

**The Characteristics of Unauthorized Immigrants in
California, Los Angeles County, and the United States**

Karina Fortuny
Randy Capps
Jeffrey S. Passel*

The Urban Institute
Washington, DC
March 2007

Support for this report was provided by the Rosenberg
Foundation in San Francisco, California

* Jeff Passel has been employed by the Pew Hispanic Center in Washington, D.C., since January 2005. He prepared initial versions of the data underlying this report while he was employed by the Urban Institute. Karina Fortuny and Randy Capps wrote the report in consultation with Passel.

Copyright © 2007. The Urban Institute. All rights reserved. Except for short quotes, no part of this report may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by information storage or retrieval system, without written permission from the Urban Institute.

The Urban Institute is a nonprofit, nonpartisan policy research and educational organization that examines the social, economic, and governance problems facing the nation. The views expressed are those of the authors and should not be attributed to the Urban Institute, the Pew Hispanic Center, their trustees, or their funders.

This report was prepared by the Urban Institute with the support of the Rosenberg Foundation in San Francisco. The authors would like to thank Wendy Zimmermann and Fiona Blackshaw at the Urban Institute for their careful review and copyediting of this manuscript.

Contents

Executive Summary	vi
Introduction and Background	1
Study Methods	2
Unauthorized Immigrant Trends and Origins: States and Metropolitan Areas	4
States	4
Metropolitan Areas	6
Unauthorized Families and Labor Force.....	7
Unauthorized Immigrant Characteristics for Los Angeles, California, and the Nation.....	8
Demographic Characteristics	8
Educational Attainment and Employment	14
Income and Poverty	22
Health Insurance Coverage of Adults and Children	25
Conclusion	28
References.....	31
Tables.....	33
Appendix: Methodology and Terminology	60

Figures

Figure 1: Definitions of Citizenship and Legal Status Categories.....	3
Figure 2: Top 10 U.S. Metropolitan Areas with Highest Unauthorized Immigrant Populations ...	6
Figure 3: Mexican Shares of Total Foreign-Born and Unauthorized Populations: United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	9
Figure 4: Share of Children in Immigrant Families and Unauthorized Families: United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	12
Figure 5: Share of Unauthorized Families without Children and Composed of “Solo” Men: United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	13
Figure 6: Labor Force Participation Rates for Men Age 18 to 64: United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	16
Figure 7: Labor Force Participation Rates for Women Age 18 to 64: United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	17
Figure 8: Distribution of Unauthorized and Native-Born Workers across Occupations: California.....	19
Figure 9: Immigrant Worker Shares within Major Occupations: United States and Los Angeles County.....	20
Figure 10: Distribution of Unauthorized Immigrants across Industries: California.....	21
Figure 11: Average Family Incomes by Family Legal Status: United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	23
Figure 12: Children’s Poverty by Family Legal Status: United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	24
Figure 13: Share of Children without Health Insurance, by the Legal Status of Children, 2004: United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	26

Tables

Table 1: Estimates of Unauthorized Immigrants, for States.....	34
Table 2: Growth of Unauthorized Immigrant Population, for States: 1990, 2000, and 2004.....	36
Table 3: Percent Unauthorized Immigrants Arrived in Past 10 Years, and Percent Born in Mexico, for States.....	38
Table 4: Unauthorized Immigrant Populations and Characteristics for Top 25 Metropolitan Areas.....	40
Table 5: Unauthorized Immigrant Populations and Characteristics for Metropolitan Areas in California.....	41
Table 6: Unauthorized Immigrant and Foreign-Born Populations, Labor Force, and Families, for States.....	42
Table 7: Population by Nativity and Status for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County: 2000, 2002, 2004.....	44
Table 8: Foreign-Born Population by Area of Birth and Status for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	45
Table 9: Foreign-Born Population by Nativity and Status, Age, and Sex for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	46

Table 10: Individuals in Families by Legal Status of Head/Spouse and by Age Group and Individual Status for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County	47
Table 11: Unauthorized Immigrant Families by Type and Presence of Children	48
Table 12: Children in Unauthorized Immigrant Families by Legal Status and the Status of Siblings for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	49
Table 13: Educational Attainment of the Population Age 25–64 by Nativity, Status, and Time in the U.S., for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	50
Table 14: Labor Force Participation Rate by Nativity, Status, Age, and Sex for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	51
Table 15: Percent of Population Not in the Labor Force by Reason for Nativity, Status, Age, and Sex Groups, for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	52
Table 16: Unemployment Rate by Nativity, Status, and Sex of the Population Age 18–64 for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County	53
Table 17: Occupation by Nativity and Status of the Population Age 18–64 for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	54
Table 18: Industry by Nativity and Status of the Population Age 18–64 for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	55
Table 19: Average Family Income, Family Size, and Per Capita Income by Family Status for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County	56
Table 20: Poverty Level of Adults by Nativity and Status for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County.....	57
Table 21: Poverty Level of Children by Family Status and Nativity of Children for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County	58
Table 22: Adults and Children without Health Insurance by Nativity, Status, and Family Status of Children for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County	59

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The unauthorized population has become a hot political topic yet again, with various solutions to the illegal immigration “problem” being debated in Washington, D.C., and across the country. In June 2006, as this report was written, the U.S. Congress was debating whether to grant legal status to the more than 11 million unauthorized immigrants estimated to be in the country. The House of Representatives had passed a bill that would further criminalize unauthorized presence, while the Senate passed a bill granting temporary work permits to unauthorized workers and providing a path to eventual citizenship for those in the country at least two years. The two pieces of legislation are very far apart, reflecting the fact that no consensus exists—in Congress, within or between the political parties, or in the public at large—on the best solution to the long-range integration issues that such a large unauthorized population presents. The debate has centered on stereotypes about unauthorized immigrants—as workers and taxpayers on the positive side, or as lawbreakers and service users on the negative side—but the debate has not been well informed by research on the characteristics of the unauthorized population.

This report hopes to fill some of the knowledge gaps in the current immigration debate by describing the unauthorized population nationally and in California and Los Angeles—the state and urban area with the largest numbers of these immigrants. The report presents estimates for the sizes of these populations as well as findings about socio-economic characteristics, such as national origin, education, employment, and poverty. Throughout the report, the characteristics of unauthorized immigrants are contrasted with legal immigrants and the native-born population. In addition, the report discusses national trends in the number of unauthorized immigrants, and compares California and Los Angeles unauthorized immigrants to the national population.

- **California has the largest unauthorized population of any state—almost 2.5 million; almost a quarter of the nation’s unauthorized immigrants live there.** Unauthorized immigrants numbered 2.45 million in California in 2004, representing almost one-quarter (24 percent) of the nation’s total (10.3 million). The unauthorized share of the total population was almost twice as high in California (6.9 percent) as in the United States (3.6 percent). Thus, the debate over legalizing the unauthorized population will likely have more impact on California than any other state.
- **There are about 1 million unauthorized immigrants in the Los Angeles metropolitan area, almost twice the number of any other metro area; the unauthorized are one-tenth of the area’s population (10 million).** In 2004, about two-fifths (41 percent) of California’s unauthorized population resided in Los Angeles. No other metropolitan area had as many unauthorized immigrants as Los Angeles—New York had the second largest metropolitan concentration with slightly more than half a million unauthorized immigrants. The other metropolitan areas with very large numbers of unauthorized immigrants were Dallas (460,000), Chicago (400,000), Houston (390,000), Phoenix (350,000), Washington, D.C. (345,000), and Atlanta (235,000). Two Southern California metropolitan areas that border Los Angeles—Orange County (220,000) and Riverside–San Bernardino (215,000)—rounded out the top 10.

- **Mexican immigrants account for a higher share of the foreign-born in California and Los Angeles (43 percent) than in the nation as a whole (32 percent).** California also had a higher share of unauthorized immigrants from Mexico (65 percent) than the United States or Los Angeles (57 percent) in 2004. Due to its proximity to the Southwestern border, California’s immigrant population—both legal and unauthorized—is more heavily Mexican than most other states. Thus, the debate surrounding legalization mostly affects Mexican immigrants in California. Nonetheless, about one-third of California’s unauthorized immigrants come from other countries, suggesting that there is great diversity in this population.
- **One in 10 California residents is in a family headed by an unauthorized immigrant, compared with one in 20 nationally.** An even higher share of Los Angeles residents (14 percent) lived in unauthorized households in 2004. The debate surrounding unauthorized immigrants’ future affects not only these migrants but also a large number of adults and children who live with them.
- **About half of California’s children have immigrant parents, and about one-seventh have unauthorized parents, in contrast to the nation as a whole, where one-fifth of children have immigrant parents.** In 2004, 48 percent of children in California were children of immigrants—that is, they had at least one foreign-born parent: 34 percent had legal immigrant parents, and 14 percent had unauthorized parents. Nationally, just 15 percent of children had legal immigrant parents, and 6 percent had unauthorized parents. California’s schools represent the future of most states in the country, a future in which a majority or near majority of school children will have immigrant parents.
- **In Los Angeles, almost two-thirds of children (62 percent) have immigrant parents.** In 2004, 43 percent of children in the metropolitan area had legal immigrant parents, and 19 percent had unauthorized parents. Los Angeles is setting the pace for other major metropolitan areas in the country, where a growing majority of children will have immigrant parents and a significant share have unauthorized parents.
- **Large majorities of children with unauthorized parents are U.S.-born citizens: 68 percent in California and 76 percent in Los Angeles.** These shares were slightly higher than nationally (66 percent) in 2004. Thus, despite the fact that there are more children in unauthorized immigrant families in California than in the United States overall, children in these families are more likely to be citizens in California than nationally. This means that a large majority of California’s children in unauthorized families are eligible for the full range of state and federal public benefits due to their citizenship, even if the parents are ineligible due to their lack of legal status.
- **Almost all unauthorized men work, and labor force participation rates are substantially higher for unauthorized men than for legal immigrant or U.S.-born men.** In California, 94 percent of unauthorized men age 18–64 were in the labor force in 2004, versus 84 percent of legal immigrants and 82 percent of native-born men. The shares were similar nationally and in Los Angeles. Unauthorized men have higher labor force participation rates than other men because they are younger and are less likely to be disabled, retired, or enrolled in higher education. These statistics show that virtually all unauthorized men come to California to work.

- **By contrast, labor force participation is much lower for both unauthorized and legal immigrant women than for U.S.-born women, mostly because unauthorized women are more likely to have children.** In 2004 in California, unauthorized women participated in the labor force at a similar rate as legal immigrant women (58 percent versus 59 percent), but the labor force participation rate was much higher for native-born women (72 percent). Women’s labor force participation patterns were similar in the United States and Los Angeles. The main reason for immigrant women’s lower rates of participation is childbearing: immigrant women are younger and have more children on average than native-born women.
- **Unauthorized immigrants represent over a quarter of all workers in many low-skilled occupations in California, especially in Los Angeles.** For example, in 2004 in Los Angeles, about 80 percent of production workers were foreign-born (50 percent were legal immigrants, and 30 percent unauthorized); only 20 percent were natives. Nationally, immigrants were also over represented in production occupations but 77 percent of production workers were natives. Because of the high share of unauthorized immigrants in Los Angeles overall, they represented more than a quarter of all workers in production, construction, and service occupations. These figures suggest that Los Angeles is heavily dependent on unauthorized labor in many low-skilled occupations, and that any effort to deport large numbers of immigrants or deny them employment could have a deleterious impact on the California economy.
- **Unauthorized family incomes are about half of incomes of families headed by U.S.-born citizens, nationally and in California.** In 2003 in California, unauthorized families had an average income of \$29,700, compared with \$54,600 for native-born citizens. The average family income for unauthorized immigrants was lower still in Los Angeles (\$26,300). Moreover, unauthorized immigrant families were much larger than native-born families (by 37 percent in California and 43 percent in Los Angeles), which further reduced the income available to individual members of these families. The low incomes of unauthorized families are explained primarily by the low-skilled, low-paying jobs held by unauthorized workers. Almost all of these families, however, include workers, and many include multiple workers.
- **In California, almost a quarter of children with legal immigrant parents, and almost two-fifths of children with unauthorized parents, are poor.** In 2003, 24 percent of children of legal immigrants and 38 percent of children of unauthorized immigrants were poor in California, compared with 15 percent for children of U.S.-born citizens. Poverty rates were similarly high for children of immigrants in Los Angeles and the United States. Since such high shares of children in California live in immigrant families, these high poverty rates present many challenges to policymakers in the state. Anti-poverty programs must consider the high number of children in immigrant families and devise ways to disseminate information and reach children that are eligible. These challenges are even more apparent for Los Angeles, where the shares of children of immigrants are even higher.
- **Over half of unauthorized adults and a quarter of children in unauthorized families lack health insurance coverage in California, and even higher shares of the unauthorized are uninsured in Los Angeles.** In 2004 in California,

unauthorized adults were almost four times as likely as U.S.-born adults to lack health insurance coverage (53 versus 14 percent), and children with unauthorized parents were almost three times as likely as those with U.S.-born parents to lack coverage (26 versus 9 percent). However, children of unauthorized immigrants in California were less likely to lack insurance than nationally (26 versus 35 percent). In fact, among children who were themselves unauthorized—and therefore ineligible for federal- or state-funded coverage—the uninsured share actually fell in California (from 49 to 32 percent) and in Los Angeles (from 58 to 44 percent) between 2000 and 2004. These findings strongly support the efforts of Los Angeles and other California counties to provide universal coverage to low-income children regardless of their legal status, and show that these county programs are beginning to have an impact on insurance coverage in unauthorized families.

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

“Illegal immigration,” “undocumented immigrants,” “unauthorized immigrants,” or a number of similar terms describe a population that has again become a significant political issue for the nation, many states, and many local areas. Stereotypes abound concerning the nature of unauthorized migration and the characteristics of the immigrants. Some of the stereotypes appear to be true, while others do not. Understanding the nature of unauthorized immigrants and migration is essential in designing effective immigration policies.

In June 2006 (as this report was written), the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate had passed legislation with conflicting policies regarding the future of the unauthorized population in the United States. The House bill, passed first in late 2005, would further criminalize illegal presence by making it a felony, criminalize most forms of aid to unauthorized immigrants, increase sanctions against employers hiring illegal workers, and strengthen border enforcement. The Senate bill incorporated many similar employer and border enforcement provisions, but would also provide temporary work permits and an eventual path to legal permanent residency and citizenship for most unauthorized immigrants already in the country. The Senate bill would allow unauthorized immigrants in the country for five years to obtain temporary work permits and eventually apply for permanent residency, while those in the country for two to five years would have to return to ports of entry along the border to apply, and those in the country less than two years would have to leave. There is a great amount of political distance between the House and Senate legislation, reflecting the absence of a clear public consensus on whether to grant legal status to unauthorized immigrants.

In a time of such policy ferment, it is critical to have accurate information about the characteristics of the unauthorized population. Urban Institute and recent Pew Hispanic Center analyses of the numbers, trends, and characteristics of the unauthorized immigrant population have been widely cited by the press. More important, many advocates and policymakers with widely varying opinions on the merits of immigration, reform, and alternative policy options have adopted the basic numbers and essential points from these analyses. For instance, the Pew Hispanic Center’s most recent estimate of the size of the U.S. unauthorized population—between 11.5 and 12 million in total (Passel 2006)—is the foundation of most cost and benefit estimates for the legislation considered in Congress.

This report builds on previous work by both the Urban Institute and Pew Hispanic Center by providing detailed data on the unauthorized populations of California and Los Angeles County.¹ In addition, the report discusses some short-term trends over the 2000–2004 period. The data derive primarily from the March Supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS) for 2000–2004, Census 2000, and earlier decennial censuses. The data for 2000 and later have been augmented with techniques developed initially by Passel and Clark (1998) and extended by Passel, Van Hook, and Bean (2004, 2006) to assign legal status to foreign-born respondents in these surveys.

The report discusses national and state trends in the number of unauthorized immigrants first, and presents estimates of the unauthorized immigrants for the largest metropolitan areas in

¹ Los Angeles County composes the Los Angeles Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area (PMSA), as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, and so the county and PMSA identify the same geographic area.

the country and for all metropolitan areas in California. It then focuses on California and Los Angeles by contrasting unauthorized immigrants with the legal immigrant and native-born citizen populations in the two areas, and highlighting some comparisons with the nation as a whole. These comparisons focus on the demographic characteristics of the unauthorized population, such as age and sex composition, countries of origin, and family structure. The following section of the report provides information on the educational attainment of unauthorized immigrants and their role in the labor force. The final section examines economic characteristics such as income, poverty, and health insurance.

STUDY METHODS

This report uses the term “unauthorized immigrant” to mean a person who resides in the United States, but who is *not* a U.S. citizen, has *not* been admitted for permanent residence, and is *not* in a set of specific authorized temporary statuses permitting longer-term residence and work. (See appendix for further discussion.) Various labels have been applied to this group of unauthorized immigrants, including “undocumented immigrants,” “illegals,” “illegal aliens,” and “illegal immigrants.”

The estimates presented here are developed largely from March supplements to the Current Population Survey (CPS) for 2000 through 2004. The survey identifies the foreign-born population but does not differentiate among types of immigrants or legal statuses. The methodology for developing estimates by legal status proceeds in several stages. The first stage involves developing demographic estimates of legal foreign-born residents of the United States and key states. These estimates are produced by assembling official data from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and its successor agencies in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) on refugee admissions; legal permanent resident admissions; and the numbers of foreign students, temporary workers, and other groups of legal immigrants. Using a “residual” methodology, we subtract the number of immigrants we believe to be in the country legally from the total number of foreign-born individuals in the CPS, and the difference is the number of unauthorized immigrants.

In the second stage of the estimation process, individual respondents in the CPS are assigned to various legal statuses using information about respondent’s characteristics and admission criteria. Information about family relationships, country or region of origin, and date of arrival in the United States is compared with criteria: for instance, student visa holders must be enrolled in school, while temporary workers must be employed in occupations for which temporary work permits are available. A combination of deterministic edits and probabilistic methods are used to assign individuals in the CPS to one of the statuses listed below in **figure 1**.

The final or third stage of the estimation process involves adjusting the CPS survey weights of legal and unauthorized immigrants for omissions from the survey. The adjustment factors are designed so the resulting population figures for legal immigrants and unauthorized immigrants equal the demographic estimates developed in the first stage of the estimation process.

Figure 1: Definitions of Citizenship and Legal Status Categories

Legal Immigrants

- *Legal permanent residents (LPRs)* are legally admitted to live permanently in the United States through qualifying for immigrant visas abroad or adjustment to permanent resident status in the United States. LPRs are issued documentation commonly referred to as “green cards,” although the cards have not been green for many years. Almost all LPRs are sponsored (i.e., brought to the United States) by close family members or employers.
- *Refugees and asylees* are granted legal status due to persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution in their home countries. Refugee status is granted before entry to the United States. Refugee status may be granted to a group of persons, although each individual must also qualify for the status. Asylees must meet the same criteria regarding fear of persecution. Unlike refugees, asylees usually arrive in the country without authorization (or overstay a valid visa), later claim asylum, and are granted their legal status while in the United States. After one year, refugees and asylees are eligible for permanent residency, and after five years, for naturalization.
- *Temporary legal residents* have been admitted to the United States for a temporary or indefinite period, but have not attained permanent residency. Most are people who have entered for a temporary period, for work, as students, or because of political disruption or natural disasters in their home countries. Some seek to stay for a permanent or indefinite period and have a “pending” status that allows them to remain in the country and work but does not carry the same rights as legal permanent residency.
- *Naturalized citizens* are former LPRs who have become U.S. citizens through the naturalization process. Typically, LPRs must be in the United States for five or more years to qualify for naturalization, although immigrants who marry citizens can qualify in three years, and some small categories qualify even sooner. LPRs must take a citizenship test—in English—and pass background checks before qualifying to naturalize.

Unauthorized Immigrants

- *Unauthorized immigrants* do not possess a valid visa or other immigration document, because they entered the United States illegally (usually across the Mexican border), stayed longer than their temporary visas permitted, or otherwise violated the terms under which they were admitted. A small number eventually adjust their status and attain legal residency after a relative, spouse, or employer has filed a sponsorship petition; those with pending applications are considered unauthorized in this report. Our unauthorized category includes several hundred thousand immigrants who have *Temporary protected status (TPS)*, which was granted to those who fled wars and natural disasters during the 1980s and 1990s. Most TPS immigrants are from El Salvador and other Central American countries.

Natives

- *Native-born citizens.* All people born in the United States (including the children of non-citizen parents) are granted birthright citizenship, regardless of their parents’ birthplace or legal status. Native-born citizens also include people born in Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, other U.S. territories and possessions, and those born in foreign countries to a U.S. citizen parent.

The result of this estimation/assignment process is a CPS data file with individuals identified by nativity and legal status and with weights for the foreign-born population consistent with a set of demographic estimates that are corrected for omissions from the CPS. Data shown in this report are based almost entirely on tabulations of data from such augmented CPS files for March 2004 and, to some degree, for earlier years.² The resulting population figures are not consistent with official published data from the CPS because of the adjustments for under-coverage of legal immigrants and unauthorized immigrants incorporated into the weight adjustments at the third-stage of the estimation process.³

UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANT TRENDS AND ORIGINS: STATES AND METROPOLITAN AREAS

STATES

Population Numbers and Growth

As of March 2004, the foreign-born population numbered 35.3 million, representing 12 percent of the United States population (**table 1**). The state with the most immigrants was California, where 9.8 million, or 28 percent of the nation's foreign-born population, resided. The foreign-born population represented 27 percent of California's total population, the highest among all the states. Other states where immigrants made up more than one-sixth of the state's population were New York, Florida, Arizona, New Jersey, and Hawaii.

Unauthorized immigrants nationally numbered 10.3 million as of March 2004 and represented slightly more than one-quarter (29 percent) of all immigrants and 3.6 percent of the nation's total population.⁴ California had the largest number unauthorized immigrants, 2.45 million, representing almost one-quarter (24 percent) of the national total. The four states with the largest overall immigrant populations (California, New York, Texas, and Florida) also had the four largest unauthorized populations. The states with the fifth and sixth largest unauthorized populations were Arizona (450,000) and North Carolina (395,000), although New Jersey ranked fifth and Illinois sixth in the number of immigrants overall.

Unauthorized immigrants are a relatively high share of all immigrants in the Southwest, because of proximity to the border with Mexico, and in "new growth" states where the immigrant populations are growing fastest and are therefore most recent.⁵ California is situated on the border with Mexico but also has many long-term immigrants who have become legal

² The three-stage method described in the text has been applied to March CPS Supplements for 2000–2004 and to the 5-percent Public-Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) from Census 2000.

³ Because no weight adjustments are incorporated for U.S. natives, tabulations for this group are consistent with official data.

⁴ More recently, the Pew Hispanic Center estimated the number of undocumented immigrants at between 11.5 and 12 million in 2006 (Passel 2006).

⁵ The "new growth" states are the 22 states where the foreign-born populations grew at a faster rate between 1990 and 2000 than Texas, the fastest growing major immigration state. The new growth states are Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington in the West; Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, and Oklahoma in the Midwest; Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee in the Southeast; and Delaware in the Northeast (Capps, Fix, and Passel 2002).

residents and naturalized citizens. As a result, the share of California's immigrants who are unauthorized was actually slightly below the national share (25 versus 29 percent), although the share the unauthorized represented of the *total* population was relatively high: 7 percent. By contrast, in neighboring Arizona, nearly half (46 percent) of all immigrants were unauthorized, and the unauthorized represented 8 percent of the total population. Arizona is one of the largest new growth states and the only one situated on the Southwestern border; the state has also been heavily affected by Border Patrol operations that have shifted illegal immigration flows eastward, away from San Diego and into Arizona desert areas (Cornelius 2005). Yet another contrast is offered by the state of New York, which had the second largest overall immigrant population behind California but a much lower share of unauthorized immigrants (16 percent of all immigrants and just 3 percent of the state's total population.) In general, Northeastern states have the lowest shares of unauthorized immigrants in their foreign-born populations because they are geographically farthest from the Mexican border and have the lowest shares of immigrants from Mexico and other Latin American countries.

The unauthorized population is growing rapidly across the country, but relatively slowly in California, where the population is already very large. Nationally, the unauthorized population grew from an estimated 3.5 million in 1990 to 10.3 million in 2004, an increase of about 195 percent over 14 years (**table 2**). California's unauthorized population also grew significantly, by about 1 million (from 1.5 million in 1990 to 2.5 million in 2004), but the state's growth rate was much lower: only about 66 percent.

