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## Immigration Within the US

According to a Pew Research Center study, 40 million immigrants are living in America and out of these 40 million, approximately, 25% are reported to be illegal.

The highest percentage of immigrants come from Mexico and traditionally have settled in major cities in the New York, Florida, New Jersey, and California areas. However, within the past 5 years, there has been an increase of immigrants among areas within the Upper Midwest, Colorado, New England and in the Southeast in part due to the amount of job opportunities in major cities within Texas, Georgia and North Carolina.

Most likely people are immigrating to these areas because they either know of a family member who has settled there, or they are aware of a certain job openings within that specific region.

Another large group of immigrants within the United States come from China and currently make up about 10.4 million of the population in America. By contrast, there has been a decrease of 29.4% of immigrants that were born in European countries because those who arrived in America during the 20<sup>th</sup> century immigration trend are advanced in years or deceased.

Immigrants can be seen in a positive manner because they help the economy and society to progress, especially because they are willing to take on the jobs that some Americans refuse. Most jobs that many immigrants work at are in restaurants, landscaping, childcare and hotels. Many immigrants are treated unfairly and exploited due to the language barrier. Their earning capacity is less than American workers who demand better wages and working conditions. Hopefully future immigrants through a good and fair legalization process will be given the same treatment other US citizens require and deserve, in addition to securing legal entrance to our country safely without discrimination or unfair treatment.

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