

IMMIGRATION

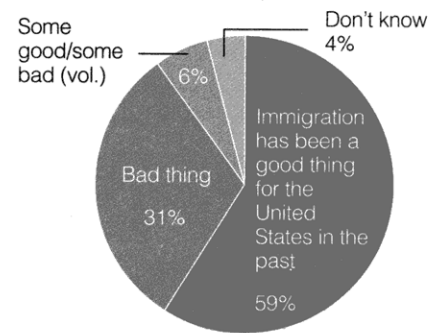
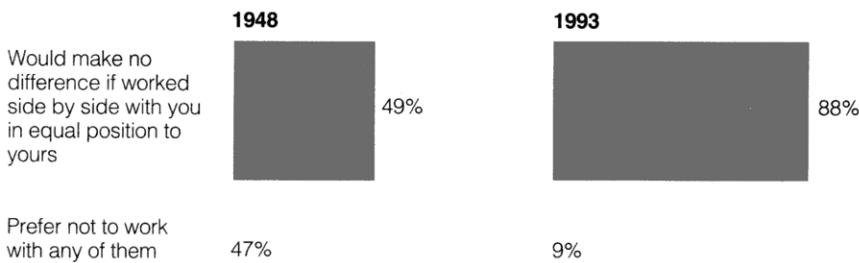
Over the years, Americans have become more accepting of ethnic and religious diversity here. And a solid majority believes the nation has benefited from immigration in the past. We have long been skeptical about increased immigration. In nine surveys taken since 1955 no more than 13 percent of us have ever said we favor more.

Question: **These are some of the different kinds of people making up our population: Italians, Catholics, Blacks, Protestants, Chinese, Jews, Mexicans, Filipinos. Would you prefer not to work with any of these kinds of people if they had an equal position to yours and worked side by side with you, or would it make no difference to you?**

Question: **Next, I have some questions about immigration to this country—people coming from other countries to live in the United States. On the whole, do you think immigration has been a good thing or a bad thing for the United States in the past?**

Thinking about Italians, Catholics, Blacks, Protestants, Chinese, Jews, Mexicans, Filipinos...

On the whole...

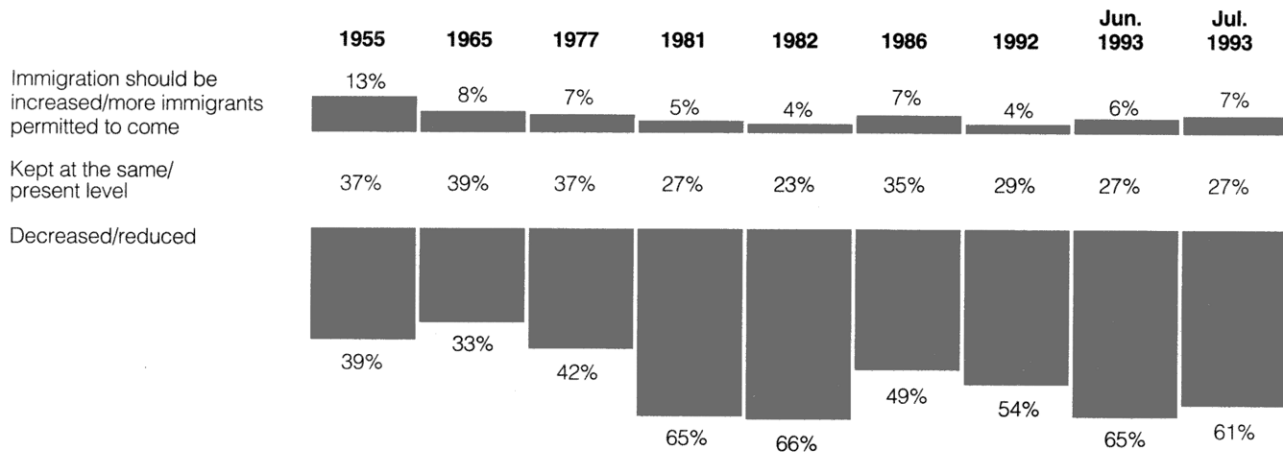


Note: In another question, 27% in 1948 and 79% in 1993 said it would make no difference to them if these groups moved into their neighborhoods.

Source: Survey by the Roper Organization (Roper Reports 93-8), latest that of August 7-14, 1993.

Note: When respondents were asked whether they think immigration is a good thing for this country today, 29% said that it is good, 60% said bad. In a June 1992 Harris poll for *BusinessWeek*, similar questions were asked. Fifty-nine percent of respondents said that over our history immigration has been good for this country; 28% said that they think it is good for this country right now.

Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization for *Newsweek*, July 29-30, 1993.



Note: Question wordings—In general, do you think the United States is letting too many immigrants come into this country or not enough? (NORC); In recent years, there has been a lot of discussion about the number of immigrants allowed into our country. On the whole, would you say that you would like to see the number of immigrants allowed to enter our country increased, or would you like to see the number decreased, or do you think we are letting in about the right number now? (Roper); Now I would like to ask you some questions about immigrants—people who come from other countries to live here in the United States. In your view, should immigration be kept at its present level, increased, or decreased? (Gallup); Do you think the United States should allow more immigration to this country, less immigration, or about the same amount of immigration? (NBC/AP); Should immigration into the United States be kept at its present level, increased, or decreased? (CBS/NYT)

Source: Surveys by the National Opinion Research Center (1955), the Gallup Organization (1965, 1977, July 1993) the Roper Organization (1982, 1992), NBC News/AP (1981), and CBS News/*New York Times* (1986, June 1993).

Differences On Immigration

The positive and negative views Americans bring to the issue can be seen below. Attitudes vary by groups in the population. Westerners more than southerners, liberals more than conservatives, those with more education, and those who know immigrants are less likely to hold negative views of immigration.

Immigrants take the jobs of U.S. workers (Gallup/Newsweek)



Many immigrants wind up on welfare and raise taxes for Americans (Gallup/Newsweek)



Immigrants help improve our country with their different cultures and talents (Gallup/Newsweek)



Many immigrants work hard—often taking jobs that Americans don't want (Gallup/Newsweek)



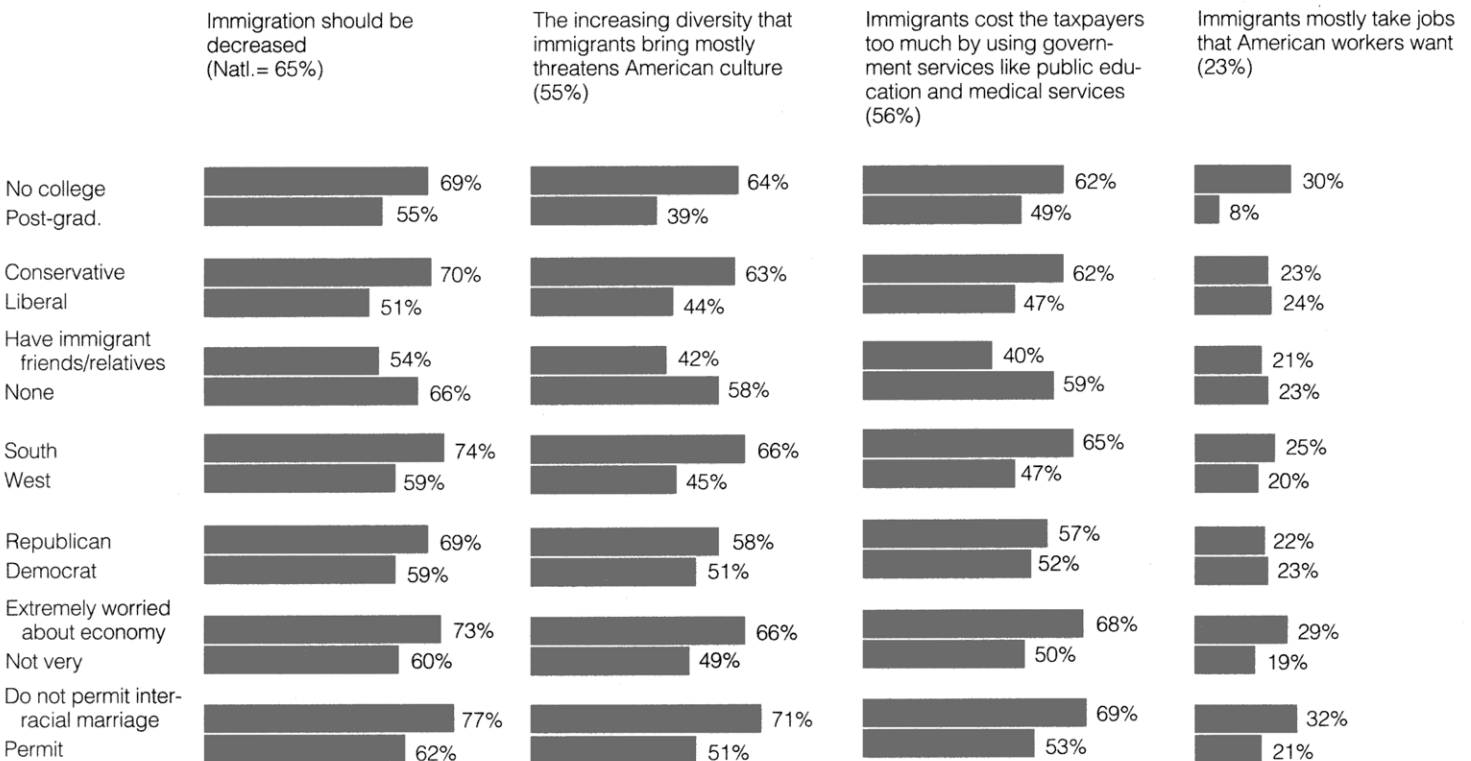
Generally, today's immigrants work harder than people born here (CBS/NYT) (Do not = 9%)



The increasing diversity that immigrants bring to this country mostly threatens American culture (Gallup/USA Today/CNN)



Source: Surveys by the Gallup Organization for Newsweek (July 29–30, 1993) and for USA Today and CNN (July 9–11, 1993) and by CBS News/New York Times, June 21–24, 1993.



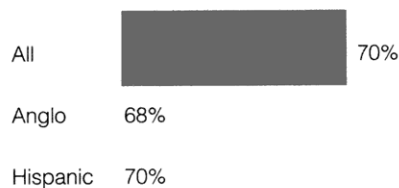
Note: Responses from the East and the Midwest generally fell in between those from the South and the West. Age differences were generally small, with young people being more receptive to immigrants than older people. Urban, suburban, and rural designations did not produce large differences in the responses shown here.
Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization for USA Today and CNN, July 9–11, 1993.

Attitudes about illegal and legal immigration in California are shown below. One-third of the foreign-born population resides in that state. From 1820 to 1992, the United States accepted about 60 million immigrants. Emigration from the United States has also been substantial.

Question: **In general, do you believe that foreign-born immigrants make better citizens, just as good, or worse citizens than persons born here in the United States?**

California residents

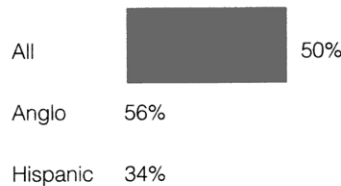
Foreign-born immigrants make just as good citizens as persons born here



Question: **The U.S. Constitution currently grants citizenship to all persons who are born in the United States, including the children of illegal immigrants. Some people have suggested changing this law to deny automatic citizenship to the children of illegal immigrants born in this country. Do you favor or oppose passing a constitutional amendment to deny citizenship to children born in the United States to illegal immigrant parents?**

California residents

Amend Constitution to deny citizenship to children born in U.S. to illegal immigrant parents



Question: **Do you feel that illegal or undocumented immigrants should or should not be eligible to...?**

California residents

Illegal immigrants should be eligible to...		Should not
Receive emergency health care benefits		
All	58%	37%
Anglo	55	41
Hispanic	70	25
Send their children to the state's public schools		
All	43%	51%
Anglo	34	59
Hispanic	69	27
Receive welfare assistance		
All	18%	77%
Anglo	10	85
Hispanic	38	56

Source: Survey by the Field Institute, August 12-17, 1993.

The Demographics of Immigration

Immigration—Immigrants are former residents of other countries who have been granted lawful permanent residence in the United States. 1820 was the first year that the government started collecting immigration statistics:

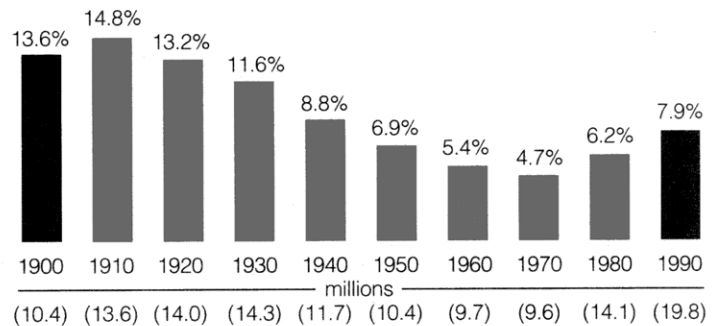
	Immigrants (millions)
1820-1992	59.8
1982-1992	9.5
1992	1.0

Emigration—Official statistics on emigration by legal U.S. residents have not been gathered since 1957, but the Immigration and Naturalization Service, reporting on available estimates, says that this outflow has increased steadily since the 1950s, exceeding 100,000 per year since 1970. The Census Bureau uses an estimate of emigration of 160,000 (133,000 foreign-born/27,000 native-born) per year for the purposes of U.S. population estimates.

	Immigration	Millions Emigration (estimated)	Net addition to U.S. population
1900-79	30	10	20

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, *1992 Statistical Yearbook of the Immigration and Naturalization Service* and Warren, Robert and Ellen Percy Kraly, 1985, *The Elusive Exodus: Emigration from the United States*, Population Reference Bureau: Washington, D.C. (emigration estimate).

Foreign-born population in the United States (percentage of total population)



1900		1990	
Percentage of foreign-born by region of birth			
Europe	84.9%	Latin America	42.5%
Latin America	1.3	Asia	25.2
Asia	1.2	Europe	22.0
All other	12.6	All other	10.3

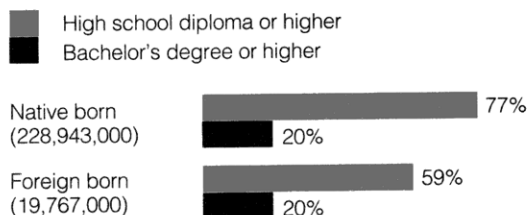
Note: The regional categories shown above encompass many ethnicities. In 1990, for example, more than 80 ethnic divisions comprise "Europe."

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *We the American Foreign Born*, September 1993.

As a whole, the foreign-born population in this country is similar to the native-born population in terms of education and income. There are sizeable differences, however, between groups. Former residents of Mexico, for example, are far less likely to have a high school diploma or a college degree. Their earnings trail other groups too.

Comparison of native-born and foreign-born populations, 1990

Educational attainment of persons 25+ years old



Median family income

Per capita income

1989 dollars

Group	Median family income	Per capita income
Native born (228,943,000)	\$35,508	\$14,367
Foreign born (19,767,000)	\$31,785	15,033

Largest foreign-born groups

Group	High school diploma or higher	Bachelor's degree or higher	Median family income	Per capita income
Mexico (4,298,000)	24%	4%	\$21,585	8,483
Philippines (913,000)	83%	43%	\$47,794	17,740
Canada (745,000)	73%	22%	\$39,995	21,904
Cuba (737,000)	54%	16%	\$32,007	16,482
Germany (712,000)	76%	19%	\$41,757	21,628

Occupation of persons 16+ years old, 1990

Group	Technical/sales/admin.	Managerial/professional	Operators/fabricators/laborers	Service	Production/craft/repair	Farming/forestry/fishing
Native born	32%	27%	15%	13%	11%	2%
Foreign born	25%	22%	19%	18%	12%	4%

Largest foreign-born groups

Group	Technical/sales/admin.	Managerial/professional	Operators/fabricators/laborers	Service	Production/craft/repair	Farming/forestry/fishing
Mexico	13%	6%	32%	21%	16%	13%
Philippines	36%	28%	11%	17%	7%	2%
Canada	33%	38%	8%	10%	10%	1%
Cuba	32%	23%	18%	13%	13%	1%
Germany	33%	33%	9%	13%	11%	1%

States with the greatest shares of the foreign-born population, 1990

California	33%
New York	14
Florida	8
Texas	8
New Jersey	5
Illinois	5

Foreign-born groups with highest proportions of members having postsecondary degrees, 1990

Group	Bachelor's degree+	Graduate degree+
India	65%	38%
Taiwan	62	36
Iran	51	23
Hong Kong	47	19
Philippines	43	8

...Lowest proportions

Cambodia	6	2
Guatemala	6	2
El Salvador	5	2
Portugal	5	2
Laos	5	1
Mexico	4	1
U.S. native born	20	7

Note: The Census Bureau reported data for 38 foreign-born groups.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *We the American Foreign Born*, September 1993.

Top contributors of U.S. immigrants, 1820-1989

Group	Total	Peak year
Germany	7,071,100	1882
Italy	5,356,000	1907
Great Britain	5,100,000	1888
Ireland	4,723,000	1851
Austria-Hungary	4,338,000	1907
Canada	4,270,000	1924
Russia	3,428,000	1913
Mexico	3,208,000	1989

Source: Simon, Rita J. and Susan H. Alexander, 1993, *The Ambivalent Welcome: Print Media, Public Opinion, and Immigration*.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *We the American Foreign Born*, September 1993.