In comparison, between 1990 and 2004, the unauthorized population in the new growth states increased much more rapidly—by a factor of seven—from 400,000 to 2.8 million. For example, North Carolina saw an increase by a factor of 16, Iowa by a factor of 13, and Ohio and South Carolina by a factor of 11. As a result of the differential growth across the United States, California's share of the overall unauthorized population in the United States dropped from 42 percent to 24 percent.⁶ Nonetheless, in absolute numbers, the state's unauthorized population grew the most—by nearly 1 million—between 1990 and 2004.

Unauthorized Immigrants from Mexico

Mexico is by far the largest source country for U.S. immigration, accounting for 57 percent of all unauthorized immigrants nationally in 2004 (**table 3**). California had an even higher percentage of Mexicans among the unauthorized—65 percent. A number of states, mostly in the eastern half of the country, have substantially *smaller* shares of unauthorized immigrants from Mexico than does California. Among the states estimated to have more than 100,000 unauthorized immigrants, Massachusetts had the smallest share of unauthorized immigrants from Mexico—only 3 percent. Florida (15 percent), Pennsylvania (17 percent), New York (19 percent), and New Jersey (21 percent) also had relatively low shares of unauthorized immigrants from Mexico. Many states, however, had much higher shares of unauthorized immigrants from Mexico. Most but not all of these states are in the western half of the United States, near the border with Mexico. States with larger Mexican shares among the unauthorized than California in 2004 were Arizona (88 percent), Illinois (88 percent), Colorado (80 percent), Texas (79 percent), Oregon (79 percent), Nevada (76 percent), Washington (73 percent), and North Carolina (71 percent).

⁶ In 1980, California was estimated to have about half of all unauthorized immigrants (Passel and Woodrow 1984).

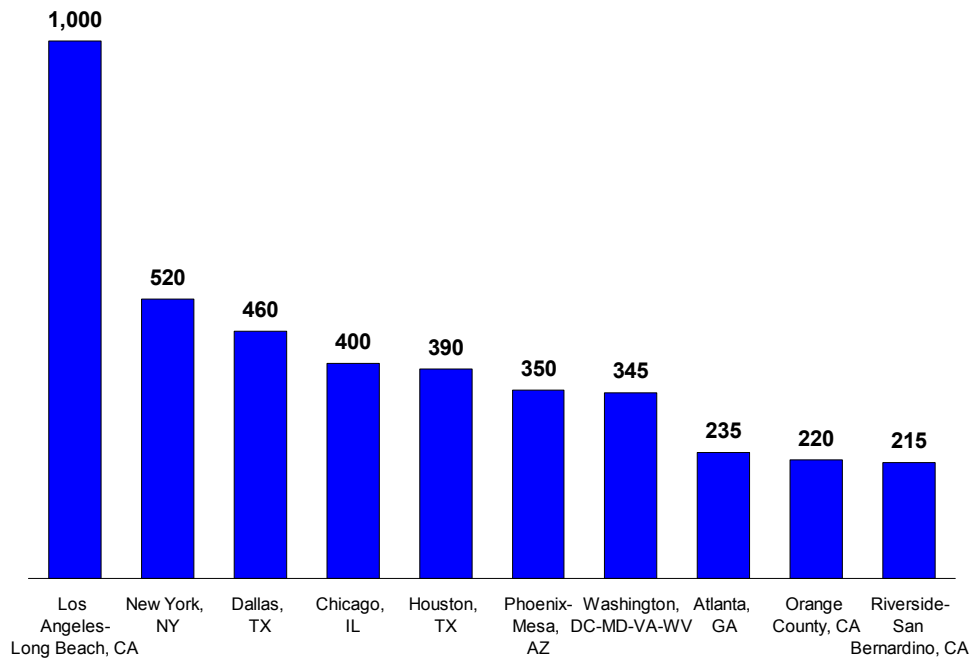
Period of Arrival

California’s unauthorized immigrants have lived in the country longer on average than unauthorized immigrants in other states. Nationally, most unauthorized immigrants arrived recently: almost two-thirds (65 percent) had been in the country for less than 10 years in 2004 (**table 3**). Similarly, the majority of unauthorized immigrants in states with large unauthorized populations had arrived in the United States within the last 10 years—e.g., North Carolina (85 percent), Arizona (70 percent), Illinois (69 percent), Florida and New York (67 percent each). By contrast, unauthorized immigrants appear to be “more settled” in California than elsewhere as only just over half of California’s unauthorized population (54 percent) have arrived within the last 10 years.

METROPOLITAN AREAS

The unauthorized population is also heavily concentrated in the nation’s largest cities, led by Los Angeles. The Los Angeles metropolitan area had almost twice as many unauthorized immigrants—about 1 million—as any other metropolitan area in 2004 (**table 4**). The top 10 metropolitan areas with very large numbers of unauthorized immigrants included some of the country’s largest cities—New York (520,000), Dallas (460,000), Chicago (400,000), Houston (390,000), Phoenix (350,000), Washington, D.C. (345,000), and Atlanta (235,000)—as well as two other California metropolitan areas bordering Los Angeles: Orange County (220,000) and Riverside-San Bernardino (215,000) (**figure 2**).

Figure 2: Top 10 U.S. Metropolitan Areas with Highest Unauthorized Immigrant Populations



Source: Estimates based on March 2003 and 2004 Current Population Survey.

Owing to its large unauthorized population statewide, California includes seven of the top 25 metropolitan areas with the largest unauthorized populations. The largest numbers of unauthorized immigrants in California’s metropolitan areas can be found in southern California—the Greater Los Angeles area that combines Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties—followed by northern California—the San Francisco Bay Area that combines San Jose, San Francisco, Oakland, Santa Rosa, and Vallejo (**table 5**). Metropolitan areas in California’s Central Valley tend to have smaller numbers of unauthorized immigrants but the unauthorized share of the total population is comparable to the more populous metropolitan areas along the coast.

The Mexican share of unauthorized immigrants varies widely across the top 25 metropolitan areas (**table 4**), with the highest Mexican shares in the West, and the lowest in the East. For instance, in 2004 the share of unauthorized immigrants from Mexico was under 10 percent in Miami, Boston, Fort Lauderdale, and Newark, and between 10 and 20 percent in West Palm Beach-Boca Raton, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and New York. On the other hand, immigrants from Mexico were a large majority of the unauthorized (80–90 percent) in Chicago, Phoenix, Riverside-San Bernardino, Las Vegas, Fort Worth-Arlington (Texas), and Denver.

There is also some variation in the Mexican share of the unauthorized across metropolitan areas in California (**table 5**). Compared with Los Angeles, unauthorized populations of the Central Valley tend to be overwhelmingly Mexican, largely reflecting the agricultural character of the areas: for example, Fresno (92 percent), Yuba City (94 percent), and Visalia-Tulare-Porterville (100 percent). In contrast, the major metropolitan areas in Northern California tend to have much smaller percentages of Mexicans than the other parts of the state: San Francisco (29 percent), San Jose (31 percent), and Sacramento (51 percent).

UNAUTHORIZED FAMILIES AND LABOR FORCE

Unauthorized immigrants’ families⁷ represent a higher share of U.S. families than the immigrants’ share of the total population. In 2004, unauthorized families accounted for 4.3 percent of all U.S. families, while unauthorized immigrants represented only 3.6 percent of the total population (**table 6**). In California, similarly, unauthorized immigrants were 6.9 percent of the state’s population but unauthorized immigrant families were 8 percent of all families. This trend is observed in all states, except Georgia, that have more than 100,000 unauthorized immigrants.

Unauthorized immigrants represented an even higher share of the labor force (4.6 percent) than they did of families or the overall population nationally in 2004. This trend holds true for all states with at least 5,000 unauthorized immigrants, as a higher share of unauthorized immigrants than the general population is composed of working age men. In California, unauthorized immigrants represented 8.8 percent of the labor force, compared with 6.9 percent of the population. In the neighboring states of Arizona and Nevada, unauthorized immigrants accounted for around 1 worker in 10.

⁷ These are families in which either the head or spouse is an unauthorized immigrant. Some members of these families—especially the children—may be U.S. citizens or legal noncitizens.

UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANT CHARACTERISTICS FOR LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, AND THE NATION

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Populations and Trends

Unauthorized population growth is slowing down in California, even as this population is increasing rapidly elsewhere in the country. In fact, the number of unauthorized immigrants and their share of the total population changed little in California and Los Angeles over the 2000–04 period. In California, the number of unauthorized immigrants increased by 6 percent from 2.3 million in 2000 to 2.45 million in 2004, and their share of the population changed little (from 6.8 to 6.9 percent) during this period (**tables 2 and 7**). In Los Angeles County, the unauthorized population increased slightly between 2000 and 2002, from 937,000 to 1.0 million, but then remained essentially unchanged in 2004. The unauthorized share of the metropolitan area’s total population remained the same—10 percent—between 2000 and 2004. In contrast, the country as a whole experienced a 23 percent growth of the unauthorized immigrant population—from 8.4 million in 2000 to 10.3 million in 2004, and their share of the national population grew from 3 to 3.6 percent.

Country of Origin

Mexicans account for a higher share of immigrants in California than in the nation as a whole, but California’s Mexican immigrants are less likely to be unauthorized than is the case nationally. In 2004 Mexicans made up 43 percent of all immigrants in both Los Angeles and California, compared with 32 percent nationally (**figure 3**). Mexicans were a higher share of the unauthorized immigrants in California (65 percent) than in Los Angeles and the United States (57 percent in both places). On the other hand, the share of Mexicans among legal immigrants (36 percent) in California was considerably higher than in the United States as a whole (21 percent). Mexican immigrants were much *less* likely to be unauthorized in California and Los Angeles (38 and 35 percent, respectively) than nationally (53 percent).⁸

Immigrants from other Central American countries are another large group. They are much more prevalent among the unauthorized in Los Angeles than nationally. In 2004, 25 percent of unauthorized immigrants in Los Angeles were from Central America, compared with 14 percent in California and 17 percent nationally (**table 8**). But Los Angeles and California both had lower shares of legal immigrants from Central America (13 and 9 percent, respectively) than the country as a whole (17 percent). Thus, the Los Angeles area is home to a relatively large Central American community, but one in which many of the immigrants are unauthorized. Some Central America immigrants, however, that are categorized as “unauthorized”—particularly those from El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua—actually qualify for Temporary Protected Status (see appendix for details).

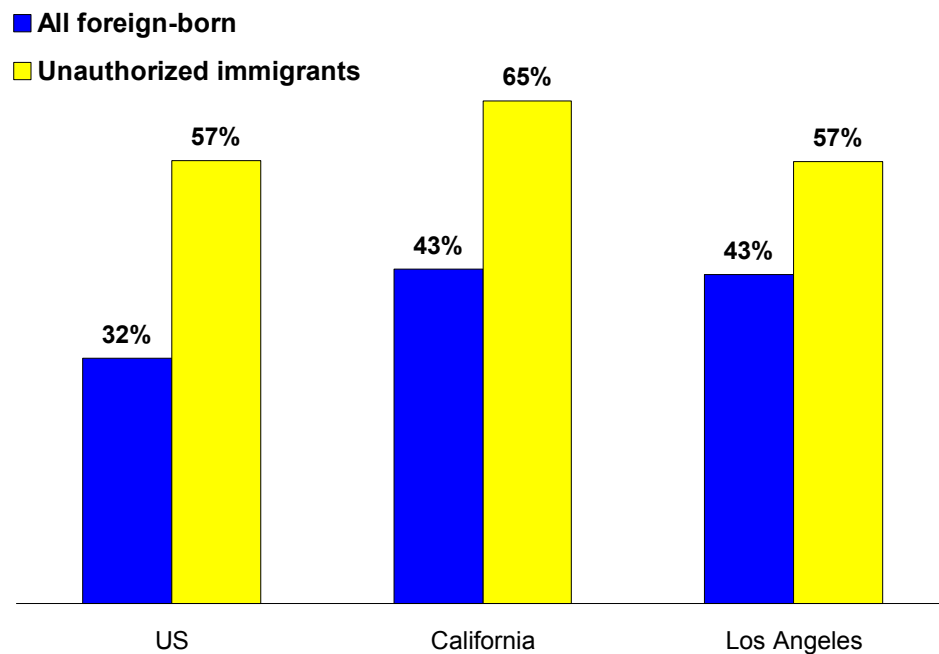
The share of unauthorized immigrants from Asia is slightly higher in California than nationally, but their share in Los Angeles is similar to the national share. In 2004 Asians represented 15 percent of all unauthorized immigrants in California versus 12 percent in Los

⁸ These percentages are not shown in table 8 but are derived from the data in that table.

Angeles and nationally. The largest Asian communities are in northern California, particularly the Bay Area, although there are also substantial communities in Los Angeles. Additionally, following the national pattern, Asians are much more likely to be legal than unauthorized immigrants: in 2004 they represented 38 percent of legal immigrants in California.

Although a much smaller group, Europeans are also less likely to be unauthorized than legal immigrants. In 2004, immigrants from Europe made up 12 percent of legal immigrants versus 3 percent of the unauthorized population in California.

Figure 3: Mexican Shares of Total Foreign-Born and Unauthorized Populations: United States, California, and Los Angeles County



Source: Estimates based on March 2004 Current Population Survey using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Period of Arrival

California’s unauthorized population has been in the country on average longer than is the case in other states (**table 8**). Nationally, unauthorized immigrants are much more likely to have arrived within the last 10 years than legal immigrants (65 versus 30 percent in 2004). This pattern was found across all regions of birth and geographic areas in the United States. But unauthorized immigrants were much more “settled” in California than elsewhere: in 2004, 54 percent of California’s unauthorized immigrants and 51 percent of those in Los Angeles had arrived within 10 years. The difference in period of arrival is especially pronounced for Central American unauthorized immigrants: only 37 percent in California had arrived in the last 10 years, compared with 61 percent nationally. Given that almost half of unauthorized immigrants are long-term residents in California and Los Angeles, one would expect that unauthorized immigrants in California and Los Angeles are better integrated and therefore have higher socioeconomic status than unauthorized immigrants nationally.

Age and Dependency

Immigrants have a very different age structure from natives. Immigrants, especially unauthorized immigrants, are much more likely to be working age, especially younger working age. In 2004, only 9 percent of the foreign-born versus 28 percent of the native-born were under age 18 nationally (**table 9**). Part of the explanation for the relatively low share of children among the foreign-born is that most children of immigrants are born in the United States after their parents immigrate. Fitting the national pattern, small shares of immigrants in California and Los Angeles were children (9 and 7 percent, respectively), but much higher shares of natives were children (34 and 41 percent, respectively). Children represented 17 percent of unauthorized immigrants in California, close to their share nationally (16 percent), and slightly higher than in Los Angeles (13 percent). The shares for legal immigrants were lower—6 percent of legal immigrants were children in California and nationally, and 5 percent in Los Angeles. Legal immigrants have been in the country longer on average than unauthorized immigrants, and therefore legal immigrants' children were more likely to be born in the United States.

The elderly are also a small share of all immigrants, but the vast majority of elderly immigrants are legal, not unauthorized. In 2004, 11 percent of immigrants nationally were age 65 or over, close to the 12 percent share for natives. However, less than 1 percent of unauthorized immigrants were elders, versus 15 percent for the legal foreign-born. The pattern is similar in California and Los Angeles, where 14 percent of legal immigrants but less than 1 percent of unauthorized immigrants were elders.

The relatively low shares of children and elders among the unauthorized population mean that this population is predominantly working age. Working-age immigrants (18–64 years old) were 80 percent of all immigrants nationally, much higher than the 60 percent share for natives in 2004. The share working-age among immigrants was similar to the national share in both California (81 percent) and Los Angeles (83 percent), but the working-age share of the native populations was lower (56 percent in California and 50 percent in Los Angeles). In other words, natives in California and Los Angeles are even more likely to be children or elders than is the case nationally.

The implications of age structure for the workforce can be seen in the relatively high shares of immigrants among the working-age population, especially among the middle-age groups of workers. Nationally, immigrants were 12 percent of the total population but 16 percent of the 18–29 age group and 19 percent of the 30–49 age group in 2004. In California, immigrants made up 43 percent of the 30–49 age group, compared with 27 percent of the state's total population. In Los Angeles, immigrants made up over half (56 percent) of the 30–49 age group, compared with 38 percent of the total population.

Overall, immigrants in California and Los Angeles increase the pool of working-age adults, with unauthorized immigrants having the strongest impact on the 18–49 age group, and legal immigrants on the 30–64 age group. These demographic patterns highlight the dependency of native-born children and elders on working-age immigrants for their labor power and earnings. Many of these native-born children have immigrant parents, but the elderly are almost entirely unrelated to the current wave of immigration. As the native-born population ages—due to the aging of the baby boomers—the dependency of native-born elders on immigrant workers will continue to increase. Immigrants—including the unauthorized—will become an even greater source of government revenues to support services for the state's burgeoning elderly population.

Since nearly half of Californians in their younger working years are immigrants, the state is a bellwether for trends nationally.

Gender

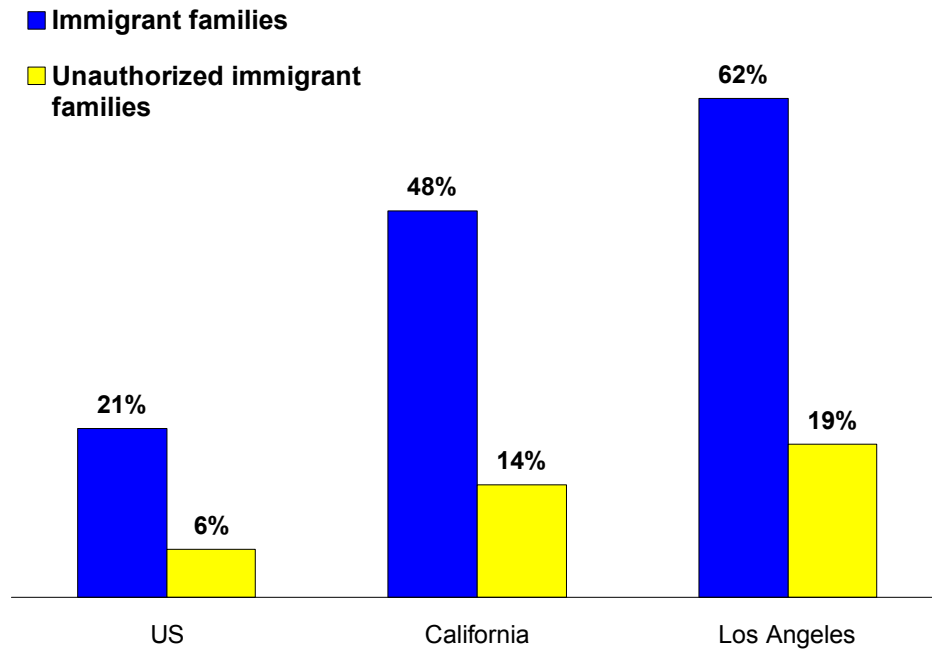
Adult unauthorized immigrants are more likely to be males than other immigrants or natives. In 2004, 58 percent of adult unauthorized immigrants were men (for a sex ratio of 140 males for every 100 females) versus 48 percent for legal immigrants and natives nationally (computed from data in **table 9**). In California and Los Angeles, the sex ratio among the unauthorized was less lopsided: 53–54 percent of adult unauthorized immigrants were men, and the sex ratio was in the range of 114–117 for every 100 females. In contrast, among legal immigrants of working age, the sex ratio in both California and Los Angeles was close to 100 males for every 100 females. Thus, the stereotype of the “solo” male unauthorized immigrant (i.e., a male immigrant who is not accompanied by a wife or children) is less true in California than elsewhere in the nation. The closer balance between adult males and females in the unauthorized population is due, in part, to the greater share of long-term residents in California and Los Angeles. As unauthorized males settle in the United States, they are more likely to bring wives and family to join them.

Family Structure

In 2004, one in 10 California residents lived in an unauthorized family—i.e., a family where either the head or spouse is an unauthorized immigrant—compared with one in 20 nationally (**table 10**). Two-fifths of California residents (41 percent) lived in families headed by either legal or unauthorized immigrants, compared with 18 percent nationally. In Los Angeles, more than half (56 percent) of all residents lived in immigrant families, and 14 percent lived in unauthorized families.

In California almost half of all children have at least one immigrant parent. Nationally, one-fifth of children were children of immigrants—15 percent were children of legal immigrants and 6 percent children of unauthorized immigrant—in 2004 (**figure 4**). In contrast, almost half of California’s children had immigrant parents—34 percent were children of legal immigrants and 14 percent children of unauthorized immigrants. In Los Angeles these shares were even higher, as about 5 of every 8 children were children of immigrants (43 percent children of legal immigrants and 19 percent children of unauthorized immigrants). Because a majority of children in Los Angeles come from immigrant families, the schools and other service systems there must deal with more diverse student populations than virtually anywhere else in the country.

Figure 4: Share of Children in Immigrant Families and Unauthorized Families: United States, California, and Los Angeles County



Source: Estimates based on March 2004 Current Population Survey using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: The share in native families is not shown.

One of the common stereotypes concerning unauthorized immigrants is that a very large share of them are “solo” males—that is, men who are either single or are not accompanied by their wives and children. While there is some truth to this stereotype, they actually constitute a small minority of unauthorized migrants in the United States, California, and Los Angeles. Most unauthorized adult men are living in families with other relatives.⁹ Nationally, there were 2.3 million solo male unauthorized immigrants, representing 23 percent¹⁰ of the unauthorized population and 38 percent of all unauthorized families in 2004 (**table 11**). Solo males were only 18 percent¹¹ of the unauthorized population and 31 percent of unauthorized families in California, and their shares of the unauthorized population and families were similar in Los Angeles.

Solo female immigrants are much less common, accounting for only 11 percent of unauthorized families nationally, 10 percent in California, and 11 percent in Los Angeles in 2004. The slightly higher shares of solo men and women nationally are probably a function of the fact that the unauthorized population is more recent outside California, and therefore a higher

⁹ Single-person households are considered family units for the purposes of this analysis.

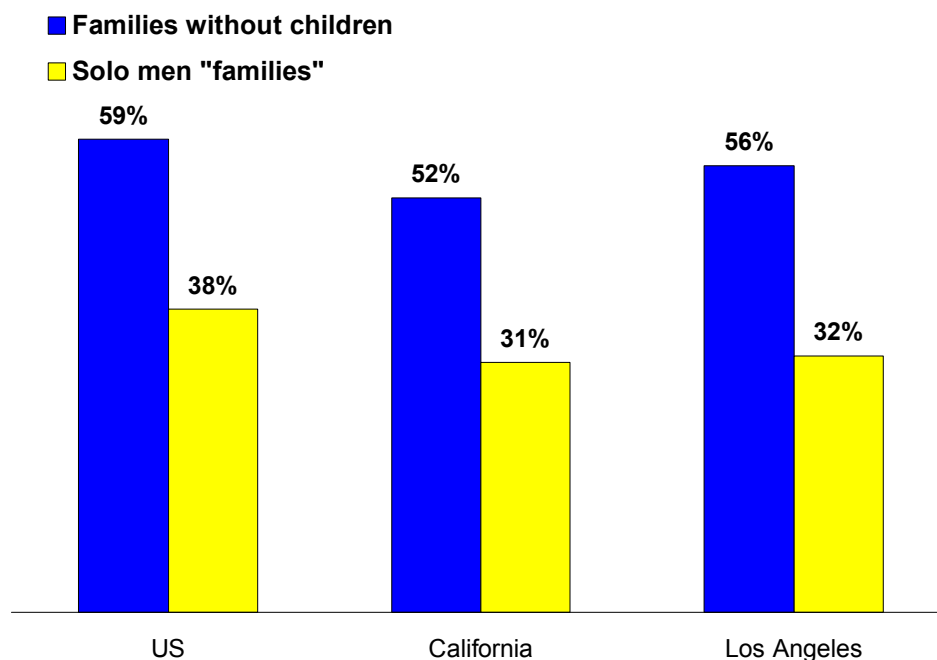
¹⁰ This percentage is not shown in table 11 but is derived from data in this table and table 8.

¹¹ This percentage is not shown in table 11 but is also derived from data in this table and table 8.

share of immigrants in other states have not yet had time to get married, have children, or bring other family members into the United States.

Most unauthorized families do not have children, if the solo families are included. In 2004, a majority of unauthorized families (59 percent nationally, 52 percent in California, and 56 percent in Los Angeles) had no children (**figure 5**). A majority of the remaining unauthorized immigrant families, however, do have children, and most of them are two-parent families. Of the unauthorized families with children, 76 percent in California and nationally, and 74 percent in Los Angeles, were two-parent families (computed from data in **table 11**).

