



# STATE LEGISLATORS SURVEY ON POPULATION AND IMMIGRATION ISSUES

Survey Completed By:

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_

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**NOTE:** Please answer all questions to the best of your ability. If you do not wish to answer a question or it is not applicable to your legislative district simply skip it and move on. All answers will remain strictly confidential. Please use the enclosed postage-paid envelope to return your completed survey. Remember, NPG is a non-profit, non-political group. Survey answers will be compiled as data to work with elected leaders on population issues and to help us slow, halt and eventually reverse population growth. Thank you.

## POPULATION ISSUES

1. How would you categorize the legislative district you represent?

- Urban
- Suburban
- Rural
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Mixed Urban and Suburban
- Mixed Suburban and Rural
- All of the Above

2. What is the approximate population of the legislative district you represent?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. How would you rate current population trends in the area you represent?

- Above Normal Growth – Population is growing faster than planned for
- Normal Growth – Population growth is as expected
- Stable Population – Population is not growing or declining at a significant rate
- Declining Population – Population is falling off

**NOTE:** If you answered Declining please move ahead to question 10.

4. How great is your concern that current population growth is putting increased financial pressure on the cities and communities that you represent?

- Very Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned
- Not Concerned
- No Opinion

5. Do you feel that your legislative district is prepared to meet the financial obligations of a growing population over the next ten years?

- YES
- NO
- NOT SURE

6. In what ways do you see population-related changes most affecting your constituents? (Check all that apply)

- More crowded schools
- Traffic congestion
- Tighter job market
- Deteriorating infrastructure
- More demands on health services
- Increased pollution
- More crime
- Less available housing
- Increased taxes
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

7. **What most concerns you as an elected official when it comes to the environment in your jurisdiction being impacted by population growth? (Check no more than three)**
- Loss of open space
  - Loss of irreplaceable wetlands
  - Loss of forests and animal habitats
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - Loss of productive farmland
  - Increased water and air pollution
  - Increased demand on limited water supplies
8. **What do you feel is the primary force driving population growth in the area you currently represent?**
- New births to local population
  - U.S. citizens from other parts of state relocating to area
  - U.S. citizens from out-of-state relocating to area
  - Legal immigrants settling in area
  - Influx of illegal immigrants
  - Not sure
9. **As population grows, there is an ever-increasing need to fund new roads, schools, hospitals, sewers, police and fire stations, etc. How do you expect your local communities to meet these needs? (Check all that apply)**
- More funds from the federal government
  - More funds from the state government
  - State/County/Municipal bonds
  - Increased taxes at the state level
  - Increased taxes at the local level
  - New growth will generate enough taxes to cover expenses
  - Our area is going to be hard-pressed to meet the needs of a larger population
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
10. **What is your personal philosophy when it comes to population growth in your jurisdiction?**
- Population growth should be stopped
  - Population growth should be limited
  - Population growth should be restricted through zoning and land-use controls
  - Population growth is inevitable and we can't stop it
  - Government has no authority to control population growth
11. **Do you endorse strict land-use policies and initiatives as an effort to halt growth in areas that are growing too fast?**
- YES     NO     NOT SURE
12. **What level of government do you think should take the primary lead in population planning?**
- Federal     County     State     City
13. **How would you categorize your activities when it comes to using your elected office to help resolve population-related issues?**
- Very active     Somewhat active     Not very active
14. **Do you currently serve on any commission, board, council, etc. that is focused on dealing with population-related issues?**
- YES     NO
15. **Do you feel that your state currently has a responsible long-range plan to deal with future population growth?**
- YES     NO     NOT SURE
16. **Have you sponsored or supported legislation in recent years aimed at protecting threatened farms, wetlands and forests from encroaching development?**
- YES     NO
17. **Do you feel that the legislative district you represent can depend on a reasonable supply of water in the coming decades for personal, business and agriculture use or do you fear future water shortages?**
- Can depend on reasonable water supply
  - We face potential water shortages
  - Not sure
18. **Do you feel that we can truly make progress in the battle to protect the environment if we willingly welcome more than 100 million additional people in the next 40 years to share our living space?**
- YES     NO     NOT SURE

