

U.S.-born citizens commit more crime than immigrants, new studies show

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March 19, 2017

New research suggests immigrants are committing fewer crimes than U.S. citizens.

President Trump has labeled undocumented immigrants with higher crime rates, but new data from The Sentencing Project and the Cato Institute appears to cast doubt on the veracity of those claims.

The Sentencing Project, a criminal justice research group, reports that "foreign-born residents of the United States commit crime less often than native-born citizens."

The study concludes that policies restricting immigration are "not effective crime-control strategies."

The Cato Institute found there were 2 million U.S.-born citizens in American jails but only 123,000 undocumented immigrants and 64,000 foreign-born documented residents.

Immigration reform has been a priority for President Trump, who began his campaign for president by labeling many immigrants as "rapists" and drug dealers. Trump's 2018 budget seeks to increase funding to Homeland Security to pay for his proposed border wall and executive orders on immigration.

The Sentencing Project study even goes so far as to suggest that increased immigration "may have contributed to the historic drop in crime rates" since 1990.