

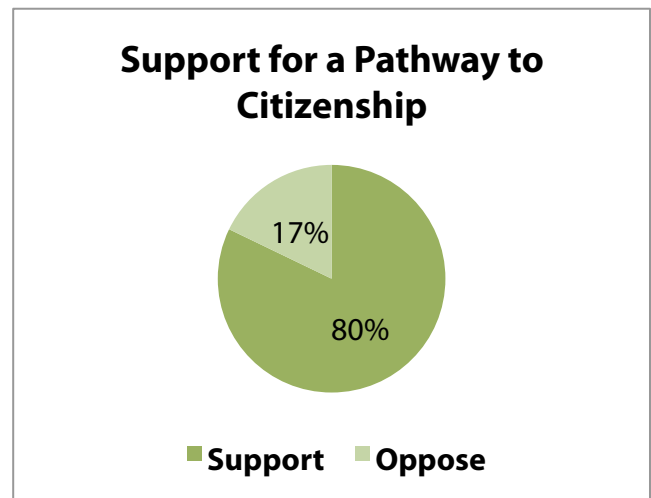
North Carolinians on Immigration

Elon University Poll

February 24-28, 2013

Support for a Pathway to Citizenship for Undocumented Immigrants

A recent survey conducted by the Elon University Poll found over 80 percent of respondents in North Carolina support a pathway to citizenship for illegal immigrants currently living in the United States. The survey question asked residents whether they opposed or support a pathway to citizenship if undocumented immigrants were given a background check and paid any fines and taxes. Only 17 percent of those sampled opposed a pathway, with less than three percent unsure or with no opinion.



Are Immigrants a Benefit or Burden to North Carolina?

Another survey question asked respondents if they believed immigrants were a benefit or a burden to North Carolina. A little over half the sample agreed with the statement that immigrants were a benefit because of their hard work and job skills. Thirty-eight percent chose the statement that immigrants were a burden to North Carolina because of their use of public services.

Support for a pathway to citizenship for illegal immigrants living in the U.S. is wide spread among most groups, including Democrats and Republicans. Democrats are much more supportive of a pathway for immigrants, with almost 89 percent supporting such immigration reform. Sixty-nine percent of Republicans support a pathway to become a citizen for undocumented immigrants. Although a large proportion of Republicans support a pathway to citizenship, 57 percent agreed with the statement that immigrants were a burden to North Carolina. Only 21 percent of Democrats believed immigrants were a burden, while 39 percent of Independents chose the statement that immigrants were a burden because of their use of public services. Blacks (63%) are more likely to see immigrants as a benefit to the state than white residents (47%). Respondents between the age of 18 and 30 are also more likely to see immigrants as a benefit (62%) and support a pathway for undocumented immigrants (86%) than other age groups.

Now moving to the issue of immigration.....Please indicate which statement comes closest to your own view, even if neither is exactly right. 1) Immigrants today are a benefit to North Carolina because of their hard work and job skills or 2) Immigrants today are a burden to North Carolina because they use public services. [1 & 2 are rotated]

	No.	%
Benefit	451	51.30%
Burden.....	330.....	37.60%
Don't Know.....	97	11.10%
N=	878.....	100.00%

Would you support or oppose a program that provided [undocumented/illegal] immigrants living in the United States a pathway to become citizens if they meet certain requirements such as a background check and paying any fines and taxes?

	No.	%
Support.....	711	80.10%
Oppose.....	155.....	17.40%
Don't know / No Opinion	22	2.50%
N=	888.....	100.00%

Table 1: Party ID and Immigration Opinion

	Benefit	Burden	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%
Democrats	68	21	11	100
Independents	50	39	11	100
Republicans	33	57	10	100
Don't Know / Refused	50	33	17	100
Total	51	38	11	100

Table 2: Gender and Immigration Opinion

	Benefit	Burden	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%
Male	52	37	11	100
Female	51	38	11	100
Total	51	38	11	100

Table 3: Age and Immigration Opinion

	Benefit	Burden	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%
18-30	62	32	6	100
31-40	55	33	12	100
41-50	48	41	11	100
51-65	45	42	13	100
65+	45	39	16	100
Total	52	37	11	100

Table 4: Race and Immigration Opinion

	Benefit	Burden	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%
White	47	43	11	100
Black	63	23	14	100
Other	65	27	9	100
Total	51	38	11	100

Table 5: Income and Immigration Opinion

	Benefit	Burden	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	51	36	13	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	46	46	8	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	50	39	11	100
More than \$75,000	57	33	11	100
Total	52	38	10	100

Table 6: Pathway to Immigration and Immigration Opinion

	Benefit %	Burden %	Don't Know %	Total %
Support	57	32	11	100
Oppose	27	66	7	100
Don't know / No Opinion	28	33	39	100
Total	51	38	11	100

Table 7: Party ID and Pathway to Immigration

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't know / No Opinion %	Total %
Democrats	89	9	2	100
Independents	81	17	2	100
Republicans	69	28	3	100
Don't Know / Refused	80	17	4	100
Total	80	17	2	100

Table 8: Gender and Pathway to Immigration

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't know / No Opinion %	Total %
Male	79	19	2	100
Female	81	16	3	100
Total	80	17	2	100

Table 9: Age and Pathway to Immigration

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't know / No Opinion %	Total %
18-30	86	12	2	100
31-40	85	12	3	100
41-50	75	24	2	100
51-65	84	14	2	100
65+	68	28	4	100
Total	80	17	3	100

Table 10: Race and Pathway to Immigration

	Support	Oppose	Don't know / No Opinion	Total
	%	%	%	%
White	78	20	2	100
Black	88	10	3	100
Other	84	10	6	100
Total	80	17	2	100

Table 11: Income and Pathway to Immigration

	Support	Oppose	Don't know / No Opinion	Total
	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	76	19	4	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	84	15	1	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	79	18	3	100
More than \$75,000	83	16	1	100
Total	81	17	2	100

Table 12: Immigration Opinion and Pathway to Immigration

	Support	Oppose	Don't know / No Opinion	Total
	%	%	%	%
Benefit	89	9	1	100
Burden	67	31	2	100
Don't Know	80	11	9	100
Total	80	17	3	100

Basic Methodological Information

Mode:	Live Interviewer RDD Telephone Interviews (Dual Frame: Cell Phone and Landlines)
Sample Area:	North Carolina
Dates in the field:	February 24 – February 28, 2013
Sample Size	891
Margin of Error	±3.28
Confidence Level	95%
Weighting Variables	Age , Race, Gender, and Phone Ownership

For more information on the Elon University Poll, visit www.elon.edu/elonpoll

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