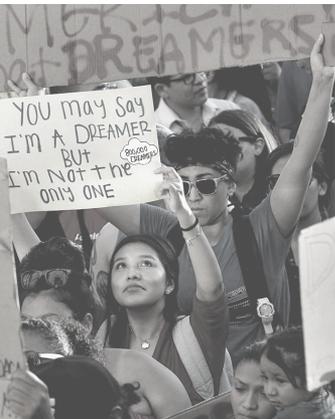
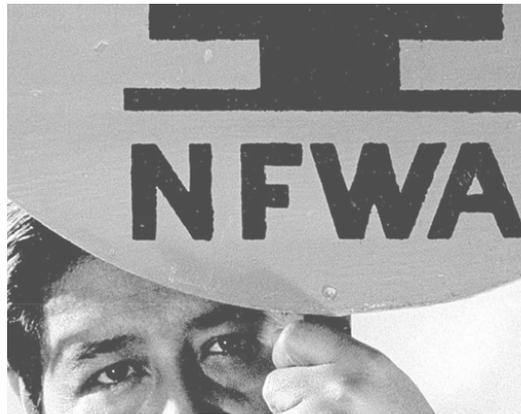


Immigration



History



Timeline

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INDEPENDENCE

July 4, 1776

"...and for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance, on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor."



1

JULY 4 1776

European immigrants and their descendants living in the 13 colonies declare independence from England.

Image credit:

James Henry Daugherty 1942
UNT Digital Library collections



2

1790

Naturalization Act required that "any alien, being a free white person, may be admitted to become a citizen of the United States."

Image credit:

In 1929, naturalization test-prep guidebooks flew off drugstore shelves.

New-York Historical Society

JULY 14 1798

Alien and Sedition Acts require a 14 year residency for citizenship and deportation of "dangerous aliens" or non-citizens from an enemy nation.

1802

Naturalization Law required the entry of all aliens to be recorded and reduced from 14 to 5 years the residency requirement for citizenship.

3

1848

Gold Rush in the Sierra Nevadas Foothills attracts Chinese, French, German, Italian, Irish, Mexican & Russian immigrants to settle in Santa Clara Valley.

Image credit:

Willard Culver, National Geographic



1848

The United States acquired California from Mexico through a defeated war and a forced treaty, Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, incorporating the land into the United States.

1850

California state legislature enacted the Foreign Miners' Tax Act of 1850, which imposed a monthly \$20 tax on all immigrant miners. In 1852 the monthly tax became \$3. This was meant to force immigrants out of the mines.

4

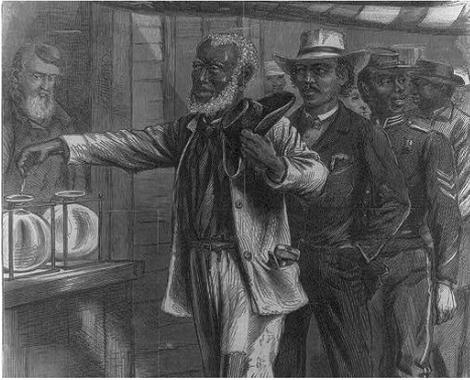
1862

By the 1860's, the Chinese population in California grew to 35,000 people. 70% of them were miners. In San José, CA, Chinese immigrants founded a Chinatown on Market Street.

Image credit:

"There Was a Chinatown Here" by Market Street Chinatown Archaeology Project. *Chinese Historical and Cultural Project, Stanford University, and History San José*





5 1870

Revision to 1802 Naturalization Law opens the naturalization process "to persons of African descent."

Image credit:
Artist Alfred Waud drew this illustration of African Americans voting during Reconstruction. Waud was an English immigrant.
Long Island Wins



6 1877

Chinese laborers moved land to build tracks across the country, through the Santa Cruz Mountain Range to create the Santa Cruz-Monterey line for the South Pacific Coast Railroad in 1877. Other laborers worked on the San Jose Railroad.

Image credit:
This 1950 watercolor by artist Jake Lee depicts Chinese laborers laying the transcontinental railroad track through the Sierra Nevada mountains.
Chinese Historical Society of America

7 1880 - 1930

Large-scale European immigration. The second wave of European immigration included large numbers of immigrants from Southern and Eastern Europe- many of whom practiced Judaism, known as Jews.

Image credit:
Immigrants to the U.S. on the deck of the S.S. *Patricia* on December 10, 1906.
Popperfoto, Getty Images



1882

California has played a unique role in the US anti-immigrant legislation. For over 100 years, California anti-immigrant movements culminated in national immigration legislation. During the economic crisis of the 1880's, Chinese immigrants became the targets in California with the Chinese Exclusion Act. The Act closed the immigration of unskilled laborers from China for a ten-year time period.

