



PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Reuters/Ipsos Poll: Abbott and DeSantis Migrant Poll

Topline Findings

Washington, DC, September 23, 2022 – A new Reuters/Ipsos poll finds over half of Americans have heard, read, or seen something about Texas Governor Greg Abbott and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis transporting migrants from Texas to other states and cities such as Washington D.C., Chicago, New York, and Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts. While only 7% of Americans believe immigration is the country's biggest problem, 50% say President Biden should be doing more about blocking illegal immigrants from entering the United States.

Detailed Findings

Less than 1 in 10 (7%) Americans say immigration is the country's biggest problem. Republicans (14%) are most likely to say it is, compared to only 2% of Democrats and 6% of independents. However, 50% of Americans say President Biden should be doing more about blocking illegal immigrants from entering the United States, a sentiment Republicans (76%) are most likely to agree with, followed by 55% of independents. Only about a third of Americans (37%) say Biden should be doing more to treat migrants and asylum seekers at the border in a more humane way. Democrats (46%) are more likely to agree than Republicans (32%) and independents (29%).

Over half of Americans have heard some or a lot about both Texas Gov. Abbott (58%) and Florida Gov. DeSantis (59%) transporting migrants from Texas to other states and cities across the United States. Two in five Americans (40%) say they oppose leaders of states transporting migrants to other states or D.C. and 46% oppose the use of tax dollars to do so. In fact, 45% of Americans strongly or somewhat agree that state leaders transporting migrants across state lines are committing illegal human trafficking. Democrats (63%) and independents (40%) are more likely to agree with this, while Republicans are more likely to disagree (49%).

Still, nearly half of Americans say that any Democrats who complain about migrants being transported to their states or cities are hypocrites and 43% say that states which have had migrants transported to them have an obligation to take in and provide for them.

Overall, only 35% of Americans think it should be easier for people to immigrate to the United States and 44% say the United States should be more welcoming of immigrants from all over the world. Forty-three percent support giving legal status to undocumented or illegal immigrants.

These are the results of a Reuters/Ipsos poll conducted between September 21-22, 2022. For this survey, a sample of 1,005 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.8 percentage points for all respondents.

For complete results, please refer to the following annotated questionnaire:



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Full Annotated Questionnaire

With which political party do you most identify? Detailed

	All Respondents (N=1,005)	Democrat (n=449)	Republican (n=361)	Independent (n=123)
Strong Democrat	18%	43%	0%	0%
Moderate Democrat	16%	37%	0%	0%
Lean Democrat	8%	20%	0%	0%
Lean Republican	8%	0%	23%	0%
Moderate Republican	14%	0%	38%	0%
Strong Republican	14%	0%	39%	0%
Independent	13%	0%	0%	100%
None of these	6%	0%	0%	0%
DK	3%	0%	0%	0%
Total	1005	449	361	123

With which political party do you most identify? Summary

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Democrat	42%	100%	0%	0%
Republican	36%	0%	100%	0%
Independent	13%	0%	0%	100%
None/DK	9%	0%	0%	0%

TM1890Y20. Are you currently registered to vote at your current address, or not?

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Yes, registered to vote at my current address	80%	90%	84%	70%
No, not registered to vote at my current address	17%	9%	13%	29%
Not sure	4%	1%	3%	2%

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REUS8. In your opinion, what is the most important problem facing the U.S. today?

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Economy, unemployment, and jobs	29%	25%	37%	26%
War and foreign conflicts	3%	2%	2%	4%
Immigration	7%	2%	14%	6%
Terrorism and extremism	4%	4%	5%	4%
Healthcare system	6%	10%	3%	4%
Public health, disease, and illness	4%	4%	5%	3%
Energy issues	2%	2%	2%	2%
Morality	3%	2%	5%	1%
Education	2%	3%	1%	-
Crime or corruption	8%	6%	9%	11%
Environment and climate	8%	14%	2%	10%
Inequality and discrimination	4%	7%	*	6%
The end of national abortion rights	7%	11%	4%	5%
Other	7%	6%	7%	10%
Don't know	5%	2%	3%	8%

TM2060Y21. Should President Biden do ... about the following issues?

a. On blocking illegal immigrants from entering the United States

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
He should do more	50%	29%	76%	55%
He's doing the right amount	27%	43%	14%	23%
He should do less	10%	15%	4%	7%
Don't know	13%	13%	6%	16%

b. On treating migrants and asylum seekers in a more humane way along the U.S.-Mexico border

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
He should do more	37%	46%	32%	29%
He's doing the right amount	28%	38%	17%	26%
He should do less	17%	6%	31%	15%
Don't know	18%	9%	20%	30%

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TM3054Y22. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

a. States that have had migrants transported to them have an obligation to take in and provide for them (i.e., housing, education, etc.)

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly agree	18%	21%	19%	9%
Somewhat agree	25%	32%	22%	23%
Neither agree nor disagree	25%	28%	18%	34%
Somewhat disagree	11%	10%	14%	10%
Strongly disagree	14%	6%	24%	15%
Not sure	6%	4%	4%	9%
<i>Total agree (net)</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>52%</i>	<i>40%</i>	<i>32%</i>
<i>Total disagree (net)</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>16%</i>	<i>38%</i>	<i>25%</i>

b. It should be easier for people to immigrate to the United States

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly agree	15%	23%	9%	8%
Somewhat agree	20%	30%	10%	19%
Neither agree nor disagree	23%	25%	19%	29%
Somewhat disagree	18%	13%	22%	23%
Strongly disagree	19%	6%	37%	14%
Not sure	5%	4%	2%	6%
<i>Total agree (net)</i>	<i>35%</i>	<i>53%</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>27%</i>
<i>Total disagree (net)</i>	<i>36%</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>59%</i>	<i>38%</i>

c. The United States should be more welcoming of immigrants from all over the world

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly agree	19%	32%	6%	14%
Somewhat agree	25%	33%	20%	22%
Neither agree nor disagree	23%	20%	21%	29%
Somewhat disagree	12%	6%	20%	12%
Strongly disagree	15%	4%	31%	14%
Not sure	6%	4%	3%	8%
<i>Total agree (net)</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>26%</i>	<i>37%</i>
<i>Total disagree (net)</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>51%</i>	<i>26%</i>

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TM3054Y22. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements: *(continued)*

d. The United States should only welcome refugees of foreign conflicts, not just anyone

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly agree	10%	7%	16%	6%
Somewhat agree	17%	15%	23%	12%
Neither agree nor disagree	28%	24%	28%	38%
Somewhat disagree	19%	23%	15%	21%
Strongly disagree	18%	25%	14%	10%
Not sure	8%	6%	4%	13%
<i>Total agree (net)</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>22%</i>	<i>39%</i>	<i>18%</i>
<i>Total disagree (net)</i>	<i>37%</i>	<i>48%</i>	<i>29%</i>	<i>31%</i>

e. State leaders that are transporting migrants are committing illegal human trafficking

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly agree	26%	39%	16%	19%
Somewhat agree	19%	24%	15%	21%
Neither agree nor disagree	20%	21%	15%	23%
Somewhat disagree	9%	7%	13%	7%
Strongly disagree	18%	4%	36%	18%
Not sure	8%	5%	5%	12%
<i>Total agree (net)</i>	<i>45%</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>40%</i>
<i>Total disagree (net)</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>11%</i>	<i>49%</i>	<i>25%</i>

f. Democrats complaining about migrants being transported to their states or cities are hypocrites

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly agree	30%	13%	55%	27%
Somewhat agree	19%	21%	16%	17%
Neither agree nor disagree	23%	28%	12%	30%
Somewhat disagree	9%	13%	8%	8%
Strongly disagree	12%	20%	7%	6%
Not sure	7%	5%	2%	13%
<i>Total agree (net)</i>	<i>49%</i>	<i>34%</i>	<i>71%</i>	<i>43%</i>
<i>Total disagree (net)</i>	<i>22%</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>14%</i>

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TM3055Y22. How much have you heard, read, or seen about Texas Governor Greg Abbott busing migrants from Texas to other parts of the country (i.e., New York, Chicago, and Washington D.C.)?

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
A lot	25%	27%	28%	23%
Some	33%	35%	36%	27%
Very little	19%	17%	21%	20%
Nothing at all	23%	21%	16%	30%

TM3056Y22. How much have you heard, read, or seen about Florida Governor Ron DeSantis flying migrants from Texas to Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts?

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
A lot	29%	31%	35%	23%
Some	30%	32%	31%	30%
Very little	19%	18%	21%	20%
Nothing at all	22%	19%	14%	27%

TM3057Y22. In the past year, how has your view of the following public figures changed, if at all?

a. Greg Abbott

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
I have a more favorable view of this person	17%	7%	32%	12%
My view of this person is unchanged	22%	20%	25%	23%
I have a less favorable view of this person	27%	43%	9%	28%
I am not familiar with this person	35%	29%	34%	37%

