

Statewide Surveys on Immigration Policy in Florida, Colorado, New Mexico, and Nevada (Expanded)

September 10, 2008







Methodology

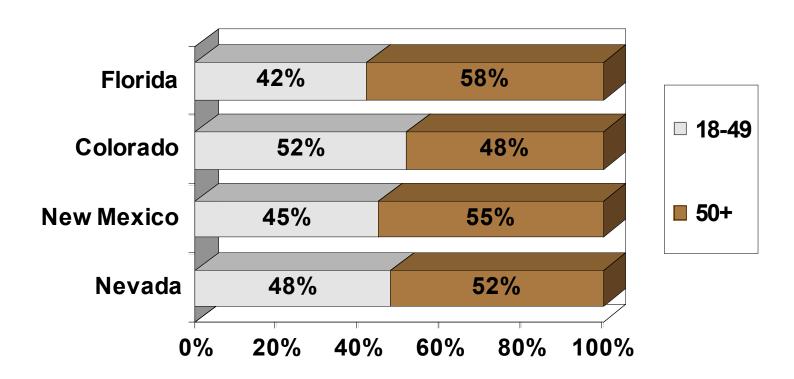
Sample size	2000 total interviews,
	500 each in Florida, Colorado, New Mexico and Nevada with oversamples of at least 150 Hispanic voters
Dates of interviews	August 6 – 14, 2008
Margin of error	4 percentage points
Languages of interviews	English, Spanish



