

Immigration Under President Biden: What the Data Tells Us

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Key Points

- We can measure immigration, including illegal immigration, with caveats
- The scale is unprecedented
- There has been a significant decline in the education level of new immigrants
- Immigration has enormous impact across a host of issues

Understanding the Scale of Immigration

- **Legal Immigration rebound after Covid**
 - Both permanent and temporary
- **Illegal Immigration exploded after Jan 2021**
 - 9 million border encounters
 - 3.6 million inadmissible aliens released
 - Minimum 1.72 million gotaways
 - Unknown number of unseen crossings
 - Visa overstays at record highs
- **What's caused illegal surge?**
 - Biden's public statements during and after campaign
 - Decision to end: 1) migration agreements w/ Central Americans, 2) "Remain in Mexico," 3) Title 42 early
 - Failure to use detention and expedited removal
 - Dramatic reduction in interior enforcement

Figure 1. Monthly Current Population Survey (CPS) shows enormous increase in foreign-born under Biden (in millions)

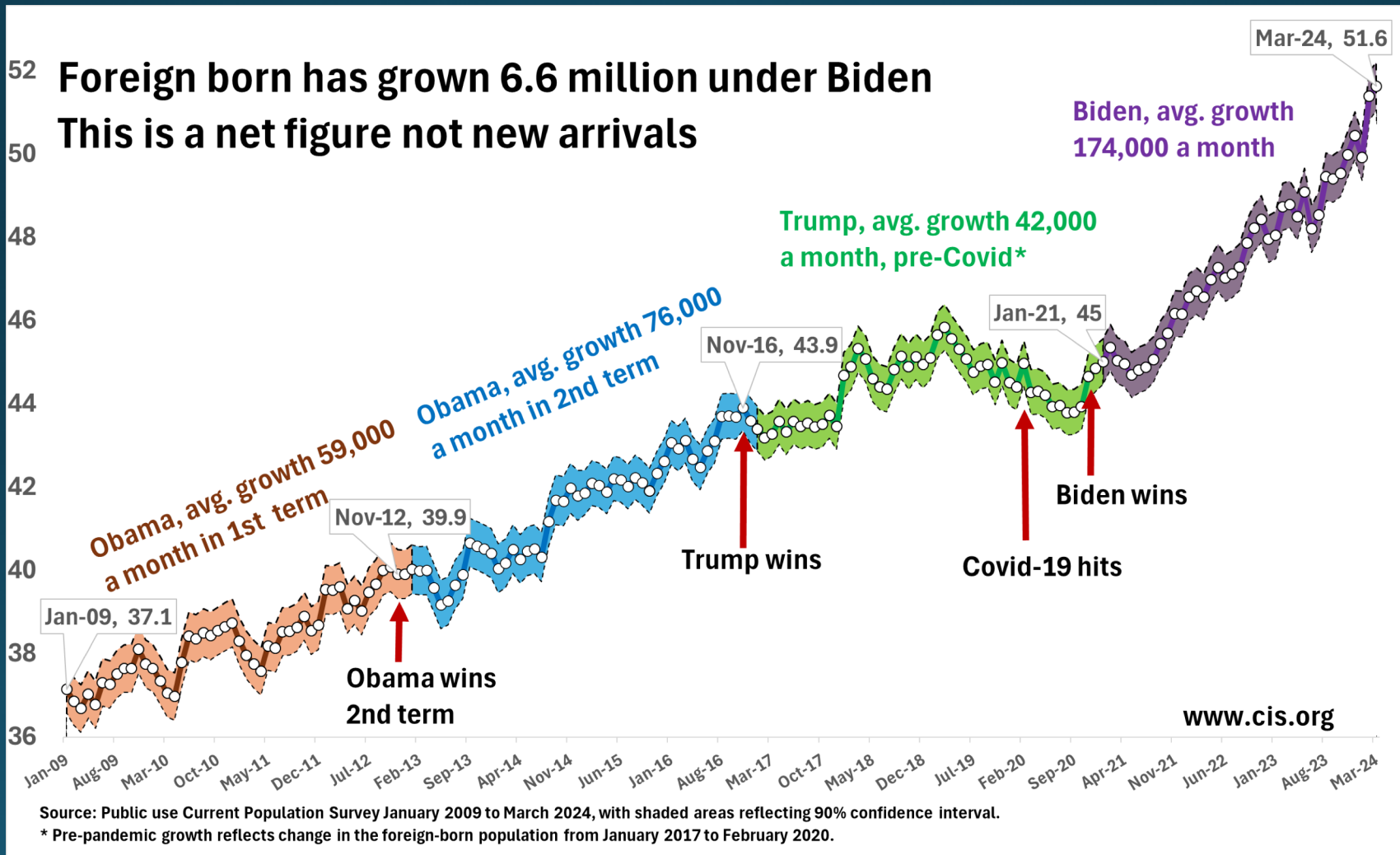


Figure 2. The foreign-born number and share are at record highs. If trends continue, we'll hit new records year after year.

