

NEWS ARTICLES ON KEY ISSUES – FEBRUARY 12, 2026

LATEST STATISTICS

U.S. Border Patrol Southwest Border Encounters						
USBP	Demographic	FY 2019 Totals	FY 2020 Totals	FY 2021 Totals	FY 2022 Totals	FY 2023 Totals
Southwest Border	Unaccompanied Child	76,020	30,557	144,834	149,093	131,519
	Family Units	473,682	52,230	451,087	482,962	621,311
	Single Adult	301,806	317,864	1,063,285	1,574,381	1,293,008
Southwest Border Total Apprehensions		851,508	400,651	1,659,206	2,206,436	2,045,838

Data Sources: <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/southwest-land-border-encounters>

U.S. Border Patrol Southwest Border Encounters FY2024														
USBP	Demographic	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	Total
Southwest Border	Unaccompanied Child	10,697	11,940	12,456	7,483	9,355	7,926	7,632	7,693	6,662	5,624	6,397	5,839	99,704
	Family Units	84,411	82,676	101,707	39,806	45,972	45,987	40,160	41,819	27,817	16,080	15,544	13,599	555,578
	Single Adult	93,641	96,490	135,577	76,926	85,314	83,560	81,103	68,393	49,053	34,696	36,068	34,420	875,241
Southwest Border Total Apprehensions		188,749	191,106	249,740	124,215	140,641	137,473	128,895	117,905	83,532	56,400	58,009	53,858	1,530,523

Data Source: <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/southwest-land-border-encounters>

U.S. Border Patrol Southwest Border Encounters FY 2025														
USBP	Demographic	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	Total
Southwest Border	Unaccompanied Child	5,876	5,765	6,114	2,746	733	631	790	1,007	638	451	626	822	26,199
	Family Units	15,236	12,247	14,265	7,095	809	468	534	460	277	316	513	979	53,199
	Single Adult	35,403	28,597	26,941	19,264	6,807	6,080	7,052	7,257	5,151	3,825	5,178	6,585	158,140
Southwest Border Total Apprehensions		56,515	46,609	47,320	29,105	8,349	7,179	8,376	8,724	6,066	4,592	6,317	8,386	237,538

Data Source: <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/southwest-land-border-encounters>

U.S. Border Patrol Southwest Border Encounters FY 2026				
Demographic	OCT	NOV	DEC	Total
Unaccompanied Child	831	681	545	2,057
Family Units	639	386	393	1,417
Single Adult	6,519	6,281	5,541	18,341
Southwest Border Total Apprehensions	7,989	7,348	6,478	21,815

Data Source: <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/southwest-land-border-encounters>

U.S., for 1st time in 50 years, experienced negative net migration in 2025: Report

By Laura Romero, ABC News, January 13, 2026

A Brookings Institution report released January 14, found that the U.S. experienced negative net migration in 2025 for the first time in at least 50 years, estimating net flows between -295,000 and -10,000, driven primarily by a sharp drop in entries alongside heightened enforcement. The study attributes the shift to increased removals and voluntary departures, the suspension of most humanitarian programs except those for white South Africans, and declines in temporary visas. The report predicts removals will rise in 2026 with funding from the One Big Beautiful Bill Act and warns that continued negative migration will weaken employment, GDP, and consumer spending, which is projected to fall by \$60 billion to \$110 billion across 2025 and 2026.

Source: <https://abcnews.go.com/US/us-1st-time-50-years-experienced-negative-net/story?id=129175522>

U.S. sees slowest population growth since 2021 due to decreased immigration

By Julia Ingram and Laura Doan, CBS News, January 27, 2026

The United States population experienced its slowest growth since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic amid President Trump's deportation and border crackdown, new data from the Census Bureau show. The nation's population grew by 1.8 million people, or about 0.5%, from July 2024 to July 2025, driven largely by a decline in net immigration. The immigrant population grew by 1.3 million over that timeframe, compared with a 2.7 million increase over the 12 months prior.

Source: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/u-s-sees-slowest-population-growth-since-2021-due-to-decreased-immigration/>

Trump And Miller Slashing Legal Immigration By 33% To 50%

By Stuart Anderson, Forbes, January 20, 2026

New research from the National Foundation for American Policy (NFAP) finds that the administration's policies will reduce legal immigration by 33% to 50%, eliminating 1.5 million to 2.4 million green cards over four years, largely by restricting Americans' ability to sponsor Immediate Relatives, who make up 48% of all legal immigration. In FY 2023, 1,172,910 people gained permanent residence, but NFAP estimates that 1,546,710 to 2,369,998 fewer immigrants will receive green cards due to refugee cuts, "public charge" rules, a 39-country ban, and actions against Diversity Visa recipients. These figures exclude up to 2.7 million people already in the U.S. whose protections have been threatened, including several hundred thousand Venezuelans, Haitians, and others with TPS or humanitarian parole. NFAP further estimates that 941,625 to 1,654,770 fewer Immediate Relatives of U.S. citizens will obtain green cards, driven by the Dec. 16 proclamation blocking immigrants from 39 countries and the Jan. 14 freeze halting visas to 75 countries, creating combined restrictions affecting 93 countries. About 371,000 individuals from the freeze list received green cards in FY 2023, including 171,210 Immediate Relatives. NFAP projects the administration's immigration policies will reduce the U.S. workforce by 6.8 million by 2028 and 15.7 million by 2035, lower economic growth by nearly one-third, and increase federal debt by \$252 billion by 2028 and \$1.74 trillion by 2035.

Source: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/stuartanderson/2026/01/20/trump-and-miller-slashing-legal-immigration-by-33-to-50/>

ICE and Border Patrol. What makes the immigration agencies different?

By Christopher Cann, USA TODAY, January 25, 2026

Border Patrol, which is typically constrained to a 100-mile zone near any U.S. border, began deploying into the interior of the country, leading some of the most intense and visible enforcement operations in Chicago and Charlotte, North Carolina. They've assisted helping ICE agents conducting immigration stops across the country, including in Minneapolis.

Can Border Patrol and ICE conduct arrests and searches? Border Patrol agents can make stops, arrests and search vehicles, particularly within 100 miles of border crossings and ports of entry, the agency says. In that 100-mile zone, Border Patrol agents have broad authority to interrogate people and conduct warrantless searches when there's "reasonable suspicion" of immigration violations. ICE says its agents can "briefly detain" people who they have "reasonable suspicion" of being in the country illegally. The agency also says its agents can "arrest people they believe are illegal aliens" and "initiate consensual encounters and speak with people" on the street.

How to tell ICE and Border Patrol agents apart: Border Patrol agents often dress in dark green colors or camouflage, and they often identify their agency with vests reading "U.S. Border Patrol" or with patches on their sleeves. ICE agents, meanwhile, have been known to wear vests reading "Police ICE" or "HSI," which is a reference to Homeland Security Investigations, a branch of ICE that handles federal criminal probes. ICE agents have also been seen dressed in plainclothes, sometimes with a visible badge reading "ICE." Many of the street operations are conducted with unmarked cars.

