Online Appendix:
Misperceptions About Refugee Policy

Contents

1 Pretest

This section contains additional information about how the pretest (conducted in June 2019 on Amazon's Mechanical Turk, N=200) informed the experimental design. The goal of the pretest was to explore, via both open and closed ended formats, the types of factual beliefs (and misperceptions) people held about refugees. Half of respondents answered the question "In your own words, please define what a refugee is. We don't need to know your opinion about refugees, just your best guess about what the definition of a refugee is." The other half answered the question "In your own words, please tell us whether there is a difference between immigrants and refugees, and if so what that difference is. We don't need to know your opinion about immigrants and refugees, just your best guess about whether there is a difference between these two types of people."

The responses to these open-ended questions provided insight into potential misperceptions about refugees. We identified three major areas of confusion. First, a number of people gave comments suggesting that anyone who entered from a poverty-stricken or violent country qualified as a refugee (e.g. "a refugee is someone who is here from another country where life is hard"). Second, some people seemed to equate "refugees" with people who entered the country illegally or committed crimes (e.g. "Refugees are those people who are hidden and illegally entered our country"). And third, several responses mentioned the U.S. needing to provide some type of special assistance for refugees ("immigrants enter the country on their own, and refugees are helped by the government").

These three areas of confusion directly informed what information we chose to include in the "existing policy" condition in the experiment. The "What is a refugee?" section provided the legal definition of a refugee, addressing misperceptions about who qualifies for refugee status. The "What does the refugee application process look like?" section was designed to address the misperception that refugees are criminals (by including information about the extensive background checks required), and the "How are refugees resettled?" section answered questions about the role of the government in helping refugees enter the country.

2 Supplemental analyses

2.1 Attention check

Table A1 shows the percentage of people in each condition who passed the attention check, which was administered prior to treatment. The distribution is not significantly different across conditions $\tilde{\chi}^2 = 7.3; p = 0.12$.

Table A1: Percent passing attention check, by condition

	Pass	Fail
Policy outcome questions	520 (78.2%)	145 (21.8%)
Policy outcome information	495 (79.6%)	149 (23.1%)
Existing policy questions	466 (74.1%)	163 (25.6%)
Existing policy information	571 (77.4%)	167 (22.6%)
Control	513 (80.3%)	126 (19.7%)
Total	2565 (77.4%)	750 (22.3%)

2.2 Treatment effects by partisanship

Tables A2 and A3 show the effects of policy-outcome information and current-policy information on support for refugee-friendly policies, measured via an index of whether they supported or opposed five policies (1-5 scale, M=2.8, α=.74): giving loans to refugees to finance their travel to the U.S., allowing refugees to receive food stamps, allowing them to bring their immediate family members to the U.S., implementing stricter background checks (reverse-coded), and temporarily pausing all refugee admissions during the COVID-19 pandemic (reverse-coded).

Table A2: Effects of policy outcome info on policy support, by party

	Democrat		Republican		Independent	
Policy outcome information	0.072	(0.083)	0.14	(0.090)	0.089	(0.10)
Policy outcome questions	0.083	(0.086)	0.10	(0.097)	0.036	(0.11)
Political interest	0.058	(0.048)	-0.070	(0.054)	0.020	(0.052)
Education	0.15***	(0.043)	0.069	(0.049)	-0.11	(0.057)
Woman	-0.11	(0.071)	-0.21**	(0.078)	0.068	(0.088)
Parent(s) born outside US	0.059	(0.083)	0.26*	(0.11)	0.38***	(0.11)
White	-0.073	(0.075)	-0.093	(0.13)	-0.11	(0.100)
Constant	2.51***	(0.19)	2.34***	(0.26)	2.87***	(0.23)
Observations	536		412		424	
Adjusted R^2	0.032		0.037		0.031	

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Table A3: Effect of current policy info on policy support, by party

	Democrat		Republican		Independent	
Existing policy information	0.31***	(0.083)	0.28**	(0.093)	0.27**	(0.100)
Existing policy questions	0.100	(0.081)	0.21*	(0.090)	0.076	(0.097)
Political interest	0.13**	(0.046)	-0.085	(0.055)	-0.026	(0.047)
Education	0.032	(0.040)	0.11*	(0.048)	-0.041	(0.052)
Woman	0.025	(0.067)	-0.084	(0.077)	0.088	(0.081)
Parent(s) born outside US	0.18*	(0.078)	0.29**	(0.11)	0.066	(0.11)
White	-0.029	(0.072)	-0.43***	(0.12)	-0.20*	(0.092)
Constant	2.46***	(0.19)	2.52***	(0.25)	2.95***	(0.21)
Observations	539		422		384	
Adjusted R^2	0.040		0.083		0.029	

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Tables A4 and A5 show the effects of policy-outcome information and current-policy information on support for admitting individual refugees. Participants were shown images and brief biographic information about three refugees and asked whether they would support admitting them to the United States (1-5 scale, M=3.8, α=.74).