Image credit:

Poster announcing the democratic passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act.

Royal BC Museum

1886

The Statue of Liberty was given to the United States as a gift from France to celebrate their partnership during the American Revolution (1765 - 1783).

1887

After a fire burns down Market Street Chinatown in San José, landowner John Heinlen created "Heinlerville" on Sixth, Seventh, Jackson, and Taylor Street to reestablish the Chinese immigrant community. This community would become the essential San José Chinatown then later modern Japantown in the 1900's.

1890

Japanese begin migrating to Santa Clara Valley in search of farmwork during the 1890's.

1892

The Geary Act extended the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, restricting immigration from China for another 10 years.

HIP! HURRAH!

CHINESE EXCLUDED

—The—
Democratic Chinese Exclusion Bill
Has Been Signed by

OUR DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENT

Hip! Hurrah! The White Man is on Top.
Let every DEMOCRAT and all other GOOD Citizens turn out and Ratify this

DEMOCRATIC MEASURE

At the
MORTON HOUSE PLAZA

— This Wednesday Evening at 8 O'clock.

To-Night

Speeches will be made by Leading Democratic Orators.

COME OUT AND RATIFY!
Come Everybody!

NO MORE CHINESE!

By Order of
Democratic County Central Committee.

Francisco, Baumgardner & Co., Steam Printers, 532 Fourth Street.

1892

Ellis Island immigration center opened. Immigrants from Europe were subjected to medical and legal examinations.

Image credit:

An immigrant family on the dock at Ellis Island after having just passed the rigid examination for entry into the country, looking at New York's skyline while waiting for the government ferry on August 13, 1925.

Brettman Archive, Getty Images



1906

Japanese merchants and businesses emerge in locations next to San José Chinatown.

Image credit:

Yoshijiro Santo photographed post-WWII in front of the grocery he opened in San José's "Japantown" and operated with his wife, Misaye.

JAMsj



1907

Gentlemen's Agreement between U.S. and Japan stops new Japanese immigration to the U.S. Immigrants from Japan already residing in the U.S. are allowed to stay and can bring family members to join them.

11

1910

Angel Island Immigration Station was opened on San Francisco Bay processing immigrants from Asia. The Station began detaining immigrants in cells and held interrogations. Many of these immigrants came from China, Japan, India, Mexico, and the Philippines.

Image credit:

Angel Island Conservancy



1915

"Mounted Inspectors" are authorized along the U.S.-Mexican border principally to capture Chinese immigrants attempting to cross into the U.S.

1917

Immigration Act created an "Asiatic Barred Zone" restricting immigration from the Asian Pacific region.

1920

Filipino laborers move to California, most were male migrant laborers-known as the Manong generation.

1924

Border Patrol and border stations were established to admit Mexican workers into the United States.

1924

Immigration Act of 1924 restricted the number of immigrants from a given country to 2% of the number of residents from that same country living in the U.S. Eighty-seven percent of permits went to immigrants from Britain, Ireland, Germany, and Scandinavia.

1929

The 1929 - 1936 "Mexican Repatriation" was a mass deportation of Mexicans and Mexican Americans. An estimated 60% of the deported were United States born citizens.

Image credit:

Mexican and Mexican-American families wait to board Mexico-bound trains in Los Angeles on March 8, 1932.

Los Angeles Public Library, Herald Examiner Collection



1931

John Heinlen Company goes bankrupt. The City of San José, CA obtained the Heinlenville property, kicking out Chinese residents and bulldozing most of the buildings. Ng Shing Gung, the Chinese temple, was preserved because of efforts from historians and Chinatown residents. In 1949, Ng Shing Gung is torn down because it was considered a hazard. Then in 1980, a replica of Ng Shing Gung was rebuilt as a part of the Chinese Historical Museum in Kelley Park, San José, CA.

Image credit:

Chinese American Historical Museum at the Ng Shing Gung

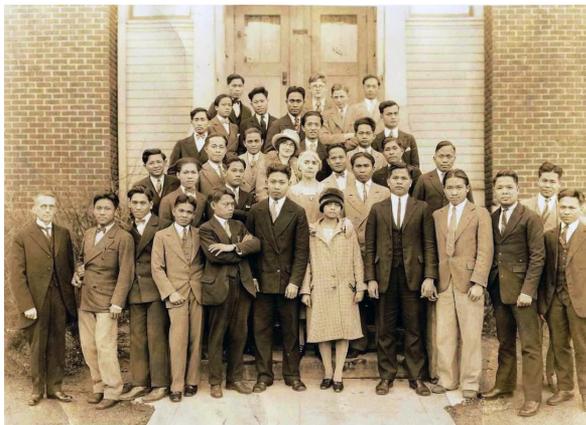
History San José



14 **1934**

After Philippine independence, the Tydings-McDuffie Act changed the status of Filipinos from American citizens to aliens.