Demographics of Electorates in Battleground States

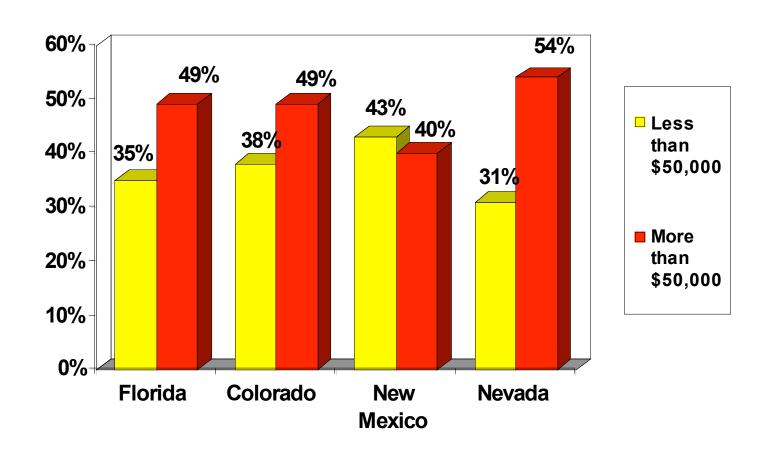


Age



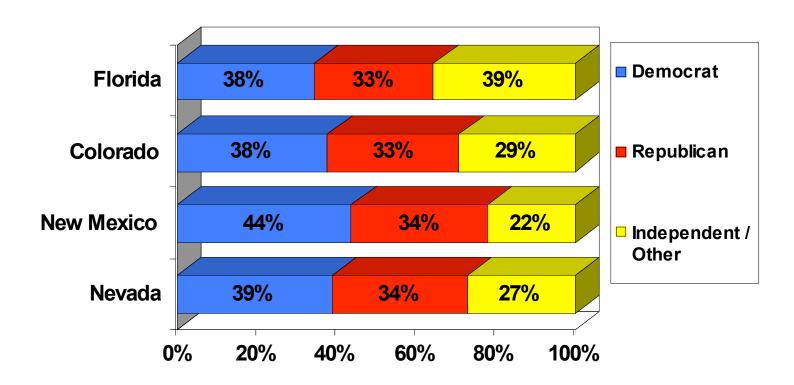


Annual Household Income



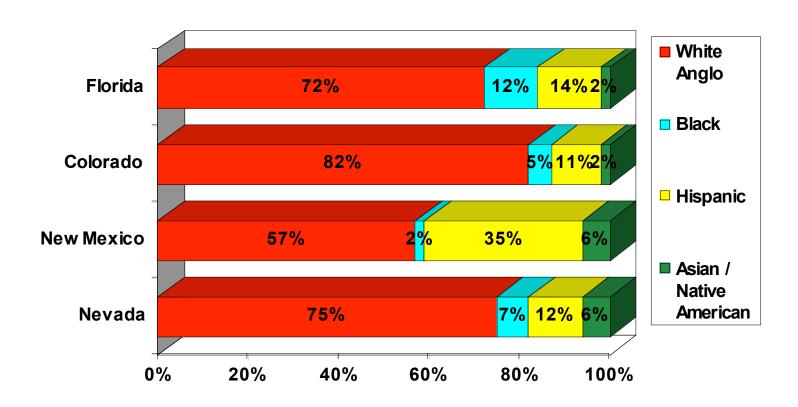


Party Identification





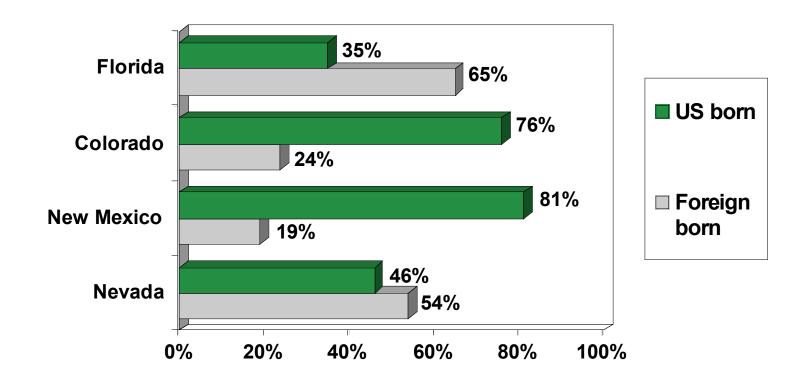
Race / Ethnicity





Country of Birth

Hispanics





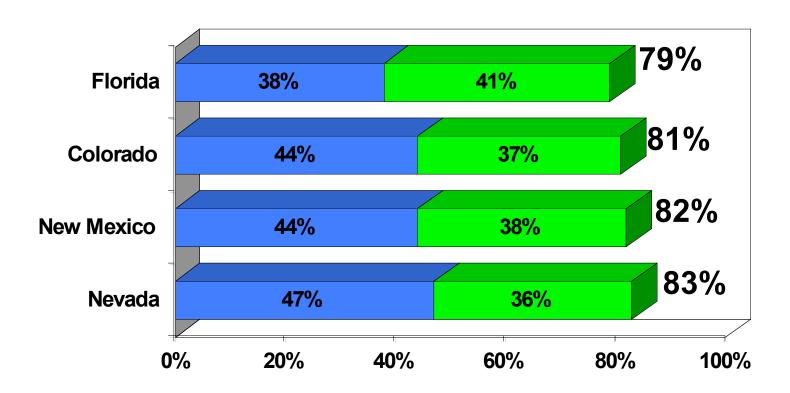
The Immigration Issue

Voters in these four battleground states have a "progressive" point-of-view on immigration policy.



How important is the immigration issue to you and your family?

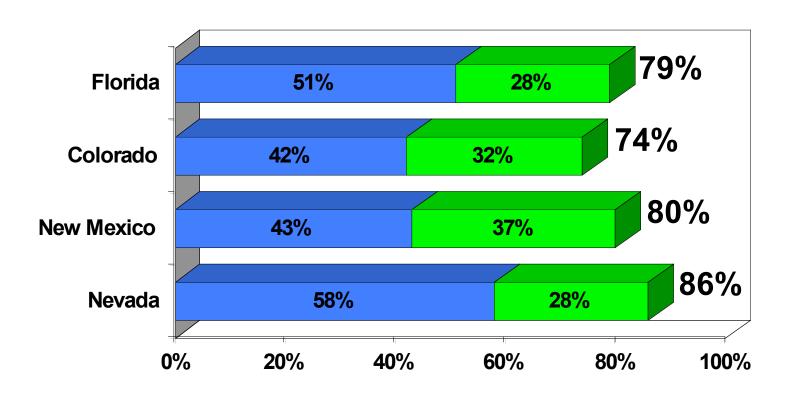
Very / Somewhat important answers only All Voters





How important is the immigration issue to you and your family?

Very / Somewhat important answers only Hispanic Voters





Why do you think most immigrants have come to the United States?

All Voters

	Florida	Colorado	New Mexico	Nevada
To get a job and make a better life for their family	69%	66%	68%	69%
To take advantage of our public health, education, and welfare programs	13%	10%	11%	11%
To be able to send money to their relatives in their home country	10%	12%	9%	12%



Why do you think most immigrants have come to the United States?

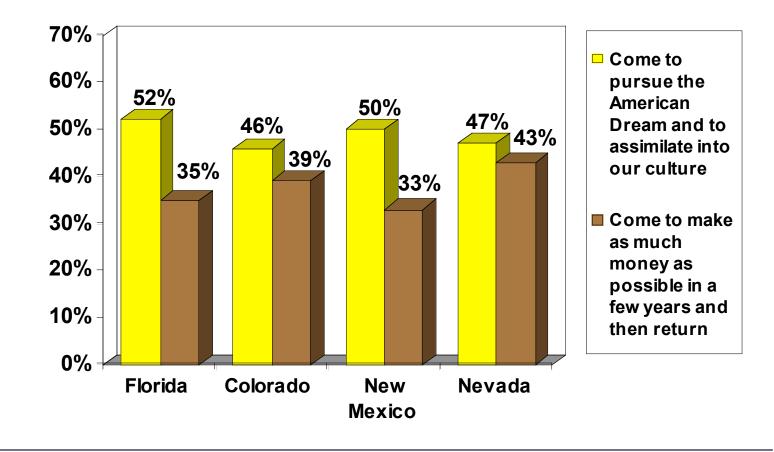
Hispanic Voters

	Florida	Colorado	New Mexico	Nevada
To get a job and make a better life for their family	83%	74%	77%	78%
To take advantage of our public health, education, and welfare programs	0%	6%	9%	8%
To be able to send money to their relatives in their home country	9%	10%	7%	8%



Which of the following best describes immigrants in the United States?

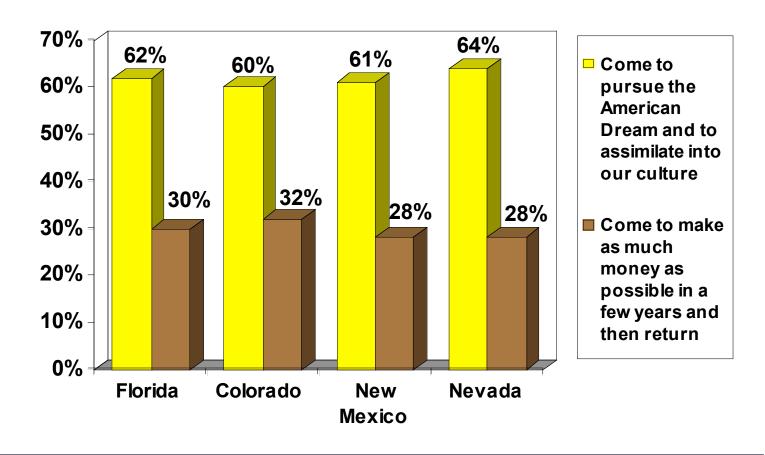
All Voters





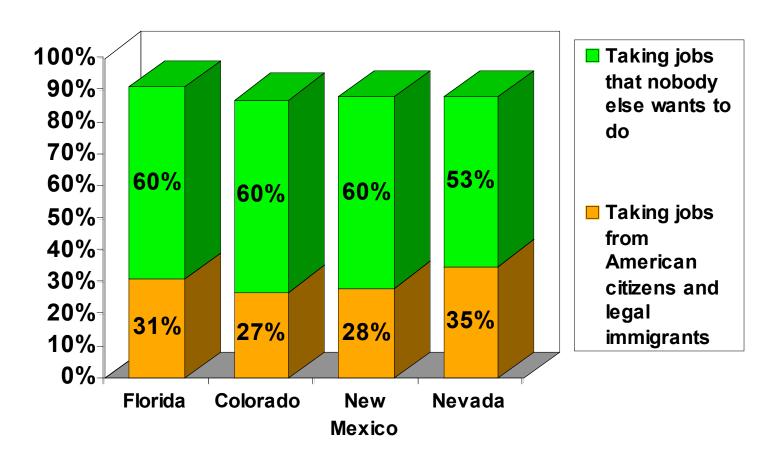
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Hispanic Voters



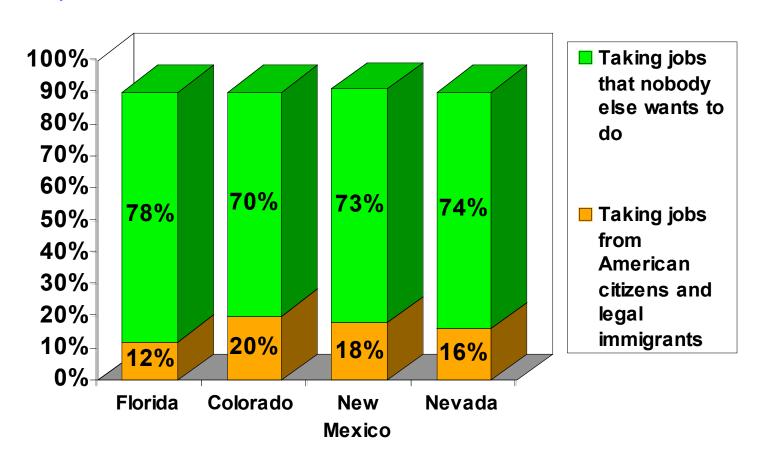


Do you think that illegal immigrants are taking jobs from American citizens and legal immigrants, or are illegal immigrants mostly taking jobs that nobody else wants to do? *All Voters*





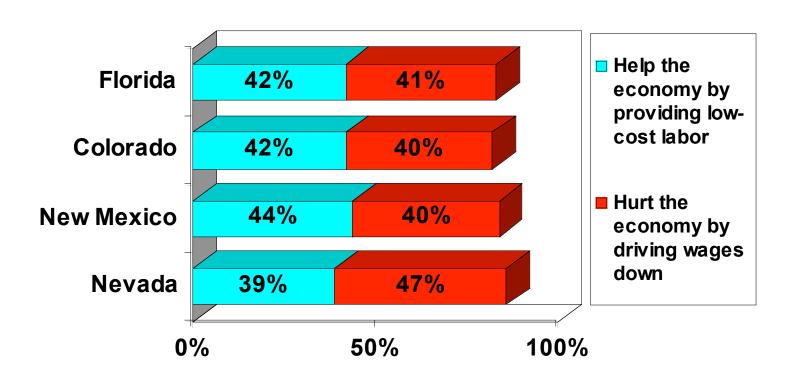
Do you think that illegal immigrants are taking jobs from American citizens and legal immigrants, or are illegal immigrants mostly taking jobs that nobody else wants to do? *Hispanic Voters*





Do you think that illegal immigrants help the economy by providing low-cost labor, or do illegal immigrants hurt the economy by driving wages down?

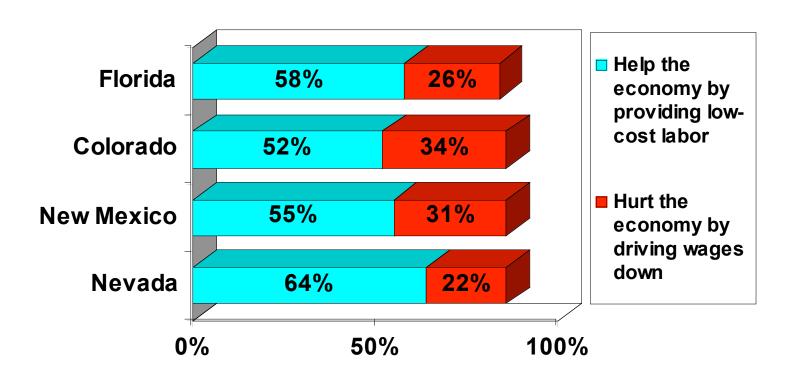
All Voters





Do you think that illegal immigrants help the economy by providing low-cost labor, or do illegal immigrants hurt the economy by driving wages down?

Hispanic Voters





Who do you think is mostly to blame for the broken immigration system?

All Voters

	Florida	Colorado	New Mexico	Nevada
US federal gov't / Congress / President	50%	46%	46%	49%
Businesses that hire illegal immigrants	21%	20%	18%	23%
Mexican gov't	5%	12%	13%	11%
Illegal immigrants	3%	3%	3%	4%



Who do you think is mostly to blame for the broken immigration system?

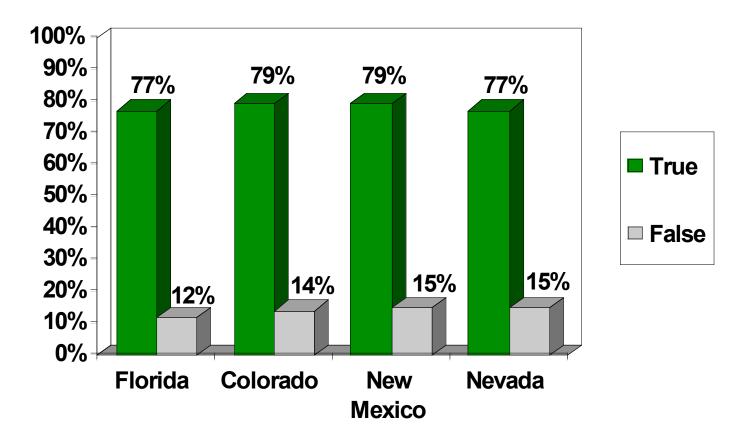
Hispanic Voters

	Florida	Colorado	New Mexico	Nevada
US federal gov't / Congress / President	46%	48%	45%	52%
Businesses that hire illegal immigrants	15%	20%	16%	14%
Mexican gov't	11%	16%	15%	18%
Illegal immigrants	5%	2%	4%	0%



Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Hundreds of illegal immigrants die in the desert each year attempting to cross the border.

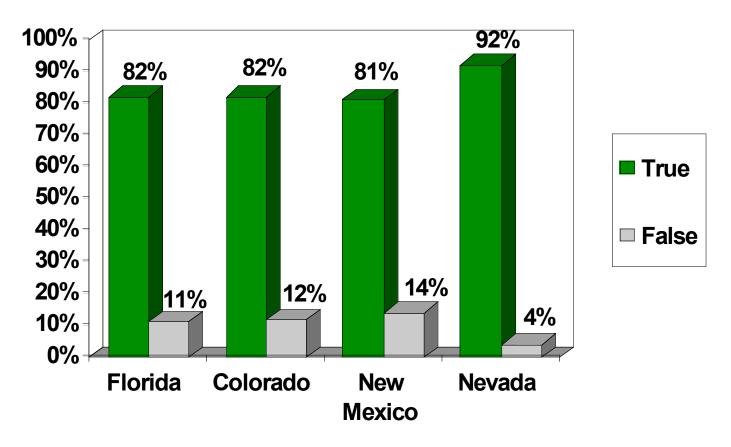
All Voters





Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Hundreds of illegal immigrants die in the desert each year attempting to cross the border.

Hispanic Voters





Comprehensive Immigration Reform

The immigration plank of the national Democratic Party's platform – recommended by NDN – has the support of two-thirds of all voters in these four battleground states.



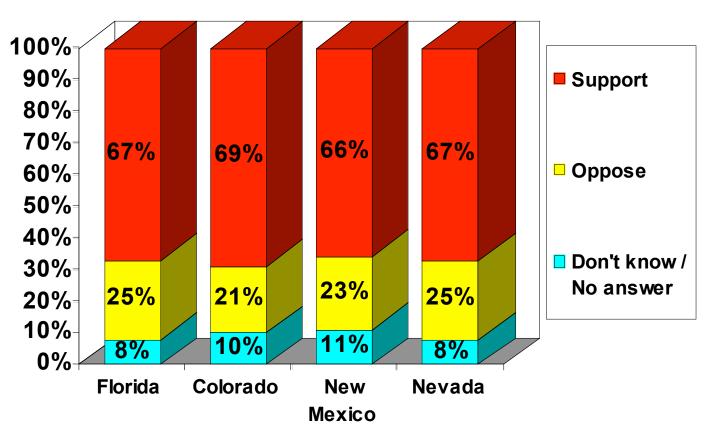
Question on Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Would you support or oppose a comprehensive immigration reform that strengthens border security, sets up an employment verification plan, establishes serious criminal penalties for employers that hire illegal workers, creates a new visa program for 200,000 workers annually, substantially increases the number of family visas available for the immediate relatives of legal immigrants, and grants illegal immigrants conditional legal status for six years and then a path to permanent residency and citizenship if they meet certain requirements?



Would you support or oppose this comprehensive immigration reform package?

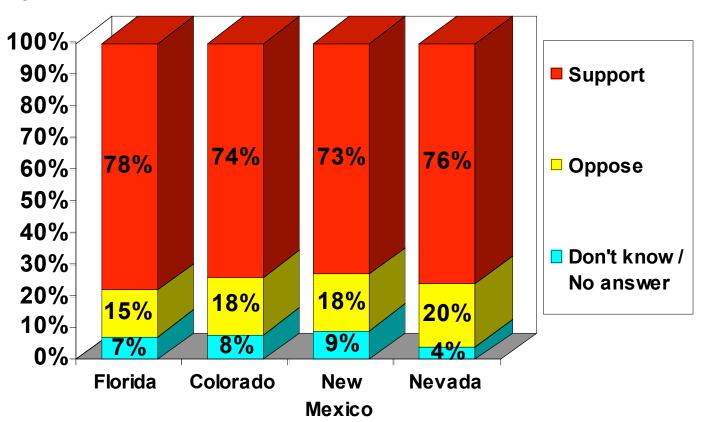
All Voters





Would you support or oppose this comprehensive immigration reform package?

Hispanic Voters





The flow of legal immigrants to the United States should be determined by the needs of the U.S. labor market. The federal government should have a new visa program for 200,000 workers annually. The number of visas would increase or decrease depending on labor market conditions. These workers could apply for U.S. permanent residency if they met certain qualifications and requirements.

