February 2014

Research Findings

National Immigration Survey / FWD.us





Key Findings

- Voters reject the immigration status quo
- Voters across party lines support a wide range of reforms on nearly every problem facing the system
- Not only do voters support a pathway to legal status for undocumented immigrants, but a pathway to earn citizenship is even more popular



Figures to Remember

- Nearly eight in ten voters (78%) prefer proposed reforms to the immigration status quo, including over eight in ten Republicans (84%).
- Seven in ten (71%) voters support an earned pathway for undocumented immigrants to obtain citizenship, including a strong majority of Republicans (64%).
- Nearly nine in ten voters (88%) believe that DREAMers deserve a pathway to earn citizenship, including 81% of Republicans.
- Three in four (75%) voters will have a more favorable view of Congress if it passes immigration reform.
- Voters are nearly four times more likely to reward candidates who support immigration reforms (39%) than punish candidates who oppose them (10%).





Immigration Reform Proposals

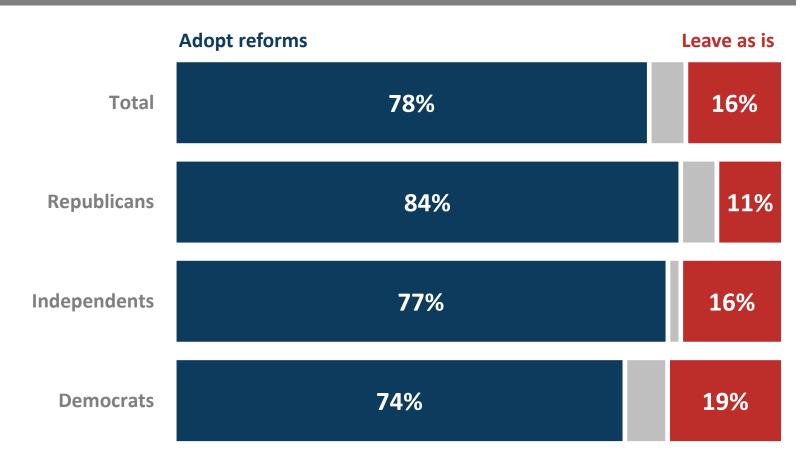




Voters are unified in the belief that the immigration status quo needs to change

Which would you prefer:

<u>Leaving the current system the way it is</u>, or <u>reforming the system</u> by...

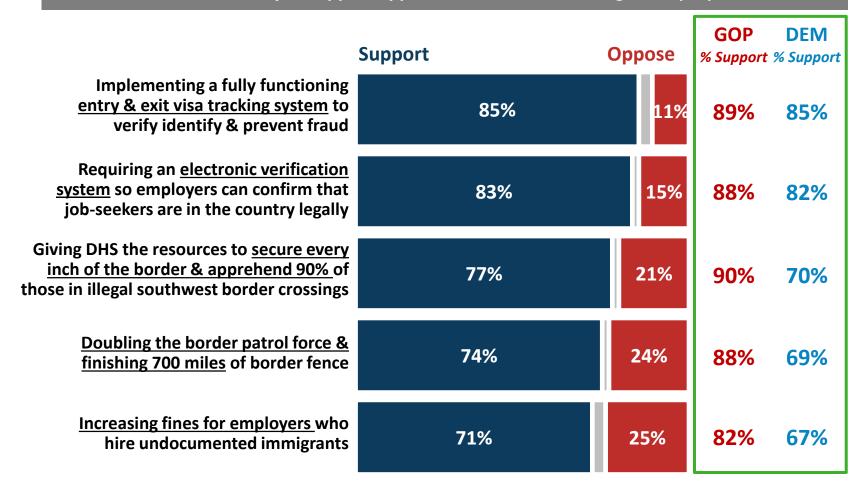






Americans overwhelmingly support border security and enforcement measures, regardless of partisanship

Please tell me if you support oppose each individual immigration proposal







Voters, including Republicans, also support a variety of measures to attract different types of workers needed in the U.S.