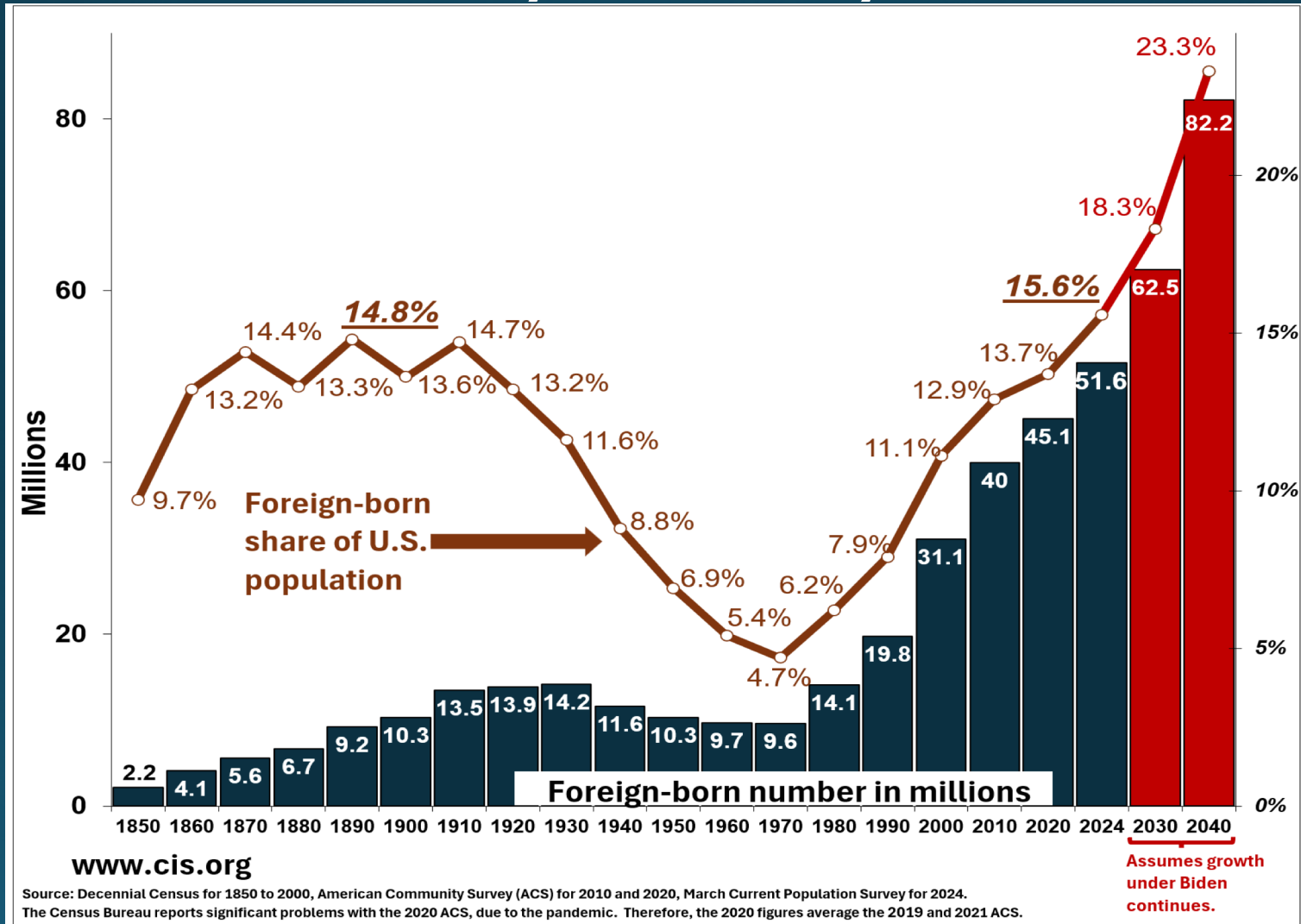


Figure 3. The number of new arrivals is record setting. Many are workers, but many are not.

