

Family Unity, Family Health:

How family-focused immigration reform will mean better health for children and families
Special Supplement: California Survey Findings

As part of a larger study examining the effects of immigration policy on health and well-being, we surveyed adults in mixed-status families using a convenience sample. The goal was to explore how the threat of detention and deportation impacted their everyday lives. In this special supplement, we present survey data for respondents living in California.

Introduction

For the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants living in the United States, the vigorous national debate on immigration reform will determine their future – whether they are allowed to stay, work and become citizens. According to the Pew Research Center, in California alone, there are 2.7 million undocumented immigrants whose futures are in jeopardy, the largest number of any state.

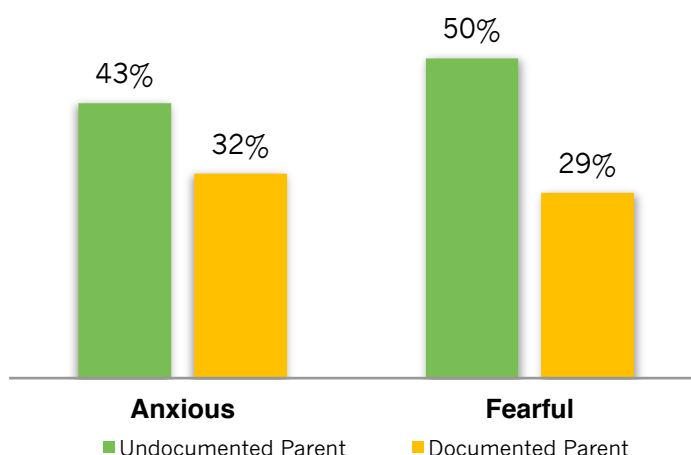
Nationwide, an estimated 4.5 million children who are U.S. citizens by birth live in families where one or more of their parents are undocumented. These children will grow up to be our future family members, neighbors and co-workers – and their health and well-being as children today will translate into their health and well-being as adults, ultimately shaping the health of our communities. However, these children and their families live with anxiety about the future, fearful that arrest, detention or deportation will tear their families apart.

Findings: Child Health

Protecting a child's health is crucial as it shapes their future health as an adult. However, child health and well-being are at increased risk due to a policy of detention and deportation.

Using an abbreviated checklist to screen for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), 81% of Californian undocumented parents reported that their child had experienced **symptoms of PTSD**. Also, a larger proportion of undocumented parents reported that their children experienced mental health problems, such as anxiety and fear, than documented parents.

Due to the threat of detention and deportation, my child feels:



Healthy socio-emotional growth for children leads to self-confidence and positive relationships as adults. The abrupt removal and absence of a caregiver traumatizes children and is associated with behavioral changes.

In California, a larger proportion of undocumented parents observed behavioral problems in their children than documented parents:

- 38% reported their child had been **withdrawn**, compared to 24% of documented parents
- 40% reported their child had been **angry**, compared to 25% of documented parents

Educational attainment influences future employment opportunities, life skills and social connectedness, all of which affect health in adulthood. A child's school performance can suffer due to the detention or deportation of their caregiver.

Among Californian parent survey respondents, three times as many undocumented parents than documented parents reported their child had changed schools. Changing schools disrupts children's educational experience and can compromise academic performance.

This California-specific supplement is part of a nationwide research project conducted by Human Impact Partners in collaboration with an Advisory Committee of immigrant and health organizations to understand how a continued policy of detention and deportation will impact the health and well-being of mixed-status families. For more information about this project, including the full report and research citations, go to: www.familyunityfamilyhealth.org



Findings: Adult Health

Undocumented adult immigrants may suffer from poor physical and mental health, which can lead to premature mortality.

Undocumented immigrants have difficulty accessing health services that can improve and protect their health. Our survey findings indicated that undocumented Californians had slightly more difficulty getting medical care than those who were documented (69% and 60%, respectively). However, this could reflect a limitation of our study sample. A 2007 study of California Latinos found that a significantly lower percentage of undocumented Mexicans (66%) and other Latinos (62%) had a usual source of care compared to U.S-born whites (93%).

Undocumented immigrants indicated a high degree of mental health problems and fear-based behavior as a result of living under the threat of detention and deportation.

