

TO: Bipartisan Policy Center
FR: Morning Consult
DT: September 2019
RE: Results: Immigration and the 2020 Election

Morning Consult, on behalf of the Bipartisan Policy Center, conducted an online survey among a national sample of 1,994 registered voters. The data were weighted to approximate a target sample of registered voters based on age, race/ethnicity, gender, educational attainment, and region. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of +/- 2 percentage points.

The survey sought to understand the where immigration falls among other issues entering 2020 elections, the level of priority voters place on addressing immigration, and if there is middle ground among Republican and Democrats on immigration policies.

KEY FINDINGS

Importance of Immigration on 2020 Vote

Similar to a trend seen in the 2018 midterm elections, healthcare policy remains a top of mind issue for registered voters heading into 2020. Healthcare policy is energizing Democrats as they consider a presidential candidate (56% selected), while immigration policy is the topic driving over half of Republicans' vote preference in 2020 (54% selected).

More than 4 in 5 registered voters say a candidate's immigration plan is important in their decision about who to vote for in the presidential election. The intensity of importance is largely driven by political party, with 63% of Republicans saying a candidate's immigration plan is *very important* compared to 40% of Democrats.

A majority of registered voters (83%) report immigration should be an important priority for Congress to address, including over a third of registered voters (37%) who report immigration should be a *top priority* for Congress. Again, intensity of a priority is higher among Republicans. Half of Republicans report that addressing immigration should be a *top priority* for Congress, compared to 29% of their Democratic counterparts.

Support for Immigration Policies

Overall, there is an appetite for compromise around immigration. Registered voters want their member of Congress to work collaboratively with members of other parties to get something done on immigration policy, and the strong preference for collaboration spans party lines (80% Democrats, 75% Republicans).

Among the tested immigration policies, a bipartisan majority of registered voters *support* the following:

- Providing permanent legal status and ability to apply for citizenship to individuals who came to the U.S. as children and are not legally residing in the U.S. (81% Democratic support, 50% Republican support)
- Providing a way to gain legal status to all persons in the country without lawful status but who have not committed crimes (81% Democrat support, 49% Republican support).

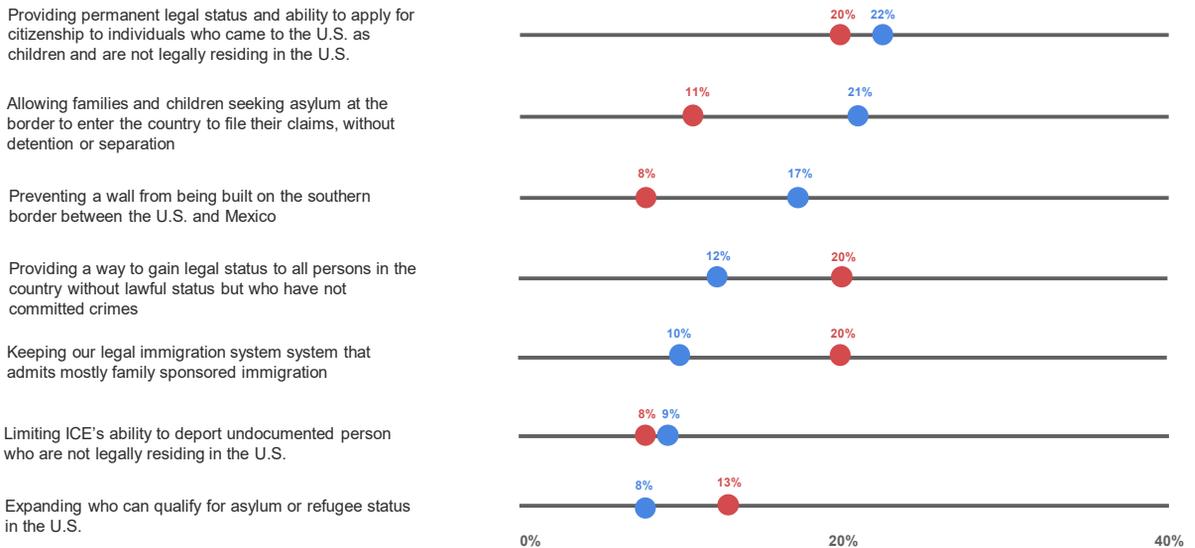
Middle Ground Between Republicans and Democrats on Immigration Policies

This section measured the importance and willingness to compromise on Republican and Democratic immigration policies. Registered voters ranked the importance of their parties' immigration policies and ranked their willingness to compromise on the opposing parties' immigration policies.

Regarding specific immigration policies, **increasing spending on border security seems to be the middle ground for Republicans and Democrats.** It is both a top priority for Republicans and the policy where Democrats are most willing to compromise. There is also a willingness to compromise among Republicans on a policy important to Democrats: **Providing permanent legal status and ability to apply for citizenship to individuals who came to the U.S as children and are not legally residing in the U.S.** On the other hand, the border wall is not an area of compromise for both parties.

Where Republicans are Willing to Compromise on Proposed Democratic Immigration Policies

● % Democrats Ranked Most Important ● % Republicans Ranked Most Willing to Compromise



Where Democrats are Willing to Compromise on Proposed Republican Immigration Policies

● % Republicans Ranked Most Important ● % Democrats Ranked Most Willing to Compromise

