

U.S. Immigration Basics

*A study guide for the basic information you need to know about
United States Immigration!*



Foreword

This document outlines the “basics” of **U.S. Immigration** in a way that is easy to understand.

The “basics” are the well-accepted issues, events, and definitions that provide a basic foundation of knowledge about U.S. Immigration. The “basics” are explained simply and accurately, without opinion or bias. The content is intended to be neutral and non-controversial.

Understanding the “basics” will help you better interpret current events.

The document uses a study guide format, which facilitates:

- **Quick Review** All of the content in this document can be reviewed in one sitting. Start with the **Overview** and the **Appendices**.
- **Additional Study** The terms identified in **blue font** can also be found in **Wikipedia**. Items can be committed to memory by looking at a term on the left-side and trying to recall the information from the right-side
- **Future Reference** The document serves as a ready reference for future questions

To get more information or to send comments/corrections, please visit [BasicStudyGuides.com](https://www.basicstudyguides.com).

What are the problems with U.S. Immigration?

Here are 60 minutes of videos to start with:

- U.S. Immigration (1788-1986) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lheb2HqZPiw> (10:00 minutes)
- U.S. Immigration (1980-2020+) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9mPEquFKKA> (8:33 minutes)
- U.S. Immigration (1992-2020) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T3hra0wYtb0> (9:57 minutes)
- U.S. Immigration (1996-2020) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iKHI__BEsD0 (5:30 minutes)
- U.S. Immigration (2023) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tBv0mOfX0zo> (14:03 minutes)
- U.S. Immigration Agencies: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0zjCRHNh9Pc> (1:53 minutes)
- Trump Immigration Policy (2013-2020) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eW4kQ4akZ1A> (54:17 minutes)

NOTE: These YouTube videos above are primarily fact based, **but also contain a certain amount of opinion**. They are included in this document to spark curiosity about the topic, not to promote any specific agenda. Feel free to suggest better YouTube content as you find it (must be on youtube.com).

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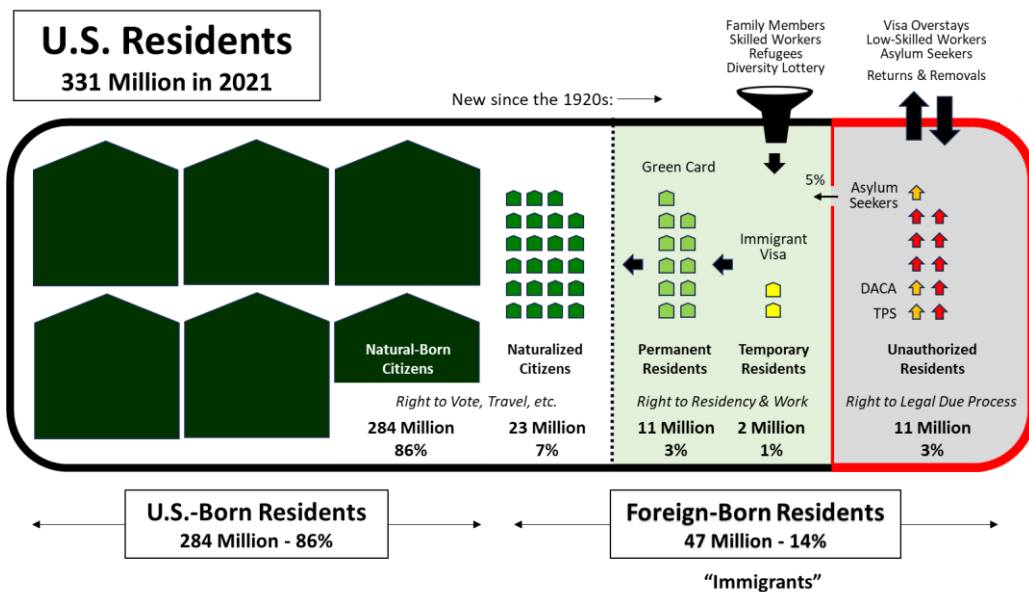
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U.S. Immigration Basics

U.S. Immigration Overview

U.S. Immigration

Also see:
 • A: U.S. Immigration Law
 • B: U.S. Immigration Policy
 • C: Immigration Reform
 • D: 2024 Election

- **U.S. Immigration** – Moving internationally in order to settle in the United States (also see [Immigration](#))
- A brief history of U.S. Immigration policy
 - **1776:** The U.S. had a mostly ‘open-door’ immigration policy (the new nation needed immigrants)
 - **1882:** The U.S. enacted its first major U.S. immigration prohibition with the [Chinese Exclusion Act](#)
 - **1920s:** The U.S. established immigration limits based on [National Origin](#), and excluded all Asians
 - **1940s:** The U.S. stiffened border controls & required documentation for all foreign-born residents
 - **1952:** The U.S. established a code of U.S. immigration law and adjusted some National Origin limits
 - **1965:** The U.S. prioritized [Family Reunification](#) & [Work Skills](#) and ended National Origin limits
 - **1986:** The U.S. made it harder to hire undocumented immigrants, but granted amnesty to some
 - **1996:** The U.S. increased border security, immigration enforcement, and reasons for deportation
 - **2002:** The U.S. created the Department of Homeland Security and restructured border control
 - **2016s:** [Trump immigration policies](#) & [COVID-19](#) affected U.S. immigration, including asylum
 - **2020s:** [Biden immigration policies](#) after [COVID-19](#) affected U.S. immigration, including asylum

U.S. Residents

- **U.S. Residents** – The people who live in the United States, including those who are foreign-born
 - **Total U.S. Residents in 2021** **331 Million**
 - U.S.-Born Residents 284 Million (86%)
 - Foreign-Born Residents 47 Million (14%)
 - Immigrants**
 - Naturalized Citizens 23 Million (7%)
 - Permanent Residents 11 Million (3%)
 - Temporary Residents 2 Million (1%)
 - Unauthorized Immigrants 11 Million (3%)

Reasons for Immigration

- **Reasons for Immigration** – The following are the ‘Pull’ and ‘Push’ reasons for U.S. Immigration
 - **Pull Reasons** – The reasons people immigrate to the United States
 - [Family Reunification](#), Economic Opportunity, Pursuit of [Liberty](#), [Freedom of Religion](#), etc.
 - All of these reasons provide significant motivation for an immigrant to relocate
 - **Push Reasons** – The reasons people to leave (or emigrate from) their native country
 - [Genocide](#), [War](#), Government Abuse, [Crime](#), etc. – as well as many of the ‘Pull’ reasons
 - Some ‘Push’ reasons are also grounds for seeking [asylum](#) (immigration to avoid a danger)