Due to the threat of detention and deportation, I experience:

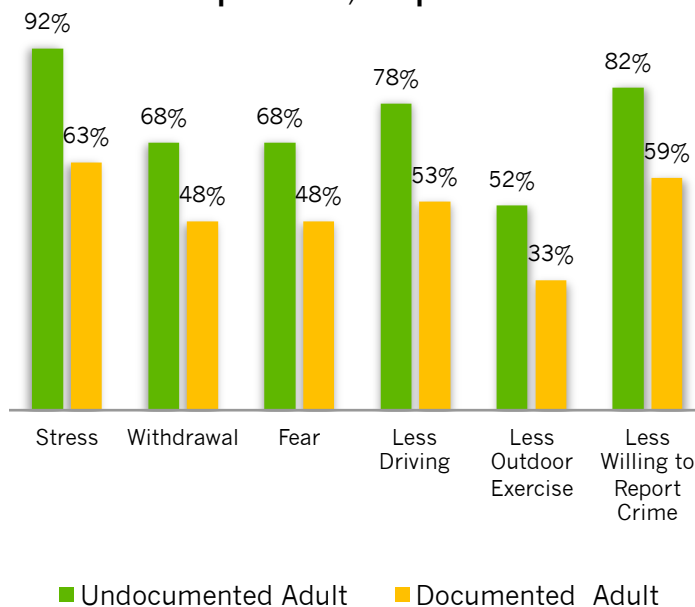


Table 1. Demographics of Adult Survey Respondents, California only

Gender (N=101)	
Male	47%
Female	52%
Other	1%
Average Age in Years (N=94)	
42	
Place of Birth (N=100)	
U.S.	2%
Latin American Country	97%
Other	1%
Years Lived in the U.S. (N=100)	
0-4 years	2%
5-9 years	21%
10-14 years	63%
15+ years	14%
Highest Level of Education (N=93)*	
High School or Less	69%
High School Diploma/GED	18%
Some College or Higher	12%
Annual Household Income (N=93)*	
\$0-\$10,000	37%
\$10,001- \$20,000	27%
\$20,001- \$36,000	24%
\$36,001- \$50,000	11%
\$50,001- above	2%
Average Household Size (N=102)	
3.34	
Adults with Child under Age 18 (N=102)	
60%	
Detention and Deportation have Affected me by (N=110):**	
A family member has been detained or deported	30%
A friend/acquaintance has been detained or deported	39%
My status puts me at risk for detention or deportation	46%
I have been detained or deported	6%
None of the above	10%
<i>*may not total 100% due to rounding</i>	
<i>**could choose more than one response</i>	

Conclusion

Not only in California, but across the nation, undocumented immigrants and their children experience real and measurable changes to their health and well-being due to the continued policy of detention and deportation. In this context, and given the release of the "Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act," (S.744) any immigration reform must prioritize protecting and promoting the health and well-being of these children and their families, and must not create a host of new, unintended consequences. Immigration reform that preserves and protects family unity will advance the conditions essential to the health and well-being of millions nationwide, and ultimately to the well-being of our country as a whole.

To read our detailed recommendations, visit: www.familyunityfamilyhealth.org.

Family Unity, Family Health:

How family-focused immigration reform will mean better health for children and families
Special Supplement: National Domestic Workers Alliance Surveys

As part of a larger study examining the effects of immigration policy on health and well-being, we surveyed adults in mixed-status families using a convenience sample. The goal was to explore how the threat of detention and deportation impacted their everyday lives. In this special supplement, we present survey data for respondents served by National Domestic Worker Alliance (NDWA) organizations, including: Damayan, Tenants and Workers United, Somos Tuskaloosa and El Centro Humanitario.

Introduction

For the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants living in the United States, the vigorous national debate on immigration reform will determine their future – whether they are allowed to stay, work and become citizens. According to Pew Research Center, unauthorized immigrants make up 23% of the workforce in private household employment, which encompasses domestic work.

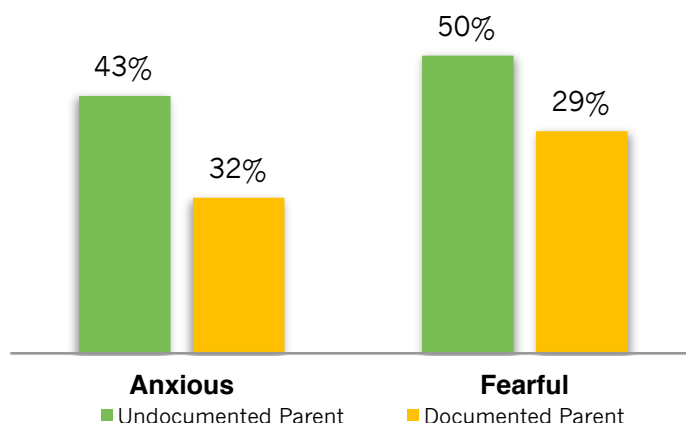
Nationwide, an estimated 4.5 million children who are U.S. citizens by birth live in families where one or more of their parents are undocumented. These children will grow up to be our future family members, neighbors and co-workers – and their health and well-being as children today will translate into their health and well-being as adults, ultimately shaping the health of our communities. However, these children and their families live with anxiety about the future, fearful that arrest, detention or deportation will tear their families apart.