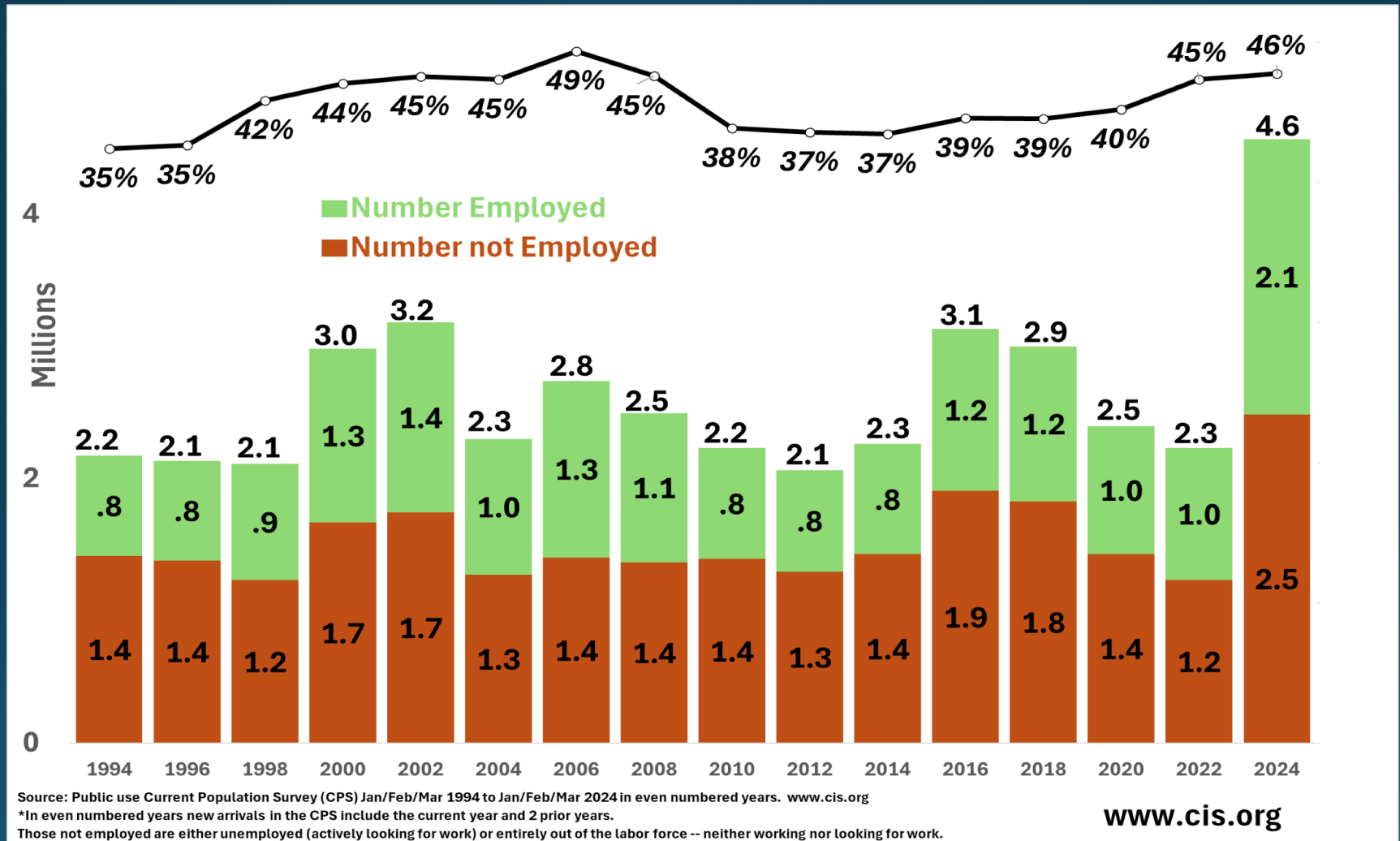
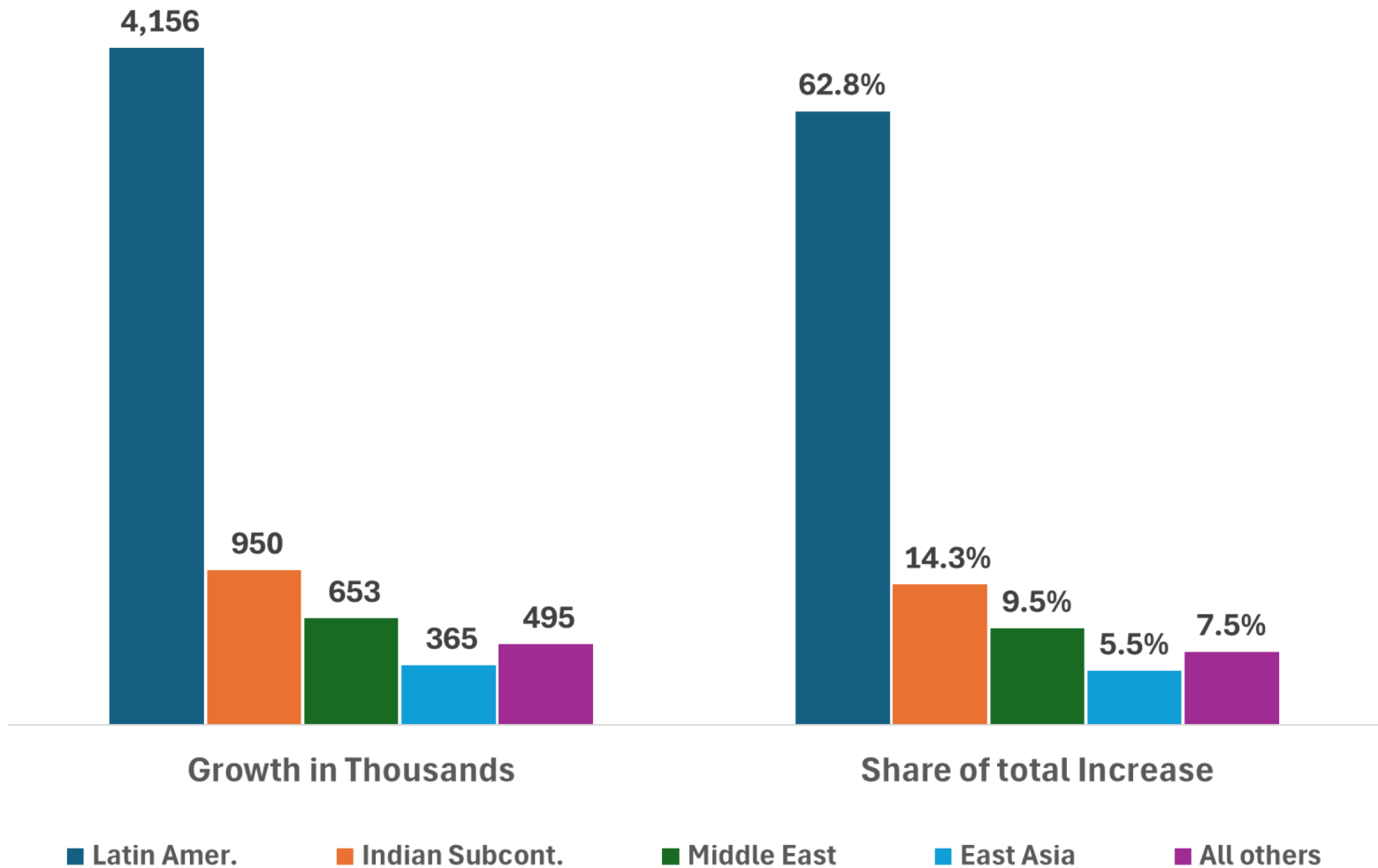


