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Interviews: 1,003 registered voters
Dates: January 7-10, 2013

FINAL

49 Male
51 Female
[109]

Study #10826
National Immigration Reform Survey
January 2013

Please note: all results are shown as percentages unless otherwise stated.

1. First, are you registered to vote at your current address?

Registered	100	**CONTINUE**	**[139]**
Not registered	-	**TERMINATE**	
Not sure	-	**TERMINATE**	

2. And did you vote in the recent election for president between Barack Obama and Mitt Romney?

Yes, voted	100	**CONTINUE**	**[140]**
No, did not vote	-	**TERMINATE**	
Not sure/refused	-	**TERMINATE**	

3a. For statistical purposes only, would you please tell me how old you are? **(IF "REFUSED," ASK:)** Well, would you tell me which age group you belong to?

18-24	11	**[150-151]**
25-29	8	
30-34	7	
35-39	10	
40-44	8	
45-49	12	
50-54	9	
55-59	8	
60-64	11	
65-69	5	
70-74	5	
75 and over	5	
Not sure/refused	1	

3b. To ensure that we have a representative sample, would you please tell me whether you are from a Hispanic or Spanish-speaking background?

Yes, Hispanic	10	**[152]**
No, not Hispanic	90	
Not sure/refused	-	

3c. And again, for statistical purposes only, what is your race—white, African American, Asian, or something else?

White	76	**[153]**
African American	11	
Asian	1	
Other	4	
Hispanic (VOL)	7	
Not sure/refused	1	

Q3def. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, an independent, or something else? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "DEMOCRAT/REPUBLICAN" ASK:)** Would you call yourself a strong (Democrat/Republican) or not a very strong (Democrat/Republican)? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "INDEPENDENT," ASK:)** Do you think of yourself as closer to the Democratic Party, closer to the Republican Party, or do you think of yourself as strictly independent?

Strong Democrat	24	**[154-156]**
Not very strong Democrat	12	
Independent/lean Democrat	7	
Strictly independent	13	
Independent/lean Republican	7	
Not very strong Republican	9	
Strong Republican	21	
Other (VOL)	6	
Not sure	1	

Now I have some questions on the issue of immigration. . .

4. On the whole, do you think immigration is a good thing or a bad thing for America today?

Good thing	65	**[157]**
Bad thing	21	
Not sure	14	

5a. How would you describe the state of the immigration system today—would you say it working very well, working fairly well, not working well, or needs a complete overhaul?

Working very well	2	**[158]**
Working fairly well	18	
Not working well	29	
Needs a complete overhaul	46	
Not sure	5	

5b. Thinking about all the issues that Congress is facing, how high a priority should fixing our immigration system be, compared with all the other issues—should it be a very high priority, a high priority, a medium priority, or a low priority for Congress?

A very high priority	11	**[159]**
A high priority	37	
A medium priority	40	
A low priority	11	
Not sure	1	

6. When it comes to dealing with immigration, which party do you think would do a better job—the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, both about the same, or neither?

Democratic Party would do a better job	28	**[160]**
Republican Party would do a better job	19	
Both about the same	25	
Neither would do a good job	23	
Not sure	5	

7. Now I'm going to mention some possible goals that Congress might have for reforming the immigration system. For each goal, please indicate how high a priority you feel this should be. Use a scale from zero to ten, on which a "ten" means it should be the single most important goal, a "zero" means it should not be an important goal, and a "five" is in the middle. You may use any number from zero to ten.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY IMPORTANT GOAL (RATING OF "7-10")

			Most Important Goal			**Not An Important Goal**		
	Mean	**Total 7-10**	9-10	7-8	4-6	0-3	Cannot Rate	
Make sure all immigrants pay taxes.	*8.9*	**89**	72	17	9	2	-	**[165-166/ 208-209]**
Require employers to verify that all employees are legal**	*8.5*	**83**	67	16	11	6	-	**[216-217]**
Pass a long-term solution that fixes the immigration problem once and for all	*8.3*	**79**	57	22	16	4	1	**[171-172/ 214-215]**
Do more to secure the border to stop people from entering the country illegally	*7.9*	**73**	54	19	18	9	-	**[169-170/ 212-213]**
Prevent employers from lowering wages by exploiting immigrant workers*	*7.8*	**71**	49	22	21	7	1	**[173-174]**
Prevent illegal immigrants from coming into the country in the future	*7.4*	**66**	48	18	21	12	1	**[163-164/ 179-180]**
Ensure that immigrants who came to the United States illegally become legal and have the opportunity to work toward citizenship**	*6.9*	**63**	38	25	21	14	2	**[218-219]**
Help unite families here that have been separated by our current immigration laws	*6.3*	**51**	27	24	30	17	2	**[161-162/ 177/178]**
Deport all immigrants who have entered the United States illegally	*5.4*	**40**	27	13	27	32	1	**[167-168/ 210-211]**
Ensure that immigrants who came to the United States illegally become legal, but not be given a chance to earn citizenship*	*5.0*	**33**	16	17	33	29	5	**[175-176]**

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).
** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

I'm going to read you pairs of statements about immigration, and in each case I'd like you to please tell me which statement you agree with more.

8a. **Statement A:** The first priority on immigration should be getting control of our border. Until we do that, we should not be granting legal status to those who came here illegally, as it will just invite more illegal border crossings.

Statement B: Improving border security and fixing our broken immigration system are both important. We should require immigrants to become legal and pay taxes, while also improving border security

Agree with Statement A	31	**[220/222]**
Agree with Statement B	64	
Agree with both equally (VOL)	4	
Not sure	1	

8b. **Statement A:** We would be better off if people who are in the country illegally were forced to leave the country, because they are taking away jobs that Americans need.

Statement B: We would be better off if people who are in the country illegally became legal taxpayers, so they pay their fair share and can work toward citizenship in the future. *

Agree with Statement A	22	**[221]**
Agree with Statement B	73	
Agree with both equally (VOL)	2	
Not sure	3	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

8c. **Statement A:** We would be better off if people who are in the country illegally were forced to leave the country, because they are taking away jobs that Americans need.

Statement B: We would be better off if people who are in the country illegally became legal taxpayers, so they pay their fair share. **

Agree with Statement A	21	**[223]**
Agree with Statement B	70	
Agree with both equally (VOL)	7	
Not sure	2	

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

9. Now I'd like to describe an immigration reform plan and get your reaction. The plan has four main elements:

- One, strengthen border security by deploying better technology and focusing enforcement resources on the most serious security threats.
- Two, require employers to verify that all employees are legal, and any companies that employ illegal immigrants would pay large fines.
- Three, illegal immigrants already in the United States with no criminal record would be required to register for legal status, learn English, and pay taxes, and they could work toward citizenship over time.
- And four, tie the amount of legal immigration to the state of the economy, increasing it when employers cannot fill jobs and decreasing immigration levels when unemployment is high.

Overall, do you approve or disapprove of this immigration reform plan? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "APPROVE" "DISAPPROVE," ASK:)** And do you strongly (approve/disapprove) or somewhat (approve/disapprove)?

Total Approve	**77**	
Strongly approve	38	**[224/225]**
Somewhat approve	39	
Total Disapprove	**14**	
Somewhat disapprove	8	
Strongly disapprove	6	
Not sure	9	

10. Now I'd like to get your reaction to the specific components of this immigration reform plan. For each one, please tell me whether you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove, or strongly disapprove of this specific proposal?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY STRONGLY APPROVE OR SOMEWHAT APPROVE

	Total Approve	**Total Disapprove**	Strongly Approve	Somewhat Approve	Somewhat Disapprove	Strongly Disapprove	Not Sure	
Illegal immigrants would be required to pay taxes	**94**	**4**	83	11	1	3	2	**[231]**
Strengthen border security by deploying better technology and focusing enforcement resources on the most serious security threats	**92**	**7**	67	25	4	3	1	**[226]**
Illegal immigrants already in the United States with no criminal record would be required to register for legal status	**89**	**10**	66	23	4	6	1	**[228]**
Require employers to verify that all employees are legal, and any companies that employ illegal immigrants would pay large fines	**88**	**11**	69	19	6	5	1	**[227]**
Only after registering for legal status, learning English, and paying taxes, illegal immigrants could work toward citizenship over time*	**85**	**14**	59	26	6	8	1	**[232]**
Illegal immigrants would be required to learn English	**83**	**15**	64	19	8	7	2	**[230]**
Tie the amount of legal immigration to the state of the economy, increasing it when employers cannot fill jobs and decreasing immigration levels when unemployment is high	**57**	**38**	24	33	19	19	5	**[229]**

*Always asked as the last item in the Q10 series.

