Attitudes Towards Immigration in the United States

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Hypothses:

H 1: People are more likely to fear immigration as the prevailing cause for the lack of jobs.

H 2: Older Americans are more likely to favor decreases in immigration levels.

H 3: Feeling thermometers can be used to measure anxiety towards immigrant groups.

Data

H 1: Lack of Jobs & Immigration

Cross Tabulation Results:

- How likely will immigration take away from jobs: Extremely likely (18.8%)
- How likely will immigration take away from jobs: Very likely (19.4%)
- How likely will immigration take away from jobs: Somewhat likely (42.4%)
- How likely will immigration take away from jobs: Not at all (19.4%)

H 2: Age & Immigration Levels

Adults between the age of 35 and 54 were more than twice as likely to oppose increases in immigration than the other age groups surveyed.

H 3: Feeling Thermometers

Feeling thermometers can be used when measuring the level of anxiety an individual has towards a particular immigrant group.

Findings

H 1: Lack of Jobs & Fear Towards Immigrants

The results confirmed the hypothesis that people generally believe that immigration to the United States is contributing to taking jobs away from the native born population.

H 2: Age and Immigration Levels

The results of this variable confirmed the hypothesis that older people are more opposed to increases in immigration levels in comparison to their younger counterparts.

H 3: Feeling Thermometers

The results produced from this variable show that people with more favorable feeling thermometers towards immigrants will be more receptive to increases in immigration levels.

Conclusions

- Individuals who favor a decrease in immigration levels share the belief that immigrants are likely to take away American jobs.
- Individuals between the ages of 35-54 are more likely to favor decreases in immigration levels.
- People over the age of 55 do not necessarily advocate for lower levels of immigration.
- Economic hardship in the nation incites negative feelings and anxieties towards immigrants.
- Americans that work blue collar jobs are more likely to feel that immigrants are taking away jobs in comparison to white collar workers.