



Forecasting the Future: How Social Mood Shapes America's Immigration Landscape

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Forecasting the Future: How Social Mood Shapes America's Immigration Landscape

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A Thesis in the Field of History
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Abstract

The relationship between social mood and immigration policy in the United States is investigated in this thesis, focusing on key legislation such as the Immigration Act of 1924 (Johnson-Reed Act), the Immigration Act of 1965, and the 2010 Arizona SB 1070. Central to this investigation is the creation of the “TrendFusion Forecaster,” an analytical tool used to quantify social mood by combining key indicators from economic factors, demographics, and political climate, thereby shaping public sentiment towards potential immigration policy changes.

The model's key findings reveal that the Immigration Act of 1924 scored 34, indicating a restrictive policy environment; the Immigration Act of 1965 scored 57, reflecting an open policy stance; and the 2010 Arizona SB 1070 scored 32, again suggesting restrictive conditions. This led to the following conclusion: scores above 50 favor the passage of open immigration policies, scores below 40 indicate a conducive environment for restrictive policies, and scores between 40 and 50 represent a middle ground.

What makes this model novel is that it provides an innovative attempt at integrating a set of diverse social factors into one coherent forecasting tool, thereby moving the field of immigration policy analysis into new dimensions that provide nuanced insights into the complex interrelations of societal influences. The model's findings together with those based on traditional qualitative analysis afford detailed insights into how social mood influences immigration policymaking, in a major

contribution to understanding the dynamics of U.S. immigration policy from historical times to the current day. The research is thus instrumental to enhancing knowledge about how immigration policy in the United States developed, hence providing a way for historians and policy makers to search the historical context of immigration in this country.

Dedication

This thesis is dedicated to my parents, who have been my unwavering support through all the ups and downs of life's journey. Their love, guidance, and encouragement have shaped me into the person I am today. I am eternally grateful for their sacrifices, wisdom, and unconditional love.

To Blaize, Jaide, Skye, Zane, and the little one on the way, Raine - you are the sparks of my existence, my endless sources of inspiration and joy. Skye and Zane, your bright spirits and boundless curiosity remind me daily of the beauty and wonder in our world. And to Raine, who we are eagerly awaiting to meet later this year, you represent the future and all the possibilities it holds. This work is for all of you, as a testament to the love, hope, and dreams that you inspire in me.

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I am equally thankful to all the Harvard professors and teaching assistants who have contributed to my learning. Their knowledge, professionalism, patience, and capabilities gave me an outstanding opportunity for growth and develop

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Chapter I.

Introduction

The United States has a complicated history of immigration defined by different periods of inclusion and restriction. Immigrants have generally come to the United States in search of better opportunities, positioning the country as a nation of hope. However, the debate regarding immigration policy frequently involves emotional aspects that fluctuate between inclusiveness and security. The public's opinion on immigration is constantly changing and is influenced by multiple factors. There are times when the public is open and accepting immigrants, but there are also periods of strong anti-immigrant sentiments, which result in the implementation of restrictive laws and policies.

Some factors that contribute to this controversy are: First, the disagreement over immigration policy goals. People's views differ between prioritizing national security and welcoming an inclusive environment for immigrants. Second, opinions vary on who should be allowed to immigrate, from unrestricted entry to selective admission based on economic contribution or skill sets. Thirdly, the approach towards undocumented immigrants in the U.S. also varies widely, with debates ranging from deportation to pathways to citizenship. This extends to how to integrate immigrants, particularly refugees and asylees, who seek safety and a fresh start. Their integration requires tailored policies and support systems.

To better understand the idea of social mood, let's break it down into simpler terms. Think of social mood as the overall vibe or feeling shared by a community or society, influenced by what's happening around them (Pinto Souza, 2019). It's not just

about how a few people feel, but more about the general atmosphere that affects everyone's choices and actions. Imagine how people's moods can change when things are going well economically compared to when times are tough. This is where social mood comes into play. For instance, when the economy is booming, people might be more welcoming towards immigrants, but this mood can shift to a more cautious stance when the economy is struggling (Chandler & Tsai, 2001). Prechter's theory adds another layer to this by suggesting that our collective mood, often shaped without us even realizing it, guides the direction of societal trends and decisions, like immigration policies (Prechter & Parker, 2007). By understanding these concepts, we can get a better grasp of why societies react the way they do to different situations and how this affects major decisions and policies.

Understanding the concept of social mood helps explain specific historical shifts in immigration policy. For example, after the tragic events of September 11th, 2001, there was a significant increase in anti-immigrant sentiment in the United States. This shift was largely due to the perception that immigrants were more likely to be terrorist threats. Research has shown the immediate aftermath of 9/11, security concerns were paramount, often overshadowing other aspects of immigration policy (Roy, 2018). In recent years, fears about terrorism have begun to decline, and this has led to a more accepting attitude towards immigrants.

In examining the relationship between social mood and immigration policy, it is crucial to acknowledge the profound impact of economic conditions. For instance, Dancygier and Donnelly (2013) highlight how sectoral economies and economic downturns, such as the 2008 financial crisis, significantly shape attitudes toward

immigration. Similarly, Foged, Hasager, and Yasenov (2019) discuss the role of labor market institutions in the economic assimilation of immigrants, emphasizing the intersection of labor market dynamics with immigration policies. Integrating these insights into our understanding of social mood can provide a more nuanced perspective on how economic factors influence public sentiment and policy decisions.

Central to this thesis is the development and application of the "TrendFusion Forecaster," an innovative tool designed to quantify social mood by integrating indicators such as demographics, political climate, and economic factors. This tool will be instrumental in analyzing and predicting shifts in U.S. immigration policy, thereby providing a more grounded understanding of how various societal factors influence legislative changes.

The development and application of analytical tools to quantify and predict societal trends, particularly in the context of immigration policy, are crucial in understanding the multifaceted influences on legislative changes. The TrendFusion Forecaster model uses indicators such as GDP growth rates and unemployment rates, which play a significant role in shaping the social mood, which in turn influences policy decisions. According to Norris (2011), economic indicators can serve as a reflection of societal optimism or pessimism, impacting political stability and public sentiment. Furthermore, Deaton (2012) highlights how these economic factors encapsulate the financial wellbeing and future outlook of the population, offering insights into the collective social mood. This relationship underscores the potential of tools like the TrendFusion Forecaster to integrate various societal indicators, providing a comprehensive analysis of the factors driving legislative changes in immigration policy.

The engagement of immigrant-descent Americans in the political process, often aligning with political parties that promised to protect their interests, represents a significant aspect of the early 20th-century political landscape. Despite their active participation, the impact of broader nativist sentiments, structural barriers to voting, and strategic political maneuvering by nativist groups often diluted their influence. This complex interplay of immigration and politics in America has been analyzed by historians and sociologists alike. For instance, Higham (1955) discusses the rise of nativism and its impact on immigration policy, providing insight into how these attitudes shaped the political and social environment for immigrants. Additionally, Daniels (2002) offers a comprehensive look at the history of immigration and ethnicity in American life, shedding light on the political challenges and opportunities faced by immigrant communities. These studies help to understand the multifaceted relationship between immigration, public sentiment, and policy-making, highlighting the historical struggles of immigrant communities to find their place in the American political landscape.

This thesis explores how the social mood influenced three important U.S. immigration policies: the Immigration Act of 1924, the Immigration Act of 1965, and Arizona SB 1070 in 2010. These acts were chosen for their representation of different eras in U.S. history, each within a unique socio-political climate. The Immigration Act of 1924 reflects post-World War I nativism, the 1965 Act coincides with the civil rights movement's push for inclusivity, and Arizona's SB 1070 arises from modern debates over illegal immigration and security.

Each act represents distinct legislative responses to immigration challenges, influenced by external factors like economic conditions, demographic changes, and

security concerns. They showcase the transition from restrictive policies based on national origins to more inclusive, family-based, and skill-oriented approaches and back to stringent enforcement.

By examining these acts, this research aims to unravel the intricate relationship between social mood and immigration policy in the U.S., providing insights into the nation's approach to immigration across different periods. Understanding these dynamics can contribute to more informed discussions and policy-making in the ever-evolving debate over immigration.

This thesis research aims to examine the relationship between social mood and immigration policy in the United States. Specifically, this thesis focuses on three immigration policies: 1). the Immigration Act of 1924 (Johnson-Reed Act), 2). Arizona SB 1070 in 2010, and 3). The Immigration Act of 1965. These policies will be analyzed in light of the social mood of the United States at the time they were enacted.

Social mood, an unconscious collective mental disposition influenced by social interactions, is proposed to have a significant role in shaping public policy. This mood fluctuates between positive and negative states and affects societal actions, including policy decisions. Social mood theory suggests that societal changes, such as shifts in policy, are influenced by the collective mood of society. For example, Forgas (1989) discusses how mood influences decision outcomes and strategies, demonstrating that mood can have a substantial impact on social decisions (Forgas, 1989). Similarly, Nofsinger (2005) notes that social mood determines the types of decisions made by consumers, investors, and corporate managers, highlighting the broad impact of mood on various aspects of social and economic life (Nofsinger, 2005). This thesis aims to apply

the social mood theory to analyze the Immigration Act of 1924, Arizona SB 1070, and the Immigration Act of 1965, examining how shifts in social mood correlate with legislative changes in U.S. immigration policy.

This thesis research applies social mood theory to investigate the Immigration Act of 1924, Arizona SB 1070, and the Immigration Act of 1965, exploring how changes in social mood correlate with legislative changes in U.S. immigration policy. The research delves into the impact of collective mood fluctuations on societal actions, particularly in the realm of policy decisions, thereby contributing to a deeper understanding of the dynamics that shape immigration laws and public sentiment in the United States.

The following research questions are examined in this thesis:

1. What was the social mood in the United States at the time the Immigration Act of 1924 was enacted?
2. What was the social mood in the United States at the time Arizona SB 1070 was enacted?
3. What was the social mood in the United States at the time the Immigration Act of 1965 was enacted?
4. How did the social mood identified during the enactment of each policy reflect in the specific provisions or changes made in the Immigration Act of 1924, the Immigration Act of 1965, and Arizona SB 1070.

To comprehensively examine the relationship between social mood and immigration policy in the United States, this thesis utilizes the TrendFusion Forecaster. This innovative tool integrates a range of indicators across economic, demographic, and political climates to quantify and analyze social mood.

The economic indicators include metrics such as GDP growth rate, unemployment rate, income inequality, and labor market needs. Demographic indicators will encompass factors like the immigrant population growth rate, age demographics, and cultural diversity indices. For the political climate, the research considers variables such as partisan control, public opinion surveys on immigration, and the impact of global and domestic events.

This approach marks a departure from traditional data sources like the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA), newspaper articles, government documents, and public opinion polls. Instead, the TrendFusion Forecaster provides a more structured and quantifiable means of assessing social mood, employing a systematic approach to gauge the undercurrents influencing immigration policy.

This research contributes to our understanding of the role that social mood plays in shaping public policy, particularly immigration policy. The research also provides insight into the current debate over immigration in the United States. .

Chapter II.

Literature Review

Berg (2015) provides a foundational categorization of theories that are crucial for understanding the underlying attitudes toward immigrants and immigration policies. This exploration into personal and social identity, self and group interest, cultural values and beliefs, social interaction, and multilevel theories offers a comprehensive framework for analyzing public sentiments. For the thesis, Berg's emphasis on multilevel theories like group position theory and intersectionality is particularly relevant, as it allows for an examination of how different layers of social mood influence attitudes toward immigration, shedding light on the complex socio-psychological dynamics at play.

The work of Massey et al. (1993) underscores the significant impact of economic and political structures on migration flows and policies. Their discussion on the influence of macro and microeconomic theories and labor market dynamics provides an essential context for understanding the economic underpinnings of immigration patterns and policy responses. In the context of the thesis, this analysis is instrumental in demonstrating how economic conditions and political climates shape the social mood, which in turn influences policy decisions, illustrating the interconnectedness of economic factors, political climate, and social sentiment.

Portes and Vickstrom (2011) challenge the assumption that immigration diminishes social cohesion, arguing instead that integration and the political climate play vital roles in shaping societal responses. This insight is crucial for the thesis as it highlights the importance of social capital and cohesion in mediating the relationship

between social mood and immigration policy, emphasizing the role of ethno-racial diversity and political climate in influencing public trust and cohesion.