Source: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2026/01/25/immigration-and-customs-enforcement-border-patrol/88347803007/>

SOUTH TEXAS FAMILY RESIDENTIAL CENTER, DILLEY, TEXAS

DPS troopers clash with protesters outside Dilley ICE detention facility

By Joey Palacios, Samuel Rocha IV and Dan Katz, Texas Public Radio, January 28, 2026

Texas Department of Public Safety troopers in riot gear arrived in Dilley on Wednesday, January 28, transporting about 40 troopers on a Dilley ISD bus as protesters gathered outside the South Texas Family Residential Center to demand the release of a five-year-old boy [Liam Conejo Ramos] from the Minneapolis area held at the ICE facility. Tensions escalated as protesters stood just feet from troopers' shields, and authorities deployed pepper spray, pepper ball projectiles, and other less-lethal measures, creating a thick white haze that left demonstrators flushing their eyes with water; some protesters were arrested. Several lawmakers visited the facility, and U.S. Reps. Joaquin Castro and Jasmine Crockett said the conditions they observed amounted to "inhumanity" at the South Texas Family Residential Center, which was closed during the Biden administration and reopened last year.

Source: <https://www.tpr.org/border-immigration/2026-01-28/texas-dps-uses-tear-gas-as-protesters-clash-with-troopers-outside-dilley-ice-detention-facility>

Reps. Castro and Crockett describe conditions at ICE Dilley detention center

By David Martin Davies, Texas Public Radio, January 28, 2026

U.S. Reps. Joaquin Castro and Jasmine Crockett said conditions inside the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley amounted to "inhumanity" after touring the facility and spending about 30 minutes with five-year-old Liam Conejo Ramos and his father, whom they described as struggling with Liam's "lethargy," "very depressed" state, refusal to eat, and reliance on a single set of clothes washed daily; Crockett added that Liam's mother is four months pregnant and not detained. They emphasized the trauma of Liam being flown 1,500 miles from home and noted he was one of many children suffering, including "a two-month-old baby" and others "mentally broken," with mothers reporting kids "throwing up." The Dilley facility, run by CoreCivic, can hold up to 2,400 people and currently houses about 1,100, with Crockett alleging unsafe drinking water and inadequate schooling, as children said "we're not in school."

Source: <https://www.tpr.org/border-immigration/2026-01-28/rep-castro-and-crockett-describe-conditions-at-ice-dilley-detention-center>

5-year-old Liam Ramos and father are back in Minneapolis after being released from federal custody in Texas

By Zoe Sottile, Elizabeth Wolfe and Ed Lavandera, CNN, February 1, 2026

Ecuadorian preschooler Liam Conejo Ramos, age 5, and his father were released after more than a week in a Texas detention facility and are now back in Minneapolis, following a federal judge's order requiring their release "as soon as practicable" and no later than Tuesday, February 5. Immigration agents had taken them from their Minneapolis driveway and sent them 1,300 miles to Dilley, TX, sparking national outrage, especially after the widely shared photo of Liam clutching his Spider-Man backpack under a bunny hat. Liam is the fourth child from his school district detained in a two-week span, and another toddler was similarly taken the previous weekend. Liam's father, who has no known criminal record, and his wife had legally presented themselves for asylum in December 2024, fleeing economic instability in Ecuador.

Source: <https://www.cnn.com/2026/01/31/us/liam-ramos-judge-release-ice-detention>

DHS confirms measles cases at Texas immigration detention facility

By Thao NguyenThao Nguyen, USA TODAY, February 1, 2026

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement halted all movement at the South Texas Family Residential Center after two detainees were confirmed to have active measles infections on February 1, prompting ICE to quarantine them and all individuals suspected of exposure. The Texas Department of State Health Services had confirmed the cases on January 31, and the facility—located in Dilley, over 70 miles southwest of San Antonio—has faced heightened scrutiny amid broader reports of sick children and limited medical care in U.S. detention centers. The measles confirmations follow three cases among detainees in Arizona the previous week and come as the U.S. continues to confront a record 2,255 measles cases in 2025, including 2,230 across 44 states, 25 among international visitors, and major outbreaks such as more than 760 cases in West Texas (with three deaths) and nearly 800 cases reported in South Carolina on January 27. The Dilley facility, which holds families with no criminal record, recently drew national attention after 5-year-old Liam Conejo Ramos and his father—detained in Minnesota on January 20—were sent there before a judge ordered their release on January 31, with their return to Minnesota on February 1.

Source: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2026/02/01/measles-cases-texas-immigration-detention-center/88469118007/>

Protesters call for release of children detained at detention centers

By Pachatta Pope and Sal Salazar, KSAT San Antonio, February 2, 2026

The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) on Sunday, February 1, called for the release of all children held in immigration detention centers, following the release of 5-year-old Liam Conejo Ramos and his father from the South Texas Family Residential Center located in Dilley, Texas. LULAC leaders said they have received numerous reports from families describing treatment ranging from “questionable” to “cruel,” and about 100 people gathered outside the Dilley facility on February 1, 2026, for a vigil and protest demanding reforms. National president Roman Palomares urged continued pressure, warning that 23 more detention centers are planned that would “house 80,000 more people,” while speakers emphasized that the issue is about “human decency,” not partisanship.

Source: <https://www.ksat.com/news/local/2026/02/02/protesters-call-for-release-of-children-detained-at-detention-centers/>

Texas houses the country's only immigrant family detention centers. Here's what to know

By Benjamin Wermund, Houston Chronicle, January 26, 2026

The detention of 5-year-old Liam Ramos and his father at the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley has intensified scrutiny of the Trump administration's revived family-detention system, in which virtually all arrested families nationwide are sent to Texas — home to the country's only facilities that hold parents and children. The Dilley center, run by CoreCivic, has a 2,400-person capacity and held 552 detainees as of November 27, while families at both Dilley and the Karnes County Residential Center report poor conditions that are the subject of an ongoing lawsuit over violations of the Flores Settlement Agreement, which requires safe, sanitary facilities for minors. Advocates say families are now being held far beyond the 20-day limit, with a Marshall Project analysis finding more than 1,300 children detained longer than that last year, and an American Immigration Council review showing discretionary releases dropped 87% from January through November. Some families have been detained for months, prompting protests inside the facility and allegations of abusive treatment, while DHS maintains that detainees receive meals, clean water, medical care, and communication access.