	All voters	Hispanic voters
Florida	75%	88%
Colorado	77%	78%
New Mexico	72%	71%
Nevada	73%	80%



The federal government should set up an employment verification system so that employers can check the legal status of potential employees and it should establish serious criminal penalties for employers that knowingly hire illegal workers.

	All voters	Hispanic voters
Florida	74%	64%
Colorado	73%	60%
New Mexico	68%	61%
Nevada	80%	56%



The federal government should grant illegal immigrants that live and work in the United States conditional legal status for six years if they are willing to register with the government, to undergo security and criminal background checks, and to pay a fine for having entered the country illegally.

	All voters	Hispanic voters
Florida	68%	81%
Colorado	67%	72%
New Mexico	64%	65%
Nevada	70%	78%



The federal government would grant illegal immigrants with conditional legal status permanent residency and a path to citizenship if they maintain a strong employment record, undergo a background check, learn basic English, pay any back taxes and \$2,000 in fines and fees.

	All voters	Hispanic voters
Florida	73%	84%
Colorado	68%	74%
New Mexico	69%	68%
Nevada	72%	80%



The federal government needs to substantially increase the number of family visas available for immediate relatives and thereby reduce the backlogs for spouses and minor children of legal immigrants in the United States.

	All voters	Hispanic voters
Florida	58%	76%
Colorado	64%	68%
New Mexico	57%	62%
Nevada	56%	74%



The federal government should add an extra 15,000 border patrol agents, build 20 new facilities to detain as many as 20,000 illegal immigrants at a time, and raise the criminal penalties for smugglers and immigrants attempting to enter the country illegally.

	All voters	Hispanic voters
Florida	55%	52%
Colorado	50%	50%
New Mexico	54%	45%
Nevada	60%	38%



The Economic Consequences of Our Immigration Policy

Hispanic voters in these four battleground states are convinced that their economic future and the standard of living of Americans could be impacted by our immigration policy. Non-Hispanic voters have mixed feelings about the economic impact of the immigration issue.



Biggest Problem Currently Facing the United States

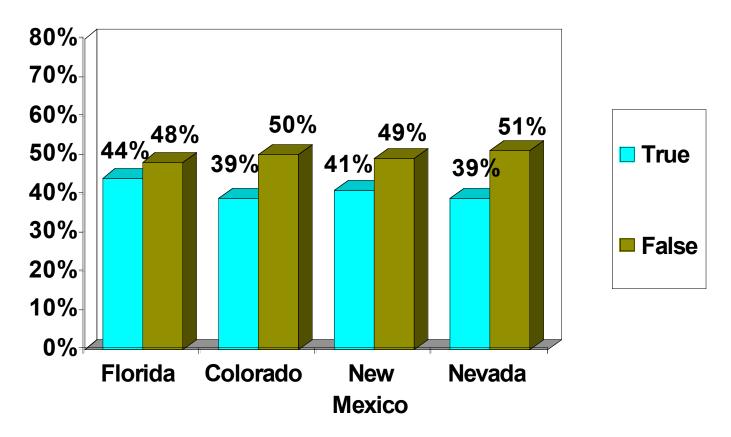
All Voters

	Florida	Colorado	New Mexico	Nevada
Weak economy	56%	43%	40%	48%
War in Iraq	13%	17%	19%	15%
Illegal immigration	9%	14%	11%	12%
Lack of access to health care	6%	7%	7%	5%
Housing and mortgage crisis	5%	5%	3%	6%
Low quality of public schools	3%	6%	7%	6%



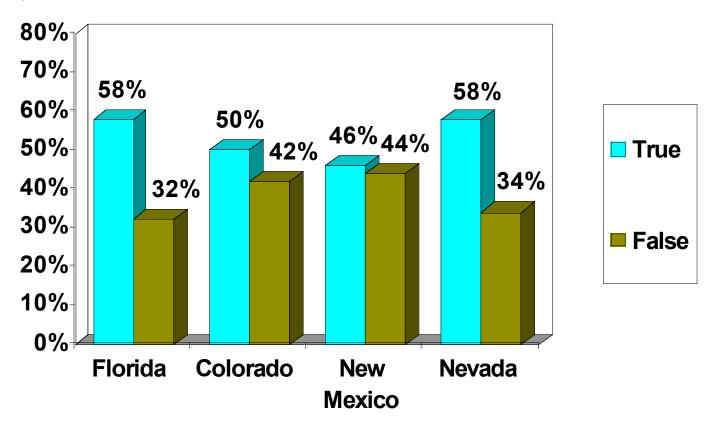
If we deport the 12 million illegal immigrants in the United States, middle class families would suffer the most because they would pay more for food, housing, entertainment and childcare.

