



Being a Citizen of the United States

Instructional Slides



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

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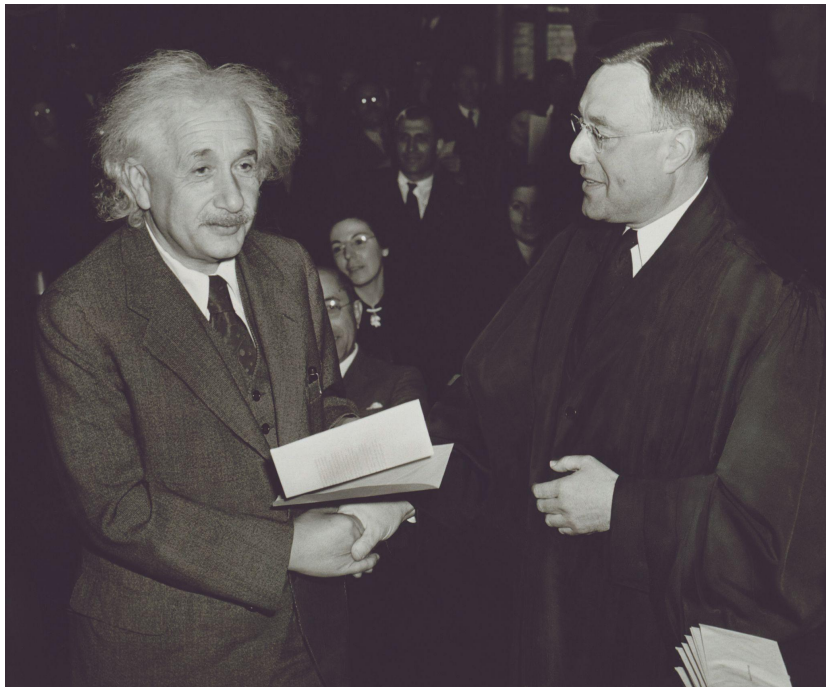
Topic 2: Citizenship



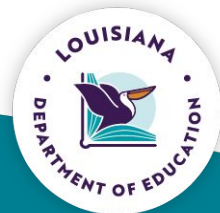
Framing Question:
How is U.S. citizenship acquired,
and what are the
responsibilities of a U.S. citizen?



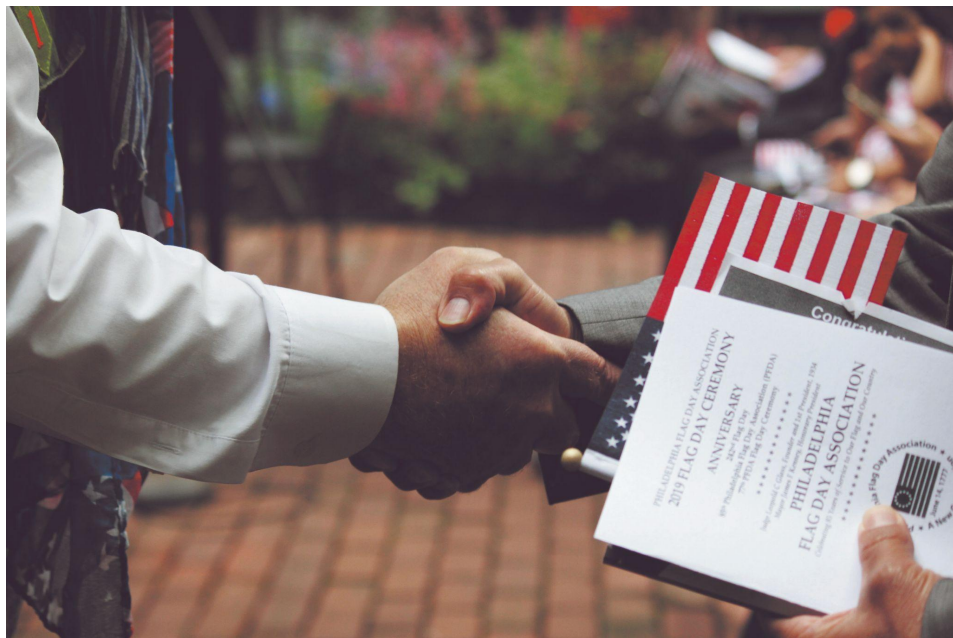
Topic 2: Citizenship



The prominent physicist Albert Einstein received his certificate of American citizenship in 1940. He had fled Nazi Germany after Adolf Hitler came to power.



Topic 2: Citizenship

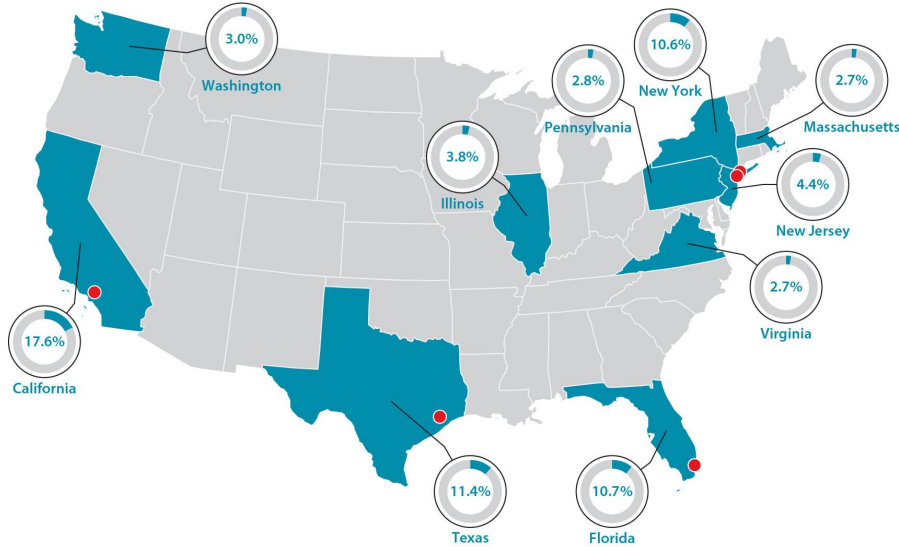


The naturalization process has changed throughout U.S. history. The current naturalization rules were enacted in 1952 and have been amended several times, most recently in 2005.



Topic 2: Citizenship

Top Cities and States Where Naturalized Citizens Live (2023)



Map Information

Top Ten States

- California
- Texas
- Florida
- New York
- New Jersey
- Illinois
- Washington
- Pennsylvania
- Massachusetts
- Virginia

Top Five Cities and Boroughs

- Brooklyn, NY—2.2%
- Miami, FL—1.8%
- Houston, TX—1.8%
- Bronx, NY—1.5%
- Los Angeles, CA—1.1%

According to USCIS statistics, the majority of naturalized citizens in 2023 lived in California, followed by Texas, Florida, and New York.



Topic 2: Citizenship

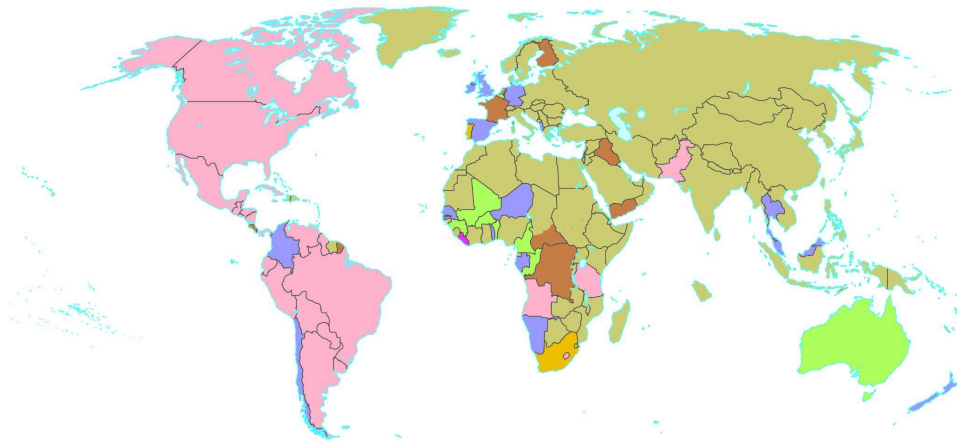
Requirements for Naturalization

| Lawful Permanent Residents of Five Years | Spouses of U.S. Citizens | Veterans and Military Personnel |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Live in the United States continuously for at least five years, and be present in the country for at least thirty months during that period.• Live at least three months in a state or other USCIS district.• Demonstrate knowledge of the Constitution, U.S. history, and civics.• Swear an oath of allegiance to the United States. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Live in the United States continuously for at least three years, and be present in the country for at least eighteen months during that period.• Be married to a U.S. citizen for at least three years.• Live at least three months in a state or other USCIS district.• Remain continuously in the United States from the time of application until naturalization.• Demonstrate knowledge of the Constitution, U.S. history, and civics.• Swear the oath of allegiance to the United States. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Serve honorably in the U.S. military for at least one year.• Be a lawful permanent resident of the United States.• Show support for constitutional principles. |



Topic 2: Citizenship

Birthright Citizenship Around the World



Most countries around the world have some form of *jus sanguinis* citizenship policies.

| | |
|--|---|
| Unconditional at birth (<i>jus soli</i>) | Combination of parental status and age/residency of child |
| Parental status | Race/ethnicity |
| Age/residency of child | No birthright citizenship (<i>jus sanguinis</i>) |
| Parental status or age/residency of child | |



Topic 2: Citizenship



This photo, taken in 1920, shows a naturalization class taught by the Department of Labor. Students learned English and how the U.S. government works.