U.S. Immigration Process

Also see:
 • A: U.S. Immigration Law
 • B: U.S. Immigration Policy

- **U.S. Immigration Process** – Legal immigration currently includes all of the following process steps
 - Post-World War I, **the steps in red green were added** to control the immigration process

U.S. Immigration Supply

- **U.S. Immigration Supply** – The number of people allowed to immigrate
 - Over **1 million people** became legal permanent residents in 2022
 - Family-based Immigrants 58% 594,309
 - Employment-based Immigrants 27% 270,284
 - Refugees and Asylum Seekers 7% 83,082
 - Diversity Immigrants 4% 43,233
 - Other Special Circumstances 3% 27,441
 - Many qualify for the Diversity “lottery”, but few are chosen

U.S. Immigration Demand

Note: Most of these people live in the U.S. as undocumented immigrants

- **U.S. Immigration Demand** – The number of people who would like to immigrate
 - Over **10+ million people** would like the opportunity to legally immigrate to the U.S.
 - Undocumented immigrants living in the U.S. (2022) 11,000,000 +
 - Immigration enforcement actions (2022) 1,500,000 +
 - Asylum claims pending (2021) 1,000,000 +
 - Most undocumented immigrants living in the U.S. have no realistic hope of ever legally immigrating

U.S. Immigration Basics

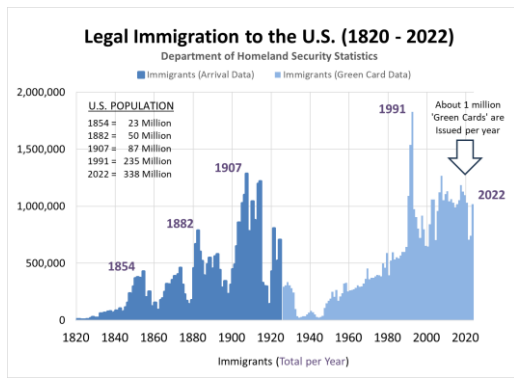
U.S. Immigration Trends

Legal Immigration to the United States

NOTE: This graph shows the total immigration each year.

The initial data is based on ship manifests and other U.S. arrival data, whereas more recent data indicates an approved permanent resident card (Green Card).

Prior to WWI, there was no distinction between legal (documented) and illegal (undocumented) immigration.



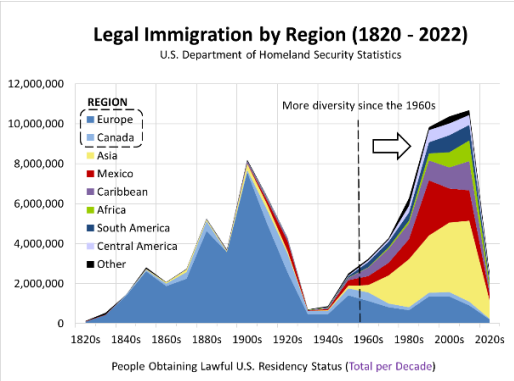
- **Immigration to the U.S.** – About 1 million people become legal permanent residents each year
 - Immigration levels have remained consistent over the past 20+ years (except COVID)
 - Recent immigration levels have remained below past peaks in 1991 & 1907
 - Historical peaks & valleys were caused by:
 - 1854 – Irish Potato Famin (peak)
 - 1882 – Industrialization (peak)
 - 1907 – Eastern Europe & Russia (peak)
 - 1910s – WWI (valley)
 - 1940s – WWII (valley)
 - 1991 – Bush I Era Immigration Reform (peak)
 - 2929 – COVID-19 Pandemic (valley)

Legal Immigration to the United States – by Region

NOTE: This graph shows the total immigration each decade (not each year). The data is smoothed over time to make the shifts in country of origin stand out more clearly.

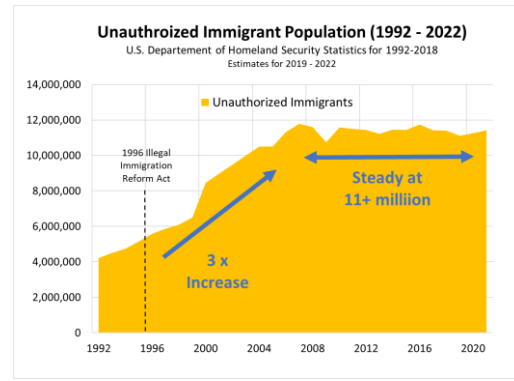
The 2020 decade only includes data for 2020-2022.

[Sociology of Immigration](#)



- **Immigration to the U.S.** – U.S. Immigration comes from a greater variety of regions than in the past
 - Prior to 1960, most immigrants were from **Europe** and **Canada**
 - Since 1960, immigrants are from more diverse Regions in the world
 - **Asia, Mexico, Carribbean, Africa, South America, and Central America**
- Immigrants from diverse regions have historically been a concern for those already living in the U.S.
 - Many items on the [List of incidents of civil unrest in the United State](#) were driven by voluntary or forced immigration (slavery)

Illegal Immigration to the United States

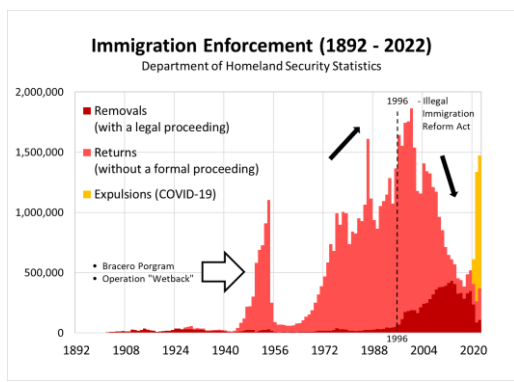


- **Illegal Immigration to the U.S.** – Over 11 million unauthorized immigrants live in the United States
 - An estimated 65% have jobs (7.5 million)
 - An estimated 30% own homes (3.5 million)
 - An estimated 30% have a U.S. citizen child
- The unauthorized immigrant population has increased significantly since 1992 (about 3x)
 - The increase is, at least in part, related to the [Illegal Immigration Reform Act of 1996](#)
 - The act made border crossing difficult (see below), so people stayed in the U.S.

Illegal Immigration to the United States

NOTE: Unauthorized immigration is typically described as “illegal” immigration. The act of immigrating can either be legal or illegal.

Unauthorized immigrants, however, are typically described as ‘unauthorized’ or ‘undocumented’ (v. ‘illegal’). A human is not typically described as being either legal or illegal, and violations of immigration laws are civil offenses (v. criminal offenses).