Table A4: Effects of policy outcome info on admission support, by party

	Democrat		Republican		Independent	
Policy outcome information	-0.019	(0.091)	0.18	(0.12)	0.19	(0.12)
Policy outcome questions	0.087	(0.094)	0.095	(0.13)	0.22	(0.12)
Political interest	0.17***	(0.052)	-0.11	(0.071)	0.17**	(0.060)
Education	0.088	(0.047)	0.069	(0.065)	-0.23***	(0.064)
Woman	-0.00070	(0.077)	-0.24*	(0.11)	0.057	(0.099)
Parent(s) born outside US	0.22*	(0.090)	0.20	(0.14)	0.59***	(0.13)
White	0.0023	(0.082)	-0.25	(0.17)	0.10	(0.11)
Constant	3.22***	(0.21)	3.71***	(0.34)	3.40***	(0.26)
Observations	540		414		429	
Adjusted R^2	0.036		0.022		0.069	

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Table A5: Effect of current policy info on admission support, by party

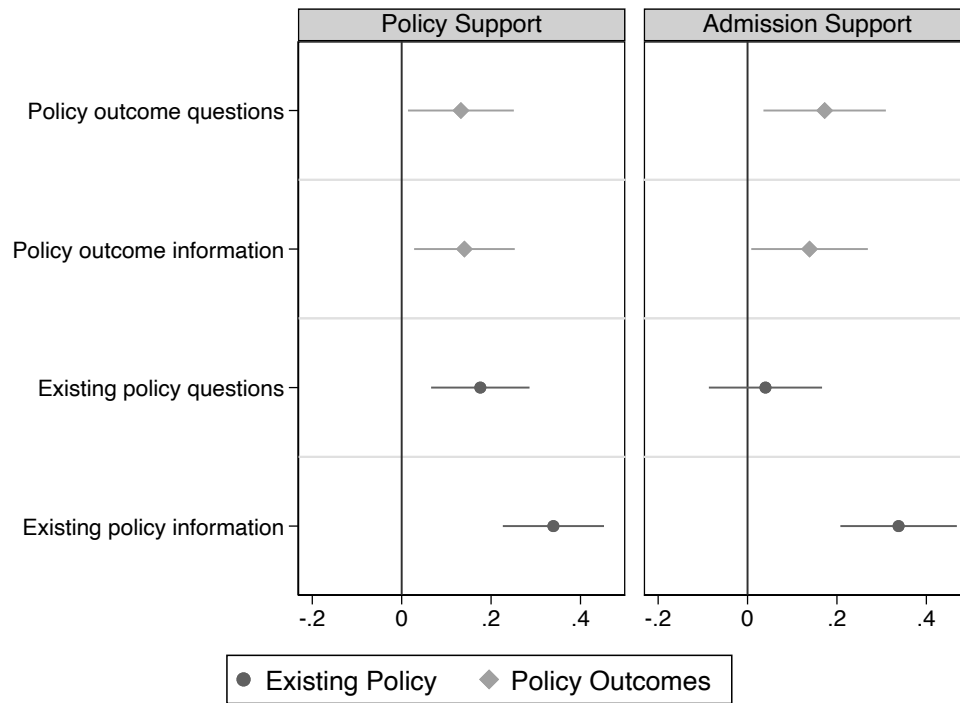|	Democrat		Republican		Independent	
Existing policy information	0.25**	(0.092)	0.25*	(0.12)	0.42***	(0.12)
Existing policy questions	-0.12	(0.089)	0.083	(0.11)	0.065	(0.12)
Political interest	0.24***	(0.051)	-0.085	(0.069)	0.082	(0.056)
Education	-0.040	(0.044)	0.096	(0.060)	-0.21***	(0.063)
Woman	-0.033	(0.074)	-0.14	(0.096)	0.18	(0.097)
Parent(s) born outside US	0.13	(0.085)	0.26*	(0.13)	0.19	(0.13)
White	-0.11	(0.079)	-0.51***	(0.15)	-0.18	(0.11)
Constant	3.44***	(0.21)	3.75***	(0.31)	3.82***	(0.25)
Observations	539		425		387	
Adjusted R^2	0.060		0.050		0.073	