Topic 2: Citizenship



The Indian Citizenship Act, signed into law by President Calvin Coolidge in 1924, gave Native Americans full citizenship for the first time in U.S. history.



Topic 2: Citizenship



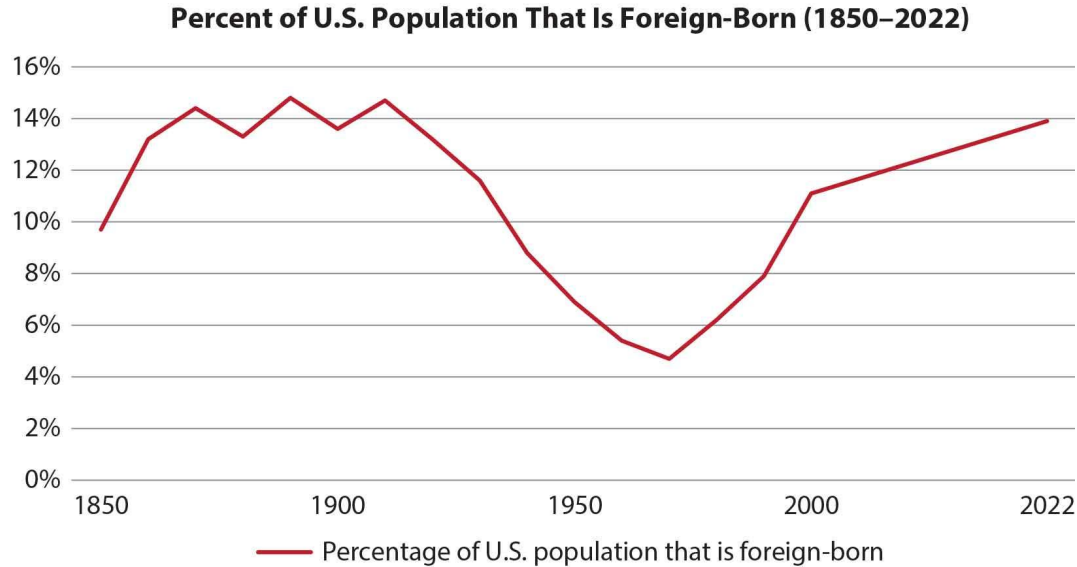
Immigration Quotas, Emergency Quota Act of 1921

| Country of Origin | 1910 Population | Quota (3 Percent) |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Italy | 1,343,125 | 40,294 |
| Russia | 1,602,782 | 48,063 |
| Greece | 101,282 | 3,038 |
| Africa | 3,992 | 120 |

Immigration Quotas, Immigration Act of 1924

| Country of Origin | 1890 Population | Quota (2 Percent) |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Italy | 182,580 | 3,652 |
| Russia | 182,644 | 3,653 |
| Greece | 1,887 | 38 |
| Africa | 2,207 | 44 |

Topic 2: Citizenship



The percentage of the U.S. population that is foreign-born dropped considerably following the enactment of the Emergency Quota Act of 1921 and the Immigration Act of 1924. These figures began to rebound after national origin quotas were eliminated in 1965.



Topic 2: Citizenship



Most federal jobs are limited to U.S. citizens, including working for the National Park Service.



Topic 2: Citizenship



Jury duty is an important part of maintaining our democracy; jurors may be summoned for both state and federal courts.



Subject Matter Expert

Dr. Christian S. Davis, James Madison University

Illustration and Photo Credits

Albert Einstein receiving his certificate of American citizenship (b/w photo)/Unknown photographer, (20th century)/Everett Collection / Bridgeman Images: 4

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Cartoon on the popular reduction of immigrants to the United States, 1914 (litho)/American School, (20th century) / American/Private Collection/Peter Newark American Pictures / Bridgeman Images: 11a

Department of Labor naturalization class teaching immigrants English and US political culture in 1920/Everett Collection / Bridgeman Images: 9

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