Immigration keeps up steady pace

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<u>Immigration</u> has continued at a <u>steady pace</u> in the past two years despite the nation's weakened economy and efforts to tighten its borders, according to new studies of Census Bureau numbers. And those new immigrants are finding jobs.

The number of employed immigrants rose by 593,000 from 2000 through the end of last year, while the number of U.S.-born workers declined by 1.5 million, said a new report by the Center for Labor Market Studies at Northeastern University. Immigrant men and women gained equally, and most of the new workers were recent arrivals.

The data make it clear that the United States still offers substantial appeal to people from other countries, even though more than 2 million jobs have vanished in the past two years, and 8.5 million people are unemployed. Despite concerns that refugees and others are waiting longer to get in, some immigrants are managing to do so, including many who arrive illegally.

The Census Bureau released a report Monday showing that more than 3 million immigrants arrived in the previous two years, about the same <u>pace</u> as in the 1990s. That brought to 32.5 million the number of foreign-born people living in U.S. households last March, a record.

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