

# National Survey of 1000 Likely Voters

Conducted February 6, 2013

By Pulse Opinion Research for the Federation for American Immigration Reform

1. In the next two years what is the most important issue for Congress to address?

- 40% Improving the economy and creating new jobs
- 24% Reducing the size of the federal deficit
- 13% Ensuring the fiscal solvency of Social Security and Medicare
- 3% Reforming our immigration system
- 2% Improving the quality of education
- 9% Making health care affordable and accessible
- 5% Some other issue
- 5% If Not sure

2. Which of the following statements best reflects your views on illegal immigration?

- 51% Illegal immigration is a serious problem for the United States
- 35% Illegal immigration is somewhat of a problem for the United States
- 7% Illegal immigration is not a problem at all for the United States
- 5% Illegal immigration is generally beneficial to the United States
- 2% Not sure

3. Border security is often mentioned as a key element in preventing illegal immigration and protecting homeland security. How secure are America's borders?

- 6% Very secure
- 35% Somewhat secure
- 37% Not very secure
- 16% Not at all secure
- 6% Not sure

4. How effective is the government in preventing illegal immigrants from living and working in the United States?

- 2% Very effective
- 19% Somewhat effective
- 47% Not very effective
- 27% Not at all effective
- 5% Not sure

5. Which of the following statements best reflects your views about the impact of illegal immigration on the United States?

- 26% Illegal immigrants tend to only take jobs that Americans will not do and, overall, benefit our economy

53% Illegal immigrants tend to harm American workers by accepting jobs at lower wages than Americans are willing to work for, and, overall, harm our economy

11% Illegal immigrants have little if any impact on American workers on the U.S. economy

10% Not sure

6. Thinking about the impact of illegal immigration in your state and community, which of the following statements do you believe is most accurate?

11% Illegal immigrants are a net benefit to public resources, paying more in taxes than they use in services like education and health care

66% Illegal immigrants are a net drain on public resources, using more in services like education and health care than they pay in taxes

9% Illegal immigrants have little or no impact on public resources

13% If Not sure

7. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose a proposed plan that would allow illegal immigrants to live and work in the United States, but would not lead to citizenship?

9% Strongly support

28% Somewhat support

23% Somewhat oppose

26% Strongly oppose

14% Not sure

8. Proposals that would grant illegal immigrants legal status also include promises of effective enforcement of laws against illegal immigration in the future. How confident are you that the government will effectively enforce immigration laws after the current illegal immigrant population is granted legal status?

5% Very confident

21% Somewhat confident

36% Not very confident

33% Not confident at all

5% Not sure

9. If Congress were to legalize the estimated 13 million illegal immigrants, how confident are you that the government would be able to carry out effective background checks on applicants and screen out fraudulent applications?

8% Very confident

21% Somewhat confident

33% Not very confident

34% Not confident at all

4% Not sure

10. Some have suggested that we neither have to legalize millions of illegal immigrants, nor deport millions of illegal immigrants. Rather, we could convince many illegal immigrants to leave voluntarily by requiring all employers to electronically verify the work eligibility of all employees and eliminate their access to nonemergency government benefits. Which of the following options for dealing with current illegal immigrants do you most support?

- 36% Allowing illegal immigrants to legalize their status and remain here
- 15% Deporting illegal immigrants
- 37% Encouraging illegal immigrants to return home by removing jobs and benefits
- 13% Not sure

**NOTE:** Margin of Sampling Error, +/- 3 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence