

Immigration Islands

1. What percentage of immigrants who came through Ellis Island were deported? Why were they deported?

Approximately two percent of the immigrants who came through Ellis Island were deported because of illness, criminal backgrounds, or poor mental health. Reasons Ellis Island earned nicknames such as “Heartbreak Island” and “Island of Tears.”

1. How was Chinese immigration through Angel Island diminished in 1882?

Chinese immigration through Angel Island was diminished in 1882 because of the passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. This was the first act that limited immigration based on nationality.

2. What similar tests did immigrants endure on Ellis Island and on Angel Island?

On both islands, immigrants endured medical testing. They were questioned about their names, their occupations, and their plans for supporting themselves in the United States.