Findings: Child Health

Protecting a child's health is crucial as it shapes their future health as an adult. However, child health and well-being is at increased risk due to a policy of detention and deportation.

Maintaining healthy behaviors protects a child's well-being. Among NDWA parents who took our survey, **twice as many** undocumented than documented parents reported their child **had not eaten** or **slept well** due to the threat of detention and deportation.

Due to the threat of detention and deportation, my child feels:



Larger proportions of undocumented parents indicated that their child experienced mental health problems, such as anxiety and fear, than documented parents. Also, using an abbreviated checklist to screen for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), **59%** of undocumented parents reported that their child had experienced **symptoms of PTSD**.

Healthy socio-emotional growth for children leads to self-confidence and positive relationships as adults. The abrupt removal and absence of a caregiver traumatizes children and is associated with behavioral changes. Nearly half (48%) of undocumented parents reported that their child had been **angry**, compared to 24% of documented parents. However, a similar proportion of undocumented parents observed that their child had been withdrawn compared to documented parents (33% versus 29%, respectively). This may be due to our limited sample size.

Educational attainment influences future employment opportunities, life skills and social connectedness, all of which affect health in adulthood. Yet a child's school performance can suffer due to the detention or deportation of their caregiver. In NDWA survey findings, more undocumented adults (46%) noted that their child was unwilling to go to school than documented (29%).

This National Domestic Workers Alliance supplement is part of a nationwide research project conducted by Human Impact Partners in collaboration with an Advisory Committee of immigrant and health organizations to understand how a continued policy of detention and deportation will impact the health and well-being of mixed-status families. For more information about this project, including the full report and research citations, go to: www.familyunityfamilyhealth.org



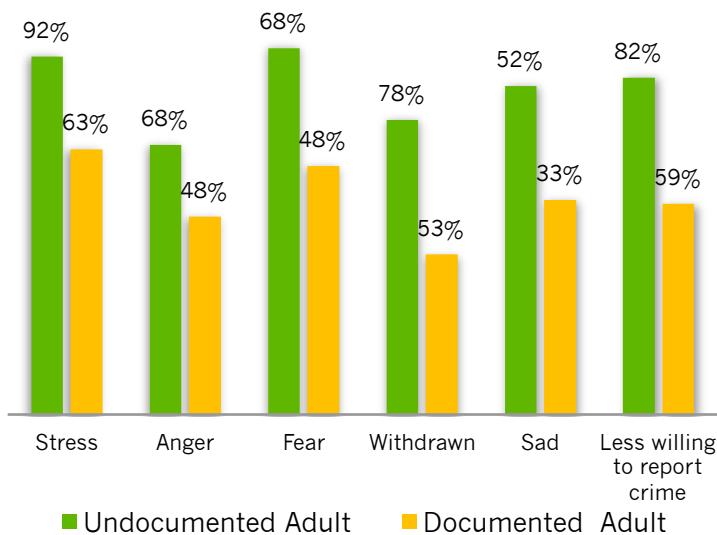
Findings: Adult Health

Undocumented adult immigrants may suffer from poor physical and mental health, which can lead to premature mortality.

Accessing health services is necessary to improving and protecting health. Our survey findings show that NDWA undocumented immigrants reported more difficulty getting medical care than those who were documented (70% and 45%, respectively).

They also indicated a high degree of mental health problems and fear-based behavior as a result of living under the threat of detention and deportation.

Due to the threat of detention and deportation, I experience:



Among NDWA-affiliated respondents, a larger proportion of undocumented immigrants reported financial hardship, which is intrinsically linked to health outcomes for themselves and their households. The loss of a primary earner due to deportation would only exacerbate their economic state.

