



NNIRR's IMMIGRATION QUIZ

A Note to Facilitators

The **Immigration Quiz** was developed as an *accessible* and *non-threatening tool* to introduce key immigration issues and background information. It can be used in a variety of settings – a house meeting, in classrooms, in faith-based gatherings, etc. This is not a competitive “test” – we want people to share their knowledge and their questions.

Even if you have never “led” such a discussion, you can do this!!

Here are a few pointers:

- The quiz/answer session can comfortably be done in about an hour. Your “audience” can be given 10-15 minutes to do the quiz.
- Make enough copies of both the quiz (1 page) and the answer sheets (4 pages) for your participants – people usually want the answer sheets to take with them. **Only hand out the quiz initially; pass out the answer sheets at the end of the session.**
- As much as possible – make the experience interactive; encourage people to talk to one another as they go through the quiz. You can even make up small groups so that people collaborate on their responses.
- After people have “completed” the quiz, go through the answers. You might ask, how many of you answered “a”; who answered “b”, etc. You can ask for volunteers to share their answers. Or you can see which small group got the right answer and pass out a “reward” (*Hershey's chocolate kisses are often a welcome prize*).
- If you are comfortable with the topic, you can share additional information or commentary as you go along through the answers or invite people to share any more information they have, as well as any remaining questions.

Please keep in mind some of the [background information for facilitators](#) that we have posted on NNIRR's website.



National Network for Immigrants and Refugee Rights

Immigration Quiz

Version 1

1. What percentage of the US population is foreign born?

- a. 14%
- b. 27%
- c. 33%

2. Undocumented immigrants represent what percentage of the U.S. workforce?

- a. less than 1%
- b. 5%
- c. 9%

3. How many remains of individuals were found at the U.S.-Mexico border in 2015?

- a. 51
- b. 239
- c. 683

4. What percentage of federal prosecutions in 2015 was for unauthorized border crossings?

- a. 16%
- b. 32.7%
- c. 49%

5. How many refugees were resettled in the U.S. in 2016?

- a. 50,000
- b. 85,000
- c. 1 million

6. Which law enforcement agency has the highest budget?

- a. Customs and Border Protection
- b. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- c. FBI
- d. Marshall Services

7. Undocumented immigrants represent what percentage of the U.S. population?

- a. less than 1%
- b. 3.5%
- c. 11%
- d. 25%

8. True or false.

Undocumented immigrants are eligible to receive Social Security benefits if they have worked in the U.S. for more than 5 years.

9. How many immigrants were deported during the 8 years of the Obama Administration?

- a. None
- b. 850,000
- c. more than 2.5 million

10. What percentage of people living in the U.S. speak a language other than English at home?

- a. 12%
- b. 20.7%
- c. 33%

NNIRR Immigration Quiz

- *Version 1: The answers*

1. a. 14%

Although the US is home to about one-fifth of the world's immigrants (46.6 million), it is not a large proportion of the American population. This percentage is considerably lower than that in countries, such as the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Kuwait, where $\frac{3}{4}$ or more of the population are international migrants. In Australia, 28% of the population is foreign born; in Canada, 22%. In 1890, the foreign born proportion in the U.S. was 14.8%.

2. b. 5%

Although only 5% of the civilian workforce, unauthorized immigrants are overrepresented in the agricultural (26%) and construction (15%) sectors. However, in all industries and occupations, they are outnumbered by U.S.-born workers.

Occupations with the highest immigrant share :

Job occupation	% immigrant
Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	65%
Personal Appearance Workers	62%
Plasterers and Stucco Masons	61%
Sewing Machine Operators	54%
Drywall Installers, Ceiling Tile Installers, and Tapers	52%
Agricultural Workers	51%

3. b. 239

These remains are presumably those of migrants attempting to cross into the U.S. However, those numbers fail to include an unknown number of remains that were never found. This situation, according to border human rights groups, is evidence of the devastating impact of U.S. **“deterrence” policies** that continue to “funnel” migrants to cross in more dangerous border areas and in the hands of smugglers, or coyotes.

4. c. 49%

70,000 migrants were prosecuted for unlawful entry and re-entry. Non-citizens now comprise 23% of the US prison population, although they represent only 7% of the general U.S. population. Today, 50% of those entering federal prisons are immigrants. Despite the enormous costs (around \$7 billion since 2005) and the wasted lives, research has not found incarceration to be an effective deterrent to migration, which is more strongly influenced by family ties and economic circumstances.

The US has a long history of criminalizing immigrants, and President Trump continued this legacy. One of the executive orders President Trump signed in January 2017, expands the “priority” enforcement targets by including those who have been convicted of a criminal offense, those who have been charged but not convicted, as well as anyone who “may have” committed an act that could be chargeable as a criminal offense. In effect, he expanded the notion of “criminality” to include all undocumented immigrants.

