

The High Stake in Immigration Reform for Our Communities | Los Angeles County

DID YOU KNOW?

L.A. has the highest share of undocumented who are self-employed: about 14%.

How many and who is affected?

THERE ARE 900,000 UNDOCUMENTED CALIFORNIANS IN LOS ANGELES.

That's 9% of residents, 11% of adults, and 11% of the workforce.

NEARLY 1 IN 5 OF LOS ANGELES' KIDS HAVE AT LEAST ONE UNDOCUMENTED PARENT.

83% of kids with an undocumented parent are citizens – that's 400,000 children or 16% of the county's kids.

How will the economic impact be good for the state's economy?

AUTHORIZATION WITH A ROADMAP TO CITIZENSHIP WOULD BRING A \$1.5-\$2.6 BILLION BOOST IN THE ANNUAL INCOME OF THE CURRENTLY UNDOCUMENTED.

This will result in, for example, more clothes for the kids, higher end purchases at the grocery store, and eventual home purchases. Lower-income undocumented Californians will cause these ripple effects that grow local economies because they are more likely to spend than save.

AUTHORIZATION WITH A ROADMAP TO CITIZENSHIP WOULD YIELD A 14-25% BOOST IN INCOME.

Boosts are based on studies that take into consideration other factors influencing income gains.

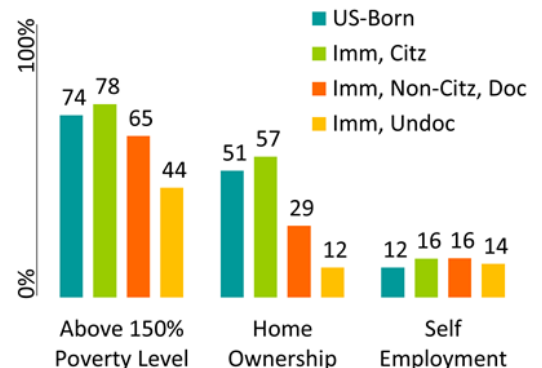
THIS WOULD BENEFIT LOS ANGELES' KIDS SINCE 71% OF KIDS WITH AN UNDOCUMENTED PARENT LIVE IN POVERTY.

This is compared to the 26% poverty rate for kids with US-born parents in Los Angeles.

Why does citizenship matter?

CITIZEN IMMIGRANTS TYPICALLY OUTPERFORM OTHER IMMIGRANTS AND THE US-BORN.

Statewide and regional bodies on integration will be needed to increase naturalization, among other things.



What should happen the day after reform?

RESOURCES FOR IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION NEED TO BE INCLUDED IN REFORM AND SHOULD BE TARGETED TO AREAS THAT WILL MAKE IMMIGRANTS MORE PRODUCTIVE:

English Language Instruction: Only 40% speak English well but there is a great desire to learn.

Health Insurance: Only 33% of working-age undocumented immigrants have health insurance.

Adult Education: 67% of the undocumented are in need of high school education and beyond.

Getting reform right will help us get L.A.'s future right.



University of Southern California

DATA FROM WHAT'S AT STAKE FOR THE STATE: UNDOCUMENTED CALIFORNIANS, IMMIGRATION REFORM, AND OUR FUTURE TOGETHER; FOR THE FULL RESEARCH BRIEF, VISIT CSII.USC.EDU