- 77% indicated **difficulty paying rent** compared to 34% of documented immigrants
- 70% indicated **difficulty paying utilities** compared to 41% of documented immigrants

Table 1. Demographics of Adult Survey Respondents, NDWA only

Gender (N=103)	
Male	24%
Female	75%
Other	1%
Average Age in Years (N=99)	
40	
Place of Birth (N=102)	
U.S.	3%
Latin American Country	70%
Other	27%
Years Lived in the U.S. (N=102)*	
0-4 years	9%
5-9 years	33%
10-14 years	20%
15+ years	39%
Highest Level of Education (N=98)	
High School or Less	45%
High School Diploma/GED	26%
Some College or Higher	29%
Annual Household Income (N=96)	
\$0-\$10,000	41%
\$10,001- \$20,000	28%
\$20,001- \$36,000	24%
\$36,001- \$50,000	7%
\$50,001- above	0%
Average Household Size (N=103)	
2.4	
Adults with Child under Age 18 (N=103)	
51%	
Detention and Deportation have Affected me by (N=103):**	
A family member has been detained or deported	19%
A friend/acquaintance has been detained or deported	44%
My status puts me at risk for detention or deportation	46%
I have been detained or deported	4%
None of the above	18%
<i>*may not total 100% due to rounding</i>	
<i>**could choose more than one response</i>	

Conclusion

Across the nation, undocumented immigrants and their children experience real and measurable changes to their health and well-being due to the continued policy of detention and deportation. In this context, and given the release of the "Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act," (S.744) any immigration reform must prioritize protecting and promoting the health and well-being of these children and their families, and must not create a host of new, unintended consequences. Immigration reform that preserves and protects family unity will advance the conditions essential to the health and well-being of millions nationwide, and ultimately to the well-being of our country as a whole.

To read our detailed recommendations, visit: www.familyunityfamilyhealth.org.

Family Unity, Family Health:

How family-focused immigration reform will mean better health for children and families
Special Supplement: Nebraska Survey Findings

*As part of a larger study examining the effects of immigration policy on health and well-being, we surveyed adults in mixed-status families using a convenience sample. The goal was to explore how the threat of detention and deportation impacted their everyday lives. In this special supplement, we present survey data for respondents living in Nebraska.**

Introduction

For the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants living in the United States, the vigorous national debate on immigration reform will determine their future – whether they are allowed to stay, work and become citizens. According to the Pew Research Center, in Nebraska alone, there are approximately 45,000 undocumented immigrants whose futures are in jeopardy (2009-2010 estimate).

Nationwide, an estimated 4.5 million children who are U.S. citizens by birth live in families where one or more of their parents are undocumented. These children will grow up to be our future family members, neighbors and co-workers – and their health and well-being as children today will translate into their health and well-being as adults, ultimately shaping the health of our communities. However, these children and their families live with anxiety about the future, fearful that arrest, detention or deportation will tear their families apart.

Findings: Community Health

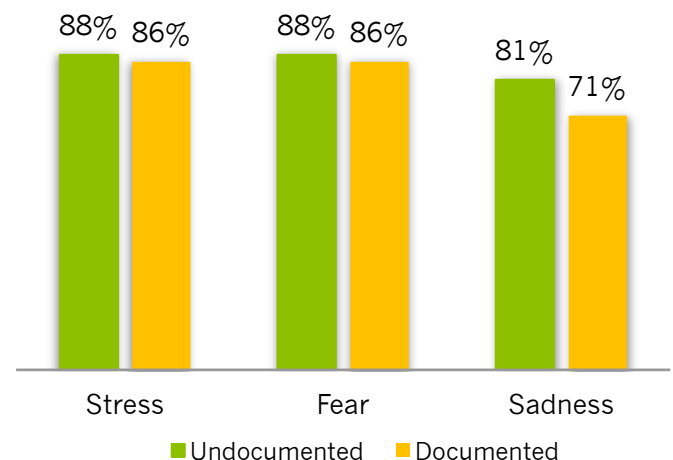
A policy of detention and deportation creates a climate of fear among immigrant families that can disrupt community cohesiveness and well-being. Among all Nebraskan immigrants who took our survey, regardless of their status, the majority (89.5%) stated that the city where they live currently did not support immigrants. *All of those* who were undocumented indicated that they perceived their city in that light. Similarly, all undocumented immigrants said that their city felt only “somewhat” safe. An environment of fear and anxiety can lead to long-term impacts on mental and physical well-being.

Findings: Adult Health

Nebraskan immigrants may suffer from poor physical and mental health, which can lead to premature mortality.

Both undocumented and documented immigrants reported that they experienced mental health problems due to living under the threat of detention and deportation; a comparable proportion experienced fear and stress, and a slightly larger proportion of undocumented immigrants reported sadness.

Due to threat of detention and deportation, I experience:



Similarly, our survey finds that Nebraskan undocumented (81%) and documented (86%) immigrants expressed difficulty accessing medical care that can improve and protect their health. An individual's access to health services can impact the health of the greater community. Without access to health services, a person with communicable diseases can be left undiagnosed or untreated, potentially contributing to the spread of disease to their workplace or home.

