



Census: 93.7% of immigrant families with 4 kids on welfare

By [PAUL BEDARD \(@SECRETSBEDARD\)](#) • 9/3/15 12:02 PM

Virtually all immigrant families with four or more children in the house are on some type of welfare program, according to U.S. Census Bureau data in a new report raising questions about those Washington is letting into the country.

In the data analyzed by the [Center for Immigration Studies](#), 93.7 percent of all immigrants -- legal and illegal -- accessed welfare, mostly free school lunches, in 2012, the latest year for new data. For "native" American families with four or more children, the number was 69.4 percent.

Census reports that with every child, immigrants access taxpayer-funded welfare programs more and more. Some 70 percent of those with one child are on welfare, 71.3 percent for those with two children, and 87.8 percent for immigrant families with three kids in the house.

The report comes on the heels of a Census [analysis by CIS showing 51 percent](#) of all immigrants accessing welfare, compared to just 30 percent for native Americans. This story is based on [Census data deep in that report](#).

That report has raised questions about the types of immigrants, apparently mostly poor, being attracted to the United States and the degree to which taxpayers have to take care of them.

The new Census data analyzed by CIS also showed that Hispanic immigrants are far more likely to use welfare than those from other areas like Africa, Europe or Asia.

For example, 65 percent of all Latin American immigrant families are on welfare. For those from Africa, it is 48.3 percent, Europe 25.9 percent and South Asia 17 percent.

Even among Latin Americans the numbers were different. Those from Central America and Mexico tapped welfare the most, at 72.7 percent. Those from the Caribbean were next at 51.3 percent and last were South Americans at 41 percent.

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Border fence shock: Just 36 miles of double-layer built, 1,300 miles vacant, \$7M per mile

By [PAUL BEDARD \(@SECRETSBEDARD\)](#) • 9/3/15 6:17 PM

Despite repeated congressional demands that the administration build a fence along the U.S.-Mexico border, some 66 percent, or 1,300 miles, have no fencing and only 36 miles of effective double-layer fencing has been erected, a fraction of the 700 miles sought.

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In answers to Senate questions, the Department of Homeland Security revealed just how little fencing has been erected despite a

congressional bank account of \$2.5 billion.

DHS said that different types of fencing has been put up along sections of the border. In total some 352 miles have a fence at a cost of over \$7 million a mile. The details in the DHS answers:

-- *1,300 miles have no fencing (66.5%)*

-- *299.8 miles have vehicle fence (15.3%)*

-- *316.6 miles of pedestrian fence (16.2%)*

-- *36.3 miles of double-layer fencing (.02%)*

-- *The current total for primary fencing to be 352.9 miles. 316.6 single layer plus 36.3 miles of double layer = 352.9 miles of primary fencing.*

What's more, no fencing is currently being erected on the empty 1,300 miles.

The answers were to the Senate Judiciary Committee. Sen. Ted Cruz, Texas Republican asked the fence question.

A Senate official said that the 2006 Secure Fence Act required 700 miles of double-layer fencing because Border Patrol members said double layer works best. Reports indicated that illegal immigrants can easily scale single fences.

Popular Mechanics magazine mocked the single layer, or "landing mat" fencing as obsolete in a 2010 article. It said, "The Landing Mat is the oldest border fence still in use. Construction is corrugated steel, usually

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about 10 feet high, and the raw materials and name come from the former life of the fence panels—they were used as portable touchdown pads for helicopters operating in Vietnam. The Landing Mat can be easy to foil, since Border Patrol agents can't see what's going on on the other side. Cutting a hole in the Landing Mat with a power saw is a relatively easy job, and the inefficiency of the style means that the Landing Mat is high on the list for replacement by high-tech types, though it remains in use in every border state except Texas."

Asked about cost, DHS said that Congress has set aside \$2.5 billion. That translates into \$7.1 million a mile so far. "All funds allocated for border fencing have been or are being used for the execution of such projects to fund planning, design, construction, construction oversight, real estate acquisition, environment planning, compliance and mitigation and contract support required for the successful execution of the border fence," said DHS.

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