

News or Fake News?

- The cost of educating and medicating illegal immigrants AND their children threatens the Texas economy.
- (Apart from the social and moral issues of refusing education and medicine to children ... and their parents who become un-hireable, angry, and with ready access to guns and drugs ...)

In a nutshell: Economic cost/benefit analysis of Illegal Immigration in Texas: “Us” and “Them ...”

(Slight digression -- What “they” CAN’T have anyway):

Figure 3. Main Government-Sponsored Health Programs and their Availability to Undocumented Immigrants.

Unavailable	Available
Medicaid	Emergency Medicaid
Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	Children with Special Health Care Needs
Affordable Care Act (ACA)	Substance Abuse Services
Medicare	Mental Health Services
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Immunizations, Public Health and EMS
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	Women and Children’s Health Services

- What “they” cost “us.”

Figure 7. Estimated Costs from Undocumented Immigrants, Fiscal Year 2018.

Category	Undocumented Immigrants Costs
Education	\$1.5159 B
Health Care	\$122.1 M
Incarceration	\$374.2 M
Total	\$2.0122 B

\$2.0122 Billion

- How “they” pay “us” back

Figure 8. Estimated Revenue from Undocumented Immigrants, Fiscal Year 2018.

Revenue Source	Estimated Revenue from Undocumented Immigrants
Major Consumption Taxes and Fees	\$1.0678 B
Lottery	\$110.3 M
Utilities	\$60.9 M
Court Costs and Fees	\$25.5 M
All Other Revenue	\$33.6 M
State Revenue Subtotal	\$1.2981 B
School Property Tax	\$1.1349 B
Total Estimated Revenue	\$2.433 B

\$2.433 Billion.

Nearly all in sales and property taxes.

• To put it another way:

though imprisonment is nearly a choice of the state itself. This report estimates that the revenue collected from undocumented immigrants exceeded what the state spent on them, resulting in a net benefit of approximately \$420.9 million in fiscal year 2018 (Figure 10). This means that for every dollar spent on public services for undocumented immigrants, they provide \$1.21 in fiscal revenue for the state of Texas.⁶⁸ The economic impact analysis

Every \$1.00 spent brings back
\$1.21 in revenue.

This is a 21% rate of return on
investment.

Rodriguez-Sanchez, Jose. 2020. *Undocumented Immigrants in Texas: A Cost-Benefit Assessment*. Rice University: Baker Institute for Public Policy.