*The small sample size of our Nebraska surveys limits the ability to draw general conclusions about the total population of Nebraskan immigrant families and may influence the survey findings.

This Nebraska-specific supplement is part of a nationwide research project conducted by Human Impact Partners in collaboration with an Advisory Committee of immigrant and health organizations to understand how a continued policy of detention and deportation will impact the health and well-being of mixed-status families. For more information about this project, including the full report and research citations, go to: www.familyunityfamilyhealth.org.



Findings: Adult Health (continued)

These Nebraska-specific findings were part of our study across 10 states, which found that overall a larger proportion of undocumented immigrants experienced mental health problems than documented immigrants. For example, 92% of all undocumented immigrants respondents reported that they felt stress because of their legal status and current immigration policy, in comparison to 64% of documented survey respondents. The health and well-being of immigrant parents is important not only for themselves but their families and children.

Findings: Child Health

Protecting a child's health is crucial as it shapes their future health as an adult. However, children's health and well-being may be at increased risk due to a policy of detention and deportation that targets their family members.

Our nationwide study reveals that children in mixed-status families suffer from physical and mental health problems due to the threat of detention and deportation. Larger proportions of children of undocumented parents experienced stress, anger, fear, withdrawal, and sadness. Most significantly, **three-fourths** of undocumented parents observed **symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder** in their children.

Results from Nebraska included 20 parents. When comparing responses between undocumented (N = 13) and documented (N = 7) parents, the numbers were too small to draw broad conclusions. However, results showed that within each of these groups of parents, a handful observed mental health problems in their children due to the parent's legal status and the threat of detention and deportation.

Table 1. Demographics of Adult Survey Respondents, Nebraska only

Gender (N= 20)	
Male	10%
Female	90%
Average Age in Years (N=17)	37
Place of Birth (N= 21)	
U.S.	0%
Latin American Country	100%
Other	0%
Years Lived in the U.S. (N=19)	
0-4 years	0%
5-9 years	79%
10-14 years	16%
15+ years	5%
Highest Level of Education (N=19)**	
High School or Less	47%
High School Diploma/GED	47%
Some College or Higher	5%
Annual Household Income (N=19)	
\$0-\$10,000	0%
\$10,001- \$20,000	42%
\$20,001- \$36,000	53%
\$36,001- \$50,000	0%
\$50,001- above	5%
Average Household Size (N=23)	4.2
Adults with Child under Age 18 (N=22)	90%
Detention and Deportation have Affected me by (N=23):***	
A family member has been detained or deported	17%
A friend/acquaintance has been detained or deported	13%
My status puts me at risk for detention or deportation	70%
I have been detained or deported	0%
None of the above	0%
<i>**may not total 100% due to rounding</i>	
<i>***could choose more than one response</i>	

Conclusion

Not only in Nebraska, but across the nation, undocumented immigrants and their children experience real and measurable changes to their health and well-being due to the continued policy of detention and deportation. In this context, and given the release of the "Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act," (S.744) any immigration reform must prioritize protecting and promoting the health and well-being of these children and their families, and must not create a host of new, unintended consequences. Immigration reform that preserves and protects family unity will advance the conditions essential to the health and well-being of millions nationwide, and ultimately to the well-being of our country as a whole.

To read our detailed recommendations, visit: www.familyunityfamilyhealth.org.

Family Unity, Family Health:

How family-focused immigration reform will mean better health for children and families
Special Supplement: New York Survey Findings

*As part of a larger study examining the effects of immigration policy on health and well-being, we surveyed adults in mixed-status families using a convenience sample. The goal was to explore how the threat of detention and deportation impacted their everyday lives. In this special supplement, we present survey data for respondents from New York State.**

Introduction

For the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants living in the United States, the vigorous national debate on immigration reform will determine their future – whether they are allowed to stay, work and become citizens. According to the Pew Research Center, 625,000 undocumented immigrants reside in New York, the fourth largest population of all states.

Nationwide, an estimated 4.5 million children who are U.S. citizens by birth live in families where one or more of their parents are undocumented. These children will grow up to be our future family members, neighbors and co-workers– and their health and well-being as children today will translate into their health and well-being as adults, ultimately shaping the health of our communities. However, these children and their families live with anxiety about the future, fearful that arrest, detention or deportation will tear their families apart.

Findings: Household Health

Among survey respondents in New York, a greater proportion of people in mixed-status families reported financial hardship than those in documented families; the loss of a primary earner due to detention and deportation would only exacerbate their economic situation. Financial security is intrinsically linked to health outcomes for immigrants and their families.