Figure 5: Share of Unauthorized Families without Children and Composed of “Solo” Men: United States, California, and Los Angeles County



Source: Estimates based on March 2004 Current Population Survey using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Most children of unauthorized immigrants are U.S.-born citizens, and this share is higher in California than elsewhere in the country. In 2004, 66 percent of children with unauthorized parents were U.S. citizens nationally; this share was 68 percent in California and much higher (76 percent) in Los Angeles (**table 12**). The higher share of native-born children of immigrants in California and Los Angeles is a consequence of the fact that unauthorized immigrants have been living there longer and are more settled, and they are therefore more likely to form families and have U.S.-born children.

At younger ages, almost all children of immigrants are U.S.-born, but at higher ages, a significant share of children of immigrants are born outside the United States (Capps et al. 2005). Thus, most of the children who are themselves unauthorized are adolescents, meaning that significant numbers of California high school students may be unauthorized. On the other hand, the number of young children who are unauthorized is very small, and so there are very few unauthorized children in elementary schools or early education programs.

Because most children of unauthorized immigrants are U.S.-born, most unauthorized families with children are “mixed status” families where at least some of the children are U.S.-born. Only a small minority of children of unauthorized immigrants in California (19 percent) and Los Angeles (15 percent) lived in families where all the children were foreign-born in 2004 (**table 12**). These shares were slightly lower than the share nationally (21 percent). In contrast, the majority of children with unauthorized parents were in families where all children were U.S.-born: 55 percent in California and 62 percent in Los Angeles. Around a quarter of children of unauthorized families lived in families with both native and immigrant children: 26 percent in California and 23 percent in Los Angeles. These mixed-status families pose special concerns for various social policies since some family members are U.S. citizens and have the same eligibility for government programs as other citizens, while other members—usually the adults and older siblings—are unauthorized. Since unauthorized parents are potentially subject to being reported and deported, they may be reluctant to approach the government for needed services, even when their children need services and are eligible for them.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND EMPLOYMENT

Educational Attainment

Three important points can be made about the educational attainment of immigrants in California and Los Angeles. First, immigrants (both legal and unauthorized) in California and Los Angeles are slightly less well educated than immigrants nationally. Second, more recent immigrants are better educated than earlier arrivals, whether in Los Angeles, California, or nationally. Thus, the fact that a higher share of immigrants in California and Los Angeles are earlier arrivals could partially explain why immigrants there are less well educated than immigrants nationally. Third, immigrants are strongly over represented among adults who have not graduated from high school, and they are slightly underrepresented among college degree holders, but to a lesser extent.

Unauthorized immigrants in California are less likely than legal immigrants and far less likely than natives to have high school diplomas; the unauthorized in California are also less likely than the unauthorized nationally to have graduated from high school. In 2004, more than half of unauthorized immigrants age 25–64 in California and Los Angeles lacked high school diplomas (56 and 57 percent, respectively), compared with 49 percent nationally (computed from **table 13**). Only a third of legal immigrants in California and 37 percent in Los Angeles lacked high school diplomas; the share nationally was even lower—26 percent. Still, these shares were much higher than the shares for natives—6 percent in California and 8 percent in Los Angeles. Recent immigrants—those who arrived in the past 10 years—were slightly less likely to lack high school diplomas. About half of recent unauthorized immigrants in California and Los Angeles did not graduate from high school, compared with 59 and 62 percent, respectively, of immigrants who arrived earlier. Thus, with recent arrivals better educated, the educational attainment levels of California’s immigrants should improve over time.

At the lowest end of the educational spectrum, the vast majority of adults age 25–64 with less than 9th grade educations are immigrants: 92 percent in California and 94 percent in Los Angeles. These shares are much higher than their shares of the total population in this age group (37 and 52 percent, respectively). Nationally, immigrants were a majority but a smaller share of adults with less than 9th grade educations (66 percent) than immigrants in California. Legal

immigrants in California and Los Angeles represented 61 percent of all adults with less than 9th grade educations, also much higher than their national share (37 percent). Unauthorized immigrants were also a significant share of those with less than 9th grade educations in California (31 percent) and Los Angeles (33 percent), similar to the share nationally (29 percent). Thus in California, while virtually all the least educated adults are immigrants, the majority of this group is actually legal, not unauthorized immigrants.¹²

At the high end of the educational spectrum, 28 percent of legal immigrants and 12 percent of unauthorized immigrants had at least a bachelor's degree in California, compared with 34 percent of natives. In Los Angeles, these shares were slightly lower: 25 percent for legal immigrants and 8 percent for unauthorized immigrants, compared with 36 percent for natives. Twenty-nine percent of all adults with college and advanced degrees were immigrants in California, and that share was higher (40 percent) in Los Angeles. Even though a higher share of immigrants (legal and unauthorized) had college and advanced degrees in the United States as a whole (48 percent), immigrants represented a much lower share of all adults with college and advanced degrees (15 percent). Thus California generally and Los Angeles in particular are highly dependent on well-educated immigrants, as well as the lower-educated immigrants in the labor force.

Labor Force Participation

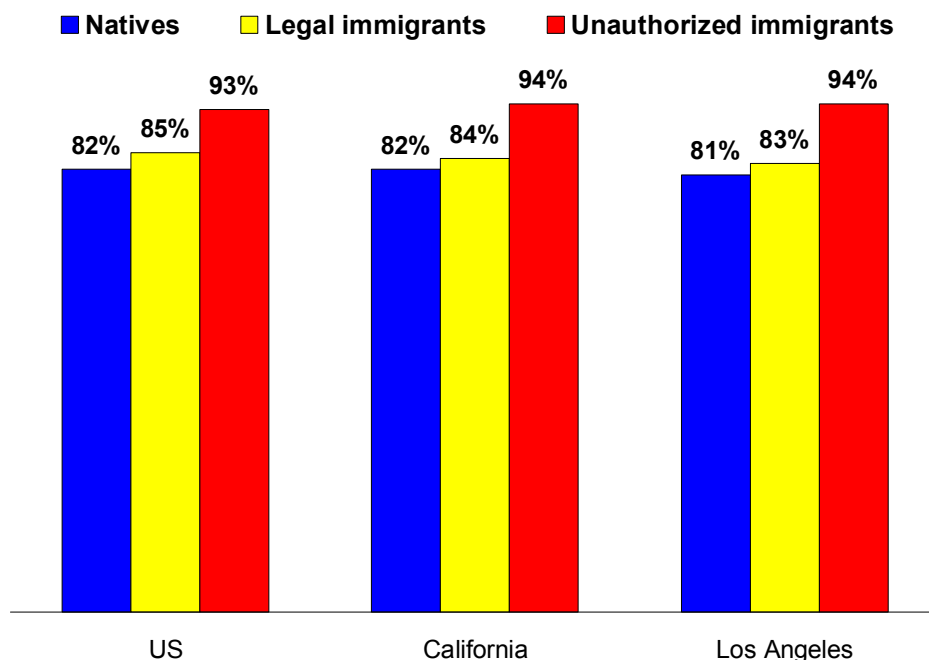
The data suggest that virtually all unauthorized immigrant men participate in the labor force.¹³ In fact, immigrant men are more likely to work than native men in California and the United States, and unauthorized men are much more likely to be in the labor force than either legal immigrant or native-born citizen men. Immigrant women, on the other hand, are less likely to work than native women, but rates for legal and unauthorized immigrants are similar. The reasons for nonparticipation differ between men and women and between legal and unauthorized immigrants.

Nationally, 93 percent of unauthorized men age 18–64 were in the labor force, versus 85 percent of legal immigrant men and 82 percent of U.S.-born men in 2004 (**figure 6**). Labor force participation did not differ much for any nativity/legal status group across the different areas. Labor force participation was very high for unauthorized men of all ages (**table 14**). The highest rate was for the 25–44 age group: 97 percent in both California and Los Angeles. Labor force participation was not as high for men ages 18–24 but was still much higher than the rate for natives: 86 versus 71 percent in Los Angeles, and 82 versus 71 percent in California.

¹² Since California has such a large immigrant population that has been in the country for 20 years or more, it is possible that some of the state's least educated legal immigrants were once unauthorized immigrants who legalized under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

¹³ Adults in the labor force are those who reported that they were currently employed or actively seeking employment at the time the CPS was administered. Unemployed workers are those who were not currently employed and actively seeking employment at the time of the survey.

Figure 6: Labor Force Participation Rates for Men Age 18 to 64: United States, California, and Los Angeles County



Source: Estimates based on March 2004 Current Population Survey using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

The principal reason for very high labor force participation among unauthorized men is that they have few alternatives to working. First, they are less likely to be enrolled in higher education. The percentage of unauthorized men age 18–64 attending school in California and Los Angeles was about 3 percent, lower than the rate for native men (5 percent, as shown in **table 15**). Second, a far smaller share of unauthorized men (1 percent) were disabled than native men in California (5 percent) and Los Angeles (6 percent). Finally, the share of unauthorized men age 18–64 who were retired was less than 1 percent, compared with about 4 percent of natives in California and 2 percent in Los Angeles. Similar trends were observed nationally. Very few unauthorized men are old enough to retire. In addition, many of those that do retire leave the United States and return to their home countries. Thus, since unauthorized immigrant men are young and largely ineligible for social support in the United States, they must work to have income.

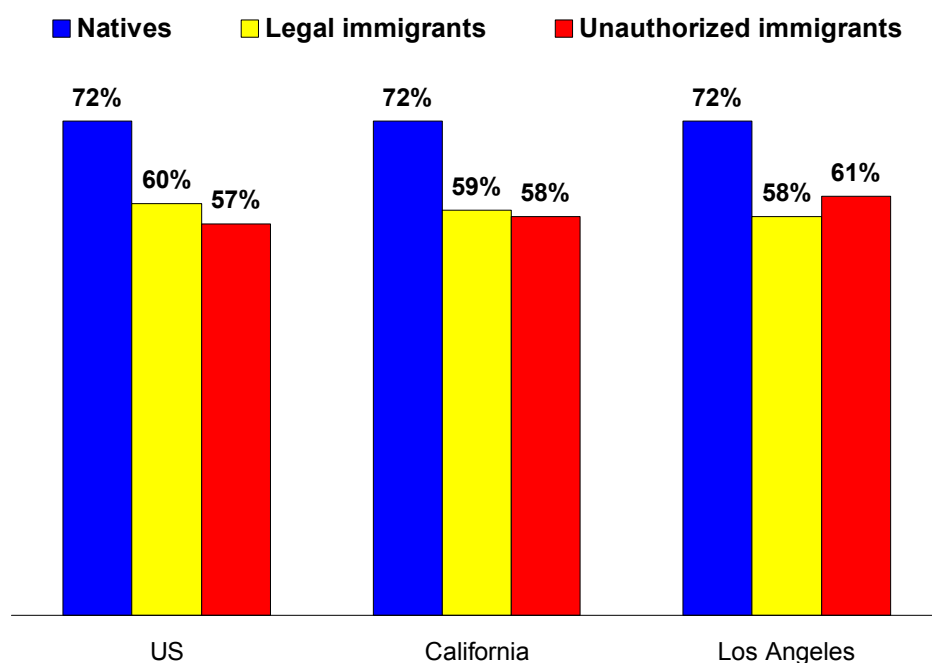
In addition to higher labor force participation, unauthorized men have lower unemployment rates than either native-born citizen or legal immigrant men.¹⁴ In California in 2004, the unemployment rate for unauthorized immigrant men was 4.1 percent versus 6.7 percent for legal immigrant men and 8.5 percent for native men (**table 16**). Although the magnitude of

¹⁴ Unemployment rates are very much tied to specific economic conditions at the time data are collected. Thus, our analysis focuses on differences across areas and among populations instead of on absolute levels or trends over time. The unemployment rate for unauthorized men, however, has fluctuated much less over time than the rate for other men.

the difference varies across areas and over time, the direction of the difference is consistent across all areas and at different levels of unemployment.

Among women, labor force participation patterns are very different: immigrant women are less likely to work than native women, and there is a large gap regardless of legal status. In California in 2004, unauthorized women age 18–64 were about as likely to work as legal immigrant women (58 versus 59 percent), but the labor force participation rate was much higher for native women (72 percent). Women’s labor force participation patterns by nativity and legal status were similar for Los Angeles and the nation (figure 7).

Figure 7: Labor Force Participation Rates for Women Age 18 to 64: United States, California, and Los Angeles County



Source: Estimates based on March 2004 Current Population Survey using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

The rates at which men and women are not in the labor force due to retirement and disability, and even education, are broadly similar within the same nativity and legal status group. Among these factors, school participation rates are the most different (table 15). For instance, legal immigrant women age 18–24 were slightly less likely to be in school than legal immigrant men of the same age (33 versus 38 percent in Los Angeles), whereas unauthorized women were somewhat more likely to be in school than unauthorized men (25 versus 14 percent in California). Overall, the degree to which these three factors affect immigrants’ labor force participation is similar for men and women; considering only these factors, one would expect immigrant women to be just as likely as immigrant men, and more likely than native women, to be in the labor force.

Immigrant women, however, are much less likely be in the labor force than men or than native women because they are much more likely to stay at home to take care of children. Higher rates of childbearing among unauthorized women far outweigh these other factors. In 2004,

unauthorized women were considerably more likely to be in families with children than native women—30 versus 9 percent nationally (**table 15**). Legal immigrant women fell in between (18 percent). The largest differences are among women age 25–44. Unauthorized immigrant women in this age group are considerably more likely to be out of the workforce (36 percent) than legal immigrant women (27 percent) who in turn have higher rates than native women (15 percent). These trends are similar in California and Los Angeles.

Underlying these differences in female labor force participation are a number of factors: immigrant women tend to be younger than native women, are more likely to be married than natives, and are more likely to have children than natives. Given that they have young children, immigrant women—especially unauthorized immigrant women—are more likely to stay out of the labor force to take care of their children; immigrant women are also more likely to take care of grandchildren at an older age. Cultural preferences and lack of child care access and affordability might explain why unauthorized immigrant women are more likely to stay at home with children. It is also possible, however, that unauthorized immigrant women face higher barriers to labor participation or earn lower wages than other immigrants, and as a result staying at home with children is a rational economic decision (Capps et al. 2005).

Along with lower labor force participation, unauthorized women tend to have significantly *higher* rates of unemployment than native-born women; again, this is the reverse of the pattern for men. In California in 2004, the unemployment rate for unauthorized immigrant women was 11.2 percent versus 8.4 percent for legal immigrant women and 5.7 percent for native women (**table 16**). The fact that unauthorized women have higher unemployment as well as lower labor force participation supports the view that they may have more difficulty finding jobs than unauthorized men.

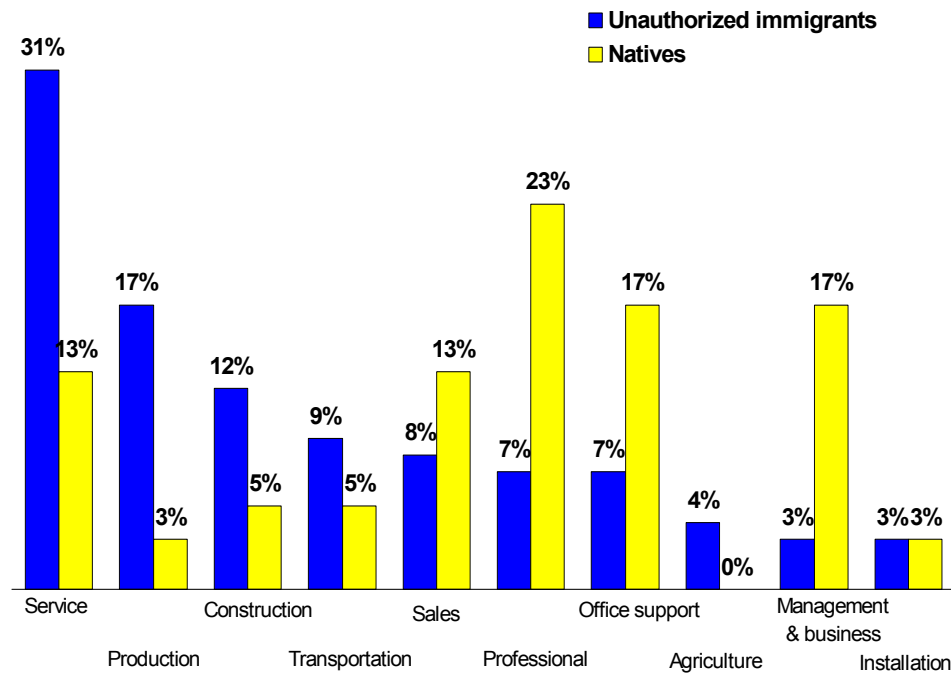
Occupations and Industries of Employment

Occupational differences among legal immigrants, unauthorized immigrants, and natives tend to reflect the educational attainment differences among the groups. We examine differences in the occupational distribution of each group by looking at which occupations have greater shares of unauthorized or legal immigrants than natives. We also discuss unauthorized and legal immigrant shares *within* each occupation, and compare these shares to their representation in the overall workforce.

The occupations with large numbers of unauthorized immigrants tend to be the same in Los Angeles, California, and the nation as a whole, suggesting that there is little geographic variation in the pattern of immigrant occupational concentration (**figure 8**). In 2004 in California, unauthorized immigrants were more concentrated than natives in service (31 percent of unauthorized immigrants versus 13 percent of natives), production (17 versus 3 percent),¹⁵ construction (12 versus 5 percent), and transportation and material moving occupations (9 versus 5 percent). In contrast, unauthorized immigrants in California were considerably less likely than natives to work in management, business, and finance (3 versus 17 percent); professional occupations (7 versus 23 percent); office and administrative support (7 versus 17 percent); and sales and related occupations (8 versus 13 percent). Similar patterns across these broad occupation groups are observed in Los Angeles and the United States (**table 17**).

¹⁵ Food processing and meatpacking are among the most common immigrant occupations that fall into the production category.

Figure 8: Distribution of Unauthorized and Native-Born Workers across Occupations: California



Source: Estimates based on March 2004 Current Population Survey using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

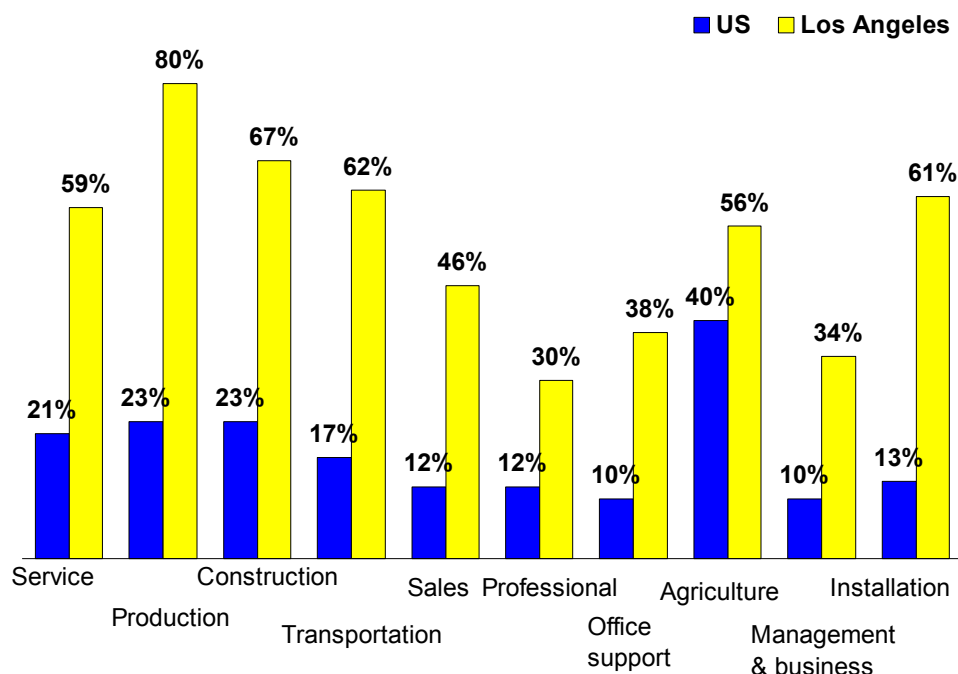
The distribution of legal immigrants across occupations tends to be closer to the distribution of natives. Shares of legal immigrants working in management and business, professional occupations, and office and administrative support are much higher than unauthorized immigrants, but slightly lower than natives. Legal immigrants, like unauthorized immigrants, are significantly more concentrated in production and service occupations than natives, but considerably less so than unauthorized immigrants. The higher share of legal immigrants in professional occupations and their lower shares in production and services, relative to the unauthorized, likely reflect legal immigrants' higher educational attainment.

Unauthorized immigrants and legal immigrants both tend to be more heavily concentrated in agriculture than natives, but only small shares of all groups work in these occupations. In California, 3 percent of legal immigrants and 4 percent of unauthorized immigrants were employed in agriculture occupations, compared with less than 1 percent of natives. In Los Angeles, a major urban area, very small fractions of workers were employed in agriculture, regardless of nativity or legal status.

Even though unauthorized immigrants are over represented in the same occupations in California as nationally, the higher shares of the unauthorized in California's labor force means that this overrepresentation results in much higher unauthorized shares within these occupations in California (**Figure 9**). This pattern is even more pronounced in Los Angeles. For example, in production occupations in Los Angeles, about 80 percent of the workers were foreign-born (50 percent were legal and 30 percent unauthorized immigrants), while only 20 percent were natives

in 2004. Nationally, immigrants were also over represented in production occupations, but 77 percent of all production workers were natives. Because of the high share of unauthorized immigrants in Los Angeles overall, they represented more than a quarter of all workers in production, construction, and service occupations. Nationally these same occupations also had high concentrations of unauthorized immigrants, but the highest concentration of unauthorized workers was in construction, where 12 percent of the workers were unauthorized.

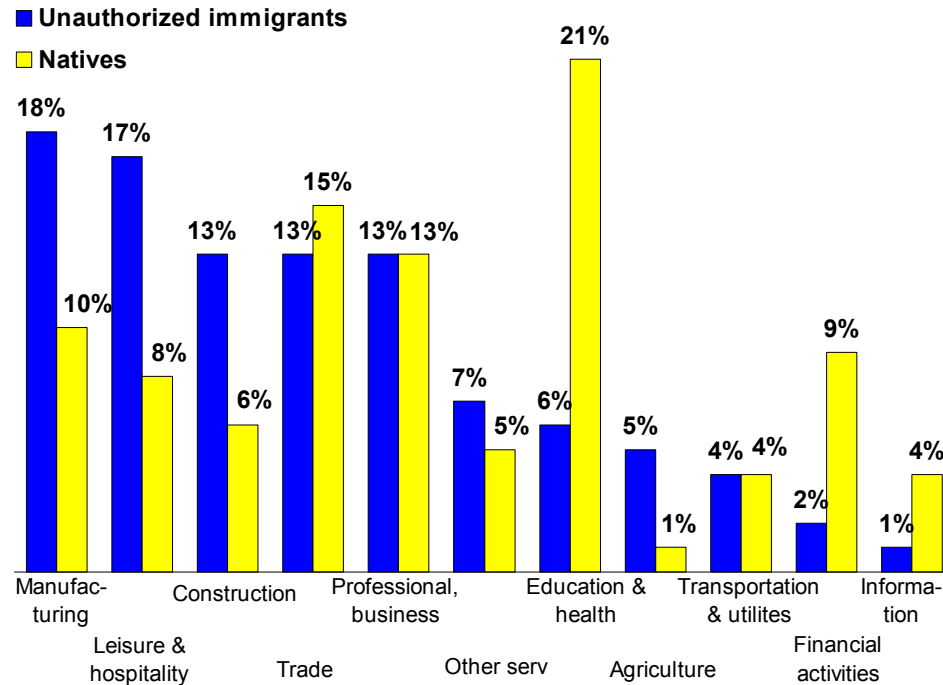
Figure 9: Immigrant Worker Shares within Major Occupations: United States and Los Angeles County



Source: Estimates based on March 2004 Current Population Survey using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

The industries in which unauthorized immigrants are over- and under-represented reflect the same patterns as observed for occupations. Again, the distribution of unauthorized and legal immigrants across industries tends to be similar for Los Angeles, California, and the nation, but the share of unauthorized immigrants is consistently much higher in Los Angeles. In 2004 the share of unauthorized immigrants was especially *high* relative to natives in several California industries: manufacturing (18 percent of unauthorized immigrants versus 10 percent of natives), leisure and hospitality (17 versus 8 percent), construction (13 versus 6 percent), and agriculture, but at lower levels (5 percent versus 1 percent, as shown in **figure 10**). Industries where the share of unauthorized immigrants was especially *low* relative to natives in California were information (1 versus 4 percent), financial activities (2 versus 9 percent), education and health services (6 versus 21 percent), and public administration—where unauthorized immigrants could be excluded from working due to stricter rules about employees’ identification and citizenship. Similar trends were observed for Los Angeles and the United States as a whole.