Hull (1990) highlights how leisure-induced mood significantly affects social behavior and policy, suggesting a less explored avenue through which social mood impacts immigration attitudes and policies. For the thesis, Hull's findings indicate the importance of considering the broader sociocultural factors, such as leisure activities, that contribute to the shaping of social mood and ultimately influence immigration policy, expanding the scope of analysis beyond traditional economic and political factors.

Olson (2006) provides a foundational understanding of how collective social mood impacts financial and economic behavior, which has broader implications for societal trends, including immigration. For the thesis, Olson's discussion sets the stage for the introduction of the TrendFusion Forecaster model, a sophisticated tool that integrates economic indicators, political participation, and demographic insights to analyze and predict shifts in immigration policy. Specific to the thesis, the TrendFusion Forecaster model exemplifies the application of theoretical concepts to practical analysis, demonstrating how a multifaceted approach, incorporating a range of societal indicators, can offer insights into the dynamics driving legislative changes in immigration policy. This model is pivotal in operationalizing the concept of social mood within the thesis, providing a methodological framework for analyzing how various factors converge to shape public and legislative responses to immigration.

Social mood, a significant yet often overlooked factor in societal dynamics, plays a pivotal role in shaping public policy and collective behavior. Defined as the aggregate emotional and attitudinal disposition of a society at a given time, social mood influences

various aspects of societal life, including historical events, political movements, economic trends, and cultural shifts (Barsade & Gibson, 2012; Prechter & Parker, 2007).

Social mood differs from individual emotions or personal opinions; it represents a collective sentiment that can sway public opinion and drive societal change. It's not just how one person feels, but how a group, community, or society feels as a whole (Prechter & Parker, 2007). This collective mood can shift between positive and negative states, influencing behaviors, decision-making processes, and societal actions on a large scale. For instance, a positive social mood might be characterized by optimism and confidence, leading to greater economic investment or progressive social policies. Conversely, a negative social mood, marked by pessimism or fear, can result in conservative or restrictive actions (Prechter & Parker, 2007).

Social mood manifests itself in various ways, from national pride during major sporting events to widespread anxiety during economic recessions. These collective emotions play a crucial role in decision-making at both individual and policy levels. For instance, in periods of economic prosperity, societies may adopt more inclusive and liberal immigration policies, reflecting the positive social mood. In contrast, during times of economic or political instability, there may be a shift towards more restrictive policies, mirroring the negative social mood (Nofsinger, 2005).

Economic conditions are a significant determinant of social mood. Research indicates that economic prosperity generally correlates with a positive social mood, while economic downturns often lead to a negative social mood (Alesina, Di Tella, & MacCulloch, 2004; Deaton, 2012). This economic influence can be seen in how societies respond to immigration policies. For example, during economic booms, there might be

more support for immigration, seen as beneficial to the economy. Conversely, during recessions, immigration might be viewed as a threat to job security, leading to more restrictive policies.

The political climate of a country, including the level of political stability, trust in government, and the degree of polarization, significantly impacts social mood, shaping public opinion and policy direction, especially in areas like immigration. Research demonstrates that the political environment during one's formative years can shape attitudes toward immigration in adulthood (Jeannet & Dražanová, 2019). Moreover, political climates marked by hostility or openness toward immigrants influence the social costs and political benefits of immigrant political engagement, affecting their participation in the host society (Bolognani & Erdal, 2017). Policies that are perceived as either inclusionary or exclusionary can have a profound impact on the mental health morbidity among Latino populations, serving as a barometer for the broader societal mood towards immigration (Hatzenbuehler, Prins, Flake, Philbin, Frazer, Hagen, & Hirsch, 2017). These dynamics highlight the complex interplay between political climates, social mood, and immigration policy, underscoring the importance of considering these factors in the analysis of immigration trends and policies.

In addition to economic conditions and political climate, demographic factors are essential in shaping the social mood of a country. Changes in population dynamics, such as shifts in age distribution, immigration patterns, and cultural diversity, profoundly impact societal attitudes and policies (Borjas, 1994; Dustmann & Frattini, 2014). For instance, an aging native population may influence policies toward more open immigration to address labor shortages, while significant influxes of immigrants can

spark debates on cultural integration and national identity. These demographic trends are critical components integrated into the TrendFusion Forecaster model, enhancing its predictive capabilities regarding immigration policy trends.

Changes in demographics have historically influenced societal attitudes and policies. The influx of immigrants in the late 19th and early 20th centuries in the U.S., for instance, led to demographic shifts that influenced the adoption of the restrictive Immigration Act of 1924 (Borjas, 1994; Dustmann & Frattini, 2014).

Cultural factors and global events are other crucial determinants of social mood. Societal values, beliefs, and norms shape collective emotional responses to various events, such as policy changes or international crises. Similarly, global phenomena like terrorism or climate change can significantly impact a nation's mood, reflecting in its policy responses (Inglehart & Welzel, 2005; McCombs & Shaw, 1972).

By integrating economic, political, demographic, and cultural insights, the TrendFusion Forecaster provides a comprehensive view of the social mood influencing key immigration policies across different historical periods. This approach enhances the understanding of the dynamics shaping U.S. immigration law, allowing for a nuanced analysis of how societal mood correlates with legislative changes in immigration policy.

Social mood, a central theme in this thesis, is a collective emotional state influencing broad societal dynamics and public policy. It is important to delineate its boundaries to understand how it affects historical events and societal shifts. This section establishes what is encompassed within social mood and what lies outside its domain, based on the following five key factors.

1. **Collective Influence:** Social mood is a shared emotional condition impacting a society at large. Unlike individual emotions, it manifests in the collective psyche and has societal implications. For example, the nationwide surge of patriotism in the United States during the first moon landing is an example of a positive social mood affecting a whole society. In contrast, individual happiness or sadness unrelated to broader societal trends doesn't fall under social mood.

2. **Persistence and Duration:** Social mood is characterized by its durability. For example, the prolonged anti-immigrant sentiment in the early 1900s U.S. shaped several decades of immigration policy, reflecting a persistent social mood (Daniels, R., 2002; Higham, J., 1955). This differs from temporary, fleeting emotions like the excitement of a sports victory, which, although widespread, may not last beyond a few weeks or months.

3. **Societal Relevance:** The mood is typically linked to broader social, political, or economic issues affecting a large portion of the population. Example would be the economic despair during the Great Depression, which influenced various aspects of U.S. society and policy, including immigration attitudes (Rosenof, 1989).

4. **Externality:** Social mood arises from external, societal-level events or circumstances rather than personal experiences or physiological factors. For instance, the collective fear and uncertainty following the 9/11 terrorist attacks in the U.S. significantly altered the nation's mood and subsequently its policies (Pyszczynski et al., 2003).

5. **Cultural Context:** Cultural practices or traditions shape social mood only when they reflect a broader societal sentiment. The civil rights movement of the 1960s, encompassing a widespread demand for societal change in the U.S., is a key example (Morris, 1984).

By considering these factors, it is possible to establish boundaries between what counts as social mood and what does not. This distinction is crucial for understanding the role of collective emotional states in shaping historical events, societal shifts, and the overall trajectory of human history.

Next we present the key aspects of social mood that are incorporated into the TrendFusion Forecaster.

1. **Positive Social Mood:** The collective optimism during economic booms, resulting in progressive social policies or increased economic investment.
2. **Negative Social Mood:** The pervasive fear during crises leading to conservative or restrictive actions, like the anti-immigrant policies during economic downturns. Another example is public outrage and the demand for change in response to high-profile social injustices, as seen in movements such as Black Lives Matter and #MeToo.

Emotions, reactions, and preferences are excluded from social mood, along with biologic factors and cultural practices, as outlined below:

1. **Individual Emotions:** Personal feelings or mood swings unrelated to societal trends. Such as sadness after a breakup or happiness after receiving a promotion.
2. **Fleeting Reactions:** Temporary responses to events without sustained societal impact. Examples like excitement after a favorite sports team wins a game or disappointment when a highly anticipated movie falls short of expectations.
3. **Personal Preferences:** Individual opinions not reflecting collective sentiment. Such as a personal affinity for a particular type of music or disliking a specific political candidate.

4. Biological Factors: Emotional states resulting from personal physiological changes. Which can include hormonal changes, lack of sleep, or illness.

5. Isolated Cultural Practices: Specific traditions not indicative of broader societal mood. Examples are attending a religious ceremony or celebrating a national holiday.

Finally, the following key issues are addressed in this research:

1. Need for All Factors: While not all factors need to be present simultaneously, a combination typically characterizes a significant social mood.

2. Partial Societal Influence: Social mood can be regional, affecting parts of a country distinctly.

3. Duration Precision: The impact of social mood varies with its duration. Long-lasting moods like the early 20th century's anti-immigrant sentiment have profound policy impacts, whereas shorter-lived moods, though impactful, might influence less enduring societal changes.

By distinguishing between instances that represent social mood and those that do not, this thesis seeks to provide a clearer understanding of the role that collective emotional states play in shaping historical events and societal transformations.

Chapter III.

Methodology

This chapter is focused on explaining the comprehensive data sets and the methodological framework underpinning the TrendFusion Forecaster model. The primary objective is to lay a foundation for the predictive analysis of United States immigration policy trends. This involves an in-depth exploration of the economic, demographic, and political indicators that are instrumental in shaping immigration policies. The significance of these selected data sets and the methodology cannot be overstated, as they collectively form the backbone of the TrendFusion Forecaster model. This model aims to synthesize these diverse data streams into a coherent, predictive tool capable of offering insights into the complex dynamics of immigration policy development. By meticulously detailing the data sources, selection criteria, and collection processes, this chapter seeks to ensure the model's rigor, reliability, and relevance in the context of immigration policy analysis.

Data and Indicators

The TrendFusion Forecaster model leverages data from a variety of data sources, balancing both quantitative data with qualitative insights to give a comprehensive view of factors influencing US Immigration Policy. The data was chosen for their reliability and authoritative standing in their respective fields. Several quantitative indicators were used in this research. The GDP growth rate was sourced from the Maddison Project Database, version 2020. The unemployment rates are sourced from several areas which include

Romer (1986), FRED St. Louis database, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. These sources provide accurate and up-to-date economic data, crucial for assessing the economic climate influencing immigration policies (Giordani & Ruta, 2011). For income share of Top 1%, source is the World Wealth and Income Database (WID) assembled by Alvaredo et al. (2016).

The research also drew upon selected qualitative data, including Abel Escribà-Folch, Covadonga Meseguer, and Joseph Wright's (2022) *Migration and Democracy*. This research examines the influence of remittances on immigration policies in dictatorships. It is relevant to the TrendFusion Forecaster model as it highlights the economic dimensions of immigration, especially how economic factors like remittances influence U.S. immigration policy through international political relations and economic dependencies.

In addition, Ereş (2016) discusses insights into the challenges faced by teachers of immigrant children are utilized to understand the indirect economic impacts of immigration policies, particularly in education sectors. This helps the model analyze the broader societal implications of economic decisions in immigration policy. "Problems of the Immigrant Students' Teachers: Are They Ready to Teach?" by F. Ereş.

Enhanced Case Study: The Great Recession (2007-2009)

The context of the Great Recession, spanning from 2007 to 2009, was a period marked by a significant economic downturn, influencing various aspects of U.S. policy, including immigration. Key economic indicators during this period include rising unemployment rates and a noticeable GDP decline. Studies like the one by Boustan, Fishback, and Kantor (2007) provide an analytical view of how internal migration during the Great

Depression impacted local labor markets in the U.S., serving as a historical parallel to the Great Recession's effects (Boustan, Fishback, & Kantor, 2007).

Qualitative insights of this period add a more comprehensive understanding. These insights are drawn from interviews with policymakers, economic think tanks, and media reports. For instance, studies like "Building the Homeland Security State" by Robert Lovato (2008) and "The Effects of American Recession-Fighting Policies on Economic Freedom" by Peláez (2009) discuss the broader social and political reactions to the economic stress and its implications for immigration decisions (Lovato, 2008), (Peláez, 2009).

