



CRITICAL ISSUES POLL

With Nielsen Scarborough

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Americans Views on Immigration Policies

Survey Methodology

The survey was carried out March 15 – April 2, 2019 online from a nationally representative sample of Nielsen Scarborough's probability-based panel, originally recruited by mail and telephone using a random sample of adults provided by Survey Sampling International. The poll was conducted among a national poll of 3,015 respondents, with a margin of error of +/- 1.78%. Overall, the sample was adjusted to reflect population estimates (Scarborough USA+/Gallup) for Americans. The survey variables balanced through weighting were: age, gender, race/ethnicity, household income, level of education, census regional division, and political party affiliation.

Valuable assistance was provided by Neil Schwartz, Scott Willoth, and January Lee from Nielsen Scarborough. Brittany Kyser and Connor Kopchick were particularly helpful.

Note: Percentages may not always add to one-hundred due to rounding.

Q31. Do you approve or disapprove of the current immigration raids that are being carried out across the country by federal immigration enforcement agents? [PLEASE DISPLAY ANSWER CHOICES IN THE SAME ORDER AS Q30]

	Rep	Dem	Ind	Total
1. Strong Approve	65%	5%	21%	32%
2. Somewhat Approve	23	14	26	19
3. Somewhat Disapprove	9	25	32	19
4. Strongly Disapprove	4	56	20	30

Q32. Which comes closest to your views regarding the immigration raids being carried out by the Trump administration?

	Rep	Dem	Ind	Total
1. The immigration raids are only targeting undocumented immigrants who have a criminal record	37%	3%	12%	19%
2. The immigration raids are targeting all undocumented immigrants, regardless of whether they have a criminal record	35	81	52	58
3. I don't know who the immigration raids are targeting	28	15	37	23

Q88. As you may know, the Secretary of Homeland Security has the authority to give Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to individuals already in the United States, who are nationals of countries undergoing armed conflict, natural disasters, epidemics, or other crises that would make it unsafe for them to return. There are estimated to be over 400,000 people under this program and most TPS holders have been in this country for over a decade. Under the program, individuals with Temporary Protected Status (TPS) can reside, work, and travel throughout the United States. Currently there are ten countries designated for TPS, including Haiti, El Salvador, Syria, and South Sudan. Do you believe the program should be terminated and individuals currently protected be either forced to return to their country of origin or to another, third country?

	Rep	Dem	Ind	Total
1. Yes	40%	9%	18%	23%
2. No	30	74	42	52
3. Not sure	30	17	41	25

Q33. Would you say immigration helps the United States more than it hurts it, or immigration hurts the United States more than it helps it?

	Rep	Dem	Ind	Total
1. Helps more than it hurts	18%	67%	29%	42%
2. Hurts more than it helps	41	9	22	24
3. A little of both	41	25	49	34

Q34. In general, do you think it should be harder or easier for people to legally immigrate to the United States?

	Rep	Dem	Ind	Total
1. Harder	56%	20%	43%	38%
2. Easier	27	53	29	39
3. Not Sure	17	27	28	23

Q36. When the U.S. government is deciding which immigrants to admit to this country, should priority be given to people who have family members already living in the U.S., or should priority be given to people based on education, job skills and work experience?

	Rep	Dem	Ind	Total
1. Family Members	14%	35%	24%	25%
2. Education, job skills, and work experience	74	41	44	56
3. Not sure	12	24	32	20

Q38. As you may know, when some families trying to enter the U.S. illegally at the southern border have been caught and detained, U.S. officials have separated parents from their children. Do you think this separation of parents and children is acceptable, unacceptable, or haven't you heard enough about it to say?

	Rep	Dem	Ind	Total
1. Acceptable	49%	5%	18%	25%
2. Unacceptable	34	92	68	65
3. Not Sure	17	3	15	10

Q39. When immigrants and their children are detained at the U.S. border for coming into the country illegally, do you think the U.S. should do everything it can to keep such families together, even if it means that fewer face criminal prosecution, or should the U.S. do everything it can to prosecute immigrants entering illegally, even if it means their families are separated?

	Rep	Dem	Ind	Total
1. Everything to keep families together	24%	87%	53%	56%
2. Everything to prosecute	58	7	21	30
3. Not Sure	17	7	26	13

Q41. In general, do you think undocumented immigrants are more likely to commit crimes than American citizens?

	Rep	Dem	Ind	Total
1. Yes	56%	8%	24%	30%
2. No	23	82	49	54
3. Not Sure	21	10	27	16