

20.4

Americans Look to the Future



As a Young Historian, I will be able to...

- **Analyze the causes and effects of immigration on American society.**
- **Summarize the causes and effects of changing demographics.**
- **Discuss the environmental issues facing Americans.**
- **Explain the effects of communications technology on the economy.**
- **Understand the issues Americans face in the 21st century.**

Immigration Changes American Society

Immigration Act of 1990 increased immigration quotas by 40% & eased restrictions

During the 90s, the U.S. saw the largest number of immigrants in its history. A million people a year

10% of American population is from immigration to the country

27% of total immigration in 2000 was Mexican with 17% from Central America.





Population numbers

Latino populations have been making strides in politics (Democratic) while Cuban Americans in Florida have been in the Republican party

Asian Americans make up about 23% of immigrant populations with people from China, the Philippines, & India

Some critics are concerned that immigrants are taking “native born” American jobs

Many criticize [bilingual education](#)- students are taught in native language & English

Immigration Effects

The background of the slide features a close-up of the American flag's stars and stripes, partially visible in the upper right corner, and a light-colored wooden surface with visible grain patterns and knots, which occupies the lower and middle portions of the frame.

Many immigrants take jobs that few people want to work & help grow the U.S. population numbers

Most of the concerns revolve around illegal immigration

Immigration Reform & Control Act of 1986- Law that slowed the flow of immigrants who entered the U.S. illegally by fining employers who hired them



Illegal Immigration

Illegal immigration is still an ongoing issue that divides the nation today

Bush created a policy that would make it easier for farms to hire immigrants & gain citizenship easier

2013 Congress created funding to secure nations borders & create visa programs

American Demographics

The background of the slide features a close-up of the American flag's stars and stripes, partially visible in the upper right corner, and a light-colored wooden surface with a visible grain pattern covering the rest of the frame.

Population numbers have been growing in the coastal cities & the southern states since 2000

In 2000, 1 out of every 2 marriages ended in divorce & a rise in single parent households

2011 1 out of every 4 white babies born out of wedlock, 1 out of 3 for Latino groups & 2 out of 3 African Americans



Affirmative Action

Improving opportunities for women & minorities by giving preference to them in job applications & school admissions

Proposed by President Johnson, many find this as unfair & it discriminates against non-minorities

Organizations such as the NAACP & NOW continue work to help African Americans & Women's rights in the country

1994 [Violence Against Women Act](#) increased federal resources to prosecute men guilty of violent crimes against women

LGBTQ+

An American flag is draped over a light-colored wooden surface. The flag's stars and stripes are visible, with the blue field of stars in the upper right corner and the red and white stripes extending towards the left and bottom. The wooden surface has a natural grain pattern and some minor imperfections.

Civil Rights have expanded to those in the LGBTQ+ communities

2011- Ban against openly gay service members is lifted

U.S. Vs Windsor allowed the federal government to recognize same sex marriages in the states that allowed them

Obergefell Vs. Hodges used the 14th Amendment to allow gay marriage in any state



Population & Energy

**The age expectancy rose greatly in the last few years,
but this has caused strain on Medicare &
Social Security**

Privatizing- Transfer from governmental ownership
or control to private interests

**The United States has argued about global warming
in the past decade**

**Obama believed the answer was to create strong
federal legislation to help combat carbon
pollution & make the nation “more green”**

Protecting the Environment

The background of the slide features a close-up of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes, draped over a light-colored wooden surface with visible grain and knots.

The argument between is global warming is done by the hands of mankind still lingers

The nation has had many arguments about renewable energy & how the nation uses them

World Governments have joined together to form a coalition to fight global warming issues, such as the Paris Peace Conference

Buildings are trying to be more energy efficient & the nation is trying to reduce pollution & waste



Technology Transforms Life

Digital technology, such as cellphones & computers, have connected the world in rapid ways

Robotics & electronic innovation have changed life in drastic ways making jobs easier & improving healthcare

America's civic values have changed & respect towards different cultures & religions has grown

Culture icons, such as [Oprah Winfrey](#), have helped move political, social, & economic policy