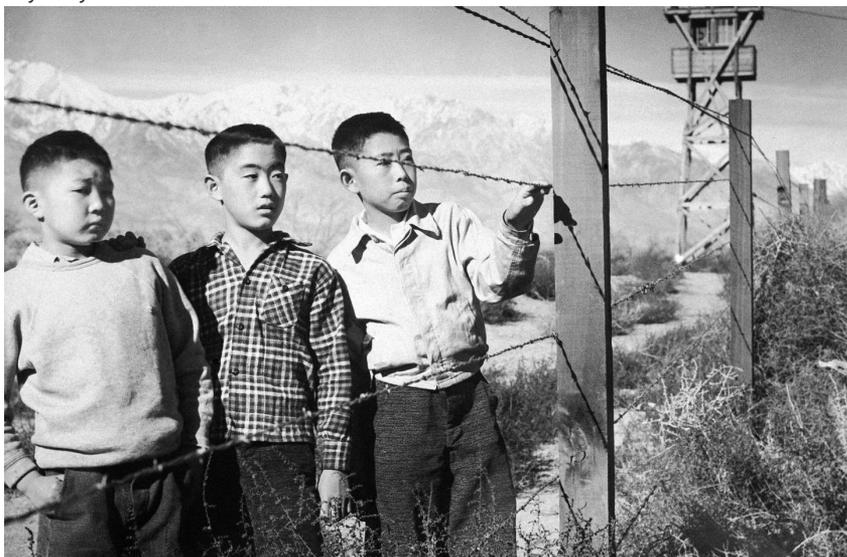
Image credit:
Filipino Immigrants studying English at Tacoma Community House in the 1920s
Tacoma Community House



15 **1942**

Following Executive Order 9066, known as Japanese Relocation, 120,000 persons of Japanese descent on the American West Coast were incarcerated in desert camps. Most Japanese placed in these camps were United States citizens.

Image credit:
Internment camp in Manzanar, Northern California
Tōyō Miyatake



1948

In a canyon near Coalinga, California, 28 migrant workers were deported and 4 others died in a plane crash.

1952

Walter-McCarran Immigration and Naturalization Act got rid of the Asian Exclusion Act of 1924 allowed mostly skilled Asians to immigrate with the right to U.S. citizenship for the first time.

1954

Operation Wetback: postwar economic decline combined with anti-communist and anti-immigrant sentiment forced over 1 million Mexican farmworkers to return to Mexico. Hundreds of U.S. Border Patrol agents monitored borderland towns like San Ysidro, California, and Laredo Texas; and to cities like San Francisco and Chicago. They showed up unannounced at cotton and citrus farms, surveyed cattle ranches and factories, and fanned out through train and bus stations, parks, hotels, and restaurants. Low-flying planes were also used to communicate with Border Patrol agents on the ground. Their goal was simple: to deport as many Mexicans as possible, as quickly as possible, and without due process.

18

1962

United Farm Workers Movement is a labor union for farmworkers in the United States. It originated from the merger of two workers' rights organizations, the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC) led by organizer Larry Itliong, and the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA) led by César Chávez and Dolores Huerta. Unions were created as a result of AWOC Filipino Farmer grape strike in Delano, CA.

Image credit:

"Screenwriter Josefina López on How Dolores Huerta is the Mother of Inspiration"
PBS



1965

Immigration and Nationality Act (Hart-Celler Act) got rid of the immigration quota restrictions that was based off of how many people of each ethnicity lived in the United States (Immigration Act of 1924). This act prioritized family reunification.

Image credit:

President Lyndon Johnson delivers his speech before signing the Immigration Act- LBJ Yoichi Okamoto



1970

Black History Month was first proposed by black educators and the Black United Students at Kent State University in February 1969. The first celebration of Black History Month took place at Kent State University from January 2, 1970 – February 28, 1970.

In 1976, Black History Month was being celebrated all across the country in educational institutions, centers of Black culture and community centers. President Gerald Ford also recognized Black history month this year.

Image credit:

Students gather on campus to listen to university administration in 1970
Lafayette Tolliver, Courtesy of Special Collections and Archives, Kent State University Libraries. PBS



21

1970

Influx of refugees from Southeast Asia and Central America happened during this time.

