiana 143,000 173,000 Okiahoma 127,000 171,000 Okiahoma 127,000 171,000 Okiahoma 127,000 171,000 Okiahoma 127,000 171,000 Okiahoma 127,000 144,000 Wisconsin 104,000 1440,000 Kansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana			
Arizona 422,000 568,000 Virginia 390,000 525,000 Maryland 322,000 438,000 Washington 323,000 367,000 Massachusetts 272,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Pennsylvania 234,000 315,000 Michigan 172,000 231,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Connecticut 155,000 209,000 Tennessee 151,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 175,000 Utah 128,000 177,000 Okiahoma 127,000 171,000 Okiahoma 127,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 149,000 Kansas 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 77,000 Alabama 86,000 78,000 Alabama 86,000 78,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000			
Virginia 390,000 525,000 Maryland 326,000 438,000 Washington 323,000 434,000 Nevada 273,000 367,000 Massachusetts 272,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Pennsylvania 234,000 315,000 Michigan 172,000 231,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Connecticut 155,000 209,000 Tennessee 151,000 193,000 Indiana 143,000 193,000 Minnesota 130,000 175,000 Utah 128,000 171,000 Oklahoma 127,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 77,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 78,000 Hawaii 58,000 <th></th> <th></th> <th></th>			
Maryland 326,000 438,000 Washington 323,000 367,000 Nevada 273,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Pennsylvania 234,000 315,000 Michigan 172,000 231,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Connecticut 155,000 209,000 Tennessee 151,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 175,000 Utah 128,000 173,000 Okiahoma 127,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 165,000 New Mexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 77,000 Massouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 78,000 Idaho 57,000<			
Washington 323,000 434,000 Nevada 273,000 367,000 Massachusetts 272,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Pennsylvania 234,000 231,000 Michigan 172,000 231,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Connecticut 155,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 193,000 Minnesota 130,000 175,000 Utah 127,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 165,000 New Mexico 111,000 144,000 South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Arkansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Kasas			
Nevada 273,000 367,000 Massachusetts 272,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Ocnorsylvania 234,000 315,000 Michigan 172,000 231,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Connecticut 155,000 209,000 Tennessee 151,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 173,000 Minnesota 130,000 175,000 Oklahoma 127,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 165,000 New Mexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 142,000 Arabama 85,000 173,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Massa 97,000 170,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Massa 52,000 77,000 Mabama 52,000			
Massachusetts 272,000 366,000 Colorado 259,000 348,000 Pennsylvania 234,000 315,000 Michigan 172,000 231,000 Oregon 186,000 226,000 Connecticut 155,000 209,000 Tennessee 151,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 175,000 Utah 128,000 173,000 Oklahoma 127,000 171,000 Oklahoma 127,000 146,000 New Mexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina 199,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Arkansas 97,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 77,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kansak 52,000 70,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 New Maxili 58,	_		
Colorado 259,000 348,000 Pennsylvania 234,000 315,000 Michigan 172,000 231,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Connecticut 155,000 209,000 Tennessee 151,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 193,000 Minnesota 130,000 175,000 Utah 122,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 165,000 New Mexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 170,000 Massuri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 70,000 Idaho 57,000 70,000 Nebraska 52,000			
Pennsylvania 234,000 315,000 Michigan 172,000 231,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Connecticut 155,000 209,000 Tennessee 151,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 193,000 Minnesota 130,000 175,000 Utah 122,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 165,000 New Mexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 77,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 77,000 Hawaii 58,000 77,000 Hawaii 58,000 77,000 Kentucky 65,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 74,000 Hawaii 130,000			
Michigan 172,000 231,000 Oregon 168,000 226,000 Connecticut 155,000 209,000 Tennessee 151,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 193,000 Minnesota 130,000 175,000 Utah 128,000 171,000 Oklahoma 127,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 146,000 Wisconsin 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 114,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Iowa 53,000 48,000 Vashington DC 35,000 48,000 Alaska 14,000 19,000 Newa 13,000 12,000 <th></th> <th></th> <th></th>			
Oregon 168,000 226,000 Connecticut 155,000 209,000 Tennessee 151,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 193,000 Minnesota 130,000 175,000 Utah 128,000 173,000 Oklahoma 127,000 176,000 Ohio 123,000 146,000 New Mexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 78,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 42,000 Alabama 52,000 70,000 Idaho 53,000 <			
Connecticut 155,000 209,000 Tennessee 151,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 193,000 Minnesota 130,000 175,000 Utah 128,000 173,000 Oklahoma 127,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 185,000 New Mexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 114,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 77,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Idaho 53,000 48,000 Delaware 32,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 <t< th=""><th></th><th></th><th></th></t<>			
Tennessee 151,000 203,000 Indiana 143,000 193,000 Minnesota 130,000 175,000 Utah 128,000 173,000 Oklahoma 127,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 165,000 New Mexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 133,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 114,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 70,000 Idaho 57,000 70,000 Nebraska 52,000 44,000 Mississisippi 31,000 42,000 Alabama 53,000 44,000 Mashington DC 35,000 44,000 New Hampshire 13,000			
Indiana 143,000 193,000 Minnesota 130,000 175,000 Utah 128,000 173,000 Oklahoma 127,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 165,000 New Mexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 78,000 Idaho 57,000 70,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Iowa 51,000 48,000 Mississippi 31,000 42,000 Alaska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Nontane 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 </th <th></th> <th></th> <th></th>			
Minnesota 130,000 175,000 Utah 128,000 173,000 Oklahoma 127,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 165,000 New Mexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 114,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 76,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 48,000 Idaho 53,000 48,000 Washington DC 35,000 48,000 Maska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Maska 14,000 19,000 Nethana 7,000 9,000 <th></th> <th></th> <th></th>			
Utah 128,000 173,000 Oklahoma 127,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 165,000 New Mexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 114,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 78,000 Idaho 57,000 70,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Iowa 51,000 48,000 Delaware 32,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 17,000 Maska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Maine 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 9,000			
