



How Does Presidential Rhetoric Affect Immigration Policy and the Economy?

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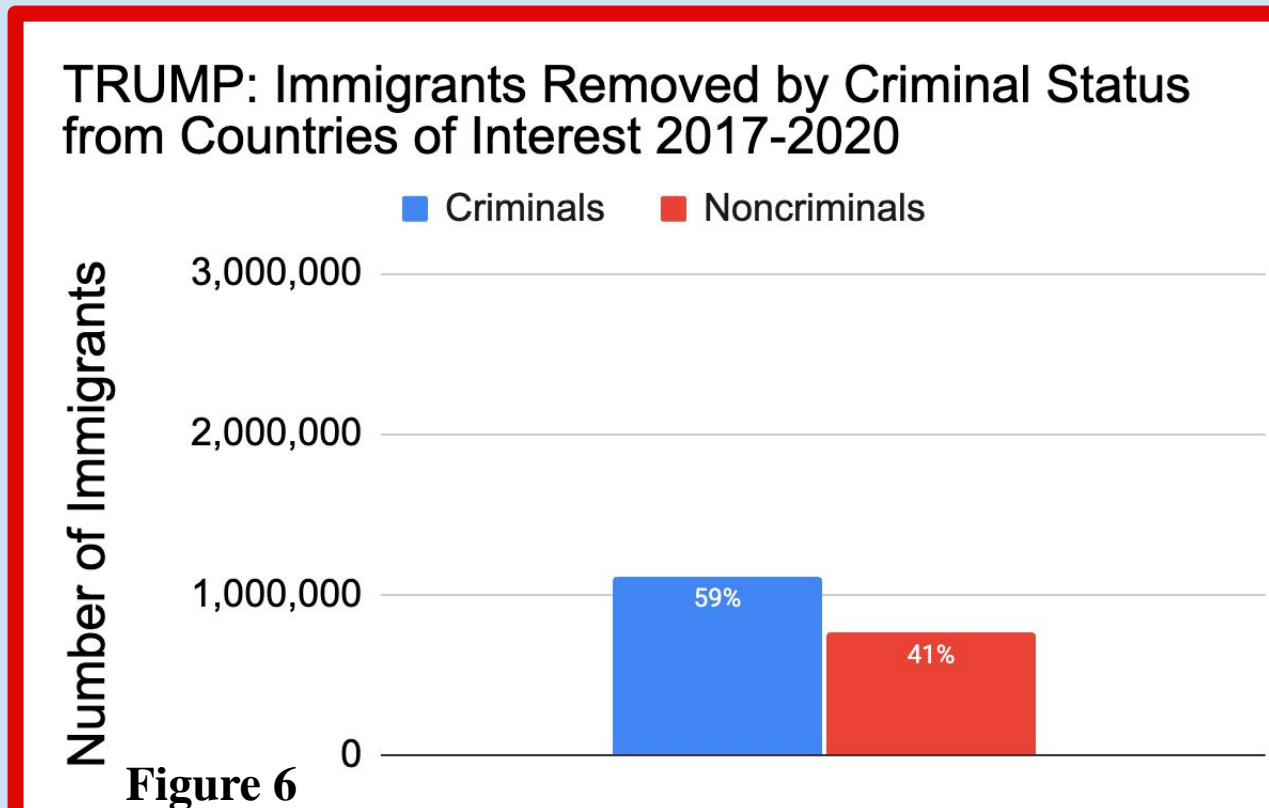
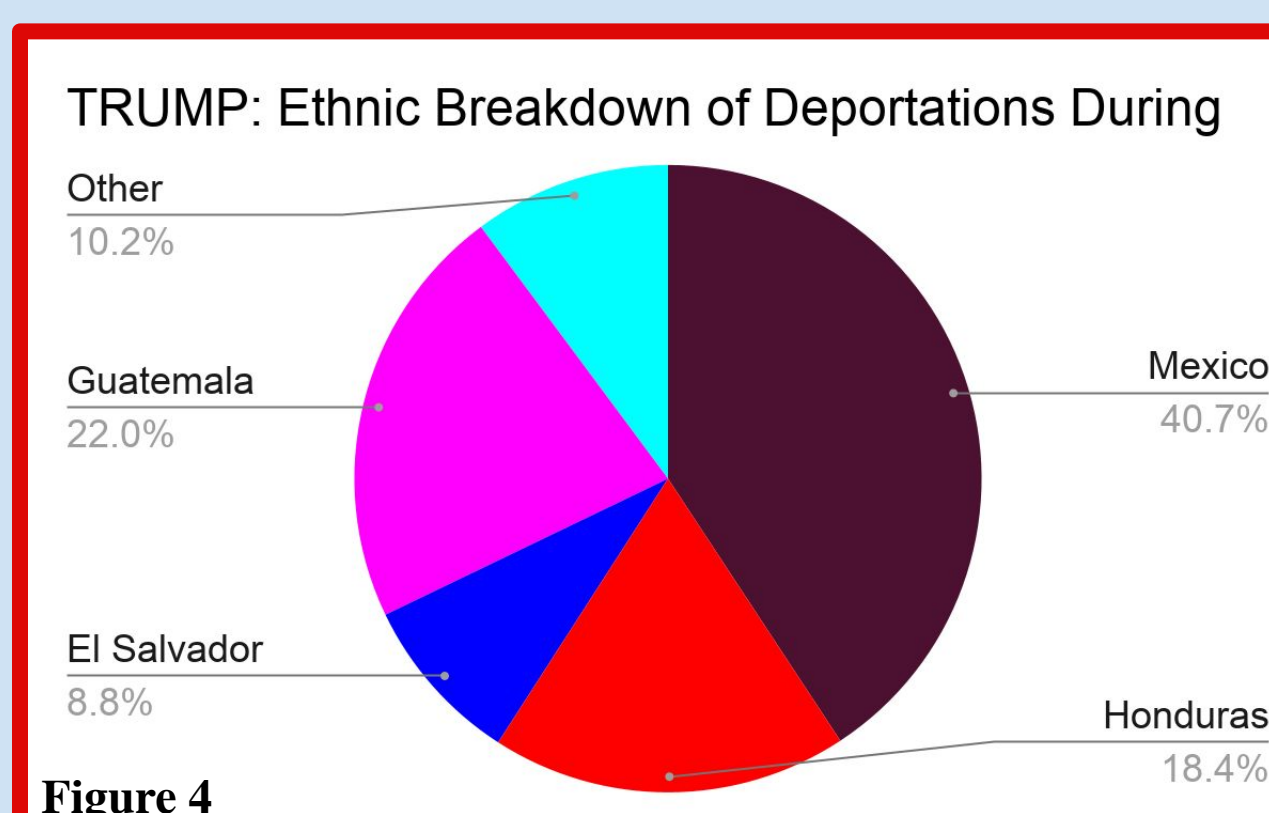
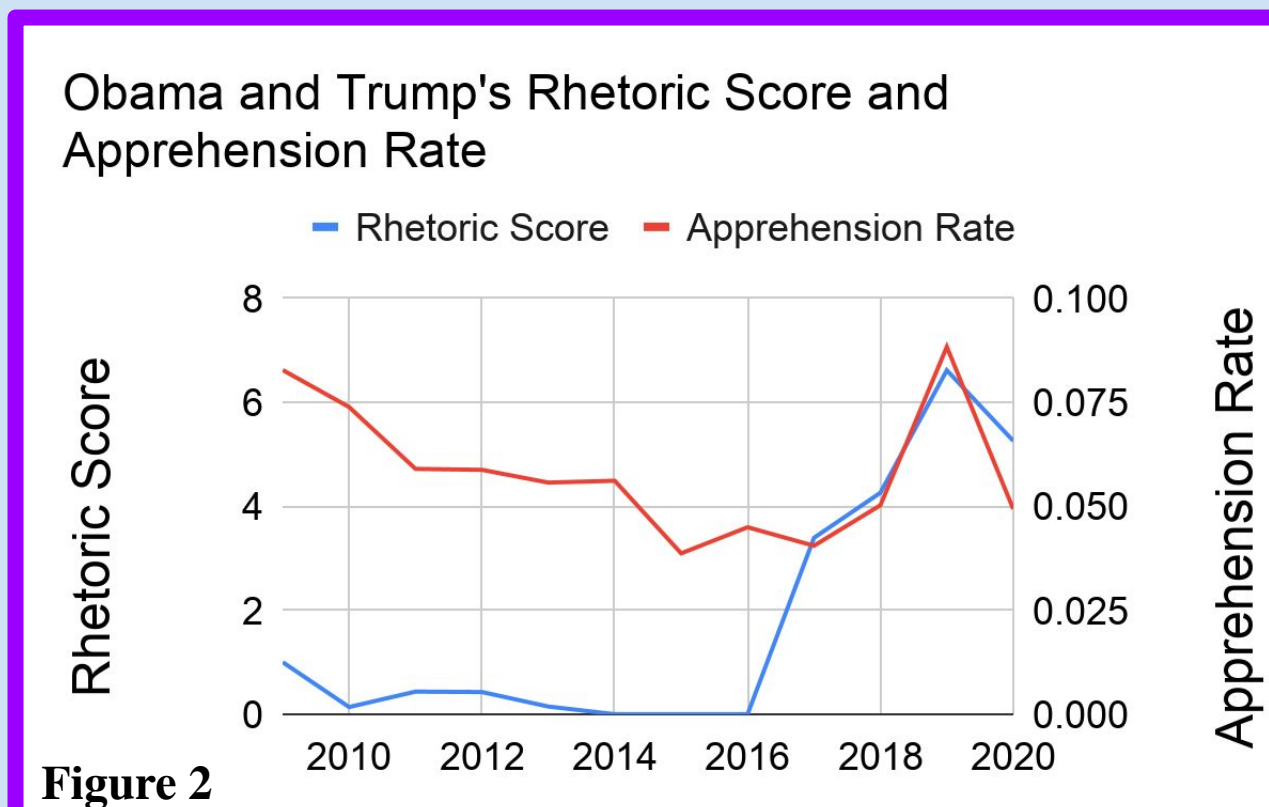
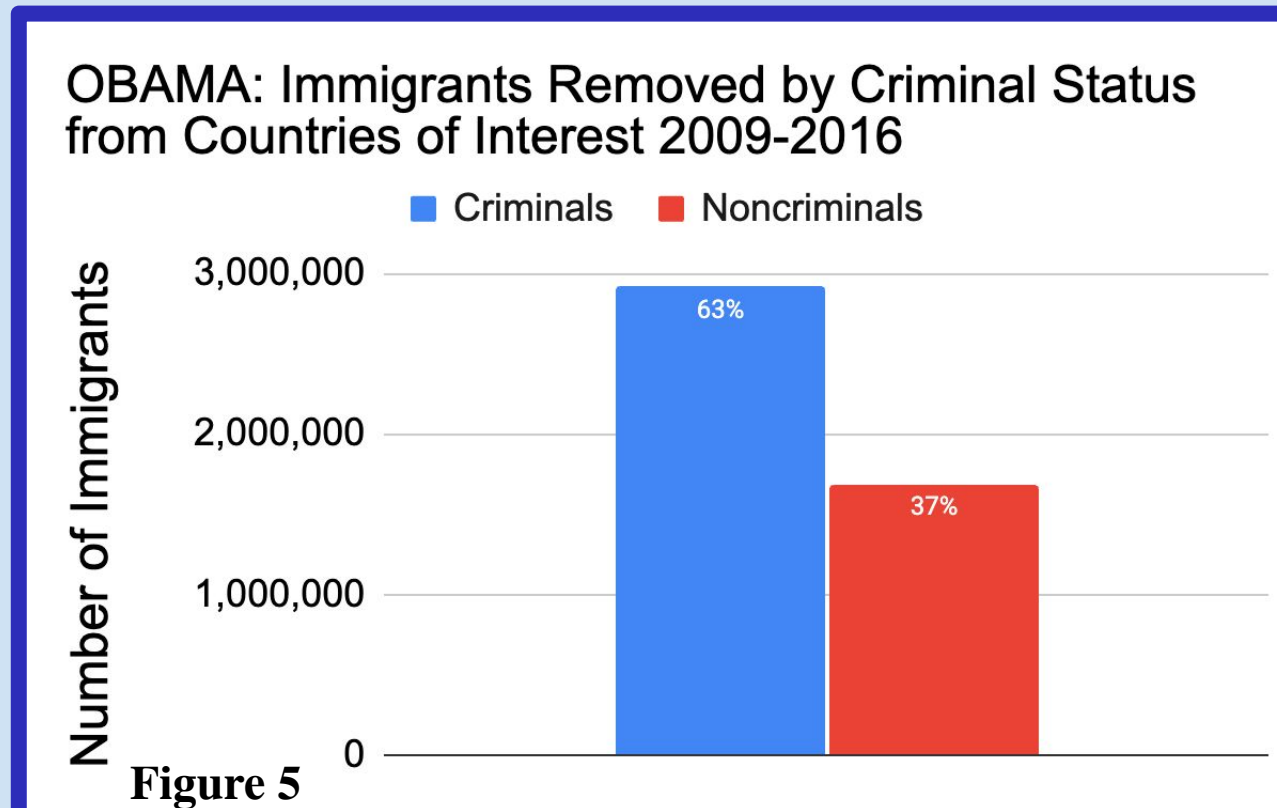