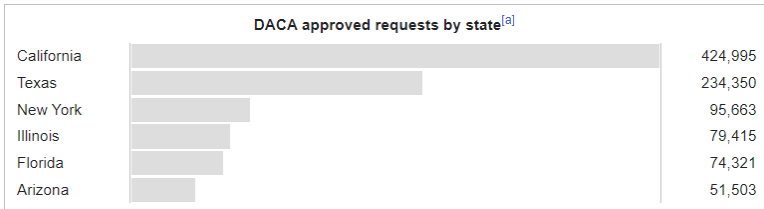


- **Illegal Immigration to the U.S.** – There were about 1.5 million immigration enforcement actions in 2022 (i.e., Returns, Removals, and Expulsions)
 - **Returns** – Preventing someone from entering the United States
 - **Removals** – Removing someone who is already living in the United States
 - **Expulsions** – Preventing someone from entering the U.S for public health reasons
 - Expulsions supercede the immigration process (even asylum claims)
- Also see:
- [Bracero Program](#)
 - [1996 Immigration Act](#)
 - [Operation "Wetback"](#)
 - [COVID-19](#)

U.S. Immigration Basics

U.S. Resident Groups	
U.S. Citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● U.S. Citizens – People who are <i>born</i> or <i>naturalized</i> in the United States, and subject to its jurisdiction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ U.S. Citizenship confers certain rights, duties, and benefits ○ U.S. Citizenship is obtained in one of two ways: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Natural-Born Citizenship (Birthright Citizenship) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anyone born on U.S. territory (or to a U.S. parent) is considered a ‘natural-born’ citizen 2. Naturalization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any 18 year-old who meets the following requirements can be ‘naturalized’ as a citizen: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 5 Years of ‘legal’ U.S. Residency, * Good Moral Character, * Oath of Allegiance, * English Language Test, * U.S. History & Government Test, and * Register for the Draft
Non-U.S. Citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Non-U.S. Citizens – When on U.S. territory, non-U.S. Citizens can be generally categorized as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Immigrants (move to the U.S. indefinitely) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Legal Permanent Residents Foreign Nationals who have a “Green Card” ▪ Asylum Seekers / Refugees Foreign Nationals who have an “Asylum Claim” ▪ Undocumented Immigrants Foreign Nationals who lack the documents needed for legal U.S. residency ○ Non-Immigrants (move to the U.S. temporarily) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diplomats ▪ Skilled Workers / Entrepreneurs ▪ Students ▪ Visitors & Tourists (90 days or less) ▪ Migrant Workers ▪ Undocumented Migrants
Immigrants Migrants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Immigrants – People who move to a new country, typically <u>with</u> the intention of settling there <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ‘Immigration’ implies movement internationally – across borders ○ ‘Immigrant’ is a term that is <u>more specific</u> than a similar term – “migrant” (below) ● Migrants – People who move to a new location, <u>with</u> or <u>without</u> the intention of settling there <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Migration often occurs within a country, but also occurs internationally – across borders ○ Migration often, but not always, occurs seasonally (for seasonal work or climate reasons)
Asylum Seekers Refugees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Asylum Seekers – People who must immigrate because of a danger in their home country <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are more than 1 million Asylum Seekers living in the U.S ○ To immigrate to the U.S., an asylum claim must demonstrate persecution based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1) Race, 2) Religion, 3) Nationality, 4) Social Group, or 5) Political Opinion ○ In the U.S., an asylum claim is made after a person is on U.S. soil (unlike a refugee – see below) ● Refugees – Asylum seekers whose refugee claims have already been approved <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More than half of global refugees are from: Syria, Afghanistan, and Ukraine ○ In the U.S., asylum claims for refugees are approved before the refugee leaves their home country
Legal Permanent Residents Green Card Holders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Legal Permanent Residents – Non-citizens who are permitted to live in the United States indefinitely <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are more than 11 million Legal Permanent Residents (LPRs) in the U.S. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LPR identification cards are known as ‘Green Cards’ ▪ LPRs may apply for U.S. citizenship after a period of residency (typically 5 years) ▪ LPRs can be removed from the United States (deported) after a criminal conviction ○ A Legal Permanent Resident may live in the U.S. indefinitely (but must periodically renew ID card)
Unauthorized Immigrants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Unauthorized Immigrants – Immigrants living in the U.S. without approved immigration documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Immigration</u> is described as legal or illegal, but <u>immigrants</u> are ‘unauthorized’ or ‘undocumented’ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A human is not typically seen as being illegal, and violations of immigration law are civil offenses
Temporary Residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Non-Immigrants – People who temporarily live in a country <u>without</u> the intention of settling there <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diplomats – Are given diplomatic immunity ▪ Skilled Workers / Entrepreneurs – Are typically sponsored by a company in the U.S. ▪ Students – May live in the U.S. while attending an institute of higher learning ▪ Visitors & Tourists – May apply for a short-term visa (90 days or less) ▪ Migrant Workers – Seasonal or temporary workers (see Bracero Program & Operation Wetback) ▪ Undocumented Migrant
Foreign Nationals Foreigners Aliens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Foreign Nationals – Any person who is not a citizen or national of a specific country. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Within the U.S., foreign nationals are people who are not U.S. citizens or U.S. nationals ○ A foreign national is also known simply as a ‘foreigner’, or in legal terminology, an ‘Alien’