Source: <https://www.houstonchronicle.com/politics/texas/article/family-detention-centers-immigration-ice-21311439.php>

Toddler returned to ICE custody and denied medication, lawsuit says

By Jack Queen, Reuter, February 8, 2026

An 18-month-old girl, identified as Amalia, was detained with her parents at the Dilley, Texas, immigration facility after a December 11 check-in and became gravely ill, developing a 104-degree fever before being hospitalized from January 18 to 28 with COVID-19, RSV, viral bronchitis and pneumonia, according to a federal lawsuit. After her release, immigration authorities returned her to Dilley — amid a measles outbreak — where staff allegedly confiscated her nebulizer, respiratory medication, and nutritional drinks, even though she had already lost 10% of her body weight. The family, who have lived in the U.S. since 2024 and intend to seek asylum, was released on February 6 after filing suit.

Source: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2026/02/08/toddler-ice-custody-denied-medication-lawsuit/88580428007/>

DETENTION CENTERS

ICE Begins Buying ‘Mega’ Warehouse Detention Centers Across US

By Sophie Alexander and Fola Akinnibi, Bloomberg, January 29, 2026

The Trump administration is moving forward with what could become the largest expansion of immigration detention in U.S. history, purchasing warehouses for conversion into ICE jails despite widespread protests; the first two sites cost \$172 million—including \$102 million for a warehouse near Hagerstown, Maryland, on January 16, and \$70 million for one in Surprise, Arizona, a week later—and a third site in El Paso could hold 8,500 beds, making it one of the largest jails in the country. ICE ultimately aims to convert 23 warehouses ranging from 500 to 9,500 beds, potentially adding 76,500 beds to the current record 73,000 people already in custody, as part of a broader plan to reach 1 million deportations per year and sustain 3,000 arrests per day.

Source: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2026-01-29/us-spends-hundreds-of-millions-on-warehouses-for-ice-detention-centers>

Local leaders oppose alleged ICE detention facility on San Antonio's east side

By Darcy Ramirez, Andrea Carden and Earl Stoudemire, KENS 5, February 1, 2026

Opposition is growing on San Antonio's east side over a possible Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention facility, with local and state leaders urging residents to speak out as they say a deal could be finalized soon. District 2 City Councilman Jalen McKee-Rodriguez says a potential agreement between the Department of Homeland Security and Oakmont Industrial Group may be moving quickly. The company owns a vacant warehouse known as Oakmont 410, located at 542 S.E. Loop 410 near East Houston Street. Bexar County Commissioner Tommy Calvert said in a statement that he was not previously aware of the proposed deal in his precinct. The City of San Antonio says it has not been formally notified of any proposed agreement. The office of Bexar County Judge Peter Sakai says no paperwork related to the deal has been received and that the judge is opposed to the facility.

Source: <https://www.kens5.com/article/news/local/san-antonio-opposition-ice-facility-councilman-jalen-mckee-rodriguez-texas/273-5290cdf8-2510-4b9d-a7f6-fc3117c25b55>

UPDATE: ICE buys warehouse on San Antonio's East Side, angering local officials

By Madison Iszler, San Antonio Express-News, February 3, 2026

ICE has finalized the purchase of Oakmont 410, a vacant 639,595-square-foot warehouse at 542 S.E. Loop 410 on San Antonio's East Side, for \$66.1 million, which local officials had tried to block, and which an internal ICE document indicated could become a 1,500-bed migrant processing center. The property, valued by the Bexar Central Appraisal District at \$37.8 million, was sold by Oakmont Industrial Group despite more than 6,000 letters urging the company not to proceed. City officials noted they have no zoning authority over federal facilities, limiting options to stop the project. The center would be part of ICE's national hub-and-spoke strategy to accelerate deportations, with smaller warehouses holding up to 1,500 people and larger ones 5,000–10,000, amid a record 65,735 people in ICE custody as of late November and planned “mega” centers in Hutchins and El Paso and additional processing sites in Los Fresnos and San Antonio.

Sources: [https://www.expressnews.com/news/article/ice-warehouse-san-antonio-east-side-industrial-21329611.php?utm_campaign=CMS%20Sharing%20Tools%20\(Premium\)&utm_source=share-by-email&utm_medium=email](https://www.expressnews.com/news/article/ice-warehouse-san-antonio-east-side-industrial-21329611.php?utm_campaign=CMS%20Sharing%20Tools%20(Premium)&utm_source=share-by-email&utm_medium=email) ; <https://www.expressnews.com/news/article/ice-confirms-buying-san-antonio-site-detention-21334133.php>

Trump's \$45 billion expansion of immigrant detention sites faces pushback from communities

By David A. Lieb, Heather Hollingsworth and Morgan Lee, Associated Press, February 2, 2026

State and local officials across the country are resisting President Donald Trump's push to expand immigration detention, as the administration rolls out a \$45 billion plan to add facilities in converted warehouses, private sites and county jails amid heightened scrutiny following the fatal shootings of Renee Good and Alex Pretti in Minnesota. ICE detention has surged to more than 70,000 people as of late December, up from 40,000 when Trump took office, and the number of facilities has nearly doubled to 212 sites across 47 states and territories. Despite widespread opposition — including hundreds attending a hearing near Richmond, Kansas City passing a five-year moratorium, and mayors in Oklahoma City and Salt Lake City blocking property sales — federal officials continue purchasing large warehouses, paying \$102 million for one in Maryland, \$84 million for one in Pennsylvania, and over \$70 million for one in Arizona, while exploring sites in places like Chester, New York. Legal experts note that federal immunity from local zoning severely limits local governments' ability to stop these projects, even as states like New Mexico advance legislation targeting ICE contracts, potentially affecting facilities such as the Otero County Processing Center, which holds more than 1,000 detainees and carries \$16.5 million in remaining debt.

Source: <https://apnews.com/article/immigrant-detention-warehouses-ice-trump-51ad28e6b1e1c3fa60a38029d932aeebm>

US judge again blocks Trump ban on lawmakers' surprise visits to detention centers

By Daniel Wiessner, Reuters, February 2, 2026

A federal judge on Monday, February 2, again blocked the Trump administration's effort to bar unannounced congressional visits to immigrant detention centers, with U.S. District Judge Jia Cobb ruling that the Department of Homeland Security could not revive the policy by relying on a different funding stream, including the \$29 billion earmarked for immigration enforcement in Trump's 2025 tax and spending law. Cobb had already halted an identical June policy that required lawmakers to give seven days' notice, finding that federal law grants Congress broad oversight authority. She said the administration failed to show the rule could be implemented solely with unrestricted funds, noting that "at least some" resources used for the policy came from restricted annual appropriations.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/legal/government/us-judge-again-blocks-trump-ban-lawmakers-surprise-visits-detention-centers-2026-02-02/>

Texas National Guard muzzles troops posted at ICE facility near San Antonio

By Nancy M. Preyor-Johnson, San Antonio Express-News, February 5, 2026

Texas National Guard troops stationed at the South Texas ICE Processing Center in Pearsall, TX have been ordered by the Texas Military Department not to answer questions from members of Congress or the media ahead of a planned visit, directing all "media inquiries, Congressional inquiries and internal inquiries" to the guard's public affairs office and instructing personnel to avoid discussing their mission with unauthorized individuals. U.S. Rep. Joaquin Castro, who is scheduled to visit the Pearsall facility on Friday, February 6, with Rep. Maxine Dexter, has asked ICE Acting Director Todd M. Lyons for permission to speak directly with guard personnel about their duties, protocols, and coordination with ICE and private contractors. Castro had planned to visit the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley the same day, but that trip was postponed after two measles cases prompted a lockdown. The Pearsall facility, operated by GEO Group, opened in 2005 and can hold about 1,900 detainees, making it one of Texas' largest immigration detention centers.

Source: <https://www.expressnews.com/news/article/joaquin-castro-ice-detention-center-pearsall-guard-21336462.php>

U.S. Rep. Joaquin Castro calls ICE facility in South Texas a 'prison'

By Nancy M. Preyor-Johnson, San Antonio Express-News, February 6, 2026

U.S. Rep. Joaquin Castro spent 2½ hours touring the South Texas ICE Processing Center in Pearsall, TX — a facility 55 miles southwest of San Antonio that holds 1,700 detainees despite a 1,900-person capacity — and described it as an "absolute prison" where many immigrants with no criminal history have been held for months in razor-wire-lined, steel-door conditions. Castro said many detainees were longtime U.S. residents and family breadwinners, echoing construction-industry complaints about labor shortages tied to mass deportations. He also confirmed that Texas National Guard troops, deployed in plainclothes for a "unique mission," were barred from speaking with him despite his formal request, and that detainees reported worms in food, lack of medical care, and repeated 911 calls linked to medical and mental-health crises. Castro's visit follows his successful effort to secure the release of 5-year-old Liam Conejo Ramos and his father after a judge ruled ICE had violated their due-process rights, and comes as he presses ICE and Gov. Greg Abbott for transparency about Guard involvement in detention operations.

Source: https://www.expressnews.com/news/article/pearsall-ice-visit-joaquin-castro-texas-guard-21338313.php?sid=5b0234e724c17c5e3d919320&ss=A&st_rid=8c2c24df-19f7-4f67-8806-52c846c1ab48

ICE moves migrant families from controversial detention center to Laredo shelter

By Nancy M. Preyor-Johnson, San Antonio Express-News, January 31, 2026

ICE has quietly begun busing detained immigrant families from the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley, TX to the Holding Institute Community Center in Laredo, TX where they are being released — a shift that began about two weeks ago and has raised questions about policy changes, capacity limits, or efforts to meet federal standards. The Holding Institute, which can accommodate about 150 people at a time, began receiving families on January 17 in busloads of 25 to 100, including many with medical needs, and most stay no more than one night before returning to their home communities. U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar, who held a news conference at the center, said the releases involve both recent border crossers and longtime U.S. residents detained by ICE, and may be tied to the 20–21 day detention limit for minors under the 1997 Flores settlement. The shift comes amid scrutiny of family detention in Dilley, where 5-year-old Liam Conejo Ramos and his father were held after being detained on January 20, and where some families report being held for months. Volunteers in Laredo (about 150 miles southwest of San Antonio) are providing meals, hygiene items, and rest, while Cuellar monitors detention timelines, release practices, and coordination with shelters.

Source: <https://www.expressnews.com/news/article/dilley-laredo-henry-cuellar-liam-ramos-21323853.php>

Judge ordered 5-year-old released, but data shows ICE is detaining more kids

By Arelis R. Hernández and María Luisa Paúl, Washington Post, February 1, 2026

The late-January detentions of 5-year-old Liam Conejo Ramos and 2-year-old Chloe Renata Tipan Villacis in Minneapolis, followed by their transfer with their fathers to the Dilley, Texas, family detention center, highlight a surge in child arrests under the Trump administration, where detainees report long lines for basic supplies and inadequate medical care. A federal judge ordered Liam's release, condemning the administration's "ill-conceived and incompetently-implemented" push for daily deportation quotas. Federal data show the average monthly family-detention population has nearly tripled from 425 in October to 1,304 in January, while independent analyses found at least 3,800 minors, including 20 infants, were detained in 2025, and that ICE sent about 600 children arrested inside the U.S. to federal shelters last year — more than during the entire Biden administration. The Dilley facility, opened in 2014 with a 2,400-person capacity, was reopened after Trump resumed family detention, and some children are reportedly held well beyond the 20-day limit set by the 1997 Flores agreement. Families describe brightly labeled housing corridors, 12-bed rooms with lights left on, chlorine-tasting water, and weekly ICE pressure to sign deportation papers, underscoring what advocates call a punitive system treating children as collateral in mass-deportation efforts.

Source: <https://wapo.st/3LZ9n4f>

Migrants languish in US detention centers facing dire conditions and prolonged waits

By Gisela Salomon, Associated Press, February 9, 2026

An 18-month-old Nicaraguan asylum-seeker, Felipe Hernandez Espinosa, spent 45 days in Florida's "Alligator Alcatraz", where detainees reported worms in food, non-flushing toilets, overflowing sewage and insects, before being transferred to the Fort Bliss detention camp in Texas, where two migrants died in January and where he has now been held nearly seven months. His case reflects a sharp rise in prolonged detention under President Trump's second term, driven in part by a new policy that generally bars immigration judges from releasing detainees while their cases move through backlogged courts. ICE detention has surpassed 70,000 people for the first time, with 7,252 held at least six months in mid-January (including 79 for more than two years) more than double the 2,849 held that long in December 2024. Despite the administration offering plane fare and \$2,600 for voluntary departure, many detainees ready to leave (including Hernandez, who has signed removal requests at least five times) are told they cannot be released until seeing a judge. Attorneys report unprecedented numbers of people detained for months or years, including migrants with protection under the U.N. Convention Against Torture, such as one Salvadoran man held three years and another Mexican man detained a year despite winning his case.

Source: <https://apnews.com/article/immigration-migrants-detention-trump-deportations-c8bfb50adac8fe9554f4d5aeefbe30cf>

Across the country, Americans are saying no to ICE prisons in their communities

By Rachel Maddow, MS NOW, February 3, 2026

Residents across the country, including in deep-red Hanover County, Virginia, where Trump won by 26 points, have successfully blocked multiple planned ICE detention centers, forcing the cancellation of a proposed sale of a 500,000-square-foot warehouse in Ashland less than 48 hours after the county board announced its opposition. Similar community pushback has stopped projects in Salt Lake City, where the mayor warned a proposed facility would hold more people than all Utah state prisons, as well as in Durant and Oklahoma City, Merrimack, New Hampshire, Social Circle, Georgia, San Antonio, Texas, and Howard County, Maryland, where officials revoked a building permit. The resistance comes as the Trump administration seeks to expand detention capacity beyond the 73,000 people already held, proposing 16 new processing centers and seven warehouse camps that could each hold up to 10,000 people, far larger than existing sites like Camp East Montana, which holds about 3,000 and has seen three deaths in two months, including one ruled a homicide. Protests have also erupted at the Dilley, Texas, facility, where hundreds of children remain detained amid a measles outbreak and where 5-year-old Liam Conejo Ramos was held before a judge ordered his release.

Source: <https://www.ms.now/rachel-maddow-show/maddowblog/americans-protest-ice-detention-facilities-trump-mass-deportation>

To watch an excerpt from the February 2 episode of "The Rachel Maddow Show" that discusses this issue, visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1riHq1Qvu2A>

DEPORTATIONS

Lawsuit challenges ICE ability to enter homes without warrants from judges

By Reuters, January 30, 2026

Immigrant rights advocates filed a federal lawsuit in Boston on Friday, January 30, challenging a newly revealed ICE policy—outlined in a May 12 memo by Acting Director Todd Lyons—that allows officers to enter homes without a judge-signed warrant and instead rely solely on administrative warrants (Form I-205s) issued within DHS. The Greater Boston Latino Network and Brazilian Worker Center argue the policy violates the Fourth Amendment and removes a key safeguard as the Trump administration escalates mass-deportation efforts, including aggressive operations in states like Minnesota that several judges have already ruled unlawful.

Source: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/lawsuit-challenges-ice-ability-enter-homes-warrants-judges-rcna256741>

How ICE grew to be the highest-funded U.S. law enforcement agency

By Bill Chappell, NPR, January 21, 2026

ICE's budget, which was less than \$6 billion a decade ago and hovered around \$10 billion for years, has surged to \$85 billion under President Trump's second term, driven by the One Big Beautiful Bill Act and making it the highest-funded U.S. law-enforcement agency, with funding now "larger than the annual budget of all other federal law-enforcement agencies combined." The administration has set lofty goals for ICE, aiming to deport 1 million people each year. And the One Big Beautiful Bill Act also allocates \$45 billion for ICE to expand its immigration detention system — Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem said last June that the agency will be able to hold up to 100,000 people in custody daily. By comparison, the federal Bureau of Prisons currently holds over 153,000 inmates. As of November 30, 65,735 people were held in immigration detention, according to the data tracking project Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse. With those metrics in mind, ICE went on a hiring spree in 2025, fueled by its bigger budget. In just one year, the agency says, it "more than doubled our officers and agents from 10,000 to 22,000." According to the DHS, ICE received 220,000 applications in 2025, thanks in part to a generous incentive package with perks like a signing bonus of up to \$50,000, disbursed over the course of a five-year commitment, and up to \$60,000 in student loan repayment. The starting salary for an ICE deportation officer in the Enforcement and Removal Operations division, or ERO, ranges from \$51,632 up to \$84,277.

Source: <https://www.npr.org/2026/01/21/nx-s1-5674887/ice-budget-funding-congress-trump>

Immigration Raids in South Texas Are Starting to Hit the Economy

By Elizabeth Findell and Ruth Simon, Wall Street Journal, February 9, 2026

Immigration raids have repeatedly hit the Monte Cielo housing development in Weslaco, TX and other construction sites across South Texas, with at least six raids in recent months and one incident resulting in eight workers arrested as federal vehicles sped through the subdivision, leaving homes months behind schedule and workers unwilling to return. The crackdown has rippled through the Rio Grande Valley economy, where immigrants make up more than half of construction-trade workers and where residential construction in Hidalgo County has fallen 30%, concrete use at major supplier 57 Concrete has dropped 60%, and the company laid off 60 of its 150 workers before filing for Chapter 11. Tile supplier Materiales El Valle has lost \$5.3 million in sales, taken out a \$1.3 million credit line, and made its first layoffs in 40 years. Builders report that ICE is now detaining workers with and without legal status, leaving half-poured foundations, stalled projects, and pallets of materials sitting for months. Nationally, one-third of commercial contractors say they've been affected by enforcement in the past six months.

Source: https://www.wsj.com/politics/policy/texas-immigration-raids-economy-87e23e2e?st=KkNuKW&reflink=desktopwebshare_permalink

MINNESOTA IN THE NEWS

Thousands of new ICE watchers hit the streets after two killings

By Annie Gowen, Washington Post, January 31, 2026

More than 34,000 Minnesotans have signed up in recent weeks to be trained as ICE observers—many since January 7, when federal agents shot and killed Renée Good, followed by the killing of ICU nurse Alex Pretti, galvanizing a sprawling volunteer resistance network that communicates via Signal and shadows the 3,000 federal agents deployed to Minneapolis. Despite Trump's removal of border patrol head Greg Bovino and new talks with Gov. Tim Walz, incoming border czar Tom Homan warned that "justice is coming" for those disrupting operations, as the DOJ announced charges against 16 people for interfering with enforcement. Volunteers continue patrolling neighborhoods, documenting arrests, and warning immigrant-owned businesses, even as federal agents threaten additional crackdowns and residents describe parts of Minneapolis as feeling like a "war zone."

Source: <https://wapo.st/4tbEtpZ>

Judge denies Minnesota's request to end ICE surge in Minneapolis

By Oliver Milman, The Guardian, January 31, 2026

A federal judge on Saturday, January 31, denied Minnesota, Minneapolis, and St. Paul's request to halt Operation Metro Surge and send home the 3,000 ICE agents deployed to Minneapolis, despite the operation resulting in the fatal shootings of Renée Good and Alex Pretti and sparking weeks of protests. Judge Kate Menendez, appointed in 2021, ruled that the plaintiffs had not shown a 10th Amendment violation, saying their claims offered "no metric" for when lawful enforcement becomes unconstitutional commandeering, even as she acknowledged the operation's "profound and even heartbreaking" impact and evidence of racial profiling and excessive force by ICE and CBP. The decision comes as more than 300 demonstrations across all 50 states and Washington, D.C., are planned under the banner "ICE Out of Everywhere," responding not only to the deaths of Good and Pretti but also the killing of Geraldo Campos in a Texas detention facility and the shooting of Keith Porter Jr. by an off-duty ICE officer in Los Angeles.

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/jan/31/judge-denies-minnesota-request-ice-surge>

Trump administration will pull 700 immigration officers from Minneapolis

By Eric Bazail-Eimil, Politico, February 4, 2026

Border czar Tom Homan announced that the Trump administration will cut immigration-enforcement personnel in Minneapolis by roughly 25 percent, withdrawing 700 officers while keeping 2,000 in place as the city moves toward ending the federal surge that followed the fatal shooting of two U.S. citizens by ICE agents. Homan said the goal is a full drawdown — eventually returning staffing to the usual 150 officers — contingent on increased cooperation from local law enforcement and a reduction in what he called violence and rhetoric against federal agents.

Source: <https://www.politico.com/news/2026/02/04/trump-administration-will-pull-700-immigration-officers-from-minneapolis-00763994?cid=apn>

ASYLUM SEEKERS

Trump administration sued over visa freeze on immigrants from 75 countries

By Vanessa Romo, NPR, February 2, 2026

A coalition of civil rights groups and U.S. citizens has sued the State Department over its sweeping suspension of immigrant visa processing for people from 75 countries, arguing the January 21 policy unlawfully creates a nationality-based ban affecting nations such as Afghanistan, Somalia, Brazil, Colombia, Thailand, Russia and Cambodia. The lawsuit says the rule violates decades of immigration law by denying visas to people who may have received or might someday need non-cash public benefits, even though a recent Cato Institute study found immigrants use 24% less in welfare benefits per capita than U.S.-born citizens. Plaintiffs include U.S. citizens separated from family members and a Colombian endocrinologist who earned an "Einstein Visa" in January 2025 but was deemed ineligible for a first-preference visa because Colombia is on the list.

Source: <https://www.npr.org/2026/02/02/nx-s1-5696686/visa-freeze-lawsuit-trump>

Judge blocks Trump administration from ending protections for Haitians

By Luis Andres Henao and Hannah Schoenbaum, Associated Press, February 2, 2026

U.S. District Judge Ana Reyes on Monday, February 2, halted the Trump administration's plan to end Temporary Protected Status for roughly 350,000 Haitians.

Source: <https://apnews.com/article/haiti-springfield-immigration-ruling-202aef9c838bec43d19d6f1d67766b77>

DEPLOYMENT OF TROOPS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Trump's National Guard deployments could cost over \$1 billion this year, CBO projects

By Juliana Kim, NPR, January 28, 2026

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that President Trump's domestic National Guard deployments could cost \$1.1 billion this year, with current operations requiring an additional \$93 million per month and the 2,690-member deployment in Washington, D.C., alone projected to reach \$660 million if maintained through December. Trump has deployed Guard troops to six Democratic-led cities during his second term, and while operations in Los Angeles, Chicago, and Portland ended this month, deployments continue in D.C., Memphis, and New Orleans, with 200 Texas Guard members still on standby. The CBO reported that domestic Guard mobilizations cost \$496 million in 2025, including \$193 million in Los Angeles, \$223 million in D.C., \$33 million in Memphis, \$26 million in Portland, and \$21 million in Chicago, with per-service-member costs ranging from \$311 to \$607 per day. The Supreme Court recently blocked deployments into Chicago, but Trump has continued to suggest domestic military action, including threatening to invoke the Insurrection Act after the shooting of Renee Macklin Good. The CBO estimates future deployments could cost \$18–\$21 million per 1,000 soldiers, raising concerns that expenses may divert funding from other military priorities, as occurred after the 25,000-troop D.C. deployment in 2021.

Source: <https://www.npr.org/2026/01/28/nx-s1-5690394/national-guard-deployments-cost-cbo>

Benedictine Sisters Corporate Responsibility Coalition

287(G) AGREEMENTS

State of Texas: Agreements between law enforcement agencies and ICE rise as new law takes effect

By Josh Hinkle, Dylan McKim, Adam Schwager, Josh Skurnik and John Thomas, January 31, 2026

Effective January 1, sheriff's offices in all counties with a jail must enter into 287(g) agreements. Just a few weeks into the law's implementation, 265 such agreements existed with Texas law enforcement agencies, according to ICE data.

287(g) agreements currently allow law enforcement agencies to expand their immigration enforcement through any of these four models:

- **Jail enforcement:** identify and process people with pending or active criminal charges;
- **Warrant services officer:** serve and execute administrative warrants in jail;
- **Task force:** enforce limited immigration authorities with ICE oversight during routine duties;
- **Tribal task force:** similar to the task force model but for tribal law enforcement agencies (no participating Texas agencies are currently listed under this model in ICE data).

As of Jan. 16, Texas still had the second-most 287(g) agreements behind Florida, which has 340. By that date, ICE had 1,316 agreements in 39 states and one U.S. territory – Guam.

Source: <https://www.kxan.com/state-of-texas/state-of-texas-agreements-between-law-enforcement-agencies-and-ice-rise-as-new-law-takes-effect/>

Several states move to ban local cooperation in immigration arrests

By Katie Mettler, Katie Shepherd and Emmanuel Martinez, Washington Post, February 4, 2026

Maryland is on the verge of banning local participation in federal 287(g) immigration-enforcement agreements, a move that would require nine sheriff's offices to immediately end their partnerships with ICE and place the state alongside at least eight others that already restrict or prohibit such cooperation, even as New Mexico, New York, Hawaii and Virginia consider similar measures in 2026. The push comes amid a dramatic expansion of 287(g) agreements under Trump's second term — from 135 to more than 1,300, including adoption in 18 states that previously had none — and follows high-profile incidents in Maryland, including viral enforcement videos and federal court battles. Supporters say the ban is needed to curb abuses and protect immigrant communities, while opponents, including Frederick County Sheriff Chuck Jenkins, argue the partnerships are a "public safety tool." Legislative leaders who hesitated last year now cite concerns about federal overreach, including threats to funding, infrastructure projects, and even National Guard deployment, while the bill's scope would bar all four ICE partnership models, from jail-based enforcement to warrant-service programs.

Source: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2026/02/04/maryland-ice-ban-287g/>

DEVELOPING STORIES

Amid ICE raids, some Home Depot investors want to know how law enforcement uses its surveillance data

By Arriana McLymore and Ross Kerber, Reuters, January 16, 2026

Home Depot is facing growing pressure from investors to review its partnership with surveillance firm Flock Safety and disclose how customer data is used and shared with law enforcement, after reports that Flock data has been used in ICE investigations and as ICE arrests near Home Depot stores increase following directives from Homeland Security Adviser Stephen Miller. Led by Zevin Asset Management, which holds over \$7 million in Home Depot stock, a coalition of 17 co-filers is urging the company to assess privacy, civil-rights, and reputational risks tied to third-party surveillance vendors, echoing similar demands made of Walmart and Amazon amid nationwide protests over immigration enforcement. Shareholders warn that data-sharing practices could expose the company to legal, financial, and privacy-law risks, especially as Home Depot acknowledges collecting demographic information and sharing it with authorities when deemed necessary.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/boards-policy-regulation/amid-ice-raids-some-home-depot-investors-want-know-how-law-enforcement-uses-its-2026-01-16/>

Palantir beats Wall Street expectations amid Trump immigration crackdown

By Sanya Mansoor, The Guardian, February 2, 2026

Palantir reported surging government business as it beat Wall Street expectations with \$1.41 billion in fourth-quarter 2025 revenue (above the \$1.33 billion forecast), driving its stock up about 8% in after-hours trading and marking a 70% year-over-year jump from the prior fourth quarter. The company said revenue from government contracts grew 66% to \$570 million, and its federal contracts nearly doubled in 2025 to more than \$970 million, largely from the Defense Department and DHS as Trump's immigration agenda expanded with \$45 billion for ICE detention capacity.

Source: https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2026/feb/02/palantir-financial-results-ice-trump-immigration?CMP=oth_b-aplnews_d-1

As some states try to show ICE the door, others put out the welcome mat

By Mawa Iqbal and Marianna Bacallao, NPR, February 3, 2026

The deaths of Renee Macklin Good and Alex Pretti have intensified national debates over state responses to federal immigration crackdowns, prompting some Democratic officials to pursue unprecedented accountability measures, including potential criminal charges against ICE officers. Illinois created the Illinois Accountability Commission after an ICE surge in Chicago, with its chair saying the group is already discussing prosecutions, while prosecutors in Philadelphia and California are weighing similar actions. Legal experts note that states can charge federal agents, and Illinois already allows civil suits against them, inspiring lawmakers in New York, California, Colorado and Oregon to consider comparable laws. Meanwhile, Republican-led states have expanded cooperation with ICE: Tennessee's grant program has driven a surge in local ICE agreements, and lawmakers there are advancing policies that would bar undocumented residents from buying cars, earning nursing certificates or receiving government benefits; Kentucky, Indiana, and New Hampshire are moving in similar directions. Democratic-led states are instead seeking to limit ICE activity through mask bans, ID requirements, expanded non-cooperation laws, "safe zones," and, in Minnesota, a forthcoming bill allowing residents to sue federal agents and protect renters affected by enforcement, though passage will require bipartisan support in the split state House.

Source: <https://www.npr.org/2026/02/03/nx-s1-5697380/ice-immigrants-minnesota-state-law>

Federal Immigration Agents Will Be Issued Body Cameras, Noem Pledges Amid Backlash

By Connor Greene, Time, February 2, 2026

The Trump administration, facing national backlash after federal agents killed Renee Good and Alex Pretti in Minneapolis, announced that body-worn cameras are being deployed "effective immediately" to every DHS officer in the field there, with Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem saying the program will expand nationwide "as funding is available." The move comes as Democrats refuse to pass a DHS spending bill without major reforms — including mandatory body cameras, bans on masks, required identification, an end to roving patrols, judicial-warrant requirements for home entries, and a formal use-of-force code — contributing to a partial government shutdown that began after funding expired Friday, January 30. President Trump voiced support for body cameras, saying they help prevent people from lying about incidents, while noting the Minneapolis deployment "wasn't my decision."

Source: <https://time.com/7364709/federal-immigration-agents-will-be-issued-body-cameras-noem-pledges-amid-backlash/>

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

By Camilo Montoya-Galvez, CBS News, February 9, 2026

An internal DHS report obtained by CBS News shows that ICE made roughly 393,000 arrests between Jan. 21, 2025, and Jan. 31, 2026, yet less than 14% of those arrested had charges or convictions for violent crimes, undermining Trump administration claims that its crackdown targets the "worst of the worst." Nearly 60% of arrestees had some criminal charge or conviction, but fewer than 2% had homicide or sexual-assault offenses, and only 1.9% — about 7,500 people — were accused of gang affiliation. Meanwhile, 39–40% of all arrests involved immigrants with no criminal record, and ICE made more than triple the number of administrative arrests compared with fiscal year 2024. The data list 2,107 arrests involving homicide, 2,725 for robbery, 5,365 for sexual assault, 42,847 for assault, 29,929 for DUI, 22,555 for dangerous drugs, 6,146 for weapons offenses, 5,053 for burglary, 1,116 for kidnapping, 346 for arson, and 117,987 categorized as "other" crimes. Public support for Trump's deportation program has fallen from 59% at the start of his term to 46%, with 60% of Americans saying agents are being "too tough."

Source: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/ice-arrests-violent-criminal-records-trump-first-year/>

Judge blocks enforcement of California's law banning masks for ICE agents

By Kyle Cheney and Josh Gerstein, Politico, February 9, 2026

A federal judge blocked California from enforcing its new "No Secret Police Act," ruling that the mask ban likely violates the Supremacy Clause because it treats federal officers differently from state officers, but she refused to halt the separate "No Vigilantes Act," which requires most law enforcement personnel to display a name or badge number. In her 30-page decision, U.S. District Judge Christina Snyder found no valid justification for officers to conceal their identities during routine duties and noted that the anti-masking law would likely be constitutional if expanded to include state officers. Snyder stayed her ruling until February 19, meaning enforcement of the identification requirement will not begin before then and could be further delayed if the Trump administration secures a stay from the 9th Circuit.

Source: <https://www.politico.com/news/2026/02/09/judge-blocks-enforcement-california-ice-agents-masks-00772396?cid=apn>

California immigration clashes lead to \$1 billion in losses

By Trevor Hughes, USA TODAY, February 9, 2026

California officials report that last summer's Los Angeles-area immigration raids and protests resulted in more than \$1 billion in lost productivity, sales and wages, along with about \$200,000 in vandalism damages, including multiple burned vehicles and at least one police SUV. The protests erupted after President Donald Trump's aggressive enforcement actions in early June, during which immigration officers were filmed chasing suspected unauthorized immigrants at car washes and Home Depot parking lots, prompting Trump to deploy the National Guard and U.S. Marines. The report found that businesses closed, customers stayed home, and 17,000 people stopped riding public transit, even though undocumented workers generate over \$250 billion in annual economic output, support more than 1 million jobs, and contribute \$80 billion in labor to L.A. County's economy. Federal officials say they have removed more than 657,000 unauthorized migrants since January 2025 and prompted another 2.2 million to self-deport, including over 40,000 potential national security risks, nearly 1,400 "known or suspected terrorists," and more than 7,000 gang members.

Source: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2026/02/09/los-angeles-immigration-raids-protests-losses/88596595007/>

Local police aid ICE by tapping school cameras amid Trump's immigration crackdown

By Mark Keierleber of the 74, The Guardian, February 10, 2026

Police departments across the U.S. are quietly leveraging school district security cameras to assist Donald Trump's mass immigration enforcement campaign, an investigation by the 74 reveals. Hundreds of thousands of audit logs spanning a month show police are searching a national database of automated license plate reader data, including from school cameras, for immigration-related investigations. The audit logs originate from Texas school districts that contract with Flock Safety, an Atlanta-based company that manufactures artificial intelligence-powered license plate readers and other surveillance technology. Flock's cameras are designed to capture license plate numbers, timestamps and other identifying details, which are uploaded to a cloud server. Flock customers, including schools, can decide whether to share their information with other police agencies in the company's national network. Multiple law enforcement leaders acknowledged they conducted the searches in the audit logs to help the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) enforce federal immigration laws. Flock devices have been installed by more than 100 public school systems nationally, government procurement records show, and audit logs from six Texas school districts show campus camera feeds are captured in a national database that police agencies across the country can access. School police officers use Flock cameras to investigate "road rage", "speeding on campus", "vandalism" and "criminal mischief", records show. There is no evidence school districts themselves use the devices for immigration-related purposes – or that they're aware other agencies do so.

Source: https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/feb/10/ice-school-cameras-police-license-plates?CMP=oth_b-aplnews_d-1

Priests say ICE contractor GEO rejected shareholder vote on human rights review

By Ross Kerber, Reuters, February 9, 2026

A set of Catholic investors said private-prison operator GEO Group has rejected a shareholder vote designed to shed light on alleged human rights violations in its operation of ICE detention facilities as part of U.S. President Donald Trump's immigration crackdown. A group of social activist investors led by Jesuit priests said GEO rejected a proposed shareholder vote to review its human-rights conduct, ended talks on facility visits and reduced its reporting on human rights. GEO, based in Boca Raton, Florida, is one of the largest operators of detention centers for ICE, which accounted for 41.5% of GEO's 2024 revenue. Adam Sawyer, director of research for Relevant Research, which runs the ICE Detention Reports, says GEO runs the fourth- and fifth-largest ICE facilities: one in South Texas housing about 1,790 and one in Adelanto, California, housing some 1,784 people, as of last month. The Catholic investors led by the USA East Province of the Society of Jesus hold as little as \$53,000 of GEO's shares, according to disclosures. In November, the priests submitted a shareholder proposal that would require GEO to disclose "whether its services contribute to violations of international human rights law and expose the company to material risks."

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/legal/government/priests-say-ice-contractor-geo-rejected-shareholder-vote-human-rights-review-2026-02-09/>

5% of People Detained By ICE Have Violent Convictions, 73% No Convictions

By David J. Bier, *Cato Institute*, November 24, 2025

New nonpublic data from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) leaked to the Cato Institute reveal that of the people booked into ICE custody this fiscal year (from October 1 – November 15, 2025):

- Nearly three in four (73 percent) had no criminal conviction.
- Nearly half had no criminal conviction nor even any pending criminal charges.
- Only 8 percent had a violent or property criminal conviction.
- Only 5 percent had a violent criminal conviction.
- A majority of criminal convicts had vice, immigration, or traffic convictions.

ICE is primarily detaining people without serious criminal convictions

Cumulative ICE book-ins into custody, FY 2026, October 1–November 15, 2025

Type	Book-Ins	Share
Property	1,830	3%
Violent	3,258	5%
Vice	2,052	3%
Immigration	3,152	5%
Traffic	3,998	6%
Other	2,628	4%
No conviction, pending charges	15,807	26%
No conviction or charge	29,075	47%
No conviction (total)	44,882	73%

[Download image](#)

Source: Immigration and Customs Enforcement, "ICE Initial Book-Ins by Criminality and MSC: FY2025 YTD," November 15, 2025. See Appendix Table A for classifications.

Source: <https://www.cato.org/blog/5-ice-detainees-have-violent-convictions-73-no-convictions> ;
<https://www.cato.org/blog/new-data-prove-dhs-lied-about-cato-report-ice>

Unannounced immigrant transfers to Laredo raise public health and coordination concerns

By David Gomez Jr., *Laredo Morning Times*, February 9, 2026

City and state officials say they received no advance notice about the recent transfer of immigrant families and children from the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley to Laredo, prompting concerns about coordination, public health, and strain on local resources. Mayor Dr. Victor Treviño said Laredo "was not notified in advance," noting that in past incidents the city had to provide humanitarian and logistical support using resources intended for residents. Texas Gov. Greg Abbott similarly said he had "no information" about migrants being dropped off in Laredo and that the claim was "inconsistent" with what he had been told, adding that "there are fewer being dropped off now than there were two years ago under the prior administration." U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar also learned of the transfers only after they had begun.

Source: <https://www.lmtonline.com/local/article/immigrant-transfers-dilley-to-laredo-measles-mayor-21339396.php>

Texans sue DHS to prevent ICE from detaining U.S. citizens, demanding proof of citizenship

By John Wayne Ferguson, Houston Chronicle, February 6, 2026

A group of Hispanic Texans are asking a federal judge to rule that ICE agents can't detain U.S. citizens or require those people to prove their citizenship in order to be freed from custody. In a complaint filed in the Southern District of Texas on Friday morning (February 6), the group of more than 30 people said that immigration authorities' current practices violate their rights to due process and protection against unreasonable arrests. The complaint was announced during a news conference at the Houston Democratic Party's Second Ward headquarters. The lawsuit doesn't seek damages, but instead asks a judge to declare that any policies or practices that require U.S. citizens to carry proof of citizenship are unconstitutional. The lawsuit claims that ICE has stopped legal citizens while enforcing the White House's immigration agenda.

Source: <https://www.houstonchronicle.com/politics/texas/article/hispanic-sue-dhs-detaining-proof-citizenship-21336102.php>

ICE chief defends his officers' actions before Congress after the deaths of 2 protesters

By Rebecca Santana and Lisa Mascaro, Associated Press, February 10, 2026

Todd Lyons, the acting head of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, defended his agency's officers before Congress on Tuesday, February 10, standing behind their tactics and saying they would not be intimidated as they carry out the president's mass deportation plans. "Let me send a message to anyone who thinks they can intimidate us. You will fail," said Lyons, who blamed elected officials and protesters for escalating rhetoric that he said endangered his officers. Lyons, who at various points declined to comment directly on the killings of the two U.S. citizens, said his officers would not be deterred.

Source: <https://apnews.com/article/immigration-customs-enforcement-border-patrol-trump-congress-1fa0cc0c9297479fcc02b1dc5a706d37>

Congressional leaders say ICE deal is still possible despite divisions

By Mary Clare Jalonick, Kevin Freking and Seung Min Kim, Associated Press, February 10, 2026

Congressional leaders said Tuesday, February 10, that a deal was still possible with the White House on Homeland Security Department funding before it expires this weekend. But the two sides were still far apart as Democrats demanded new restrictions on President Donald Trump's immigration crackdown. On Tuesday, Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer and House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries said they had rejected a White House counteroffer that "included neither details nor legislative text" and does not address "the concerns Americans have about ICE's lawless conduct."

Source: <https://apnews.com/article/democrats-ice-white-house-homeland-security-funding-84d4b2e5a7123f2b316cca4857b7762a>

Pam Bondi will face an ethics quagmire as attorney general

By Hailey Fuchs, Politico, December 7, 2024

Pam Bondi, a longtime Washington lobbyist for Ballard Partners who has represented major corporations including Amazon, Uber, General Motors, Fidelity National Financial, Carnival North America, TikTok, ByteDance, UnitedHealthcare, the GEO Group and Trulieve, is poised to lead the Department of Justice, raising ethical concerns as many of her firm's clients are currently in legal battles with the agency.

Source: <https://www.politico.com/news/2024/12/07/pam-bondi-doj-ethics-00192890>