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

2.3 Treatment effects without covariates

Figure A1 shows the effect of information about existing policy and policy outcomes on policy support and support for admitting individual refugees, without covariates included.
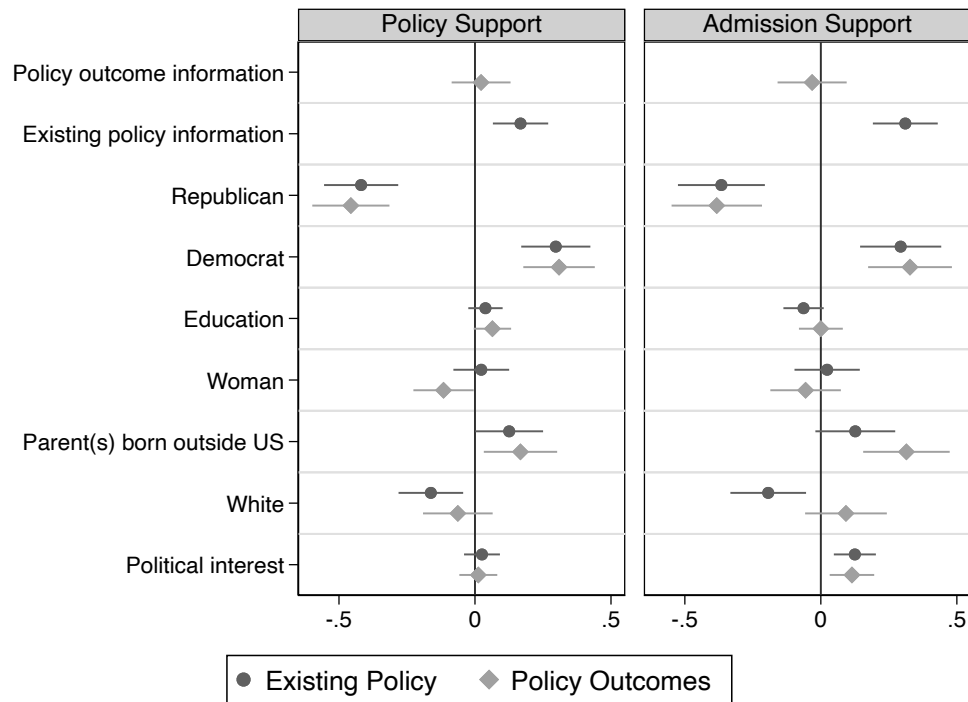
Figure A1: Effect of experimental treatments, without covariates

2.4 Effects of information, as compared to questions only

Figure A2 shows the effect of the information treatments as compared to the questions-only treatments. In other words, it shows the effects of being shown the correct answers to the factual questions (omitting the pure control condition).

Figure A2: Effect of information as compared to questions only (pure control condition omitted)

2.5 Effects of existing policy information, as compared to policy outcome information

Table A6 directly compares the effects of existing policy information to the effects of policy outcome information, omitting both the control condition and the "questions-only" conditions. Table A7 contains the same analyses, without covariates.

Table A6: Effects of existing policy info (as compared to policy outcome info) on policy and admission support

	Policy support		Admission support	
Policy outcome info	0.19***	(0.053)	0.20**	(0.062)
Republican	-0.47***	(0.069)	-0.40***	(0.081)
Democrat	0.29***	(0.065)	0.30***	(0.076)
Political interest	-0.0055	(0.034)	0.076	(0.040)
Education	0.056	(0.033)	-0.017	(0.038)
Woman	-0.060	(0.053)	0.017	(0.062)
Parent(s) born outside US	0.11	(0.065)	0.25**	(0.077)
White	-0.14*	(0.061)	0.045	(0.072)
Constant	2.76***	(0.14)	3.48***	(0.17)
Observations	920		925	
Adjusted R^2	0.166		0.104	

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Table A7: Effects of existing policy info (as compared to policy outcome info) on policy and admission support, without covariates

	Policy support		Admission support	
Policy outcome info	0.20***	(0.057)	0.20**	(0.065)
Constant	2.76***	(0.039)	3.77***	(0.044)
Observations	926		931	
Adjusted R^2	0.012		0.009	

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

2.6 Effects on ideal number of refugees

At the end of the survey, respondents were given some information about the historical and current number of refugees admitted to the U.S. per year, then asked how many refugees they thought the U.S. should admit each year. However, twenty-seven percent of respondents left the question blank. Table A8 below shows the effect of the treatment on that number (divided into quartiles).