Please tell me if you support oppose each individual immigration proposal

Support		Oppose	GOP % Support 9	DEM % Support
Allowing non-agricultural industries to fill low-skilled positions with workers on temporary, revocable visas as long as they prove they tried to hire Americans first	82%	16%	80%	83%
Creating a <u>merit-based points system</u> to award future visas based on job skills, education, family ties, & time in the U.S.	78%	18%	66%	82%
Creating a <u>start-up visa program</u> for entrepreneurs who want to come here to found companies that hire Americans	76%	19%	72%	77%
Allowing more immigrants with advanced skills in science, technology, and engineering	71%	27%	64%	75 %
Allowing more lower-skill immigrants as guest workers in industries with labor shortages, like agriculture & construction	3%	34%	57%	68%





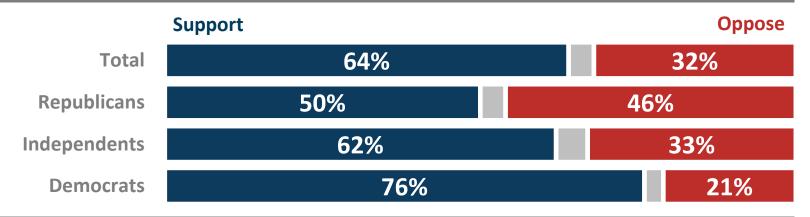
Creating an Earned Pathway



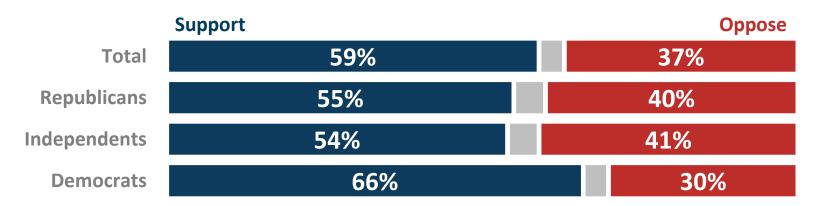


Strong majorities support bringing undocumented immigrants out of the shadows – with pathways either to full citizenship or legal status

Do you support or oppose providing a pathway to <u>citizenship</u> for the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants presently in the country?



Do you support or oppose providing a pathway to <u>legal status</u>, but not full <u>citizenship</u>, for the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants presently in the country?

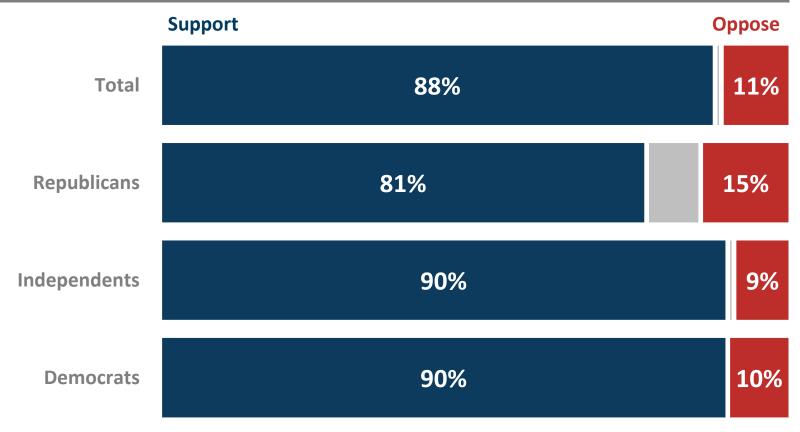






There is clear consensus that DREAMers who came as children should be able to earn full citizenship

Do you support or oppose allowing an estimated two million undocumented immigrants who came to the country as children to earn <u>citizenship</u> if they received a high school degree and attended college or served in the military?