Image credit:

Two young Vietnamese refugees wear oversized GI issue coats as they stroll the streets of their tent-city at the Camp Pendleton Marine Corps base in Southern California on May 7, 1975.

Nick Ut, AP



1975

Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act allowed allies in the Vietnam conflict to be admitted as displaced citizens. About 130,000 immigrants from South Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia were admitted to the United States.

22

1977

In June 1977 Reps. Norman Y. Mineta of California and Frank Horton of New York introduced a United States House of Representatives resolution to proclaim the first ten days of May as Asian-Pacific Heritage Week. May was officially designated as Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month in 1992.

Image credit:

Norman is the first Japanese American member of Congress elected from the lower 48 states. He would win his election 10 times and serve 21 years in Congress.

Mineta Family Archives



1980

The second wave of Filipino migration starts with the 1980's. Only skilled professionals like nurses and engineers are granted work visas in the United States, known as Brain Drain.



23

1986

Immigration Reform and Control Act provided "amnesty" to undocumented immigrants (3 million). Through this act, it was also illegal for employers to knowingly employ an unauthorized immigrant.

Image credit:

Advocates of immigration reform in 2010 hold up a photograph of Ronald Reagan, who presided over an immigration compromise in 1986.
Marvin Joseph, Washington Post, Getty Images



24

1988

Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15 - October 15, celebrates the long and important presence of Hispanic and Latino Americans in North America. September 15 was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries in 1821: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico celebrates their independence on September 15, Chile on September 18, and Belize on September 21st.

Image credit:

2008 Hispanic Day Parade along fifth Avenue in Manhattan on October 12, 2008.
Enid Alvarez



25

1990

Immigration Act revised grounds for exclusion and deportation. The act increased the limits on legal immigration to the U.S.

Image credit:

"In celebration of LGBT Pride Month: LGBT Immigration"
Tenement Museum

26

1991

The first recorded celebration of Irish-Americans dates back to 1762 with the first St. Patrick's Day parade in New York City. Irish American Heritage Month (March) is celebrated by proclamation of the President and Congress in the United States to honor the achievements and contributions of Irish immigrants and their descendants living in the United States. It was first celebrated in 1991.

Image credit:
iStock



27

1996

Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRIRA) was signed into law. This act instituted 3 and 10 year bars, to adjust status for undocumented entry. Immigrants were deported back to their homeland up to 10 years unless pardoned or given a waiver.

Image credit:
Icy and Sot



2001

On October 21, 2001, Governor Gray Davis signed the California Non-Resident Tuition Exemption, or AB 540 Affidavit, into law that allows undocumented students to pay in-state tuition in college.

2001

USA Patriot Act was signed into law by President George W. Bush after the attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on 9/11. This act created strict surveillance, immigration, and border protection measures to avoid terrorist attacks in the future.

2002

"Special Registration" Program (component of National Security Entry-Exit Registration System NSEERS) was designed to register and track male "foreign visitors" from 25 Arab and Muslim countries and North Korea. NSEERS ended in 2011.

2005

Real ID Act addresses U.S. federal law relating to standards for state driver's licenses, ID documents, and various immigration issues related to terrorism.

2006

On February 14, 2006, Congress issued House Concurrent Resolution 315 which states urged the "President to issue each year a proclamation calling on State and local governments and the people of the United States to observe an American Jewish History Month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities." Jewish American Heritage Month is used to celebrate the contributions Jewish Americans have made to America since they first arrived in New Amsterdam in 1654.

Image credit:

Congregation Emunath Israel on West Twenty-third Street in New York City remained open 24 hours on D-Day (June 6, 1944) for special services and prayer
Library of Congress



2006

International Workers' Day on May 1, 2006, experienced the largest turnout of protesters in San José, CA, totaling over 200,000 individuals. Through this event, immigrant communities reclaimed May Day and the American flag. Nationwide, this day was known as "A Day Without Immigrants" in response to HR 4437. May Day marches still happen annually.

Image credit:

Aerial photo of the 2006 May Day March along Santa Clara Street in San José, CA
Elena E. Robles



2007

After 30 years of planning, the Viet Museum opened on August 25, 2007 in Kelley Park, San José. Exhibits showcase events from 1950 leading up to Vietnamese immigration and diaspora in 1975 and onwards.

2008

In January of 2008, President George W. Bush signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Vietnam that all Vietnamese refugees without criminal convictions—as well as anyone who came over prior to July 12, 1995, the date the two countries restored diplomatic relations—would remain in the U.S. The agreement laid the foundation for Hanoi to accept the deportations of those who did not fall in those categories.