Among undocumented immigrants:

- 70% indicated **difficulty paying rent** compared to 40% of documented immigrants
- 50% indicated **difficulty buying medicine** compared to 32% of documented immigrants

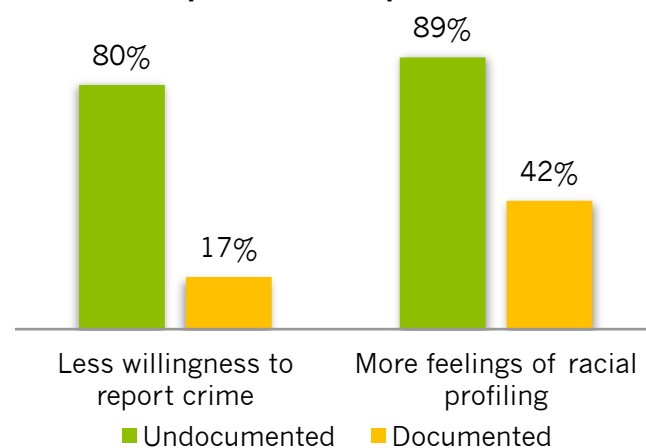
*The small sample size of New York respondents limits the ability to draw general conclusions about the total population of New York immigrant families and may influence the survey findings.

Findings: Adult Health

Undocumented adult immigrants may suffer from poor physical and mental health, which can lead to premature mortality.

Undocumented immigrants have difficulty accessing health services that can improve and protect their health. Our survey findings indicated that undocumented New Yorkers had more difficulty getting medical care than those who were documented (73% and 53%, respectively). Without access to health services, those with communicable diseases can be left undiagnosed or untreated and spread it to their workplace or home. Thus, an individual's access to health services can impact the health of the greater community.

Due to the threat of detention and deportation, I experience:



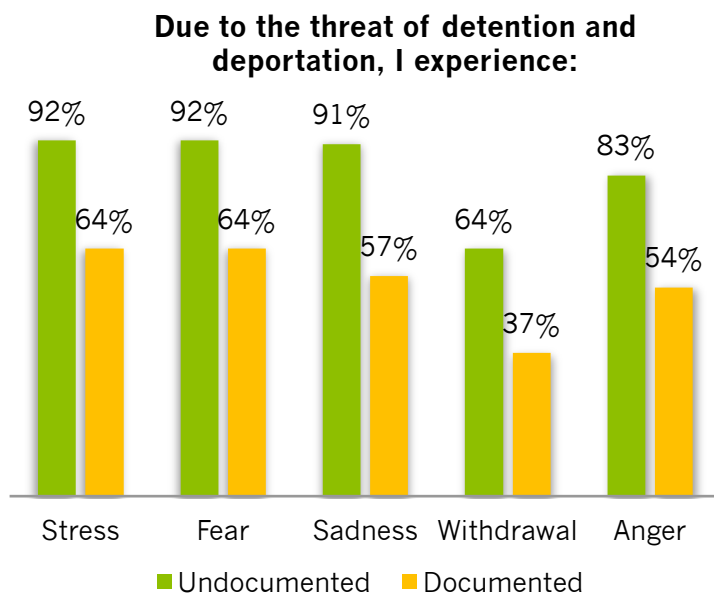
Immigration policy can cause a climate of fear that influences an individual's behavior and perception of safety. According to our New York survey findings, more than half of undocumented adults drove (55%) and walked less (58%) in public because of the threat of detention and deportation. Also, a greater proportion of undocumented immigrants were less willing to report a crime (80%) and felt racially profiled (89%) than documented immigrants (17% and 42%, respectively). This heightened anxiety and fear can result in long-term mental health impacts.

This New York State supplement is part of a nationwide research project conducted by Human Impact Partners in collaboration with an Advisory Committee of immigrant and health organizations to understand how a continued policy of detention and deportation will impact the health and well-being of mixed-status families. For more information about this project, including the full report and research citations, go to: www.familyunityfamilyhealth.org



Findings: Adult Health (cont'd)

Undocumented immigrants suffer from poor mental health due to the threat of detention and deportation. A greater proportion of undocumented immigrants experienced stress, fear, sadness, anger and withdrawal than documented immigrants.



Findings: Child Health

In the New York subsample, only 4 out of 32 adults reported having at least one child under the age of 18. This small sample size of families with children limits our ability to report results on child health and to make comparisons based on legal status.

However, our nationwide findings reveal that children in mixed-status families suffer from physical and mental health problems due to the threat of detention and deportation. Larger proportions of children of undocumented parents experienced stress, anger, fear, withdrawal, and sadness, then children of documented immigrant parents. Most significantly, **three-fourths** of undocumented parents observed **symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder** in their children.

