

**NATIONAL SURVEY OF REGISTERED VOTERS
REGARDING IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION
AND CHOICES FACING THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
JUNE 23-27, 2006**

Hello, this is ___ with Ayres, McHenry & Associates, a national public opinion research company. We're talking with people in your area today about some issues regarding immigration. We are not trying to sell anything, your answers are completely confidential, and we would really appreciate your cooperation (DO NOT PAUSE).

A. Are you registered to vote in the county in which you live?

YESGO TO QUESTION 1
NO.....GO TO QUESTION B

B. Is there anyone else in your household who is registered to vote in your county?

YES May I speak with that person please? GO TO INTRO
NO.....THANK AND CLOSE

The Choice Facing the Conference Committee

1. How important do you think it is for Congress to pass legislation combating illegal immigration this year: very important, somewhat important, or not too important?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>	<i>DEM</i>
VERY IMPORTANT	66%	77%	63%	57%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	18%	13%	20%	21%
NOT TOO IMPORTANT	12%	7%	13%	16%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION	4%	3%	4%	5%

2. Which of the following would you prefer for your congressman and senators in the immigration debate? (ROTATE)

- a. Compromising with those who hold different views, even if that means the final bill includes some things they really do not want.
- b. Standing on principle, even if that means no immigration bill will pass at all this year.

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>	<i>DEM</i>
COMPROMISE	37%	33%	37%	40%
STAND ON PRINCIPLE	50%	57%	47%	47%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION	13%	10%	16%	13%

Would you please tell me if you support or oppose each of the following policies dealing with illegal immigration:
(RANDOMIZE)

IF SUPPORT OR OPPOSE, ASK: Would that be strongly (support/oppose), or just somewhat (support/oppose)?

		<i>STRNG SUPP</i>	<i>SMWHT SUPP</i>	<i>SMWHT OPPS</i>	<i>STRNG OPPS</i>	<i>DON'T KNOW</i>
3. Building a fence along portions of the U.S. border with Mexico.	<i>ALL</i>	41%	15%	12%	24%	8%
	<i>REP</i>	53%	17%	10%	14%	6%
	<i>IND</i>	39%	14%	12%	27%	9%
	<i>DEM</i>	31%	15%	13%	30%	10%
4. Using National Guard troops to help guard the border with Mexico.	<i>ALL</i>	46%	21%	10%	17%	6%
	<i>REP</i>	59%	20%	6%	10%	4%
	<i>IND</i>	45%	20%	9%	19%	6%
	<i>DEM</i>	35%	24%	14%	21%	7%
5. Imposing significant fines on employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants.	<i>ALL</i>	60%	16%	7%	11%	6%
	<i>REP</i>	66%	17%	6%	7%	4%
	<i>IND</i>	65%	12%	6%	11%	5%
	<i>DEM</i>	49%	20%	8%	15%	7%
6. Adopting a temporary-worker program where people could come to the U.S. to work for a period of time, but would then have to return to their home countries.	<i>ALL</i>	37%	29%	8%	20%	6%
	<i>REP</i>	42%	28%	7%	19%	4%
	<i>IND</i>	37%	28%	7%	19%	8%
	<i>DEM</i>	32%	30%	9%	23%	6%
7. Giving immigrants who are already in the U.S. illegally a path to become U.S. citizens if they pay back taxes, pay a fine, learn English, and do not have a criminal record.	<i>ALL</i>	42%	26%	7%	20%	5%
	<i>REP</i>	41%	28%	6%	22%	3%
	<i>IND</i>	42%	22%	7%	21%	7%
	<i>DEM</i>	44%	28%	6%	17%	5%
8. Giving Social Security benefits to illegal immigrants who become citizens if they paid Social Security taxes when they worked here illegally.	<i>ALL</i>	28%	22%	11%	34%	5%
	<i>REP</i>	22%	22%	10%	41%	5%
	<i>IND</i>	28%	20%	8%	37%	7%
	<i>DEM</i>	34%	25%	14%	24%	3%
9. Forgiving two of five years of back taxes for illegal immigrants who want to become citizens.	<i>ALL</i>	19%	15%	15%	43%	9%
	<i>REP</i>	20%	14%	13%	46%	7%
	<i>IND</i>	18%	13%	13%	45%	12%
	<i>DEM</i>	18%	17%	20%	37%	7%
10. Treating illegal immigrants as felons so they would have to be deported.	<i>ALL</i>	35%	16%	18%	24%	8%
	<i>REP</i>	44%	17%	17%	14%	7%
	<i>IND</i>	37%	15%	13%	27%	8%
	<i>DEM</i>	22%	15%	23%	31%	9%
11. Treating people who assist illegal immigrants to come here or remain here as felons.	<i>ALL</i>	35%	17%	14%	26%	8%
	<i>REP</i>	44%	18%	14%	18%	6%
	<i>IND</i>	38%	14%	12%	26%	9%
	<i>DEM</i>	23%	18%	16%	34%	9%

12. Which of the following three types of legislation would you prefer:

- a. A bill that concentrates on border security and employer verification of workers' legal status, but does not include a temporary-worker program or a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants who are already here, because we have to secure the border and improve employer verification first before we can think about other solutions.
- b. A bill that includes border security and employer verification of workers' legal status, but also includes a temporary-worker program, because we have to address the need for workers by U.S. employers if we are ever going to get control of the border.
- c. A bill that includes border security, employer verification of workers' legal status, and a temporary-worker program, but also includes a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants who are already here, because any solution to the immigration problem must deal with the illegal immigrants who are already in America.