Figure 4. Latin America accounts for most of the growth in the foreign born under Biden.



Source: Public use Current Population Survey (CPS) Jan 2021, and March 2024. www.cis.org

Figure 5. Latin American non-citizen population has increase dramatically, which indicates a large increase in illegal immigrants (in millions)

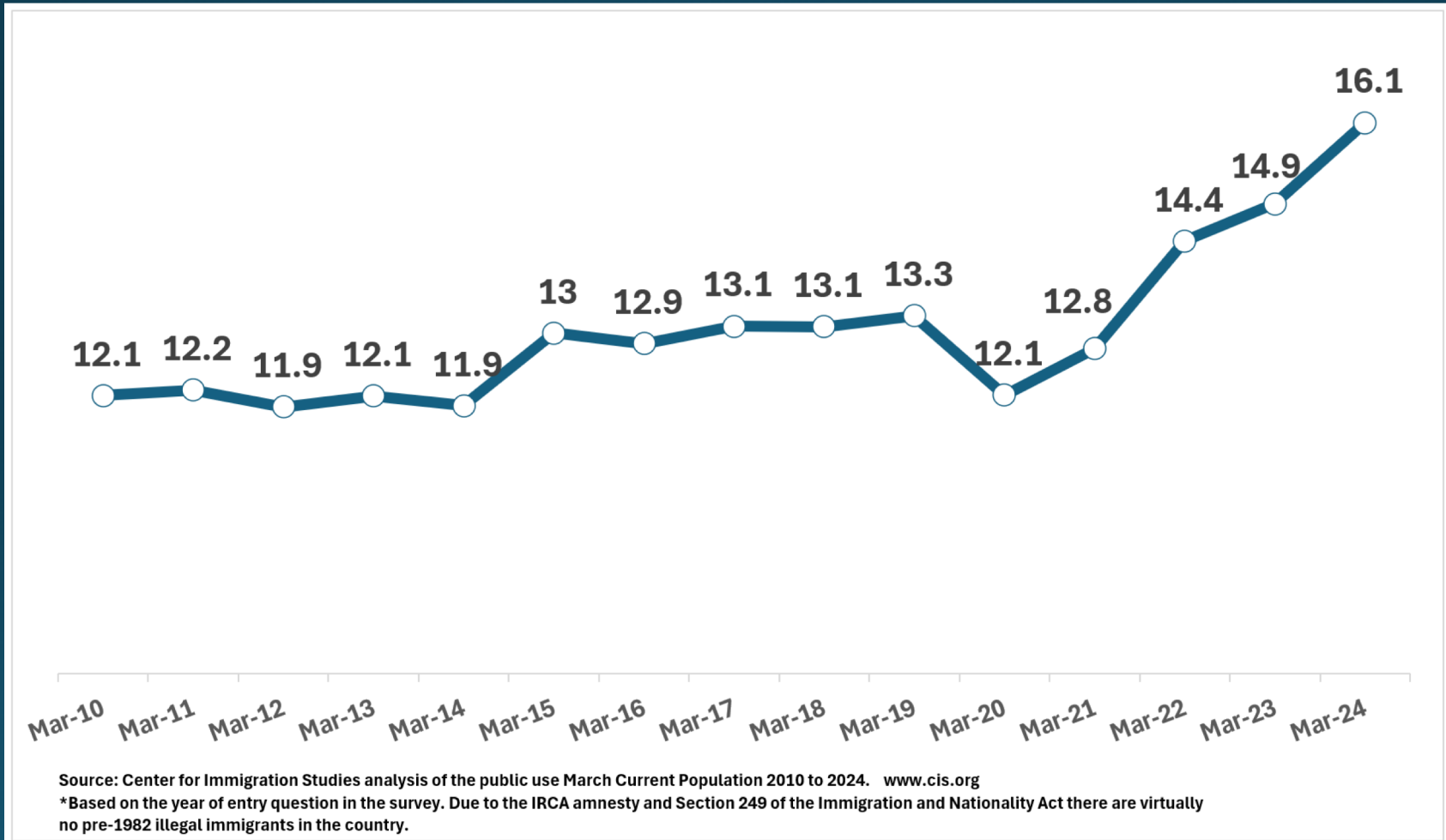
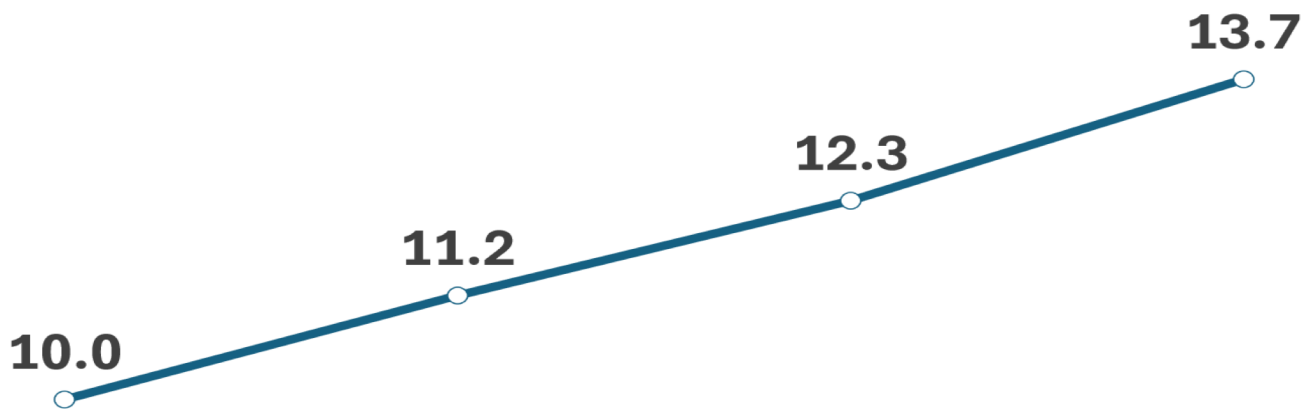


