

# Myths and Facts: Undocumented Immigrants

## Myth: Undocumented Immigrants Don't Pay Taxes

Fact: Nationwide, undocumented immigrants paid **\$96.7 billion** in taxes in 2022, **\$3 billion** in WA.

## Myth: We Don't Need Undocumented Immigrant Labor

Fact: In 2022, undocumented immigrants made up **14%** of construction workers and **13%** of agriculture workers.  
**Without them our economy would struggle.**

## Myth: Undocumented Immigrants Broke the Law to be Here

Fact: Traditionally, most undocumented immigrants either crossed the border illegally or overstayed their visa. During the Biden administration, however, as many as 4 million were legally admitted into the country under multiple programs while remaining 'undocumented' or awaiting immigration court hearings.

Credit: housedemocrats.wa.gov/ortiz-self/2025/10/24/resources-for-immigrants-debunking-myths  
Sources include: ietp.org, map.americanimmigrationcouncil.org



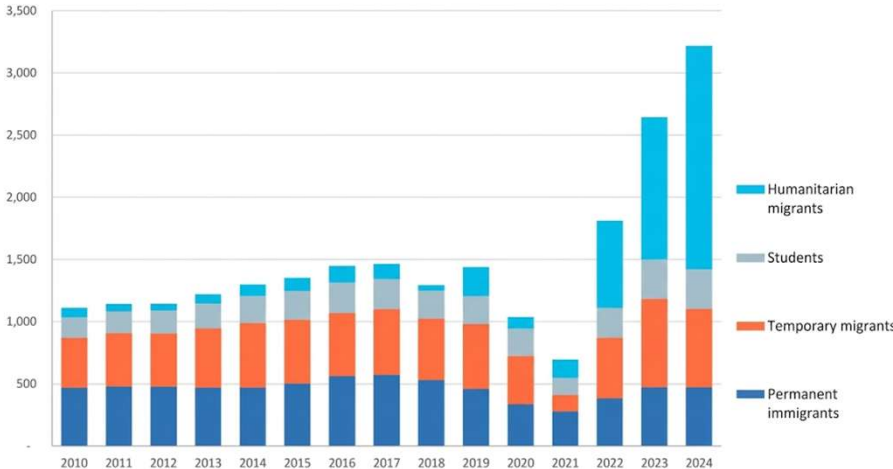
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## By the Numbers: Immigration

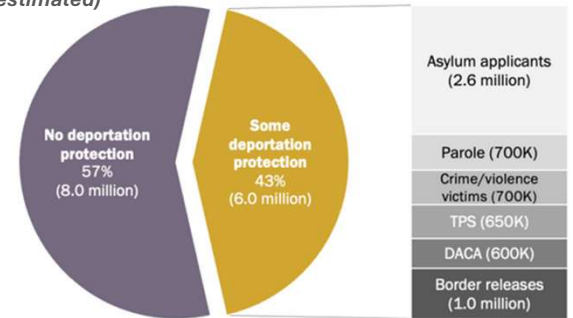
### Immigrations into US, 2010-2024

(estimated, in thousands)



### Undocumented in US by Status, 2024

(estimated)



### ICE-reported detentions/day, now

WA+OR+AK together: **~20**

Minnesota: **~60**

Florida: **~120**

Year	WA Green Card + Visa Holders (#/%)	WA Undocumented (#/%)	Total WA Population
2021	283,000 3.7%	304,000 3.9%	7,739,000
2023		375,000 4.7%	7,951,150

Notes, sources and more info:



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