

**SURVEY OF REPUBLICAN AND INDEPENDENT VOTERS  
IN COLORADO'S 6<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
REGARDING IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION**

**FEBRUARY 17-21, 2008**

Hello, may I please speak with \_\_\_\_\_? Mr./Ms. \_\_\_\_\_, this is \_\_\_\_\_ with Ayres, McHenry & Associates, a public opinion research company. We're talking with people in your area today for just a few minutes about some political issues. We are not trying to sell anything, your answers are completely confidential, and we would really appreciate your cooperation (DO NOT PAUSE).

A. Our information indicates that you are registered to vote in Colorado. Is that correct?

YES ..... GO TO QUESTION B  
NO ..... THANK AND CLOSE

B. Are you registered to vote as a Republican, a Democrat, or an independent?

*ALL*

REPUBLICAN.....67%GO TO Q. 1  
INDEPENDENT (UNAFFILIATED) .....33%GO TO Q. 1

1. Would you say that the most important issue facing the country today is (RANDOMIZE: the war in Iraq, terrorism, illegal immigration, the economy, or health care)?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>
IRAQ.....	12%	9%	19%
TERRORISM .....	16%	20%	6%
ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION .....	17%	20%	10%
ECONOMY .....	37%	35%	42%
HEALTH CARE.....	12%	9%	19%
SOMETHING ELSE (VOLUNTEERED) .....	3%	3%	2%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION .....	4%	4%	2%

*All* results are based on 400 weighted cases, MoE = ±4.90 percent. *REP* results are based on 371 respondents, MoE = ±5.09 percent. *IND* results are based on 130 respondents, MoE = ±8.60 percent.  
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## Attitudes Toward Immigrants

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Now I have two questions about legal and illegal immigrants in America.

ROTATE QUESTIONS 2 AND 3

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2. On balance, would you say most legal immigrants are (ROTATE FRONT TO BACK, BACK TO FRONT): very good for America, mostly good for America, mostly bad for America, or very bad for America)?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>
VERY GOOD .....	36%	35%	36%
MOSTLY GOOD.....	56%	58%	54%
MOSTLY BAD .....	4%	5%	2%
VERY BAD.....	2%	1%	3%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	3%	2%	5%

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3. On balance, would you say most illegal immigrants are (ROTATE FRONT TO BACK, BACK TO FRONT): very good for America, mostly good for America, mostly bad for America, or very bad for America)?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>
VERY GOOD .....	1%	2%	1%
MOSTLY GOOD.....	23%	16%	37%
MOSTLY BAD .....	46%	48%	43%
VERY BAD.....	23%	28%	13%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	7%	7%	6%

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Now I would like to talk about how we distinguish between good and bad immigrants. How important is it to you that immigrants do each of the following things: very important, somewhat important, or not too important (RANDOMIZE):

		<b>VERY IMPORTANT</b>	<b>SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT</b>	<b>NOT TOO IMPORTANT</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW</b>
4. Work at a steady job	<i>ALL</i>	72%	22%	5%	1%
	<i>REP</i>	75%	20%	4%	1%
	<i>IND</i>	66%	27%	7%	0%
5. Use no more social services than they pay for	<i>ALL</i>	69%	22%	6%	4%
	<i>REP</i>	74%	19%	4%	3%
	<i>IND</i>	60%	27%	9%	4%
6. Come here legally	<i>ALL</i>	85%	13%	2%	1%
	<i>REP</i>	89%	9%	1%	1%
	<i>IND</i>	75%	20%	3%	2%
7. Not have a criminal record	<i>ALL</i>	86%	12%	1%	1%
	<i>REP</i>	88%	10%	1%	1%
	<i>IND</i>	82%	17%	2%	0%
8. Learn English	<i>ALL</i>	78%	18%	4%	0%
	<i>REP</i>	83%	15%	2%	0%
	<i>IND</i>	69%	25%	6%	0%
9. Do work for which there is a shortage of American workers	<i>ALL</i>	34%	39%	21%	6%
	<i>REP</i>	34%	36%	23%	7%
	<i>IND</i>	35%	45%	15%	5%
10. Stay off welfare	<i>ALL</i>	79%	17%	4%	1%
	<i>REP</i>	83%	13%	3%	1%
	<i>IND</i>	71%	25%	4%	1%
11. Pay taxes	<i>ALL</i>	93%	6%	1%	1%
	<i>REP</i>	96%	3%	1%	0%
	<i>IND</i>	88%	11%	0%	2%

12. Is there anything else immigrants should do for you to consider them "good" immigrants?

13. If all of the conditions we just discussed were met, would you support or oppose a temporary-worker program where foreign workers would come to America for a limited period of time to work, after which they would be required to return home and not become U.S. citizens?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>
SUPPORT.....	67%	68%	65%
OPPOSE.....	23%	22%	26%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	10%	10%	9%

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## Dealing with Illegal Immigrants Already Here

