

ESTIMATES OF ALIENS BAFFLE U.S.

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Body

At least two million aliens are in the United States illegally, but the Census Bureau says it cannot figure out how many more there might be.

Other Government and private estimates on the number of illegal aliens in the United States range to 12 million, but a research paper released this week concluded the correct figure was probably below six million people.

WASHINGTON, June 18 (AP) -At least two million aliens are in the United States illegally, but the Census Bureau says it cannot figure out how many more there might be.

The study, conducted by Robert Warren and Jeffrey S. Passel, who are demographers for the Census Bureau, noted the bureau's s count of illegal aliens must be considered the minimum number residing in the United States.

Officially, the bureau counted 2,047,000 illegal aliens in 1980. The researchers also estimated that there were 5,965,000 aliens legally in the country on census day, April 1, 1980.

From there, Mr. Warren and Mr. Passell extrapolated, based on the Census Bureau's s experience in miscounting other segments of the population. For example, having counted two million illegal aliens means that, if there are really six million illegal aliens in the United States, the bureau must have missed more than 60 percent of them.

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