Figure 6. Estimate of Illegal Immigrants captured in CPS data Jan 2021 to Jan 2024 (in millions)



This means:

- Illegal Immigrant pop. is up 3.7 million in data
- Illegals are ~60% of growth in foreign born in data
- Total illegal pop. is likely 14, maybe 15 million
- Extermly unlikely to be 20 or 30 million

2021

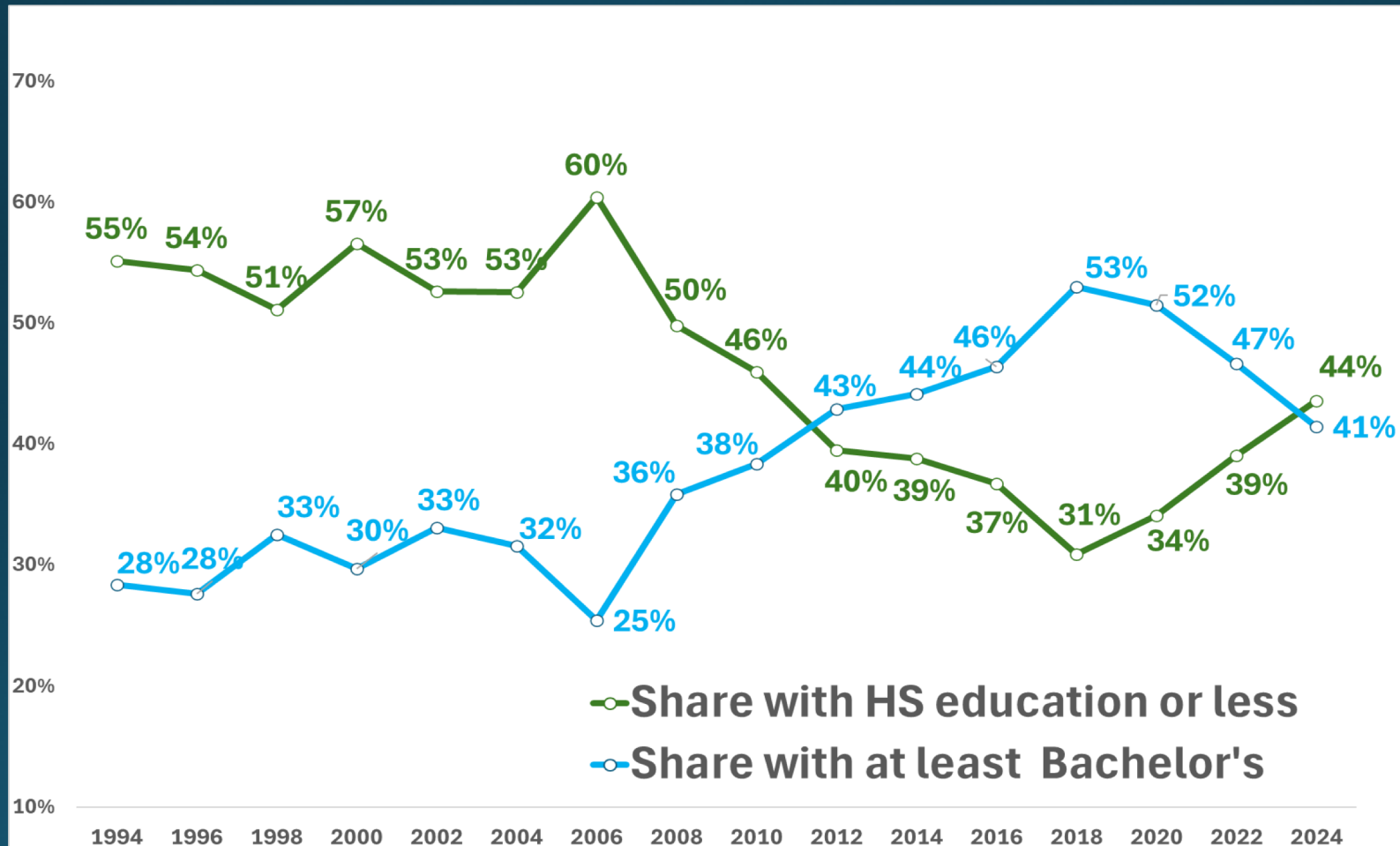
2022

2023

2024

Center for immigration Studies estimates based on public use monthly Current Population Survey Jan to Feb 2021 to 2024.

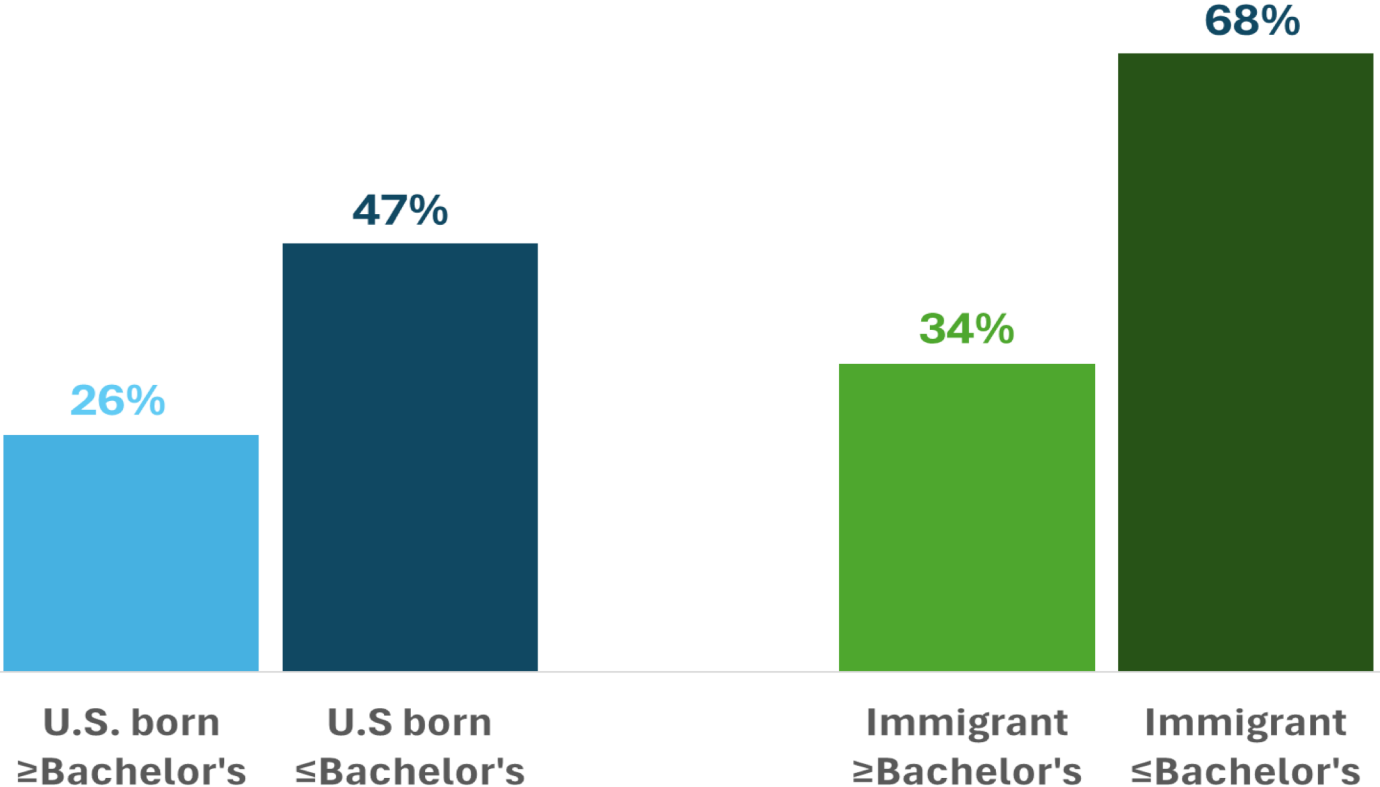
Figure 7. Significant decline in education of new arrivals has significant economic and fiscal implications.