Figure 10: Distribution of Unauthorized Immigrants across Industries: California



Source: Estimates based on March 2004 Current Population Survey using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

The industrial distribution of legal immigrants tends to fall in between natives and unauthorized immigrants, though closer to natives. Legal immigrants in California are concentrated in agriculture, manufacturing, transportation, professional and business services, and “other services.” In Los Angeles, they are concentrated in construction, manufacturing, trade, transportation, information, financial services, professional and business services, health and education services and “other services.”

As with occupations, the concentration of unauthorized immigrants within particular industries reflects their overall workforce concentrations in large part (**table 18**). In Los Angeles, where 14 percent of workers were unauthorized and 32 percent legal immigrants in 2004, industries with particularly high immigrant concentrations included construction (27 percent unauthorized and 41 percent legal immigrants), “other services” (23 percent unauthorized and 43 percent legal), manufacturing (22 percent unauthorized and 41 percent legal), and leisure and hospitality (24 percent unauthorized and 27 percent legal).

The highest industry concentrations of unauthorized workers nationally were leisure and hospitality and construction (10 percent); agriculture (9 percent); manufacturing, professional and business services, and “other services” (6 percent each). These were also industries with the highest unauthorized concentrations in Los Angeles, though the national shares were much lower. It is worth noting that concentration levels within industries were generally lower than concentrations within occupations; this is largely because a wide range of workers with different skills and responsibilities are included within the industries. For instance, the manufacturing industry includes production workers—where immigrants predominate in Los Angeles—but also managers and supervisors, who are less likely to be immigrants.

INCOME AND POVERTY

Family Income

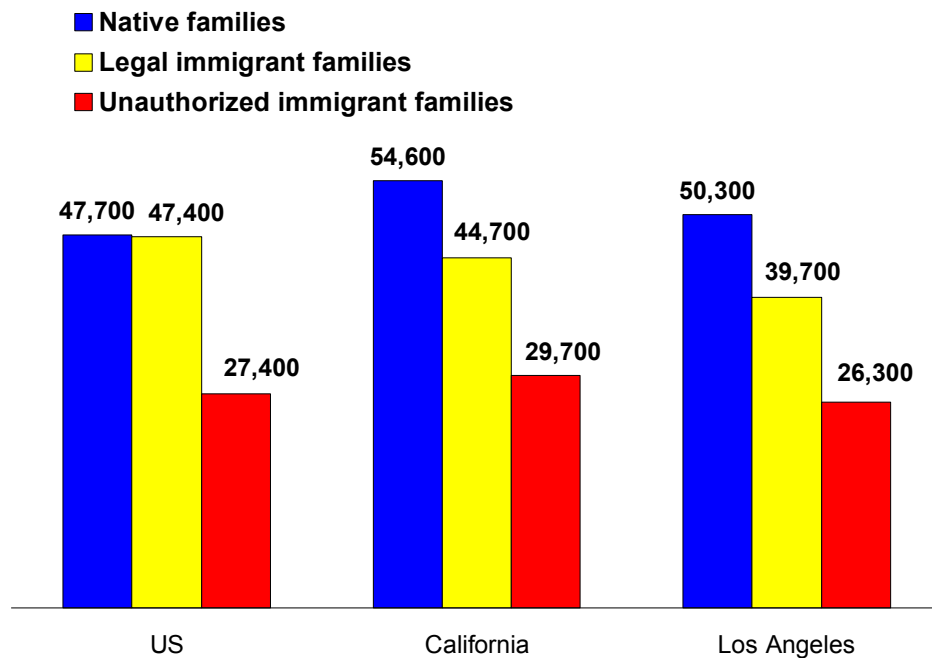
There are very large differences in family incomes between unauthorized immigrants and natives but much smaller ones between legal immigrants and natives. These differences tend to reflect the variations in educational attainment and employment presented in the previous section of this report. In other words, unauthorized immigrants tend to have lower incomes because they are more likely to hold lower-skilled jobs with lower salaries. Differences in family size exacerbate income differences, since legal and unauthorized immigrants both tend to have larger families than natives. These groups also have less total income than natives, so differences in the amount of income available for each person in the family (i.e., per capita income) and differences in poverty rates (which are based on income and family size) are even larger than differences in family income.

Average income for unauthorized families is only half that for U.S.-born families nationally and in California, and all families in Los Angeles have lower average incomes than families elsewhere in the state. In 2003 in California, unauthorized families had an average income of \$29,700, compared with \$54,600 for families headed by U.S.-born citizens (**figure 11**). Legal immigrant families had a significantly higher average income (\$44,700) than unauthorized families, but this figure was still substantially below that for native families. In Los Angeles, legal immigrants (\$39,700) and unauthorized immigrants (\$26,300) both had lower family incomes than their counterparts in California. Nationally, average incomes were between those for California and Los Angeles: \$27,400 for unauthorized families and \$47,700 for legal immigrant and native-born families. Thus, family incomes are higher in California than nationally, but they are lower in Los Angeles. The family income gap between native and unauthorized families is greatest in California, mostly because average native family income is higher there than nationally or in Los Angeles.

Per Capita Income

The per capita income gap between immigrants and natives is even higher than the family-level gap, because immigrant families are larger than native families. Moreover, the per capita gap is higher in California than elsewhere in the United States because California's immigrant families are relatively large. Compared with immigrants nationally, immigrants in California are more settled and therefore have had more time to build families. Moreover, a larger share of California's immigrants is composed of Mexicans, who tend to have relatively large families. In 2004, for instance, legal immigrant families were 25 percent larger on average than native families in California and 28 percent larger in Los Angeles. As a result, the per capita income gap between natives and legal immigrants was \$10,000 in California and \$11,000 in Los Angeles (computed from **table 19**). Nationally the native-legal immigrant difference in per capita income was smaller (about \$4,000). Unauthorized families were larger still—on average, unauthorized families were 37 percent larger than native families in California and 43 percent larger in Los Angeles. As a result, the per capita income gap between natives and unauthorized immigrants was more than \$17,000 in California and more than \$18,000 in Los Angeles. The unauthorized-native gap was also lower nationally (around \$12,000).

Figure 11: Average Family Incomes by Family Legal Status: United States, California, and Los Angeles County



Source: Estimates based on March 2004 Current Population Survey using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

The data also show that unauthorized family income is higher for longer-term residents than more recent arrivals but per capita income is actually higher for the more recent group because of the addition of new family members to longer-term families. Nationally in 2003, unauthorized family incomes were higher for immigrants in the country for 10 years or more (\$30,000) compared with more recent arrivals (\$25,700). Average family size, however, was also larger for longer-term residents than recent arrivals. As a result, per capita income was smaller for longer-term residents (\$11,400) compared with recent arrivals (\$12,600). Similar trends were observed in California and Los Angeles.

Poverty among Adults

Poverty among adults is higher for legal immigrants than native-born citizens, and higher still among the unauthorized. This pattern holds for California, Los Angeles, and the United States, although poverty rates are slightly higher for all groups in Los Angeles. In California in 2003, 27 percent of unauthorized immigrant adults were poor (with family incomes below 100 percent of the federal poverty level) compared with 12 percent for natives,¹⁶ and 63 percent were low-income (family incomes below 200 percent of the poverty level) compared with 29 percent for natives (**table 20**). The poverty and low-income rates for legal immigrants fell in the middle. These patterns were repeated for Los Angeles and the United States, although poverty and low-income rates were slightly higher in Los Angeles than elsewhere.

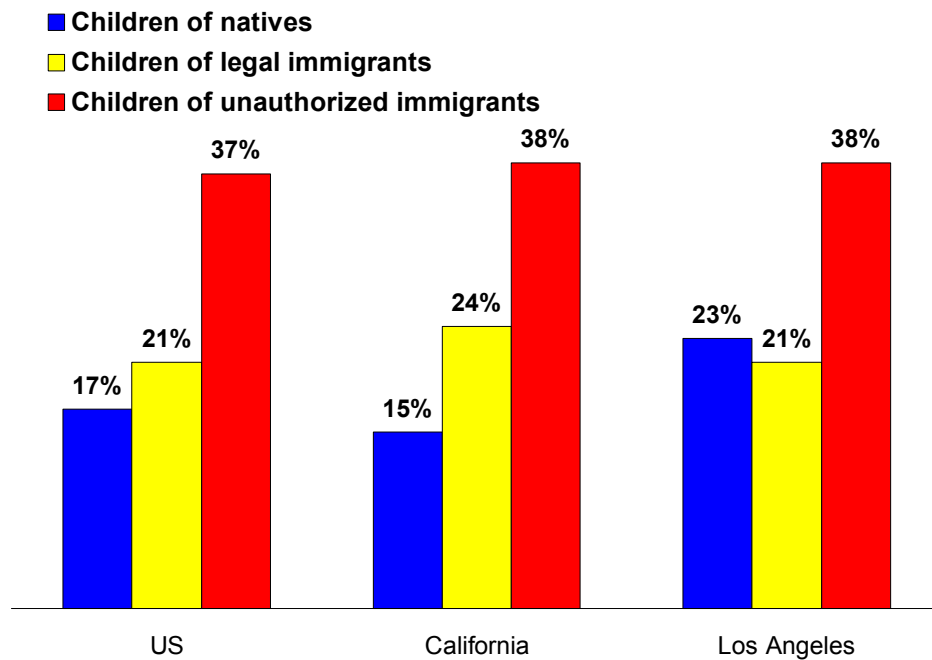
¹⁶ In 2003, the poverty level was \$18,400 for a family of four, slightly higher for larger families and lower for smaller families.

At the other end of the spectrum, California had the highest share of high-income natives (i.e., those with incomes above 400 percent of poverty): almost half (46 percent). The high-income shares of natives in Los Angeles and the United States were slightly lower. The high-income rate for unauthorized immigrants, by contrast, was quite small: 13 percent in California and lower still in Los Angeles and the United States as a whole.

Poverty of Children

Children’s poverty rates show a pattern similar to that for adults, but children’s poverty rates are much higher across all groups. Child poverty is higher in California and Los Angeles than nationally, in part because California and Los Angeles have relatively high shares of children in immigrant families, and children of immigrants tend to be poorer than children of natives. In 2004, 21 percent of U.S. children were children of immigrants, compared with 48 percent of children in California and 62 percent of children in Los Angeles.

Figure 12: Children’s Poverty by Family Legal Status: United States, California, and Los Angeles County



Source: Estimates based on March 2004 Current Population Survey using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Poverty rates for children of immigrants are much higher than those for children of natives, in California and nationally (**figure 12** and **table 21**). In 2003, more than one out of five children of legal immigrants were poor in California (24 percent) and Los Angeles (21 percent). Almost two out of five children of unauthorized immigrants (38 percent) were poor in both California and Los Angeles. By contrast, the poverty rate for children of natives was 23 percent in Los Angeles and 15 percent in California. The pattern of child poverty by nativity and legal status was similar in California and the United States. But in Los Angeles, the child poverty rate was slightly higher in native than legal immigrant families. In all three areas, however, children with unauthorized parents had much higher poverty rates.

The impact of poverty on children’s well being may be exacerbated in unauthorized families by their lack of access to needed public benefits and services. Unauthorized parents might be reluctant to apply for benefits for their children—even the more than two-thirds who are U.S.-born citizens and therefore eligible for benefits—because of fear of negative repercussions. Legal immigrant parents, especially those who are naturalized citizens, have much less fear of interacting with the government, so one would expect children in these families to have greater access to needed benefits.

HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE OF ADULTS AND CHILDREN

Over a quarter of legal immigrant adults and over half of unauthorized adults in California have no health insurance, and there was little change in this pattern between 2000 and 2004 (**table 22**). In California in 2004, legal immigrant adults were twice as likely as native adults to be uninsured (28 versus 14 percent), and unauthorized adults were almost twice as likely as legal immigrants to be uninsured (53 versus 28 percent). In other words, unauthorized adults were *four* times as likely as natives to lack health insurance coverage. In Los Angeles, an even higher share of unauthorized immigrant adults (60 percent) lacked health insurance coverage. The national pattern of health insurance coverage among adults was similar: 59 percent of unauthorized immigrant adults lacked health insurance, far higher than the share for legal immigrants (26 percent) or U.S. natives (14 percent).

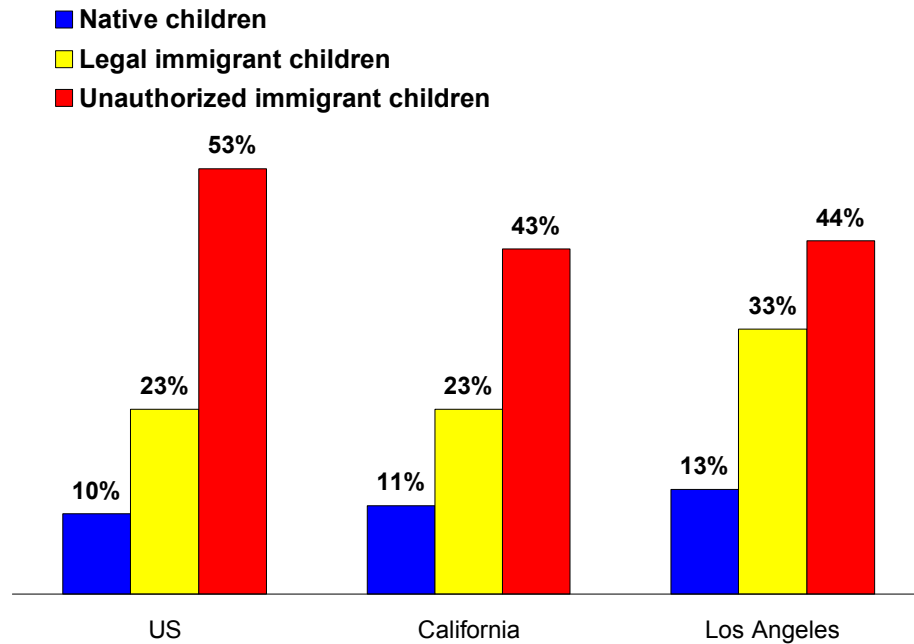
Children’s health insurance coverage of children reflects the pattern for their parents: children of immigrants, especially unauthorized immigrants, are more likely to be uninsured than children with native-born parents. In 2004 relatively low shares of children of natives were uninsured: 9 percent in California and the United States, and 10 percent in Los Angeles (**table 22**). In California, 13 percent of children in legal immigrant families were uninsured, half the rate for those in unauthorized families (26 percent). Children of unauthorized immigrants in California, however, were less likely to be uninsured than nationally (26 versus 35 percent).

Most of the explanation for higher uninsurance rates among legal immigrant and unauthorized adults and their children lies in the labor market. As described earlier, immigrants, especially the unauthorized, are more likely to work in sectors of the economy such as agriculture, construction, manufacturing, and services. Jobs in these sectors are less likely to provide insurance coverage for either workers or their dependents, or they may provide coverage that is too expensive for immigrants. Additionally, there are some restrictions on immigrants’—especially unauthorized immigrants’—coverage through public programs, as described below.

The nativity and legal status of the children themselves are even more strongly correlated with their health insurance coverage, as unauthorized children are several times more likely to be uninsured than native-born children.¹⁷ In California in 2004, unauthorized children were four times as likely as native children to lack health insurance (43 versus 11 percent). In Los Angeles, similarly, 44 percent of unauthorized immigrant children compared with 13 percent of native children were uninsured. Legal immigrant children were also substantially more likely than native children to lack health insurance: 33 percent in Los Angeles and 23 percent in California (**figure 13**).

¹⁷ In this paragraph we describe health insurance coverage patterns for children based on whether the children themselves are unauthorized, legal immigrants or natives.

Figure 13: Share of Children without Health Insurance, by the Legal Status of Children, 2004: United States, California, and Los Angeles County



Source: Estimates based on March 2004 Current Population Survey using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Higher uninsurance rates among immigrant children may in part be explained by the fact that their parents are less likely to have employer coverage. But a further explanation is that all unauthorized children and those legal immigrant children in the United States for less than five years are ineligible for the two largest public health insurance programs for low-income children: federally funded Medicaid and the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The state of California, however, extends coverage under its Medi-Cal and Healthy Families program to all legal immigrant children regardless of the duration of their U.S. residency. Unauthorized children are not covered under any of these federal or state programs, but many of the largest California counties—including Los Angeles County—recently extended coverage to low-income unauthorized children using tobacco taxes and other local revenues.

Despite the large gap in health insurance coverage between immigrant and native children in both California and Los Angeles, there have been recent improvements, improvements not evident at the national level. Between 2000 and 2004, the uninsured rate for unauthorized children fell from 49 to 43 percent in California and from 58 to 44 percent in Los Angeles. Over the same period the national share of unauthorized children who were uninsured actually rose, from 50 to 53 percent. In fact, unauthorized children in California were substantially *less* likely to be uninsured than unauthorized children nationally by 2004. The health insurance expansion programs in several California counties, which were mostly implemented between 2000 and 2004, may account for these improvements, especially in Los Angeles County.

Most children of immigrants and immigrant pregnant women are eligible to receive health insurance coverage through California Medi-Cal and Healthy Families programs.¹⁸ Children that are legal permanent residents and children in various other immigration statuses, including refugees and asylees, are eligible for the Healthy Families program.¹⁹ Most unauthorized children and pregnant women are only eligible for emergency and pregnancy-related services under Medi-Cal.

To address the large number of uninsured children, counties throughout the state have formed Children's Health Initiatives (CHI) in the last five years. These CHI programs include outreach activities to enroll children eligible for the existing state programs and expansions of coverage to include children that are ineligible for Medi-Cal or Healthy Families because of high family incomes or immigration status. As of January 2006, 17 of 58 counties offered, and another 14 counties were planning to implement, Healthy Kids, a local health insurance program that aims to provide universal coverage for children.²⁰ About two-thirds of all uninsured children in California reside in the 17 counties that offer Healthy Kids, and these programs have enrolled more than 85,000 children in the last five years. Children, and in some cases young adults, with household incomes up to 300 percent of the federal poverty level are eligible for Healthy Kids in all these counties; in some counties, the income eligibility threshold is even higher. In many counties with CHIs, unauthorized children are eligible for Healthy Kids, including Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Francisco, Santa Clara, San Mateo, San Joaquin, Santa Cruz, Kern, San Luis Obispo, and Tulare.²¹ The Los Angeles program was started in July 2003, and had enrolled more than 43,000 children—about half the statewide total—by March 2006.

These local CHI initiatives helped lower the uninsured rate for children of unauthorized immigrants statewide from 40 percent in 2000 to 26 percent in 2004. Increasing outreach efforts to enroll eligible children in the state and county programs, and expanding the Healthy Kids program to other counties would help further decrease the number of uninsured children, both native and foreign born.

¹⁸ <http://www.healthyfamilies.ca.gov/hf/hfhome.jsp>; <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/mcs/medi-calhome/default.htm>

¹⁹ http://www.healthyfamilies.ca.gov/English/about_join_citship.html, accessed 6-19-06.

²⁰ http://www.covercaliforniakids.org/documents/USC_Study.pdf

²¹ http://www.ihps-ca.org/localcovsol/_pdfs/WebsiteTableDocument%20050906.pdf

CONCLUSION

No state will be more affected by the outcome of the debate surrounding unauthorized immigration than California. Nearly 2.5 million unauthorized immigrants live in California, representing almost a quarter of the national total. California's unauthorized population is so large and well established that any efforts to deport unauthorized immigrants, prohibit their employment, or otherwise force them to leave the country would have a major impact on the state's economy. On the other hand, California is currently spending a large amount of state and local revenue to support the families of unauthorized immigrants, through public schooling, expansions of health insurance coverage, and other services. Extending legal status to unauthorized immigrants—whether temporarily or permanently—could help them integrate by opening up new job possibilities, thus possibly lowering poverty rates and demand for public services. But granting legal status might also open up access to health and social services, increasing the cost to the state and counties such as Los Angeles. Thus, while the proposals before Congress would clearly affect California strongly, it is likely that any of these proposals would have both positive and negative impacts. Following are some highlights of potential impacts on unauthorized immigrants that arise from our analysis of the data in this report:

- **Impact on unauthorized families.** In California, one in 10 residents was in a family headed by an unauthorized immigrant in 2004, and an even higher share of residents (14 percent) lived in unauthorized families in Los Angeles. A minority of unauthorized families was composed of solo men (31–32 percent) in California and Los Angeles, and slightly less than half of all unauthorized families had children (44–48 percent). Thus, national immigration policy reforms will affect not only the unauthorized themselves but a larger number of family and household members who are legal immigrants or U.S.-born citizens. For instance, any efforts to deport unauthorized migrants could wind up splitting families where some members are unauthorized and others are legal immigrants or natives.
- **Impact on children with unauthorized parents.** Even higher shares of children lived in unauthorized families in California (14 percent) and Los Angeles (19 percent). But the majority of children of unauthorized parents were U.S. citizens: 68 percent in California and 76 percent in Los Angeles in 2004. Most children in unauthorized families—particularly younger children—are eligible for the full range of state and federal public benefits because they are U.S. citizens. Many of these children, however, may not be receiving the benefits available to them because of their parents' reluctance to approach the government. Additionally, a significant number of children—particularly older children—are unauthorized themselves and therefore ineligible for most forms of public assistance. The success of Healthy Kids in reducing the uninsured rate among unauthorized children in Los Angeles and several other major California counties shows that programs without eligibility restrictions based on legal status can have a positive impact. On the other hand, legalizing parents and children would lead to far greater improvements in children's access to needed services, albeit at potentially substantial cost to the state.
- **Labor force participation of unauthorized men and women.** Unauthorized migrants contribute to the pool of available workers in California, as most unauthorized migrants are of working age and their labor force participation is very high. In 2004,

82 percent of unauthorized migrants in California and 87 percent in Los Angeles were age 18–64. Labor force participation for unauthorized immigrant men was much higher than for legal immigrant or native men. In both California and Los Angeles in 2004, 94 percent of unauthorized migrant men were in the labor force. Labor force participation was lower among unauthorized immigrant women, substantially lower than participation of native women, as they were more likely to stay at home and take care of children. Since almost all unauthorized men are already employed, the primary impact of legalization would be to lower employment barriers and bring more unauthorized women into the labor force. Opening up employment opportunities for immigrant women would help increase income and reduce poverty in immigrant families. But in order to work, immigrant women would also need access to child care and perhaps other services for their children.

- ***Impact on California's economy.*** Unauthorized immigrants have a major influence across the whole of California's economy, but their impact is felt most keenly in certain occupations and industries—especially those requiring lower educational attainment and job skills—where unauthorized migrants are over represented. In California in 2004, unauthorized workers represented 17 percent of all service-sector workers; in Los Angeles their share was 26 percent. Unauthorized immigrants were 14 percent of all manufacturing workers in California, and 22 percent in Los Angeles. Other industries where unauthorized migrants were over represented were construction, leisure, and hospitality.
- ***Impact on child poverty.*** California has a relatively well-established immigrant population—both legal and unauthorized—but immigrants have high poverty rates. Children of unauthorized migrants face much higher poverty rates than other children. In 2003 in California, average family income was only about half as high for unauthorized families as for native families in California, and almost two-fifths of children with unauthorized parents were poor. Family income was even lower and the poverty rate higher for unauthorized children living in Los Angeles. Low incomes and high poverty rates are due mostly to unauthorized parents' employment in lower-skilled, lower-paying jobs. Relatively large families and reduced access to government social services, however, also exacerbate poverty for children in unauthorized families. While legalizing large numbers of unauthorized adults could improve their labor market outcomes and access to government services, many children in these families would likely remain poor due to large family size and other factors such as the characteristics of the neighborhoods in which they live.
- ***Impact on children's health insurance coverage.*** Children of unauthorized immigrants are much more likely to lack health insurance than children with native-born parents, but there has been recent improvement in insurance coverage for these children in California. In 2004, 26 percent of children with unauthorized parents were uninsured in California, compared with just 9 percent of children with native-born parents. There was a decrease, however, in the share of California children in unauthorized families who lacked health insurance—from 40 to 26 percent—between 2000 and 2004, a period when the uninsured share for this group rose nationally. Health insurance programs funded by the state of California and several populous counties—including Los Angeles—appear to have lowered substantially the

uninsured share for children in unauthorized families. Increasing outreach efforts to enroll eligible children in these programs and expanding the Healthy Kids program to other counties would help decrease the number of uninsured children in both native and immigrant families. Legalizing children would help reduce dependence on these county-funded programs, as the children would become eligible for federal- and state-funded Medi-Cal and Healthy Families. Legalizing their parents would help reduce fears about interacting with government programs and make outreach more effective. The overall impact on state and county health care budgets, however, is unclear.