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TM3057Y22. In the past year, how has your view of the following public figures changed, if at all?
(continued)

b. Ron DeSantis

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
I have a more favorable view of this person	22%	8%	42%	21%
My view of this person is unchanged	20%	20%	23%	15%
I have a less favorable view of this person	31%	51%	12%	27%
I am not familiar with this person	28%	21%	23%	38%

c. Muriel Bowser

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
I have a more favorable view of this person	5%	8%	4%	2%
My view of this person is unchanged	17%	21%	18%	9%
I have a less favorable view of this person	9%	7%	13%	11%
I am not familiar with this person	69%	64%	66%	78%

d. Eric Adams

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
I have a more favorable view of this person	7%	9%	7%	4%
My view of this person is unchanged	20%	25%	18%	14%
I have a less favorable view of this person	12%	8%	17%	14%
I am not familiar with this person	61%	57%	58%	69%

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TM3057Y22. In the past year, how has your view of the following public figures changed, if at all?
(continued)

e. Gavin Newsom

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
I have a more favorable view of this person	12%	20%	7%	8%
My view of this person is unchanged	28%	36%	25%	19%
I have a less favorable view of this person	22%	12%	36%	26%
I am not familiar with this person	37%	32%	32%	47%

f. Joe Biden

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
I have a more favorable view of this person	22%	40%	8%	13%
My view of this person is unchanged	35%	44%	22%	32%
I have a less favorable view of this person	40%	14%	68%	51%
I am not familiar with this person	3%	2%	3%	3%

TM3000Y21. Do you support or oppose the following?

a. Creating a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly support	25%	43%	10%	17%
Somewhat support	26%	27%	26%	26%
Neither support nor oppose	18%	16%	17%	27%
Somewhat oppose	11%	7%	16%	10%
Strongly oppose	14%	3%	27%	15%
Not sure	6%	4%	4%	5%
<i>Total support (net)</i>	<i>51%</i>	<i>70%</i>	<i>35%</i>	<i>43%</i>
<i>Total oppose (net)</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>25%</i>

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TM3000Y21. Do you support or oppose the following? (*continued*)

b. Leaders of some states busing or flying migrants to other states or Washington D.C.

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly support	17%	6%	36%	13%
Somewhat support	12%	10%	17%	9%
Neither support nor oppose	22%	23%	16%	30%
Somewhat oppose	13%	17%	11%	11%
Strongly oppose	27%	38%	17%	24%
Not sure	8%	6%	2%	13%
<i>Total support (net)</i>	<i>29%</i>	<i>16%</i>	<i>53%</i>	<i>22%</i>
<i>Total oppose (net)</i>	<i>40%</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>29%</i>	<i>36%</i>

c. States using tax dollars to pay to transport migrants who have arrived in their territory to other states or Washington D.C.

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly support	11%	7%	19%	9%
Somewhat support	13%	11%	16%	10%
Neither support nor oppose	22%	19%	23%	26%
Somewhat oppose	15%	18%	13%	17%
Strongly oppose	32%	38%	26%	30%
Not sure	8%	6%	3%	9%
<i>Total support (net)</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>35%</i>	<i>19%</i>
<i>Total oppose (net)</i>	<i>46%</i>	<i>57%</i>	<i>39%</i>	<i>47%</i>

d. Giving legal status to undocumented or illegal immigrants brought to the U.S. as children

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly support	21%	37%	8%	16%
Somewhat support	22%	28%	16%	21%
Neither support nor oppose	20%	19%	18%	25%
Somewhat oppose	12%	7%	18%	13%
Strongly oppose	19%	5%	38%	18%
Not sure	6%	3%	2%	8%
<i>Total support (net)</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>65%</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>37%</i>
<i>Total oppose (net)</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>56%</i>	<i>31%</i>

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TM3058Y22. On a 1 to 7 scale, where 1 means strongly discourage and 7 means strongly encourage, should U.S. immigration policy encourage or discourage the immigration of people with the following characteristics?

a. People with advanced education or degrees

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly discourage - 1	4%	3%	5%	5%
2	2%	2%	2%	*
3	5%	5%	5%	5%
4	22%	18%	25%	30%
5	19%	19%	20%	17%
6	13%	13%	15%	10%
Strongly encourage - 7	24%	33%	18%	12%
Not sure	11%	7%	9%	20%

b. People who speak English

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly discourage - 1	4%	2%	5%	5%
2	1%	1%	2%	-
3	5%	2%	7%	7%
4	25%	24%	25%	30%
5	20%	19%	21%	18%
6	12%	15%	12%	11%
Strongly encourage - 7	23%	28%	21%	12%
Not sure	11%	8%	8%	18%

c. Christians

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly discourage - 1	5%	6%	4%	6%
2	2%	2%	3%	1%
3	7%	6%	9%	7%
4	29%	28%	29%	36%
5	16%	15%	18%	14%
6	11%	12%	11%	9%
Strongly encourage - 7	17%	20%	17%	7%
Not sure	14%	11%	9%	21%

