

INTRODUCTION HANDOUT - 1

Table I
Historical Trends In U.S. Immigration (1820-2002)

Immigration, 1820-2002:	
Top Ten Countries of Origin	
Countries	
Germany	7,219,222
Mexico	6,560,312
Italy	5,442,044
United Kingdom	5,309,331
Ireland	4,785,052
Canada	4,545,074
Former Soviet Union	4,017,143
Austria	1,848,107
Hungary	1,679,815
Philippines	1,630,142

Historically, Europeans have been the dominant immigrant group.

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Table II
Immigrants By Country of Origin From 1992 - 2002

Immigration, 1992-02:	
Top Ten Countries of Birth	
Countries	
Mexico	1,731,003
Philippines	546,419
China	509,256
India	481,635
Vietnam	434,979
Dominican Republic	343,451
El Salvador	232,483
Cuba	226,487
Korea	186,568
Ukraine	183,489

Over the past twelve years, clear changes have taken place in the immigration patterns, based on country of origin. The historical trend, which featured a predominance of European immigrants entering the U.S., has greatly shifted over the past decade as the Table II above indicates, and the level of Asian and North American immigration has risen.

In Fiscal Year 2002 (Table III below), Asian immigrants represent 32 percent of the total immigrants admitted to the U.S. for that period. As Asians are entering the U.S. in steadily increasing numbers, North American immigrants, due primarily to Mexican immigration, had the highest level of immigrants, 38 percent, entering the U.S in FY 2002.

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Table III
Immigrants Admitted by Region and Top 20 Countries of Birth 2002

Immigration: 2002		
Countries		
	Number	Percentage
Regions	1,063,732	100.0
Africa	60,269	5.7
Asia	342,099	32.2
Europe	174,209	16.4
North America	404,437	38.0
Caribbean	96,489	9.1
Central America	68,979	6.5
Other North America	238,969	22.5
Oceania	5,557	.5
South America	74,506	7.0
Unknown	2,655	.2
Countries		
Mexico	219,380	20.6
India	71,105	6.7
China	61,282	5.8
Philippines	51,308	4.8
Vietnam	33,627	3.2
El Salvador	31,168	2.9
Cuba	28,272	2.7
Bosnia-Herzegovina	25,373	2.4
Dominican Republic	22,604	2.1
Ukraine	21,217	2.0
Korea	21,021	2.0
Russia	20,833	2.0
Haiti	20,268	1.9
Canada	19,519	1.8
Colombia	18,845	1.8
Guatemala	16,229	1.5
United Kingdom	16,181	1.5
Jamaica	14,898	1.4
Pakistan	13,743	1.3
Iran	13,029	1.2
Subtotal	739,902	69.6
Other	323,830	30.4