In sum, whatever the outcome of the immigration debate in Washington, it will have strong impacts on California and Los Angeles. Heavy economic dependence on unauthorized labor means that massive deportations or other enforcement efforts will be costly for the state, especially Los Angeles. Deportations would also split apart many families that include both unauthorized and legal immigrant or native-born members. While legalization of unauthorized immigrants would help their economic and social integration, it would not address all the issues associated with this population. California and Los Angeles would still face large, poor immigrant populations with great needs for health care and other services. A long-range poverty reduction strategy and efforts to expand services, such as through Healthy Kids insurance programs, are therefore important to the future well being of these immigrants and their children.

REFERENCES

- Capps, Randy, Michael Fix, and Jeffrey S. Passel. 2002. "The Dispersal of Immigrants in the 1990s." *Immigrant Families and Workers* Brief 2. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. <http://www.urban.org/url.cfm?ID=410589>.
- Capps, Randy, Michael Fix, Jason Ost, Jane Reardon-Anderson, and Jeffrey S. Passel. 2005. *The Health and Well-Being of Young Children of Immigrants*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. <http://www.urban.org/url.cfm?ID=311139>.
- Cornelius, Wayne. 2005. "How U.S. Border Enforcement Has Shaped Mexican Migration, 1993–present." Presentation to Tomas Rivera Policy Institute, University of California San Diego, Center for Comparative Immigration Studies, March.
- Martin, David A. 2005. *Twilight Statuses: A Closer Examination of the Unauthorized Population*. Independent Task Force on Immigration and America's Future Policy Brief 2. Washington, DC: Migration Policy Institute.
- Passel, Jeffrey S. 2005. *Unauthorized Migrants: Numbers and Characteristics*. Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center. <http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/46.pdf>.
- . 2006. "The Size and Characteristics of the Unauthorized Migrant Population in the U.S.: Estimates Based on the March 2005 Current Population Survey." Research report. Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center. <http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/61.pdf>.
- Passel, Jeffrey S., and Rebecca L. Clark. 1998. *Immigrants in New York: Their Legal Status, Incomes and Taxes*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. <http://www.urban.org/url.cfm?ID=407432>.
- Passel, Jeffrey S., and Karen A. Woodrow. 1984. "Geographic Distribution of Undocumented Immigrants: Estimates of Undocumented Aliens Counted in the 1980 Census by State." *International Migration Review* 18 (3): 64271.
- Passel, Jeffrey S., and Wendy Zimmermann, 2001. *Are Immigrants Leaving California? Settlement Patterns of Immigrants in the Late 1990s*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. <http://www.urban.org/publications/410287.html>
- Passel, Jeffrey S., Jennifer Van Hook, and Frank D. Bean. 2004. *Estimates of Legal and Unauthorized Foreign-Born Population for the United States and Selected States, Based on Census 2000*. Report to the Census Bureau. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. http://www.sabresys.com/i_whitepapers.asp.
- . 2006. *Demographic Profile of Unauthorized Migrants and Other Immigrants, Based on Census 2000: Characteristics and Methods*. Report to the Census Bureau. Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center.

- U.S. Department of Homeland Security. 2004. "Employment Authorization Document (EAD) Issuances (Approvals): June 2002 to May 2003." Unpublished tabulations from the Office of Immigration Statistics. Washington, DC.
- U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. 2002. "Extension of the Designation of El Salvador under the Temporary Protected Status Program; Automatic Extension of Employment Authorization Documentation for Salvadorans." *Federal Register* 67(133): 46000–03, July 11.
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. 2006. "DHS Announces Temporary Protected Status Extension for El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua." Press release, February 23. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
<http://uscis.gov/graphics/publicaffairs/newsrels/TPSElSalHonNic022306.pdf>.

TABLES

Table 1: Estimates of Unauthorized Immigrants, for States

(In thousands)

State and State Groups	Unauthorized Estimate for 2004*	Percent of U.S. Total	Rank**	March 2004 CPS (as adjusted)*				
				Total Population	Foreign-Born		Unauthorized as % of...	
					Number	Percent	For.-Born	Total
U.S., total	10,330	100%		289,345	35,328	12%	29%	3.6%
California	2,450	23.7%	1	35,633	9,781	27%	25%	7%
Texas	1,380	13.4%	2	21,989	3,462	16%	40%	6%
Florida	885	8.5%	3	17,006	3,157	19%	28%	5%
New York#	635	6.2%	4	19,177	4,053	21%	16%	3%
Arizona	450	4.4%	5	5,624	969	17%	46%	8%
Illinois#	405	3.9%	6	12,764	1,518	12%	27%	3%
North Carolina	395	3.8%	7	8,288	675	8%	58%	5%
New Jersey#	355	3.5%	8	8,592	1,559	18%	23%	4%
Georgia	350	3.4%	9	8,604	687	8%	51%	4%
Maryland	245	2.4%	10	5,513	749	14%	33%	4%
Virginia	235	2.3%	11	7,409	726	10%	33%	3%
Colorado	230	2.2%	12	4,502	454	10%	50%	5%
Washington#	210	2.0%	13	6,079	690	11%	31%	3%
Massachusetts#	200	1.9%	14	6,346	823	13%	24%	3%
Oregon	175	1.7%	15	3,584	378	11%	47%	5%
Nevada	170	1.6%	16	2,265	369	16%	46%	8%
Pennsylvania	125	1.2%	17	12,167	547	4%	23%	1%
Ohio#	110	1.0%	18	11,241	393	3%	28%	1%
Michigan	105	1.0%	19	9,933	562	6%	18%	1%
Tennessee#	95	0.9%	20	5,902	231	4%	41%	2%
Utah	90	0.9%	21	2,360	183	8%	49%	4%
Minnesota	85	0.8%	22	5,084	291	6%	30%	2%
Wisconsin#	85	0.8%	23	5,410	235	4%	37%	2%
Connecticut	80	0.8%	24	3,429	383	11%	20%	2%
Indiana	65	0.6%	25	6,157	232	4%	29%	1%
Iowa#	65	0.6%	26	2,936	127	4%	50%	2%
Oklahoma	60	0.6%	27	3,445	147	4%	41%	2%
South Carolina	55	0.5%	28	4,070	134	3%	41%	1%
Kansas	50	0.5%	29	2,689	164	6%	32%	2%
New Mexico	50	0.5%	30	1,877	144	8%	35%	3%
Missouri	45	0.4%	31	5,629	216	4%	21%	1%
Arkansas	40	0.4%	32	2,675	73	3%	57%	2%
Nebraska	40	0.4%	33	1,731	92	5%	44%	2%
Alabama	40	0.4%	34	4,431	92	2%	44%	1%
Idaho	40	0.4%	35	1,363	63	5%	60%	3%
Kentucky#	35	0.3%	36	4,097	91	2%	39%	1%
Rhode Island	35	0.3%	37	1,056	135	13%	25%	3%
Hawaii	30	0.3%	38	1,258	225	18%	14%	3%
Mississippi#	25	0.3%	39	2,848	52	2%	50%	1%
Louisiana#	25	0.2%	40	4,425	92	2%	27%	1%
New Hampshire	20	0.2%	41	1,265	71	6%	27%	2%
DC	20	0.2%	42	556	70	13%	26%	3%
Delaware	15	0.2%	43	822	55	7%	29%	2%
Alaska	5	0.1%	44	646	51	8%	12%	1%
West Virginia	5	0.0%	45	1,788	15	1%	28%	0%
Vermont	5	0.0%	46	611	23	4%	18%	1%
South Dakota	z	0.0%	47	751	12	2%	18%	0%
Wyoming	z	0.0%	48	488	10	2%	15%	0%
Maine	z	0.0%	49	1,283	41	3%	3%	0%

(In thousands)

State and State Groups	Unauthorized Estimate for 2004*	Percent of U.S. Total	Rank**	March 2004 CPS (as adjusted)*					
				Total Population	Foreign-Born Number	Percent	Unauthorized as % of...		
							For.-Born	Total	
Montana	z	0.0%	50	917	9	1%	7%	0%	
North Dakota	z	0.0%	51	632	15	2%	5%	0%	

Groups of States***

"Big 6" States	6,120	59.2%	(x)	115,161	23,530	20%	26%	5%
New Growth States	2,790	27.0%	(x)	89,554	6,250	7%	45%	3%
Traditional States	700	6.8%	(x)	48,525	2,944	6%	24%	1%
Other States	730	7.0%	(x)	36,105	2,604	7%	28%	2%

Source: Based on tabulations from March 2003 and 2004 supplements to the Current Population Survey (CPS) using specialized files with immigrant status assignments; see text for definitions and explanation of methods.

Note: These population figures shown here differ from official CPS estimates and previously published data and estimates. CPS weights for individuals assigned as unauthorized and as legal immigrants are adjusted for omissions from the survey. These undercount adjustments take into account the individual's age, sex, country (or region) of birth, and state (or region) of residence.

* (and #) Estimates of unauthorized immigrants for states marked with a # are an average of CPS-based estimates for 2003 and 2004. For these states, the estimates for 2004 alone departed significantly from the 2000-2003 trends, apparently due in part to large sampling error. Rounded to nearest 10,000 above 1,000,000 otherwise, nearest 5,000; all figures rounded independently. Ranks and percentages based on unrounded figures.

** The ranks shown are based on the exact estimate. However, differences between states have not been tested for statistical significance. Accordingly, "small" differences between state estimates should generally be disregarded.

*** See Capps, Fix, and Passel (2002) for definitions. "Big 6" states are the states with the largest immigrant populations: CA, NY, TX, FL, IL, and NJ. "New growth" states are the 22 states where the foreign-born populations grew at a faster rate between 1990 and 2000 than the fastest growing of the "big 6" (i.e., TX); these states are: WA, OR, ID, NV, UT, AZ, CO, NE, KS, OK, MN, IA, AR, IN, KY, TN, MS, AL, GA, SC, NC, and DE. The "traditional" immigration states each had at least 200,000 foreign-born in 1920: MA, CN, PA, OH, MI, and WI. (See Passel and Zimmermann 2001.)

z - Rounds to 0.

Table 2: Growth of Unauthorized Immigrant Population, for States: 1990, 2000, and 2004
(Ranked by Size in 2000)

(In thousands)																
State and State Groups	Unauthorized Population			Population Rank			% of U.S. Total			Growth			Percent Growth**			
	1990*	2000	2004	1990	2000	2004	1990	2000	2004	1990-2000	2000-2004	1990-2004	1990-2000	2000-2004	1990-2004	
U.S., total	3,500	8,380	10,330	x	x	x	100%	100%	100%	4,880	1,950	6,830	139%	23%	195%	
"Big 6" States	2,800	5,500	6,120	x	x	x	80%	66%	59%	2,700	620	3,320	96%	11%	119%	
New Growth States	400	1,890	2,790	x	x	x	11%	23%	27%	1,490	900	2,390	373%	48%	598%	
Traditional States	145	510	700	x	x	x	4%	6%	7%	365	190	555	252%	37%	383%	
Other States	170	475	730	x	x	x	5%	6%	7%	305	255	560	179%	54%	329%	
6 Largest States	2,800	5,500	6,120	x	x	x	80%	66%	59%	2,700	620	3,320	96%	11%	119%	
California	1,480	2,310	2,450	1	1	1	42%	28%	24%	830	140	970	56%	6%	66%	
Texas	440	1,110	1,380	2	2	2	13%	13%	13%	670	270	940	152%	24%	214%	
New York	360	715	635	3	3	4	10%	9%	6%	355	-80	275	99%	-11%	76%	
Florida	240	570	885	4	4	3	7%	7%	9%	330	315	645	138%	55%	269%	
Illinois	195	475	405	5	5	6	6%	6%	4%	280	-70	210	144%	-15%	108%	
New Jersey	95	330	355	6	6	8	3%	4%	3%	235	25	260	247%	8%	274%	
36 Middle States	690	2,850	4,180	x	x	x	20%	34%	40%	2,160	1,330	3,490	313%	47%	506%	
Arizona	90	310	450	7	7	5	2.6%	3.7%	4.4%	220	140	360	244%	45%	400%	
Georgia	35	250	350	11	8	9	1.0%	3.0%	3.4%	215	100	315	614%	40%	900%	
North Carolina	25	205	395	14	9	7	0.7%	2.5%	3.8%	180	190	370	720%	93%	1480%	
Colorado	30	160	230	13	10	12	0.9%	1.9%	2.2%	130	70	200	433%	44%	667%	
Washington	40	155	210	10	11	13	1.1%	1.9%	2.0%	115	55	170	288%	35%	425%	
Massachusetts	55	155	200	8	12	14	1.6%	1.8%	1.9%	100	45	145	182%	29%	264%	
Virginia	50	150	235	9	13	11	1.4%	1.8%	2.3%	100	85	185	200%	57%	370%	
Nevada	25	140	170	16	14	16	0.7%	1.7%	1.6%	115	30	145	460%	21%	580%	
Maryland	35	120	245	12	15	10	1.0%	1.4%	2.4%	85	125	210	243%	104%	600%	
Oregon	25	110	175	15	16	15	0.7%	1.3%	1.7%	85	65	150	340%	59%	600%	
Michigan	25	95	105	18	17	19	0.7%	1.1%	1.0%	70	10	80	280%	11%	320%	
Pennsylvania	25	85	125	17	18	17	0.7%	1.0%	1.2%	60	40	100	240%	47%	400%	
Connecticut	20	75	80	19	19	24	0.6%	0.9%	0.8%	55	5	60	275%	7%	300%	
Utah	15	65	90	21	20	21	0.4%	0.8%	0.9%	50	25	75	333%	38%	500%	
Indiana	10	65	65	30	21	25	0.3%	0.8%	0.6%	55	0	55	550%	0%	550%	
New Mexico	20	55	50	20	22	30	0.6%	0.7%	0.5%	35	-5	30	175%	-9%	150%	
Kansas	15	55	50	24	23	29	0.4%	0.7%	0.5%	40	-5	35	267%	-9%	233%	
Ohio	10	55	110	27	24	18	0.3%	0.7%	1.0%	45	55	100	450%	100%	1000%	
Minnesota	15	55	85	22	25	22	0.4%	0.7%	0.8%	40	30	70	267%	55%	467%	
Tennessee	10	50	95	28	26	20	0.3%	0.6%	0.9%	40	45	85	400%	90%	850%	
Wisconsin	10	50	85	29	27	23	0.3%	0.6%	0.8%	40	35	75	400%	70%	750%	
Oklahoma	15	50	60	23	28	27	0.4%	0.6%	0.6%	35	10	45	233%	20%	300%	
South Carolina	5	45	55	35	29	28	0.1%	0.5%	0.5%	40	10	50	800%	22%	1000%	
Missouri	10	30	45	31	30	31	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	20	15	35	200%	50%	350%	
Arkansas	5	30	40	36	31	32	0.1%	0.4%	0.4%	25	10	35	500%	33%	700%	
Nebraska	5	30	40	37	32	33	0.1%	0.3%	0.4%	25	10	35	500%	33%	700%	
Iowa	5	25	65	34	33	26	0.1%	0.3%	0.6%	20	40	60	400%	160%	1200%	
Alabama	5	25	40	38	34	34	0.1%	0.3%	0.4%	20	15	35	400%	60%	700%	
Hawaii	5	25	30	40	35	38	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%	20	5	25	400%	20%	500%	
Idaho	10	25	40	32	36	35	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	15	15	30	150%	60%	300%	
Dist. of Columbia	15	25	20	26	37	42	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	10	-5	5	67%	-20%	33%	
Rhode Island	10	20	35	33	38	37	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	10	15	25	100%	75%	250%	
Louisiana	15	20	25	25	39	40	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%	5	5	10	33%	25%	67%	
Kentucky	5	20	35	39	40	36	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%	15	15	30	300%	75%	600%	
Delaware	5	15	15	41	41	43	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	10	0	10	200%	0%	200%	
Mississippi	5	10	25	42	42	39	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	5	15	20	100%	150%	400%	
Less than 10,000 (9 States)																
Other States***	10	25	40				0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	15	15	30	150%	60%	300%	

Source: 1990 estimates--Warren (2003) of the former Immigration and Naturalization Service; 2000 estimates -- Based on tabulations from Census 2000 5-Percent Public-Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); and 2004 estimates based on March 2003 and 2004 supplements to the Current Population Survey (CPS) using specialized files with immigrant status assignments (see Table 1). See text for definitions and explanation of methods.

* Rounded to nearest 10,000 above 1,000,000 otherwise, nearest 5,000; all figures rounded independently.

** Rounded to nearest 5% for 100% or less; nearest 10% for 100-200%; nearest 50% for 200-750%; and nearest 100% otherwise.

*** The following 9 states are estimated to have less than 10,000 unauthorized immigrants in 2000: New Hampshire, Alaska, Maine, Wyoming, West Virginia, South Dakota, Vermont, North Dakota, and Montana.

Table 3: Percent Unauthorized Immigrants Arrived in Past 10 Years, and Percent Born in Mexico, for States

(In thousands)

State and State Groups	Unauthorized Population			Arrived in U.S. During Last 10 Years		% Mexican of Unauthorized	
	Estimate for 2004*	Pct. of U.S. Total	Rank**	Percent	Rank**	Percent	Rank**
U.S., total	10,330	100.0%	(x)	65%	6,735	57%	5,917
California	2,450	23.7%	1	54%	37	65%	19
Texas	1,380	13.4%	2	60%	34	79%	10
Florida	885	8.5%	3	67%	25	15%	35
New York#	635	6.2%	4	67%	26	19%	33
Arizona	450	4.4%	5	70%	19	88%	3
Illinois#	405	3.9%	6	69%	22	88%	4
North Carolina	395	3.8%	7	85%	9	71%	16
New Jersey#	355	3.5%	8	67%	27	21%	32
Georgia	350	3.4%	9	72%	15	57%	23
Maryland	245	2.4%	10	73%	14	33%	28
Virginia	235	2.3%	11	79%	11	25%	31
Colorado	230	2.2%	12	65%	30	80%	8
Washington#	210	2.0%	13	66%	29	73%	15
Massachusetts#	200	1.9%	14	71%	18	3%	39
Oregon	175	1.7%	15	57%	36	79%	9
Nevada	170	1.6%	16	51%	38	76%	13
Pennsylvania	125	1.2%	17	87%	5	17%	34
Ohio#	110	1.0%	18	89%	4	40%	26
Michigan	105	1.0%	19	86%	7	29%	30
Tennessee#	95	0.9%	20	69%	21	75%	14
Utah	90	0.9%	21	64%	33	87%	5
Minnesota	85	0.8%	22	90%	3	42%	25
Wisconsin#	85	0.8%	23	80%	10	82%	7
Connecticut	80	0.8%	24	79%	12	12%	36
Indiana	65	0.6%	25	73%	13	58%	22
Iowa#	65	0.6%	26	64%	32	66%	18
Oklahoma	60	0.6%	27	66%	28	83%	6
South Carolina	55	0.5%	28	69%	23	63%	20
Kansas	50	0.5%	29	85%	8	67%	17
New Mexico	50	0.5%	30	48%	39	91%	2
Missouri	45	0.4%	31	68%	24	77%	12
Arkansas	40	0.4%	32	59%	35	78%	11
Nebraska	40	0.4%	33	65%	31	61%	21
Alabama	40	0.4%	34	98%	1	37%	27
Idaho	40	0.4%	35	71%	16	99%	1
Kentucky#	35	0.3%	36	92%	2	48%	24
Rhode Island	35	0.3%	37	69%	20	11%	37
Hawaii	30	0.3%	38	71%	17	4%	38

(In thousands)

State and State Groups	Unauthorized Population			Arrived in U.S. During Last 10 Years		% Mexican of Unauthorized	
	Estimate	Pct. of	Rank**	Percent	Rank**	Percent	Rank**
	for 2004*	U.S. Total					
Mississippi#	25	0.3%	39	87%	6	30%	29
Louisiana#	25	0.2%	40	b	(x)	b	(x)
New Hampshire	20	0.2%	41	b	(x)	b	(x)
DC	20	0.2%	42	b	(x)	b	(x)
Delaware	15	0.2%	43	b	(x)	b	(x)
Alaska	5	0.1%	44	b	(x)	b	(x)
West Virginia	5	0.0%	45	b	(x)	b	(x)
Vermont	5	0.0%	46	b	(x)	b	(x)
South Dakota	z	0.0%	47	b	(x)	b	(x)
Wyoming	z	0.0%	48	b	(x)	b	(x)
Maine	z	0.0%	49	b	(x)	b	(x)
Montana	z	0.0%	50	b	(x)	b	(x)
North Dakota	z	0.0%	51	b	(x)	b	(x)

Groups of States***

"Big 6" States	6,120	59.2%	(x)	60%	3,559	55%	3,390
New Growth States	2,790	27.0%	(x)	70%	2,009	74%	2,054
Traditional States	700	6.8%	(x)	81%	641	32%	224
Other States	730	7.0%	(x)	72%	527	34%	249

Source: Based on tabulations from March 2003 and 2004 supplements to the Current Population Survey (CPS) using specialized files with immigrant status assignments; see text for definitions and explanation of methods. Also see Table 1.

Note: These population are adjusted for omissions from the CPS. See text and Table 1.

* (and #) Estimates of unauthorized migrants for states marked with a # are an average of CPS-based estimates for 2003 and 2004. For these states, the estimates for 2004 alone departed significantly from the 2000-2003 trends, apparently due in part to large sampling error. Rounded to nearest 10,000 above 1,000,000 otherwise, nearest 5,000; all figures rounded independently. Ranks and percentages based on unrounded figures.

** The ranks shown are based on the exact estimate. However, differences between states have not been tested for statistical significance. Accordingly, "small" differences between state estimates should generally be disregarded. "U.S., total" line shows the total in the "Ranks" column.

(x) not applicable.

b - Base less than 25,000.

z - Rounds to 0.