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TM3058Y22. On a 1 to 7 scale, where 1 means strongly discourage and 7 means strongly encourage, should U.S. immigration policy encourage or discourage the immigration of people with the following characteristics? (*continued*)

d. People from Western Europe

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly discourage - 1	5%	4%	8%	6%
2	2%	2%	3%	1%
3	7%	4%	8%	13%
4	28%	25%	31%	33%
5	19%	20%	22%	12%
6	11%	15%	11%	7%
Strongly encourage - 7	13%	19%	8%	8%
Not sure	14%	11%	11%	21%

e. People from Asia

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly discourage - 1	6%	4%	9%	6%
2	3%	2%	5%	3%
3	7%	4%	11%	6%
4	30%	27%	33%	38%
5	17%	18%	18%	11%
6	9%	11%	9%	7%
Strongly encourage - 7	14%	24%	5%	8%
Not sure	13%	10%	11%	21%

f. People from Eastern Europe

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly discourage - 1	5%	3%	7%	6%
2	2%	1%	4%	1%
3	7%	5%	9%	9%
4	29%	27%	33%	36%
5	18%	18%	21%	10%
6	10%	15%	8%	9%
Strongly encourage - 7	14%	21%	9%	6%
Not sure	13%	11%	9%	23%

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TM3058Y22. On a 1 to 7 scale, where 1 means strongly discourage and 7 means strongly encourage, should U.S. immigration policy encourage or discourage the immigration of people with the following characteristics? (*continued*)

g. People with significant wealth

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly discourage - 1	7%	6%	8%	8%
2	3%	3%	3%	7%
3	9%	7%	10%	9%
4	27%	25%	29%	30%
5	17%	15%	18%	14%
6	10%	12%	10%	6%
Strongly encourage - 7	14%	20%	12%	6%
Not sure	13%	11%	10%	19%

h. People from Africa

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly discourage - 1	7%	3%	12%	7%
2	3%	2%	6%	1%
3	9%	6%	11%	9%
4	27%	24%	32%	34%
5	18%	20%	16%	12%
6	9%	11%	7%	10%
Strongly encourage - 7	14%	23%	6%	5%
Not sure	13%	11%	10%	21%

i. People from Latin America

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly discourage - 1	7%	3%	12%	7%
2	3%	3%	4%	2%
3	11%	7%	15%	14%
4	28%	26%	30%	33%
5	16%	18%	15%	11%
6	9%	13%	7%	7%
Strongly encourage - 7	13%	21%	6%	5%
Not sure	13%	9%	11%	21%

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TM3058Y22. On a 1 to 7 scale, where 1 means strongly discourage and 7 means strongly encourage, should U.S. immigration policy encourage or discourage the immigration of people with the following characteristics? *(continued)*

j. People with little or no wealth

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly discourage - 1	8%	4%	12%	8%
2	3%	2%	6%	2%
3	10%	5%	15%	11%
4	30%	28%	33%	34%
5	15%	19%	12%	12%
6	9%	14%	7%	5%
Strongly encourage - 7	13%	19%	7%	8%
Not sure	12%	9%	8%	20%

k. People with less than a high school education

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly discourage - 1	8%	4%	13%	8%
2	6%	5%	7%	4%
3	12%	10%	15%	14%
4	28%	26%	30%	32%
5	14%	17%	11%	11%
6	8%	10%	7%	7%
Strongly encourage - 7	13%	20%	7%	7%
Not sure	12%	9%	10%	17%

l. Muslims

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly discourage - 1	10%	3%	19%	12%
2	5%	3%	9%	1%
3	9%	6%	14%	4%
4	27%	28%	26%	35%
5	16%	19%	13%	13%
6	7%	11%	4%	8%
Strongly encourage - 7	14%	20%	8%	7%
Not sure	12%	11%	7%	21%

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TM1978Y20. In the 2020 presidential election, did you vote for ...?

	All Respondents	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Donald Trump	36%	6%	80%	24%
Joe Biden	43%	82%	8%	28%
Some other candidate	7%	4%	5%	18%
Not sure	14%	8%	6%	29%



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About the Study

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between September 21-22, 2022, on behalf of Thomson Reuters. For this survey, a sample of 1,005 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The sample includes 449 Democrats, 361 Republicans, and 123 independents.

The sample was randomly drawn from [Ipsos' online panel](#), partner online panel sources, and "[river](#)" [sampling](#) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing a sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2019 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Posthoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, and education.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online non-probability polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.8 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following ($n=1,005$, $DEFF=1.5$, adjusted Confidence Interval= ± 5.3 percentage points).

The poll also has a credibility interval of plus or minus 5.7 percentage points for Democrats, plus or minus 6.3 percentage points for Republicans, and plus or minus 10.8 percentage points for independents.

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