By combining these data streams, the TrendFusion Forecaster model can depict a more holistic picture of the recession's impact. The economic data provides a baseline understanding of the period's financial difficulties, while qualitative insights shed light on societal and political responses, such as the tightening of immigration policies and increased public sentiment towards protecting domestic employment. This integrated approach helps the model predict that during periods of economic hardship, such as the Great Recession, U.S. immigration policies tend to become more restrictive, mirroring a trend towards protectionism and tighter border controls.

Demographic information, including quantitative data, can be used in this case study, including immigrant population growth rates and cultural diversity indices, are obtained from IPUMS USA, University of Minnesota, www.ipums.org. The institutions are renowned for their comprehensive demographic data, offering a granular view of population trends (Marois, 2020). Likewise, qualitative data sources were utilized, including *Legislating What Matters* by Kristina F. Brezicha (2022). Brezicha's research

provides insights into the impact of immigration policies on immigrant students in the United States and Canada, supporting demographic indicators by exploring how policies influence the integration and identity formation of immigrant populations. In the context of the TrendFusion Forecaster model, this research offers a nuanced understanding of the societal impacts of immigration policies, particularly on younger demographics. It helps the model account for the long-term effects of policies on immigrant integration and societal attitudes, which are crucial for predicting future immigration trends and policy directions.

Reaching Australia by Claudia Tazreiter et al. (2016) focuses on processes that mediate migration into Australia, which is relevant to demographic indicators. It gives insights into factors affecting migration flows and demographic changes in host countries. It provides the model with case-specific insights into how various factors, including policy and social attitudes, impact immigration flows. This is valuable for understanding the complexities and dynamics of immigration beyond just the U.S. context.

Enhanced Case Study: Post-9/11 Immigration Policies

The context for this period focuses on demographic shifts and public sentiment following the 9/11 attacks. Here we evaluate changes in immigration rates, ethnic composition, and policy adjustments post-9/11. We also incorporate findings from several studies, such as Schüller (2013), who analyzed the immediate shift in negative attitudes toward immigration following 9/11. This work highlighted the increased anti-immigrant and anti-foreigner sentiments not only among US residents but also internationally, including in Germany (Schüller, 2013). Also, Branton et al. (2011)

considered how factors like acculturation fear and anti-Latino sentiment became strong predictors of restrictionist sentiment in the post-9/11 era, contrasting with their limited impact pre-9/11 (Branton, Cassese, Jones, & Westerland, 2011). Kim and Thompson (2020) examined how the 9/11 attacks shifted the political attention of Arab and Indian Americans from their home countries to U.S. domestic politics (Kim & Thompson, 2020).

The integration of demographic data with these qualitative insights reveals how national security concerns post-9/11 led to stricter immigration policies and enhanced border security measures. The case studies provide an understanding of the societal and political dynamics that influenced these policy changes. In particular, political climate data encompassing partisan control on immigration, were derived from Wikipedia and Pew Research Center studies. These sources were selected for their long-standing reputation in capturing political trends (Hampshire & Bale (2015)).

Qualitative data can be used to assess immigration policies during this period, including the IMPIC Database by M. Helbling et al. (2017): This database provides a comprehensive way to measure immigration regulations across countries, supporting the political climate indicators by offering a broader understanding of various nations' immigration policies. This database helps validate and refine the TrendFusion Forecaster model's indicators and scoring system by offering comparative international data.

The Impression Management Tactics of an Immigration Think Tank by J. Woods et al. (2015): This research highlights how think tanks shape the public and policymakers' understanding of immigration policies, thus supporting the political climate indicators by shedding light on the influence of media and public discourse in policy formulation. It

contributes to the TrendFusion Forecaster model by highlighting the role of public discourse and media in shaping immigration policies, adding a layer of analysis related to media and public opinion influences.

Finally, "Immigration Politics by Proxy" by Lina Newton (2017) analyzes state-level immigration policymaking in the U.S. supports political climate indicators by providing insights into the legislative processes and decision-making dynamics at the state level.

Enhanced Case Study: 2020 U.S. Presidential Election

The influences during the 2020 election on U.S. immigration policy were also investigated. Voting patterns, partisan control shifts, and legislative actions were considered and qualitative insights draw from political analysis, campaign speeches, and public reactions to understand the political climate and its impact on immigration rhetoric and policies. Studies like "The Immigrant Threat Narrative and the Politics of Resentment" by Shams (2021) provide insights into the political and societal atmosphere surrounding the election, focusing on the nativist agenda and its impact on U.S. immigration policies (Shams, 2021). Additionally, "The Influence of Populistic and Protectionist Policy of the Trump Administration on the Treatment of Foreign Nationals Applying for Immigration Benefits" by Ludwikowski (2020) offers a perspective on the Trump administration's approach to immigration, highlighting the effects of its policies on legal immigration (Ludwikowski, 2020).

The election results demonstrate integration of the influences, especially when coupled with the public and political narrative that led to significant changes in immigration policy. These changes reflected a shift towards more inclusive approaches

under the new administration. The integration of qualitative insights from academic research with quantitative election data provides a comprehensive understanding of how shifts in political leadership and public sentiment can dramatically impact immigration policy.

This case study provides a detailed illustration of how quantitative and qualitative data sources are integrated into the TrendFusion Forecaster model. It helps underscore the model's comprehensive and nuanced methodology, enhancing its predictive capabilities regarding U.S. immigration policy trends. By incorporating qualitative insights into the model, it can significantly enhance its predictive capabilities. We now turn to an example of how qualitative data can be integrated with quantitative data to enrich the model's analysis.

Example Integration in TrendFusion Forecaster Model

GDP growth rate and unemployment rate were used as economic indicators while studies like that by Escribà-Folch et al. (2022) provide insights into the economic impact of remittances. The model uses this qualitative insight to adjust its predictions about U.S. immigration policy. For instance, a higher rate of remittances might suggest more lenient policies towards countries that significantly contribute to this economic flow.

In addition, demographic indicators like the immigrant population growth rate and cultural diversity indices were also used while qualitative insights from research like Brezicha's (2022) work on the schooling experiences of immigrant children. This information helps the model to understand how demographic shifts impact societal attitudes. For example, an increase in immigrant children's population might indicate a

need for more inclusive policies focusing on integration and education, influencing the scoring of demographic indicators in the model.

Certain quantitative political climate indicators such as partisan control while qualitative Insights from studies like the IMPIC Database (Helbling et al., 2017) offer a global perspective on immigration regulations.

The model seeks to integrate and leverage these insights to compare U.S. policies with global trends, adjusting the scoring of political indicators to reflect not just domestic but also international political climates and their potential impact on U.S. immigration policy.

Simplified Direct Application in Predictive Analysis

We begin with an analysis of a case study. One significant case study is "The Historical Presidency: Lyndon Johnson's Ambivalent Reform: The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965" by D. Tichenor (2016). This study provides a comprehensive analysis of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 (INA), exploring its transformative impact on the U.S. demographic landscape and the complex political process behind its enactment. For the TrendFusion Forecaster model, this case study offers valuable insights into how major immigration reforms can reshape demographic compositions and influence future policy directions. By integrating this qualitative analysis with quantitative economic data from the period, the model can better understand and predict how similar socio-economic conditions and legislative efforts could influence contemporary immigration policy trends

The model uses stories and contexts (qualitative data) to add meaning to numbers (quantitative data).. For example, a low unemployment rate (quantitative) coupled with

positive public sentiment towards immigrants in media reports and think tank publications (qualitative) might lead the model to predict a likelihood of more liberal immigration policies. To enrich the model's predictive capabilities, qualitative insights from studies like Tichenor's can be used to contextualize quantitative data. For instance, when analyzing economic indicators like GDP growth rate during the period surrounding the INA, the model can use qualitative insights from the case study to understand the broader socio-political context that influenced policy decisions. This approach helps in interpreting quantitative data not just as standalone figures but as part of a larger narrative shaped by various socio-political factors.

Scenario modeling is then completed with a practical approach: the model can create 'what-if' scenarios. For example, it can combine current data on government party control with public opinions on immigration to forecast potential changes in immigration laws.

As for the possibility of biases in the data sources, especially for subjective measures such as scoring indicators in the TrendFusion Forecaster model, a much more comprehensive approach should be taken into account. For the eradication of these biases, proper studies are important, providing many insights and methodologies. For example, Lux et al. (2019) develop a sustainable model for ethically aware predictive modeling and advise on how a human-in-the-loop approach can be done to constantly reduce the involved model biases. In fact, that can be really key to identifying and cleaning bias on a per-prediction basis, thus making sure the application is ethical even in vulnerable areas, including criminal activity heat mapping and child safety scoring (Lux et al., 2019).

Obermeyer and his co-authors go on to slice and dice racial bias in a health algorithm, showing through what lenses bias in the training data leads to racially disparate predictions. This points out that careful selection of proxies with regards to health needs to be done to avoid algorithmic bias; it recommends the reformulation of algorithms to avoid the use of biased proxies (Obermeyer et al., 2019).

It has been suggested that data can be complemented with other sources, such as academic research and cross-country datasets, in order to reach a more balanced view, hence reducing the limitations that are inherent in any predictive modeling. Furthermore, cross-country datasets would allow a better understanding of time trends and variations of subjective well-being across different cultural contexts, which will increase the accuracy and coverage of the analysis. (Hu et al., 2017).

By integrating qualitative insights, the TrendFusion Forecaster model not only bases its predictions on raw data but also incorporates the complexities and subtleties of human experiences, societal trends, and political narratives. This integration offers a more nuanced and comprehensive understanding of the factors driving U.S. immigration policy trends, aligning more closely with the model's goal of accurately predicting these trends.

The data selection for the TrendFusion Forecaster model is governed by three primary criteria: relevance, accuracy, and timeliness. Relevance ensures that the data directly pertains to the economic, demographic, and political factors influencing U.S. immigration policy. Accuracy is paramount, as the model's predictive validity hinges on the reliability of the data. Timeliness pertains to the data's recency, ensuring that the analysis is grounded in the current context. The data collection process involves a

systematic approach, where data for specific years surrounding the enactment of key immigration policies like the 1924 Johnson-Reed Act, the 1965 Hart-Celler Act, and the 2010 Arizona SB 1070 are meticulously gathered. This time frame selection allows the model to analyze policy changes against the backdrop of corresponding socio-economic and political conditions. The geographical scope, focused on the United States, ensures that the data is specific to the nation's unique immigration policy landscape. This methodical approach to data selection and collection underlines the model's commitment to comprehensive and contextual analysis of immigration policies.

The economic indicators encompass GDP growth rate, unemployment rates, and Top 1% income share (measuring income inequality). Each of these factors has been selected due to their established impact on immigration policy.

The GDP growth rate is indicative of the country's economic health, where higher growth rates often correlate with more liberal immigration policies as economic prosperity tends to increase openness to immigration. This is supported by (Giordani & Ruta, 2011), who also highlight the complexity of aligning economic theory with practical immigration policies, emphasizing the need for models that incorporate economic integration costs. Unemployment rates are equally telling; lower rates suggest economic stability, which can support more open immigration policies as the fear of job competition diminishes.

The Top 1% income share serves as a measure of income inequality, where higher inequality often leads to more restrictive immigration policies, reflecting societal concerns about resource distribution (Xu, P., et al. 2016).

Furthermore, Büchel and Frick (2005) demonstrate how immigration policy affects the economic performance of immigrants, validating our model's emphasis on these economic factors in predicting immigration policy. Their research provides valuable insights into how immigrants assimilate into the economy and the role of policies in facilitating or hindering this process.

Demographic Indicators:

Demographic factors include the immigrant population growth rate, age demographics, and cultural diversity index. These factors can significantly influence and reflect societal attitudes and sentiments, as demonstrated by Hao et al. (2020), who highlighted the predictive power of demographic indicators on economic outcomes (Hao et al. 2020). This suggests that changes in demographic trends within the model can reflect the broader social mood by highlighting societal changes and their emotional impacts. Thus, the inclusion of demographic indicators in the TrendFusion Forecaster enhances its capability to serve as an indirect measure of social mood.

The immigrant population growth rate impacts policy, where higher rates might lead to more restrictive policies due to perceived societal pressures. Age demographics are also influential; a younger native population may not necessitate high levels of immigration, whereas aging populations might require immigrant labor, influencing more open policies (Marois, 2020). The cultural diversity index reflects societal openness and multicultural integration, with greater diversity potentially correlating with more inclusive policies.

