



# NATIONAL IMMIGRANTS DAY



# WHAT WE'LL COVER TODAY

**WHO IMMIGRANTS ARE,  
WHY THEY MIGRATE,  
AND WHAT POLICY  
OPTIONS ARE  
AVAILABLE**



# WHO ARE IMMIGRANTS?

## BY THE NUMBERS

- 45 million (14%)
- immigrants + native-born children: 26% US pop
- 25% from MX, 28% from Asia
- ~11 million undocumented
- ~ 1.2 million cases pending
- 2/3 overstayed visas





# HOW 9/11 CHANGED HOW WE SEE IMMIGRATION

- Pre-9/11: immigration under DOL & DOJ
- 2003: transferred to DHS, housed with anti-terrorism agencies inc. Secret Service and USCG
- Immigration became a national security issue



# HOW STRATEGY SHIFTS

## IMMIGRATION AS A NATIONAL SECURITY ISSUE

- border militarization, interior enforcement
- raids (85% ineffective)
- brutality, human rights violations

- migrant deaths in desert
- overcrowded facilities, detention centers
- unconstitutional deportations



**PROMOTE LIFE, DO NOT  
TAKE LIFE.**

**BE CONSTRUCTIVE, NOT  
DESTRUCTIVE.**



Phoenix

Tucson

Please do not touch tags

0 25 50 Miles





- **DACA: 2-year renewable deportation deferrals and work permits to undocumented immigrants who arrived as children (i.e. didn't elect to cross over) w/ no criminal records**
- **\$750m to Central America to increase stability**
- **"Deporter in Chief": criticized for detaining children in inhumane conditions, deported more than 3 million**



## Trump:

- relied largely on executive orders
- unsuccessful in securing Congressional funding to build the wall, national emergency 2019
- deterrence efforts increased: zero-tolerance policy, family separations, increased militarization
- unsuccessful in repealing DACA
- refugee and immigrant caps, travel bans, ended TPS for certain countries
  - Title 42, continuation into Biden



## Biden:

- trying to undo Trump's policies while being met with sharp spikes of migration to the border
- reduced internal enforcement, ended travel bans, resumed green card processing, expanded TPS protections, (eventually) raised the refugee cap
- July 2021: CBP reported over 213,000 encounters with people trying to cross the border. Highest monthly figure in 2 decades.
- Urging people not to make the journey while promising aid to Northern Triangle



# AMERICAN OPINIONS ON IMMIGRATION

- 77% consider immigration a good thing
- majority feel illegal immigration is a "significant threat" and that levels should remain stagnant or decrease.
- majority of Republicans support a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants if they meet certain requirements
- CMS study shows that "improving social and economic conditions in sending countries would not only reduce pressure at the border but also likely cause a large decline in the undocumented population."

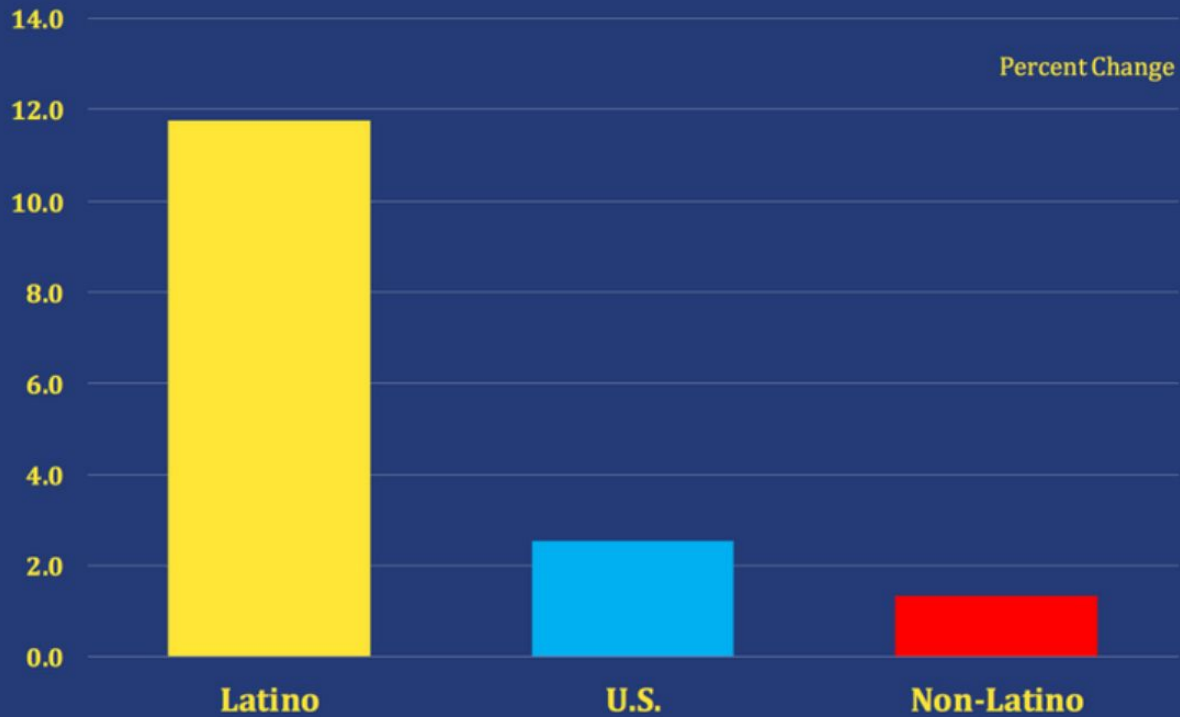


# BEHIND THE SCENES IMMIGRANTS WE GET THE JOB DONE

## CONTRIBUTIONS OF IMMIGRANTS

- social: pct of mixed status families. Implicates more of the population.
  - History, heritage, acquirement of Mexico territory
- economic: pay taxes, stimulate midsized metropolices
- political: immigrants in office, voter stats
- "american values"
- border security

## Consumption Growth: 2017 to 2018



Center for Economic Research & Forecasting: 2020 LDC U.S. Latino GDP Report  
Source: BEA, CLU-CERF



# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Should the US invest in stabilizing Central American countries to address the root causes of migration and relieve the migration crisis on the border?
- How involved should the US be in shaping governance in Central America? I.e. sovereignty argument vs interconnectivity argument
- What does Catholic Social Teaching (CST) teach about immigration and the undocumented?
- Immigration law has changed drastically throughout America's history. What policy reforms would you suggest if you were a policymaker?
- Immigration is widely viewed as a bipartisan issue, but discriminatory narratives against immigrants persist in parts of civil society. Where do these narratives, stereotypes, and fears come from?
- What major constitutional violations can be seen in ICE policies and practices? How are well-documented violations like these allowed to continue? Or what are the primary roadblocks to achieving reform?
  - If an increase in interior immigration enforcement rarely leads to an increase in national security, why does ICE still conduct these raids?
  - If America wishes to maintain its ability to compete internationally amidst declining birth rates, is increased immigration inevitable?