All Voters



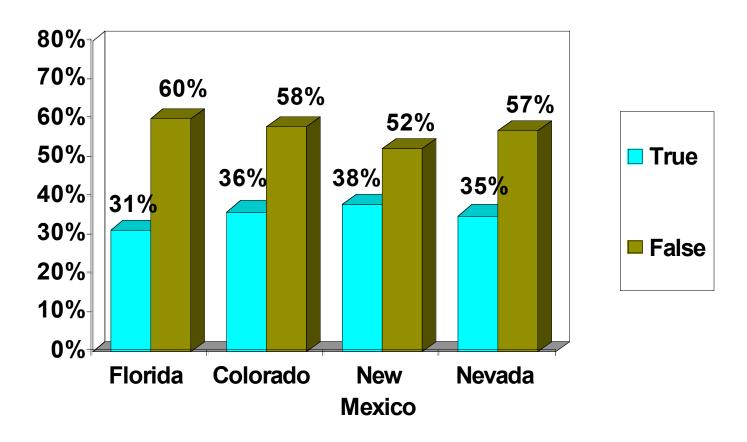


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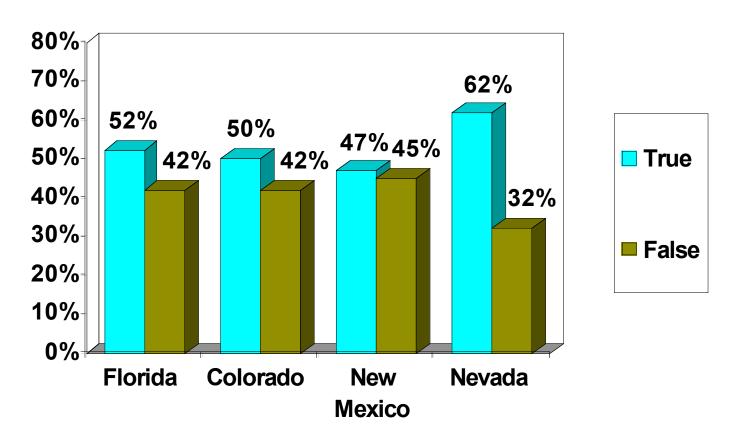


If we deport the 12 million illegal immigrants in the United States, tens of thousands of businesses would close.



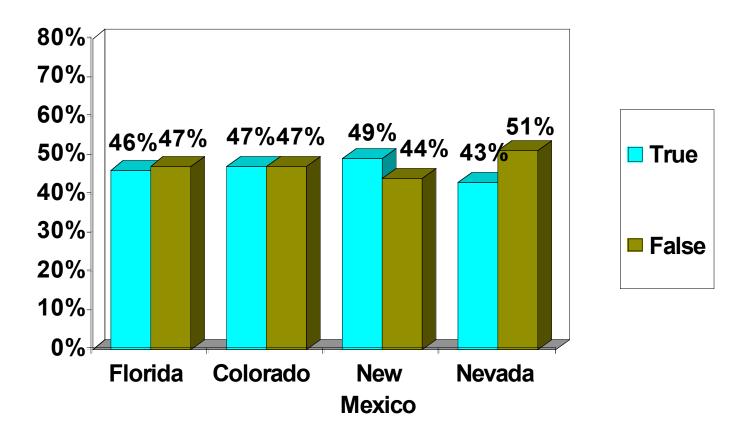


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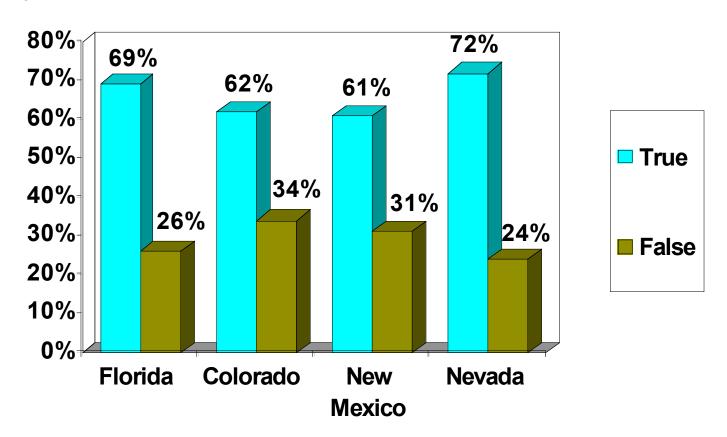


If we deport the 12 million illegal immigrants in the United States, agriculture would come to a screeching halt and thousands of farmers would go broke as billions of dollars' worth of crops lay unpicked.



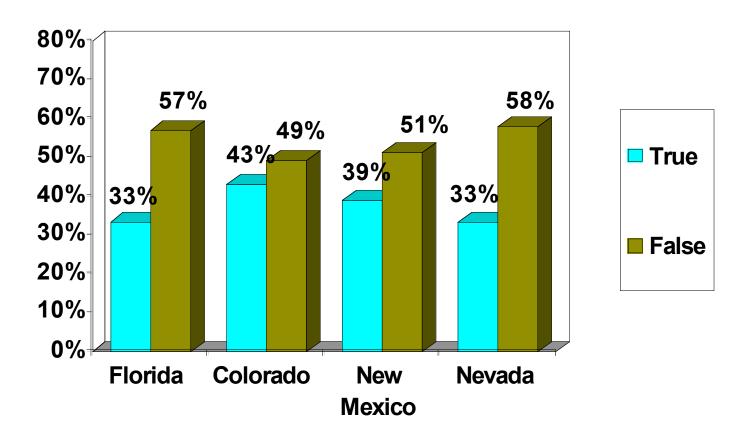


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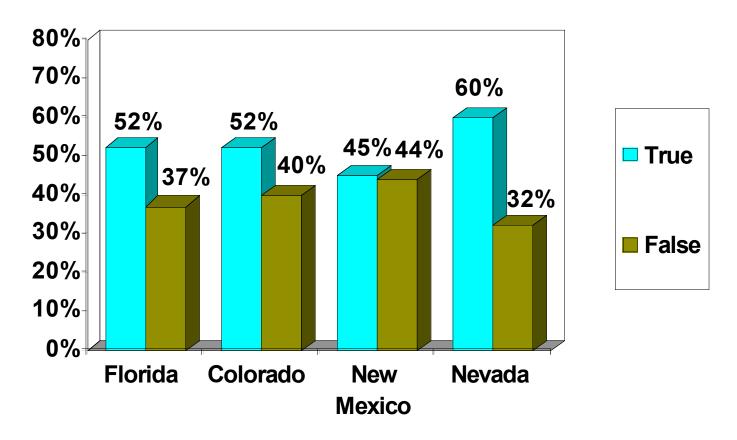


If we deport the 12 million illegal immigrants in the United States, the cost of building a home would rise substantially.