30

2011

Santa Clara County takes sanctuary actions and creates a Civil Detainer Policy. The policy limits collaboration with ICE and offers ICE strict framework for lawful arrests and is one of the strongest sanctuary policies in the nation.

Image credit:

In April 2019, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors voted 4-1 to review the Civil Detainer Policy and explore ICE notification. Two months later, with the recommendations provided by the Office of the County Executive and County Counsel, and others, the Board voted 5-0 to keep the Civil Detainer Policy as is and will not notify ICE. These are the community activists that filled up the Board Chambers.

Carolyn Lê



31

2012

Through an Executive Order the Obama administration created, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Persons (DACA) who came to the U.S. as children and meet several key guidelines may request deferred action on their immigration status for a period of two years, subject to renewal, and then would be eligible for work authorization.

Image credit: "In the Company of Dreamers" by Kent Harrop



2014

Cesar Chavez Day is a U.S. federal commemorative holiday, proclaimed by President Barack Obama in 2014. The holiday celebrates the birth and legacy of the civil rights and labor movement activist Cesar Chavez on March 31 every year.

2015

California AB 60 Driver's License allows undocumented immigrants to apply for a driver's license in California.

2017

In January 2017, Santa Clara County government filed a federal lawsuit against Trump's Executive Order 13769 on the basis of the unconstitutionality of holding restrictions of federal funds from state and local governments who do not comply with anti-immigrant sentiment (*County of Santa Clara v Donald Trump*). Then in August 2019, the Ninth Circuit ruled in favor of Santa Clara, finding the Executive Order's denial of funds to "sanctuary jurisdictions" to be unconstitutional.

32

2017

Santa Clara County launches the Rapid Response Network which introduces legal support for immigrants in need and a 24/7 emergency hotline in the case of an ICE related incident.

Image credit:

Santa Clara County Office of Immigrant Relations



Following Santa Clara County's lead, the State of California becomes a "Sanctuary State" with the SB54 bill signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown. SB54 limits cooperation between local officials and federal immigration enforcement.

Image credit:

CHIRLA via Twitter



Executive Order 13769, also known as the Muslim ban or travel ban, was an executive order by United States President Donald Trump. Except for the extent to which it was blocked by various courts, it was in effect from January 27, 2017, until March 16, 2017, when it was superseded by Executive Order 13780. The Order banned foreign nationals from seven predominantly Muslim countries from visiting the country for 90 days, suspended entry to the country of all Syrian refugees indefinitely, and prohibited any other refugees from coming into the country for 120 days. However, the Supreme Court upheld the ban in June of 2018.

Image credit:

Americans in San José, California demonstrate against a ruling by the United States Supreme Court upholding US president Donald Trump's travel ban on people from mostly Muslim countries.

John G. Mabanglo, EPA



The Trump administration's family separation policy is an aspect of U.S. President Donald Trump's immigration policy. The policy was adopted across the whole U.S. – Mexico border from April 2018 until June 2018. Under the policy, federal authorities separated children from parents or guardians with whom they had entered the U.S. The adults were prosecuted and held in federal jails, and the children placed under the supervision of the US Department of Health and Human Services.

By early June 2018, it emerged that the policy did not include measures to reunite the families that it had separated. Following national and international criticism, on June 20, 2018, Trump signed an executive order ending family separations at the border. In January 2019, the administration acknowledged that thousands of children may have been separated from their families, with officials uncertain of the exact number. Government officials said there are no plans to attempt to reunite these children because "it would destabilize the permanency of their existing home environment, and could be traumatic to the children."

Image credit:

Immigrant rights advocates and others participate in a rally at the Federal Building in Lower Manhattan against the Trump administration's policy that enables federal agents to take migrant children away from their parents at the border. Photo illustration by Slate. Photo by Spencer Platt, Getty Images



PRESENT TIMES

Despite the long and racist history of anti-immigrant sentiment, laws, and policies, local communities organized. Citizenship drives, voter registrations, and community education campaigns sprouted across the state to ensure that the electorate is representative of the population that lives and works in California.

Local communities have always mobilized to change anti-immigrant narrative and to create a more inclusive community. These current times mark a dark era for the U.S. for immigrants and other vulnerable communities. However, we see from historical evidence the need to remain steadfast in our efforts to ensure due process and the protection of every resident. Santa Clara County is dedicated to the immigrant community, their allies, and their U.S. born children.

Resources

We want to extend our deepest gratitude to the California History Center & Foundation at DeAnza College for being an instrumental partner in the creation of this timeline.

Special thanks to Blaine Agustin, Tom Izu, and Lisa Christiansen, and for adding a wealth of historical events to the timeline.



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