U.S. Immigration Basics

Immigration Enforcement & Protection															
Returns Voluntary Returns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Returns – Denying a person entry into the United States (note: no specific court order is required) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At the U.S. border, migrants may be returned without undergoing formal removal proceedings ○ People ‘returned’ are <u>not</u> subject to formal consequences — they can try again 														
Removals Expedited Removal Removal Proceedings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removals – Removing a person who has already immigrated to the United States (requires a court order) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Removals can be prompted by a visa overstay, criminal conviction, or a violation of immigration law ○ Removal cases are heard in an immigration court ○ Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) enforces the removal orders issued by U.S. courts ○ A person who is removed is ineligible to apply for legal re-entry for a period of years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If they return, the removal order is "reinstated"; they are deported again without another trial 														
Deportations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deportations – Removing a person from, or denying a person entry into, the United States <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prior to 1996, the word ‘deportation’ was the official legal term used by the U.S. Government ○ Currently, the U.S. refers to ‘deportations’ as ‘returns’ & ‘removals’ (see above) 														
Expulsions Title 42 Expulsions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expulsions – Expelling a person from the country for public health reasons (under Title 42 of U.S. Code) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Invoked during COVID-19 to expel migrants at the U.S. border, including asylum seekers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Title 42 supersedes and circumvents the immigration processes, even for asylum claims 														
Immigration Detention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration Detention – Holding a migrant in custody because of a violation of immigration law <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each day, about 40,000 unauthorized migrants are detained at over 100 U.S. locations ○ Each year, over 350,000 unauthorized migrants pass through immigration detention at ICE or CBP 														
Temporary Protected Status (TPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary Protected Status – A program that prevents the removal or deportation of individuals who cannot safely return to their country of origin because of civil unrest, violence or natural disaster <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More than 400,000 TPS beneficiaries live in the U.S. ○ The Secretary of Homeland Security establishes the countries eligible for TPS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Citizens from 16 countries are currently eligible for TPS, including: Afghanistan, Burma (Myanmar), Cameroon, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, Venezuela, Yemen ○ The U.S. Attorney General decides whether to extend protections after eligibility ends (DED) 														
Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) DREAMers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals – An executive order from the U.S. President that prevents the removal or deportation of undocumented immigrants who were brought to the U.S. as children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More than 600,000 DACA beneficiaries live in the U.S. with unclear status (most are from Mexico) ○ DACA recipients cannot be deported and are eligible to work in the U.S. (must renew every 2 years) ○ DACA history: (ongoing) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2001: The DREAM Act was introduced in Congress, reintroduced in 2007 ▪ 2012: Obama implemented DACA by executive order (after the DREAM Act failures) ▪ 2014: Obama sought to expand DACA eligibility, but was blocked by states who sued in court ▪ 2017: Trump rescinded the expansion of DACA and announced plans to phase-out DACA entirely ▪ 2021: Biden reinstated DACA, but the courts blocked new applicants pending judicial hearings ▪ 2024: DACA status is uncertain (several court cases may bring the issue to the Supreme Court) <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <caption>DACA approved requests by state^[a]</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>State</th> <th>Number of Requests</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>California</td> <td>424,995</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Texas</td> <td>234,350</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New York</td> <td>95,663</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Illinois</td> <td>79,415</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Florida</td> <td>74,321</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Arizona</td> <td>51,503</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div>	State	Number of Requests	California	424,995	Texas	234,350	New York	95,663	Illinois	79,415	Florida	74,321	Arizona	51,503
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Asylum in the U.S.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asylum in the United States – A foreign national may request asylum in the U.S. by demonstrating persecution based on: 1) Race, 2) Religion, 3) Nationality, 4) Social Group, or 5) Political Opinion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More than 1,000,000 Asylum Seekers are currently living in the United States ○ The president sets the annual limit for new asylum & refugee claims (with Congressional oversight) ○ An asylum claim is made after a person arrives on U.S. soil (unlike a pre-approved refugee claim) ○ Individuals who have applied for asylum and are awaiting a ruling cannot be deported <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Individuals are either detained or released (based on risk) until their asylum hearing ▪ Most of the 1 million are released, and about 99% appear as expected at their asylum hearing ○ As of 2023, approximately 1 asylum claim is approved for every 20 that are received (5%) 														

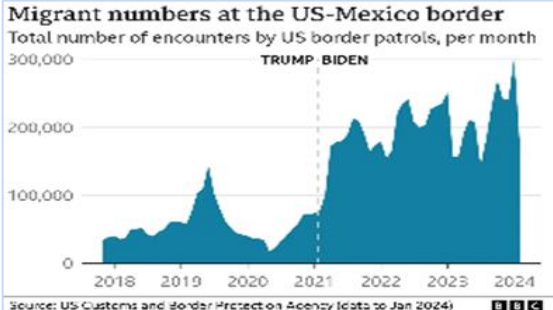
U.S. Immigration Basics

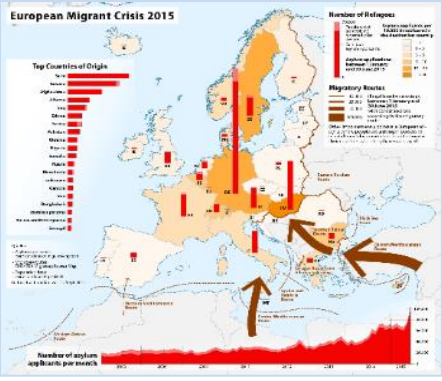
Immigration Agencies in the U.S. Government	
Primary Federal Organizations	
U.S. Congress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● U.S. Congress –The legislature of the federal government of the United States <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Congress has two primary assemblies: the Senate and the House of Representatives (bicameral) ● Congress establishes laws for immigration and provides funding to enforce immigration law <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In the Senate, the Senate Judiciary Committee has a subcommittee focused on Immigration issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship ○ In the House of Representatives, the House Judiciary Committee has a similar subcommittee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law
U.S. President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● U.S. President – The head of state and head of government of the United States of America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The president is the commander-in-chief of the United States Armed Forces ○ The president directs the executive branch of the federal government ● The President enforces laws for immigration via the State Department & Homeland Security Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The President may also take executive action to modify enforcement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DACA: Obama established protections for immigrant children brought to the U.S. as minors ▪ Remain in Mexico: Trump required asylum seekers to wait for U.S. immigration court in Mexico ▪ Travel Bans: Trump prohibited travel from certain countries (primarily Muslim)
U.S. Department of State <small>State Department</small>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● U.S. Department of State – The executive department responsible for foreign policy & foreign relations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Responsibilities include: international relations, administering diplomatic missions, negotiating international treaties and agreements, and representing the U.S. at the United Nations ○ Comparable to the ministry of foreign affairs of other nations ● The State Department coordinates immigration issues with other countries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The State Department issues visas (both immigrant & temporary travel visas)
U.S. Department of Homeland Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) – The executive department responsible for public security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DHS has 22 different departments responsible for: border security, customs, immigration, anti-terrorism, cyber security & disaster response / disaster recovery ○ Comparable to the ministry of home affairs in other nations ○ The DHS was established by the Homeland Security Act of 2002 ● The three (3) DHS departments focused on immigration are the USCIS, ICE, and CBP (see details below) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ These three departments replaced the prior Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS)
Key Homeland Security Departments	
U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS) – Administers the naturalization & immigration process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ USCIS is responsible for visa petitions, naturalization applications, asylum applications, applications for adjustment of status (green cards), and refugee applications. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Administration of immigration services and benefits ● Issuing Employment Authorization Documents (EAD) ● Adjudicating petitions for non-immigrant temporary workers ○ USCIS has about 19,000 employees working at 223 offices around the world
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) – Addresses cross-border crime & illegal immigration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ICE has two primary and distinct law enforcement components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Homeland Security Investigations (HSI): Crime ▪ Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO): Removals ○ ICE has an estimated capacity to remove 400,000 aliens (actual removals) ○ ICE has about 20,000 employees at 400 offices around the world (53 countries)
U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) – Enforcing customs and border controls <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Originally established in 1789 as the United States Customs Service ○ CBP has about 45,600 federal agents ● U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) – Responsible for securing U.S. borders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Deter, detect, and apprehend anyone crossing into the U.S. illegally <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Other than a port of entry designated by the U.S. attorney general ○ USBP has about 20,000 federal agents

U.S. Immigration Basics

Immigration & Travel Documents	
U.S. Passport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. Passport – A travel document used by U.S. citizens & nationals to cross the U.S. border <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Issued by the U.S. Department of State ○ Allows visa-free travel to 186 countries and territories (Ranked 7th in world for travel freedom) ○ A U.S. passport must be renewed every 10 years
U.S. Visa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. Visa – A document that allows a foreign national to enter the U.S. for a specific purpose & duration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Issued by the U.S. Department of State, most often by a U.S. consulate or embassy abroad ○ There are more than 30 types (classes) of U.S. visas, including both temporary and immigrant visas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Family Reunification (IR-1 visa). Work (H-1B visa), Study (F-1 visa), Tourism (B-2 visa), etc. ○ A U.S. visa is temporary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tourist visas are typically 3 months, immigrant visas 6 months, work/student visas are longer • Diversity Immigrant Visa – A portion of U.S. visas are devoted to an immigration visa lottery program that provides an opportunity for people with diverse nationalities & backgrounds to immigrate
U.S. Permanent Resident Card Green Card	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. Permanent Resident Card – A card used to show lawful permanent residence in the United States. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Issued by the Department of Homeland Security (USCIS) ○ Allows someone the right to live and work permanently in the United States. ○ In general, a visa must be obtained or available before someone can apply for a Green Card ○ A green card is permanent (although it must be renewed every 10 years)
REAL ID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REAL ID – New standards for state-issued identification documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The REAL ID Act required state driver licenses & ID cards meet new congressional requirements in order to be accepted for boarding aircraft or visiting certain federal government facilities

Recent Immigration Topics

2020-2024 Mexico–U.S. Border Crisis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mexico–U.S. Border Crisis – A surge in migrant encounters at the Mexico–U.S. border beginning in 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Included 1.73 million migrant encounters in 2021 ▪ 2.76 million in 2022 ▪ 2.8 million in 2023 ○ The surge in migrant encounters has been driven by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Political repression, gang violence, poverty, and natural disasters in Central & South America ▪ Four “failed states” in the western hemisphere (Haiti, Venezuela, Nicaragua & Cuba) ▪ The end of Title 42 restrictions and release of 38 months of pent-up COVID demand (May 2023) ▪ Increased migration from areas other than Mexico (+500% in Chinese nationals) ▪ Actual changes and shifts in public perception about U.S. immigration policy (Trump vs. Biden) <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Source: US Customs and Border Protection Agency (cuts to Jan 2024)</p> </div>
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2015 European Migrant Crisis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2015 European Migrant Crisis – In 2015, there were 1.3 million migrants who immigrated to Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Included mostly Syrians, but also significant groups from Afghanistan, Nigeria, Pakistan, Iraq, Eritrea, & the Balkans ○ The causes were war in the Middle East, ISIL, and the Arab Winter ○ Lebanon, Jordan & Egypt stopped accepting Syrians as asylum seekers, putting more pressure on Europe • Many European Union (EU) governments closed borders and refused to take in the arriving refugees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Germany ultimately accepted the most refugees <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>
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U.S. Immigration Basics

<p>2014 American Immigration Crisis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2014 American Immigration Crisis – A surge in unaccompanied children and women from the Northern Triangle of Central America (Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador) to the United States in 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unaccompanied children at the border increased 80%, from 38,759 to 68,541 in fiscal year 2014 The crisis was driven by gang-related violent crime, a U.S. law in 2008 (HR7311) that granted protection to immigrant children, false “permiso” rumors, and a recovering U.S. economy after the Great Recession 	<p style="font-size: small;">SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS)</p>																																																						
<p>2006 U.S. Immigration Reform Protests</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2006 U.S. Immigration Reform Protests – Millions of people participated in protests over H.R. 4437, a proposed change that would raise penalties for illegal immigration and classify illegals as felons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The large scale mobilization of Latinos is widely seen as a historic turning point in Latino politics 																																																							
<p>Opposition to Immigration Nativism Xenophobia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opposition to Immigration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasons for opposition to immigration include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on U.S. National Identity/Culture, Economic Competition, Resource Scarcity, Crime, and Welfare Costs Opposition to immigration can also be referred to as Nativism or Xenophobia (fear of foreigners) 																																																							
<p>Catch & Release</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catch & Release – A slang term for releasing migrants into the U.S. while they await immigration court <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The term also refers to when aliens are released if resources aren’t available to prosecute them The term is used by Trump as a catch-all phrase for laws limiting immigration detention It is important to note that the migrants are assessed as low-risk prior to release <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catch and release also refers to a conservation practice in fishing 																																																							
<p>E-Verify</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-Verify – A DHS website that allows businesses to check employee eligibility to work in the U.S. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1997 - Established in as a Basic Pilot Program 2007 - The DHS required all federal contractors and vendors to use E-Verify Note: federal law does not mandate use of E-Verify for non-federal employees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9/50 states mandate E-Verify for all employers, 13/50 states mandate for public employers Research shows that E-Verify provides benefits in addressing undocumented immigration 																																																							
<p>Sanctuary City</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanctuary City – A city in the U.S. that limits its participation in enforcing federal immigration law <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanctuary Cities limit cooperation with federal agencies to identify undocumented immigrants 																																																							
<p>Recent Attempts at U.S. Immigration Legislation</p> <p>Also see: • B: U.S. Immigration Policy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recent Attempts at U.S. Immigration Legislation – In spite of the 7+ attempts below, there has been no agreed upon U.S. Immigration legislation in roughly 30 years (since 1996) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bi-partisan legislation to fix U.S. immigration already exists! 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%;">Recent Attempts at U.S. Immigration Legislation <small>(Proposed legislation that was <u>not</u> adopted into law)</small></th> <th style="width: 10%;">Immigration Need Addressed <small>(see above)</small></th> <th style="width: 10%;">Political Party Sponsor</th> <th style="width: 10%;">House</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Senate</th> <th style="width: 10%;">President</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2001 – DREAM Act (reconsidered in 2001, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011)</td> <td>S2</td> <td>D-R</td> <td>*</td> <td>*</td> <td>Y – Bush Y – Obama</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2005 - Border Protection, Anti-terror & Illegal Immigration Act</td> <td>N1</td> <td>R</td> <td>Y</td> <td>*</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2006 - Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act</td> <td>S2, S3</td> <td>R-D</td> <td>*</td> <td>Y</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013 - Border Security, Economic & Immigration Modernization Act</td> <td>N1, S2, S3</td> <td>D-R</td> <td>*</td> <td>Y</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017 - RAISE Act</td> <td>N1</td> <td>R</td> <td>-</td> <td>*</td> <td>Y - Trump</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021 - US Citizenship Act</td> <td>S2</td> <td>D</td> <td>*</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023 - American Dream and Promise Act</td> <td>S2</td> <td>D</td> <td>*</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2024 - The Emergency National Security Supplemental Appropriations Act</td> <td>N1</td> <td>R-D</td> <td>-</td> <td>*</td> <td>Y - Biden</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="font-size: small; text-align: center;">(D = Democrat, R = Republican, Y = Approved, * = Debated)</p>	Recent Attempts at U.S. Immigration Legislation <small>(Proposed legislation that was <u>not</u> adopted into law)</small>	Immigration Need Addressed <small>(see above)</small>	Political Party Sponsor	House	Senate	President	2001 – DREAM Act (reconsidered in 2001, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011)	S2	D-R	*	*	Y – Bush Y – Obama	2005 - Border Protection, Anti-terror & Illegal Immigration Act	N1	R	Y	*	-	2006 - Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act	S2, S3	R-D	*	Y	-	2013 - Border Security, Economic & Immigration Modernization Act	N1, S2, S3	D-R	*	Y	-	2017 - RAISE Act	N1	R	-	*	Y - Trump	2021 - US Citizenship Act	S2	D	*	-	-	2023 - American Dream and Promise Act	S2	D	*	-	-	2024 - The Emergency National Security Supplemental Appropriations Act	N1	R-D	-	*	Y - Biden
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<p>Nations with the Most Foreign-Born Residents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immigration to Europe Immigration to Germany Foreign Workers in SA Immigration to Russia Immigration to the UK Migrant workers in UAE Immigration to France Immigration to Canada 	<p style="text-align: center;">Foreign Born Residents</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Normalized by Total Residents</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Host Country</th> <th>Foreign-Born Residents</th> <th>Total Residents</th> <th>% Foreign Born</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>US United States</td> <td>50.6</td> <td>331.9</td> <td>15.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DE Germany</td> <td>15.8</td> <td>83.2</td> <td>19.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SA Saudi Arabia</td> <td>13.5</td> <td>36.0</td> <td>37.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RU Russia</td> <td>11.6</td> <td>143.4</td> <td>8.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GB Great Britain</td> <td>9.4</td> <td>67.3</td> <td>14.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UAE Arab Emirates</td> <td>8.7</td> <td>9.8</td> <td>88%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FR France</td> <td>8.5</td> <td>67.8</td> <td>12.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CA Canada</td> <td>8.0</td> <td>38.3</td> <td>20.9%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Host Country	Foreign-Born Residents	Total Residents	% Foreign Born	US United States	50.6	331.9	15.2%	DE Germany	15.8	83.2	19.0%	SA Saudi Arabia	13.5	36.0	37.5%	RU Russia	11.6	143.4	8.1%	GB Great Britain	9.4	67.3	14.0%	UAE Arab Emirates	8.7	9.8	88%	FR France	8.5	67.8	12.5%	CA Canada	8.0	38.3	20.9%																		
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U.S. Immigration Basics