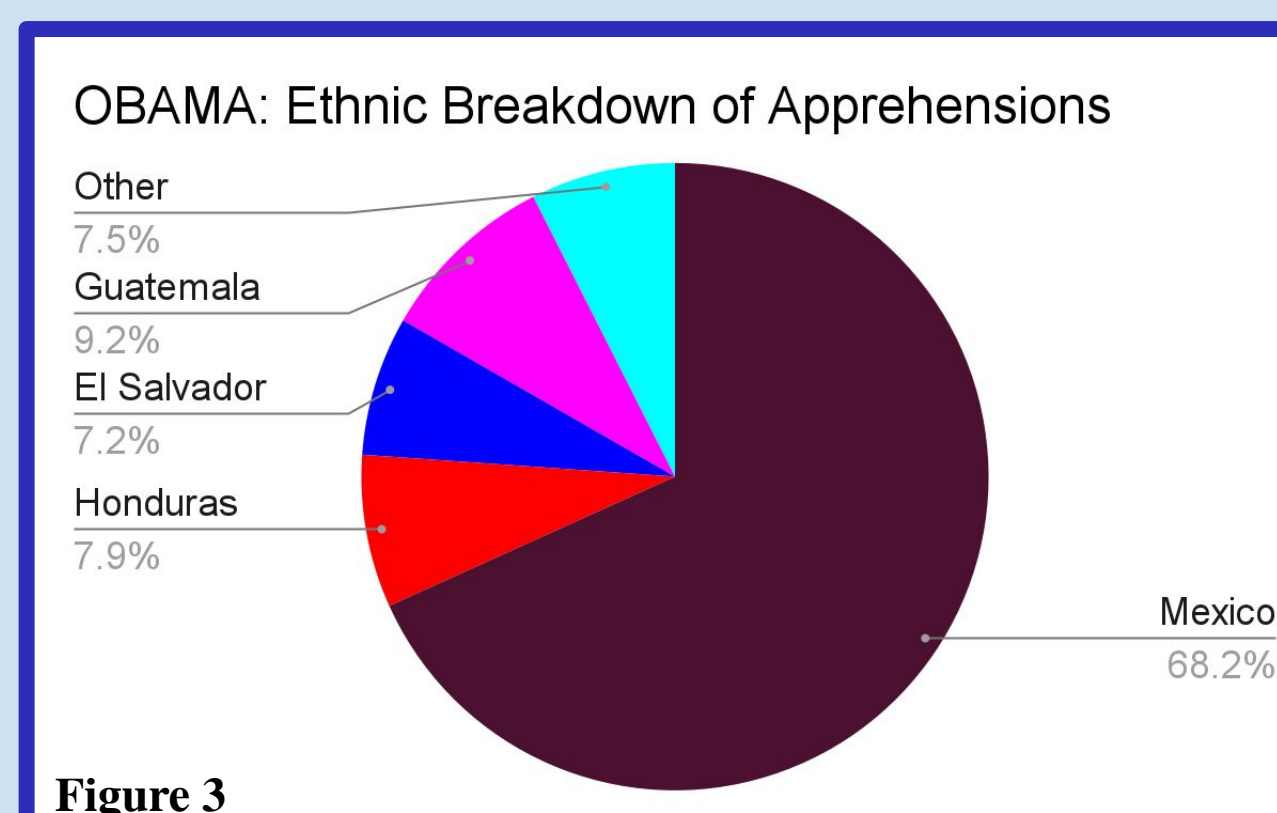
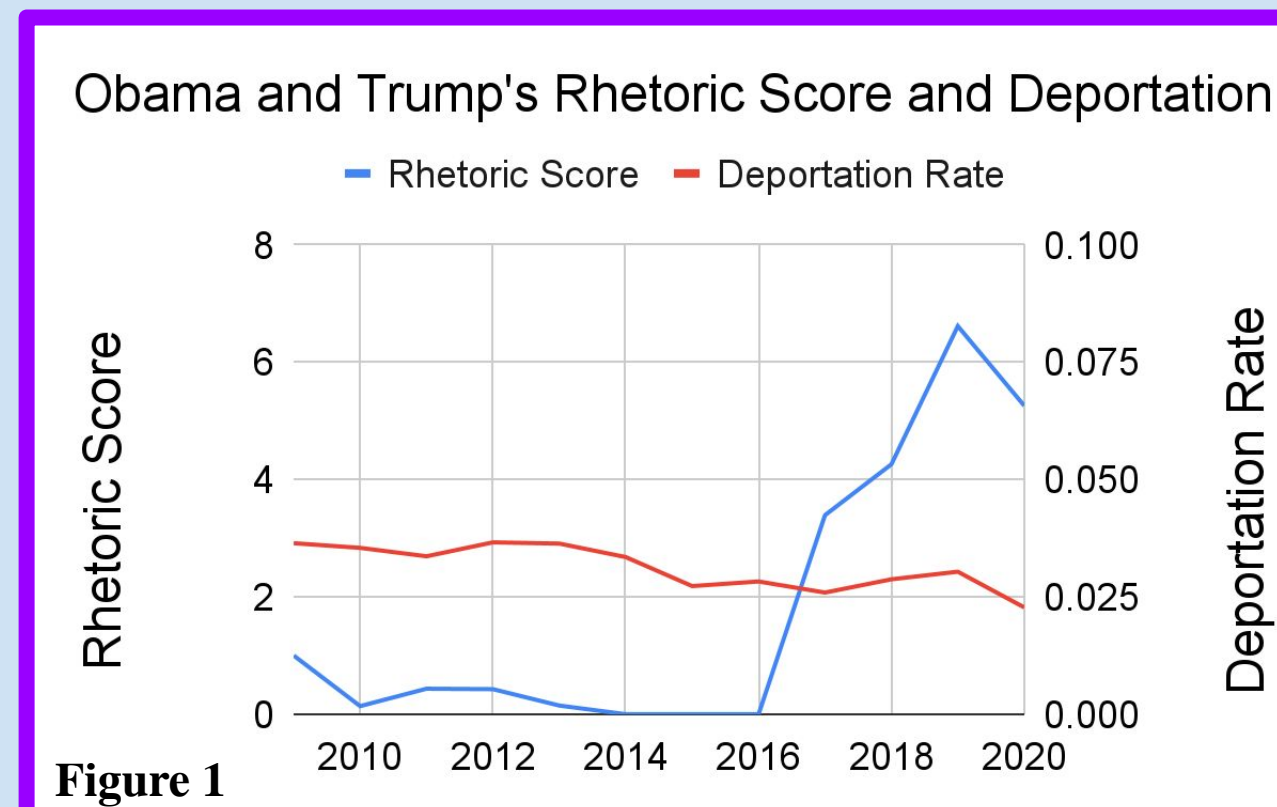
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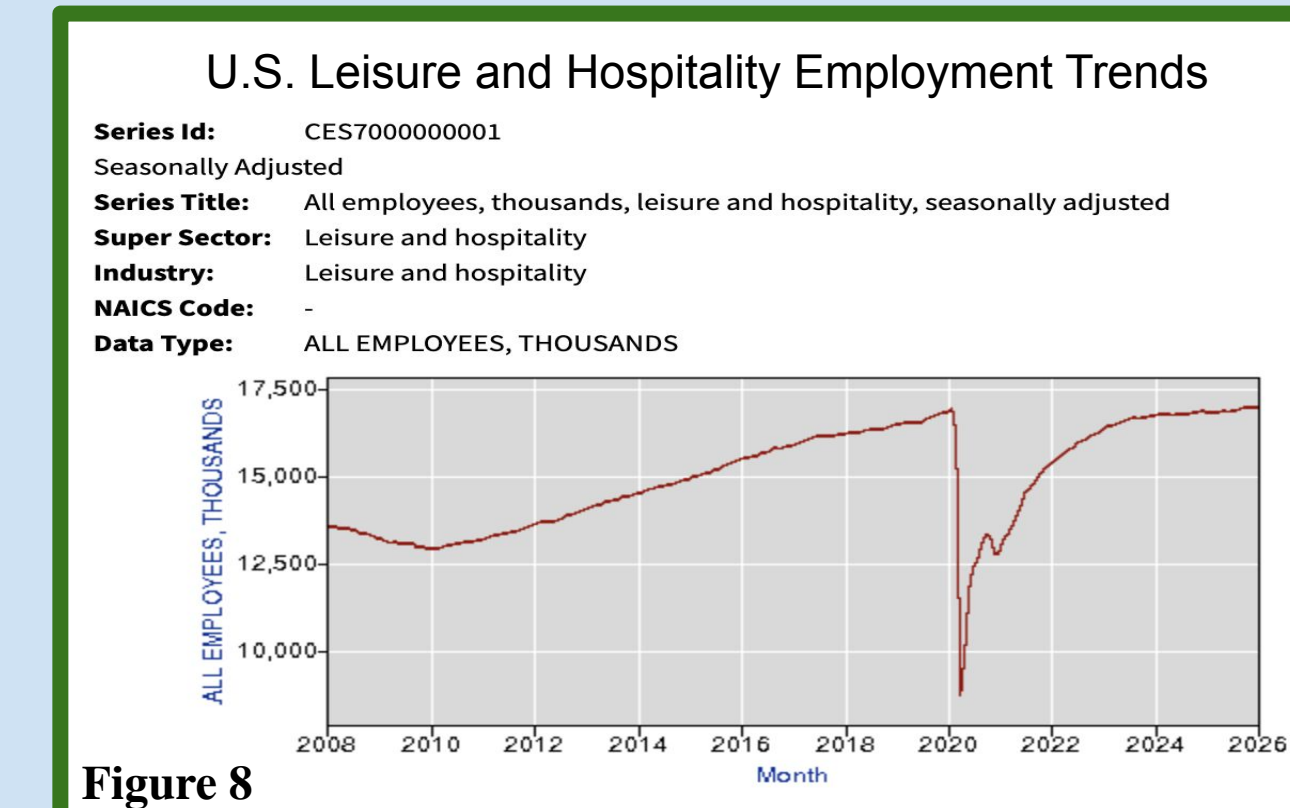
