

Immigration Fact Checks

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Trump Claims	Fact Check of Claims
<p>Immigration costs U.S. taxpayers billions of dollars a year</p> <p>First address to a joint session of Congress http://www.factcheck.org/2017/03/trumps-address-to-congress/</p>	<p>"Immigration is integral to the nation's economic growth" and "has an overall positive impact on long-run economic growth in the U.S." (This is a direct quote from the National Academy of Sciences report Trump used for his incorrect claim.)</p> <p>There is a cost associated with first generation immigrants and for poorly educated immigrants who may require both social supports and education. However, the long-term benefits outweigh the expense of new immigrants.</p> <p>See the Academy's press release about the National Academy of Science 2016 Report on The Economic and Fiscal Consequences of Immigration. (The press release contains a link to the pdf report, which you can download for free as a guest.)</p> <p><i>Background</i></p> <p>Trump distorts the findings of the National Academies of Sciences.</p> <p>The report found that for 2011-2013 immigration there was a net annual cost of \$57.4 billion for first-generation adults and their dependents; but second generations create a benefit of \$30.5 billion a year, and third-plus generations create an annual benefit of \$223.8 billion.</p> <p>From: http://www.factcheck.org/2017/03/trumps-address-to-congress/</p>
<p>There are "probably 2 million" or "even 3 million" criminals living illegally in the U.S.</p> <p>"60 Minutes" interview – Sunday, November 13, 2016 http://www.factcheck.org/2016/11/trump-repeats-criminal-alien-claim/</p>	<p>Most of the criminals he refers to came to the U.S. legally and live here legally — not by illegally crossing the border.</p> <p><i>Background</i></p> <p>Trump is basing his statements on the findings of a 2013 Department of Homeland Security report which says: "ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) estimates that 1.9 million removable criminal aliens are in the United States today."</p> <p>However, the term "criminal aliens" includes legal permanent residents, also known as green card holders, and those living in the U.S. legally on temporary visas who have committed a crime in the U.S.</p> <p>In a July 2015 report, the Migration Policy Institute estimated that 820,000 of the 1.9 million are living in the U.S. illegally. Most of those 820,000 people —about 690,000— have been convicted of a felony or serious</p>

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	<p>misdemeanor that would make them targets for removal under policies already adopted by the Obama administration in 2014. See page 25 of the report.</p> <p>By that measure, most of the 1.9 million “criminal aliens” came to the U.S. legally via green cards and visas — not by illegally crossing the southern border.</p> <p>From: http://www.factcheck.org/2016/11/trump-repeats-criminal-alien-claim/</p>
<p>President Donald Trump’s executive order protects “the nation from foreign terrorist entry into the U.S.”</p> <p>From https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/06/executive-order-protecting-nation-foreign-terrorist-entry-united-states</p>	<p>“The chance of an American perishing in a terrorist attack on U.S. soil that was committed by a foreigner over the 41-year period studied ... is 1 in 3.6 million per year according to a Cato Institute report September 2016 called “Terrorism and Immigration.”</p> <p>The report also states “The hazards posed by foreign-born terrorists are not large enough to warrant extreme actions like a moratorium on all immigration or tourism.”</p> <p><i>Background</i></p> <p>In the 40 years from 1975 to 2015 there were about 768,000 murders in the U.S. About 0.4% of U.S. murders were related to terrorism.</p> <p>The Cato Institute report identified 154 foreign-born people who were convicted of carrying out or attempting to carry out a terrorist attack in the U.S. over a 40-year period, from 1975 to 2015, most of them on or after Sept. 11, 2001. Of the 154, only 40 were responsible for 3,024 deaths; 114 of them were not responsible for any deaths.</p> <p>Only 17 of the 154 foreign-born terrorists were from the seven countries covered by the Trump administration’s temporary travel ban. But none of the 17 was responsible for any deaths — (even though the seven countries combined represented almost 40 percent of all refugees accepted into the U.S. in the last 10 years.)</p> <p>In all, the report identified 3,432 murders caused by terrorists on U.S. soil in 40 years, including the 3,024 caused by foreign-born terrorists — or 88 percent all terrorism-related deaths.</p> <p>To put the terrorism-related murders in perspective, there were about 768,000 total murders during the same 40-year period, the report says. As a percentage, terrorism-related deaths represented 0.39 percent of all murders over the 40 years.</p> <p>From: http://www.factcheck.org/2017/02/facts-on-trumps-immigration-order/</p>

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<p>Refugees pose a danger of terrorism to U.S. citizens.</p> <p>From: https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/06/executive-order-protecting-nation-foreign-terrorist-entry-united-states</p>	<p>The chance of being a victim of a terrorist attack from a refugee is quite low. Over the 40-year period studied in a September 2016 Cato Institute report titled "Terrorism and Immigration" the chance of an American being murdered in a terrorist attack caused by a refugee is 1 in 3.64 billion per year." (Similar to the terrorist attack odds in the topic above.)</p> <p>From: http://www.politifact.com/california/statements/2017/feb/01/ted-lieu/odds-youll-be-killed-terror-attack-america-refugee/</p>
<p>Added April 14, 2017</p> <p>"The common thread linking the major Islamic terrorist attacks ...- is that they have involved immigrants or the children of immigrants." Donald Trump</p> <p>From: http://www.politico.com/story/2016/08/donald-trump-terrorism-speech-227025</p>	<p>Added April 14, 2017</p> <p>"The U.S. government thoroughly screens refugees' backgrounds---an intensive process involving the Departments of Homeland Security and State, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and national intelligence agencies. It takes 18 to 24 months for the checks for proposed refugees to the United States to be conducted (compared to four months in Canada)." From the U.S. Department of State, "U.S. Refugee Admissions Program, Application and Case Processing".</p> <p>"Of the 784,000 refugees resettled in the United States since September 11, 2001, three have been arrested for planning terrorist activities---two of whom were planning attacks outside the country." (Kathleen Newland, "The U.S. Record Shows Refugees Are Not a Threat" commentary, Migration Policy Institute, Washington, DC, October 2015)</p> <p>From "Ten Facts about U.S. Refugee Resettlement" http://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/ten-facts-about-us-refugee-resettlement</p>

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