



# AFTER ARIZONA PUBLIC OPINION ON IMMIGRATION REPUBLICAN VOTERS – KEY FINDINGS

**Q4** Do you think immigration helps the U.S. more than it hurts, or hurts the U.S. more than it helps?

**REPUBLICANS**

Hard Republicans – helps/hurts	23/69 percent
Soft Republicans – helps/hurts	35/60 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Helps/hurts	41/52 percent
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**Q5** Do you think America’s current immigration system works fine, or do you think America’s current immigration system needs reform? And would you say it needs major or minor reform?

**REPUBLICANS**

Works fine	6 percent
Minor reform	20 percent
Major reform	69 percent
Total needs reform	89 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Works fine	8 percent
Minor reform	21 percent
Major reform	69 percent
Total needs reform	89 percent

**Q6** I'm going to read you two different opinions on immigration reform.

Some people say we need to reform the immigration system because the immigration system is outdated, too complicated and encourages illegal actions while it instead should encourage legal immigration.

Other people say that immigration reform is too controversial to deal with right now. They say that any changes to the immigration system will just benefit people who are already here illegally, and that's not a solution.

**REPUBLICANS**

Need reform	79 percent
Too controversial to deal with	17 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Need reform	79 percent
Too controversial to deal with	17 percent

**Q7** Do you want your member of Congress to work toward immigration reform, or do you want your member of Congress to not get involved in immigration reform?

**REPUBLICANS**

Work toward reform	88 percent
Not get involved in reform	11 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Work toward reform	87 percent
Not get involved in reform	11 percent

**Q10** I'm going to read you a description of a bill that was proposed in the U.S. Senate to reform immigration laws.

The bill has three parts – requiring biometric Social Security cards to ensure that illegal immigrants cannot get jobs, strengthening border security and enforcement in the U.S. and creating a process to admit temporary workers. \*

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	41 percent
Somewhat favor	38 percent
Total favor	79 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	39 percent
Somewhat favor	38 percent
Total Favor	77 percent

**Q11- 20** I'm going to read you each part of the proposal and after I read each one please tell me if you favor or oppose that part of the proposal.

**Q11** All U.S. citizens and legal immigrants who want jobs would have to obtain a high-tech, fraud-proof Social Security card with biometric identifiers, such as a fingerprint, on the card.

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	51 percent
Somewhat favor	23 percent
Total favor	73 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	49 percent
Somewhat favor	23 percent
Total favor	72 percent

**Q12** No government database would house any biometric information. The new Social Security card will be a high-tech version of the current Social Security card.

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	37 percent
Somewhat favor	34 percent
Total favor	70 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	38 percent
Somewhat favor	30 percent
Total favor	68 percent

**Q13** Prospective employers would be responsible for swiping the cards through a machine to confirm a person's identity and immigration status.

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	60 percent
Somewhat favor	20 percent
Total favor	80 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	57 percent
Somewhat favor	21 percent
Total favor	79 percent

**Q14** Employers who knowingly hire illegal workers would face stiff fines and prison sentences for repeat offenders.

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	73 percent
Somewhat favor	17 percent
Total favor	90 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	69 percent
Somewhat favor	18 percent
Total favor	87 percent

**Q15** There would be zero tolerance for gang members, smugglers and those who commit felonies after coming here illegally.

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	92 percent
Somewhat favor	1 percent
Total favor	93 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	90 percent
Somewhat favor	3 percent
Total favor	93 percent

**Q16** The Border Patrol's staffing and funding would be increased.

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	75 percent
Somewhat favor	19 percent
Total favor	94 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	68 percent
Somewhat favor	20 percent
Total favor	89 percent

**Q17** The legislation would award green cards to immigrants who receive a PhD or master's degree in science, technology, engineering or math from a U.S. university.

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	31 percent
Somewhat favor	38 percent
Total favor	69 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	37 percent
Somewhat favor	32 percent
Total favor	70 percent

**Q18** Lower-skilled immigrants would be allowed to come to the U.S. to work, participating in a program designed to give the kinds of workers who now come illegally a way to enter the country legally.

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	34 percent
Somewhat favor	41 percent
Total favor	74 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	38 percent
Somewhat favor	38 percent
Total favor	76 percent

**Q19** The new worker-visa program would be flexible in size, allowing more workers to come when the economy is creating jobs and fewer during a recession.

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	47 percent
Somewhat favor	32 percent
Total favor	79 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	44 percent
Somewhat favor	33 percent
Total favor	77 percent

**Q20** Some of these workers would stay in the U.S. for a while and then return home, while some who succeeded on the job and contributed in their communities would eventually be given the opportunity to stay permanently.

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	38 percent
Somewhat favor	40 percent
Total favor	78 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	40 percent
Somewhat favor	37 percent
Total favor	78 percent

**Q21-** Thinking further about this, there are additional parts that may be  
**24** added to this proposal. After I read each of these new parts, please tell me if you favor or oppose it.

**Questions 21 and 22 were asked of a SPLIT SAMPLE**

**Q21** This legislation would give illegal immigrants already in the country an opportunity to earn legal status. Under this part of the proposal, illegal immigrants would be required to pay fines and back taxes. They would also be required to pass background checks, be proficient in English and could not earn legal status before those who have already applied and are waiting for it.

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	55 percent
Somewhat favor	29 percent
Total favor	84 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	51 percent
Somewhat favor	31 percent
Total favor	83 percent

**Q22** This legislation would give illegal immigrants already in the country an opportunity to earn citizenship. Under this part of the proposal, illegal immigrants would be required to pay fines and back taxes. They would also be required to pass background checks, be proficient in English and could not earn citizenship before those who have already applied and are waiting for it.

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	53 percent
Somewhat favor	30 percent
Total favor	83 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	49 percent
Somewhat favor	34 percent
Total favor	83 percent

**Questions 23 and 24 were asked of a SPLIT SAMPLE**

**Q23** Before illegal immigrants already in the country could earn legal status, they would be required to admit they broke the law and perform community service.

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	41 percent
Somewhat favor	34 percent
Total favor	75 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	32 percent
Somewhat favor	33 percent
Total favor	65 percent

**Q24** Before illegal immigrants already in the country could earn citizenship, they would be required to admit they broke the law and perform community service.

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	41 percent
Somewhat favor	23 percent
Total favor	64 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	37 percent
Somewhat favor	24 percent
Total favor	61 percent

**Q25** Do you consider these new parts of the proposal to be amnesty for illegal immigrants?

**REPUBLICANS**

Yes	53 percent
No	42 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Yes	51 percent
No	44 percent

**Q26** None of these proposals would go into effect until after border security was significantly tightened by additional manpower, resources and technology – even if this meant significant delays in implementing the other elements. Would you favor or oppose this new part of the proposal?

**REPUBLICANS**

Strongly favor	40 percent
Somewhat favor	30 percent
Total favor	70 percent

**ALL VOTERS**

Strongly favor	37 percent
Somewhat favor	28 percent
Total favor	65 percent

\* The immigration reform proposal tested in questions 11 through 20 refers to the bipartisan reform plan outlined in an op-ed piece written by Sens. Charles Schumer and Lindsey Graham and published in the Washington Post on March 19, 2010. This bipartisan proposal was tested among survey respondents in two separate parts.

- First were the first three pillars of reform – border security, work site enforcement and a way for future workers to enter the country legally.
- Second was the fourth pillar – what to do about illegal immigrants already in the country.