Table A8: Effects of treatments on ideal number of refugees (quartiles)

Current policy questions	0.0074	(0.079)
Current policy information	0.068	(0.082)
Policy outcome questions	-0.12	(0.082)
Policy outcome information	-0.21**	(0.078)
Democrat	0.21**	(0.063)
Republican	-0.47***	(0.067)
Political interest	0.061	(0.034)
Education	0.085**	(0.031)
Woman	-0.21***	(0.051)
Parent(s) born outside US	0.042	(0.063)
White	0.20***	(0.061)
Constant	1.28***	(0.15)
Observations	1859	
Adjusted R^2	0.079	

Standard errors in parentheses

$^*\ p < 0.05,\ ^{**}\ p < 0.01,\ ^{***}\ p < 0.001$

2.7 Adjustment for multiple comparisons

We implemented a sharpened FDR adjustment with two sets of variables: policy support and admission support. Table A9 shows the original p-values, as well as the sharpened q-values. The main findings (a positive effect of information about existing policy on both dependent variables) are robust to these standard multiple hypothesis testing adjustments.

Table A9: Adjustment for multiple comparisons

	Original p-values	Sharpened p-values
Policy support		
Policy outcome questions	0.061	0.065
Policy outcome information	0.166	0.109
Existing policy questions	0.000	0.001
Existing policy information	0.013	0.027
Admission support		
Policy outcome questions	0.115	0.106
Policy outcome information	0.049	0.065
Existing policy questions	0.000	0.001
Existing policy information	0.852	0.235

2.8 Analysis of open-ended responses

In total, 2,026 respondents entered a response, and an additional 539 either skipped the question or did not enter anything substantive. People were equally likely to skip or enter a nonsensical response in each of the conditions. Each response was coded as to whether it included one of six different references. The first (Table A10) were aspects of refugees we expected would be made more salient by the questions in the "current policy" condition: the persecution or danger faced by refugees, negative aspects of their home country, and their potential positive impact on the U.S.. The second (Table A11) were aspects we expected might be made more salient by the questions in the "policy outcomes" condition: benefits offered by life in the U.S., terrorism, and their potential negative impact on the U.S. These categories were chosen based on our expectation of the considerations that the treatments might bring to mind. In total, 80% of the responses included a statement that included one or more of these six references. On average, each response included one reference, and the total number of references did not significantly differ by condition.

Finally, in response to a reviewer comment, we added two more categories (Table A12). The first coded for mentions of women, children, or families, and the second for mentions of migrants or immigrants.

Table A10: Effect of current policy and policy outcome information on open-ended responses (1)

	Danger/persecution		Home country issues		Benefits offered in U.S.	
Current policy info	0.10***	(0.030)	-0.011	(0.025)	0.011	(0.034)
Policy outcome info	0.022	(0.028)	0.014	(0.024)	-0.0092	(0.033)
Political interest	-0.0028	(0.016)	-0.0036	(0.013)	-0.0083	(0.018)
Education	0.027	(0.015)	0.0032	(0.013)	-0.026	(0.017)
Woman	0.051*	(0.024)	-0.033	(0.020)	0.048	(0.028)
Parent(s) born outside US	0.016	(0.030)	0.019	(0.026)	-0.032	(0.035)
White	0.061*	(0.029)	-0.0038	(0.024)	-0.034	(0.033)
Republican	-0.053	(0.031)	-0.067*	(0.026)	-0.13***	(0.036)
Democrat	0.012	(0.029)	-0.032	(0.025)	0.056	(0.034)
Constant	0.066	(0.068)	0.20***	(0.058)	0.51***	(0.079)
Observations	1239		1239		1239	
Adjusted R^2	0.016		0.002		0.027	

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Table A11: Effect of policy and rates information on open-ended responses (2)

	Negative effects on U.S.		Positive effects on U.S.		Terrorism	
Current policy info	-0.061*	(0.025)	-0.0040	(0.016)	-0.051**	(0.018)
Policy outcome info	-0.0057	(0.024)	-0.019	(0.015)	-0.024	(0.017)
Political interest	0.0096	(0.014)	0.0062	(0.0085)	0.015	(0.0095)
Education	-0.015	(0.013)	0.0092	(0.0079)	-0.013	(0.0089)
Woman	0.048*	(0.021)	-0.0070	(0.013)	0.014	(0.015)
Parent(s) born outside US	-0.017	(0.026)	0.020	(0.016)	-0.0018	(0.018)
White	0.035	(0.025)	0.019	(0.015)	-0.0050	(0.017)
Republican	0.065*	(0.026)	-0.021	(0.017)	0.049**	(0.019)
Democrat	-0.093***	(0.025)	-0.0096	(0.016)	0.0014	(0.018)
Constant	0.16**	(0.058)	0.013	(0.036)	0.060	(0.041)
Observations	1239		1239		1239	
Adjusted R^2	0.045		-0.001		0.012	