*** See Table 1 and Capps, Fix, and Passel (2002) for definitions.

Table 4: Unauthorized Immigrant Populations and Characteristics for Top 25 Metropolitan Areas

(In thousands)

Metropolitan Area	Unauthorized Pop.*		Rank in...		% of U.S. Total		2003-2004 Population (Average)					Percent Mexican of Unauth.
	2003-2004	Census 2000	2003-2004	Census 2000	2003-2004	Census 2000	Total	Foreign-Born		% Unauthorized of...		
								Number	Pct.	For.-Born	Total	
U.S., Total	10,080	8,360	(x)	(x)	100.0%	100.0%	288,187	34,953	12%	29%	3%	57%
Top 25 Metro Areas in 2003-04	6,100	5,190	(x)	(x)	60.5%	62.1%	92,262	21,447	23%	28%	7%	54%
Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA PMSA	1,000	935	1	1	9.9%	11.2%	10,055	3,846	38%	26%	10%	59%
New York, NY PMSA	520	605	2	2	5.2%	7.3%	9,490	3,288	35%	16%	6%	20%
Dallas, TX PMSA	460	280	3	5	4.6%	3.3%	4,345	968	22%	48%	11%	75%
Chicago, IL PMSA	400	445	4	3	4.0%	5.3%	8,310	1,433	17%	28%	5%	88%
Houston, TX PMSA	390	350	5	4	3.9%	4.2%	4,160	859	21%	45%	9%	63%
Phoenix-Mesa, AZ MSA	350	230	6	7	3.5%	2.8%	3,697	678	18%	52%	9%	90%
Washington, DC-MD-VA-WV PMSA	345	230	7	8	3.4%	2.7%	5,558	1,091	20%	32%	6%	14%
Atlanta, GA MSA	235	170	8	11	2.3%	2.1%	4,620	503	11%	47%	5%	53%
<i>Orange County, CA PMSA</i>	<i>220</i>	<i>245</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>2.2%</i>	<i>2.9%</i>	<i>2,947</i>	<i>918</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>8%</i>	<i>78%</i>
<i>Riverside-San Bernardino, CA PMSA</i>	<i>215</i>	<i>175</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>2.2%</i>	<i>2.1%</i>	<i>3,614</i>	<i>719</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>84%</i>
Miami, FL PMSA	210	205	11	9	2.1%	2.4%	2,198	1,176	54%	18%	10%	1%
<i>San Jose, CA PMSA</i>	<i>175</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>1.7%</i>	<i>1.5%</i>	<i>2,032</i>	<i>792</i>	<i>39%</i>	<i>22%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>31%</i>
Las Vegas, NV-AZ MSA	150	110	13	15	1.5%	1.3%	1,517	315	21%	47%	10%	81%
Fort Lauderdale, FL PMSA	145	100	14	18	1.5%	1.2%	1,910	458	24%	32%	8%	5%
Boston, MA-NH PMSA	135	105	15	16	1.4%	1.3%	3,353	476	14%	29%	4%	4%
<i>San Francisco, CA PMSA</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>95</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>1.3%</i>	<i>1.1%</i>	<i>1,759</i>	<i>592</i>	<i>34%</i>	<i>22%</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>29%</i>
Fort Worth Arlington, TX PMSA	130	75	17	22	1.3%	0.9%	1,995	284	14%	46%	7%	86%
Denver, CO PMSA	130	105	18	17	1.3%	1.3%	2,228	239	11%	55%	6%	88%
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, WA PMSA	130	65	19	25	1.3%	0.8%	2,649	409	15%	32%	5%	67%
Portland-Vancouver, OR-WA PMSA	110	70	20	24	1.1%	0.8%	2,181	255	12%	44%	5%	79%
Newark, NJ PMSA	105	85	21	20	1.1%	1.0%	2,205	487	22%	22%	5%	7%
West Palm Beach-Boca Raton, FL MSA	105	50	22	34	1.0%	0.6%	1,167	273	23%	38%	9%	12%
<i>San Diego, CA MSA</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>1.0%</i>	<i>1.7%</i>	<i>2,889</i>	<i>557</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>3%</i>	<i>66%</i>
Philadelphia, PA-NJ PMSA	100	60	24	26	1.0%	0.7%	5,207	353	7%	28%	2%	14%
<i>Oakland, CA PMSA</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>1.0%</i>	<i>1.5%</i>	<i>2,175</i>	<i>477</i>	<i>22%</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>55%</i>
Other Metro Areas Identified in CPS (218)	3,140	2,370	(x)	(x)	31.1%	28.3%	134,955	11,331	8%	28%	2%	58%
Non-Metropolitan (and Unidentified) Areas	840	800	(x)	(x)	8.4%	9.6%	60,969	2,175	4%	39%	1%	77%

(x) -- not applicable.

Note: Areas in California shown in italics.

Source: Estimates based on March 2003 and 2004 Current Population Surveys and Census 2000; see text for definitions and explanation of methods.

* Rounded to nearest 10,000 above 1,000,000 otherwise, nearest 5,000; all figures rounded independently. Ranks, percentages and differences based on unrounded figures.

Table 5: Unauthorized Immigrant Populations and Characteristics for Metropolitan Areas in California

(In thousands)

Metropolitan Area	Counties Included	Unauthorized Pop.*		Rank in...		% of CA Total		2003-2004 Population (Average)					Percent Mexican of Unauth.
		2003-2004	Census 2000	2003-2004	Census 2000	2003-2004	Census 2000	Total	Foreign-Born		% Unauthorized of...		
									Number	Pct.	For.-Born	Total	
California, Total	All Counties	2,430	2,290	(x)	(x)	100.0%	100.0%	35,519	9,687	27%	25%	7%	64%
Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA PMSA	Los Angeles	1,000	935	1	1	41.1%	40.8%	10,055	3,846	38%	26%	10%	59%
Orange County, CA PMSA	Orange	220	245	9	6	9.1%	10.7%	2,947	918	31%	24%	8%	78%
Riverside-San Bernardino, CA PMSA	Riverside-San Bernardino	215	175	10	10	8.9%	7.7%	3,614	719	20%	30%	6%	84%
San Jose, CA PMSA	San Benito-Santa Clara	175	125	12	14	7.2%	5.5%	2,032	792	39%	22%	9%	31%
San Francisco, CA PMSA	Marin-San Francisco-San Mateo	130	95	16	19	5.4%	4.2%	1,759	592	34%	22%	7%	29%
San Diego, CA MSA	San Diego	100	140	23	12	4.1%	6.2%	2,889	557	19%	18%	3%	66%
Oakland, CA PMSA	Alameda-Contra Costa	100	125	25	13	4.0%	5.6%	2,175	477	22%	21%	4%	55%
Salinas, CA MSA	Monterey	70	25	32	51	2.9%	1.1%	483	153	32%	46%	15%	80%
Fresno, CA MSA	Fresno	65	60	37	28	2.6%	2.6%	1,092	182	17%	34%	6%	92%
Sacramento, CA PMSA	El Dorado-Placer-Sacramento	55	40	41	43	2.2%	1.7%	1,734	264	15%	20%	3%	51%
Visalia-Tulare-Porterville, CA MSA	Tulare	40	30	45	48	1.7%	1.3%	473	132	28%	32%	9%	100%
Stockton-Lodi, CA MSA	San Joaquin	35	25	52	49	1.5%	1.2%	608	128	21%	28%	6%	79%
Bakersfield, CA MSA	Kern	35	35	55	45	1.4%	1.6%	724	123	17%	28%	5%	74%
Santa Barbara-Santa Maria-Lompoc, CA MSA	Santa Barbara	35	30	56	47	1.4%	1.3%	346	86	25%	40%	10%	98%
Yuba City, CA MSA	Sutter-Yuba	30	5	59	(x)	1.2%	0.3%	544	118	22%	25%	5%	94%
Merced, CA MSA	Merced	25	15	62	76	1.0%	0.6%	447	116	26%	22%	6%	87%
Modesto, CA MSA	Stanislaus	20	20	80	57	0.7%	0.9%	503	81	16%	22%	4%	80%
Ventura, CA PMSA	Ventura	20	45	81	42	0.7%	1.9%	688	122	18%	15%	3%	86%
Santa Rosa, CA PMSA	Sonoma	15	25	85	55	0.7%	1.0%	389	50	13%	34%	4%	100%
San Luis Obispo-Atascadero-Paso Robles, CA MSA	San Luis Obispo	15	5	94	(x)	0.6%	0.3%	385	35	9%	44%	4%	70%
Other Identifiable MSAs with <10,000 unauthorized migrants**	Butte-Solano-Napa-Yolo	30	30	(x)	(x)	1.1%	1.4%	1,149	153	13%	18%	2%	92%
Non-Metropolitan Counties & MSAs identified only in Census 2000***	Santa Cruz, Redding, and All Others (30 counties)	5	45	(x)	(x)	0.2%	2.0%	483	42	9%	11%	1%	100%

(x) -- not applicable.

Source: Estimates based on March 2003 and 2004 Current Population Surveys and Census 2000; see text for definitions and explanation of methods.

* Rounded to nearest 10,000 above 1,000,000 otherwise, nearest 5,000; all figures rounded independently. Ranks and percentages based on unrounded figures.

** Chico-Paradise, CA MSA; Vallejo-Fairfield-Napa, CA MSA; and Yolo, CA MSA

Table 6: Unauthorized Immigrant and Foreign-Born Populations, Labor Force, and Families, for States
(Ranked by Share Unauthorized of Labor Force)

(In thousands)

State and State Groups	Population						Families***						Labor Force					
	Unauthorized*			Foreign-Born			Unauthorized*			Foreign-Born			Unauthorized*			Foreign-Born		
	No.	Pct.	Rank	No.	Pct.	Total	No.	Pct.	Rank	No.	Pct.	Total	No.	Pct.	Rank	No.	Pct.	Total
U.S., Total	10,330	3.6%	(x)	35,328	12%	289,345	6,190	4.3%	(x)	23,165	16%	143,812	6,820	4.6%	(x)	22,001	15%	147,225
Arizona	450	8.0%	1	969	17%	5,624	255	9.5%	1	623	23%	2,677	280	10.4%	1	584	22%	2,690
Nevada	170	7.5%	2	369	16%	2,265	100	8.9%	2	245	22%	1,112	115	9.6%	2	246	21%	1,168
California	2,450	6.9%	3	9,781	27%	35,633	1,390	8.0%	3	6,176	36%	17,372	1,550	8.8%	3	5,960	34%	17,521
Texas	1,380	6.3%	4	3,462	16%	21,989	830	8.0%	4	2,240	22%	10,398	895	8.2%	4	2,136	20%	10,921
Florida	885	5.2%	5	3,157	19%	17,006	535	6.1%	6	2,170	25%	8,821	585	7.0%	5	1,860	22%	8,326
Maryland	245	4.5%	9	749	14%	5,513	185	6.5%	5	522	19%	2,817	195	6.7%	6	529	18%	2,938
Oregon	175	4.9%	7	378	11%	3,584	110	5.9%	8	252	14%	1,830	125	6.6%	7	264	14%	1,909
North Carolina	395	4.7%	8	675	8%	8,288	245	5.9%	7	432	10%	4,149	270	6.4%	8	457	11%	4,205
New Jersey#	355	4.2%	10	1,559	18%	8,592	240	5.6%	10	1,012	24%	4,294	265	6.0%	9	1,021	23%	4,465
Colorado	230	5.1%	6	454	10%	4,502	130	5.7%	9	291	13%	2,246	135	5.5%	10	289	12%	2,466
Utah	90	3.8%	12	183	8%	2,360	55	5.3%	11	123	12%	1,005	65	5.5%	11	128	11%	1,200
New York#	635	3.3%	15	4,053	21%	19,177	410	4.1%	13	2,767	28%	10,010	445	4.7%	12	2,484	26%	9,445
Virginia	235	3.2%	16	726	10%	7,409	155	4.2%	12	487	13%	3,675	170	4.5%	13	515	13%	3,818
Georgia	350	4.1%	11	687	8%	8,604	170	4.1%	14	407	10%	4,183	190	4.5%	14	452	11%	4,283
Rhode Island	35	3.2%	17	135	13%	1,056	20	3.8%	18	90	16%	558	25	4.3%	15	80	14%	557
Massachusetts#	200	3.1%	19	823	13%	6,346	135	4.0%	16	565	17%	3,359	145	4.3%	16	513	15%	3,386
Illinois#	405	3.2%	18	1,518	12%	12,764	240	3.8%	19	975	15%	6,446	275	4.2%	17	944	14%	6,535
DC	20	3.3%	14	70	13%	556	15	4.0%	15	53	15%	354	15	4.2%	18	45	15%	307
Washington#	210	3.5%	13	690	11%	6,079	115	3.9%	17	452	15%	2,960	135	4.1%	19	408	13%	3,260
Hawaii	30	2.6%	22	225	18%	1,258	20	3.3%	20	160	25%	640	20	3.3%	20	133	21%	639
New Mexico	50	2.7%	21	144	8%	1,877	30	3.1%	21	98	11%	917	30	3.3%	21	81	9%	917
Idaho	40	2.8%	20	63	5%	1,363	15	2.7%	23	36	6%	619	20	3.1%	22	40	5%	727
Nebraska	40	2.3%	23	92	5%	1,731	25	3.0%	22	59	7%	818	30	2.9%	23	58	6%	995
Connecticut	80	2.3%	24	383	11%	3,429	40	2.5%	25	250	15%	1,707	45	2.6%	24	238	13%	1,769
Iowa#	65	2.2%	25	127	4%	2,936	35	2.5%	24	77	5%	1,439	45	2.6%	25	83	5%	1,640
Tennessee#	95	1.6%	30	231	4%	5,902	70	2.3%	26	159	5%	2,947	70	2.4%	26	155	5%	2,972
Delaware	15	2.0%	26	55	7%	822	10	2.2%	29	35	9%	413	10	2.4%	27	35	8%	435
Kansas	50	2.0%	27	164	6%	2,689	30	2.3%	28	111	9%	1,302	35	2.3%	28	107	7%	1,474
Wisconsin#	85	1.6%	31	235	4%	5,410	60	2.3%	27	159	6%	2,665	65	2.2%	29	160	5%	3,019
Arkansas	40	1.6%	32	73	3%	2,675	25	1.9%	32	48	4%	1,318	25	2.1%	30	51	4%	1,269
Oklahoma	60	1.8%	28	147	4%	3,445	35	1.9%	31	98	6%	1,725	35	2.0%	31	90	5%	1,726
Minnesota	85	1.7%	29	291	6%	5,084	50	2.0%	30	185	7%	2,489	60	2.0%	32	191	6%	2,963
South Carolina	55	1.4%	34	134	3%	4,070	35	1.6%	35	98	5%	2,013	40	1.9%	33	82	4%	2,002
New Hampshire	20	1.5%	33	71	6%	1,265	10	1.7%	33	47	8%	618	15	1.9%	34	44	6%	699
Indiana	65	1.1%	35	232	4%	6,157	50	1.7%	34	165	5%	3,017	45	1.5%	35	134	4%	3,203
Mississippi#	25	0.9%	40	52	2%	2,848	15	1.2%	39	33	2%	1,402	20	1.4%	36	35	3%	1,345

(In thousands)

State and State Groups	Population						Families***						Labor Force						
	Unauthorized*			Foreign-Born			Unauthorized*			Foreign-Born			Unauthorized*			Foreign-Born			Total
	No.	Pct.	Rank	No.	Pct.	Total	No.	Pct.	Rank	No.	Pct.	Total	No.	Pct.	Rank	No.	Pct.	Total	
Pennsylvania	125	1.0%	36	547	4%	12,167	85	1.4%	37	367	6%	6,194	85	1.4%	37	338	5%	6,208	
Ohio#	110	1.0%	38	393	3%	11,241	70	1.3%	38	277	5%	5,603	75	1.3%	38	269	4%	5,989	
Alaska	5	0.9%	39	51	8%	646	5	1.4%	36	36	12%	301	5	1.2%	39	33	10%	327	
Kentucky#	35	0.9%	42	91	2%	4,097	20	1.0%	41	58	3%	2,022	25	1.2%	40	65	3%	2,013	
Michigan	105	1.0%	37	562	6%	9,933	55	1.1%	40	374	7%	5,007	55	1.1%	41	341	7%	5,047	
Alabama	40	0.9%	41	92	2%	4,431	20	0.9%	43	59	3%	2,215	25	1.1%	42	59	3%	2,166	
Missouri	45	0.8%	43	216	4%	5,629	25	1.0%	42	132	5%	2,786	30	1.0%	43	129	4%	2,963	
Vermont	5	0.7%	44	23	4%	611	5	0.8%	44	17	6%	309	5	0.9%	44	15	4%	351	
Louisiana#	25	0.6%	45	92	2%	4,425	15	0.8%	45	70	3%	2,123	15	0.8%	45	63	3%	2,020	
South Dakota	z	0.3%	47	12	2%	751	z	0.3%	47	8	2%	368	z	0.4%	46	8	2%	420	
West Virginia	5	0.2%	48	15	1%	1,788	5	0.3%	48	9	1%	914	5	0.4%	47	9	1%	766	
Wyoming	z	0.3%	46	10	2%	488	z	0.4%	46	7	3%	236	z	0.4%	48	6	2%	268	
North Dakota	z	0.1%	49	15	2%	632	z	0.2%	50	10	3%	313	z	0.2%	49	8	2%	360	
Maine	z	0.1%	50	41	3%	1,283	z	0.2%	49	33	5%	646	z	0.1%	50	21	3%	657	
Montana	z	0.1%	51	9	1%	917	z	0.2%	51	8	2%	462	z	0.0%	51	5	1%	472	
Groups of States***																			
"Big 6" States	6,120	5.3%	(x)	23,530	20%	115,161	3,640	6.4%	(x)	15,339	27%	57,341	4,020	7.0%	(x)	14,404	25%	57,214	
New Growth State	2,790	3.1%	(x)	6,250	7%	89,554	1,600	3.7%	(x)	4,047	9%	43,900	1,800	3.9%	(x)	4,014	9%	46,112	
Traditional States	700	1.4%	(x)	2,944	6%	48,525	450	1.8%	(x)	1,993	8%	24,535	475	1.9%	(x)	1,858	7%	25,418	
Other States	730	2.0%	(x)	2,604	7%	36,105	490	2.7%	(x)	1,787	10%	18,036	530	2.9%	(x)	1,724	9%	18,481	

(x) Not applicable.

Source: Based on tabulations from March 2003 and 2004 supplements to the Current Population Survey (CPS) using specialized files with immigrant status assignments; see text for definitions and explanation of methods. Also see Table 1. These populations are adjusted for omissions from the CPS.

* (and #) Estimates of unauthorized migrants for states marked with a # are an average of CPS-based estimates for 2003 and 2004. For these states, the estimates for 2004 alone departed significantly from the 2000-2003 trends, apparently due in part to large sampling error. Rounded to nearest 10,000 above 10,000,000 otherwise, nearest 5,000; all figures rounded independently. Ranks and percentages based on unrounded figures.

*** See Table 1 and Capps, Fix, and Passel (2002) for definitions. z - Rounds to 0.

Table 7: Population by Nativity and Status for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County: 2000, 2002, 2004

(Populations in thousands)

Area and Population	2004		2002		2000	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
United States	289,347	100.0%	283,423	100.0%	282,482	100.0%
Native	254,017	87.8%	249,622	88.1%	250,276	88.6%
Foreign-Born	35,330	12.2%	33,801	11.9%	32,206	11.4%
Legal	24,996	8.6%	24,539	8.7%	23,830	8.4%
Unauthorized	10,334	3.6%	9,263	3.3%	8,376	3.0%
California	35,633	100.0%	34,820	100.0%	34,179	100.0%
Native	25,851	72.5%	25,371	72.9%	24,996	73.1%
Foreign-Born	9,781	27.5%	9,449	27.1%	9,184	26.9%
Legal	7,331	20.6%	7,092	20.4%	6,875	20.1%
Unauthorized	2,451	6.9%	2,357	6.8%	2,309	6.8%
Los Angeles County	10,071	100.0%	9,984	100.0%	9,638	100.0%
Native	6,241	62.0%	6,237	62.5%	6,059	62.9%
Foreign-Born	3,830	38.0%	3,747	37.5%	3,579	37.1%
Legal	2,838	28.2%	2,740	27.4%	2,642	27.4%
Unauthorized	992	9.9%	1,007	10.1%	937	9.7%

Source: Tabulations from March supplements to the Current Population Survey (CPS) for 2002 and 2004 and from Census 2000 the 5-percent Public-Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods.

Table 8: Foreign-Born Population by Area of Birth and Status for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County

Area, Region of Birth, and Legal Status	Population (in 000s)			Percent of Area Foreign-Born			Percent of Area Legal Status Group			Percent Entering Since 1994		
	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.
Foreign-Born	35,330	9,781	3,830	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	41%	32%	32%
Mexico	11,205	4,238	1,631	31.7%	43.3%	42.6%	31.7%	43.3%	42.6%	46%	35%	31%
Central America	6,012	967	631	17.0%	9.9%	16.5%	17.0%	9.9%	16.5%	36%	25%	26%
Other Latin America	2,138	199	97	6.1%	2.0%	2.5%	6.1%	2.0%	2.5%	48%	37%	27%
Asia	9,040	3,150	1,049	25.6%	32.2%	27.4%	25.6%	32.2%	27.4%	38%	30%	34%
Europe/Canada	5,476	985	365	15.5%	10.1%	9.5%	15.5%	10.1%	9.5%	32%	31%	39%
Other	1,459	243	57	4.1%	2.5%	1.5%	4.1%	2.5%	1.5%	52%	38%	42%
Legal Foreign-Born	24,995	7,331	2,838	70.7%	74.9%	74.1%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	30%	25%	25%
Mexico	5,287	2,644	1,064	15.0%	27.0%	27.8%	21.2%	36.1%	37.5%	29%	25%	19%
Central America	4,299	626	379	12.2%	6.4%	9.9%	17.2%	8.5%	13.4%	26%	19%	20%
Other Latin America	1,480	141	70	4.2%	1.4%	1.8%	5.9%	1.9%	2.4%	34%	23%	17%
Asia	7,772	2,784	928	22.0%	28.5%	24.2%	31.1%	38.0%	32.7%	32%	25%	30%
Europe/Canada	4,997	906	344	14.1%	9.3%	9.0%	20.0%	12.4%	12.1%	29%	28%	37%
Other	1,161	231	54	3.3%	2.4%	1.4%	4.6%	3.1%	1.9%	44%	38%	42%
Unauthorized Immigrants	10,334	2,451	992	29.3%	25.1%	25.9%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	65%	54%	51%
Mexico	5,918	1,594	568	16.7%	16.3%	14.8%	57.3%	65.0%	57.2%	62%	53%	53%
Central America	1,713	341	251	4.8%	3.5%	6.6%	16.6%	13.9%	25.3%	61%	37%	35%
Other Latin America	659	58	27	1.9%	0.6%	0.7%	6.4%	2.4%	2.7%	79%	70%	54%
Asia	1,268	366	122	3.6%	3.7%	3.2%	12.3%	15.0%	12.3%	74%	68%	70%
Europe/Canada	479	79	22	1.4%	0.8%	0.6%	4.6%	3.2%	2.2%	71%	69%	74%
Other	298	12	3	0.8%	0.1%	0.1%	2.9%	0.5%	0.3%	83%	35%	43%

Source: Tabulations from March 2004 supplement to the CPS using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods. "Other Latin America" includes Caribbean and South American countries.

Table 9: Foreign-Born Population by Nativity and Status, Age, and Sex for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County

Age and Legal Status	Population (in 000s)			Age Distribution (Percent of Group)			Percent of Area Age Group			Percent Male		
	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.
Total	289,347	35,633	10,071	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	49%	50%	50%
Under 18	73,686	9,604	2,796	25.5%	27.0%	27.8%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	51%	51%	51%
18-29	47,158	6,080	1,779	16.3%	17.1%	17.7%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	51%	52%	55%
30-49	64,183	8,154	2,415	22.2%	22.9%	24.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	50%	50%	51%
50-64	69,646	8,103	2,105	24.1%	22.7%	20.9%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	48%	49%	48%
65 and over	34,675	3,692	976	12.0%	10.4%	9.7%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	43%	44%	44%
Native	254,017	25,851	6,241	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	87.8%	72.5%	62.0%	49%	50%	50%
Under 18 yrs	70,456	8,776	2,538	27.7%	33.9%	40.7%	95.6%	91.4%	90.8%	51%	51%	51%
18-29 yrs	39,457	4,224	1,033	15.5%	16.3%	16.6%	83.7%	69.5%	58.1%	50%	51%	51%
30-49 yrs	52,174	4,676	1,056	20.5%	18.1%	16.9%	81.3%	57.3%	43.7%	49%	50%	50%
50-64 yrs	60,968	5,538	1,048	24.0%	21.4%	16.8%	87.5%	68.3%	49.8%	48%	49%	49%
65 yrs and over	30,962	2,637	565	12.2%	10.2%	9.1%	89.3%	71.4%	57.9%	43%	44%	43%
Foreign-Born	35,330	9,781	3,830	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	12.2%	27.5%	38.0%	51%	50%	51%
Under 18 yrs	3,229	828	258	9.1%	8.5%	6.7%	4.4%	8.6%	9.2%	50%	53%	48%
18-29 yrs	7,702	1,856	746	21.8%	19.0%	19.5%	16.3%	30.5%	41.9%	56%	55%	60%
30-49 yrs	12,009	3,478	1,359	34.0%	35.6%	35.5%	18.7%	42.7%	56.3%	52%	51%	52%
50-64 yrs	8,678	2,565	1,057	24.6%	26.2%	27.6%	12.5%	31.7%	50.2%	49%	48%	46%
65 yrs and over	3,712	1,055	410	10.5%	10.8%	10.7%	10.7%	28.6%	42.1%	41%	43%	46%
Legal Foreign-Born	24,995	7,331	2,838	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	8.6%	20.6%	28.2%	48%	49%	50%
Under 18 yrs	1,609	400	128	6.4%	5.5%	4.5%	2.2%	4.2%	4.6%	48%	50%	41%
18-29 yrs	4,292	1,175	458	17.2%	16.0%	16.1%	9.1%	19.3%	25.7%	52%	54%	59%
30-49 yrs	8,141	2,468	932	32.6%	33.7%	32.8%	12.7%	30.3%	38.6%	50%	50%	52%
50-64 yrs	7,292	2,246	913	29.2%	30.6%	32.2%	10.5%	27.7%	43.4%	48%	48%	46%
65 yrs and over	3,659	1,042	408	14.6%	14.2%	14.4%	10.6%	28.2%	41.8%	41%	43%	46%
Unauthorized Immigrants	10,334	2,451	992	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	3.6%	6.9%	9.9%	57%	54%	54%
Under 18 yrs	1,620	427	130	15.7%	17.4%	13.1%	2.2%	4.4%	4.7%	53%	56%	55%
18-29 yrs	3,409	680	288	33.0%	27.8%	29.0%	7.2%	11.2%	16.2%	60%	57%	62%
30-49 yrs	3,868	1,011	427	37.4%	41.2%	43.1%	6.0%	12.4%	17.7%	58%	52%	52%
50-64 yrs	1,386	320	144	13.4%	13.0%	14.5%	2.0%	3.9%	6.8%	55%	49%	46%
65 yrs and over	53	13	3	0.5%	0.5%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	52%	(z)	(z)

Source: Tabulations from March 2004 supplement to the CPS using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods.