## IMMIGRATION ISSUES

19. **State legislatures are being forced to address immigration issues because Congress has totally failed to confront this important issue. How do you react to this statement?**  
 Agree  Disagree  NO OPINION
20. **Do the actions of state legislatures in other states in dealing with illegal immigration influence your interest in supporting similar measures in your state?**  
 YES  NO  NOT SURE
21. **Do you feel that passing laws to “get tough” on illegal immigrants in your state is an effective means to reduce the huge costs related to their residency?**  
 YES  NO  NOT SURE
22. **How do you think illegal immigration is impacting the legislative district you represent?**  
 Illegal immigration is negatively impacting our area  
 Illegal immigration is somewhat impacting our area  
 Illegal immigration is not impacting our area
23. **How would you presently rate the job the Office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is doing in your state in enforcing current immigration laws?**  
 Very effective  Effective  Not very effective  Failing
24. **The U.S. currently accepts approximately 1,000,000 new legal immigrants each year. Do you think this number should be increased, remain the same or reduced?**  
 Increased  Remain the same  Reduced  Not Sure
25. **Do you feel that the current wave of both legal and illegal immigrants makes it hard for you and other elected officials to plan for the future?**  
 YES  NO  NOT SURE
26. **Do you believe that local law enforcement officials should have a greater or lesser role in working with federal officials when it comes to enforcing immigration laws?**  
 Greater role  Lesser role  Not sure
27. **As an elected official, how much confidence do you have that Congress will be able to get our current immigration problems under control in the next 3-5 years?**  
 Very confident that we can get illegal immigration under control  
 Not very confident that we can get illegal immigration under control  
 Illegal immigration is already too huge a problem and will be very difficult to control no matter what new laws or policies are put into place  
 Unsure
28. **Do you feel that the millions of illegal aliens in our country are taking jobs away from Americans?**  
 YES  NO  NOT SURE
29. **Do you agree with those who hold that a continuing flow of cheap immigrant labor is necessary to “do the jobs American’s won’t do?”**  
 YES  NO  NOT SURE
30. **Do you endorse the mandatory use of the federal E-Verify system to confirm an individual’s legal status when applying for a job?**  
 YES  NO  NOT SURE
31. **Do you feel that there is a bi-partisan approach to solving problems related to illegal immigrants in your state?**  
 YES  NO  NOT SURE
32. **Do you support state and local authorities requesting legal I.D. from voters?**  
 YES  NO  NOT SURE

33. If you were presently serving in Congress, how would you vote on the following immigration-related issues:

- Amnesty for all illegals presently in our country
- Amnesty for those under age 35 who are illegal because their parents brought them to the U.S. as minors
- Change current rules on all “anchor babies” being granted automatic citizenship
- Halt present “chain migration” policies which permit new citizens to bring in extended family members
- Stop federal dollars for “sanctuary cities”
- Fund a border fence for the entire US-Mexican border

FOR	AGAINST	NOT SURE
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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34. Have you made your personal opinions on immigration reform legislation currently under discussion on Capitol Hill known to your United States Senators and Congressman?

- YES     NO

35. Do you feel that citizens in your area are very focused on population and immigration-related issues?

- YES     NO     NOT SURE

37. Do your constituents regularly contact you to discuss population and immigration issues?

- YES     NO

If YES, what issue(s) do your constituents speak about the most?

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38. Are you interested in working with NPG to help us get federal, state and local legislators more focused on solving population and immigration-related issues?

- YES     NO     NOT SURE

39. Please note below your personal reflections on population/immigration as a political, social, economic or environmental issue.

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40. Do we have your permission to quote you in future NPG publications?

- YES     NO

41. Can we add you to our mailing list to receive information – including Research Papers, Newsletters, Population Reports, etc – from us?

- YES     NO

42. If you are interested in receiving our *NPG Journal*, a monthly publication of commentary and population-related news stories delivered via e-mail, please list your e-mail address here:

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43. COMMENTS ABOUT THIS SURVEY

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Please feel free to attach additional comments on the issues addressed in this survey. Thank you very much for participating in this important project. Please return your Survey to: