

## Appendix D: Survey Toplines

**2015 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL  
WAVE 10 MARCH  
FINAL TOPLINE  
March 10 – April 6, 2015  
TOTAL N=3,147  
WEB RESPONDENTS N=2,833  
MAIL RESPONDENTS N=314<sup>28</sup>**

**OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

Now a different kind of question ...

**ASK ALL:**

ST.1 What ONE WORD comes to mind first when you think about immigrants in the United States today?  
[OPEN-END]

Mar 10-Apr 6

2015

12	Illegal
5	Overpopulation/Lots/Many/Overwhelming
4	Legality (other than "illegal")
3	Jobs
3	Deportation/Go home/Restrict
3	People/Myself/My family/Americans/Everyone
3	Work ethic
3	Freedom
2	Hispanics/Mexico/Mexicans
2	Costs/Freeloaders/Burden/Debt
2	Fairness/Unfair
2	Opportunity
2	Workers/Labor
12	General/other, positive
11	General/other, negative
26	General/other, neutral
6	No answer/Uncodable

**OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

ST.2 As far as you know, do you think the immigration system in this country ...

Mar 10-Apr 6

2015

16	Works pretty well and requires only minor changes
54	Needs major changes
28	Needs to be completely rebuilt
2	No answer

<sup>28</sup> Question wording in this topline is that from the Web version of the survey. Question wording and format was adapted for the paper questionnaire delivered by mail; this questionnaire is available on request. All questions asked in both modes unless noted.

**ASK ALL:**

ST.3 Generally, do you think immigrants coming to the United States ... **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]**

Mar 10-Apr 6

2015

45	Make American society better in the long run
37	Make American society worse in the long run
16	Don't have much of an effect on American society one way or the other
3	No answer

**OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK ALL:**

ST.4 What percentage of today's U.S. population was born in another country?

Mar 10-Apr 6

2015

8	4%
47	13% ( <i>Correct</i> )
28	39%
7	55%
10	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

ST.5 What percentage of immigrants in the U.S. today are living here illegally?

Mar 10-Apr 6

2015

20	9%
34	26% ( <i>Correct</i> )
22	45%
14	62%
9	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

ST.6 Over the last five years, the largest group of immigrants to the United States has come from... **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS]**

Mar 10-Apr 6

2015

7	Asia ( <i>Correct</i> )
3	Europe
69	Latin America
3	Africa
13	Middle East
5	No answer

**OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

Now a few more questions about immigration to the United States ...

**ASK ALL:**

ST.7 In your opinion, should immigration be kept at its present level, increased or decreased?

Mar 10-Apr 6

2015

34	Present level
15	Increased
49	Decreased
2	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

ST.8 Do you think immigrants in the United States are making things **[RANDOMIZE: better, worse]**, or not having much effect in each of the following areas? **[FOR EACH ITEM, RANDOMIZE RESPONSE CATEGORIES 1 AND 2 IN SAME ORDER AS QUESTION STEM] SOFT PROMPT TEXT** "If you're sure you want to skip, click Next"

		Immigrants are making things <u>better</u>	Immigrants are making things <u>worse</u>	Immigrants are not having <u>much effect</u>	No <u>answer</u>
a.	Crime Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015	7	50	41	2
b.	Food, music, and the arts Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015	49	11	37	3
c.	The economy Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015	28	50	20	2
d.	Social and moral values Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015	18	34	45	3
e.	Science and technology Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015	29	12	56	3

**ASK ALL:**

ST.8x As far as you know, are there any immigrants living in your community, or not?

Mar 10-Apr 6

2015

78	Yes
21	No
1	No answer

**ASK IF THERE ARE IMMIGRANTS IN RESPONDENT'S COMMUNITY OR MISSING (ST.8x=1,99)****[N=2,641]:**

ST.9 Thinking specifically about immigrants in the community where you live, do you think they are making things **[RANDOMIZE IN SAME ORDER AS ST.8: better, worse]**, or not having much effect in each of the following areas? **[FOR EACH ITEM, RANDOMIZE RESPONSE CATEGORIES 1 AND 2 IN SAME ORDER AS QUESTION STEM] SOFT PROMPT TEXT** "If you're sure you want to skip, click Next."

