

Toplines:

More than ever, individuals are asking their elected officials to support policies that will strengthen opportunities for immigrants to continue contributing to our country.

- Nearly 70% of Latino voters and 90% of Black voters in Georgia cast their ballots for candidates who ran on an agenda aiming at streamlining and provide a path to legalization for immigrants.⁸
- Continued support for anti-immigrant policies will drive Georgia's diversifying⁸ electorate further away from engaging in the democratic process.



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Policy Priority:

Preventing and Defending Against Anti-immigrant bills

Sources:

- ¹ <https://lcfga.info/3VXoZYC>
- ² <https://lcfga.info/4aSzcJI>
- ³ <https://lcfga.info/3Q4Nclv>
- ⁴ <https://lcfga.info/3UfPgje>
- ⁵ <https://lcfga.info/444ldyA>
- ⁶ <https://lcfga.info/3Jd0MWB>
- ⁷ <https://lcfga.info/3TXLNVb>
- ⁸ <https://lcfga.info/3JfoQbe>

Key Message:

The immigrant community is and has been a fundamental part of Georgia.

We contribute billions of dollars annually in taxes and economic stimulus and as executives and workers in key industries in the state; from agriculture to carpet manufacturing, as entrepreneurs and caregivers. Most importantly, we are an integral part of the very fabric of the state with our culture, love for family and community, optimism and self-determination.

People from all backgrounds, experiences and political leanings, agree that the federal immigration system is broken, deeply affecting states' economic development and health & wellbeing policies efforts. Passing anti-immigrant laws compounds the difficulties of fellow Georgians already engaged in building and investing in the state with our talent, taxes, work and braintrust.

Anti-immigrant bills are bad for Georgia, one of the fast-growing states in the nation¹ with growth coming primarily

from a number of sources including American children born from foreign parents. Anti-immigrant bills increase family separation, limit self-sufficiency strategies for immigrant families, are bad for the economy as they curtail workers participation and are also extremely unpopular with the Georgia electorate and political leadership.

The damage HB 87, a far reaching anti-immigrant bill passed in 2011, did to agribusiness, Georgia's top industry is well known with over \$140 millions in losses and labor shortages of over 5,000 farm workers². Since then, state leadership has worked with key international leaders and companies to make Georgia a global state - as evidenced by our hosting of the 2026 World Cup and the attraction of international businesses. The Georgia Chamber of Commerce³ and the majority of Americans more than ever support expanding immigration and recognize the values immigrants bring to the United States.



- Georgia is home to more than one million⁴ immigrants - more than 10% of the state population.
- Immigrants in GA pay⁵ more than \$3.2 billion in state and local taxes and add \$26.3 billion to the state economy.
- One in eight⁵ workers in GA is an immigrant and more than 205,000 Georgians work for immigrant-owned businesses.



Toplines:

Immigrants are good for Georgia and the country as a whole. Immigrants are part of the very fabric of our state. Immigrants work essential jobs in health care, agriculture, transportation, education, caregiving, and a range of other industries.

More Americans than ever support expanding immigration and recognize the values immigrants bring to the United States.

- A 2020 Gallup poll showed support for immigrants at a record high - more than 77%⁶ of Americans want to see immigration expanded.
- The heightened American support for immigration expansion shows a rare opportunity for national consensus in a politically polarized atmosphere.
- According to 2023 GALEO and UNIDOS.us data, protecting immigrant rights is a top 5 priority⁷ for Latinos in Georgia, a key voting bloc for future elections.