Appendix A: U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Laws

U.S. Citizenship	Naturalization	Immigration
<p>The Constitution (1788) did <u>not</u> directly define a 'natural' or 'automatic' U.S. Citizen (it left that definition up-to each State)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Article IV, Section 2: "The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States."</p>	<p>The Constitution (1788) gave Congress the power to establish rules for 'naturalizing' a U.S. Citizen</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Article I, Section 8, Clause 4: "The Congress shall have Power...To establish [a] uniform Rule of Naturalization..."</p>	<p>The Constitution (1788) was intentionally silent on the rules for Immigration</p>
<p>The 14th Amendment (1868) later clarified the definition of U.S. Citizenship (a definition was needed after slavery)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">14th Amendment, Section 1: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and the state wherein they reside...."</p>	<p>While 'Naturalization' has always been governed by Federal Rules...</p>	<p>At first, entry to the United States was largely controlled by state laws at the port or border crossing</p>
	<p>...the process for 'naturalizing' a citizen was initially implemented at a local level...</p>	<p>Over time, Federal oversight has increased to ensure standardization</p>
	<p>...and over time, Federal oversight has Increased to ensure standardization</p>	<p>The U.S. Government now controls national borders and immigration</p>

U.S. Constitution
 Federal Law
 State Law
 Overlap

		1700s		1800s						1900s						2000s												
		1780s	1790s	1800s	1810s	1820s	1830s	1840s	1850s	1860s	1870s	1880s	1890s	1900s	1910s	1920s	1930s	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s	2020s		
U.S. CITIZENSHIP	WHO	"The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States."												"All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and the state wherein they reside."														
	WHAT	Citizenship requirements varied by state Often based on English common law, which granted white people citizenship at birth (or if born overseas to a citizen)												Citizenship requirements are simplified & standardized Uniform citizenship for everyone who is born on U.S. territory ("natural born" or "birthright citizenship")														
	HOW	Provide evidence at a local court (Example: <i>Application for U.S. Citizenship, 1850</i>)												Documentation for U.S. Citizenship Increases						1902 - The Bureau of Census 1919 - All States have Birth Records 1936 - Social Security Numbers 1940 - Passports						2005 - REAL ID		

		1700s		1800s						1900s						2000s												
		1780s	1790s	1800s	1810s	1820s	1830s	1840s	1850s	1860s	1870s	1880s	1890s	1900s	1910s	1920s	1930s	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s	2020s		
NATURALIZATION	WHO	Free white immigrants												1870 - African Americans						1942 - Native American Indians 1946 - Philippines and Far East Indians 1965 - Any Race or Nationality 1990 - Homosexuals								
	WHAT	Three basic requirements: 1) U.S. Residency Requirement (typically 5 years) 2) Good Character (non-criminal) 3) Oath of Allegiance												Additional requirements: 4) English Test 5) US History & Government Test 6) Register for the Draft														
	HOW	Provide evidence at a local court												Federal Standardization & Oversight Increases						1906 - Uniform Rules for Naturalization 1917 - Literacy Tests						Apply at the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS)		

		1700s		1800s						1900s						2000s													
		1780s	1790s	1800s	1810s	1820s	1830s	1840s	1850s	1860s	1870s	1880s	1890s	1900s	1910s	1920s	1930s	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s	2020s			
IMMIGRATION	WHO	Anyone												No Chinese or Asians						Mexico, Asia, Central America, Caribbean, Africa, South America									
	WHAT	Two basic requirements: 1) Must be healthy 2) Must not become a burden on society												Federal Standardization & Oversight Increases						Immigration based on: 1) National Origin 2) Race (no Asians)						Immigration based on: 1) Family reunification 2) Employment skills			
	HOW	No documents are needed to immigrate to the U.S. Often, 1st & 2nd Class passengers were not inspected. Only steerage passengers were screened (e.g. Ellis Island)												1891 - Office of Immigration created 1892 - Ellis Island is opened						Documents are required for everyone who is legally on U.S. soil 1940 - Foreigners must register 1941 - ID / Green Cards issued						1980 - Refugees & Asylum Rules			

U.S. Immigration Basics

Appendix B: History of U.S. Immigration Policy

History of U.S. Immigration Policy

Note: Only major policy changes are shown.