Table 10: Individuals in Families by Legal Status of Head/Spouse and by Age Group and Individual Status for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County

Age and Legal Status	Population (in 000s)			Age Distribution (Percent of Group)			Age Distribution (Percent in Family Group)		
	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.
In Native Families	236,656	20,979	4,421	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	82%	59%	44%
Under 18 years	57,954	5,037	1,060	24.5%	24.0%	24.0%	79%	52%	38%
Natives	57,799	5,014	1,058	24.4%	23.9%	23.9%	82%	57%	42%
Immigrants	155	23	1	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	5%	3%	0%
18-64 years	148,256	13,427	2,825	62.6%	64.0%	63.9%	82%	60%	45%
Native Men	72,484	6,636	1,403	30.6%	31.6%	31.7%	(x)	(x)	(x)
Native Women	75,733	6,773	1,422	32.0%	32.3%	32.2%	(x)	(x)	(x)
Others	39	18	z	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	(x)	(x)	(x)
65 years and over	30,446	2,515	537	12.9%	12.0%	12.1%	88%	68%	55%
In Legal Immigrant Families	38,955	11,138	4,196	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	13%	31%	42%
Under 18 years	11,032	3,221	1,199	28.3%	28.9%	28.6%	15%	34%	43%
Natives	9,577	2,843	1,073	24.6%	25.5%	25.6%	14%	32%	42%
Immigrants	1,455	378	126	3.7%	3.4%	3.0%	45%	46%	49%
18-64 years	23,753	6,754	2,561	61.0%	60.6%	61.0%	13%	30%	41%
Legal Men	9,506	2,832	1,130	24.4%	25.4%	26.9%	(x)	(x)	(x)
Legal Women	9,909	2,918	1,127	25.4%	26.2%	26.9%	(x)	(x)	(x)
Others	4,339	1,004	304	11.1%	9.0%	7.2%	(x)	(x)	(x)
65 years and over	4,170	1,163	435	10.7%	10.4%	10.4%	12%	32%	45%
In Unauthorized Families	13,736	3,516	1,453	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	5%	10%	14%
Under 18 years	4,700	1,346	537	34.2%	38.3%	36.9%	6%	14%	19%
Natives	3,080	919	406	22.4%	26.1%	28.0%	4%	10%	16%
Immigrants	1,620	427	130	11.8%	12.2%	9.0%	50%	52%	51%
18-64 years	8,978	2,156	914	65.4%	61.3%	62.9%	5%	10%	15%
Unauthorized Men	5,025	1,068	462	36.6%	30.4%	31.8%	(x)	(x)	(x)
Unauthorized Women	3,603	939	394	26.2%	26.7%	27.1%	(x)	(x)	(x)
Others	349	150	57	2.5%	4.3%	3.9%	(x)	(x)	(x)
65 years and over	59	14	3	0.4%	0.4%	0.2%	z	z	z
Solo Adults (included w/ 18+)	3,039	572	256	As percent of same-sex adults...					
Unauthorized Men	2,341	435	192	46.6%	40.8%	41.5%	(x)	(x)	(x)
Unauthorized Women	698	137	64	19.4%	14.5%	16.2%	(x)	(x)	(x)

Source: Tabulations from March 2004 supplement to the CPS using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: Status of family based on head and/or spouse. "Family" is defined as nuclear family units consisting of head, spouse (if present), and children (if present); single-person households and unrelated individuals are treated as "family" units in this formulation. Estimates of children based on children's weights.

All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods.

z - Rounds to 0.

Table 11: Unauthorized Immigrant Families by Type and Presence of Children

Age and Legal Status	Number of Families (in 000s)			Distribution (Percent of Group)		
	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.
Unauthorized Families	6,191	1,391	599	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
With Children	2,539	671	265	41.0%	48.3%	44.3%
2-Parent	1,932	507	195	31.2%	36.5%	32.6%
1-Parent	545	155	67	8.8%	11.1%	11.2%
Others	62	9	3	1.0%	0.7%	0.5%
Without Children	3,652	719	334	59.0%	51.7%	55.7%
Married Couples	486	118	64	7.8%	8.5%	10.6%
Other Families	127	29	14	2.1%	2.1%	2.4%
Solo Adult Men	2,341	435	192	37.8%	31.3%	32.0%
Solo Adult Women	698	137	64	11.3%	9.8%	10.7%

Source: Tabulations from March 2004 supplements to the CPS using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: Status of family based on head and/or spouse. "Family" is defined as nuclear family units consisting of head, spouse (if present), and children (if present); single-person households and unrelated individuals are treated as "family" units in this formulation.

All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods.

Table 12: Children in Unauthorized Immigrant Families by Legal Status and the Status of Siblings for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County

Legal Status of Siblings and Individual Legal Status	Number of Families/ Population (in 000s)			Distribution of Families or Children		
	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.
Number of Unauthorized Families						
Total Families	6,191	1,391	599	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Families Without Children	3,652	719	334	59.0%	51.7%	55.7%
Families With Children	2,539	671	265	41.0%	48.3%	44.3%
With Unauthorized Children Only	613	132	43	9.9%	9.5%	7.2%
With U.S. Citizen Children Only	1,474	413	178	23.8%	29.7%	29.7%
With Both Types of Children	452	126	45	7.3%	9.1%	7.4%
Number of Children in Unauthorized Families						
Total	4,700	1,346	537	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Unauthorized Children	1,620	427	130	34.5%	31.7%	24.3%
U.S. Citizen Children	3,080	919	406	65.5%	68.3%	75.7%
In Unauthorized Children Only Families	998	252	78	21.2%	18.8%	14.6%
In U.S. Citizen Children Only Families	2,498	739	332	53.1%	54.9%	62.0%
In Families with Both Types of Children	1,204	354	126	25.6%	26.3%	23.4%
Unauthorized Children	622	175	52	13.2%	13.0%	9.7%
U.S. Citizen Children	582	179	74	12.4%	13.3%	13.8%

Source: Tabulations from March 2004 supplement to the CPS using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: Status of family based on head and/or spouse. "Family" is defined as nuclear family units consisting of head, spouse (if present), and children (if present); single-person households and unrelated individuals are treated as "family" units in this formulation. Estimates of children based on children's weights.

All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods.

Table 13: Educational Attainment of the Population Age 25-64 by Nativity, Status, and Time in the U.S., for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County

(Populations in thousands)

Attainment and Measure	United States							California						Los Angeles County							
	Natives	Legal Immigrants		Unauthorized Immigrants			Natives	Legal Immigrants		Unauthorized Immigrants		Natives	Legal Immigrants		Unauthorized Immigrants						
		Total	<10 yrs	10+ yrs	Total	<10 yrs		10+ yrs	Total	:10 yrs	0+ yrs		Total	:10 yrs	0+ yrs	Total	:10 yrs	0+ yrs			
Population																					
Total	127,290	17,529	4,899	12,629	6,518	3,882	2,637	11,548	5,272	1,000	4,271	1,589	629	960	2,484	2,067	415	1,652	686	295	391
<9th grade	2,475	2,728	650	2,078	2,110	1,150	959	155	1,161	188	974	598	211	387	40	470	73	397	256	101	155
9th-12th grade	8,926	1,700	428	1,271	1,125	628	497	600	589	90	499	283	100	183	154	291	51	240	141	56	85
H.S. graduate	41,228	4,269	1,119	3,150	1,622	958	663	2,657	1,053	192	861	369	140	228	516	423	87	336	156	69	88
Some college	36,958	3,124	713	2,411	677	411	266	4,155	972	155	818	152	68	84	882	357	72	285	76	36	39
B.A. or more	37,703	5,708	1,988	3,720	986	735	251	3,981	1,496	376	1,120	187	110	77	892	526	132	394	57	33	24
Percent Distribution of Status Group in Area																					
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<9th grade	2%	16%	13%	16%	32%	30%	36%	1%	22%	19%	23%	38%	34%	40%	2%	23%	18%	24%	37%	34%	40%
9th-12th grade	7%	10%	9%	10%	17%	16%	19%	5%	11%	9%	12%	18%	16%	19%	6%	14%	12%	15%	20%	19%	22%
H.S. graduate	32%	24%	23%	25%	25%	25%	25%	23%	20%	19%	20%	23%	22%	24%	21%	20%	21%	20%	23%	23%	22%
Some college	29%	18%	15%	19%	10%	11%	10%	36%	18%	15%	19%	10%	11%	9%	35%	17%	17%	17%	11%	12%	10%
B.A. or more	30%	33%	41%	29%	15%	19%	10%	34%	28%	38%	26%	12%	17%	8%	36%	25%	32%	24%	8%	11%	6%
Percent of Attainment Group by Status																					
Total	84%	12%	3%	8%	4%	3%	2%	63%	29%	5%	23%	9%	3%	5%	47%	39%	8%	32%	13%	6%	7%
<9th grade	34%	37%	9%	28%	29%	16%	13%	8%	61%	10%	51%	31%	11%	20%	5%	61%	10%	52%	33%	13%	20%
9th-12th grade	76%	14%	4%	11%	10%	5%	4%	41%	40%	6%	34%	19%	7%	12%	26%	50%	9%	41%	24%	9%	15%
H.S. graduate	87%	9%	2%	7%	3%	2%	1%	65%	26%	5%	21%	9%	3%	6%	47%	39%	8%	31%	14%	6%	8%
Some college	91%	8%	2%	6%	2%	1%	1%	79%	18%	3%	15%	3%	1%	2%	67%	27%	5%	22%	6%	3%	3%
B.A. or more	85%	13%	4%	8%	2%	2%	1%	70%	26%	7%	20%	3%	2%	1%	60%	36%	9%	27%	4%	2%	2%

Source: Tabulations from March supplements to the Current Population Survey (CPS) for 2002-2004 using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods.

Percentages shown in **bold-face** are categories where the status group is *overrepresented*; that is, the percentage of the attainment group is higher than the percentage of that status in the population. For example, 63% of the population age 25-64 in California consists of natives; natives are overrepresented among high school graduates, those who attended some college, and those with bachelor's degrees (65%, 79%, and 70% respectively--all in **bold**) whereas natives are underrepresented among those with less than a 9th grade education and 9th-12th grade (8% and 41%).

Table 14: Labor Force Participation Rate by Nativity, Status, Age, and Sex for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County

(Populations in thousands)

Status, Age, and Sex	United States			California			Los Angeles		
	Civilian Pop.	In Labor Force	Percent in Labor Force	Civilian Pop.	In Labor Force	Percent in Labor Force	Civilian Pop.	In Labor Force	Percent in Labor Force
Males									
Natives	74,034	61,414	82%	7,092	5,817	82%	1,558	1,269	81%
18-24 yrs.	12,013	8,583	71%	1,387	983	71%	326	231	71%
25-44 yrs.	32,573	29,437	90%	2,996	2,683	90%	715	598	84%
45-64 yrs.	29,448	23,394	79%	2,709	2,151	79%	518	440	85%
Legal Immigrants	9,710	8,290	85%	2,937	2,491	84%	1,168	964	83%
18-24 yrs.	1,076	703	66%	334	221	66%	115	66	57%
25-44 yrs.	5,157	4,662	92%	1,523	1,403	92%	637	569	89%
45-64 yrs.	3,476	2,926	80%	1,079	866	77%	416	329	79%
Unauthorized	5,045	4,665	93%	1,069	997	94%	463	437	94%
18-24 yrs.	1,042	897	82%	207	170	82%	106	91	86%
25-44 yrs.	3,247	3,097	97%	704	684	97%	291	283	97%
45-64 yrs.	756	670	90%	157	142	94%	66	63	96%
Females									
Natives	77,708	56,367	72%	7,225	5,178	72%	1,564	1,130	72%
18-24 yrs.	12,003	7,987	68%	1,380	934	68%	332	225	68%
25-44 yrs.	34,265	26,567	75%	3,031	2,278	75%	702	533	76%
45-64 yrs.	31,440	21,813	70%	2,814	1,966	70%	530	371	70%
Legal Immigrants	9,969	6,308	60%	2,940	1,775	59%	1,133	656	58%
18-24 yrs.	971	530	52%	268	141	52%	90	46	51%
25-44 yrs.	5,188	3,409	64%	1,509	963	64%	545	340	62%
45-64 yrs.	3,810	2,369	58%	1,162	671	55%	497	270	54%
Unauthorized	3,611	2,041	57%	941	538	58%	395	241	61%
18-24 yrs.	678	341	53%	152	81	53%	52	30	58%
25-44 yrs.	2,303	1,313	57%	626	355	57%	265	160	60%
45-64 yrs.	630	387	63%	163	103	62%	78	51	66%

Source: Tabulations from March 2004 supplement to the CPS using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: Civilian noninstitutional population. All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods.

Table 15: Percent of Population Not in the Labor Force by Reason for Nativity, Status, Age, and Sex Groups, for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County

Status, Age, and Sex	Retired			Disabled			In School			With Children			Other		
	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.
Males															
Natives	4.0%	3.5%	1.7%	5.5%	5.4%	6.0%	3.6%	4.7%	4.7%	1%	1%	1%	3.0%	3.7%	5.4%
18-24 yrs.	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	2.0%	2.4%	0.0%	22.3%	24.1%	22.4%	1%	1%	2%	2.7%	2.0%	4.6%
25-44 yrs.	0.6%	0.7%	0.0%	4.1%	4.3%	8.5%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1%	1%	1%	3.7%	4.7%	7.3%
45-64 yrs.	9.2%	8.4%	5.1%	8.5%	8.2%	6.5%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0%	1%	0%	2.4%	3.4%	3.2%
Legal Immigrants	2.4%	3.0%	2.7%	3.3%	3.7%	5.1%	3.1%	3.2%	3.7%	2%	2%	2%	3.7%	3.1%	4.3%
18-24 yrs.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	0.1%	0.4%	28.0%	28.2%	37.7%	2%	3%	2%	3.6%	2.7%	3.5%
25-44 yrs.	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%	2.2%	3.3%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2%	2%	2%	4.9%	3.8%	5.2%
45-64 yrs.	6.3%	8.2%	7.6%	5.7%	6.9%	9.1%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2%	2%	1%	1.9%	2.2%	3.0%
Unauthorized	0.4%	0.3%	0.0%	0.8%	1.1%	1.0%	2.0%	2.6%	2.9%	1%	1%	1%	2.9%	1.3%	0.6%
18-24 yrs.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.5%	0.9%	9.6%	13.5%	12.6%	1%	2%	1%	3.0%	1.6%	0.2%
25-44 yrs.	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.8%	0.9%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2%	1%	1%	2.4%	0.9%	0.8%
45-64 yrs.	2.1%	2.0%	0.0%	2.4%	3.4%	1.3%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2%	1%	2%	5.0%	3.2%	0.4%
Females															
Natives	4.7%	4.0%	3.1%	5.1%	5.3%	4.8%	3.4%	4.6%	5.6%	9%	10%	9%	5.1%	4.9%	5.2%
18-24 yrs.	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%	0.7%	0.0%	22.2%	24.0%	26.4%	7%	6%	5%	2.8%	1.6%	1.3%
25-44 yrs.	0.6%	0.7%	0.6%	3.5%	4.4%	3.8%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	15%	15%	15%	3.5%	4.3%	4.6%
45-64 yrs.	11.0%	9.7%	8.4%	8.3%	8.4%	9.0%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	4%	5%	4%	7.9%	7.1%	8.3%
Legal Immigrants	4.1%	4.2%	5.6%	3.4%	3.8%	5.1%	2.5%	2.3%	2.6%	18%	20%	20%	8.6%	9.5%	9.3%
18-24 yrs.	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%	1.2%	2.9%	0.0%	25.6%	25.3%	33.1%	14%	14%	11%	4.3%	5.6%	4.5%
25-44 yrs.	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	1.6%	2.3%	2.2%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	27%	28%	27%	5.9%	5.5%	8.0%
45-64 yrs.	10.4%	10.3%	12.3%	6.4%	6.0%	9.1%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	8%	10%	13%	13.3%	15.6%	11.4%
Unauthorized	1.0%	0.9%	1.3%	1.0%	1.7%	1.8%	2.9%	4.0%	2.5%	30%	30%	27%	8.5%	6.1%	6.8%
18-24 yrs.	0.2%	0.7%	2.0%	0.6%	2.1%	0.0%	15.5%	24.7%	18.9%	24%	13%	13%	9.5%	6.5%	8.6%
25-44 yrs.	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	1.0%	0.8%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	36%	38%	32%	6.3%	4.4%	6.7%
45-64 yrs.	5.0%	4.7%	5.4%	3.3%	4.2%	6.1%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	15%	16%	17%	15.6%	12.3%	6.1%

Source: Tabulations from March 2004 supplement to the CPS using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: Civilian noninstitutional population. All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods. n.a. -- Not available.

Table 16: Unemployment Rate by Nativity, Status, and Sex of the Population Age 18-64 for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County

Sex and Status	Unemployment Rate														
	United States					California					Los Angeles County				
	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Males															
Natives	6.5%	6.7%	6.6%	4.8%	4.1%	8.5%	6.5%	6.4%	4.8%	5.2%	6.8%	7.2%	8.0%	6.4%	5.7%
Legal Immigrants	6.3%	8.5%	8.3%	5.4%	5.1%	6.7%	8.9%	11.0%	6.3%	6.4%	6.0%	6.7%	8.0%	4.2%	5.0%
Unauthorized	4.6%	4.3%	3.5%	3.1%	3.5%	4.1%	3.9%	4.6%	4.5%	4.1%	4.2%	3.9%	3.1%	2.1%	2.4%
Difference from Natives															
Legal Immigrants	-0.2%	1.8%	1.8%	0.5%	1.0%	-1.8%	2.4%	4.6%	1.5%	1.1%	-0.8%	-0.5%	0.0%	-2.1%	-0.7%
Unauthorized	-1.9%	-2.4%	-3.0%	-1.7%	-0.5%	-4.4%	-2.6%	-1.9%	-0.4%	-1.2%	-2.6%	-3.4%	-4.9%	-4.2%	-3.3%
Females															
Natives	5.2%	5.3%	5.1%	3.8%	3.9%	5.7%	5.9%	5.6%	3.8%	4.8%	7.9%	4.6%	6.6%	4.6%	4.8%
Legal Immigrants	6.5%	7.3%	6.5%	5.2%	4.9%	8.4%	9.2%	7.9%	6.5%	6.4%	6.3%	7.2%	8.1%	5.1%	5.2%
Unauthorized	8.2%	10.1%	8.3%	7.8%	8.1%	11.2%	10.6%	9.4%	9.5%	9.4%	5.8%	9.7%	9.0%	4.9%	4.5%
Difference from Natives															
Legal Immigrants	1.3%	2.0%	1.4%	1.4%	1.0%	2.8%	3.4%	2.3%	2.7%	1.6%	-1.6%	2.6%	1.6%	0.5%	0.3%
Unauthorized	3.0%	4.8%	3.2%	4.0%	4.3%	5.5%	4.8%	3.8%	5.8%	4.6%	-2.1%	5.1%	2.4%	0.3%	-0.3%

Source: Tabulations from March supplements to the Current Population Survey (CPS) for 2000-2004 using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: Rate is percent of civilian noninstitutional labor force. All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000: March 2000--weights supplied by Census Bureau; March 2001--SCHIP survey; and March 2002-2004--regular supplement. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods.

**Table 17: Occupation by Nativity and Status of the Population Age 18-64
for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County**

(Populations in thousands)

Occupation Group and Measure	Natives			Legal Immigrants			Unauthorized		
	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.
Persons reporting an occupation	124,635	11,556	2,509	14,978	4,356	1,676	6,697	1,546	666
Percent of Status Group	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Management, business, and finance	15%	17%	16%	12%	12%	12%	4%	3%	2%
Professional and related	20%	23%	27%	20%	18%	15%	7%	7%	4%
Service	15%	13%	12%	20%	18%	15%	32%	31%	30%
Sales and related	12%	13%	12%	10%	10%	12%	7%	8%	8%
Office and administrative support	15%	17%	18%	10%	11%	13%	6%	7%	9%
Farming, fishin, and forestry	1%	0%	0%	2%	3%	0%	3%	4%	0%
Construction and extractive occupations	6%	5%	4%	7%	6%	7%	16%	12%	13%
Installation, maintenance, and repair	4%	3%	2%	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%
Production occupations	6%	3%	4%	10%	11%	13%	14%	17%	20%
Transportation and material moving	6%	5%	5%	7%	7%	9%	8%	9%	10%
Percent of Persons Reporting an Occupation	85%	66%	52%	10%	25%	35%	5%	9%	14%
Percent of Area's Occupation Group...									
Management, business, and finance	<i>90%</i>	<i>77%</i>	<i>65%</i>	9%	21%	32%	1%	2%	2%
Professional and related	<i>88%</i>	<i>76%</i>	<i>70%</i>	10%	21%	27%	2%	3%	3%
Service	<i>79%</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>41%</i>	12%	28%	33%	9%	17%	26%
Sales and related	<i>88%</i>	<i>72%</i>	<i>54%</i>	9%	22%	36%	3%	6%	10%
Office and administrative support	<i>91%</i>	<i>77%</i>	<i>62%</i>	8%	19%	30%	2%	4%	8%
Farming, fishin, and forestry	<i>61%</i>	<i>17%</i>	<i>43%</i>	21%	57%	30%	19%	26%	26%
Construction and extractive occupations	<i>77%</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>32%</i>	11%	27%	39%	12%	18%	28%
Installation, maintenance, and repair	<i>87%</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>39%</i>	9%	26%	48%	4%	8%	13%
Production occupations	<i>77%</i>	<i>35%</i>	<i>20%</i>	14%	42%	50%	9%	23%	30%
Transportation and material movng	<i>83%</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>37%</i>	11%	31%	42%	6%	14%	20%

Source: Tabulations from March supplements to the Current Population Surveys for 2003 and 2004 using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: Civilian noninstitutional population. All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods.

Percentages shown in **bold-face** are categories where the status group has a higher percentage of its members in the occupation group than are in that occupation overall. For example, 14% of all workers nationally (not shown in table) are in "Office & administrative support" occupations; because 15% of U.S. natives are in this group, it is highlighted in **bold**. Similarly, 9% of workers in Los Angeles (not shown in table) are in "Production occupations;" because 13% of legal immigrant workers and 20% of unauthorized migrant workers are in production occupations, both percentages are shown in **bold**.

Percentages shown in *italics* are categories where the status group has a higher percentage of the occupation group in the area than it has of the area's population. For example, 85% of all workers nationally are natives and 10% are legal immigrants. In "Professional & related" occupations nationally, 88% are natives and 10% are legal immigrants. Since each of these exceeds the population percentage, they are shown in *italics*. Similarly, 14% of workers in Los Angeles are unauthorized migrants. Since 30% of workers in "production occupations" are unauthorized migrants, this percentage is shown in *italics*.

