American Immigration: Differing Views of the Threat from Immigrants

By Carl Karpinski, class of 2017
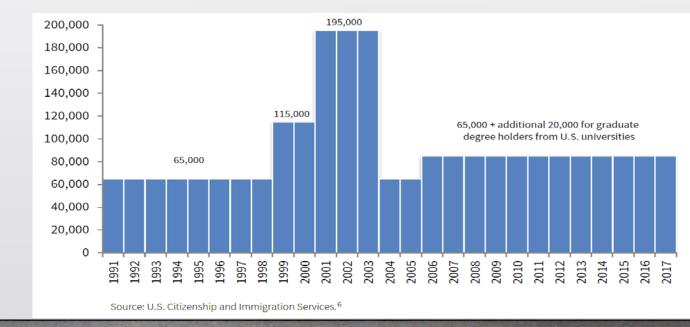
Introduction

- Immigration legislation
  - Bush (Ted Kennedy, visas, total immigrants)
  - Arlen Specter (border, blue card, legal)
  - Gutierrez (non-criminals, youth, border)
  - Obama
  - Trump

Year	Size of Immigrant Population (Millions)	Immigrant Share of Total U.S. Population (%)
1970	9.6	4.7
1980	14.1	6.2
1990	19.8	7.9
2000	31.1	11.1
2010	40.0	12.9
2014	42.4	13.3

- According to Brookings Institution, in 2013 the number of people who were foreign born in the US had risen to over 40 million and 13% of the population.

Visas

- Of the 85,000 H-1B workers
  are for STEM (Sci, Tech, Eng, Math)

  occupations.

- L-1 Visas – about 65,000 (no cap)

65,000 + additional 20,000 for graduate degree holders from U.S. universities

Source: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.[6]

Theory

- Immigration has become a hot button issue in politics and daily life

- Social Contact- Gordon Allport
  - "Under appropriate conditions interpersonal contact is one of the most effective ways to reduce prejudice between majority and minority group members"

- Figueroa and Wallace

- In the US many believe that immigrants pose as a threat to many factors in their life (jobs, education, rights-0 sum gain, etc.)

Literature

- PIJT data being from 2005 and being broad
  - 1-immigrants do jobs that American's don't want
  - 2-not sure
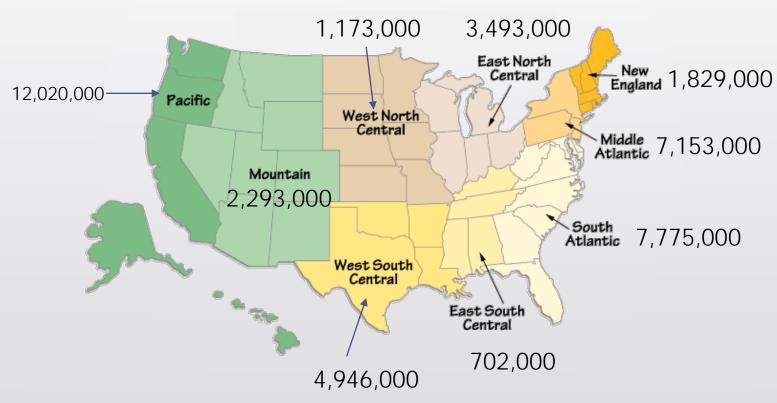 - 3-immigrants take jobs away from Americans

Levels of Perceived Immigrant Job Threat by State

State	Value	State	Value
West Virginia	2.26	Colorado	1.93
Indiana	2.20	Nevada	1.92
Alabama	2.16	Delaware	1.91
North Carolina	2.13	Illinois	1.91
Mississippi	2.11	Kansas	1.91
South Carolina	2.11	Idaho	1.90
Arkansas	2.10	Arizona	1.88
Tennessee	2.10	Minnesota	1.87
Ohio	2.09	Nebraska	1.87
Pennsylvania	2.09	Virginia	1.86
Iowa	2.07	Utah	1.85
Kentucky	2.07	Wyoming	1.85
Louisiana	2.07	Texas	1.83
Michigan	2.06	Florida	1.81
Missouri	2.05	Washington	1.80
Oklahoma	2.03	Alaska	1.79
Wisconsin	2.03	Maryland	1.79
Montana	2.02	Massachusetts	1.78
North Dakota	2.02	Vermont	1.76
Maine	1.98	New York	1.75
New Hampshire	1.97	New Jersey	1.73
Georgia	1.96	Connecticut	1.70
South Dakota	1.94	New Mexico	1.70
Oregon	1.93	Hawaii	1.68
Rhode Island	1.93	California	1.64

WALLACE, FIGUEROA

Data

- GSS 2014 Survey has 2500 respondents. For most of the tests run for this analysis, there were about 1200-1500 respondents.

- Reasons I picked this topic (Recent events, old data, etc.)
  - **In a comparison of individuals, those having more wealth will be more likely to be tolerant towards immigrants than will those with less money.**
  - **In a comparison of individuals in the United States, those with less education will be more likely to be discriminatory towards immigrants than those having more education.**
  - **In a comparison of individuals in the United States, those with less immigrants in their region, will be less likely to be tolerant towards immigrants, than those with more immigrants.**

Numbers by state from migrationpolicy.org

Cross tabulation of Region of Residency and Agreement with Immigrants being good for America

		FOREIGN	NEW ENGLAND	MIDDLE ATLANTIC	E. NOR. CENTRAL	W. NOR. CENTRAL	SOUTH ATLANTIC	E. SOU. CENTRAL	W. SOU. CENTRAL	MOUNTAIN	PACIFIC
	AGREE STRONGLY	55	1	12	12	2	8	2	4	5	9
		33.7%	2.3%	7.0%	5.6%	2.5%	4.6%	3.7%	4.0%	7.4%	5.5%
	AGREE	86	21	80	86	31	74	22	35	40	83
		52.8%	47.7%	46.8%	40.4%	38.8%	42.8%	40.7%	35.4%	58.8%	50.9%
	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	19	14	40	72	27	48	14	36	14	43
		11.7%	31.8%	23.4%	33.8%	33.8%	27.7%	25.9%	36.4%	20.6%	26.4%
	DISAGREE	3	7	35	37	17	36	16	24	9	23
		1.8%	15.9%	20.5%	17.4%	21.3%	20.8%	29.6%	24.2%	13.2%	14.1%
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	0	1	4	6	3	7	0	0	0	5
		0.0%	2.3%	2.3%	2.8%	3.8%	4.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.1%
Total		163	44	171	213	80	173	54	99	68	163
		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi-Square= 215.721, P=0.000
Lambda= 0.134, P=0.000

Cross tabulation of Education Level and Agreement with Immigrants Being Good for America

	HS or below	Some College	BA or BS	Higher than BA
AGREE STRONGLY	47	18	23	18
	10.0%	5.2%	10.5%	9.7%
AGREE	179	156	126	94
	38.1%	45.0%	57.3%	50.8%
NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	121	111	50	45
	25.7%	32.0%	22.7%	24.3%
DISAGREE	113	50	19	25
	24.0%	14.4%	8.6%	13.5%
DISAGREE STRONGLY	10	12	2	3
	2.1%	3.5%	0.9%	1.6%
Total	470	347	220	185
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi-Square= 55.886,   P=0.000
Somers' d= -0.111,   P=0.000

Cross tabulation of Income and Agreement with Immigration Job Threat

	Low	Mid-Low	Mid	Mid-High
AGREE STRONGLY	34	21	15	8
	15.1%	8.3%	5.0%	5.0%
AGREE	88	74	81	37
	39.1%	29.2%	26.7%	23.3%
NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	34	59	63	45
	15.1%	23.3%	20.8%	28.3%
DISAGREE	55	86	118	54
	24.4%	34.0%	38.9%	34.0%
DISAGREE STRONGLY	14	13	26	15
	6.2%	5.1%	8.6%	9.4%
Total	225	253	303	159
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi-Square= 59.885, P=0.000
Somers' d= 0.132.   P=0.000

Conclusions

- In a comparison of individuals, those having more wealth will be more likely to be tolerant towards immigrants than will those with less money.
    - Correct
- In a comparison of individuals in the United States, those with less education will be more likely to be discriminatory towards immigrants than those having more education.
    - Correct
- In a comparison of individuals in the United States, those with less immigrants in their region, will be less likely to be tolerant towards immigrants, than those with more immigrants.
    - Correct
- What socioeconomic groups are more likely to share a common ideology on immigrants? What groups oppose them?

Questions?