More detailed lists:

- [List of United States immigration laws](#)
- [History of Laws Concerning Immigration and Naturalization in the United States](#)
- [Immigration policy of the United States](#)

LEGEND

- U.S. Immigration Policy
- U.S. Border Control Policy
- Proposed U.S. Immigration Policy (unapproved)
- Executive Orders and Informal Agreements

- 1788 **U.S. Constitution**: Established the initial U.S. rules for: 1) naturalization and 2) citizenship
 - *Article I, section 8*: Congress has the power to set “uniform rule[s] for **Naturalization**”
 - *Article IV, section 2*: “The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.”
 - 1790 **Naturalization Act of 1790** – Established basic naturalization requirements for free whites
 - 1) U.S. Residency Requirement (5 years), 2) Good Character, 3) Oath of Allegiance
 - 1794+ Legislation that affected the Slave Trade (forced immigration)
 - **Slave Trade Act of 1794** – Prevented U.S. Ships from participating in the slave trade
 - **Act Prohibiting Importation of Slaves** (1807) – Stopped new slave imports into the U.S.
 - 1864 **An Act to Encourage Immigration** – Provided funds to support immigration during the Civil War
 - 1868 **14th Amendment to U.S. Constitution** – Ensured legal protection for former slaves
 - The **Citizenship Clause** establishes **Birthright Citizenship** (makes ex-slaves citizens)
 - 1870 **Nationality Act of 1870**: Created naturalization rules; African Americans can be naturalized
 - 1882 **Chinese Exclusion Act**: Marked the first significant immigration restriction
 - 1891 **Immigration Act of 1891**: Created an Office of Immigration in the Treasury Department
 - 1906 **Naturalization Act of 1906**: Established uniform rules for naturalization and required English
 - 1907 **Gentlemen's Agreement of 1907**: Japan prevented new emigration to the U.S. so that Congress would not impose restrictions on Japanese immigrants already living in the U.S.
 - 1917 **Immigration Act of 1917**: Introduced literacy tests and other immigration requirements
-
- 1921 **Emergency Quota Act**: Established limits & quotas based on National Origin in an attempt to keep new immigrants in the same ethnical proportion as existing residents
 - 1924 **Immigration Act of 1924**: Excluded Asian Immigration, established the Border Patrol & Visas
 - 1940 **Nationality Act of 1940**: Clarified rules for naturalization, required foreigners to register
 - 1952 **Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952**: Create a unified code of U.S. immigration law
 - 1965 **Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965**: Established an immigration policy based on Family reunification and employment preferences
 - **The Unintended Consequences of the 1965 Immigration Act** (NPR)
 - 1980 **Refugee Act of 1980**: Standardized the Refugee Admissions Program
 - 1986 **Immigration Reform and Control Act**: Made it illegal to hire undocumented immigrants, but provided amnesty for undocumented immigrants who had lived in the U.S. prior to 1982
 - 1990 **Immigration Act of 1990** – Increased immigration limits, established TPS, established the Diversity Lottery, simplified citizenship after 55 year, allowed homosexuals to immigrate
 - 1996 **Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRaRA)** strengthened border enforcement, increased deportation reasons, 3+ year penalty for illegal immigration
 - 2001 **DREAM Act** – Residency & work permits to undocumented minors (**No vote in Congress**)
 - 2001 **USA PATRIOT Act**: Increased security and surveillance in response to the 9/11 attacks
 - 2002 **Homeland Security Act**: Created the Department of Homeland Security
 - 2005 **REAL ID Act**: Set new standards for state-issued ID-Cards to enhance security
 - 2005 **Border Protection, Anti-terror & Illegal Immigration Act: (Passed the House, not the Senate)**
 - Proposed new immigration enforcement & penalties, prohibited aid to immigrants & cities
 - Was a primary motivator for the **2006 United States immigration** reform protests
 - 2006 **Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act: (Passed the Senate, not the House)**
 - Proposed improved border enforcement, a pathway to citizenship for long-term residents, and increases in guest workers via a new "blue card" visa program
 - 2012 **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)**: An Obama-era Executive Order that gave temporary relief to undocumented children (note: ongoing protection is in limbo)
 - 2013 **Border Security, Economic & Immigration Modernization Act: (Passed Senate, not House)**
 - Proposed a path to citizenship, guest workers, increased border security, and new visas
 - 2017 **RAISE Act: (No vote in Congress)**
 - A republican proposal to reduce the amount of existing legal immigration
 - 2021 **US Citizenship Act: (No vote in Congress)**
 - Proposed sweeping changes in immigration, visas, and border controls
 - 2023 **American Dream and Promise Act: (No vote in Congress)**
 - Proposed the implementation of DACA benefits
 - 2024 **The Emergency National Security Supplemental Appropriations Act: (No vote in Congress)**
 - Proposed fixes to asylum claims, “catch & release”, border resources & court backlog