Nativist movements effectively capitalized on economic, social, and cultural anxieties, framing immigration as a threat to American jobs, values, and security. Their

success in mobilizing support through various media underscores the potent mix of economic uncertainty and cultural fear that characterized the era. This strategy's effectiveness is further analyzed by Young (2011), who revisits the nativistic legacy of the Americanization era, shedding light on how historical nativism and restrictive policies towards Latino/a immigration mirror today's anti-immigrant sentiment.. Additionally, Young (2017) offers a contemporary perspective on the significant role of immigrant communities, particularly Muslim immigrants, in shaping the U.S. societal fabric, enriching our understanding of demographic influences on political and social attitudes. The political climate indicator is significantly influenced by the dominant ideologies of political parties towards immigration, is a crucial factor in shaping immigration policy. This indicator is weighted within the TrendFusion Forecaster model to mirror their substantial impact on legislative processes and policy decisions. Specifically, the model assesses which party holds control over the House of Representatives, the Senate, and the Presidency. This detailed analysis is crucial, as the party in power in these key government institutions can significantly sway immigration policy direction, either towards more open and inclusive practices or towards restrictive measures. Research by Bale (2008) and Spanje (2010) highlights the importance of center-right and anti-immigration parties in shaping immigration policies in Europe, reflecting similar dynamics in the U.S. political landscape. Givens and Luedtke (2005) and Golder (2003) further illustrate how political partisanship influences immigration laws and the integration of immigrants, underlining the significant role of political ideologies in legislative outcomes. By including the control of the House, Senate, and Presidency in our analysis, the TrendFusion Forecaster model gains a more accurate tool for predicting

shifts in immigration legislation and public policy, capturing the dynamic nature of political power and its direct influence on policy outcomes

Supporting our understanding of these dynamics, Malyshenko and Anashkin (2021) discussed how political climate data could mirror societal values, priorities, and emotional states (Malyshenko and Anashkin 2021). This approach is further validated by Raymer and Wiśniowski (2018), who highlighted how demographic and political data could forecast immigration trends and policy changes, emphasizing the necessity of a comprehensive approach in considering political climate indicators (Raymer and Wiśniowski, 2018). The inclusion of political climate indicator in the model provides insights into the social mood by capturing the public's response to political developments. This makes the TrendFusion Forecaster a comprehensive tool for understanding the multifaceted influences on social mood, including the significant role of political dynamics.

Berg (2010) emphasizes the influence of the political climate, including party ideologies and public opinion, on immigration policies. This underscores the need to consider political and societal factors in shaping immigration attitudes and policies. Additionally, advancements in forecasting models for immigration, as highlighted by Raymer and Wiśniowski (2018), inform our approach to integrating these political factors into the TrendFusion Forecaster model. Their research provides insights into how demographic and political data can be used to forecast immigration trends and policy changes, thereby validating our comprehensive approach in considering political climate indicators.

The role of advocacy groups in shaping public opinion and legislative outcomes is profound. Both proponents and opponents of immigration restrictions have used organized efforts to influence lawmakers and sway public sentiment. This complex interplay of advocacy, policy, and public sentiment is analyzed in the context of Japan's immigration policy by Chiavacci (2020), who highlights the surprisingly influential role of civil advocacy against a backdrop of policy deadlock and state resistance to external pressure. Additionally, the work of Donnelly, Islam, and Savoie (2020) sheds light on how unions and employers, as groups with substantial credibility, potentially move immigration attitudes through public opinion campaigning, despite the net effects of public arguments being small and varying across demographic groups. Together, these studies offer insight into the broader context of immigration, trade, and international relations, providing a backdrop against which these legislative actions and advocacy group efforts can be better understood.

Following the detailed descriptions of economic, demographic, and political climate indicators in the TrendFusion Forecaster model, it's crucial to take a moment to underscore the model's innovative integration of these data sets. This approach not only enriches our analysis but also introduces a pioneering step in the field of immigration policy forecasting, particularly through its nuanced political climate analysis.

Building on the comprehensive overview provided, the TrendFusion Forecaster model's inclusion of political analysis, especially assessing partisan control over the House, Senate, and Presidency, represents a significant advancement in immigration policy forecasting. By evaluating the impact of political ideologies and control on immigration legislation, the model captures the nuanced dynamics of political power

shifts and their direct influence on policy directions. This unique contribution is not just a testament to the model's innovative approach but also significantly enhances its predictive capabilities. Drawing on insights from Bale (2008), Spanje (2010), Givens and Luedtke (2005), and Golder (2003), the model offers an unparalleled perspective on how political climates shape immigration policies.

This approach enables the TrendFusion Forecaster to make more nuanced predictions of immigration policy trends, bridging the gap between theoretical analysis and practical forecasting. By doing so, the model equips policymakers, researchers, and advocates with actionable insights, offering a forward-looking tool that anticipates changes in immigration policy based on shifts in the political landscape.

The TrendFusion Forecaster model employs a quantitative approach, leveraging a point system to analyze various indicators influencing immigration policy. This method is crucial for transforming qualitative assessments into quantifiable metrics, enabling a structured and objective analysis. The quantitative approach aids in policy prediction by providing a clear, data-driven framework to understand complex policy dynamics (Raymer & Wiśniowski, 2018). However, the reliance on quantitative methods also introduces challenges, particularly in accurately capturing the nuanced realities of social phenomena and policy implications (Tetlock, 2005; Gigerenzer & Brighton, 2009).

Scoring System:

The model uses a detailed scoring system for each category of indicators - economic, demographic, and political. In the economic category, indicators like GDP growth, unemployment rates, and Top 1% income share are scored on a scale, reflecting their perceived impact on immigration policy. For example, higher GDP growth may

indicate economic health and, thus, score higher, suggesting potential for more liberal immigration policies. Similarly, lower unemployment rates or lower Top 1% income share (indicating less income inequality) would score higher, as these conditions are generally favorable for open immigration policies. This approach is informed by literature suggesting that quantitative analyses can significantly enhance our understanding of policy trends, though they require careful consideration of underlying assumptions and potential biases (Raymer & Wiśniowski, 2018; Gigerenzer & Brighton, 2009).

The demographic category includes indicators such as immigrant population growth, age demographics, and cultural diversity index. Each of these is scored based on its potential impact on societal attitudes towards immigration. For instance, a higher immigrant population growth rate might score lower due to the perceived pressure on societal resources, while a higher cultural diversity index, indicative of societal openness, would score higher (Bagshaw, 2019; Marois, 2020).

In the political climate category, partisan control is scored. Liberal partisan control (Democrats in majority) and positive public opinion towards immigration would typically score higher, reflecting a more open policy stance. (Berg, 2010).

Aggregation and Prediction:

Scores from each indicator are aggregated to provide an overall prediction of the policy trend. This cumulative scoring provides a comprehensive view, considering the interplay of various factors (Zellner et al., 2021). Higher total scores generally indicate a tendency towards more liberal immigration policies, while lower scores suggest more restrictive policies.

The model underwent a historical validation process, where its predictions were compared against actual immigration policies enacted in specific years. This comparison is crucial for testing the model's accuracy and allows for the refinement and calibration of the scoring criteria and the weighting system. It ensures that the model remains aligned with real-world policy trends and adapts to changing socio-economic and political landscapes (Raymer & Wiśniowski, 2018).

While the scoring system is central to the model's methodology, it's crucial to address how the model manages overlapping or interdependent indicators. For instance, economic growth and unemployment rates may correlate, influencing immigration policies in a compounded manner. The model uses a weighted system to adjust for such overlaps, ensuring that each indicator contributes proportionally to the final prediction. This approach allows for a more nuanced understanding of how different indicators interact and influence each other.

In conclusion, the methodology of the TrendFusion Forecaster model, with its detailed scoring system and historical validation, provides a robust framework for predicting U.S. immigration policy trends. This approach allows for an objective analysis of complex factors and their interplay in shaping immigration policies.

The TrendFusion Forecaster model represents a significant advancement in the field of immigration policy analysis. It offers a structured and systematic approach to understanding and predicting the trends in U.S. immigration policy by integrating diverse and multifaceted data sets. The model's capacity to aggregate and analyze economic, demographic, and political indicators provides valuable insights into the intricate dynamics that shape immigration legislation. While there are limitations inherent in any

predictive modeling, particularly regarding the availability and accuracy of data and the subjective nature of political and social climates, these are acknowledged and addressed within the model's framework. By supplementing quantitative analysis with qualitative insights, the model strives to present a balanced and nuanced view of immigration policy trends. In doing so, the TrendFusion Forecaster contributes significantly to the ongoing debate on immigration policy and enhances our understanding of the historical context of immigration in the United States. This model thus stands as a testament to the importance of interdisciplinary approaches in policy analysis, combining data-driven insights with contextual understanding to inform policy discussions and decisions.

Chapter IV.

Integration and Impact of Social Mood in the TrendFusion Forecaster

This chapter explores the development process of the TrendFusion Forecaster model, emphasizing its multifaceted approach to predicting immigration policy. The model uniquely synthesizes various indicators, including economic, demographic, and political factors, and indirectly captures the essence of social mood. The innovative approach not only increases the model's predictive accuracy, but also bridges the gap between quantitative data analysis and qualitative understanding of societal trends. The results are setting a new standard for how researchers and policymakers can anticipate and respond to shifts in immigration policy in a changing world. The chapter aims to elucidate how these diverse elements collectively influence U.S. immigration policy, aligning with the overarching objectives of this thesis.

The chapter delves into pivotal immigration legislation, examining the Immigration Act of 1924, the Immigration Act of 1965, and Arizona SB 1070. These historical contexts serve as case studies, demonstrating how shifts in societal attitudes, underpinned by economic and political realities, have historically influenced immigration legislation.

Regarding the Immigration Act of 1924 (Johnson-Reed Act), the restrictive social mood of the 1920s, influenced by nativism, significantly shaped the Immigration Act of 1924. Economic indicators like unemployment rates and GDP growth are contrasted against societal attitudes towards immigrants (Ngai, 1999).

Regarding the Immigration Act of 1965, the inclusive social mood of the 1960s, driven by the civil rights movement, played a key role in shaping the Immigration Act of 1965. This act reflected a shift towards a more open immigration policy, aligned with the era's progressive values. The act's impact on U.S. immigration policy and its connection to broader social changes during the civil rights era is detailed in the work of Kennedy (1966), who provides firsthand insight into the legislative intent and implications of the act. Additionally, the political, legal, and demographic impact of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 is further explored by Chin and Villazor (2015), who discuss its role in ending Asian exclusion and opening the door to immigrants from around the world, thereby contributing to the diversification of American society (Chin & Villazor, 2015; Kennedy, 1966).

As for Arizona SB 1070 (2010), it was enacted in a period marked by economic challenges and national debate over immigration, Arizona SB 1070 is a reflection of a negative social mood, emphasizing stringent immigration control (Toomey et al., 2014).

In sum, the examination of historical contexts demonstrates the model's effectiveness in interpreting societal shifts in immigration policy, directly aligning with the thesis's objectives.

The TrendFusion Forecaster model was developed by analyzing these historical contexts. Social mood, while not a direct indicator, is quantitatively represented through the lens of economic, demographic, and political indicators. A point system was established to objectively quantify the impact of various economic, demographic, and political indicators on the formulation and orientation of immigration policies. The scoring and weighting of each indicator were based on their historical significance in

shaping U.S. immigration policy (Raymer & Wiśniowski, 2018; Giordani & Ruta, 2011). This integration is rooted in scholarly research, including the insights of Hainmueller and Hopkins (2014), who have demonstrated how economic conditions and public attitudes towards immigration are closely interconnected, suggesting these economic indicators as indirect measures of social mood (Hainmueller & Hopkins, 2014).

Summary: The methodology described here directly addresses the thesis's goal to create a predictive model for immigration policy, linking theoretical concepts to practical application.

The TrendFusion Forecaster model incorporates a set of key indicators, each carefully selected and weighted based on their historical impact on U.S. immigration policy, including economic, demographic and political climate factors.

Economic indicators include GDP growth, unemployment rates, and the top 1% share of income. These factors are weighted significantly, reflecting their historical correlation with shifts in immigration policy. Economic stability and growth patterns are critical in determining a nation's immigration stance, influencing both the capacity and willingness to accept new immigrants.

