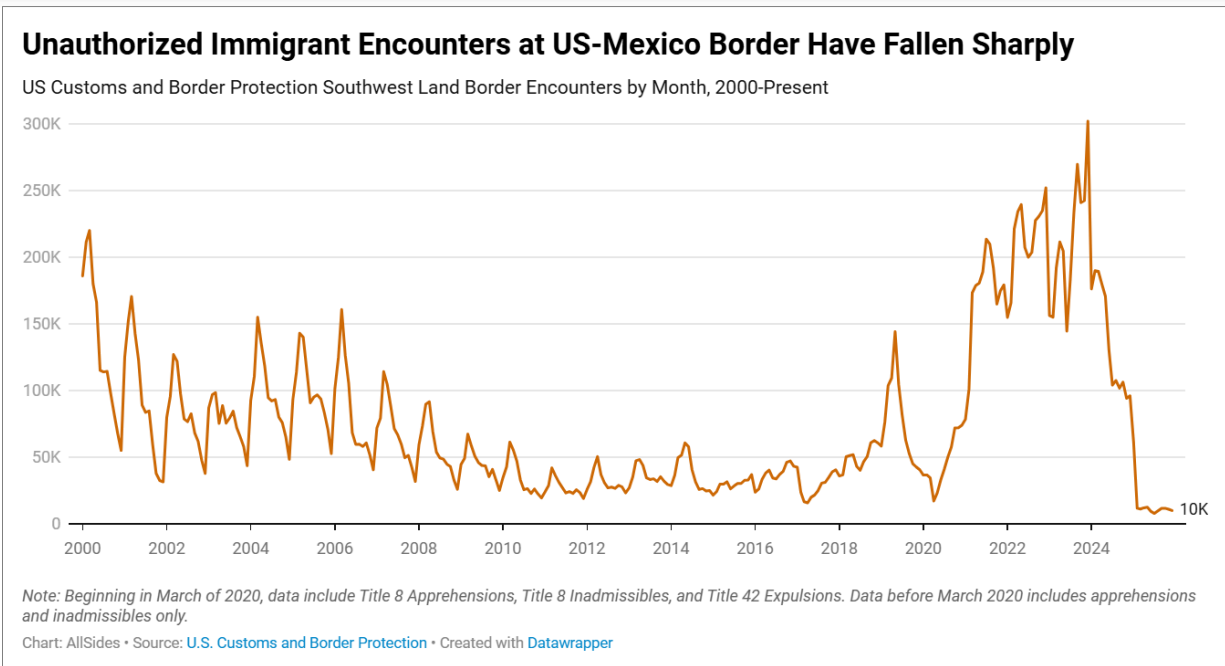


American Public Square is excited to begin a new partnership with **AllSides**, a national leader in media bias analysis and balanced news coverage. Together we are launching curated fact sheets that draw from AllSides' expertise. We are sharing some immigration research from their Headline Roundup and Similarity Hub, a tool designed to highlight where credible sources across the political spectrum actually agree. For our program on Immigration and Customs Enforcement, these materials will aim to help you see the shared facts behind complex policy debates, making it easier to have informed, productive conversations.



- **91% of Americans think local police in their community should at least cooperate in some cases with federal immigration authorities to deport people who are in the country illegally.** *AP-NORC*
 - Republicans: 97%
 - Democrats: 89%
 - Independents: 87%
- **81% of Americans think that children born in the U.S. should automatically receive U.S. citizenship if their parents are legal immigrants living in the U.S.** *YouGov*
 - Republicans: 77%
 - Democrats: 89%
 - Independents: 80%
- **88% of Americans at least somewhat support deporting immigrants who are here illegally and have criminal records.** *Ipsos*
 - Republicans: 94%
 - Democrats: 83%
 - Independents: 64%

- **67%** of Americans **favor increasing the number of work visas**, so long as there is demand for migrant workers by US employers. *Voice of the People*
 - Republicans: 53%
 - Democrats: 84%
 - Independents: 54%
- **82%** of Americans think that **increasing security at the U.S. border** should be at least a **moderate priority** for the federal government." *AP-NORC*
 - Republicans: 95%
 - Democrats: 72%
 - Independents: 80%

Cooperation Agreements Between ICE and Local Police Forces Rise 950% in Past Year

Summary from the AllSides News Team

Agreements between Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and local police that permit officers to make federal immigration arrests have increased by 950% during the first year of President Trump's second term, according to a [recent analysis](#) of ICE data from [FWD.us](#).

The Details: During the first year of Trump's second term, 287(g) agreements – as they are known – rose from 135 to 1,372. ICE has 287(g) agreements with law enforcement bodies in 39 states so far, including 342 in Florida, 296 in Texas, 63 in Tennessee, and 58 in Pennsylvania.

For Context: Under Section 287(g) of the 1996 Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act, ICE is able to delegate federal immigration enforcement duties to state, local, or tribal leaders. In September 2025, ICE announced that it would expand its funding for such agreements to include payment of salaries and start-up costs.

Key Quote: Late last week, in [a statement](#), ICE wrote, "ICE recognizes the importance of its relationships with law enforcement partners—including state, local, and tribal agencies—to carry out its critical mission. Through the delegation of specified immigration officer duties, the program allows ICE to enhance collaboration with state, local, and tribal law enforcement partners to protect the homeland."

Maryland News: The Maryland General Assembly [passed a law](#) on Thursday that would ban 287(g) agreements in the state, and Democratic Governor Wes Moore is expected to sign it. [Newsmax \(Right\) reported](#) speaking to sheriffs who will keep working with ICE despite the ban.

How The Media Covered It: The analysis received some mainstream attention, though it was not the most widely covered story. [Common Dreams \(Left\)](#) framed its headline through the billions in funding allotted for 287(g) agreements via the One Big, Beautiful Bill Act and said Trump is working to "deputize" local police forces.

From the Left

[Agreements that allow local police to work with ICE skyrocket](#)

[NBC News Digital](#)



Agreements between Immigration and Customs Enforcement and local law enforcement that allow officers to make federal immigration arrests have increased by 950% in the first year of President Donald Trump's second term, according to a new analysis of ICE data.

As of Jan. 26, there were 1,168 agencies with officers trained to help ICE, up from 135 during the Biden administration and 150 at the end of Trump's first term, according to the analysis by FWD.US, a nonpartisan policy organization.

From the Center

[Collaboration agreements between ICE, local police soar 950 percent in Trump's first year: Analysis](#)

[The Hill](#)



News

A new analysis shows that enforcement agreements between Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and local and state law enforcement agencies have increased by more than 900 percent during President Trump's first term.

The analysis, released Monday by criminal justice reform advocacy group FWD.us, found that there are 1,372 agreements between local law enforcement agencies and ICE, up from 135 in January 2025.

The agreements are legal under section 287(g) of the 1996 Immigration and Nationality Act. But the Obama administration, citing issues such as racial profiling, ended the 287(g) model.

From the Right

[Local Police Agreements With ICE Surge 950% In First Year Of Trump's Second Term](#)

[The Daily Wire](#)



News

Agreements between local law enforcement agencies and Immigration and Customs Enforcement have surged 950% in President Donald Trump's first year in office, according to a new report by the advocacy organization [FWD.US](#).

Under the Biden administration, there were 135 such agreements. Now, there are 1,168 as of Jan. 26, according to the report. The Trump administration has openly called on local police and sheriff's departments to participate in its recently revived "task force" program that deputizes officers, giving them the authority to stop and arrest suspected illegal immigrants.

Less Than 14% of ICE Arrests Under Trump So Far Were 'Violent Criminals' - CBS News

Summary from the AllSides News Team

Less than 14% of those arrested by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) during President Trump's first year in office had violent criminal histories, according to a new report from [CBS News](#) ([Lean Left bias](#)).

The Details: CBS said it obtained Department of Homeland Security (DHS) data that had not been previously reported on publicly. The report said ICE arrests have "dramatically increased" since Trump took office last January and that nearly 60% of arrestees had criminal charges or convictions. About 40% of arrestees only had immigration violations.

ICE Pushback: ICE contested CBS's reporting and wrote on X, "Here's a more accurate headline, CBS. Nearly 70% of criminal aliens detained by ICE have pending charges or prior convictions. So-called 'non-violent' offenders include individuals charged with drug trafficking, distribution of child pornography, burglary, fraud, DUI, embezzlement, solicitation of a minor, human smuggling, and more. Labeling these offenses as 'non-violent' does not mean they aren't threats to public safety."

For Context: The Trump administration's immigration enforcement operations have been a polarizing issue over the past year, with [controversial deportations](#) and [immigration raids in cities such as Minneapolis](#) sparking protests and [mixed media coverage](#).

How The Media Covered It: CBS framed its story by writing, "The internal DHS figures undermine frequent assertions by the Trump administration that its crackdown on illegal immigration is primarily targeting dangerous and violent criminals living in the US illegally." [Fox News \(Right\)](#) framed its headline and story around the statement from ICE.

From the Left

[Less than 14% of those arrested by ICE in Trump's 1st year back in office had violent criminal records, document shows](#)

[CBS News \(Online\)](#)



News

Less than 14% of nearly 400,000 immigrants arrested by Immigration and Customs Enforcement in President Trump's first year back in the White House had charges or convictions for violent criminal offenses, according to an internal Department of Homeland Security document obtained by CBS News.

The official statistics contained in the DHS document, which had not been previously reported publicly, provide the most detailed look yet into who ICE has arrested during the Trump administration's far-reaching deportation operations across the U.S.

From the Right

[Trump administration pushes back on CBS claim very few arrested illegal aliens have 'violent criminal records'](#)

[Fox News Digital](#)



News

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) pushed back against a CBS article claiming that most illegal immigrants arrested under the Trump administration have not committed any "violent criminal offenses."

CBS' Camilo Montoya-Galvez reported on Monday that an internal DHS document showed less than 14% of nearly 400,000 immigrants arrested by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) were charged or convicted of violent crimes despite President Donald Trump's vow to go after "the worst of the worst."



THE CONVERSATION DOESN'T END TONIGHT!

Join us on **April 22 at 6 PM** for a virtual, small-group Roundtable powered by AllSides, where participants will engage across political differences using this structured conversation guide to deepen understanding of immigration and federal enforcement following our April 15 program.



Immigration

Living Room Conversations (LRC) offers a simple, structured way to communicate and build connections. Four to six people meet in person or by video call for about 90 minutes to listen to and be heard by others. We take turns talking to share, learn, and be curious. It is not a debate. *Hosts participate using the italicized language to guide the conversation.*

Introductions: Why We're Here (~10 minutes)

Each participant has 1 minute to introduce themselves.

- Share your name, where you live, and what drew you here.

Conversation Agreements: How We'll Engage (~5 minutes)

These set the tone for the conversation and introduce you to the skills you will be practicing. Take turns reading them out loud.

Be curious and listen to understand. Conversation is as much about listening as it is about talking. You might enjoy exploring how others' experiences have shaped their values and perspectives. Truly listen without interrupting or making comments.

Show respect and suspend judgment. People tend to judge one another. Setting judgment aside opens you up to learning from others and makes them feel respected and appreciated.

Note any common ground as well as any differences. Look for areas of agreement or shared values that may arise. Take an interest in the differing beliefs and opinions of others.

Be authentic and welcome that from others. Share what's important to you. Speak from your experience. Be considerate of others who are doing the same.

Be purposeful and to the point. Do your best to keep your comments concise and relevant to the question you are answering. Be conscious of sharing speaking time with other participants.

Own and guide the conversation. Take responsibility for the quality of your participation and the conversation. Be proactive in getting yourself and others back on track if needed. Use an agreed-upon signal (like the "time out" sign) if you feel the agreements are not being honored.

Question Rounds: What We'll Talk About

This conversation includes answering prompts without interruption and having time to explore what you heard from others in the group. Keeping time helps to equalize power dynamics. The host or a participant can keep time and let others know when they should wrap up.

Round One: Getting to Know Each Other (~10 minutes)

Each participant can take 1-2 minutes to answer one of these questions:

- What are your hopes and concerns for your family, and/or community?
- What would your best friend say about who you are?
- What sense of purpose/mission/duty guides you in your life?

Round Two: Exploring the Topic – Immigration (~40 minutes)

One participant can volunteer to read this paragraph out loud.

Immigration is one of the most complex and deeply personal issues of our time, intertwining questions of identity, opportunity, and belonging. For many, immigration represents hope—a chance to build a better life, contribute to society, and escape hardship. For others, it raises concerns about economic stability, cultural preservation, and national security. These differing perspectives often stem from deeply rooted personal experiences, historical contexts, and societal narratives. This conversation provides an opportunity to move beyond political debates and media headlines, creating space for thoughtful dialogue about the impact of immigration on our lives and communities.

Each participant chooses a question below and takes ~2 minutes to answer without interruption or crosstalk. After everyone has answered, the group may take about 10 minutes to explore what you've heard from each other before going back to answer another question.

- What is at the heart of the immigration issue for you? What experiences inform your beliefs and understanding about immigration?
- What reasons might someone have for immigrating to a new country? What conditions might prompt you to immigrate?
- What about refugees? How welcoming should America be of people fleeing hardship and/or violence?
- In your view, what values should guide immigration policies and practices?
- What concerns or challenges do you think need more attention in immigration policies or practices?
- What are your hopes for how society can address immigration in the future?

Round Three: Reflecting on the Conversation (~15 minutes)

Take 2 minutes to answer one of the following questions:

- What was most meaningful/valuable to you in this Living Room Conversation?
- What learning, new understanding, or common ground was found on the topic?
- How has this conversation shifted your perception of others or yourself?
- Is there a next step you would like to take based on the conversation you just had?

**SIGN UP FOR OUR VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE WITH ALLSIDES ON APRIL 22 AT 6 PM CST
BY SCANNING THE QR CODE**



A Local Lens: Reporting from APS Roving Reporter Mary Sanchez

American Public Square's Roving Reporter, **Mary Sanchez**, has been tracking how national immigration policy plays out on the ground in Kansas City:

- [Kansas City's immigrant rights advocates echo national call for nonviolent resistance](#), The Beacon
- [How Would MLK Use Nonviolence to Challenge ICE?](#), Tribune Content Agency
- [Kansas City Schools Look to Supreme Court Ruling to Protect Undocumented Students](#), The Missouri Independent
- [In Kansas City, most immigrants facing deportation receive no legal counsel](#), The Beacon

Key Context: Immigration in the U.S. and Globally

- Migration is driven by global forces: economic instability, conflict, and climate pressures.
- [In 2024, 304 million people lived outside their home country.](#)
- Immigration patterns follow cycles of labor demand and restriction.

Kansas City as a Federal Hub

- Regional presence of ICE, USCIS, and Homeland Security
- Federal enforcement activity tied to nearby agencies and courts
- Immigration courts are overseen by the Department of Justice
- There is **no guaranteed right to legal counsel**
- Cases face major backlogs

Glossary

- **ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement)**
Federal agency responsible for enforcement of immigration laws within the U.S.
- **Removal (Deportation)**
The formal process of expelling a non-citizen from the U.S.
- **Immigration Court**
Administrative court system under the Department of Justice handling immigration cases
- **H1-B Visa**
Work visa for specialized, highly skilled labor
- **DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals)**
Program protecting certain undocumented individuals brought to the U.S. as children
- **Temporary Protected Status (TPS)**
Temporary legal status for individuals from countries facing crisis
- **CBP (Customs and Border Protection)**
Federal agency responsible for securing U.S. borders, facilitating lawful international travel and trade, and apprehending unauthorized individuals entering the country.
- **DHS (Department of Homeland Security)**
Cabinet-level department overseeing national security, including immigration enforcement, border security, cybersecurity, and disaster response; ICE and CBP operate under DHS

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

Fear of ICE trickles down to Kansas City high schools. Who's next?

Opinion By CEI Students Scarlett Antonides and Garyn Watts, The Kansas City Star

As a part of American Public Square's Civic Education Initiative, nine Kansas City-area high schools come together for the opportunity to design a public program about an issue that directly affects us as students. We were told in the past that it was difficult to choose a topic, because there were so many issues to choose from. This year, everyone in the program instantly gravitated towards an issue that impacted us all directly: the incredibly divisive topic of immigration, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency and federal enforcement. Our free public program, Breaking the ICE on Immigration Enforcement and Federal Power on April 15, brings together a former head of ICE, immigration lawyers, journalists, legislators and the ACLU to have a conversation, and we hope you'll join us. But what we learned about civic education in the program helped us speak about our own experience as well.

Students are living with the consequences of federal policy every day. Growing up in a community shaped by immigrants, the presence of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents has not felt like a safety measure, but like a shadow over everyday life. We've had to watch close friends weigh whether it's safe to attend school, harming their education and overall mental health. They fear that any part of their daily routine could turn into a life-shattering encounter. The constant vigilance changes people, creating anxiety that makes it harder to participate in daily life meaningfully.

As students, we see the impact on young people and their families. We believe that immigration enforcement should reflect both the rule of law and human decency. A system that relies heavily on raids, detention and mass deportations erodes trust between communities and the government. The fear of our classmates is not just collateral damage, but evidence that our federal approach needs rebalancing. We see the fear of people who are not immigrants themselves, but simply standing up for immigrants. The public deaths of protesters in Minnesota caused trauma and fear. This chaos creates anxiety that trickles down to young people like ourselves, with a message that says anyone can be harmed by this agency's approach to mitigating illegal immigration.

We can secure borders while still recognizing that immigrants are our neighbors, classmates and coworkers. Policies should help and strengthen communities, not divide them. Right now, families are being torn apart by this policy, both literally and figuratively, in the divisive ripple it causes.

Undocumented immigrants: lower crime rates

People are self-deporting just so they can survive, with a major justification being crime rates and the accusation that “illegal” immigrants are a significant cause of lawlessness in America. [Research from the American Immigration Council](#) shows that “immigrants — including undocumented immigrants — are less likely to commit crimes than the U.S.-born. This is true at the national, state, county, and neighborhood levels, and for both violent and non-violent crime.” In a piece by the [American Civil Liberties Union](#), Haddy Gassama outlines physical abuse and abusive conditions at federal immigration detention sites. There have been reports of discrimination and mistreatment in detention. A compelling study made by the American Immigration Council found that physical and verbal mistreatment of migrants is not a random, sporadic occurrence, but rather a systematic practice. It shows two indications of this are that [11% of deportees report some form of physical abuse](#) and 23% report verbal mistreatment while in U.S. custody. Some also report being targeted with discriminatory remarks. These day-to-day human decisions drive people to make choices out of fear, such as a woman who passed away after neglecting to seek necessary [cancer treatment](#) because of her intense terror at increased immigration enforcement in Minnesota, or [Paulino Martin San Pedro](#), who died of pneumonia shortly after being deported to Mexico, with his family citing the stress of detention.

Perception of security

We want to believe this is a just country, but that cannot blind us from seeing that people are afraid and suffering. Systemic racism has not ended — it has evolved to look more professional and necessary for so-called “public safety.” How can we not feel that we are battling more than prejudiced individuals, rather that we are battling a system that was designed to prioritize the perception of security over the life of hardworking families? The hardest part is recognizing the fear that our government is imposing may very well be the point. Who are we if we let ourselves be afraid? If we can see a pattern of injustice being passed on to the next group of minorities, we must ask ourselves: Who’s next? As a part of American Public Square’s Civic Education Program, we have learned not only to express our own opinions, but to listen to other perspectives. Through five student workdays throughout the school year, we get on buses and meet with nine schools from around the Kansas City area — public, private, charter and parochial. The diversity of students we’ve met from other schools has expanded our view of the issues. We know that the harder the topic is to solve, the more necessary it is to understand it better and to understand why people have the viewpoints they do. American Public Square has brought in speakers from law firms, legislatures, newspapers, colleges, law enforcement and education to help us have better conversations. We hope you’ll join us at the event, either virtually or in person.

Scarlett Antonides attends Belton High School, and Garyn Watts attends Olathe North High School. They are both students in American Public Square’s Civics Education Initiative, which brings together 85 local high schoolers to engage in civic learning, media literacy, culminating in a student-designed American Public Square program on a topic that affects them.

Read more at:

<https://www.kansascity.com/opinion/readers-opinion/guest-commentary/article315379535.html#storylink=cpy>

Resources on ICE and Immigration

Recent Local Headlines:

[Milan ICE raid causes financial pain for families, business | Government | missouribusinessalert.com](#)

[Kansas Republicans vote to restrict student protests in school, in response to ICE walkouts | KCUR - Kansas City news and NPR](#)

[Legislators override veto to create 25-foot 'safe zone' around police, emergency personnel | Kansas Reflector](#)

[With no-masks proposal, Jackson County joins push to restrain ICE | Beacon: Kansas City](#)

[Legal concerns continue as Jackson County weighs ICE mask ban | Kansas City Star](#)

[Immigration researcher sees ICE trends playing out in Missouri | STLPR](#)

[Leavenworth ICE detention facility opens with 20 detainees](#)

[Immigration arrests nearly triple in Missouri under Trump | STLPR](#)

[Kansas City 'BEST' task force | ICE](#)

A History of ICE:

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement [History of ICE](#)

NPR [The Origins of ICE](#)

PBS [A look at the history of U.S. immigration policies that led to today's complex system](#)

Freedom for Immigrants [A Short History of Immigration Detention](#)

EBSCO Knowledge Advantage [U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement \(ICE\)](#)

Howard Law Library [A Brief History of Civil Rights in the United States: Historical Overview - Immigration](#)

Immigration History [Timeline](#)

Pew Research Center [How the origins of America's immigrants have changed since 1850](#)

NPR [How ICE grew to be the highest-funded U.S. law enforcement agency](#)

Immigration & Crime

American Sociological Association [Sociological Research Reveals How Immigrants Can Reduce Crime](#)

U.S. Border and Customs Control [Criminal Alien Statistics](#)

PNAS [Comparing crime rates between undocumented immigrants, legal immigrants, and native-born US citizens in Texas](#)

Annual Criminology Review [Immigration and Crime: Assessing a Contentious Issue](#)

American Society of Criminology [Statement of the American Society of Criminology Executive Board Concerning the Trump Administration's Policies Relevant to Crime and Justice](#)

Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research [The mythical tie between immigration and crime](#)

Fox News Digital [Trump administration pushes back on CBS claim very few arrested illegal aliens have 'violent criminal records'](#)

Immigration Data

Pew Research Center [U.S. Unauthorized Immigrant Population Reached a Record 14 Million in 2023](#)

Migration Policy Institute [Profile of the Unauthorized Population: United States](#)

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services [UCIS Data Library](#)

American Immigration Council [U.S. Immigration Statistics](#)

Border Enforcement

Pew Research Center [Key facts about Title 42, the pandemic policy that has reshaped immigration enforcement at U.S.-Mexico border](#)

Pew Research Center [Most Americans Are Critical of Government's Handling of Situation at U.S.-Mexico Border](#)

AllSides [Border Crisis](#)

Department of Homeland Security [Border Enforcement](#)

American Immigration Council [Border Enforcement](#)

Pew Research Center [Migrant encounters at the U.S.-Mexico border are at their lowest level in more than 50 years](#)

Law & Policy

ACLU [Immigrant Rights Project](#)

Harvard Law Today [Can Birthright Citizenship be Changed?](#)

American Immigration Council [Birthright Citizenship](#)

Brennan Center for Justice [Alien Enemies Act Explained](#)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security [DHS Sets the Record Straight on Administrative Warrants and American Public Support of President Trump's Deportations of Illegal Aliens](#)

National Immigration Law Center [Warrants and Subpoenas: What to look out for and how to respond](#)

New York Times [Under Trump, a Shift Toward 'Absolute Immunity' for ICE](#)

New York Times [White House Use of 'Domestic Terrorist' Doesn't Match Legal Reality](#)

SCOTUS Blog [A guide to some of the briefs in support of ending birthright citizenship](#)

AP News [Immigration officers assert sweeping power to enter homes without a judge's warrant, memo says](#)

PBS [What legal rights do you have in encounters with ICE? Legal experts weigh in](#)

Information on Detention Facilities

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement [ICE Detention Facilities](#)

The Guardian [Detained: How the US built the world's largest immigrant detention system](#)

Kansas City Star [Facing reports of ICE facility in KC, council says it won't OK permits for it](#)

ABC [Federal lawsuit alleges inhumane conditions at Adelanto ICE Processing Center](#)

KCUR [Kansas City developers halt sale of warehouse for ICE detention center as public pressure mounts](#)

American Immigration Council [New Report Details ICE's Expanding and Increasingly Unaccountable Detention System](#)

National Immigration Forum [Fact Sheet: Immigration Detention in the United States](#)

ACLU [Detained Immigrants Detail Physical Abuse and Inhumane Conditions at Largest Immigration Detention Center in the U.S.](#)

The Marshall Project [Not In Our Backyard: Some Pro-Trump Towns Push Against Detention Centers Opposition to an immigration detention center in Leavenworth, Kansas, illustrates a tension playing out across the country.](#)

American Immigration Lawyers Association [Family Detention During Obama Administration](#)

Los Angeles Times [Immigration fact check: 'Who built the cages?'](#)

Freedom for Immigrants [A Short History of Immigration Detention](#)

Economy

Economic Policy Institute [Immigrants are not hurting U.S.-born workers Six facts to set the record straight](#)

CNBC Personal Finance [Are immigrants taking jobs from 'native' U.S. workers? Here's what economists say](#)

National Immigration Forum [Fact Sheet: Immigrants and Public Benefits](#)

Fox News ['That ends now:' White House vows removal of illegal immigrants from taxpayer benefits New policy will prevent illegal immigrants from receiving \\$40B in public assistance](#)

Kansas City Star [Despite Missouri politicians, KC moves forward with plan to attract immigrant workers](#)

Institute for Applied Economics [Economic Impacts of Federal Immigration Enforcement in Los Angeles County](#)

Economic Policy Institute [Immigration enforcement and the workplace](#)

Baker Institute for Public Policy [Social and Economic Effects of Expanded Deportation Measures](#)

ICE Surveillance Technology

American Immigration Council [Mission Creep: AI Surveillance at DHS Crosses Dangerous Line Into Tracking Americans](#)

Department of Homeland Security [Privacy Impact Assessment for the Homeland Security Investigation \(HSI\) Surveillance Technologies](#)

PBS [Immigration agents' surveillance tools and tactics raise questions about civil liberties](#)

Protest & Civil Unrest

The Beacon [Kansas City's immigrant rights advocates echo national call for nonviolent resistance](#)

Tribune Content Agency [Mary Sanchez: How would MLK use nonviolence to challenge ICE?](#)

Kansas City Defender [BREAKING: Platform Ventures Backs Down From ICE Detention Center Sale After Weeks of Mass Organizing and Protest](#)

Kansas City Star [Hundreds of JoCo students walk out to protest ICE amid local wave: 'Really proud'](#)

PBS [After deaths, protests and political backlash, ICE surge set to end in Minnesota](#)

Kansas City Star [Kansas City groups mobilize ahead of national general strike in response to ICE](#)

KSHB [Nonprofit shares strategies for civil discourse among student ICE protests](#)

ICE in Schools

NPR [Trump administration strips schools, churches of immigration enforcement protections](#)

MPR News [Twin Cities schools reopen with security measures tied to ICE operations](#)

CBS [Feds descend on Roosevelt High School in Minneapolis, MPS cancels school for rest of week](#)

National Education Association [NEA Files Emergency Motion to Stop ICE Enforcement Near Schools](#)

Local organizations

These organizations focus on protecting immigrant rights and providing community alerts regarding enforcement actions.

- [Advocates for Immigrant Rights and Reconciliation \(AIRR\)](#): Educates communities on rights and provides a hotline to report ICE activity in the Kansas City metro.
- [Boots on the Ground Midwest](#): A grassroots group formed in 2025 that trains residents to legally observe and record ICE enforcement.
- [ACLU of Kansas](#): Conducts litigation and public outreach to challenge unlawful detention and protect civil rights in Kansas.

Local Legal Services & Representation:

These nonprofits provide direct legal assistance, often on a pro bono or sliding-scale basis.

- [Asylum Clinic Kansas City](#): Delivers accessible legal services specifically for asylum seekers and refugees in the Heartland.
- [Legal Aid of Western Missouri](#): Provides comprehensive legal services for citizenship, residency, and survivors of domestic violence.
- [Migrant and Immigrant Community Action \(MICA\) Project](#): Based in St. Louis, providing legal services and organizing to promote the voice of immigrant communities.
- [La Luz Immigration Clinic](#): A full-service clinic sponsored by Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas offering affordable legal counseling.
- [Immigrant Connection, Inc.](#): Offers legal assistance for DACA, family-based petitions, and naturalization in Olathe, KS.
- [Legal Services of Missouri \(LSMO\)](#): A portal for the four major legal aid programs across the state.

Local Refugee & Resettlement Agencies:

- [Della Lamb Community Services](#): Formally resettles refugees and asylees in Kansas City, providing housing and cultural orientation.
- [International Institute of St. Louis](#): Provides resettlement, English classes, and social services for the St. Louis area.
- [Jewish Vocational Service \(JVS\) Kansas City](#): Offers immigration counseling, language services, and employment support for refugees.

Local Government Agencies

- [ICE Kansas City Field Office](#): Responsible for enforcement and removal operations in Northwest Missouri and Northeast Kansas.
- [Kansas City Immigration Court](#): The primary judicial body for immigration proceedings in the region.

Pro-Immigrant & Advocacy Organizations:

These groups generally support expanded legal pathways, protections for undocumented individuals, and humane enforcement.

- [National Immigration Law Center \(NILC\)](#): Focuses on defending the rights of low-income immigrants through litigation and policy advocacy.
- [American Immigration Council \(AIC\)](#): Conducts research, education, and legal action to promote fair immigration laws.
- [American Immigration Lawyers Association \(AILA\)](#): A professional association of over 15,000 attorneys providing legal expertise and advocacy for fair policy.
- [UnidosUS](#): Formerly the National Council of La Raza, it is the largest Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the U.S..
- [United We Dream](#): The largest immigrant youth-led network, focusing on the rights of "Dreamers" and fair treatment regardless of status.
- [Catholic Legal Immigration Network \(CLINIC\)](#): Provides legal services and advocacy through a national network of community-based immigration programs.
- [Immigrant Legal Resource Center \(ILRC\)](#): Offers training and materials to practitioners and advocates to protect immigrant rights.
- [National Immigrant Justice Center \(NIJC\)](#): Provides direct legal services and engages in impact litigation to defend human rights.
- [Acacia Center for Justice](#): Provides legal support to immigrants facing deportation through federal contracts and advocacy.
- [Protecting Immigrant Families \(PIF\)](#): A coalition of over 800 organizations focused on ensuring immigrants can access essential health and human services.

- [Al Otro Lado, Inc.](#): Provides legal and humanitarian support to refugees and migrants, including at the border.
- [Detention Watch Network](#): A national coalition working to end immigration detention.
- [ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project](#): Works to protect the rights of immigrants through litigation and advocacy.
- [National Immigration Forum](#): Advocates for immigration policy reform.
- [Immigration Advocates Network](#): Provides online tools for legal advocates and immigrants.

Restrictionist & Anti-Immigration Organizations:

These groups generally advocate for reduced immigration levels, stricter border enforcement, and the removal of undocumented individuals.

- [Federation for American Immigration Reform \(FAIR\)](#): One of the oldest and most influential groups seeking to reduce overall immigration and enhance border security.
- [Center for Immigration Studies \(CIS\)](#): A research-focused organization that advocates for lower immigration levels.
- [NumbersUSA](#): A grassroots organization that mobilizes citizens to lobby for reduced immigration to prevent population growth.
- [American Immigration Control Foundation \(AICF\)](#): An older restrictionist group focused on the cultural and economic impacts of immigration.
- [Negative Population Growth \(NPG\)](#): Advocates for stabilizing the U.S. population by significantly reducing annual immigration quotas.

Refugee & Humanitarian Organizations:

These groups focus specifically on the resettlement and protection of refugees and asylum seekers.

- [International Rescue Committee \(IRC\)](#): Provides emergency aid and long-term assistance to refugees and those displaced by conflict.
- [HIAS \(Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society\)](#): A Jewish-led global organization that protects refugees of all backgrounds.
- [Human Rights First](#): Partners with pro bono attorneys to represent asylum seekers and monitors government enforcement practices.
- [Global Refugee \(formerly LIRS\)](#): Focuses on refugee resettlement and advocating for humane treatment of those seeking protection.