

## Immigration Sources

*Goal: which of the following sources provides reliable information to answer the following research question?*

- *Research Question: What are the current facts and opinions about immigration to the United States?*

**Directions:** For each article, circle information that you think makes it more reliable, less reliable, or for which you need more information. Label your circles with a “+” for more reliable, “-“ for less reliable, and “?” for follow up questions.

### The Onion – America’s Finest News Source

## **Freeloading Refugee Children Taking Up Thousands Of Prison Cells Meant For Real Americans**

- September 13, 2018

MESA, AZ—Disgusted by the gross misuse of resources, concerned citizen and self-described patriot Andrew Beardsley voiced his anger Thursday concerning the thousands of refugee children currently occupying prison cells that could be used to incarcerate real Americans. “It makes me sick to think of these freeloading kids coming here by the thousands, living in 10-by-10 cells on the taxpayer’s dime while honest-to-God American citizens could be suffering behind those bars,” said Beardsley, adding that he sees no reason why the 3-to-13-year-old detainees could not simply go through the proper immigration process and be mistreated as American prisoners.

### Pew Research Center

## **Americans broadly support legal status for immigrants brought to the U.S. illegally as children**

By, Carroll Doherty June 18, 2018

Most Americans favor granting permanent legal status to immigrants who came to the U.S. illegally as children. And a 56% majority opposes substantially expanding the wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Nearly three-quarters (73%) of Americans favor granting permanent legal status to immigrants brought to the U.S. illegally when they were children, while just 20% are opposed, according to a new national survey by Pew Research Center, conducted June 5-12 among 2,002 adults. Opinions on this issue – and views of expanding the U.S.-Mexico border wall – have changed little since January.

Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents overwhelmingly favor granting legal status to those who came to the U.S. illegally as children (89%), as do about half of Republicans and Republican leaners (54%); about a third of Republicans (36%) oppose this policy. (The findings in this survey do not relate to the current controversy over separating immigrants from their children at the border, but only to children who had already arrived in the U.S. with their families.)

## The New York Times – All the News That's Fit to Print

### **Obama to Permit Young Migrants to Remain in U.S.**

By, Julia Preston and John H. Cushman, Jr. June 15, 2012

Hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants who came to the United States as children will be allowed to remain in the country without fear of deportation and able to work, under an executive action the Obama administration announced on Friday.

Administration officials said the president used existing legal authority to make the broad policy change, which could temporarily benefit more than 800,000 young people. He did not consult with Congress, where Republicans have generally opposed measures to benefit illegal immigrants.

### Breitbart.com

### **Border Patrol Agents Stop 17 Gang Members Illegally Crossing Border in Texas**

- by Bob Price, September 12, 2018

Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol agents stopped at least 17 members of violent gangs from successfully making their way to the U.S. interior in the past week. Those arrested include members of MS-13 and the 18th Street gang.

Agents assigned to the Weslaco Stations arrested a Salvadoran national on Monday morning near the border town of Hidalgo, Texas. The agents transported the man to the station for processing and a biometric background investigation. The investigation revealed records indicating the illegal immigrant is a member of MS-13, according to Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol officials.

Fort Brown Station agents patrolling near Brownsville, Texas, apprehended a Nicaraguan national after he illegally crossed the border from Mexico. Agents discovered the illegal immigrant is also a known MS-13 gang member, officials stated.

### President Obama – written statement

September 5, 2017

...because it made no sense to expel talented, driven, patriotic young people from the only country they know solely because of the actions of their parents, my administration acted to lift the shadow of deportation from these young people, so that they could continue to contribute to our communities and our country. We did so based on the well-established legal principle of prosecutorial discretion, deployed by Democratic and Republican presidents alike, because our immigration enforcement agencies have limited resources, and it makes sense to focus those resources on those who come illegally to this country to do us harm. Deportations of criminals went up. Some 800,000 young people stepped forward, met rigorous requirements, and went through background checks. And America grew stronger as a result.

## ANSWER KEY

1. The Onion: is not reliable – it is a current story, but is from a satirical site providing fictional news for entertainment.
2. The Pew Research Center: is a reliable source as it is current, and is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, whose goal is to provide factual data.
3. New York Times: while a reliable source for news coverage, the article is out of date for the research question.
4. Breitbart.com: is current, but is not a reliable source due to its strong anti-immigrant bias.
5. President Obama: may be reliable, open to debate as it's somewhat recent and the source is an expert on the subject, but is also biased based on political affiliation and personal point of view.