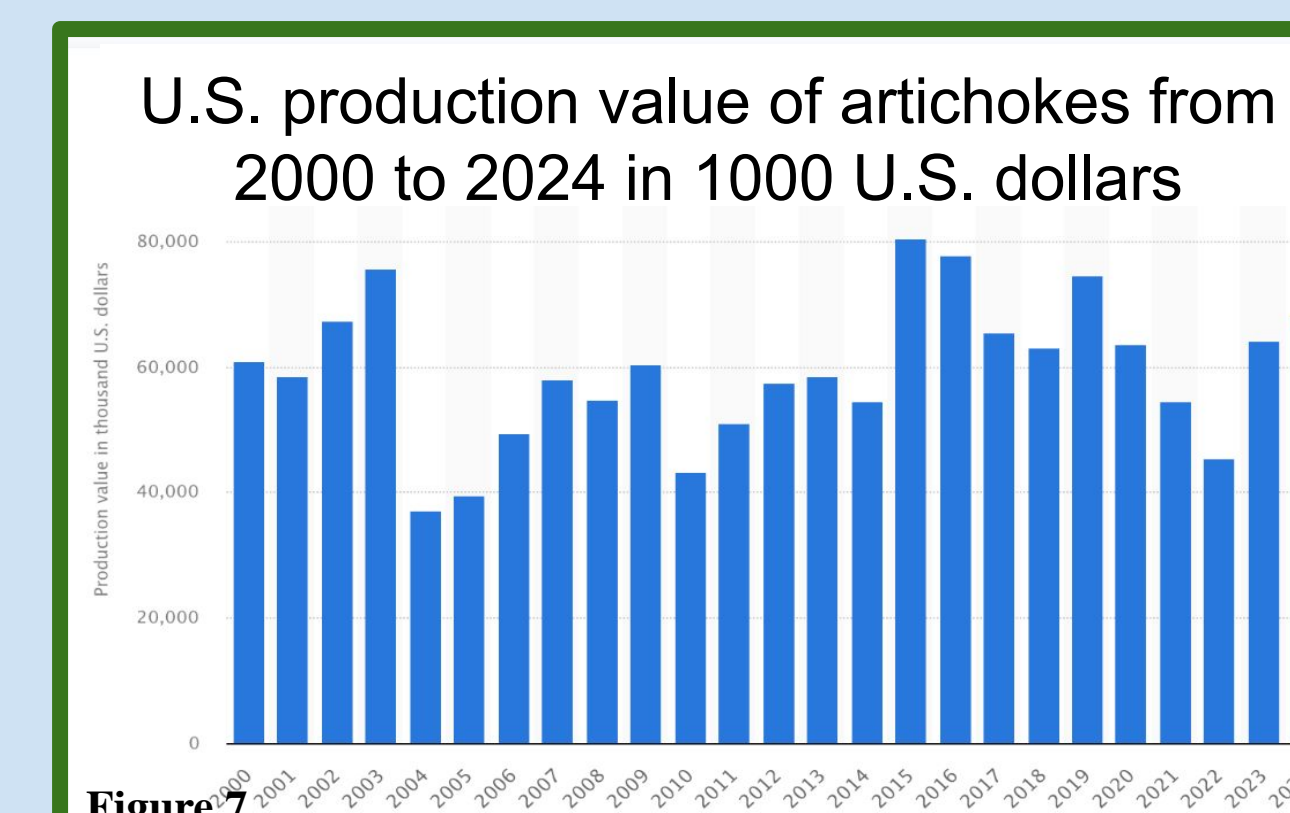
INTRODUCTION

More and more people continue to immigrate to the United States in hopes of a better life, but due to rising hostility against Hispanic immigrants, how will their immigration be affected? The goal of this research is to see how stereotypes in the U.S. from the Obama and Trump Administration influence rhetoric around immigrants and therefore their immigration status within the U.S. By learning about the negative rhetoric used by each president, how different ethnic groups are disproportionately targeted, and the criminal breakdown of those apprehended, this research seeks to understand the inner workings of national security policies and if they are effective. Moreover, this research seeks to understand the future implications of these national security policies on the economy, specifically the projected economy under Trump's 2nd term. To do so, immigrant-reliant industries such as the agriculture industry and the hospitality industry will be examined.

DATA AND FINDINGS



Chosen words of analysis:
Illegal, alien, rapist, criminal, drug/drug dealer, wall, detain, gang, deport, threat, dangerous, enforce, murder, unsecured and open



CONCLUSIONS, IMPLICATIONS, AND NEXT STEPS

As the lack of correlation between negative rhetoric and deportation rates suggests, Trump's persistent anti-immigrant messaging does not translate into increased deportations or improvements in national security. Instead, it contributes to a rise in the apprehension of individuals who pose no threat, supported by evidence that non-criminals have been disproportionately targeted for apprehension and deportation during his administration. Looking ahead, there is also little indication that large-scale deportations will harm the economy, given the absence of any clear relationship between such policies and economic decline in immigrant-reliant industries like the agricultural and hospitality sectors. This raises an important question: Is the continued "othering" of immigrants justified?

RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES

My research is both qualitative and quantitative. My qualitative research consists of specific deportation metrics, race-specific deportations, and specific economic models, such as labor market graphs and aggregate models. My qualitative data consists of stereotypes occurring under each president.

Step 1: Research differing presidential rhetoric between Obama and Trump by analyzing State of the Union Addresses. Create personal negative rhetoric score to assess differing rhetoric → See score correlation with apprehensions and deportations

Step 2: Collect data on the ethnic makeup of those apprehended and deported under both Obama and Trump (looking specifically at those from Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras).

Step 3: Collect the percentage of Hispanics deported under both Obama and Trump that have committed crimes, or no crimes at all.

Step 4: Assess economic implications of deportations by looking at the immigrant-reliant industries of agriculture and hospitality (observe the production status of artichokes in the agricultural sector and the changes of wages and employees in the hospitality industry).

DISCUSSION, ANALYSIS, AND EVALUATION

1. Trump has increasing negative rhetoric toward immigrants in comparison to Obama.

- For every 1000 words, Obama had 0.3 negative words while Trump has around 5 (Figure 1)
- There is a more direct correlation between negative rhetoric and apprehensions in comparison to actual deportations. (Figure 2)

2. Majority of apprehensions come from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico

- Under Obama, about 71% of undocumented immigrants came from these countries, compared to 66% under Trump (Figures 3 and 4)
- Under Obama, these ethnicities made up 92.5% of apprehensions but only 71% of undocumented immigrants; under Trump, 89.9% of apprehensions compared to 66% of the population—showing disproportionate targeting.

3. A significant portion of immigrants deported have no criminal status

- Under Obama, 37% of deported immigrants had no criminal record, compared to 41% under Trump. (Figures 5 and 6)
- In comparison, criminal status is less necessary for deportation under Trump than under Obama.

4. Mass deportations have virtually no effect on the economies of agriculture and hospitality

- There has been steady growth in artichoke crop as well as steady employment and earnings in the hospitality industry despite ongoing apprehensions and deportations (Figures 7 and 8)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / REFERENCES

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***QR CODE TO FULL PAPER:

