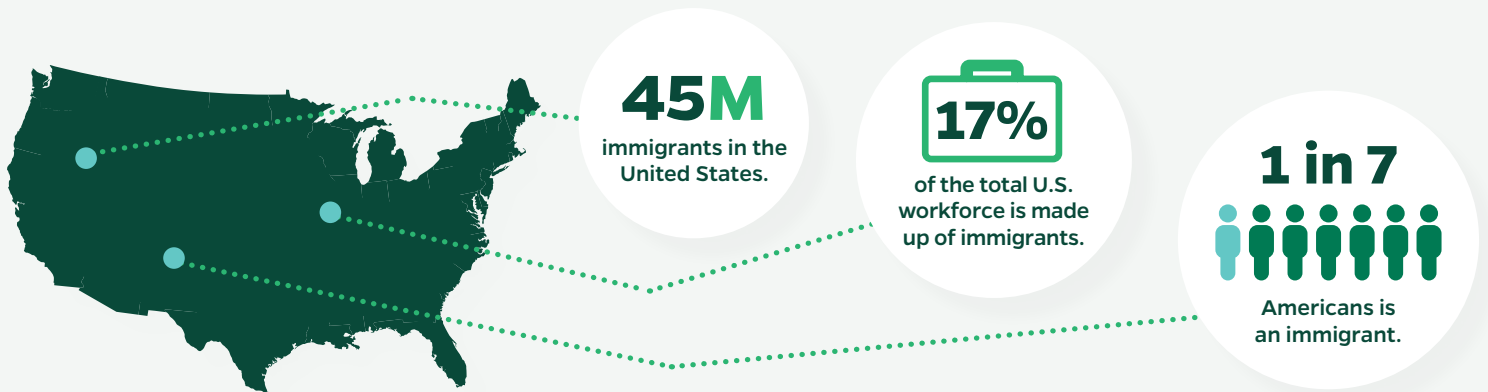


WHAT DO U.S. CITIZENS THINK ABOUT IMMIGRATION?



In March 2022, 1,509 adult United States citizens were surveyed about their attitudes toward immigrants and perceptions of immigration during the COVID-19 pandemic.



ATTITUDES TOWARD IMMIGRANTS

Overall, respondents expressed positive attitudes toward immigrants. Respondents were asked to indicate the degree to which they felt different emotions when they thought of immigrants in the United States. Acceptance, understanding and sympathy were the top emotions felt by respondents when they thought of immigrants.

Over two-thirds of respondents said they interact with immigrants at least sometimes. The majority of respondents felt comfortable and safe during their most recent interaction with an immigrant. Respondents believed that most immigrants in the U.S. could be described as hardworking, intelligent and friendly.

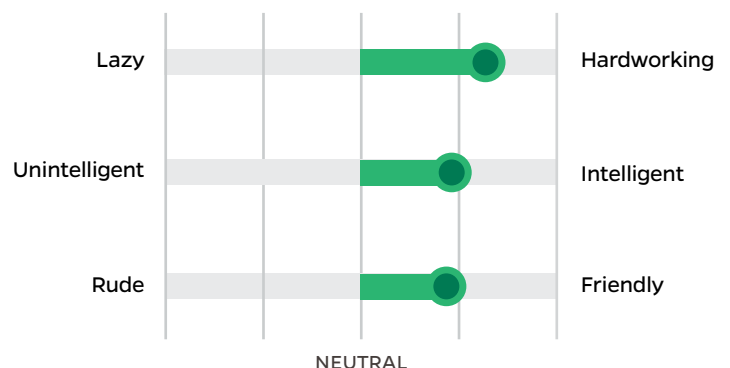


U.S. citizens generally felt **positive emotions** when they thought about immigrants in the United States.

HOW OFTEN DO YOU INTERACT WITH IMMIGRANTS?



MOST IMMIGRANTS IN THE UNITED STATES CAN BE DESCRIBED AS...



PERCEIVED THREATS OF IMMIGRATION

Respondents were asked whether they believed immigration would threaten different aspects of society if immigration into the U.S. continues at the present rate.

Respondents were most concerned about immigration threatening the availability of government benefits, the United States economy and traditional American culture and way of life. Respondents who perceived greater threats of immigration were more likely to possess negative attitudes toward immigrants.

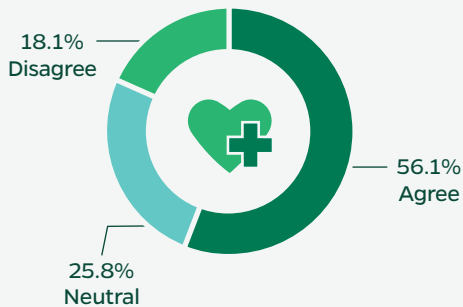
TOP PERCEIVED THREATS

If immigration continues at the present rate, it will threaten...

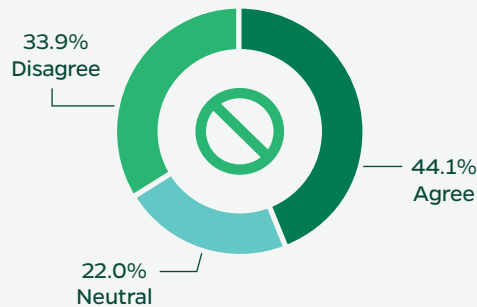
- 1 The availability of government benefits**
- 2 The United States economy**
- 3 Traditional American culture & way of life**

PERCEPTIONS OF IMMIGRATION RELATED TO COVID-19

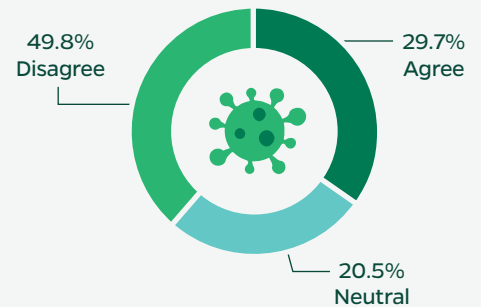
I am concerned about the health & wellbeing of immigrants in the United States during COVID-19.



The United States should restrict immigration in order to slow the spread of COVID-19.



Immigration into the United States is responsible for the high number of COVID-19 cases.



IMMIGRATION & COVID-19

Respondents were asked about their perceptions of immigration related to COVID-19. The majority of respondents were concerned about the health and wellbeing of immigrants during COVID-19. Opinions were divided regarding whether immigration should be restricted to slow the spread of COVID-19. More respondents agreed with restricting immigration than those who disagreed. Nearly half of respondents did not agree that immigration was responsible for the high number of COVID-19 cases.

CONCLUSIONS

Results from this study suggest that U.S. citizens view immigrants and immigration differently. While attitudes toward immigrants were largely positive, respondents expressed conflicted opinions about immigration.

Certain factors were found to influence attitudes toward immigrants. More frequent interaction with immigrants was associated with more positive attitudes. Additionally, significant differences in attitudes were apparent between personal values.

Data were collected between March 11 and 21, 2022 by the UF/IFAS Center for Public Issues Education. The sample included 1,509 adult United States citizens with characteristics similar to the 2020 U.S. Census.