Oklahoma 127,000 171,000 Ohio 123,000 165,000 New Mexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 87,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 77,000 Hawaii 58,000 70,000 Idaho 57,000 70,000 Idaho 51,000 69,000 Rhode Island 39,000 53,000 Washington DC 35,000 48,000 Mississippi 31,000 17,000 Mississippi 31,000 17,000 Mississippi 31,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Washington DC 9,000			
Ohio 123,000 165,000 New Mexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 114,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Iowa 51,000 69,000 Rhode Island 39,000 53,000 Washington DC 35,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 17,000 Maine 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000<			
New Mexico 111,000 149,000 South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 114,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 78,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Iowa 51,000 48,000 Delaware 32,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 42,000 Alaska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Maine 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 Maine 7,000 9,000 Nontana 7,000 9,000 Montana 7,000 9,000			
South Carolina 109,000 146,000 Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 114,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 78,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Iowa 51,000 89,000 Rhode Island 39,000 53,000 Washington DC 35,000 44,000 Delaware 32,000 44,000 Alaska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Maine 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 Montana 7,000 9,000			
Wisconsin 104,000 140,000 Kansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 114,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 78,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Iowa 51,000 69,000 Rhode Island 39,000 53,000 Washington DC 35,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 42,000 Alaska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Maine 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000			
Kansas 97,000 130,000 Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 114,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 78,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Iowa 51,000 69,000 Rhode Island 39,000 53,000 Washington DC 35,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 42,000 Alaska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 12,000 Maine 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000 Wyoming 6,000 8,000			
Arkansas 91,000 122,000 Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 114,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 78,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Iowa 51,000 69,000 Rhode Island 39,000 53,000 Washington DC 35,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 42,000 Alaska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000			
Louisiana 91,000 122,000 Alabama 85,000 114,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 78,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Iowa 51,000 69,000 Rhode Island 39,000 53,000 Washington DC 35,000 48,000 Delaware 32,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 17,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 Montana 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000			
Alabama 85,000 114,000 Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 78,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Iowa 51,000 69,000 Rhode Island 39,000 53,000 Washington DC 35,000 48,000 Delaware 32,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 42,000 Alaska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Maine 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 Montana 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000			
Missouri 72,000 96,000 Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 78,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Iowa 51,000 69,000 Rhode Island 39,000 53,000 Washington DC 35,000 48,000 Delaware 32,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 42,000 Alaska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000			
Kentucky 65,000 87,000 Hawaii 58,000 78,000 Idaho 57,000 77,000 Nebraska 52,000 70,000 Iowa 51,000 69,000 Rhode Island 39,000 53,000 Washington DC 35,000 48,000 Delaware 32,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 42,000 Alaska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 Vormont 9,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 Montana 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000			
Hawaii58,00078,000Idaho57,00077,000Nebraska52,00070,000Iowa51,00069,000Rhode Island39,00053,000Washington DC35,00048,000Delaware32,00044,000Mississippi31,00042,000Alaska14,00019,000New Hampshire13,00017,000Vermont9,00012,000South Dakota8,00011,000Wyoming7,0009,000North Dakota6,0008,000West Virginia6,0008,000			
Idaho57,00077,000Nebraska52,00070,000Iowa51,00069,000Rhode Island39,00053,000Washington DC35,00048,000Delaware32,00044,000Mississippi31,00042,000Alaska14,00019,000New Hampshire13,00017,000Maine11,00015,000Vermont9,00012,000South Dakota8,00011,000Wyoming7,0009,000Montana7,0009,000North Dakota6,0008,000West Virginia6,0008,000	-		
Nebraska 52,000 70,000 69,000 64,000 69,000 64,000 69,000 64,000 69,000 64,000 60,000 69,000 61,000 69,000 61,000 69,000 61,000 69,000 61,000 69,00			
Rhode Island 39,000 53,000 Washington DC 35,000 48,000 Delaware 32,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 42,000 Alaska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Maine 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Myoming 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000		52,000	70,000
Washington DC 35,000 48,000 Delaware 32,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 42,000 Alaska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Maine 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 Montana 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000	Iowa	51,000	69,000
Delaware 32,000 44,000 Mississippi 31,000 42,000 Alaska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Maine 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 Montana 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000	Rhode Island	39,000	53,000
Mississippi 31,000 42,000 Alaska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Maine 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 Montana 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000	Washington DC	35,000	48,000
Alaska 14,000 19,000 New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Maine 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 Montana 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000	Delaware	32,000	44,000
New Hampshire 13,000 17,000 Maine 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 Montana 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000	Mississippi	31,000	
Maine 11,000 15,000 Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 Montana 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000			
Vermont 9,000 12,000 South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 Montana 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000 West Virginia 6,000 8,000	New Hampshire	13,000	
South Dakota 8,000 11,000 Wyoming 7,000 9,000 Montana 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000 West Virginia 6,000 8,000	Maine		
Wyoming 7,000 9,000 Montana 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000 West Virginia 6,000 8,000	Vermont	9,000	12,000
Montana 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000 West Virginia 6,000 8,000	South Dakota	8,000	11,000
Montana 7,000 9,000 North Dakota 6,000 8,000 West Virginia 6,000 8,000	Wyoming	7,000	9,000
North Dakota 6,000 8,000 West Virginia 6,000 8,000		7,000	9,000
* 14,451,000 19,415,000	West Virginia		
	*	14,451,000	19,415,000