Source: Center for Immigration Studies analysis of a combined sample of the public use Current Population Survey (CPS) for January, February and March 1994 to January, February and March 2024 in even numbered years. New arrivals in the CPS include the current year and 2 prior years ages 16 to 64. www.cis.org

Figure 8. Use of public services varies significantly by education level

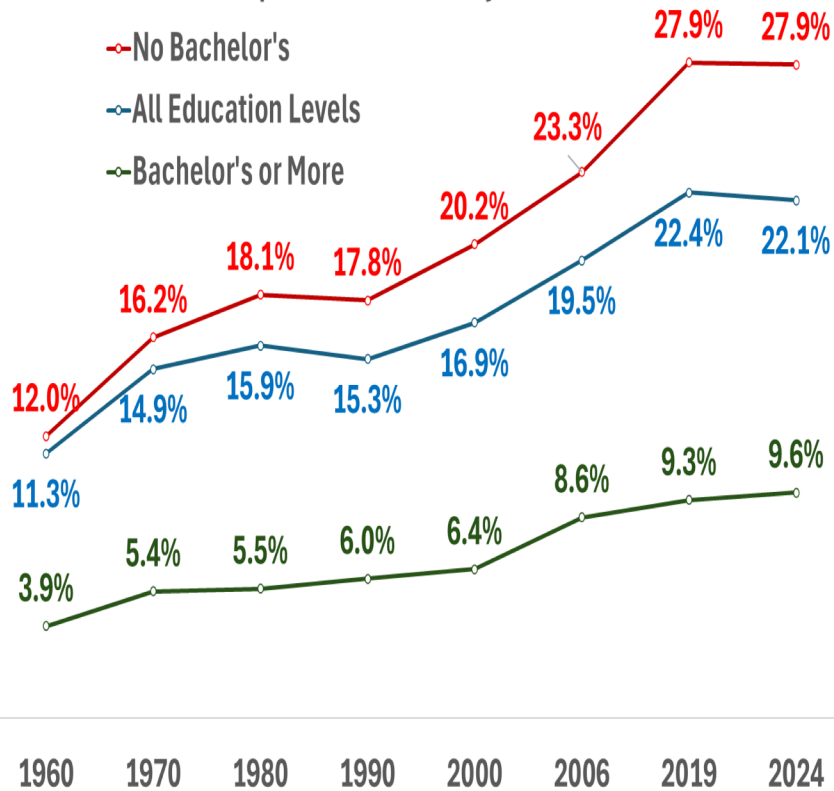
Use of at least one major welfare program by nativity and education level of household head



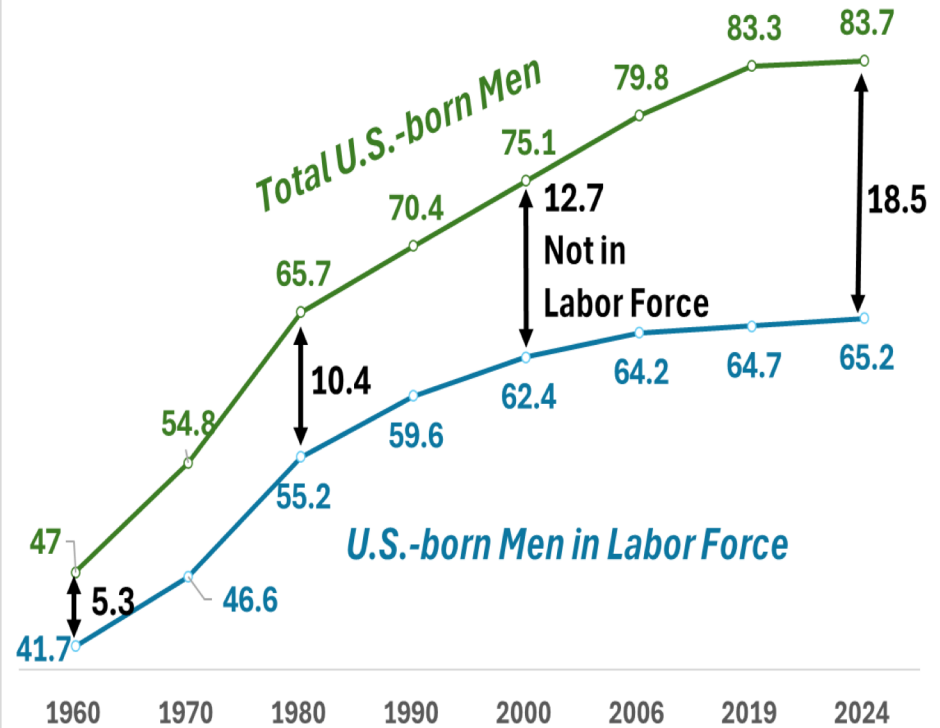
Source: Center for Immigration Studies analysis of 2022 Survey of Income and Program Participation. www.cis.org

Figure 9. Labor force participation has deteriorated dramatically for less-educated U.S.-born men. Huge number not in labor force

The share of less-educated working-age (16 to 64) U.S.-born men not in the labor force remains at historic highs compared to prior peaks in business cycle.