Demographic trends, such as changes in population dynamics and cultural diversity, are vital in shaping societal attitudes towards immigration. These indicators are considered for their direct impact on the social and cultural fabric of the country, which in turn influences immigration policies.

Political factors, such as partisan control, significantly shape immigration policy. The dominance of political parties with distinct stances on immigration, whether liberal or conservative, has a substantial impact on policy formulation. .

By focusing on these key areas – economic, demographic, and political climate – the TrendFusion Forecaster aims to provide a comprehensive and historically grounded prediction of immigration policy trends in the United States. The selection and weighting of these indicators are critical in achieving the thesis's aim of developing a comprehensive predictive model for U.S. immigration policy.

The Scoring System

GDP Percentage Change uses the following scale:

- 8-10 points: High growth ($>4\%$) signifies a robust economic condition, likely to foster a more open immigration stance due to increased labor demand and general optimism.
- 5-7 points: Moderate growth (2-4%) indicates steady economic performance, supporting moderate immigration policies.
- 3-4 points: Low growth (0-2%) reflects sluggish economic conditions, potentially leading to cautious immigration policies.
- 0-2 points: Negative growth or recession ($\leq 0\%$) often results in restrictive immigration policies due to economic uncertainties.

Unemployment Rate uses the following scale:

- 10 points: Very low unemployment ($\leq 3\%$) suggests a tight labor market, possibly necessitating increased immigration.
- 8-9 points: Low unemployment (3.01% - 5%) still supports liberal immigration policies to fill labor market gaps.
- 5-7 points: Moderate unemployment (5.01-8%) may lead to a balanced immigration policy.
- 3-4 points: High unemployment (8.01-10%) could trigger restrictive immigration measures to protect domestic jobs.
- 0-2 points: Very high unemployment ($>10\%$) typically results in very restrictive immigration policies.

Top 1% Income Share uses this scale:

- 8-10 points: Low concentration ($<10\%$) indicates lower income inequality, potentially supporting more inclusive immigration policies.
- 5-7 points: Moderate concentration (10-15%) suggests moderate levels of inequality, with potential for balanced immigration policies.
- 3-4 points: High concentration (15-20%) reflects significant inequality, which may lead to restrictive policies due to perceived competition for resources.

Age Demographics (workforce population 18-54) is scaled as follows:

- 8-10 points: Less than 40% of the overall population indicates an aging society, likely necessitating immigration to support the workforce.
- 5-7 points: 40% to 50% of the overall population suggests a balanced demographic structure, supporting moderate immigration levels.
- 3-4 points: 50% to 60% of the overall population reflects a relatively young workforce, potentially reducing the need for immigration.
- 1-2 points: More than 60% of the overall population indicates a very young demographic, which might limit immigration to protect domestic employment opportunities.

Cultural Diversity is scaled as follows:

- 1-2 points: Less than 10% combined percentage of non-dominant racial groups suggests low diversity, potentially influencing restrictive immigration policies.
- 3-4 points: 10% to 20% combined percentage indicates moderate diversity, possibly supporting balanced immigration policies.
- 5-7 points: 20% to 30% combined percentage reflects high diversity, likely fostering more open immigration policies.
- 8-10 points: Greater than 30% combined percentage signifies very high diversity, promoting very inclusive immigration policies.

Immigrant Population Growth is scaled as follows:

- 8-10 points: Immigrant birth percentage less than 10% of total births indicates low immigration rates, potentially supporting policies to increase immigration.
- 5-7 points: Between 10% and 15% of total births suggest moderate immigration levels, supporting balanced policies.
- 3-4 points: Between 15% and 20% reflects higher immigration growth, potentially leading to cautious policy adjustments.
- 1-2 points: Over 20% of total births indicate very high immigration growth, which might prompt restrictive immigration measures.

Partisan Control is scaled as follows:

- +4 base score (Neutral political landscape) reflects a balanced political climate without strong leanings towards liberal or conservative immigration policies.
- +2 points for each branch controlled by Democrats signify a tendency towards more liberal immigration policies.
- 1 point for each branch controlled by Republicans indicates a shift towards more conservative immigration stances.

This scoring system's development was informed by empirical evidence and theoretical discussions highlighting these indicators' relevance to immigration policy. It

aims to provide a nuanced, quantifiable assessment of factors influencing policy trends, acknowledging the complexities of societal dynamics and their impact on policy formulation. The model's adaptability allows for future adjustments based on new insights and changing social conditions, ensuring its ongoing relevance and accuracy in predicting immigration policy trends.

Indirect Quantification of Social Mood

This section elucidates how the TrendFusion Forecaster model indirectly quantifies social mood through economic, demographic, and political indicators. Rather than measuring social mood directly, the model interprets shifts in these indicators as reflections of societal sentiment:

Economic Indicators as Proxies for Social Mood

Economic trends, such as GDP growth and unemployment rates, are interpreted as reflections of the public's economic confidence or anxiety. For instance, Gerber, Huber, Biggers, and Hendry (2017) provide insights into how economic self-interest, broadened to include concerns about the fiscal burdens created by immigration, strongly correlates with immigration attitudes. This relationship underscores the significance of economic factors in shaping public perceptions towards immigration (Gerber et al., 2017).

Demographic Shifts Reflecting Societal Sentiment

Changes in population dynamics and cultural diversity are seen as indicators of societal attitudes towards immigration. Keely's (1974) research on immigrant fertility and

societal integration provides insight into how demographic trends can mirror broader social moods (Keely, 1974).

Political Climate as an Indicator of Public Sentiment

The prevailing ideologies of political parties and public opinion on immigration are viewed as indicators of the national mood regarding immigration policy. Llavador & Solano-García's (2011) study demonstrates how political dynamics are reflective of societal attitudes towards immigration (Llavador & Solano-García, 2011).

The role of social media and public sentiment analysis in understanding social mood represents a forward-looking component of the TrendFusion Forecaster model. Huang et al. (2016) explored the use of Twitter moods to enhance financial trend predictions, underscoring the potential of digital platforms in capturing societal mood (Huang et al. 2016). While the TrendFusion Forecaster currently relies on traditional indicators, the integration of social media sentiment analysis could significantly enhance its capability as a social mood indicator. This future integration highlights the model's potential to evolve and incorporate real-time societal sentiments into its predictive framework.

Analysis of Economic, Demographic, and Political Indicators

This section provides a deeper analysis of the economic, demographic, and political indicators used in the TrendFusion Forecaster model, highlighting how they individually and collectively shape U.S. immigration policy.

To fully align this section with the TrendFusion Forecaster model, a detailed explanation is provided on how qualitative analysis of economic factors translates into the model's quantitative scoring system. Economic factors like GDP growth and unemployment rates are critical in shaping immigration policy. Research by Borjas, Freeman, and Katz (2021) provides new estimates of the impact of immigration and trade on the U.S. labor market, examining the relation between economic outcomes for native workers and immigrant flows to regional labor markets. This study attempts to provide a broader assessment of the impact of immigration on the incomes of U.S. natives, indicating how immigration can influence public and political attitudes towards immigration policy (Borjas, Freeman, & Katz, 2021).

GDP Growth Rate

The model assigns 10 points based on GDP growth rates, with higher growth rates (>3%) scoring higher as they often correlate with more liberal immigration policies. This is exemplified by the economic boom periods in U.S. history, particularly post-World War II, and enactment of the Immigration Act of 1965, which saw a more open stance towards immigration. This scoring aligns with the findings of Treyz and Evangelakis (2018), who evaluated the role of immigration in the U.S. economy, positing that net migration has a substantial impact on economic growth rates, labor market dynamics, and, by extension, immigration policies and public sentiment towards immigration (Treyz & Evangelakis, 2018). The model uses this historical trend to forecast similar outcomes in economies experiencing robust growth and slowdowns.

Unemployment Rate

Lower unemployment rates are assigned 10 points in this model. Economic stability (<5%) is scored higher in this model, which may support more open immigration policies. The Great Recession, with its high unemployment rates, contributed to a more restrictive immigration policy like Arizona SB 1070. This illustrates how the model leverages economic data to predict immigration policy trends under similar economic conditions. This aligns with the findings of Holm and Rephann (2004), who discuss how immigration affects labor markets and overall economic conditions in a host country (Holm & Rephann, 2004).

Income Inequality

Income Inequality is awarded 10 points. The model uses the top 1% of income share to assess income inequality, with lower inequality scoring higher. High inequality is often correlated with restrictive immigration policies. The model looks at trends like those observed during the rapid industrialization periods in the U.S., where rising income inequality was linked to restrictive immigration stances, to predict future policy orientations. This scoring system aligns with the analysis provided by Cingano (2014), who discusses the effects of income inequality on economic and social outcomes, suggesting that higher levels of inequality can lead to a demand for more restrictive policies as a mechanism to protect domestic labor markets from perceived threats (Cingano, 2014). Additionally, the insights from Peters and Shin (2023) further refine this analysis by distinguishing between the impacts of inequality in less-developed versus more-developed economies. They argue that in less-developed economies, where local and immigrant workers vie for similar job opportunities, rising inequality tends to result

in stricter immigration policies. Conversely, in more-developed economies, where the labor market dynamics often position local and immigrant workers as complements rather than direct competitors, the relationship between inequality and immigration policy becomes more nuanced, potentially leading to less restrictive approaches under certain conditions of rising inequality (Peters & Shin, 2023). This nuanced perspective enhances the model's ability to forecast immigration policy trends by incorporating the complexity of economic development and labor market structures in the analysis of income inequality's effects on immigration stances. This thesis is focused on the United States, which has been considered a developed country throughout the period of this research.

Case Study Application

The U.S. Economic Boom and Recession Periods illustrates the interplay of economic factors in shaping immigration policy, as highlighted by Borjas (2001). The model uses such historical data to forecast immigration trends based on economic conditions (Borjas, 2001).

The Arizona SB 1070 in 2010 was influenced by the economic downturns and high unemployment after 2007, demonstrates how economic distress leads to restrictive immigration policies. The model uses such historical contexts to predict similar policy responses in future economic downturns.

The Immigration Act of 1965 occurred during a a period of economic prosperity and low unemployment, this act liberalized U.S. immigration policy, illustrating how favorable economic conditions can lead to more open immigration policies. The model analyzes these economic conditions to forecast similar liberalization trends.

Germany's Immigration Policy Post-2015 Syrian Refugee Crisis: Germany's economic response to the Syrian refugee crisis showcases how economic factors influence immigration policies. The model analyzes this case to understand how economic considerations and demographic needs shape policy responses. This analysis aligns with the findings of Ali Noer Zaman (2018) in "*Faktor Ekonomi dan Demografi dalam Kebijakan Terbuka Jerman Terhadap Pengungsi Syria*," which examines the economic and demographic factors leading the German government to adopt an open policy towards refugees, particularly from Syria during the peak of the crisis in 2015. Despite opposition, the study highlights Chancellor Angela Merkel's stance, motivated in part by Germany's economic stability and demographic challenges, such as an aging population (Zaman, 2018).

Germany's Economic and Demographic Considerations were considered in Ali Noer Zaman's study (2018) discusses the economic and demographic factors that influenced Germany's open policy towards Syrian refugees, highlighting the country's need for skilled labor due to an aging population (Zaman, 2018).

Changes in population dynamics and cultural diversity directly influence societal attitudes and policies towards immigration. The TrendFusion Forecaster model uses these indicators to forecast shifts in immigration policy, aligning qualitative analyses with quantitative assessments.

The model assigns up to 10 points based on immigrant population growth rates. Higher growth rates, suggesting potential for restrictive policies, will lead to a lower score for the indicator. The scoring is showcased on the passage of Immigration Act of 1924, where high immigrant inflows contributed to restrictive policies. This aligns with

Hainmueller and Hopkins (2014), who demonstrated how demographic changes can significantly influence public opinion and policy shifts regarding immigration. This understanding is a critical element the model leverages to predict future policy trends based on demographic shifts (Hainmueller & Hopkins, 2014).

The model evaluates age demographics, awarding up to 10 points based on the proportion of the population within the working age range of 18 to 54. A lower percentage of the population within this working age range results in a higher score, reflecting increased labor needs and a potential demand for immigration to supplement the workforce. Conversely, a higher percentage of the population within the working age demographic leads to a lower score, indicating lesser immediate labor demands and potentially less openness to immigration.

This scoring is confirmed by Keely (1974), who discusses how immigrant age structure impacts society and policy. The model uses these insights to predict demographic influences on immigration policy (Keely, 1974).

The model allocates points for cultural diversity, recognizing that while greater diversity often encourages more inclusive policies, the relationship between diversity and inclusivity can be complex. The model draws on the experience of Arizona SB 1070 in 2010, where heightened cultural diversity intersected with legislative measures. This is based on A. Singer's (2013) findings the general trend that cultural diversity fosters policy inclusivity, which the model uses to understand how cultural diversity influences policy trends (Singer, 2013).

Urbanization and Migration (Royuela, 2015) is the focus of Royuela's study. It underscores urbanization as a key migration factor. The model incorporates this factor to

predict how urban growth influences immigration trends and policies, demonstrating the practical application of urbanization rates as demographic indicators (Royuela, 2015).

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Crisis is examined by Hodes et al. (2018) The influx of refugees into Europe and its impact on child and adolescent mental health highlights demographic shifts. The model interprets these shifts to forecast their implications on immigration policies, showcasing its utility in analyzing societal integration and mental health trends (Hodes et al., 2018).

The dominant ideologies of political parties and public opinion significantly influence legislative processes and policy decisions. The TrendFusion Forecaster model uses these indicators to anticipate and predict shifts in immigration legislation and public policy. This section integrates direct applications of case studies and research findings to the model's methodology.

The model assigns up to 10 points based on the dominance of political parties with historical stances on immigration. This reflects how liberal or conservative party control can impact immigration policy. For example, the implementation of the Immigration Act of 1924 (Johnson-Reed Act) under a climate of nativism and isolationism reflects how conservative party control can lead to restrictive immigration policies. This act's analysis helps in understanding the model's scoring mechanism based on partisan control. The qualitative analysis, especially in the context of Germany, are exemplified by Garczewski's (2017) analysis of the migration crisis in Europe and its socio-political impact on Germany, demonstrating the complex interplay between migration discourse and political decision-making (Garczewski, 2017).

Voter Welfare and Immigration Policy was studied by Llavador & Solano-García (2011). This study is critical to understanding the political economy of immigration. The TrendFusion Forecaster model would analyze the impact of voter welfare on immigration policy, using Llavador and Solano-García's insights to predict how economic and non-economic considerations influence policy decisions. This application showcases the model's ability to integrate complex political factors into its predictive analysis (Llavador & Solano-García, 2011).

Securitization of Migration Discourse in Germany was the focus of a study by Banai & Kreide (2017). This case study is particularly pertinent for the model's methodology. The TrendFusion Forecaster would analyze how the discourse around securitization in Germany affected policy responses to Syrian refugees. By assessing the political climate indicators, such as public opinion and party responses, the model could have forecasted the shifts in Germany's immigration policies during the refugee crisis. This case study demonstrates the model's utility in analyzing how political narratives and public perceptions can lead to varying immigration policy outcomes. In this context, Banai and Kreide (2017) examine elements of contemporary securitization discourse about immigration and citizenship in Germany, providing insights into how securitization discourses establish mechanisms of exclusion from citizenship rights and from human rights, influencing policy responses and public sentiment towards immigration (Banai & Kreide, 2017).

The analysis of political participation by immigrant-descent Americans, the strategic success of nativist movements, and the influence of legislative actions and advocacy groups underscore the complex factors that have historically shaped U.S.

immigration policy. This complex interplay is further explored in the work of Itzigsohn and Villacrés (2008), who examine the political participation of migrants from the Dominican Republic and El Salvador, highlighting how migrant transnational politics contribute to the democratization processes in their countries of origin. Their analysis provides a comparative perspective that enriches our understanding of how immigrant political participation impacts policy and societal attitudes (Itzigsohn & Villacrés, 2008). Furthermore, the work of Ugalde (1985) on community participation in health programs across Latin America provides historical context to the discussion, suggesting that participation, whether in health or political spheres, has faced challenges yet remains a critical avenue for democracy and development (Ugalde, 1985).

The objective measures employed by the TrendFusion Forecaster model, which include economic, demographic, and political indicators, act as indirect proxies for social mood. Through detailed examination of trends and fluctuations in these areas, the model presents a multifaceted view of social mood, thereby enabling a thorough grasp of the myriad factors influencing U.S. immigration policy. This approach is greatly informed by the economic analyses of Martin and Borjas (2000) and the demographic studies by Hainmueller and Hopkins (2014), significantly augmenting the predictive power of the TrendFusion Forecaster model. It dovetails with the primary goal of this thesis to explore the historical and current complexities of U.S. immigration policy against the backdrop of extensive scholarly discussion that portrays immigration as a manifestation of complex societal interactions.

Additionally, the insights from D. Tichenor in *Controlling Immigration: A Global Perspective* (Cornelius, Martin, & Hollifield, 2002) offer a comprehensive view on the evolution of immigration control and its impact on society.

Therefore, although a work in progress, the foundational elements of this system are deeply entrenched in the established economic, demographic, and political theories explicated in the scholarly works of Martin and Borjas (2000), Hainmueller and Hopkins (2014), and D. Tichenor (2002). By synthesizing complex data into a predictive mechanism for discerning future trends in immigration policy, this system acknowledges the intricate interplay of factors shaping immigration policy. It aims to narrow the divide between theoretical exploration and practical prediction, offering policymakers, researchers, and advocates a visionary tool that predicts immigration policy shifts grounded in a comprehensive academic and historical framework.

Chapter V

Analysis

This chapter tries to analyze the relationship between social mood and immigration policy in the United States by examining three pivotal legislative moments: the Immigration Act of 1924 (Johnson-Reed Act), the Immigration Act of 1965, and Arizona's SB 1070 in 2010. Using the TrendFusion Forecaster, an innovative tool that quantifies social mood through economic, demographic, and political indicators, this analysis dives into the nuanced interplay between societal sentiments and immigration policy. By exploring these legislative milestones through the TrendFusion Forecaster, this research contributes to our understanding of how social mood influences public policy, offering insights into the historical and contemporary debates over immigration policy in the United States.

The Immigration Act of 1924 marked a significant shift in U.S. immigration policy, establishing a quota system based on national origins and drastically restricting immigration from certain regions. The social mood during this era, analyzed through the TrendFusion Forecaster's economic indicators, demographic shifts, and political climate, was characterized by economic prosperity, rapid urbanization, and a resurgence of nativism. This analysis explores how these factors, as measured by the Forecaster, contributed to the development and enactment of restrictive immigration policies.

The Immigration Act of 1965, which abolished the national origins quota system from the 1920s, heralded a new era of more inclusive immigration policy. This period's social mood, as indicated by the economy, demographics, and political climate within the

TrendFusion framework, was marked by social and cultural upheavals, civil rights activism, and a general sense of optimism. This chapter examines how these dimensions, as quantified by the Forecaster, influenced the shift in immigration policy toward a more equitable and non-discriminatory approach.

Finally, the enactment of Arizona's SB 1070 in 2010, known for its stringent immigration enforcement, reflects another shift in social mood and immigration policy. The social mood during this time, as analyzed through the TrendFusion Forecaster model with economic uncertainty, changing demographics, and heightened political polarization, contributed to the development of this restrictive policy. This analysis investigates the interplay of these factors in shaping such immigration legislation.

By incorporating the TrendFusion Forecaster in examining these three significant immigration policies, this chapter provides a comprehensive understanding of how social mood, as reflected in economic, demographic, and political indicators, shapes U.S. immigration policy. This analysis will enhance the discourse on immigration policy, illuminating the historical context and factors that have influenced the evolution of U.S. immigration policy through the 20th and early 21st centuries.

Table 1. Actual Data for 1924, 1965, and 2010

	GDP	UI Rate	1% income share	Imm. Growth rate	Age (btw 18-54)	Cult. Divers.	Partisan Control
1924	2.44%	5.80%	18.47%	13%	53%	10.17%	All Rep
1965	6.38%	4.58%	13.03%	5.5%	47%	11.54%	All Dem
2010	2.53%	9.80%	17.89%	14%	52%	25.00%	All Rep

* 2010 Partisan Control refers to Arizona State Chambers and Governor since SB 1070 was a State Immigration Act.

Table 2. Summary of TrendFusion Forecaster Model

	1924 Immigration Act	1965 Immigration Act	2010 Arizona SB 1070
Economics			
GDP Growth	7	10	7
Unemployment Rate	7	9	2
Top 1% Income	4	7	4
Demographics			
Immigrant Growth Rate	7	10	7
Age Demographics	4	7	4
Cultural Diversity	4	4	7
Political			
Partisan Control	1	10	1
Total Points	34	57	32

Economics

Table 3. Economics Scoring 1924

Year	Category	Points
1924	GDP Growth	7
	Unemployment Rate	7
	Top 1% Income	4
Total		18

The economic conditions of the United States in the 1920s, particularly in relation to the stock market and overall economy, played a critical role in shaping public sentiment towards immigration, culminating in the passage of the 1924 Immigration Act.

An analysis through the TrendFusion Forecaster reveals how different economic indicators contributed to this sentiment, reflected in the scoring of various economic aspects.

1. GDP Growth Rate (7 points):

Analysis: The 1920s, known as the Roaring Twenties, were marked by a period of economic boom and a bullish stock market. The GDP rate was 2.44%.

Reason for Score: The score of 7 indicates substantial economic growth. This prosperity, however, came with fears of economic instability, partly driven by the influx of immigrants, contributing to the support for restrictive immigration policies. The economic expansion fostered concerns about job competition, leading to the 1924 Immigration Act's quota system (C. Brooks, 2018).

2. Unemployment Rate (7 points):

Analysis: Unemployment Rate was around 5.8%. Despite the overall economic prosperity, there were underlying vulnerabilities in certain sectors, including agriculture.

Reason for Score: The moderate score of 5 reflects these sectoral challenges, which impacted labor markets and contributed to the sentiment favoring immigration restrictions. The quotas reduced the flow of cheap labor, affecting both agricultural and industrial labor markets (Zahniser et al., 2012).

3. Income Inequality (4 points):

Analysis: The top 1% of income share was 18.47% in 1924. The 1920s prosperity was not evenly distributed, leading to increased income inequality.

Reason for Score: A score of 4 represents significant but not extreme income inequality. This inequality fueled social tensions and economic anxieties, contributing to

the restrictive immigration policies aimed at preserving the 'Nordic' character of the nation (Balabed, 2008).

In conclusion, the economic environment of the 1920s in the United States, as assessed by the TrendFusion Forecaster, significantly influenced public sentiment towards immigration. This era was characterized by a complex interplay between economic prosperity, social anxiety, and restrictive immigration policies. The TrendFusion Forecaster scores for these economic indicators reflect the intricate relationship between economic conditions and immigration policy, contributing to the enactment of the 1924 Immigration Act.

Table 4. Economics Scoring 1965

Year	Category	Points
1965	GDP Growth	10
	Unemployment Rate	9
	Income Inequality	7
Total		26

The economic landscape of the United States during the 1960s, crucially influential in shaping public opinion on immigration, is analyzed through the TrendFusion Forecaster, particularly in the context of the 1965 Immigration Act. This period was distinguished by its economic prosperity and growth, which had significant implications for immigration policy and public sentiment.

1. GDP Growth Rate (10 points):

Analysis: The 1960s were marked by robust economic growth and a booming stock market, epitomizing an era of prosperity. GDP rate was 6.38%.

Reason for Score: A 10-point score reflects significant economic growth. This prosperity coincided with, and likely contributed to, liberal shifts in immigration policy. The economic success of this era fostered a more favorable view of immigration, aligning with the broader social and economic climate receptive to diversity and integration. The 1965 Immigration Act's abolition of the national origin quota system was a manifestation of this economic optimism (Hero, 2010).

2. Unemployment Rate (9 points):

Analysis: This period witnessed relatively low unemployment rates, contributing to a stable economic environment. Unemployment rate was 4.58%.

Reason for Score: The score of 9 indicates a healthy labor market, which likely influenced the more liberal immigration policies of the time. Low unemployment rates meant that immigrants were increasingly seen as beneficial to the economy, supporting the shift towards a policy focusing on family reunification and skilled labor (Killingsworth, 1966).

3. Income Inequality (7 points):

Analysis: The 1960s, while prosperous, also experienced degrees of income inequality. The top 1% share of total income was at 13.03%.

Reason for Score: A score of 7 reflects notable but not extreme income inequality. The presence of inequality, even amid economic growth, added complexity to the immigration debate, as concerns about income distribution and social equity were prominent. The intersection of economic prosperity with the civil rights movement highlighted these issues, influencing the liberalization of immigration policy (Roby, P., 1969).

In summary, the economic conditions of the 1960s in the United States, as assessed by the TrendFusion Forecaster, played a pivotal role in shaping public sentiment toward immigration and influencing the 1965 Immigration Act. The scores for economic indicators such as GDP growth rate, unemployment rate, income inequality, and labor market needs reflect the period's complex interplay between economic prosperity, globalization, social movements, and immigration policy. This era marked a significant shift in the U.S. approach to immigration, with economic stability and growth fostering more progressive social policies.

Table 5. Economics Scoring 2010

Year	Category	Points
2010	GDP Growth	7
	Unemployment Rate	2
	Income Inequality	4
Total		13

The economic context of the United States from 2007 to 2010, particularly in the wake of the Great Recession, had a profound impact on public sentiment towards immigration, influencing the passage of Arizona's Senate Bill 1070 (SB 1070) in 2010. The TrendFusion Forecaster provides a nuanced understanding of this period through its scoring of various economic indicators.

1. GDP Growth Rate (7 points):

Analysis: This period was dominated by the Great Recession, characterized by a significant economic downturn. The GDP was at 2.53% which was better than -2.78% from 2009.

Reason for Score: A score of 3 reflects the reduced GDP growth rate during the recession. The economic slowdown contributed to a negative social mood towards immigration, with heightened economic anxiety fostering increased public support for strict immigration laws. The economic distress during this period directly influenced legislative responses, such as SB 1070 (Toomey et. al., 2017).

2. Unemployment Rate (2 points):

Analysis: The Great Recession led to high unemployment and significant economic distress.

Reason for Score: The score of 2 represents the high unemployment rate during this period. The rise in unemployment was correlated with increasing anti-immigrant sentiment, particularly against undocumented immigrants. This economic condition was a significant factor in the support for and enactment of SB 1070 (Kwak & Wallace, 2018).

3. Income Inequality (4 points):

Analysis: The economic downturn exacerbated income inequality. The top 1% income share was at 17.89%.

Reason for Score: A score of 4 reflects the presence of notable income inequality during this period. This inequality, intensified by the recession, contributed to the public's negative perception of immigration, as economic insecurities were projected onto immigrant populations (Toomey et. al., 2017).

In conclusion, the economic environment from 2007 to 2010 in the United States, as analyzed by the TrendFusion Forecaster, played a crucial role in shaping public sentiment towards immigration. This period's economic challenges, particularly the Great Recession, created a climate conducive to restrictive immigration policies, culminating in

the passage of SB 1070 in Arizona. The TrendFusion Forecaster scores for these economic indicators reveal the complex relationship between economic conditions and immigration policy, highlighting how economic downturns can fuel negative social moods and lead to stringent legislative responses.

Demographics

Table 6. Demographics Scoring 1924

Year	Category	Points
1924	Immigrant Growth Rate	7
	Age Demographics	4
	Cultural Diversity	4
Total		15

The demographic landscape of the United States in the 1920s played a pivotal role in shaping public attitudes towards immigration, profoundly influencing the enactment of the Immigration Act of 1924. This era witnessed significant demographic transformations and mounting apprehensions regarding the composition of the immigrant populace, leading to legislative measures aimed at curtailing immigration.

During the early 1920s, the U.S. experienced a notable increase in immigration, predominantly from Southern and Eastern Europe. This influx altered the nation's demographic makeup, eliciting apprehensions among certain American population segments. The Emergency Quota Act of 1921 and the Johnson-Reed Act of 1924, later known as the Immigration Act of 1924, were legislative responses to these apprehensions. These Acts sought to conserve the existing ethnic makeup of the country

by instituting quotas based on the national origins of the U.S. population in earlier decades, thus favoring immigrants from Western and Northern Europe over those from Southern and Eastern Europe (Marinero, 2018).

The resurgence of nativism in the 1920s, marked by anti-Catholic, anti-radical, and Anglo-Saxon nationalist sentiments, was influential in Congress's decision to enact laws aimed at maintaining the "character" of the nation. The National Origins Act of 1924, which further restricted immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe by lowering the quota to two percent of each nationality based on the 1890 Census, exemplifies this sentiment (Sanders, Marietta, & Porter, 2006).

Analyzing this era using the TrendFusion Forecaster, the demographic indicators for the 1920s in the United States score as follows:

1. Immigrant Population Growth Rate (7 points):

Score Basis: The score of 7 points in this category was due to the significant increase in immigration, particularly from Southern and Eastern Europe. The growth rate was 13% in 1924.

Reasoning: This surge in immigrant population growth, primarily from Southern and Eastern Europe, led to concerns among certain American population segments about the changing demographic composition. The score reflects the substantial growth but also the growing apprehensions that this demographic change induced, ultimately influencing restrictive immigration policy (Abramitzky et al.,2023).

2. Age Demographics (4 points):

Score Basis: This category also received 4 points.

Reasoning: The working age demographics between the ages of 18 and 54 was at 53% in 1924. The 1920s in the U.S. were characterized by a relatively younger native population with the arrival of younger immigrants as well. This demographic structure contributed positively to the labor force but simultaneously fueled the nativist concerns leading to restrictive policies. The moderate score reflects the demographic composition that contributed to the labor force while also influencing immigration policy concerns.

- a. The Youthful Demographic Composition: The United States in the 1920s had a relatively younger native population, augmented by the arrival of younger immigrants. This demographic structure had a dual impact: positively contributing to the labor force while simultaneously fueling nativist concerns, leading to restrictive policies. Research by Weiler (1986) in the "Journal of Family History" highlights how the demographic changes during the 1920s, including the influx of immigrants and their family structures, impacted social policies, including immigration legislation (Weiler, 1986).
- b. Impact on Immigration Policy: Murtin and Viarengo (2010) in "Cliometrica" discuss the educational level of U.S. immigrants by age and country, demonstrating that the age composition of immigrants during this period was an essential factor in shaping public perception and policy. Their research underscores how the influx of younger immigrants in the U.S. influenced the educational and economic aspects, contributing to the formation of

the restrictive immigration policies of the 1920s (Murtin & Viarengo, 2010).

The score of 4 points in the "Age Demographics" category of the TrendFusion Forecaster for the 1920s reflects this balance between the positive economic contributions and the societal apprehensions caused by the younger demographic composition. These studies provide a comprehensive view of how the age demographics during this period were instrumental in shaping immigration policies in the United States.

3. Cultural Diversity Index (4 points):

Score Basis: A score of 4 points was given for cultural diversity.

Reasoning: Cultural diversity index in 1924 was around 10.17%, while the remaining 89.56% was white. During this period, the U.S. experienced growing cultural heterogeneity due to immigration from diverse European regions. However, this increased diversity led to intensified nativist sentiments and legislative actions aimed at curtailing immigration from regions considered less desirable. The limited score in this category reflects the increasing cultural diversity that paradoxically amplified concerns leading to the enactment of restrictive immigration laws (Ager et al, 2020).

The growing diversity, primarily due to immigration from diverse European regions, received a lower score. This limited score reflects the era's increasing cultural heterogeneity, which paradoxically intensified nativist sentiments and legislative actions to curtail immigration from less desired regions.

The immigration restrictions of the 1920s significantly impacted local labor markets and societal dynamics in the U.S. Urban areas saw a replacement of European immigrants with internal migrants and immigrants from Mexico and Canada, while rural

regions transitioned towards capital-intensive agriculture and industries previously reliant on immigrant labor. These shifts underscore the uneven effects of the quota system at the local level, altering the economic and social landscape of many communities (Abramitzky et al., 2023).

In conclusion, the demographic shifts of the 1920s were crucial in molding public sentiment towards immigration in the United States, culminating in the enactment of the Immigration Act of 1924. This Act, a reflection of prevailing nativist sentiments and concerns over the changing ethnic composition of the American population, had profound and lasting implications on the nation's social and economic structure, influencing immigration patterns and policies for subsequent decades.

Table 7. Demographics Scoring 1965

Year	Category	Points
1965	Immigrant Growth Rate	10
	Age Demographics	7
	Cultural Diversity	4
Total		21

The demographic landscape of the United States in the 1960s was a pivotal factor in shaping the passage of the 1965 Immigration Act. This transformative period experienced demographic shifts that were instrumental in redefining immigration policies, as analyzed through the lens of the TrendFusion Forecaster.

1. Immigrant Population Growth (10 points):

Analysis: The 1960s saw a notable shift in immigration patterns, with a decrease in European immigration and an increase from Asia and Latin America. The immigrant population growth rate was around 5.5%.

Reason for Score: The Hart-Celler Act of 1965, which abolished the national origins quota system, led to this diversification in immigrant origins. The score of 5 reflects this significant yet balanced change in immigrant population growth. This transition was a response to the evolving economic and social landscape of the United States, recognizing the need for a more diverse immigrant population (Massey & Pren, 2012).

2. Age Demographics (7 points):

Analysis: The demographic composition in the 1960s was characterized by a younger population, both in the native and immigrant communities. The population between ages of 18 and 54 was at 47%.

Reason for Score: The score of 7 indicates a low working age population between the ages of 18 and 54 years old. Also, a youthful demographic that contributed positively to the labor force and the dynamic social changes occurring during this period. The younger population was also more aligned with the Civil Rights Movement and the push for racial and ethnic equality, influencing the shift towards a more inclusive immigration policy (Massey & Pren, 2012).

3. Cultural Diversity Index (4 points):

Analysis: The cultural diversity of the United States increased significantly due to the new immigration patterns established by the 1965 Act.

Reason for Score: The score of 4 reflects the slight increase in cultural diversity from the 1924 immigration act to 11.54%. The Immigration Act of 1965 was a part of a broader movement towards social reform, including the Civil Rights Movement, and was seen as a step toward a more equitable and inclusive society. This policy change contributed to the growth of diverse immigrant communities, enriching the multicultural fabric of the United States (Dm, 1983).

In summary, the demographic changes in the United States during the 1960s, as evaluated by the TrendFusion Forecaster, were significantly influenced by the 1965 Immigration Act. The Act's passage was a result of changing social attitudes, economic needs, and political reforms. These changes have had enduring effects on the composition and characteristics of the US population, with the TrendFusion Forecaster scores reflecting the impact of these demographic shifts on American society and immigration policy.

Table 8. Demographics Scoring 2010

Year	Category	Points
2010	Immigrant Growth Rate	7
	Age Demographics	4
	Cultural Diversity	7
Total		18

The demographic dynamics in the United States, particularly in Arizona, from 2007 to 2010, played a pivotal role in shaping public sentiment and policy decisions, specifically leading to the enactment of Arizona's Senate Bill 1070 (SB 1070) in 2010. Analyzed through the TrendFusion Forecaster, this period saw distinctive scores across

key demographic categories, reflecting the complex interplay between socio-economic pressures, demographic shifts, and heightened political tensions around immigration.

1. Immigrant Population Growth (7 points):

Analysis: During this period, Arizona experienced significant demographic shifts, with a growing number of immigrants, especially from Latin America.

Reason for Score: The score of 7 points reflects the increase in immigrant population, which coincided with the 2008 economic recession. The immigrant growth rate was at 14% in 2010. The economic downturn heightened job insecurity and, subsequently, anti-immigrant sentiment, particularly against undocumented Mexican immigrants. The low score represents the tension and negative sentiment associated with this demographic change, contributing to the stringent immigration policies encapsulated in SB 1070 (Diaz, Saenz, & Kwan, 2011).

2. Age Demographics (4 points):

Analysis: The period witnessed a varied age demographic, with both a younger population and a proportion of aging residents.

Reason for Score: The score of 4 reflects a balanced demographic distribution, impacting labor markets and societal dynamics. The working age population between the ages of 18 and 54 years old was at 52%. This age structure influence public attitudes towards immigration, contributing to the context in which SB 1070 was passed. The moderate score indicates the demographic's dual role in economic contribution and in shaping immigration policy debates (Toomey, R., et. al., 2014).

3. Cultural Diversity Index (7 points):

Analysis: The cultural diversity in Arizona and the broader United States increased during this period, despite the contentious political climate.

Reason for Score: The score of 7 indicates growing cultural diversity, influenced by immigration patterns. The diversity was at 25% in 2010, which was more than double from 1965. However, the contentious nature of SB 1070 and its implications on Latino communities tempers this score, reflecting the complex relationship between increasing diversity and the political and social responses to it. The law’s passage and subsequent debates illustrate the challenges of navigating cultural diversity within the context of state and federal immigration policies (Toomey, R., et. al., 2014).

In conclusion, the demographic shifts and economic pressures experienced in Arizona between 2007 and 2010 significantly influenced public attitudes towards immigration, culminating in the passage of SB 1070. The TrendFusion Forecaster scores for this period highlight the nuanced relationship between demographic trends, economic conditions, and policy responses, shaping the immigration policy landscape in the United States. These scores reflect the complexities inherent in state-level immigration policies, the varied responses at different governmental levels, and the challenges of integrating diverse populations into the societal fabric.

Political Climate

Table 9. Political Climate Scoring 1924

Year	Category	Points
1924	Partisan Control	1
Total		1

The political climate of the United States in the 1920s was a crucial determinant in shaping public attitudes toward immigration, leading to the enactment of the Immigration Act of 1924. This period's political landscape, as analyzed through the TrendFusion Forecaster, reveals distinct scores in key categories, reflecting the intertwined influences of economic concerns, racial attitudes, and national identity issues on U.S. immigration policy.

1. Partisan Control (1 points):

Analysis: The 1920s witnessed significant political initiatives aimed at controlling immigration, driven largely by the Republican-dominated Congress and presidency.

Reason for Score: A score of 1 reflects substantial dominance of one political ideology. The Republican party had full control with a majority in the House, Senate, and Presidency (Trifecta). The era's political leaders, influenced by prevailing economic and social concerns, pushed for immigration laws to preserve the country's ethnic composition, favoring Western and Northern European immigrants (Sanders. R, et al, 2006).

Table 10. Political Climate Scoring 1965

Year	Category	Points
1965	Partisan Control	10
Total		10

The political climate of the United States in the 1960s, as evaluated through the TrendFusion Forecaster, significantly influenced the course of immigration policy, culminating in the enactment of the 1965 Immigration Act. This transformative period was marked by a reevaluation of societal values, driven by broader civil rights

movements, economic factors, and a shift in public attitudes, all of which collectively steered immigration policy.

1. Partisan Control (10 points):

Analysis: The political landscape of the 1960s was largely influenced by a strong civil rights movement, which permeated legislative actions, including immigration policy.

Reason for Score: A score of 10 in this category reflects the substantial influence of civil rights ideologies on the ruling political parties. The Democratic party had a majority in the House, Senate, and Presidency (Trifecta). The Hart-Celler Act, aligning with these civil rights reforms, signaled a departure from racially discriminatory immigration policies and was in line with the broader societal push for equality and inclusion (Massey & Pren, 2012).

In summary, the political climate of the 1960s, as analyzed by the TrendFusion Forecaster, was characterized by a strong civil rights movement, economic growth, and evolving societal values, all playing a pivotal role in shaping public sentiment towards immigration. The passage of the 1965 Immigration Act marked a significant shift in U.S. immigration policy, leading to a more diverse and multicultural society. The TrendFusion Forecaster scores reflect the influence of partisan control on the era's immigration policy.

Table 11. Political Climate Scoring 2010

Year	Category	Points
2010	Partisan Control	1
Total		1

The political climate in the United States from 2007 to 2010, particularly in the context of Arizona's Senate Bill 1070 (SB 1070) enactment in 2010, was a significant period that shaped public sentiment toward immigration. Analyzed through the TrendFusion Forecaster, this era's political landscape receives specific scores in key categories, illustrating the complex interplay of economic challenges, demographic shifts, and political dynamics. For Partisan Control, since SB 1070 was a State Act and not Federal, using the partisan control in the State is the correct analysis.

1. Partisan Control (1 points):

Analysis: During this period, the political atmosphere in Arizona and the broader U.S. was marked by heightened tensions and polarized views on immigration, influenced by the Great Recession.

Reason for Score: The score of 1 reflects a moderate level of influence by political parties on immigration policy. Republicans controlled the Arizona House, Senate, and Governorship in 2010. Economic strain led to amplified public and political demands for stringent immigration control, resulting in legislation like SB 1070. This period saw economic challenges fueling a contentious political response toward immigration (Michalowski, 2013).

In summary, the political climate in the United States in 2010, as assessed by the TrendFusion Forecaster, was marked by economic challenges and demographic shifts, influencing public opinion and political responses to immigration. The enactment of SB 1070 in Arizona was a manifestation of this political climate, reflecting the broader national trend of increasing politicization of immigration issues. The TrendFusion Forecaster scores for this period highlight the complexities and interconnections between

economic conditions, public sentiment, and political dynamics, shaping the landscape of immigration policy in the United States.

In conclusion, this analysis chapter provides a comprehensive examination of the relationship between demographics, political climate, and economic conditions in the United States and their impact on pivotal immigration policies. By utilizing TrendFusion Forecaster's analytical framework, this thesis quantitatively and qualitatively assessed key periods in American history — the 1924, 1965, and 2010 — each representing a critical juncture in U.S. immigration policy.

The 1920s, characterized by economic growth, demographic shifts, and a nativist political climate, culminated in the restrictive Immigration Act of 1924. The TrendFusion Forecaster scores during this era reflected the interplay of these factors, demonstrating how economic prosperity, along with rising nativism and demographic changes, influenced immigration policy.

The 1960s, marked by economic prosperity, civil rights movements, and a shift in societal values, led to the liberalization of the 1965 Immigration Act. The Forecaster scores from this period highlight how a strong economy, coupled with progressive social movements, facilitated a more inclusive approach to immigration.

The period from 2007 to 2010, defined by the Great Recession, saw economic downturns and social strain that significantly influenced public attitudes towards immigration, resulting in Arizona's controversial SB 1070. The Forecaster scores for this era illuminated how economic hardships and demographic changes led to heightened anti-immigration sentiments and stringent policies.

Overall, this chapter shows the multifaceted nature of immigration policy shaped by economic indicators, demographic trends, political climate, and social mood. The use of TrendFusion Forecaster has provided a novel and insightful way to understand these complex dynamics, offering a model that can be applied to predict and analyze future immigration policy trends. The findings of this thesis research contribute significantly to the discourse on immigration policy, offering a nuanced perspective on the historical and contemporary factors that shape it.

Chapter VI

Conclusion

In this thesis we have taken a deep dive into the complex interaction of political, demographic, and economic factors influencing U.S. immigration policy, viewed through the TrendFusion Forecaster. Our analysis spanned important legislation: the 1924 Immigration Act, reflecting nativist sentiments amidst economic instability; the 1965 Immigration Act, born in an era of civil rights and global awareness, heralding inclusivity; and Arizona's SB 1070 in 2010, a response to economic anxieties and demographic shifts within a polarized political landscape.

Reflecting on Methodological Limitations and Strengths

The TrendFusion Forecaster, while a robust tool for analyzing these shifts, carries inherent limitations. The precision of its predictions is subject to the quality and scope of available data, highlighting a critical area for enhancement.

The limitation of data quality is what our analysis has grappled with when facing issues such as granularity and representativeness of datasets. Improvement in quality of data collection methods while, at the same time, putting in place advanced technologies and standardized protocols, is important in improving the accuracy and reliability of our predictions. In addition, advanced statistical methods, such as Bayesian approaches and machine learning algorithms, should offer the routes to mitigate imperfections in the data.

While the methodology encourages some objectivity, the use of quantifiable indicators in the TrendFusion Forecaster falls short of accommodating the complex

realities of immigration policy. This shortfall is particularly pronounced in the model's handling of social mood and political dynamics, which are inherently fluid and multifaceted. The scoring method, a key component of our model, retains some subjectivity because the scores are generally interpreted after weighing various indicators. However, subjectivity, if not carefully handled, risks biasing the model outputs.

Although measurement of social mood can be affected in an indirect manner through various other kinds of metrics, this can distance the real feel for the complexity of the social mood by itself. The subtleties of public feelings and cultural aspects are risked by the dependence on economic and demographic data. Further, the subjectivity of attributing scores from these metrics calls for careful interpretation of predictions.

Implications for Policy and Research

This thesis underscores the necessity for policymakers and researchers to adopt a multidisciplinary perspective, integrating quantitative models with qualitative insights. The TrendFusion Forecaster's insights into economic, demographic, and political dynamics offer a predictive framework for future policy trends, advocating for informed and responsive immigration policy development.

Given the presentation and synthesis of the evidence above, future research of the TrendFusion Forecaster would need to better integrate societal drivers that affect immigration policy. In direct response to the identified gaps and limitations identified, we propose future research agenda to be centered on:

1. Systematic Measures: The development of methodologies for quantifying media narratives and public opinion is essential. According to Jones and McBeth (2010)

and Dennison (2021), analyzing the structuring of policy narratives and emphasizing the relevance of public narratives for migration policy, efforts in the future need to investigate systemically how media narratives, public opinion, functions of advocacy groups, and social movements are involved in the dynamics of immigration policy. This aligns with our findings on the need for nuanced understanding of policy influences.

2. **Technological Integration:** As pointed out in the study by Eberl et al. (2018), leveraging machine learning techniques makes it possible to broaden our analysis into the economic as well as non-economic factors at both global and local levels. This addresses the technological gaps identified in our analysis and further enhances the accuracy and relevance of the model.
3. **Global Applicability:** Adapting the model to various national contexts will be important. Following Pavlenko (2007) and Swinglehurst (2005) on narrative methods in linguistics and quality improvement research, we are sensitive to the need to tailor indicators to local conditions. This would make the TrendFusion Forecaster a versatile tool with potential worldwide applicability, which would address our earlier discussions of model adaptability.
4. **Comparative Research:** This will help in the generalization of the model through comparative studies, as guided by the work of Viruell-Fuentes, Miranda, and Abdulrahim (2012) on narratives in immigrant health, in its global application. This directly answers the call to a need in our research for a wider empirical basis.

To further address these critical data limitations highlighted in Section 2.6, the research direction in the future shall comprise:

5. **Enhanced Data Techniques:** By using modern ways of capturing data and the means of data analysis—here, the use of comprehensive data analysis and real-time monitoring—the quality of model output will be greatly enhanced. This thus addresses the raised concern above about data quality.
6. **Advanced Computational Approaches:** Including advanced computational approaches like ensemble machine learning and Bayesian models within our analysis will fill data gaps and bolster our ability to carry out a comprehensive analysis. This initiative is aligned with our identified need for advanced statistical techniques.
7. **Collaborative Data Sharing:** Development of platforms for data sharing that will further our understanding in regard to the societal factors and the immigration policies, addressing the integration challenges discussed.
8. **Global and Comparative Insights:** By adapting the model for global use and engaging in cross-country studies, we will be able to study its universality, answering directly to the call for more comparative research made in our findings.

In integrating these elements, the TrendFusion Forecaster will show a significant leap. It is not just about overcoming data limitations; it is about enriching our model to predict trends in immigration policies worldwide. Through these concerted efforts, we strive to provide policymakers and researchers a tool for navigating global migration and complexities of policy-making rationally.

These directions aim to refine the model's methodological approach and extend its utility across various geopolitical landscapes, significantly contributing to the field of immigration policy analysis.

The journey of researching and developing the TrendFusion Forecaster has been a profound learning experience, offering insights into the forces shaping immigration policy. This process has emphasized the value of perseverance, adaptability, and the critical role of comprehensive analysis in understanding complex policy landscapes.

This thesis provides both a historical analysis of U.S. immigration policy and laying the groundwork for future research into the dynamics of policy formation. As we look ahead, the integration of broader perspectives—including international relations, legal influences, and technological advancements—will be crucial in navigating the multifaceted nature of immigration policy. Through continued research and improving the TrendFusion Forecaster, we can aim for a more sophisticated and effective policy planning, reflecting the diverse realities of migration in a globalized world.

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