11. If your Member of Congress voted for this immigration reform plan, would you be more likely or less likely to vote to re-elect your Member of Congress, or would this issue not affect your vote either way?

More likely to vote	53	**[233]**
Less likely to vote	8	
Would not affect vote either way	34	
Not sure	5	

12. If immigration reform does establish legal status for people who originally entered the country illegally, which of the following do you think is the better way to do that?

They should be allowed to qualify for legal status and work in the United States but should never be given the chance to earn citizenship	7	**[234]**
It would be better to give people a chance to eventually earn citizenship at some point after they register for legal status, pass a background check, learn English, and pay taxes	87	
Neither/should not be given legal status (VOL)	4	
Not sure	2	

Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements that you might hear from opponents and supporters of this immigration reform plan. After you hear each pair, please tell me whether you agree more with the opponents' statement or more with the supporters' statement.

Q.13a, Q.13b, AND Q.13c ARE RANDOMIZED

13a. Opponents say this is just amnesty for illegal immigrants. The plan rewards millions of illegal immigrants who broke the law, at the expense of others who waited in their home country and played by the rules.

Supporters say this is not amnesty, it's accountability. The plan requires those here illegally to pay taxes, learn English, and pass a criminal background check before they can become legal and stay in the United States.

(IF RESPONDENT MAKES A CHOICE, ASK:) Do you agree with that statement strongly or not so strongly?

Total Agree with Opponents	**28**	
Agree with opponents—strongly	21	**[235]**
Agree with opponents—not so strongly	7	
Total Agree with Supporters	**66**	
Agree with supporters—not so strongly	21	
Agree with supporters—strongly	45	
Both equally (VOL)	3	
Not sure	3	

13b. Opponents say that it is not fair to let illegal immigrants become legal ahead of people who have followed the rules and applied to come here legally. If they found a way to get here, they can find a way to get home and then apply to come to the United States the right way.

Supporters say it's not realistic to deport twelve million immigrants. And this plan requires illegal immigrants to go to the back of the line and wait their turn behind those immigrants who came to the United States legally, before receiving citizenship.

(IF RESPONDENT MAKES A CHOICE, ASK:) Do you agree with that statement strongly or not so strongly?

Total Agree with Opponents	**34**	
Agree with opponents—strongly	24	**[236]**
Agree with opponents—not so strongly	10	
Total Agree with Supporters	**58**	
Agree with supporters—not so strongly	18	
Agree with supporters—strongly	40	
Both equally (VOL)	4	
Not sure	4	

13c. Opponents say that with millions of Americans out of work, now is not the time to increase immigration and make it easier for illegal immigrants to stay here. We need to take care of Americans first before we reward those who have broken our laws with amnesty.

Supporters say that this plan cracks down on illegal hiring by requiring employers to verify workers' legal status and increasing penalties for those who hire illegal immigrants, so that American workers' wages are not undermined. America is stronger when immigrants get legal and pay taxes.

(IF RESPONDENT MAKES A CHOICE, ASK:) Do you agree with that statement strongly or not so strongly?

Total Agree with Opponents	**30**	
Agree with opponents—strongly	22	**[237]**
Agree with opponents—not so strongly	8	
Total Agree with Supporters	**62**	
Agree with supporters—not so strongly	23	
Agree with supporters—strongly	39	
Both equally (VOL)	4	
Not sure	4	

14. Now thinking about all the issues we have discussed concerning this immigration reform plan, let me describe the immigration reform plan one more time and get your reaction. The plan has four main elements.

- One, strengthen border security by deploying better technology and focusing enforcement resources on the most serious security threats.
- Two, require employers to verify that all employees are legal, and any companies that employ illegal immigrants would pay large fines.
- Three, illegal immigrants already in the United States with no criminal record would be required to register for legal status, learn English, and pay taxes, and could work toward citizenship over time.
- And four, tie the amount of legal immigration to the state of the economy, increasing it when employers can't fill jobs and decreasing immigration levels when unemployment is high.

Overall, do you approve or disapprove of this immigration reform plan? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "APPROVE" OR "DISAPPROVE," ASK:)** And do you strongly or somewhat **(approve/disapprove)**?