5. b. 85,000

In 2017, Trump plans to accept 50,000 refugees, less than half of the 110,000 admissions that had been designated by the Obama Administration.

- In 2015, Germany (which is 26 times smaller than the US and 4 times less populated) received 1 million refugees.
- Lebanon (which is 914 times smaller than the US and 54 times less populated) received 1.6 million refugees in 2014.
- In 2015, 39% of the world refugees were hosted in the Middle East and North Africa, 29% in Africa and only 12% in the Americas.

6. a. Custom and Border Protection (CBP)

Here is the budget of each agency (2014 data) :

IMMIGRATION-RELATED	NON-IMMIGRATION RELATED
Customs and Border Protection \$10.7 billion	FBI \$8.2 billion
Immigration and Customs Enforcement \$5.3 billion	Marshals Service \$2.7 billion
Office of Biometric Identity Management \$227 million	Drug Enforcement Administration \$2 billion
	Secret Service \$1.6 billion
	Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives \$1.2 billion
Total = \$16.2 billion	Total = \$15.7 billion

The government spends more on immigration enforcement than on all other federal law enforcement agencies combined (FBI, Drug Enforcement Administration, Secret Service, U.S. Marshals Service and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives).

While the Department of Homeland Security's annual budget -- **\$41 billion** in Fiscal Year 2016 -- covers a wide range of costs, the ever-expanding budget for immigration enforcement over the last 15 years is most troubling. Border security has been a boon for global military and defense contractors, who have eyed the **U.S.-Mexico border as a lucrative business source.**

The cost of Trump's border wall alone is estimated to exceed \$25 billion.

7. b. 3.5%

There are approximately 11 million undocumented immigrants in the United States, out of a general population of over 320 million.

8. False

Undocumented immigrants do not qualify for welfare, food stamps, Medicaid, and most other public benefits. Most of these programs require proof of legal immigration status and under the 1996 welfare law, even legal immigrants cannot receive these benefits until they have been in the United States for more than five years.

According to the Social Security Administration, undocumented immigrants are paying an estimated \$15 billion a year into Social Security with no possibility of ever collecting benefits.

9. c. 2.5 million

From 2009 to 2016, Obama's government deported more than 2.5 million people—up 23% from the George W. Bush years.

10. b. 20.7%

However, some states have succeeded in passing laws mandating English as the "official" language. The "English Only" law marginalizes and demeans non-native English speakers and decreases the likelihood of creating and maintaining multilingual programs, and may be used to prohibit the translation of official documents and services. These laws may also give the false impression that languages other than English are unimportant to learn, even though many countries promote multilingualism.

Background Sources for each question:

1. <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/12/15/international-migration-key-findings-from-the-u-s-europe-and-the-world/>
2. <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2016/11/03/size-of-u-s-unauthorized-immigrant-workforce-stable-after-the-great-recession/> & <http://blog.indeed.com/2017/01/19/how-jobs-immigrants-do-are-changing/>
3. U.S. Border Patrol 2015 fiscal year report:
<https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/Customs%20and%20Border%20Protection%20-%20Search%20and%20Rescue%20Efforts%20for%20FY%202015.pdf> p3-5
See : NNIRR factsheet on *Migrants deaths and missing migrants: a humanitarian crisis* in the Just Border Toolkit
4. <http://grassrootsleadership.org/reports/indefensible-decade-mass-incarceration-migrants-prosecuted-crossing-border>
NNIRR Information Sheet on the Immigration Enforcement Executive Orders, January 27, 2017
http://www.nnirr.org/drupal/sites/default/files/trump_executive_orders_overview.pdf
5. **NNIRR Information Sheet on the Muslim Ban & Refugee Suspension**
http://www.nnirr.org/drupal/sites/default/files/trump_muslim_ban_overview_2.pdf
6. More than one million migrants registered in Germany in 2015
<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-germany-idUSKBN0UD19I20151230>
Refugee population by country or territory of asylum
<http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SM.POP.REFG?view=map> &
<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/figures-at-a-glance.html>
<http://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/statements/2014/jul/15/luis-gutierrez/luis-gutierrez-says-us-spends-more-immigration-bor/>
7. US population: <https://www.census.gov/popclock/>
Number of undocumented immigrants in the US in 2014 :
<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/11/03/5-facts-about-illegal-immigration-in-the-u-s/>
8. <http://money.cnn.com/2014/11/20/news/economy/immigration-myths/>
9. <http://fusion.net/story/252637/obama-has-deported-more-immigrants-than-any-other-president-now-hes-running-up-the-score/>
10. According to a study of U.S. Census Bureau of 2013:
<http://www.census.gov/topics/population/language-use/data.html> &
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/warren-j-blumenfeld/english-only-laws-divide-_b_2141330.html