14. Approximately twelve million immigrants are currently in the United States illegally. Which do you think is the best option for dealing with them (ROTATE FRONT TO BACK; BACK TO FRONT): deport all of them back to their home countries, deport those with criminal records and give temporary legal status to the rest, deport those with criminal records and give permanent legal status to the rest, or maintain the status quo)?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>
DEPORT ALL OF THEM.....	27%	30%	21%
DEPORT CRIMINALS/TEMPORARY STATUS.....	47%	47%	47%
DEPORT CRIMINALS/PERMANENT STATUS.....	14%	12%	17%
STATUS QUO.....	3%	3%	5%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	9%	8%	11%

15. Which of the following do you think is the most appropriate penalty for illegal immigrants already in America (ROTATE FRONT TO BACK, BACK TO FRONT: no penalty, a fine of less than \$500, a fine of \$500 to \$2,500, a fine of more than \$2,500, temporary expulsion from the U.S., permanent expulsion from the U.S.)?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>
NO PENALTY.....	10%	7%	15%
LESS THAN \$500 FINE.....	8%	6%	12%
\$500 TO \$2,500 FINE.....	10%	10%	11%
MORE THAN \$2,500 FINE.....	8%	8%	6%
TEMPORARY EXPULSION.....	35%	35%	34%
PERMANENT EXPULSION.....	19%	21%	13%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	12%	13%	10%

If legislation were passed to give some illegal immigrants legal status, which of the following conditions would you require of illegal immigrants to become permanent residents of the U.S.? (RANDOMIZE):

		<b>WOULD REQUIRE</b>	<b>WOULD NOT REQUIRE</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW</b>
16. Pass a test of both written and spoken English	<i>ALL</i>	73%	23%	3%
	<i>REP</i>	78%	19%	3%
	<i>IND</i>	63%	32%	5%
17. Have an American sponsor who would be responsible for their whereabouts	<i>ALL</i>	48%	45%	7%
	<i>REP</i>	53%	41%	6%
	<i>IND</i>	39%	53%	8%
18. Pay all back taxes for the time they have been in the country illegally	<i>ALL</i>	63%	32%	5%
	<i>REP</i>	66%	29%	5%
	<i>IND</i>	59%	37%	5%
19. Pay a fine of \$2,500 or more for coming here illegally	<i>ALL</i>	42%	51%	8%
	<i>REP</i>	44%	47%	9%
	<i>IND</i>	36%	59%	5%
20. Return to their home country for a period of time before returning to the U.S.	<i>ALL</i>	47%	46%	7%
	<i>REP</i>	52%	41%	7%
	<i>IND</i>	39%	55%	6%

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21. If all of the conditions we just discussed were met, would you support or oppose a program to allow illegal immigrants to become permanent residents of the U.S.?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>
SUPPORT.....	74%	73%	77%
OPPOSE.....	19%	21%	16%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	6%	6%	7%

## Demographics

Now I have a few questions just for statistical purposes.

22. When thinking about politics today, do you normally consider yourself to be (ROTATE: very conservative, somewhat conservative, moderate, somewhat liberal, or very liberal)?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>
VERY CONSERVATIVE.....	23%	32%	5%
SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE.....	37%	43%	24%
MODERATE.....	27%	20%	40%
SOMEWHAT LIBERAL.....	8%	2%	20%
VERY LIBERAL.....	2%	1%	4%
NO OPINION.....	3%	2%	7%

23. What was the last year of school you completed?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>
LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL.....	0%	0%	0%
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE.....	8%	9%	9%
SOME COLLEGE.....	21%	19%	24%
COLLEGE GRADUATE.....	47%	48%	45%
POST-COLLEGE.....	22%	22%	22%
REFUSED.....	1%	1%	2%

24. Would you please stop me when I read the correct category for your age?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>
18 TO 34.....	26%	22%	33%
35 TO 49.....	34%	36%	31%
50 TO 64.....	25%	26%	22%
65 OR OLDER.....	15%	16%	13%
REFUSED.....	0%	0%	1%

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25. Would you please stop me when I read the correct category for your total household income?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>
\$15,000 OR LESS .....	2%	2%	2%
\$15,000 TO \$30,000 .....	2%	2%	2%
\$30,000 TO \$50,000 .....	9%	8%	11%
\$50,000 TO \$75,000 .....	20%	20%	21%
\$75,000 TO \$100,000.....	18%	17%	19%
\$100,000 OR MORE.....	32%	33%	29%
REFUSED.....	17%	18%	16%

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26. Are you from a Hispanic or Spanish-speaking background?

IF NO, ASK: What would you say is your main race: white, African-American, Asian, or something else?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>
YES/HISPANIC .....	5%	4%	7%
NO/WHITE.....	84%	86%	82%
NO/BLACK/AFRICAN-AMERICAN .....	1%	0%	2%
NO/ASIAN.....	0%	0%	0%
NO/OTHER .....	7%	8%	6%
REFUSED.....	2%	2%	3%

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That's all the questions I have. Thank you very much for sharing your opinions with us.

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27. GENDER (FROM OBSERVATION):

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>
MALE .....	50%	51%	46%
FEMALE .....	50%	49%	54%

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