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Table A12: Effect of current policy and policy outcome information on open-ended responses (3)

	Family/children		Immigrants/migrants	
Current policy info	-0.0090	(0.016)	-0.015	(0.0086)
Policy outcome info	-0.0015	(0.015)	-0.011	(0.0083)
Political interest	0.019*	(0.0082)	0.0032	(0.0044)
Education	0.0010	(0.0080)	0.0015	(0.0043)
Woman	0.035**	(0.013)	0.0030	(0.0069)
Parent(s) born outside US	0.0017	(0.016)	-0.016	(0.0088)
White	-0.013	(0.015)	-0.0019	(0.0083)
Republican	-0.0037	(0.017)	-0.0016	(0.0089)
Democrat	0.023	(0.016)	-0.0014	(0.0085)
Constant	-0.0062	(0.035)	0.018	(0.019)
Observations	1566		1566	
Adjusted R^2	0.007		-0.001	

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

3 Adherence to the Principles and Guidance for Human Subjects Research

The survey experiment detailed in the paper, along with the pre-test, both received full IRB approval (#19-162). Participants were recruited via the online survey platform Lucid. Lucid manages relationships with suppliers who handle incentives to participants directly. Researchers pay Lucid a cost per completed interview (CPI) and Lucid pays suppliers who then provide a portion of those earnings to participants in the form of cash, gift cards, or loyalty reward points. Participants in the pretest were recruited via Mechanical Turk and paid 27 cents, which for a survey that took on average about 80 seconds works out to an hourly rate of $12.15.

Before entering the survey, participants first completed a consent form that included the researcher name and affiliation, the general purpose of the research, an explanation of the survey (including length), the costs and benefits of participation, and contact information for the lead researcher and university IRB. They were also informed that no identifying information would be collected, and that they were able to opt out of the research at any time.

The project did not involve any deception, and no identifying information about the participants was collected. We also did not intervene in any political processes.

4 Survey instrument

How closely do you follow what's going on in government and public affairs?
O Very closely
O Somewhat closely
O Not that closely
O Not at all

Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a...
O Democrat
O Republican
O Independent
O Other
O Not sure

[if Democrat or Republican is selected] And would you call yourself a strong [Democrat/Republican] or a not so strong [Democrat/Republican]?
O Strong [Democrat/Republican]
O Not so strong [Democrat/Republican]

[if neither Democrat nor Republican is selected] Would you say that you are closer to the Democratic party or the Republican party?
O Democratic party
O Republican party

Were either of your parents born outside the United States?
O Yes
O No
O Not sure

People are very busy these days and many do not have time to follow what goes on in the government. We are testing whether people read questions. To show that you've read this much, answer both "extremely interested" and "very interested."
O Extremely interested
O Very interested
O Moderately interested
O Slightly interested
O Not interested at all

Vignette manipulation
Please read the following information carefully.
Many state legislatures are currently considering enacting "same-day registration" policies, which would allow residents of the state (who are eligible to vote) to register and vote within the same day. As with any policy, there are many factors to consider, including factors regarding potential costs of implementation.
According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, "Same day registration procedures vary

within states, and so costs vary as well. Some states indicate there is little to no additional cost in implementing same day registration, especially those that have had this option available for a long time. Some costs that may be associated with implementing same day registration include increased election staff or poll workers to process same day registrations. This extra administrative task can be time consuming at the same day registration site and when verifying registration information after the election. Many states report this is more a reallocation of costs and resources, though, rather than an additional cost."

Which policy area was discussed in the article you just read?
O Voter registration policies
O Voter identification policies
O Voter age policies
O Voting location policies
O Voting privacy policies

In the article you just read, which specific organization was quoted regarding "same-day registration" policies?
O National Conference of State Legislatures
O Council on Foreign Relations
O State Board of Elections
O Bureau of Legislative and Electoral Processes
O National Governors Group

According to the article you just read, many states report that:
O "Increased election staff" may be one cost of implementation
O Same-day registration has "resulted in many more voters coming to the polls"
O There is now "significantly greater gubernatorial oversight of the voting process"
O Policymakers "do not believe this policy will significantly change voter turnout"
O They have "recently reversed their position on voting registration policies"

Policy outcome questions
Next, we will ask you a series of factual questions. If you're not sure, just give your best guess.

Out of every 100 people in the United States, about how many do you think entered the country as a refugee from another country? Please enter a number between 0 and 100.

Now, out of every 100 refugees living in the United States, about how many do you think receive welfare (TANF) benefits? Please enter a number between 0 and 100.

Now, out of every 100 refugees living in the United States, about how many do you think have been convicted of terrorism-related offenses? Please enter a number between 0 and 100.

Policy outcome answers
We find that often, the media do not do a good job of providing people with the correct information about refugees in the United States. Next you will see some numbers describing characteristics of

refugees. Please read this information carefully.

About .06% of people living in the United States entered the country as a refugee. This means that out of every 100 people living in the United States, fewer than 1 entered the country as a refugee.

About 6% of refugees receive welfare (TANF) benefits. This means that out of every 100 refugees living in the United States, six receive welfare benefits.

About .00074% of refugees have been convicted of terrorism-related offenses. This means that of the 3,391,203 refugees admitted from 1975 to the end of 2017, 25 have been convicted of terrorism-related offenses.

Existing policy questions
Some people who apply to live in the United States are classified as immigrants, while others are classified as refugees. To the best of your knowledge, which of the following are reasons that qualify someone for refugee status? Please check all that apply.
O A war in their home country has put their life in danger.
O The government of their home country was threatening them for their political views.
O People of their religion are being killed in their home country.
O They are attempting to enter the U.S. illegally.
O They were convicted of a crime in their home country.
O They were arrested at the border for transporting illegal substances.
O There is a very high level of crime in their home country.
O The government of their home country is extremely corrupt.
O Most people in their home country live in extreme poverty.
O They have little or no formal education.
O They will need financial assistance in the United States.
O They have no job skills or training.

Which of the following statements is correct? If you're not sure, please give your best guess.
O Refugees are required to pass international and domestic background checks before being admitted to the United States.
O Refugees are not required to pass international and domestic background checks before being admitted to the United States.

Which of the following statements is correct? If you're not sure, please give your best guess.
O Refugee who resettle in the United States receive no official assistance.
O Refugees who resettle in the United States are assisted by domestic resettlement agencies.

Which of the following statements is correct? If you're not sure, please give your best guess.
O Refugees who wish to resettle in the United States must register with the United Nations before applying to the U.S. government.
O Refugees who wish to resettle in the United States apply directly to the U.S. government.

Existing policy answers

We find that often, the media do not do a good job of providing people with the correct definition of refugees or correct information about the process through which refugees enter the United States. Next you will see information about current refugee policy in the United States. Please read this information carefully.

What is a refugee? Legally, a refugee is someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war or violence. A refugee has a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group.

What does the refugee application process look like? Refugees who seek to enter the United States must first register with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), who collect documentation and perform an initial screening and then refer qualifying individuals to U.S. State Department Resettlement Support Centers (RSCs). State Department officials interview the applicants, verify their personal data, and submit their information for background checks by U.S. national security agencies. These security checks include multiple forms of screening, including cross-checks of global fingerprint databases and medical tests.

How are refugees resettled in the United States? The logistics of refugee resettlement are largely handled by nine domestic resettlement agencies, many of them faith-based organizations such as the Church World Service and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Representatives of these organizations meet and review the biographical data of the refugees selected by the State Department abroad to determine where they should be resettled. As part of this process, they consult with local authorities, including law enforcement, emergency services, and public schools.

Attempting to enter the U.S. illegally does not qualify someone for refugee status.
Being convicted of a crime in their home country does not qualify someone for refugee status.
Attempting to transport illegal substances across the border does not qualify someone for refugee status.
Coming from a country with a high level of crime does not qualify someone for refugee status.
Coming from a country with a highly corrupt government does not qualify someone for refugee status.
Coming from an extremely poor country does not qualify someone for refugee status.
Having a low level of education does not qualify someone for refugee status.
Requiring financial assistance in the U.S. does not qualify someone for refugee status.
Having a lack of job skills does not qualify someone for refugee status.

The graphic below summarizes exactly who qualifies for refugee status.

	Qualifies someone for refugee status	Does not qualify someone for refugee status
A war in their home country has put their life in danger.	✅	
The government of their home country was threatening them for their political views.	✅	
People of their religion are being killed in their home country.	✅	
They are attempting to enter the U.S. illegally.		❌
They were convicted of a crime in their home country.		❌
They were arrested at the border for transporting illegal substances.		❌
There is a very high level of crime in their home country.		❌
The government of their home country is extremely corrupt.		❌
Most people in their home country live in extreme poverty.		❌
They have little or no formal education.		❌
They will need financial assistance in the United States.		❌
They have no job skills or training.		❌

Individual refugee profiles

Next, you will see some information about several refugees hoping to live in the United States. Please give your opinion about whether you think this refugee should be admitted to the United States.

Name: Lucia Gomez (and her son, Yahir)
Country of origin: Mexico

Lucia Gomez is a refugee seeking to resettle in the United States. In your opinion, should Lucia Gomez and her son be admitted?
O Definitely
O Probably
O Not sure
O Probably not
O Definitely not

Name: Ella Nakhoyans (and her daughter, Eva)
Country of origin: Ukraine

Ella Nakhoyans is a refugee seeking to enter the United States. In your opinion, should Ella and her daughter be admitted?
O Definitely
O Probably
O Not sure

O Probably not
O Definitely not

Name: Fryal Muhammed (and her daughter, Nour)
Country of origin: Syria

Fryal Muhammed is a refugee seeking to enter the United States. In your opinion, should she and her daughter should be admitted?
O Definitely
O Probably
O Not sure
O Probably not
O Definitely not

Feelings about refugees
Next, you'll be asked some questions about your attitudes and opinions.

How much do each of the following adjectives describe your feelings toward refugees?

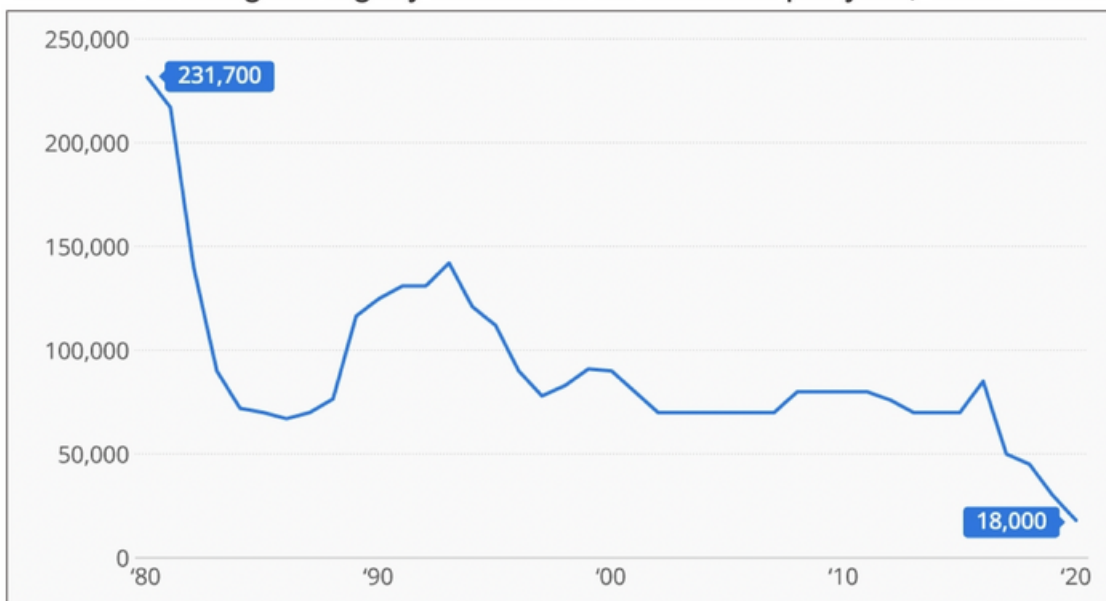|	Not at all	A little	Somewhat	Fairly well	Extremely well
Sympathetic	O	O	O	O	O
Compassionate	O	O	O	O	O
Moved	O	O	O	O	O
Worried	O	O	O	O	O
Anxious	O	O	O	O	O

Policy attitudes
Below are several policies related to refugees. Please indicate whether you oppose or support each one.

	Strongly oppose	Somewhat oppose	Neither oppose nor support	Somewhat support	Strongly support
Give loans to refugees who are accepted to finance their travel to the United States.	O	O	O	O	O
Allow refugees to be eligible to receive food stamps.	O	O	O	O	O
Allow refugees to bring their immediate family members to the United States.	O	O	O	O	O
Provide stricter background checks of refugees hoping to enter the United States.	O	O	O	O	O
Temporarily pause all refugee admissions during the pandemic.	O	O	O	O	O

Each year, the U.S. government decides how how many refugees can be admitted. Currently, the number is set at 18,000. The graph below shows how this number has changed over time.

Number of refugees legally allowed to be admitted per year, 1980 - 2020

How many refugees do you think the United States should admit each year?

Open-ended question
When you think of refugees who seek to come to the United States, what thoughts come to mind?

Manipulation check for existing policy condition
Finally, please answer a few factual questions about refugees. If you're not sure, please give your best guess.

Coming from a country with extreme poverty or government corruption qualifies someone to be classified as a refugee.
O True
O False

Attempting to cross into the U.S. illegally or committing crimes in their home country qualifies someone to be classified as a refugee.
O True
O False

Having little education or job skills qualifies someone to be classified as a refugee.
O True
O False

Being forced to leave their home country because they have been targeted for violence qualifies someone to be classified as a refugee.
O True
O False

To the best of your knowledge, which of the following are part of the refugee resettlement process in the United States? Please check all that apply.
O Registering with the United Nations
O Background screening by the U.S. State Department
O Assistance from U.S. official resettlement agencies

Manipulation check for policy outcomes condition
About what percentage of the US population are people who came as refugees from another country?
O Less than 1%
O Between 1% and 3%
O Between 3% and 10%
O More than 10%

About what percentage of refugees in the United States receive welfare benefits?
O Less than 1%
O Between 1% and 3%
O Between 3% and 10%
O More than 10%

Q84 About what percentage of refugees in the United States have been convicted of terrorism-related offenses?
O Less than 1%
O Between 1% and 3%
O Between 3% and 10%
O More than 10%

Cheating

Many people struggle to remember facts, even when they know them, and so they get help remembering. When you were answering the previous questions, did you get help from any other source, such as the internet or another person? (Please be honest, this is for statistical purposes only.)

O Yes
O No

5 Coding guidelines for open-ended responses

NO ANSWER

- Enter a 1 if the answer is blank or contains no relevant content (e.g. "none," "idk")

- If NO ANSWER is coded as 1 then no further coding is necessary

Note that the following categories are not mutually exclusive. A statement could be coded 1 for multiple categories.

DANGER

- Enter a 1 if the answer contains references to physical danger, persecution, or human rights violation that refugees face.

  - "People coming to seek safety from war torn countries"
  - "People who fear for their lives and the lives of their family"
  - "I think of people coming to the United States for safety and better opportunities for themselves and their families."
  - "running from danger, looking for a job, has family already in us"

HOME NEG

- Enter a 1 if the answer contains references to negative aspects of life in their home country that are not explicitly about danger/persecution.

  - "must be pretty bad conditions back at the home country, for them"
  - "they all come from troubled countries"
  - "poor, oppressed, hungry, sick"

US BENEFITS

- Enter a 1 if the answer contains references to the benefits offered by life in the U.S. (eg money, jobs, opportunities)

  - "I believe most of them are good people just looking for a better life."
  - "looking for a job, has family already in us"
  - "seeking free medical, educational and welfare benefits"
  - "I think of people coming to the United States for safety and better opportunities for themselves and their families."
  - "running from danger, looking for a job, has family already in us"

NEG IMPACT

- Enter a 1 if the answer contains references to any negative impact that refugees might have on the US

  - "They are a burden to our society"

- "Will they expect to be taken care of forever"

POS IMPACT

- Enter a 1 if the answer contains references to any positive impact that refugees might have on the US

    - "they add value to the US"
    - " My great grandparents were refugees, and they worked hard and America benefited."

TERROR

- Enter a 1 if the answer contains references to terrorism or terrorists

    - "Terrorist, drug addicted, drug lords, crime"
    - "background checks, diseases and terrorism"

SENTIMENT

- 1 if the statement is overall positive towards refugees

- 2 if the statement is mixed or neutral

- 3 if the statement is overall negative towards refugees

FAMILY

- Enter a 1 if the statement mentions refugees' family and/or children.

    - "Trying to make a better life for their family"
    - "I feel everyone deserves a chance to have better for their family especially if it's just a mother and a child it can be challenging to provide for their loved ones"
    - "People seeking a better life for themselves and their children, often having suffered greatly in their country of origin."

IMMIGRANTS/MIGRANTS

- Enter a 1 if the statement mentions immigrants or migrants.

    - "Illegal migrants"
    - "Lots of immigrants here already"