		Immigrants are making things <u>better</u>	Immigrants are making things <u>worse</u>	Immigrants are not having <u>much effect</u>	No <u>answer</u>
a.	Crime Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015	8	36	53	3
b.	Food, music, and the arts Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015	42	9	46	3
c.	Jobs opportunities for you and your family Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015	11	36	50	3
d.	Schools Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015	15	41	41	3

**ASK ALL:**

ST.10 In your opinion, what do you think is the main reason most immigrants come to the United States?  
**[PROGRAMMING NOTE: RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 THROUGH 4]**

Mar 10-Apr 6  
2015

4	Educational opportunities
74	Economic opportunities
10	Conflict or persecution in their home country
2	To be reunited with family
5	Some other reason
4	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

ST.11 Which comes closer to your view—even if neither is exactly right? **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]**

Mar 10-Apr 6  
2015

32	Immigrants in our country today generally want to adopt American customs and way of life
66	Immigrants in our country today generally want to hold on to the customs and way of life of their home country
2	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

ST.12 Do you think the impact of immigrants from **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE ST.12a-e]** on American society has been ... **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 IN SAME ORDER FOR ST.12a-ST.12E]** **SOFT PROMPT TEXT** "If you're sure you want to skip, click Next."

		<u>Mostly positive</u>	<u>Mostly negative</u>	<u>Neither positive nor negative</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a.	EUROPE Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015	44	9	45	3
b.	LATIN AMERICA Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015	26	37	35	2
c.	AFRICA Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015	26	22	50	3
d.	ASIA Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015	47	11	39	3
e.	MIDDLE EAST Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015	20	39	39	3

**ASK ALL:**

ST.13 In your opinion, do most recent immigrants learn English within a reasonable amount of time, or don't they?

Mar 10-Apr 6	
<u>2015</u>	
39	Yes, they do
59	No, they don't
2	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

ST.14 Do you think adult immigrants in the United States ... **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]**

Mar 10-Apr 6	
<u>2015</u>	
76	Need to learn to speak English to succeed
22	Can succeed even if they don't speak English
2	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

ST.15 In deciding whether people from other countries should be allowed to legally immigrate to the United States, should the government give higher priority to ... **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]**

Mar 10-Apr 6	
<u>2015</u>	
56	People who are highly educated and highly skilled workers, even if they do not have family members in the U.S.
37	People who have family members already living in the U.S., even if they are not highly educated or highly skilled workers
6	No answer

**OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

ST.16 Do you have any friends or relatives who are recent immigrants?

Mar 10-Apr 6

2015

24	Yes
75	No
1	No answer

**ASK IF THERE ARE IMMIGRANTS IN RESPONDENT'S COMMUNITY OR MISSING (ST.8X=1,99)****[N=2,641]:**

ST.17 How many recent immigrants would you say there are in the community where you live?

Mar 10-Apr 6

2015

34	Many
40	Some
23	Only a few
3	None
1	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

USBORNP Were both of your parents born in the United States, including Puerto Rico or other U.S. territories, or not?

Mar 10-Apr 6

2015

79	Yes, both parents were born in the U.S. (including Puerto Rico or other U.S. territories)
7	No, one parent was born in another country
13	No, both parents were born in another country
1	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

USBORNG Were ALL of your grandparents born in the United States, including Puerto Rico or other U.S. territories, or not?

Mar 10-Apr 6

2015

63	Yes, ALL grandparents were born in the U.S. (including Puerto Rico or other U.S. territories)
35	No, AT LEAST ONE grandparent was born in another country
2	No answer

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
MAY 2015 POLITICAL SURVEY  
FINAL TOPLINE  
MAY 12-18, 2015  
N=2,002**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.24b Here are some pairs of statements. Please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views—even if neither is exactly right. The first pair is ... **[READ AND RANDOMIZE PAIRS BUT NOT STATEMENTS WITHIN EACH PAIR]**

	Immigrants today strengthen our country because of their hard work and talents	Immigrants today are a burden on our country because they take our jobs, housing and health care	(VOL.) Both/Neither/ DK/Ref
May 12-18, 2015	51	41	8
Jan 23-Mar 16, 2014	57	35	8
Dec 3-8, 2013	53	35	11
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	49	40	11
Mar 13-17, 2013	49	41	10
Jan 4-8, 2012	48	37	15
Feb 22-Mar 14, 2011	45	44	12
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	44	42	14
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	42	45	13
Jun 16-20, 2010	39	50	11
Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009	46	40	14
October 2006	41	41	18
March 2006	41	52	7
December 2005	45	44	11
December 2004	45	44	11
June 2003	46	44	10
September 2000	50	38	12
August 1999	46	44	10
October 1997	41	48	11
June 1997	41	48	11
April 1997	38	52	10
June 1996	37	54	9
July 1994	31	63	6