

IMMIGRATION

# More Americans Voice Support for Deporting Illegal Immigrants

*Three-in-five respondents say illegal immigrants take jobs away from Americans, few back the notion of a “path to citizenship.”*

[NEW YORK – Jun. 14, 2010] – As the debate over Arizona’s immigration law reaches Washington, the proportion of Americans who would deport all illegal immigrants who are currently working in the United States has increased noticeably, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,002 American adults, 67 per cent of respondents say immigration is currently having a negative effect in the country, while only 17 per cent believe it is having a positive effect.

Only three-in-ten respondents (31%) think the current level of legal immigration should be maintained, while 45 per cent of Americans want the number of people allowed to relocate legally into the country to decrease.

## Illegal Immigrants

As has been the case in previous surveys conducted this year by Angus Reid Public Opinion, most Americans hold negative views on illegal immigration. Three-in-five respondents (59%) believe the illegal immigrants in the United States take jobs away from American workers, while just one third (32%) regard them as people who are employed in jobs that American workers do not want.

### KEY FINDINGS

- **50% (+8 since May) would deport all illegal immigrants**
- **67% say immigration is having a negative effect on the country**
- **59% say illegal immigrants take jobs from Americans**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

*From July 8 to July 9, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,002 American adults who are Springboard America panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of the United States.*

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The idea of a "path to citizenship" for illegal immigrants is only supported by 27 per cent of respondents, while a further 16 per cent would allow them to work in the U.S. on a temporary basis without an opportunity to become citizens. Half of Americans (50%) would require all illegal immigrants to leave their jobs and be deported—a proportion that has increased by eight points since June.

### **Arizona's Immigration Bill**

The immigration bill passed in Arizona earlier this year has provoked a heated debate over the status of illegal immigrants in the United States. The Justice Department has recently filed a lawsuit, claiming that only federal authorities should be in a position to enforce immigration laws.

A majority of respondents say they would like to implement some of the measures that are part of Arizona's immigration bill in their own states, including making it a crime to transport someone who is an illegal immigrant (76%); arresting people who are unable to provide documentation to prove they are in the U.S. legally (67%); requiring state and local police to determine the status of a person if there is "reasonable suspicion" that they are illegal immigrants (66%); and making it a crime to hire laborers on the street (55%).

*Our previous surveys on immigration can be accessed here:*

*[May 2010](#) / [April 2010](#)*

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Immigration					
All things considered, do you think immigration is having a positive effect or a negative effect in the U.S.?					
	Region				
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
<b>Positive effect</b>	17%	16%	14%	14%	24%
<b>Negative effect</b>	67%	70%	70%	68%	60%
<b>Not sure</b>	16%	14%	16%	18%	16%

Immigration					
From what you have seen, read or heard, do you think the number of legal immigrants who are allowed to relocate in the U.S. should increase, remain the same, or decrease?					
	Region				
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
<b>Increase</b>	13%	12%	13%	14%	14%
<b>Remain the same</b>	31%	28%	28%	30%	38%
<b>Decrease</b>	45%	47%	50%	45%	38%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	14%	10%	11%	10%

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Immigration					
There are more than 12 million illegal immigrants in the United States right now. Which of these statements comes closest to your own point of view?					
	Region				
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
The illegal immigrants in the United States take jobs away from American workers	59%	63%	64%	60%	49%
The illegal immigrants in the United States are employed in jobs that American workers do not want	32%	28%	27%	31%	40%
Not sure	10%	9%	10%	9%	12%

Immigration					
Which of these statements comes closer to your own point of view on the status of illegal immigrants who are currently working in the United States?					
	Region				
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
They should be allowed to stay in the U.S., and eventually apply for citizenship	27%	27%	22%	24%	34%
They should be allowed to work in the U.S. on a temporary basis, but they should not become citizens	16%	16%	15%	15%	17%
They should be required to leave their jobs and be deported	50%	50%	56%	50%	42%
Not sure	8%	7%	7%	11%	7%

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**Immigration**

As you may know, Arizona recently passed an immigration bill. Would you support enacting each one of these regulations included in the Arizona immigration bill in your own state?

	Total U.S.			
	Requiring state and local police to determine the status of a person if there is “reasonable suspicion” that they are illegal immigrants	Arresting people who are unable to provide documentation to prove they are in the U.S. legally	Making it a crime to transport someone who is an illegal immigrant	Making it a crime to hire day laborers off the street
<b>Support</b>	66%	67%	76%	55%
<b>Oppose</b>	27%	25%	18%	34%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	8%	6%	11%

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*Angus Reid Public Opinion is a practice of Vision Critical—a global research and technology company specializing in custom online panels, private communities, and innovative online methods. Vision Critical is a leader in the use of the Internet and rich media technology to collect high-quality, in-depth insights for a wide array of clients. Dr. Angus Reid and the Angus Reid Strategies team are pioneers in online research methodologies, and have been conducting online surveys since 1995*

*Vision Critical is now one of the largest market research enterprises in the world. In addition to its five offices in Canada—located in Vancouver, Calgary, Regina, Toronto, and Montreal—the firm also has offices in San Francisco, Chicago, New York, London, Paris and Sydney. Its team of specialists provides solutions across every type and sector of research, and currently serves over 200 international clients.*

*Angus Reid Public Opinion polls are conducted using the Angus Reid Forum ([www.angusreidforum.com](http://www.angusreidforum.com)), Springboard America ([www.springboardamerica.com](http://www.springboardamerica.com)) and Springboard UK ([www.springboarduk.com](http://www.springboarduk.com)) online panels, which are carefully recruited to ensure representation across all demographic and psychographic segments of these populations. Panel members pass through rigorous screening and a double opt-in process ensuring highly motivated and responsive members. These premier online survey platforms present respondents with highly visual, interactive, and engaging surveys, ensuring that panel members provide thoughtful and reliable responses. Each survey is actively sampled and weighted to model that characteristics of the universe required and employs the latest in quality control techniques to ensure data validity.*

*Angus Reid, the only public opinion firm to exclusively use online methods to follow the views of the electorate during the 2008 federal campaign, offered the most accurate prediction of the results of Canada's 40th election.*

<http://bit.ly/4zxf1S>

*Since 2006, Angus Reid has covered eight provincial elections in Canada—more than any other pollster in the country—and the results have accurately predicted the outcome of each of these democratic processes.*

*More information on the way Angus Reid conducts public opinion research can be found at <http://bit.ly/3z0u1l>*

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**For more information, please contact  
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

**Copies of this poll are available on our website:  
<http://www.visioncritical.com/category/global-opinions-and-trends>**

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