



Countering Anti-Immigrant Rhetoric with Facts

Anti-Immigrant Rhetoric Fueled by Misinformation

Misinformation Feeds Fear

Much of the anti-immigrant rhetoric circulating today is based on unfounded claims that fuel fear and division, particularly around economic impacts, crime, and social services.

- ☑ **50%** of Americans believe immigrants increase crime, despite studies showing they are **less likely to commit crimes** than native-born individuals.
- ☑ Contrary to popular belief, most immigrants contribute more taxes than they use in public benefits.

Immigrants Do Not Drain Public Resources

Net Contributors

One common myth is that immigrants drain public resources. However, numerous studies show that immigrants contribute significantly to the economy through taxes, consumer spending, and labor.

- ☑ Immigrant households contribute **\$165 billion** in federal taxes and **\$105 billion** in state and local taxes annually.
- ☑ Immigrants contribute more in taxes than they use in public benefits, making them net contributors to public finances.

Crime Rates Among Immigrants

Less Likely to Commit Crimes

Despite claims that immigration leads to increased crime, research consistently shows that immigrants, including undocumented ones, are **less likely** to commit crimes than native-born Americans.

- ☑ Studies from the **Cato Institute** show that undocumented immigrants have a crime rate **50% lower** than native-born citizens.
- ☑ The presence of immigrants in communities is correlated with **lower crime rates**.

Economic Impact of Immigrants

Helping, Not Harming the Economy

Contrary to the claim that immigrants take jobs from native-born citizens, immigrants are job creators and essential contributors to economic growth.

- ☑ Immigrants started **28% of all U.S. businesses** in 2021, helping to create jobs and drive innovation.
- ☑ Immigrants have a collective **spending power of \$1.3 trillion**, contributing significantly to consumer demand and economic stability.

Public Safety and National Security

Do Not Pose a Security Threat

Anti-immigrant rhetoric often falsely associates immigration with national security risks. In reality, immigrants are less likely to pose a security threat than native-born citizens.

- ☑ The likelihood of an American being killed in a terrorist attack by a refugee is 1 in

3.64 billion annually.

- ☑ Refugees undergo extensive security screening before being admitted to the U.S., making them one of the most **vettted groups of people** entering the country.

Segment: Building an Inclusive Narrative

Facts Over Fear

- ☑ Anti-immigrant rhetoric is often based on fear and misinformation. By sharing fact-based responses, we can counter harmful narratives and highlight immigrants' true contributions. Immigrants are job creators, tax contributors, and community builders, essential to the success of America's economy and culture.

Resources

Pew Research Center – They often report on public opinions related to immigration and social issues, including data about how immigrants are perceived in terms of crime and economic contributions.
<https://www.pewresearch.org/>

Cato Institute – The Cato Institute publishes research on immigration, particularly focusing on crime rates among immigrants versus native-born citizens.
<https://www.cato.org/>

American Immigration Council – This organization provides extensive data on the economic contributions of immigrants, including taxes, spending power, and entrepreneurial impacts.
<https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/>

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine – They publish reports on immigration's economic and fiscal impacts, including data on taxes and public resource use.
<https://www.nationalacademies.org/>

Migration Policy Institute – The MPI frequently publishes reports on the public safety impact of immigrants, refugee vetting processes, and their contributions to the economy.
<https://www.migrationpolicy.org/>

New American Economy – This organization focuses on immigrants' economic impact in the U.S., including data on entrepreneurship and labor market contributions.
<https://www.newamericaneconomy.org/>



The Center for American Progress – They release reports and fact sheets countering anti-immigrant rhetoric and provide statistics on immigrants' economic and social contributions.
<https://www.americanprogress.org/>

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) – DHS provides data on the security screening process for refugees and immigrants, including vetting procedures and national security concerns.
<https://www.dhs.gov/>

The National Immigration Forum – They provide resources and statistics regarding the contributions of immigrants to society and debunk myths about crime and economic harm.
<https://immigrationforum.org/>