Total Approve	**80**	
Strongly approve	39	**[238/239]**
Somewhat approve	41	
Total Disapprove	**14**	
Somewhat disapprove	8	
Strongly disapprove	6	
Not sure	6	

<u>FACTUALS</u>: Now I am going to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

F1. What is the last grade that you completed in school?

Grade school	1	**[260-261]**
Some high school	3	
High school graduate	23	
Some college, no degree	19	
Vocational training/2-year college	13	
4-year college/Bachelor's degree	21	
Some postgraduate work, no degree	2	
2 or 3 years' postgraduate work/master's degree	12	
Doctoral/law degree	2	
Not sure/refused	4	

F2. Are you currently single and never married, married, separated, widowed, or divorced?

Single	25	**[262]**
Married	58	
Separated	1	
Widowed	5	
Divorced	7	
Other (VOL)	-	
Not sure/refused	4	

F3. Some people vote in primary elections, but many other people wait until there is a general election to vote. When there are primary elections for state and local offices, do you usually vote in the Republican party primary elections, vote in the Democratic party primary elections, or wait until the general election to vote? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "DEPENDS" OR "VARIES," ASK:)** Well, which do you usually do?

Vote in Republican party primaries	28	**[263]**
Vote in Democratic party primaries	30	
Wait for general election to vote	30	
Depends (VOL)	6	
Not sure	6	

F4. Thinking about your general approach to issues, do you consider yourself to be liberal, moderate, or conservative? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "LIBERAL" OR "CONSERVATIVE," ASK:)** Do you consider yourself to be very (liberal/conservative) or somewhat (liberal/conservative)?

Very liberal	10	**[264/265]**
Somewhat liberal	15	
Moderate	34	
Somewhat conservative	18	
Very conservative	15	
Not sure	8	

F5. In the recent election for president, did you vote for Barack Obama, the Democrat, or Mitt Romney, the Republican?

Voted for Obama	45	**[266]**
Voted for Romney	42	
Voted for other candidate (VOL)	3	
Refused/can't recall	10	

F6a. What is your religion?

Protestant (includes Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, and other Christians)	48	**CONTINUE**	**[267]**
Catholic	23		
Jewish	1	**Skip to Q.F7**	
Muslim	-		
Mormon/LDS/Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	2		
Other	8		
None	12	**CONTINUE**	
Not sure/refused	6		

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY PROTESTANT, OTHER, NONE, OR NOT SURE IN Q.F6a)

F6b. Would you describe yourself as either a fundamentalist or an evangelical Christian, or would you not describe yourself that way?

Fundamentalist/evangelical	16	**[268]**
Neither fundamentalist nor evangelical	49	
Not sure	9	
Catholic/Jewish/Muslim/Mormon/LDS/Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Q.F6a)	26	

F7. What is the best way to describe the area where you live—a city, a suburb, a small town, or a rural area?

City	28	**[269]**
Suburb	29	
Small town	19	
Rural area	19	
Don't know/refused	5	

F8. Are you a member of a labor union? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "NO" OR "NOT SURE," ASK:)** Is anyone else in this household a member of a labor union?

Labor union member	11	**[270/271]**
Labor union household	7	
Non-union household	77	
Not sure	5	

F9. If you added together the yearly income of all the members of your family who were living at home last year, would the total be less $25,000, between $25,000 and $50,000, between $50,000 and $75,000, between $75,000 and $100,000, or more than $100,000?

Less than $25,000	10	**[272]**
Between $25,000 and $50,000	19	
Between $50,000 and $75,000	19	
Between $75,000 and $100,000	16	
More than $100,000	19	
Not sure/refused	17	

F10a. Were you born in the United States or did you immigrate to the U.S. from another country?

Born in the United States	89	**CONTINUE**	**[273]**
Immigrated to the U.S. from another country	7	**Skip to Hangup**	
Not sure	4	**CONTINUE**	

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY THEY WERE BORN IN THE UNITED STATES OR NOT SURE IN Q.F10a)

F10b. Were both of your parents born in the United States, or did one or both of them immigrate to the United States from another country?

Both parents born in the United States	81	**[274]**
One or both immigrated to the United States from another country	8	
Not sure	4	
Immigrated to the U.S. from another country (Q.F10a)	7	