2020 Illegal Alien Population Estimate

*Totals Rounded to the nearest thousand.

References

¹ Matt O'Brien and Spencer Raley, "The Fiscal Burden of Illegal Immigration on United States Taxpayers," Federation for American Immigration Reform, September 2017, <u>https://www.fairus.org/issue/publications-resources/fiscal-burden-illegal-immigration-united-states-taxpayers</u>.

² Robert Warren and Donald Kerwin, "The 2,000 Mile Wall in Search of a Purpose: Since 2007 Visa Overstays have Outnumbered Undocumented Border Crossers by a Half Million," Center for Migration Studies, 2017, <u>https://cmsny.org/publications/imhs-visa-overstays-border-wall/</u>.

³ U.S. Department of Homeland Security, "Migrant Protection Protocols," Accessed December 30, 2020, <u>https://www.dhs.gov/news/2019/01/24/migrant-protection-protocols</u>.

⁴ Our projection includes those illegal aliens who might receive amnesty from the Biden administration.

⁵ Spencer Raley, Madison McQueen, and Jason Pena, "By the Numbers: How the Biden/Harris Immigration Platform Will Fuel a Staggering Increase of Immigrants and Population Growth," Federation for American Immigration Reform, September 2020, <u>https://www.fairus.org/issue/amnesty/numbers-how-biden-harris-immigration-platform</u>.

⁶ Basing the total number of foreign-born residents in the United States on responses to the ACS question requesting citizenship information yields a weighted total that is more than two million individuals lower than when the estimate is based on survey questions regarding how long respondents have lived in the country.

⁷ United States Census Bureau, "American Community Survey," Accessed December 30, 2020, <u>https://www.census.gov/acs/www/data/data-tables-and-tools/data-profiles/2018/</u>.

⁸ U.S. Department of Homeland Security, "Population Estimates," December 2018, <u>https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/18 1214 PLCY pops-est-report.pdf</u>.

⁹ To estimate the total number of lawful migrants in the United States, we examined both data from the ACS and the comprehensive "Yearbook of Immigration Statistics" published annually by the DHS. This is the approach most commonly used by other reputable organizations that produce estimates on this matter. Our totals closely resemble the most commonly reached estimate of roughly 35.2 million.

¹⁰ As noted earlier in this study, most professional statisticians considered 30 percent to be the most accurate assumption for how many illegal aliens are typically missed by the Census. This is also approximately the figure used by the Federal government in their most recent projections.

¹¹ Matt O'Brien, Spencer Raley, and Casey Ryan, "Why "Illegal Alien" is the Correct Term," Federation for American Immigration Reform, July 2018, <u>https://www.fairus.org/issue/border-security/why-illegal-alien-correct-term</u>.

¹² Matt O'Brien, Spencer Raley, and Casey Ryan, "Small Migrant Populations, Huge Impacts," Federation for American Immigration Reform, February 2020, <u>https://www.fairus.org/issue/societal-impact/small-migrant-populations-huge-impacts-even-states-few-immigrants-hit-costs</u>.