



H

permanent resident status. Therefore the starting point for the estimates was January 1, 2007. The steps involved in estimating the components of each population are shown in Appendix

Data on the foreign-born population that entered during 2007-2011, by country of birth, state of residence, year of entry and

Unauthorized immigrant population would range from 1.5 million to 2.5 million. Doubling the unauthorized immigrant undercount rate and lowering the naturalization rates by 1/3 percent would expand the range of the estimated unauthorized immigrant population to 1.5 million.

Components of the Unauthorized Immigrant Population in 2007

The size of each component of the unauthorized immigrant population estimates for 2007 is displayed in Table A. See Appendix A for a detailed explanation of each entry in Table A. For the foreign-born population the starting point was the estimated 7.1 million foreign-born residents in the 2000 ACS that entered the United States during 1997-2000. This population was increased by 1.5 million or 21 percent by adjustments for the shift in the reference date from mid-year 2000 to January 2007, and the addition of undercounts for the populations of non-citizens, other legal residents, and unauthorized immigrants. The estimated undercount of the unauthorized immigrant population in the ACS was nearly 1 million and represents 14 percent of all adjustments to the foreign-born population.

For the legal resident population the starting point was the total of 10.5 million LPRs, refugees and asylees during 1997-2000. By January 2007, the total population had been reduced by 1.5 million

Nearly 1 million, or 14 percent unauthorized immigrants had entered the United States since January 2000, see Table A. An estimated 7.7 million, or 7 percent, came to the United States in 2007 or 2008. Another 7 percent came during 2006 to 2007. Forty-five percent came to the United States during the 1990s and 15 percent entered during the 1980s.

The estimated number of unauthorized immigrants as of January 2007 is consistent with other unauthorized population estimates. The Pew Hispanic Center estimated the unauthorized population at 7.1 million in March 2007 and projected it would be 7.5 million by March 2008. Passel (2007).

The sensitivity of the estimates to assumptions about undercount of the foreign-born population and the naturalization rates - two components with a major impact on the estimates - is illustrated with several examples. Doubling the unauthorized immigrant undercount rate from 1/3 percent to 2/3 percent increases the estimated unauthorized population from 1.5 million to 2.5 million. By lowering the naturalization rates 1/3 percent and holding all other assumptions constant, the estimated unauthorized

Estimates by Region and Country of Birth

An estimated 7.7 million of the total 17.7 million unauthorized immigrants in the United States in 2010 were from the North American region, including Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central America, see Figure 1. The next leading regions of origin were Asia, 4.7 million, and South America, 2.1 million. The 17.7 million unauthorized immigrant population was 5.7 million

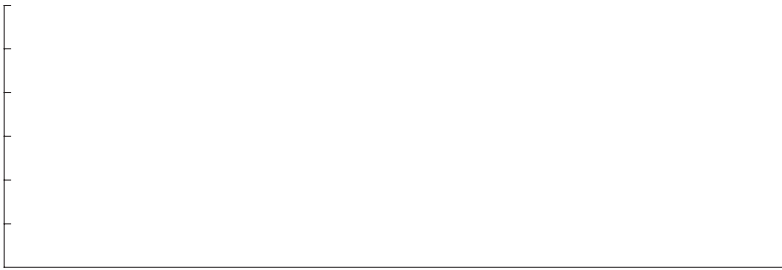
Estimates by Gender and Age

Males represented 44 percent of the unauthorized immigrant population (//, see Figure 3, and Table 3.3). The median age of unauthorized residents was 27 years, with males slightly younger than females, 26 years versus 28 years. Males accounted for 47 percent of the unauthorized population in the 17 to 24 age group (//, where females accounted for 44 percent of the 25 and older age groups.

NEXT STEPS

The estimates presented here will be updated periodically based on annual data of the foreign-born population collected in the American Community Survey and on the estimated lawful resident foreign-born population derived from various administrative data sources.

Figure 3.
Age by



APPENDIX 1

Components for Estimating the Unauthorized Resident Population

The following table describes how each component was estimated. Note that the abbreviations for each component correspond with the entries in the table.

1) Foreign-born population

a. Foreign-born population, entered 1980-2006

The estimated total foreign-born population that entered between 1977 and 2006 was obtained from the ACS FactFinder FactFinder, the Census, and the data portal for obtaining ACS estimates from the full sample for a particular year. Data on the distribution of the foreign-born by country of origin, state of residence, year of entry, age and gender were obtained from the IPeds Microdata sample. The overall FactFinder estimate for the total foreign-born population entering in the post-1977 period was reduced to remove the estimates of the post-1977 Cuban-born population. Further, a three-year moving average was applied to the IPeds data for year of entry to reduce reporting effects.

b. Shift in reference date to January 1, 2007

The reference date for population estimates from the ACS is the mid-year reference date for the ACS. The most recent available ACS data was shifted to January 1, 2007.

data. As a result, the estimated effect of the LPR on the return to the country of origin were assumed not to differ. Previous DHS unauthorized population estimates for 1994 and 1997 assumed separate immigration rates by age and region of birth. As a result, a rate for refugees and asylees equated to one a fraction of other LPRs. The overall effective rate of immigration for the resident population in 1994 was about the same as the rate for the 1997 and 1994 estimates. The primary component of the revision in the 1997 was a decline of approximately 10 percent in the unauthorized population from 1994. The result from an increase in the resident population.

j. LPR, refugee, and asylee population on January 1, 2007

The subtraction of the LPR and immigration rates from the LPR, refugee and asylee flows during 1997-1999. The results in the estimated LPR, refugee and asylee resident population on January 1, 1997.