Table 1. Demographics of Adult Survey Respondents, New York only

Gender (N=33)	
Male	36%
Female	64%
Average Age in Years (N=33)	
46	
Place of Birth (N=33)	
U.S.	15%
Latin American Country	9%
Other	76%
Years Lived in the U.S. (N=33)**	
0-4 years	21%
5-9 years	36%
10-14 years	30%
15+ years	12%
Highest Level of Education (N=32)	
High School or Less	0%
High School Diploma/GED	16%
Some College or Higher	84%
Annual Household Income (N=29)**	
\$0-\$10,000	17%
\$10,001- \$20,000	21%
\$20,001- \$36,000	34%
\$36,001- \$50,000	24%
\$50,001- above	3%
Average Household Size (N=32)	
1.7	
Adults with Child under Age 18 (N=32)	
13%	
Detention and Deportation have Affected me by (N=34):***	
A family member has been detained or deported	18%
A friend/acquaintance has been detained or deported	21%
My status puts me at risk for detention or deportation	32%
I have been detained or deported	9%
None of the above	44%
<i>**may not total 100% due to rounding</i>	
<i>***could choose more than one response</i>	

Conclusion

Across the nation, not just in New York, undocumented immigrants and their children experience real and measurable changes to their health and well-being due to the continued policy of detention and deportation. In this context, and given the release of the "Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act," (S.744) any immigration reform must prioritize protecting and promoting the health and well-being of these children and their families, and must not create a host of new, unintended consequences. Immigration reform that preserves and protects family unity will advance the conditions essential to the health and well-being of millions nationwide, and ultimately to the well-being of our country as a whole.

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Family Unity, Family Health:

How family-focused immigration reform will mean better health for children and families
Special Supplement: Texas Survey Findings

*As part of a larger study examining the effects of immigration policy on health and well-being, we surveyed adults in mixed-status families using a convenience sample. The goal was to explore how the threat of detention and deportation impacted their everyday lives. In this special supplement, we present survey data for respondents living in Texas.**

Introduction

For the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants living in the United States, the vigorous national debate on immigration reform will determine their future – whether they are allowed to stay, work and become citizens. According to the Pew Research Center, in Texas alone, there are 1.65 million undocumented immigrants whose futures are in jeopardy, the second largest number of any state.

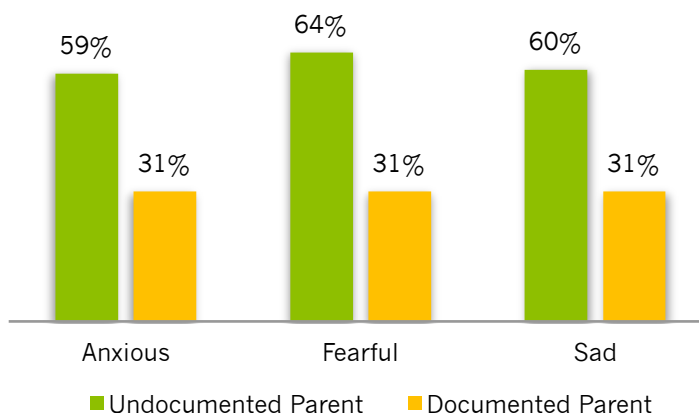
Nationwide, an estimated 4.5 million children who are U.S. citizens by birth live in families where one or more of their parents are undocumented. These children will grow up to be our future family members, neighbors and co-workers – and their health and well-being as children today will translate into their health and well-being as adults, ultimately shaping the health of our communities. However, these children and their families live with anxiety about the future, fearful that arrest, detention or deportation will tear their families apart.

Findings: Child Health

Protecting a child's health is crucial as it shapes their future health as an adult. However, child health and well-being are at increased risk due to a policy of detention and deportation.

Using an abbreviated checklist to screen for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), 55% of Texan undocumented parents reported that their child had experienced **symptoms of PTSD**, compared to 44% of documented parents. Also, a larger proportion of undocumented parents indicated that their children experienced **mental health problems**, such as anxiety, fear and sadness, than documented parents.

Due to the threat of detention and deportation, my child feels:



Healthy socio-emotional growth for children leads to self-confidence and positive relationships as adults.

The abrupt removal and absence of a caregiver traumatizes children and is associated with behavioral changes.

In Texas, a larger proportion of undocumented parents observed behavioral problems in their children than documented parents:

- 45% reported their child had been **withdrawn**, compared to 31% of documented parents
- 41% reported their child had been **angry**, compared to 31% of documented parents

Educational attainment influences future employment opportunities, life skills and social connectedness, all of which affect health in adulthood. A child's school performance can suffer due to the detention or deportation of their caregiver.