The number of U.S.-born men (16 to 64) not in the labor force has increased dramatically (in millions)

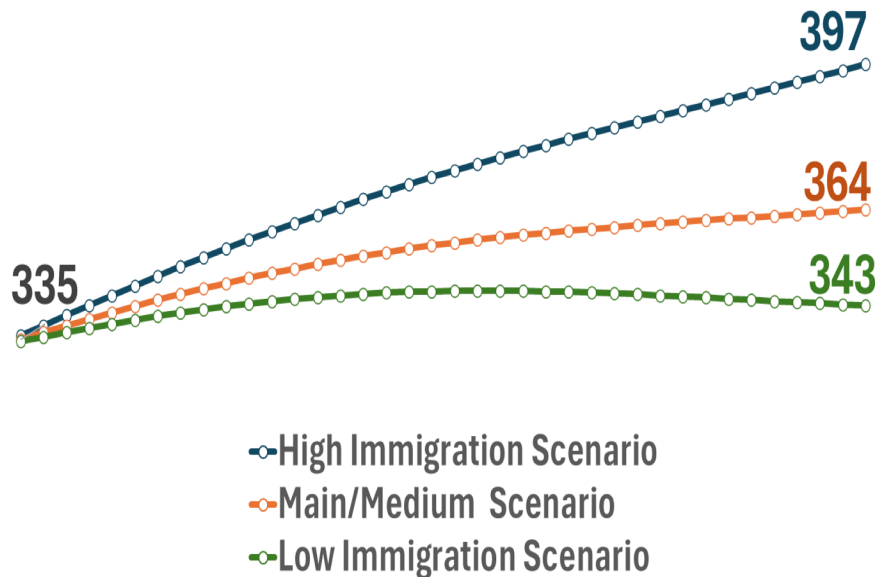


Huge numbers have enormous implications across many issue areas, as does decline in education

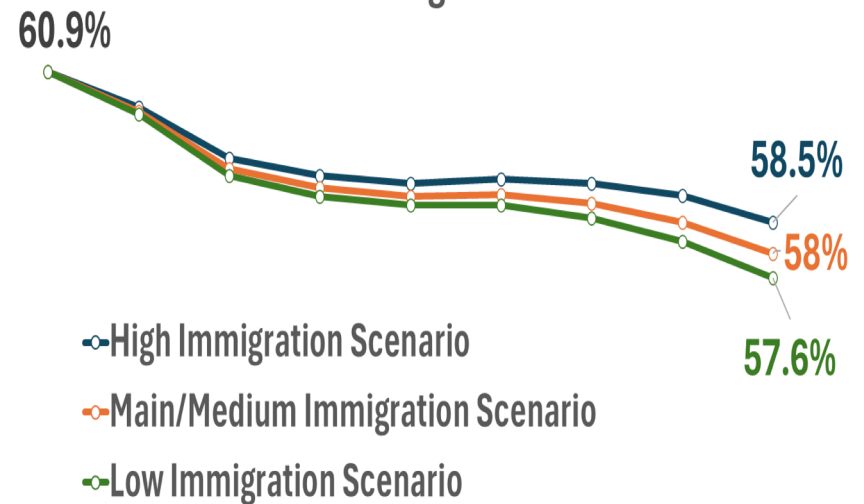
- **Fiscal Impact:** Education level is key determinant of income, tax payments, and use of public services
- **Impact on Schools:** Number of immigrant school age children up 34% in last 3 years
- **Political Representation:** Immigrants and minor children redistributed 22 House seats in 2020
- **One Fourth of children in poverty are in an immigrant family**
- **Job Competition:** Immigration significantly increases job competition for less-educated Americans
- **Allows U.S. to ignore decline in work:** Deterioration in labor force participation of less-educated contributes to host of problems
 - 1) Crime; 2) Overdose deaths; 3) Suicide; 4) Social/political alienation; 5) Failure to form families

Figure 10. Census Bureau projections show immigration can add a lot of people in the future, but is no fix for aging society

The size of the U.S. population assuming different immigration levels through 2060 (in millions)



The working-age (18-64) share of the U.S. population assuming different immigration levels through 2060



Conclusion

Data shows the scale of immigration is unprecedented

If no change , we'll be headed further into uncharted territory

Scale of immigration and decline in education levels has significant implications across many issue areas

Immigration makes population larger, but only slightly younger