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>	<i>DEM</i>
JUST BORDER SECURITY/VERIFICATION.....	22%	26%	19%	21%
INCLUDE TEMPORARY WORKER.....	25%	26%	26%	22%
INCLUDE PATH TO CITIZENSHIP.....	40%	35%	41%	43%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	14%	13%	13%	14%

13. If the choice facing Congress is between a bill that includes border security, employer enforcement, and a temporary-worker program, or no bill at all, which would you prefer?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>	<i>DEM</i>
BORDER/EMPLOYER/TEMPORARY WORKER.....	71%	76%	71%	66%
NO BILL AT ALL.....	22%	18%	21%	27%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	7%	6%	8%	6%

14. If the choice facing Congress is between a bill that includes border security, employer enforcement, a temporary-worker program, and a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants who are already here, or no bill at all, which would you prefer?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>	<i>DEM</i>
BORDER/EMPLOYER/WORKER/CITIZENSHIP.....	61%	59%	61%	63%
NO BILL AT ALL.....	30%	33%	29%	30%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	9%	8%	10%	8%

15. As you probably know, Republicans control both the House of Representatives and the Senate. If the House and Senate disagree so strongly about the correct approach to illegal immigration so that no bill passes, will that make you more likely or less likely to vote for Republican candidates for the House and Senate in the election this November?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>	<i>DEM</i>
MORE LIKELY.....	19%	33%	15%	9%
LESS LIKELY.....	40%	20%	42%	58%
NO EFFECT (VOLUNTEERED).....	27%	35%	24%	24%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	14%	12%	20%	9%

16. If an illegal immigrant is given an opportunity to become a U.S. citizen if they pay back taxes, pay a fine, learn English, have a job, do not have a criminal record, and go to the back of the line, do you consider that to be amnesty?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>	<i>DEM</i>
YES, IS AMNESTY.....	46%	45%	46%	47%
NO, IS NOT AMNESTY.....	40%	43%	39%	39%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	14%	12%	15%	14%

Demographics

Now I have a few questions just for statistical purposes.

17. Are you, or is anyone in your family, a member of a labor union?

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>	<i>DEM</i>
YES	21%	15%	19%	28%
NO	78%	84%	78%	72%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%	0%	3%	0%

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

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>	<i>DEM</i>
VERY LIBERAL	7%	2%	6%	14%
SOMEWHAT LIBERAL	15%	5%	13%	28%
MODERATE	30%	18%	40%	30%
SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE	28%	43%	23%	17%
VERY CONSERVATIVE	14%	28%	9%	7%
NO OPINION	6%	3%	9%	4%

19. In politics today, do you normally think of yourself as (ROTATE: a Republican, an independent, or a Democrat)?

	<i>ALL</i>
IF "REPUBLICAN" OR "DEMOCRAT", ASK: Would you consider yourself a strong or a not-so-strong Republican/Democrat?	STRONG REPUBLICAN 22%
	NOT-SO-STRONG REPUBLICAN 10%
	INDEPENDENT LEAN REPUBLICAN 5%
	INDEPENDENT/NO PREFERENCE 20%
IF "INDEPENDENT," ASK: Do you think of yourself as closer to the (ROTATE: Republican or Democratic Party)?	INDEPENDENT LEAN DEMOCRAT 6%
	NOT-SO-STRONG DEMOCRAT 7%
	STRONG DEMOCRAT 25%
	REFUSED 5%

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

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>	<i>DEM</i>
LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL	3%	3%	4%	3%
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE	28%	24%	26%	34%
SOME COLLEGE	25%	28%	23%	23%
COLLEGE GRADUATE	28%	30%	28%	25%
POST-COLLEGE	14%	13%	15%	15%
REFUSED	2%	1%	4%	1%

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

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>	<i>DEM</i>
18 TO 34	17%	19%	14%	17%
35 TO 49	28%	33%	30%	20%
50 TO 64	31%	30%	30%	34%
65 OR OLDER	22%	16%	21%	28%
REFUSED	3%	2%	4%	1%

22. 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>	<i>DEM</i>
\$15,000 OR LESS.....	6%	3%	5%	9%
\$15,000 TO \$30,000.....	12%	8%	13%	13%
\$30,000 TO \$50,000.....	17%	17%	16%	16%
\$50,000 TO \$75,000.....	15%	15%	15%	15%
\$75,000 TO \$100,000.....	11%	15%	10%	8%
\$100,000 OR MORE.....	13%	15%	12%	11%
REFUSED.....	28%	28%	29%	28%

23. 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>	<i>DEM</i>
YES/HISPANIC.....	8%	6%	8%	10%
NO/WHITE.....	80%	89%	82%	67%
NO/BLACK/AFRICAN-AMERICAN.....	11%	2%	8%	22%
NO/ASIAN.....	0%	0%	0%	0%
NO/OTHER.....	1%	2%	1%	1%
REFUSED.....	0%	0%	1%	0%

24. Finally, in which state do you live? _____

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

25. GENDER (FROM OBSERVATION):

	<i>ALL</i>	<i>REP</i>	<i>IND</i>	<i>DEM</i>
MALE.....	48%	56%	48%	40%
FEMALE.....	52%	44%	52%	60%