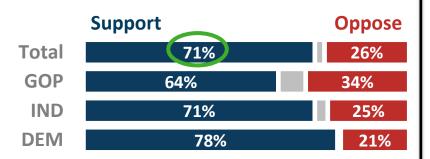




When given more detail about possible proposals, support for earned pathways to citizenship and legal status continue to be very high

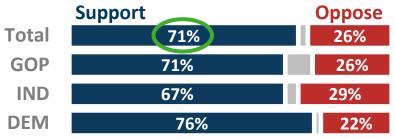
Please tell me if you support oppose the following proposal to address the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants currently living in the country.

A SINGLE EARNED PATHWAY TO CITIZENSHIP



Some people are proposing that we provide a 13-year pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants presently in the country, as long as they meet requirements such as passing a background check, learning English, and paying fines and back taxes.

FULL CITIZENSHIP FOR "DREAMERS" + EARNED PATH TO LEGAL STATUS FOR OTHERS



Some people are proposing that we address this situation in two ways. First, a pathway to citizenship provided would be undocumented immigrants who came to the country as children as long as they attend college or serve in the military. All other undocumented *immigrants* would provided a 10-year pathway to legal status but not full citizenship for undocumented immigrants presently in the country as long as they meet requirements such as passing a background check, learning English, and paying fines and back taxes.





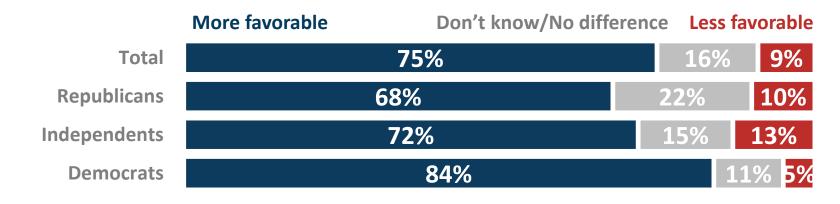
Political Implications



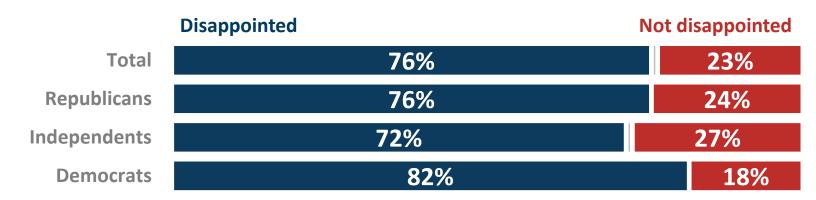


Reform presents a vital opportunity for Congress to improve its image, while inaction will be seen as another disappointment

If Congress were able to <u>come to agreement and reform the country's immigration laws</u> this year, would that make you more or less favorable toward the current Congress?



And how would you feel if Congress did not pass any new laws for our immigration system?

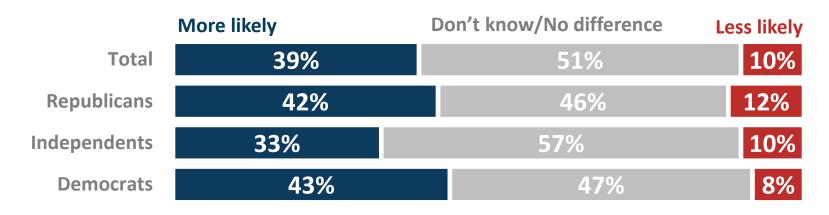






Voters are nearly four times more likely to reward candidates for supporting reform than to punish them for their position

Would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate for Congress who supports this immigration proposal?



And would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate who prevented it from happening?

	More likely	Don't know/No dif	fference Less likely	
Total	25%	29%	46%	
Republicans	31%	31%	38%	
Independents	28%	32%	40%	
Democrats	16%	47%	58%	





Methodology





Methodology

- Global Strategy Group and Basswood Research conducted a survey of 800 likely general election voters nationwide between February 3rd and February 5th, 2014, with an additional oversample of 200 additional Republican voters for a total of 1,000 interviews. The Republican oversample was weighted back into the overall data to ensure Republicans are appropriately represented in this poll.
- The margin of error at the 95% confidence level is+/- 3.5 percentage points. The margin of error on sub-samples is greater.



Thank You



