

# TENNESSEE

Survey of 500 Likely Voters  
Conducted May 20-21, 2013  
By Pulse Opinion Research

**NOTE:** Margin of Sampling Error, +/- 4.5 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence

1\* Congress is considering a bill to give **work permits to an estimated 7 million illegal immigrant workers.** Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the work permits?

28% SUPPORT

9% Strongly support work permits

19% Somewhat support

68% OPPOSE

19% Somewhat oppose

49% Strongly oppose

4% Not sure

## INTENSITY

9% Strongly SUPPORT Work Permits

49% Strongly OPPOSE Work Permits

2\* (**Answered ONLY by the 130 Likely Voters Who Support Work Permits**) Do you support giving work permits to nearly all illegal immigrants, most of them, or some of them?

22% Nearly all

34% Most

35% Some

9% Not sure

3\* Do you believe less educated illegal **immigrants compete with** less-educated **Americans** for construction, manufacturing, hospitality and other service jobs?

71% Yes

19% No

10% Not sure

4\* How much **moral responsibility** do you feel Congress has to help protect the ability of **current illegal immigrants** to hold a job and support their families without fear of deportation: a lot, some, very little or none?

15% A lot

21% Some

22% Very little

33% None

8% Not sure

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5\* How much **moral responsibility** do you feel Congress has to help protect **unemployed or low-wage Americans** from having to compete with foreign workers for U.S. jobs: A lot, some, very little or none?

53% A lot  
26% Some  
12% Very little  
5% None  
3% Not sure

6\* In recent years, the government has issued **permanent green cards** to approximately 1 million new immigrants each year. Is this number too high, too low or about right?

61% Too high  
6% Too low  
21% About right  
13% Not sure

7\* Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree that the United States is faced with labor shortages and **needs more immigrant workers?**

21% AGREE  
5% Strongly agree  
16% Somewhat agree  
70% DISAGREE  
25% Somewhat disagree  
45% Strongly disagree  
9% Not sure

## INTENSITY

5% Strongly AGREE need more immigrant workers  
45% Strongly DISAGREE need more immigrant workers

8\* On the issue of **fighting illegal immigration**, is the government doing too much, not enough or about the right amount?

9% Too much  
66% Not enough  
16% About the right amount  
8% Not sure

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9\* SOME in Congress propose giving work permits to illegal immigrants immediately and then implementing border and workplace enforcement to stop future flows of illegal workers over the next 10 years. OTHERS in Congress say the enforcement at the borders and workplace must be implemented first and then the work permits can be considered. Which do you prefer for dealing with the illegal immigrants?

23% **Work permits first**, followed by 10 years of implementing enforcement

66% **Full enforcement first**, before considering work permits

11% Not sure

10\* Do you favor or oppose requiring all employers to use **E-Verify** to electronically ensure that they are hiring only legal workers for U.S. jobs?

81% Favor

5% Oppose

14% Not sure

11\* In terms of **dealing with the illegal immigrant population** of 11 million, would you prefer that the United States deport most, deport only some but ensure the rest take no jobs or taxpayer assistance, or provide most with legal status and work permits?

34% Deport most

23% Try to persuade most to leave voluntarily by denying them jobs.

18% Let most stay as visitors but no jobs or public assistance

13% Give most full legal status and work permits

13% Not sure

12\* The government reports that 20 million Americans who want a full-time job at this time cannot find one. Would reducing the number of future foreign workers reduce competition and make it easier for unemployed Americans to find jobs, or would bringing in more foreign workers create economic growth that would provide more jobs to unemployed Americans?

72% Reducing foreign workers would reduce competition and help unemployed Americans

11% Bringing in more foreign workers would create economic growth and help unemployed Americans

17% Not sure

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13\* Congress is considering a bill that would in the next 10 years increase the number of new lifetime work permits given to foreign citizens from the current 10 million to 30 million. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose this increase of work permits from 10 million to 30 million?

20% SUPPORT

7% Strongly support

13% Somewhat support

74% OPPOSE

19% Somewhat oppose

55% Strongly oppose

6% No sure

## INTENSITY

7% Strongly SUPPORT

55% Strongly OPPOSE

14\* Opponents of the bill say that because most of the 11 million illegal immigrants are less educated, they will cost a lot more than they will pay in taxes once they become eligible for entitlements like health care, retirement and other public assistance programs. Supporters of the bill say that once the illegal immigrants gain legal status their contribution to economic growth will result in government surpluses. Which do you agree with more?

66% They will cost a lot more than they will pay in taxes once they become eligible for entitlements

15% Their contribution to economic growth will result in government surpluses

19% Not sure

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Pulse Opinion Research, LLC is an independent public opinion research firm using automated polling methodology and procedures licensed from Rasmussen Reports, LLC. The population targets were based upon census bureau data, a series of screening questions to determine likely voters, and other factors. Pulse Opinion Research determines its partisan weighting targets through a dynamic weighting system that takes into account voting history, national trends, and recent polling. The survey was conducted using an established automated polling methodology. For 90%, sample calls were placed to randomly-selected phone numbers through a process that insures appropriate geographic representation. 10% of the sample was conducted via online surveys of those individuals who use a cell-phone as their primary telephone. After the calls and on-line surveys are completed, the raw data is processed through a weighting program to insure that the sample reflects the overall population in terms of age, race, gender, political party, and other factors. The processing step is required because different segments of the population answer the phone in different ways.