U.S. Immigration Basics

Appendix C: U.S. Immigration Reform

Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration Reform in the United States - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Immigration is going to be an ongoing issue, whether people want it to be or not ○ The U.S. can either control immigration and leverage it as a benefit, or let immigration control us • Immigration should be a strong net benefit and a competitive advantage for the United States <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The U.S. has a long history of both: 1) resisting immigration, and 2) benefiting from immigration 																																																						
Current State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current State: The current state of U.S. Immigration is shown in the chart below <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reform is needed in the circled items, as described below <div style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>U.S. Residents 331 Million in 2021</p> <p>U.S.-Born Residents 284 Million - 86%</p> <p>Foreign-Born Residents 47 Million - 14% "Immigrants"</p> <p>Breakdown of Foreign-Born:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Naturalized Citizens: 23 Million (7%) Permanent Residents: 11 Million (3%) Temporary Residents: 2 Million (1%) Unauthorized Residents: 11 Million (3%) <p>Immigration Pathways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green Card: 5% Immigrant Visa Family Members, Skilled Workers, Refugees, Diversity Lottery Visa Overstays, Low-Skilled Workers, Asylum Seekers, Returns & Removals <p>Reform Areas (Circled):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N1: Asylum Seekers N2: Naturalized Citizens S1: Asylum Seekers S2: DACA, TPS S3: Unauthorized Residents </div>																																																						
Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis – Reform is needed in the items circled above, as described below <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NOW #1 – Additional Border Resources & Asylum Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Additional resources are needed now in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Border Resources (people, walls, detention areas) – Legal Resources (asylum claim backlog) – Community Resources (support for communities that serve as new homes to immigrants) ○ NOW #2 – Realistic & Strategic Immigration Thinking – An Immigration Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The U.S. has a strong need and steady demand for Low-Skilled, Low-Cost Labor ▪ The U.S. has a need to address an Aging Population ▪ The U.S. economy can absorb new immigrants without limited cost/risk if we do it smartly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The U.S. has a history of: 1) opposition to immigration, and 2) benefiting from immigration – People who live in the U.S. and return home provide a huge benefit to the U.S. diplomacy • Strategic Needs – The U.S. needs legislation to pass through Congress (vs. Executive Order) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ STRATEGIC #1 – Asylum Reform ○ STRATEGIC #2 – Protection for DACA / DREAMers ○ STRATEGIC #3 – Plan for Unauthorized Residents (A: Deport, B. Path to Citizenship, C. Other?) 																																																						
Immigration Legislation Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration Legislation Ideas – The following solutions have already been proposed in congress. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Solutions exist for N1, S2 & S3; Additional Work is needed on N2 & S1 <div style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Recent Attempts at U.S. Immigration Legislation (Proposed Legislation that was <u>not</u> adopted into law)</p> <p>(D = Democrat, R = Republican, Y = Approved, * = Debated)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%;">Immigration Need Addressed (see above)</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Political Party Sponsor</th> <th style="width: 10%;">House</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Senate</th> <th style="width: 10%;">President</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2001 – DREAM Act (reconsidered in 2001, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011)</td> <td>S2</td> <td>D-R</td> <td>*</td> <td>*</td> <td>Y – Bush Y – Obama</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2005 - Border Protection, Anti-terror & Illegal Immigration Act</td> <td>N1</td> <td>R</td> <td>Y</td> <td>*</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2006 - Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act</td> <td>S2, S3</td> <td>R-D</td> <td>*</td> <td>Y</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013 - Border Security, Economic & Immigration Modernization Act</td> <td>N1, S2, S3</td> <td>D-R</td> <td>*</td> <td>Y</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017 - RAISE Act</td> <td>N1</td> <td>R</td> <td>-</td> <td>*</td> <td>Y - Trump</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021 - US Citizenship Act</td> <td>S2</td> <td>D</td> <td>*</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023 - American Dream and Promise Act</td> <td>S2</td> <td>D</td> <td>*</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2024 - The Emergency National Security Supplemental Appropriations Act</td> <td>N1</td> <td>R-D</td> <td>-</td> <td>*</td> <td>Y - Biden</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div>		Immigration Need Addressed (see above)	Political Party Sponsor	House	Senate	President	2001 – DREAM Act (reconsidered in 2001, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011)	S2	D-R	*	*	Y – Bush Y – Obama	2005 - Border Protection, Anti-terror & Illegal Immigration Act	N1	R	Y	*	-	2006 - Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act	S2, S3	R-D	*	Y	-	2013 - Border Security, Economic & Immigration Modernization Act	N1, S2, S3	D-R	*	Y	-	2017 - RAISE Act	N1	R	-	*	Y - Trump	2021 - US Citizenship Act	S2	D	*	-	-	2023 - American Dream and Promise Act	S2	D	*	-	-	2024 - The Emergency National Security Supplemental Appropriations Act	N1	R-D	-	*	Y - Biden
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U.S. Immigration Basics

Appendix D: 2024 Election Scorecard – Immigration

What is your opinion on U.S. Immigration?

Strongly in Favor of the Issue **1** Moderately in Favor of the Issue **2** Neutral or Unclear **3** Moderately Against the Issue **4** Strongly Against the Issue **5**

IMMIGRATION (IN-GENERAL)	YOUR OPINION	PRO (OPPORTUNITY)	CON (RISK)	BIDEN	TRUMP
Immigration to the United States		Benefits of Immigration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on U.S. Culture Impact on the U.S. Economy (G.D.P.) Impact on U.S. Population Decline Need for Low-Skill, Low-Cost Labor Need for Specific Job Skills (e.g. nursing) 	Opposition to Immigration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on U.S. National Identity/Culture Impact on Jobs and Other Immigration Costs Drain on Social Resources Impact on Wages Impact on Crime 	2	5

SPECIFIC IMMIGRATION ISSUES	YOUR OPINION	BIDEN POLICIES	TRUMP POLICIES	BIDEN	TRUMP
PRO-IMMIGRATION ISSUES					
DACA / DREAMers CAM Program		Pro-DACA Pro-DED	Phase out of DACA	1	5
Asylum		Ended Title 42 Asylum Protection Asylum Restrictions	Remain in Mexico Asylum Restrictions No Asylum for Gangs or Domestic Violence	2	5
Refugees		Refugee Admissions	RAISE Act Refugee numbers Syrian Refugees Cancellation of Temporary Protected Status	2	5
Birthright Citizenship		14 th Amendment	Disagrees with Birthright Citizenship	3	5
Sanctuary Cities		Revocation of prior administration policies	Executive Order 13768	3	5
ANTI-IMMIGRATION ISSUES					
Mass Deportation		Deportations	Mass deportation of illegal immigrants	4	1
Mexico-U.S. Border Wall		Revocation of prior administration policies Border Wall	Trump's Proposed Border Wall Border security and border wall with Mexico	4	1
Travel Bans		Revocation of prior administration policies	Trump Travel Ban Muslim Travel Ban	5	1
Immigration Detention				5	1
Family Separation		Revocation of prior administration policies	Zero-Tolerance Policy	5	1

The U.S. has a long history of both: 1) resisting immigration, and 2) benefiting from immigration

Videos:

- IMMIGRANT PRO-CON: https://rationalwiki.org/wiki/Myths_and_facts_about_immigration_to_the_United_States#In_a_nutshell
- IMMIGRATION POLITICS: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9mPEquFKKA&t=86s>
- TRUMP POLICIES: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VG-uZXKvGcC>
- BIDEN POLICIES: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WA9o0AFvW4>
- BIDEN POLICIES: <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/biden-three-immigration-record>
- TRUMP VS. BIDEN: https://www.washingtonpost.com/immigration/2024/02/11/trump-biden-immigration-border-compared/?utm_campaign=wp_the_5_minute_fix&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_fix