Table 18: Industry by Nativity and Status of the Population Age 18-64 for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County

(Populations in thousands)

Industry Group and Measure	Natives			Legal Immigrants			Unauthorized		
	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.
Persons reporting an industry	118,035	10,796	2,481	13,642	4,105	1,475	5,487	1,444	641
Percent of Status Group	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing/hunting	1%	1%	0%	2%	4%	0%	3%	5%	0%
Mining	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Construction	7%	6%	4%	8%	7%	8%	17%	13%	14%
Manufacturing	12%	10%	10%	13%	15%	16%	16%	18%	22%
Wholesale and retail trade	15%	15%	14%	14%	14%	16%	12%	13%	12%
Transportation and utilities	5%	4%	5%	5%	5%	6%	3%	4%	6%
Information	3%	4%	8%	2%	2%	3%	1%	1%	2%
Financial activities	7%	9%	7%	6%	6%	7%	3%	2%	2%
Professional and business services	10%	13%	13%	11%	12%	11%	13%	13%	9%
Educational and health services	21%	21%	22%	20%	17%	16%	6%	6%	7%
Leisure and hospitality	8%	8%	9%	9%	8%	7%	19%	17%	16%
Other services	5%	5%	4%	6%	7%	8%	6%	7%	10%
Public administration	5%	6%	4%	3%	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%
Percent of Persons Reporting an Industry	86%	66%	54%	10%	25%	32%	4%	9%	14%
Percent of Area's Industry Group...									
Agriculture, forestry, fishing/hunting	79%	30%	52%	12%	48%	30%	9%	22%	18%
Mining	91%	68%	50%	5%	32%	50%	4%	0%	0%
Construction	80%	58%	33%	10%	26%	41%	10%	15%	27%
Manufacturing	82%	55%	37%	11%	32%	41%	6%	14%	22%
Wholesale and retail trade	87%	67%	50%	9%	25%	38%	4%	8%	12%
Transportation and utilities	87%	62%	48%	11%	30%	38%	3%	8%	13%
Information	90%	82%	78%	8%	14%	17%	2%	4%	4%
Financial activities	89%	76%	57%	9%	21%	38%	2%	3%	5%
Professional and business services	83%	67%	57%	11%	23%	32%	6%	10%	11%
Educational and health services	88%	74%	64%	10%	23%	31%	1%	3%	5%
Leisure and hospitality	79%	59%	49%	11%	24%	27%	10%	17%	24%
Other services	81%	56%	35%	13%	32%	43%	6%	12%	23%
Public administration	94%	86%	70%	6%	14%	30%	0%	0%	0%

Source: Tabulations from March supplements to the Current Population Surveys for 2003 and 2004 using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: Civilian noninstitutional population. All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods.

Percentages shown in **bold-face** are categories where the status group has a higher percentage of its members in the industry than are in that industry overall. For example, 4% of all workers nationally (not shown in table) are in "Public Administration;" because 5% of U.S. natives are in this group, it is highlighted in **bold**. Similarly, 13% of workers in Los Angeles are in "Manufacturing" (not shown in table); because 16% of legal immigrant workers and 22% of unauthorized workers are in manufacturing, both percentages are shown in **bold**.

Percentages shown in *italics* are categories where the status group has a higher percentage of the industry in the area than it has of the area's population. For example, 86% of all workers nationally are natives and 10% are legal immigrants. In the "Transportation and utilities" industry nationally, 87% are natives and 11% are legal immigrants. Since each of these exceeds the population percentage, they are shown in *italics*. Similarly, 14% of workers in Los Angeles are unauthorized migrants. Since 27% of workers in "construction" are unauthorized, this percentage is shown in *italics*.

Table 19: Average Family Income, Family Size, and Per Capita Income by Family Status for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County

(Populations in thousands)

Status of Family	Number of Families			Average Family Income			Average Family Size			Average Income per Person		
	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.
All Families	143,814	17,372	5,007	\$46,800	\$49,900	\$43,400	2.02	2.06	2.00	\$23,200	\$24,200	\$21,700
Native	120,647	11,196	2,515	47,700	54,600	50,300	1.96	1.88	1.73	24,300	29,100	29,100
Legal Immigrant	16,976	4,785	1,894	47,400	44,700	39,700	2.32	2.35	2.22	20,400	19,000	17,900
10 or more years in U.S.	13,166	3,857	1,481	51,100	47,800	44,000	2.39	2.43	2.34	21,400	19,700	18,800
Less than 10 years in U.S.	3,810	928	413	34,600	31,800	24,400	2.09	2.04	1.79	16,600	15,600	13,600
Unauthorized	6,191	1,391	599	27,400	29,700	26,300	2.28	2.57	2.46	12,000	11,500	10,700
10 or more years in U.S.	2,457	753	332	30,000	29,900	28,800	2.64	2.84	2.78	11,400	10,500	10,400
Less than 10 years in U.S.	3,734	637	266	25,700	29,500	23,100	2.04	2.25	2.08	12,600	13,100	11,100
Percent of Native (within Area)												
Legal Immigrant	(x)	(x)	(x)	99%	82%	79%	118%	125%	128%	84%	65%	62%
10 or more years in U.S.	(x)	(x)	(x)	107%	87%	87%	122%	129%	135%	88%	68%	65%
Less than 10 years in U.S.	(x)	(x)	(x)	72%	58%	49%	106%	109%	104%	68%	54%	47%
Unauthorized	(x)	(x)	(x)	57%	54%	52%	116%	137%	143%	49%	40%	37%
10 or more years in U.S.	(x)	(x)	(x)	63%	55%	57%	135%	152%	161%	47%	36%	36%
Less than 10 years in U.S.	(x)	(x)	(x)	54%	54%	46%	104%	120%	120%	52%	45%	38%

Source: Tabulations from March 2004 supplement to the CPS using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: Status of family based on head and/or spouse. "Family" is defined as nuclear family units consisting of head, spouse (if present), and children (if present); single-person households and unrelated individuals are treated as "family" units in this formulation. Average income per person is defined as average family income divided by average family size. Averages based on means.

All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods.

Incomes displayed are rounded to nearest \$100. All computations done with unrounded figures.

Table 20: Poverty Level of Adults by Nativity and Status for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County

(Populations in thousands)

Status of Person	Number of Adults			Below 100% of Poverty			Below 200% of Poverty			400% of Poverty or more		
	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.
All Adults	215,661	26,029	7,275	14%	15%	19%	34%	36%	43%	37%	39%	31%
Native	183,561	17,075	3,703	13%	12%	14%	31%	29%	32%	39%	46%	42%
Legal Immigrant	23,384	6,931	2,710	20%	20%	23%	43%	46%	51%	30%	28%	24%
Unauthorized Immigrant	8,716	2,023	862	27%	27%	27%	64%	63%	67%	11%	13%	8%
Percent Distribution	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Native	85%	66%	51%	78%	51%	39%	79%	52%	37%	90%	78%	68%
Legal Immigrant	11%	27%	37%	15%	35%	45%	14%	34%	44%	9%	19%	29%
Unauthorized Immigrant	4%	8%	12%	8%	14%	17%	8%	14%	18%	1%	3%	3%

Source: Tabulations from March 2004 supplement to the CPS using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: Status of family based on head and/or spouse. "Family" is defined as nuclear family units consisting of head, spouse (if present), and children (if present); single-person households and unrelated individuals are treated as "family" units in this formulation. Poverty is computed for all family units, regardless of size or relationship. Poverty status based on these family units.

All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods.

Table 21: Poverty Level of Children by Family Status and Nativity of Children for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County

(Populations in thousands)

Status of Family and Nativity of Child	Number of Children			Below 100% of Poverty			Below 200% of Poverty			400% of Poverty or more		
	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.
All Families	73,686	9,604	2,796	19%	21%	25%	41%	44%	54%	29%	30%	23%
Native	70,456	8,776	2,538	19%	20%	24%	40%	42%	51%	30%	31%	25%
Legal Immigrant	1,609	400	128	28%	25%	28%	56%	60%	68%	20%	18%	10%
Unauthorized Immigrant	1,620	427	130	39%	46%	44%	74%	81%	81%	9%	6%	5%
% Native	96%	91%	91%	92%	86%	87%	94%	87%	87%	97%	94%	93%
% Children of Immigrants	22%	48%	62%	28%	62%	65%	29%	64%	78%	18%	44%	62%
Native Families	57,954	5,037	1,060	17%	15%	23%	37%	31%	39%	31%	41%	38%
Native Children	57,799	5,014	1,058	17%	15%	23%	37%	31%	39%	31%	41%	38%
Immigrant Children	155	23	1	10%	13%	100%	16%	38%	100%	57%	62%	0%
% Native	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Legal Immigrant Families	11,032	3,221	1,199	21%	24%	21%	47%	51%	54%	25%	21%	20%
Native Children	9,577	2,843	1,073	19%	23%	21%	45%	50%	53%	26%	22%	21%
Immigrant Children	1,455	378	126	30%	26%	28%	60%	62%	68%	16%	15%	10%
% Native	87%	88%	89%	81%	87%	86%	85%	85%	87%	89%	90%	91%
Unauthorized Immigrant Families	4,700	1,346	537	37%	38%	38%	74%	76%	80%	7%	8%	4%
Native Children	3,080	919	406	36%	35%	36%	74%	73%	80%	7%	9%	4%
Immigrant Children	1,620	427	130	39%	46%	44%	74%	81%	81%	9%	6%	5%
% Native	66%	68%	76%	63%	62%	72%	68%	70%	79%	68%	74%	78%

Source: Tabulations from March 2004 supplement to the CPS using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: Status of family based on head and/or spouse. "Family" is defined as nuclear family units consisting of head, spouse (if present), and children (if present); single-person households and unrelated individuals are treated as "family" units in this formulation. Poverty is computed for all family units, regardless of size or relationship. Poverty status based on these family units.

"% Native" is the share of children within the group (e.g., "unauthorized immigrant families in California" or "legal immigrant families" below 200% of poverty in Los Angeles") who are natives. "% children of immigrants" is the share of children within the group who are in immigrant families, regardless of their nativity.

All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods.

Table 22: Adults and Children without Health Insurance by Nativity, Status, and Family Status of Children for the United States, California, and Los Angeles County

(Populations in thousands)

Status of Adults or Families and Nativity of Child	Number of Persons			Number without Health Insurance			Percent without Health Insurance at any time during preceding year								
	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.	Calif.	L.A.	U.S.			California			Los Angeles County		
							2004	2002	2000	2004	2002	2000	2004	2002	2000
Adults, 18-64 years	215,661	26,029	7,275	36,848	5,388	2,050	17%	16%	16%	21%	21%	22%	28%	28%	31%
Native	183,561	17,075	3,703	25,709	2,343	626	14%	13%	14%	14%	14%	14%	17%	17%	17%
Legal Immigrant	23,384	6,931	2,710	5,973	1,964	907	26%	26%	26%	28%	29%	29%	33%	33%	39%
Unauthorized Immigrant	8,716	2,023	862	5,166	1,080	517	59%	58%	60%	53%	57%	57%	60%	64%	66%
All Children (under 18 years)	73,686	9,604	2,796	8,395	1,206	440	11%	12%	14%	13%	15%	19%	16%	20%	27%
Native	70,456	8,776	2,538	7,165	931	341	10%	10%	13%	11%	13%	17%	13%	17%	24%
Legal Immigrant	1,609	400	128	371	92	42	23%	25%	26%	23%	30%	28%	33%	29%	45%
Unauthorized Immigrant	1,620	427	130	860	183	57	53%	53%	50%	43%	36%	49%	44%	51%	58%
Native Families	57,954	5,037	1,060	5,209	430	110	9%	9%	11%	9%	9%	11%	10%	10%	11%
Legal Immigrant Families	11,032	3,221	1,199	1,564	432	190	14%	17%	19%	13%	19%	20%	16%	22%	29%
Native Children	9,577	2,843	1,073	1,207	341	149	13%	16%	18%	12%	18%	19%	14%	21%	27%
Immigrant Children	1,455	378	126	357	91	41	25%	26%	26%	24%	30%	28%	32%	29%	43%
Unauthorized Immigrant Families	4,700	1,346	537	1,622	344	140	35%	35%	42%	26%	25%	40%	26%	31%	45%
Native Children	3,080	919	406	762	161	84	25%	26%	37%	18%	19%	37%	21%	22%	41%
Immigrant Children	1,620	427	130	860	183	57	53%	53%	50%	43%	36%	50%	44%	51%	59%

Source: Tabulations from March supplements to the CPS for 2000, 2002, and 2004 using specialized files with immigrant status assignments.

Note: Status of family based on head and/or spouse. "Family" is defined as nuclear family units consisting of head, spouse (if present), and children (if present); single-person households and unrelated individuals are treated as "family" units in this formulation. "Without health insurance" is defined as not having health insurance at any time during the calendar year before the survey.

All supplements weighted to population estimates consistent with Census 2000: March 2000--weights supplied by Census Bureau; and March 2002-2004--regular supplements. Status assignments use methods of Passel and Clark (1998) and Passel, Van Hook, Bean (2004, 2006) combined with independent demographic estimates. Population weights are adjusted to take into account legal and unauthorized immigrants omitted from the CPS. See text for definitions and methods.

APPENDIX: METHODOLOGY AND TERMINOLOGY

This report uses the term “unauthorized immigrant” to mean a person who resides in the United States, but who is *not* a U.S. citizen, has *not* been admitted for permanent residence, and is *not* in a set of specific authorized temporary statuses permitting longer-term residence and work. (See Passel, Van Hook, and Bean 2004 for further discussion.) Various labels have been applied to this group of unauthorized immigrants, including “undocumented immigrants,” “illegals,” “illegal aliens,” and “illegal immigrants.”

The term “unauthorized immigrant” is used because, in the opinion of the authors and their colleagues, it best encompasses the population in the data. Many immigrants now enter the country or work using counterfeit documents; many others enter and obtain employment with valid documents that expire. Some others have petitioned for permanent residency and are waiting for a decision, or are in a Temporary Protected Status (TPS). Thus, these immigrants are “unauthorized” but not really “undocumented,” in the sense that they might have documents, but these documents only allow them to stay in the country temporarily.²² In addition, since TPS immigrants were originally unauthorized and come from many of the same countries as other unauthorized immigrants, TPS immigrants tend to share many of the same characteristics as other unauthorized immigrants.

The estimates presented here are developed largely from March supplements to the U.S. Current Population Survey (CPS) for 2000 through 2004. The survey identifies the foreign-born population but does not differentiate among types of immigrants or legal statuses. The methodology for developing estimates by legal status proceeds in several stages.²³ The first stage involves developing demographic estimates of legal foreign-born residents of the United States and key states. These estimates are produced by assembling official data from the INS and its successor agencies in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) on refugee admissions, legal permanent resident admissions, and the numbers of foreign students, temporary workers, and other legal immigrants. By comparing these estimates with the initial CPS-based estimates of the immigrant population, we estimate the number of unauthorized immigrants included in the CPS. In other words, we subtract the number of immigrants we believe to be in the country legally from the total number of foreign-born individuals in the CPS, and the difference is the number of unauthorized immigrants. Using this “residual” methodology, we produce estimates by age, sex, and period of entry for 35 countries or regions of birth for six states (California, New York, Texas, Florida, Illinois, and New Jersey) and the balance of the United States. Using information on CPS and census coverage of the foreign-born population, we inflate the estimates of legal and unauthorized immigrants for CPS omissions to produce estimates of those *included in the CPS* as well as the *total number* in the country (or state). We assume the unauthorized are undercounted by about 10 percent on average in the CPS.

²² The most recent estimate for the size of the TPS population is 300,000 to 400,000, or less than 3 percent of the 11-12 million unauthorized immigrants in the country in 2005–06 (U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services 2006). The primary countries of origin for the TPS population are El Salvador and Honduras (Department of Homeland Security 2004).

²³ For more details on the estimation and assignment methods, see Passel (2005); Passel, Van Hook, and Bean (2004, 2006); and Passel and Clark (1998).

In the second stage of the estimation process, individual respondents in the CPS are assigned to various legal statuses using a combination of (1) deterministic edits based on correspondence between the respondent’s characteristics and admission criteria (e.g., student visa holders must be enrolled in school, while temporary workers must be employed in occupations for which temporary work permits are available); (2) inference based on family relationships, country or region of origin, and date of arrival in the United States (e.g., refugees come in large numbers from certain countries during certain years); and (3) probabilistic methods. The iterative assignment process produces national and state-level estimates consistent with the demographic estimates of legal and unauthorized immigrants included in the CPS. After the assignment process, each individual in the CPS has been assigned to one of the seven statuses listed below and described in figure 1 of the report:

1. Legal permanent resident (LPR) alien—persons admitted for permanent residence or persons with “green cards.”
2. Naturalized citizens—persons admitted as LPRs who have acquired U.S. citizenship through the naturalization process.
3. Refugee and asylee aliens—persons admitted for permanent residence as refugees or through the asylum process (regardless of current status).
4. Naturalized refugees and asylees—persons admitted as refugees or through the asylum process who have acquired U.S. citizenship through the naturalization process.
5. Legal temporary immigrants or “nonimmigrants”—persons legally admitted on a temporary basis for specified periods and specified purposes (including work). The largest groups of nonimmigrants are foreign students and various types of “guest workers.” The visa categories counted as legal for the estimates include: A, F, G, H-1B, some H-2s, some Js, L, M, N, O, P, and R.
6. Unauthorized immigrants—foreign-born persons who are not in the previous five groups. This group includes individuals who entered the U.S. clandestinely, individuals who entered with fraudulent documents, and individuals who entered legally but either overstayed the period of their visa or otherwise violated their terms of admission. Also included are unauthorized immigrants who have applied for permanent residency and immigrants with Temporary Protected Status.
7. U.S. natives—persons born as U.S. citizens regardless of place of birth. Most are born in the United States or its territories or possessions, but some are born in foreign countries to parents who are U.S. citizens.

The assignment process is designed so the number of individuals assigned as legal immigrants (i.e., the sum of groups 1–4) and unauthorized immigrants (i.e., group 6) agrees as closely as possible with the demographic and residual estimates at the state level (for six states and the balance of the nation); for adults by gender and children; and for four country-of-birth

groups.²⁴ The “legal immigrant” population shown in most tables in this report consists of persons assigned to groups 1–5.

The final or third stage of the estimation process involves adjusting the CPS survey weights of legal and unauthorized immigrants for omissions from the survey. The adjustment factors are designed so the resulting population figures for legal immigrants and unauthorized immigrants equal the demographic estimates developed in the first stage of the estimation process. As with the status assignments, the resulting estimates incorporate the demographic estimates for six states and the balance of the nation, for adults by gender and children, and for four country-of-birth groups.

Interpretation of Estimates

The result of the estimation/assignment process is a CPS data file with individuals identified by nativity and legal status and with weights for the foreign-born population consistent with demographic estimates that are corrected for omissions from the CPS. Data shown in this report are based almost entirely on tabulations of data from such augmented CPS files for March 2004 and, to some degree, for earlier years.²⁵ The resulting population figures are not consistent with official published data from the CPS because of the adjustments for under-coverage of legal immigrants and unauthorized immigrants incorporated into the weight adjustments at the third stage of the estimation process.²⁶

Distinguishing between “Legal Immigrants” and “Unauthorized Immigrants”

Because the information on immigrants is based on the residual methods, the unauthorized immigrant population is defined in large part by exclusion; that is, it is a function of which groups are included in the estimate of legal foreign-born population, which groups are treated as temporary legal immigrants, and which groups are omitted. In other words, the unauthorized population consists of persons and groups not included in the authorized population. The eight groups included in the demographic estimates of legal foreign-born residents and how they are assigned to period-of-entry groups are as follows:²⁷

- a. Refugees—counted in the year they arrived in the United States, not when they received green cards;
- b. Asylum approvals—included as legal when asylum status was approved. These, too, are counted as arriving in the year they physically arrived in the United States, if known, or in the year of approval, not when they received green cards (like refugees);

²⁴ The four groups are Mexico, balance of Latin America, Asia, and the rest of the world. If there are too few immigrants in any country-of-birth group for a geographic area, the country-of-birth groups are collapsed.

²⁵ The three-stage method described in the text has been applied to March CPS supplements for 2000–04 and to the 5-percent Public-Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) from Census 2000.

²⁶ Because no weight adjustments are incorporated for U.S. natives, tabulations for this group are consistent with official data.

²⁷ Note that the “year of arrival” for a legal immigrant may be different from the year he or she is included in the legal population. The arrival year can be much earlier than the year of acquiring legal status, especially for IRCA legalizations (group e) and INS adjustments (group g).

- c–d. Cuban-Haitian and other entrants, Amerasians, and various groups of parolees—treated like asylum approvals and refugees. They are also included as legal when approved, not when they received green cards, although for many in this group these dates are the same;
- e. Persons acquiring legal status under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA)—included as legal when they obtained their green cards; assigned to years of arrival based on survey and other data for this group;
- f. “New Arrivals”—that is, persons receiving green cards when they entered the United States—assigned to the year they arrived (unless they have already been counted in groups c.-d. to avoid double counting);
- g. Persons “adjusting” to LPR status—that is, persons getting green cards who were already in a legal status in the United States—counted as legal in the year they received their green card but assigned to years of arrival based on date of nonimmigrant visa. Persons whose legal status is in groups a.–e. are excluded to avoid double counting;
- h. Census or CPS counts of persons arriving before 1980 are all assumed to be legal by 2000.
- i. Foreign-born individuals in the CPS who have characteristics consistent with admission criteria for various legal temporary statuses are assigned to those legal nonimmigrant categories. This includes holders of student visas and temporary work permits.

There are a number of foreign-born persons in the United States known to the Federal government in various administrative categories who are not included in the estimated legal foreign-born population. To the extent they are included in the CPS, they, thus, become part of the unauthorized immigrant population. Some categories, such as “visitors for pleasure” and “visitors for business” (B-1 and B-2 visas) are not U.S. residents and so should not be counted in the CPS. Other categories include many persons with EADs (or “Employment Authorization Documents”) issued by the DHS who can work in the United States and would be classified as residents by the CPS. Although many could be considered as “authorized” in some sense, they have not been included in the estimated legal population either because of the lack of consistent data or definitional reasons. Persons with TPS and Extended Voluntary Departure (EVD) together with applicants for these statuses may account for 300,000-400,000 persons (U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service 2002; DHS 2004; U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services 2006). In addition, 250,000 persons have applied for asylum but have not had their cases adjudicated. Although some individuals in these categories may eventually acquire green cards, many (perhaps most) will not. (See Martin 2005 for a discussion of such groups).

Another large group not included in our estimate of legal residents but who have employment authorization and are not subject to deportation are persons in the legal immigration backlog. There are more than 600,000 persons in the United States who have applied for green cards but are waiting for them to be issued. In addition there are perhaps 100,000 persons who are immediate relatives or fiancées of legal residents waiting for their final papers. Most persons in these groups will eventually acquire green cards. All told, there may be as many as 1 million persons represented in our estimates of unauthorized residents who have full legal statuses

pending but are not yet fully legal. Until they receive their green cards, however, they are not counted in official data on legal immigrants, and therefore are considered unauthorized in our analyses.

Sampling Variation in Estimates based on CPS Data

The tables in this report show data for the native-born citizen population, the legal foreign-born population (defined as naturalized citizens and legal noncitizens), and the unauthorized population (see **figure 1** on page 3). All tables showing characteristics of these populations come from tabulations of the augmented CPS data files.

Because of the methods employed in developing the CPS data, some figures reported here are properly considered demographic estimates, whereas others arise out of the response patterns in the CPS and should be treated as survey estimates. The distinction is especially relevant for the total legal and unauthorized immigrant populations at the state level and for country totals at the state level. Even though the number of legal and unauthorized residents of the United States, California, New York, Texas, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, and the remaining states combined are based on tabulations of weighted responses from the augmented March 2004 CPS, the weights are developed so these population totals equal the independent demographic estimates. Thus, these figures are not really CPS or survey estimates, but demographic estimates. As such, they are subject to potential estimation error and bias but not to sampling variation. The total legal and unauthorized immigrant population figures for areas within these states (e.g., the Los Angeles metropolitan area) and for other individual states arise from the tabulated CPS data themselves; that is, the population figures depend on the number of respondents in the area and their assigned weights. Thus, such data are more properly considered “survey-based” estimates. They would be subject to estimation error from the overall figures but also to sampling variation from the CPS responses.

The figures shown for states in this report differ slightly from previous versions (e.g., Passel 2005). With a few exceptions, the numbers here are based solely on the March 2004 CPS rather than an average of 2002–04 CPS data. In six states (California, Texas, Florida, New York, Illinois, and New Jersey) and the balance of the country as a whole, the estimated unauthorized immigrant population is a residual estimate made directly for the state (or area). In the remaining 44 states and Washington, D.C., the number of unauthorized immigrants is “estimated” by tabulating the augmented CPS file.

Because of the differences in methods, the nature of errors and behavior over time of the estimates differs somewhat for the two groups of states. Where the estimate is a direct residual, the estimate is affected by estimation error in the number of legal immigrants and by sampling error for the entire foreign-born population of the state (since the estimate is essentially the total foreign-born population minus the estimated legal immigrant population). This property can cause substantial variability from year to year as essentially all the sampling error and variability of the state’s foreign-born population shows up in the estimated unauthorized population.

For the states where the estimate is based on tabulations of the augmented CPS file, the variability is affected more by the sources and origins of sample cases in the CPS. Especially since the immigrant populations—both the total foreign-born and those from individual countries or regions of the world—in any of these states are small, sample sizes tend to be small and the sampling variability of the resulting estimates can be relatively large.