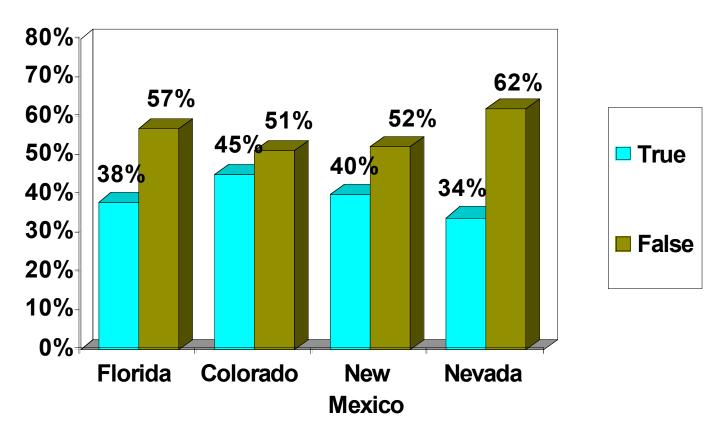


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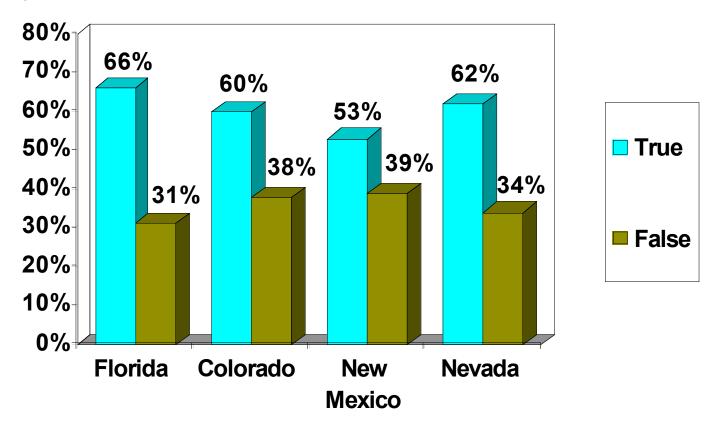


The 12 million illegal immigrant workers in the United States are vital to our national economy. Industries like construction, agriculture and food manufacturing would collapse without them.





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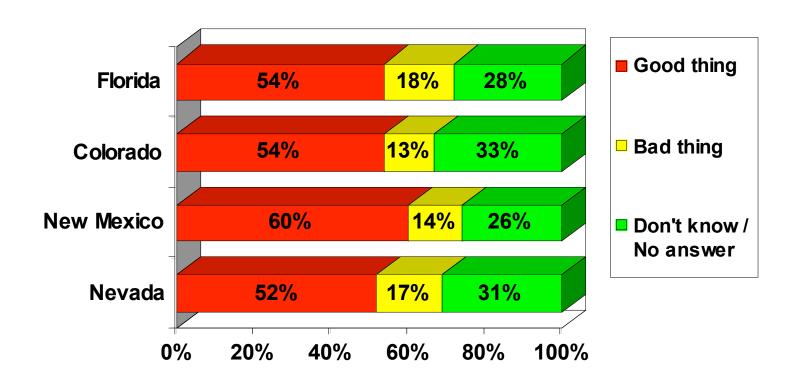
The Impact of Racism on the Immigration Issue

There is little evidence that racism against Latin American immigrants plays a significant role in the way that voters in these four battleground states feel about the immigration issue.



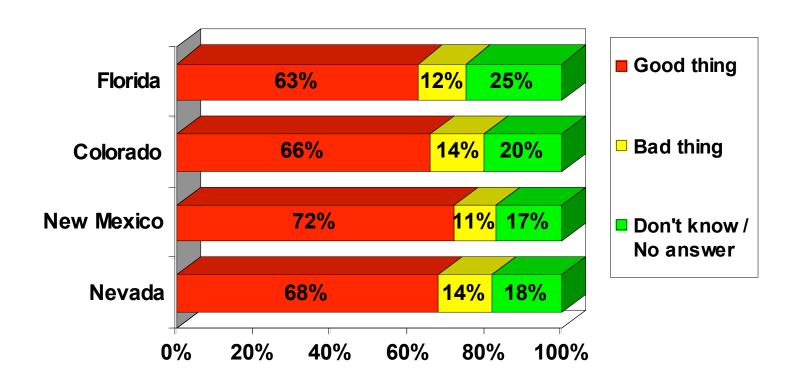
More than half of the population of the United States – the majority - will be made up of African Americans, Hispanics and Asians during the first half of the 21st century. In your opinion, is this a good thing or a bad thing for the United States?

All Voters



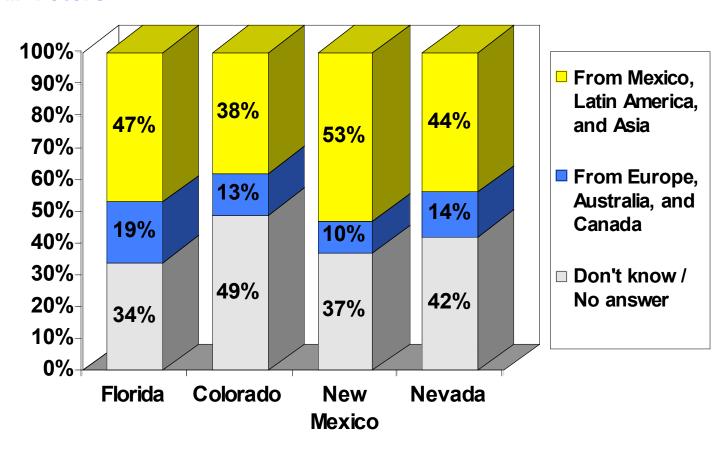


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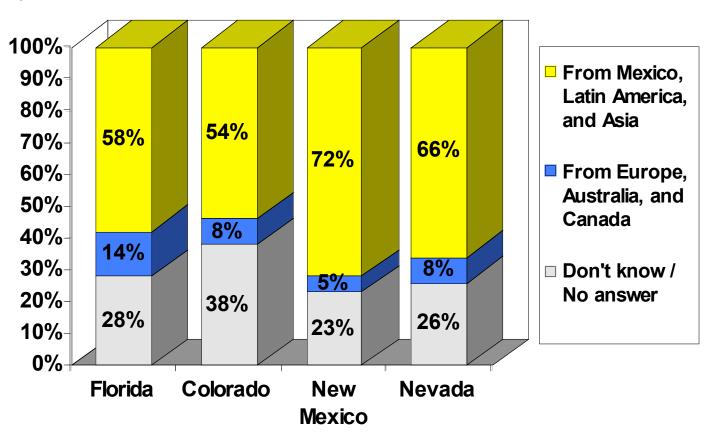


What is your personal preference – that most of our new immigrants come from Mexico, Latin America and Asia or that most of our new immigrants come from Western Europe, Australia and Canada?





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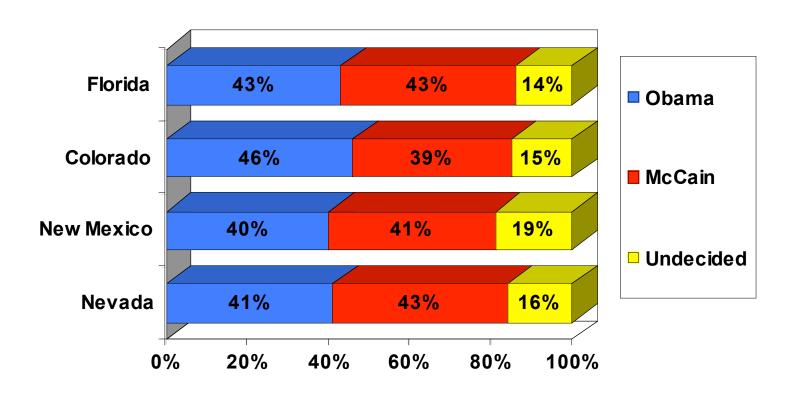


Presidential Preference

The Hispanic vote will be crucial in determining the outcome of the Presidential race in these four battleground states. Barack Obama and the Democratic Party have a substantial advantage over John McCain and the Republican Party on the immigration issue among these voters.

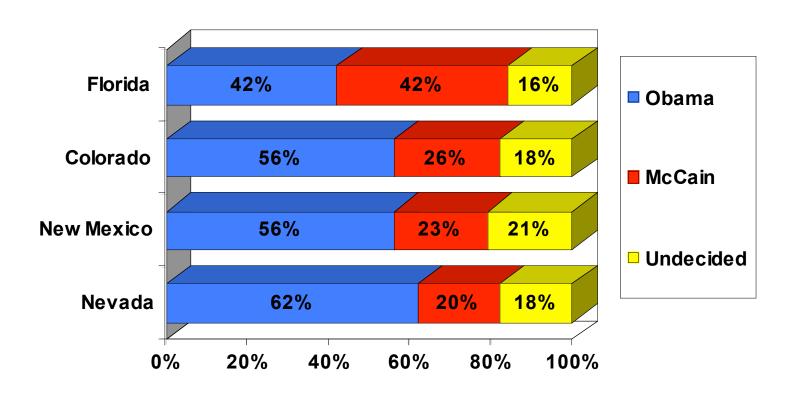


If the election were held today, would you support the Republican candidate, John McCain, or the Democratic candidate, Barack Obama? *All Voters*



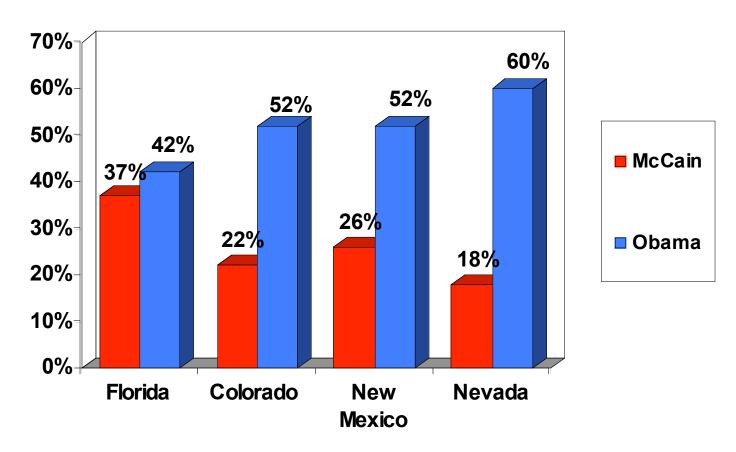


If the election were held today, would you support the Republican candidate, John McCain, or the Democratic candidate, Barack Obama? *Hispanic Voters*





Which candidate do you think would do a better job on the immigration issue – Barack Obama or John McCain?





Which political party do you think has done a better job on the immigration issue – the Democratic Party or the Republican Party?

Hispanic Voters