Among Texan parent survey respondents, **three times** as many undocumented parents than documented parents reported their child had difficulty focusing on school. **Twice as many** indicated that their child was less willing to go to school.

* The small sample size of our Texas surveys limits the ability to draw general conclusions about the total population of Texan immigrant families and may have influenced survey findings.

This Texas specific supplement is part of a nationwide research project conducted by Human Impact Partners in collaboration with an Advisory Committee of immigrant and health organizations to understand how a continued policy of detention and deportation will impact the health and well-being of mixed-status families. For more information about this project, including the full report and research citations, go to: www.familyunityfamilyhealth.org.

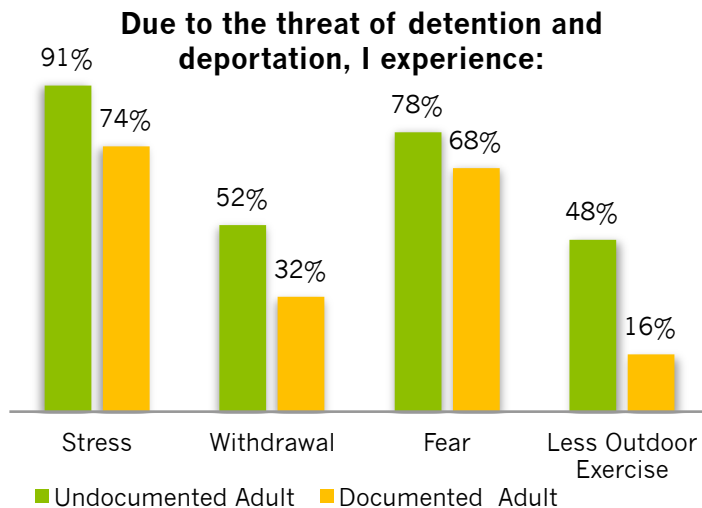


Findings: Adult Health

Undocumented adult immigrants may suffer from poor physical and mental health, which can lead to premature mortality.

Undocumented immigrants have difficulty accessing health services that can improve and protect their health. Our findings included that undocumented Texans had slightly more difficulty getting medical care than those who were documented (68% and 61%, respectively). Without access to health services, those with communicable diseases can be left undiagnosed or untreated and spread it to their workplace or home. Thus, an individual's access to health services can impact the health of the greater community.

Undocumented immigrants in Texas indicated a high degree of mental health problems and fear-based behavior as a result of living under the threat of detention and deportation.



Findings: Household Health

Mixed-status families suffer from economic hardship. Undocumented Texan immigrants indicated that they had slightly more difficulty buying food (43%) and medications (61%) than documented adults. **Twice as many** undocumented parents reported that their child ate less well than documented parents.

Table 1. Demographics of Adult Survey Respondents, Texas only

Gender (N=41)	
Male	34%
Female	66%
Average Age in Years (N=40)	
33.6	
Place of Birth (N=42)	
U.S.	0%
Latin American Country	100%
Other	0%
Years Lived in the U.S. (N=41)**	
0-4 years	5%
5-9 years	30%
10-14 years	32%
15+ years	34%
Highest Level of Education (N=41)	
High School or Less	85%
High School Diploma/GED	15%
Some College or Higher	0%
Annual Household Income (N=39)	
\$0-\$10,000	26%
\$10,001- \$20,000	33%
\$20,001- \$36,000	23%
\$36,001- \$50,000	18%
\$50,001- above	0%
Average Household Size (N=42)	
4.17	
Adults with Child under Age 18 (N=42)	
93%	
Detention and Deportation have Affected me by (N=42):***	
A family member has been detained or deported	40%
A friend/acquaintance has been detained or deported	38%
My status puts me at risk for detention or deportation	52%
I have been detained or deported	19%
None of the above	14%

***may not total 100% due to rounding*

****could choose more than one response*

Conclusion

Across the nation, not just in Texas, undocumented immigrants and their children experience real and measurable changes to their health and well-being due to the continued policy of detention and deportation. In this context, and given the release of the "Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act," (S.744) any immigration reform must prioritize protecting and promoting the health and well-being of these children and their families, and must not create a host of new, unintended consequences. Immigration reform that preserves and protects family unity will advance the conditions essential to the health and well-being of millions nationwide, and ultimately to the well-being of our country as a whole.

To read our detailed recommendations, visit: www.familyunityfamilyhealth.org.