



Weaker, Poorer, Less Safe: Americans Reject Trump's Mass Deportation Campaign of Violence and Chaos Ahead of November – POLLING MEMO

To: Interested Parties

From: Vanessa Cárdenas, Executive Director, America's Voice

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Subject: New polling shows Americans decisively rejecting Trump's mass deportation agenda ahead of the November midterms

Across the country, Americans are witnessing the devastating impact of Donald Trump and Stephen Miller's mass deportation machine: a campaign of chaos, violence, and lawlessness and operating with impunity. Recent polls show Americans decisively rejecting this anti-immigrant agenda as the human toll continues to mount. [Pierre Damas Bel](#), [Lorenzo Salgado Araujo and Johan Sebastián](#), and [Renee Good and Alex Pretti](#) are just a few of the lives lost to this mass deportation machine.

Behind each name is a person, and their deaths are the gravest harm this agenda has inflicted. But the harm doesn't end there: families are being separated, communities are living in fear, and the toll is showing up in everyday life.

Grocery prices are rising, home construction is stalling, and local businesses are struggling in industries and regions most reliant on immigrant labor. Meanwhile, the crackdown keeps ensnaring legal immigrants and U.S. citizens alongside the undocumented, from TPS holders stripped of status to families and workers caught up in raids.

This is the reality behind the numbers: a mass deportation agenda defined by chaos and lawlessness that's making Americans weaker, poorer, and less safe. And with midterms just weeks away, Americans have the chance to hold this Administration accountable at the ballot box.

Below are six key takeaways about the current immigration public opinion landscape:

- Trump's approval on immigration, once his strongest issue, keeps sinking as the midterms approach
- ICE has collapsed into one of the least trusted agencies in the federal government
- The mass deportation agenda is hitting Americans' wallets, and voters are noticing
- Solid majorities say the mass deportation agenda is making the country less safe
- Legal status for long-established immigrants decisively beats mass deportation
- Latino voters, a decisive bloc in midterm battlegrounds, have swung hard away from Trump and the GOP over immigration

Point 1: Trump's approval on immigration, once his strongest issue, keeps sinking as the midterms approach.

- [Economist/YouGov](#) (Aug. 7-10, 2026): 53-40% disapprove of Trump's handling of immigration – down sharply 11 points (51-40% approval) at the start of his second term.
- [AP-NORC](#) (July 23-27, 2026): Just 39% approve of Trump's handling of immigration, down 10 points from 49% at the start of his second term, while 58% disapprove; 55% separately say he has gone too far by deploying federal immigration agents into U.S. cities.

- [Fox News Poll](#) (July 17-20, 2026): Asked which party would do a better job on immigration, voters now side with Democrats by a single point, 50-49%, a reversal from the GOP's 8-point edge in April and one of the sharpest erosions yet of what was once Trump's strongest issue.
- [Politico/Public First](#) (Aug. 8-12, 2026): 50% of Americans say Trump's mass deportation campaign has gone too far, including nearly a quarter of his own 2024 voters, a finding essentially unchanged since January and April despite White House efforts to make enforcement less visible ahead of the midterms.

Point 2: ICE has become one of the least trusted agencies in the federal government.

- [Economist/YouGov](#) (July 17-20, 2026): A majority of Americans (54%) say they have little or no confidence in ICE, while only 22% express a great deal of confidence. 58% say ICE has used too much force.
- [AP-NORC](#) (July 23-27, 2026): Only 29% approve of how ICE enforces immigration laws, compared to 49% who disapprove.
- [PRRI](#) (March 2026): Just 33% of Americans hold a favorable view of ICE officers, down from 39% in September 2025. Favorability has declined across every partisan group, including Republicans.
- [Navigator Research](#) (Jan. 29-Feb. 1, 2026): ICE sits at net -22 favorability (36% favorable, 58% unfavorable), a steep drop from net -8 in June 2025.

Point 3: The agenda is hitting Americans' wallets, and voters are noticing.

America's Voice's own "[End the ICE Tax](#)" report found that grocery prices, home construction, and local business activity are all being squeezed in the industries and regions most reliant on immigrant labor, with the toll running into the billions of dollars in lost economic activity nationwide. Polling shows voters are feeling it:

- [Morris Predictive Insights/Verasight](#) (May 18-20, 2026): 68% agree the administration is focusing too much on deportations and not enough on fixing the economy and cost of living, including 69% of the Trump 2024 voters who have already said they won't back Republicans this cycle. By a 53-35% margin, adults say mass deportation of immigrant workers is hurting the economy and raising costs, rather than protecting American jobs. Asked about specific consequences, majorities call higher grocery prices from deported farmworkers (60%), children disappearing from classrooms (57%), and elderly people losing home care workers (55%) all "too far."
- [CNBC's All-America Economic Survey](#) (early July 2026): 60% disapprove of Trump's handling of the economy, with immigration and border security ranking as the third-most important issue facing the country.
- [FWD.us/Global Strategies Group](#) (July 2026): Three in five voters call it unacceptable to spend hundreds of billions on immigration enforcement while cutting health care funding, more than double the share who say enforcement should be funded even at the cost of cuts elsewhere.
- [America's Voice-Grow Progress](#) (July-Aug., 2026): After hearing a direct, data-backed case that mass deportation is driving up the price of groceries, gas, and childcare, voters were 8 points more likely to agree with that case and 8 points more likely to say they'd support a member of Congress who scales back mass deportation to lower costs.

Point 4: Solid majorities say the mass deportation agenda is making the country less safe.

- [PRRI](#) (March 2026): A majority of Americans believe the surge of ICE officers into communities is making those communities less safe, consistent with Trump's immigration approval falling to just 35% favorable that same month.
- [PBS/NPR/Marist](#) (Feb. 2026): By a 62-37% margin, Americans say ICE's actions are making the country less safe – including half who say "much less safe."
- [Quinnipiac](#) (Feb. 2026): Voters say by a 51-35% margin that the administration's immigration approach is making the country less safe rather than more safe.

Point 5: Legal status decisively beats mass deportation, and Americans reject extremes on both ends.

- [Gallup](#) (June 2026): 73% of U.S. adults say immigration is good for the country. Majorities oppose deporting all undocumented immigrants (58%), while support for citizenship pathways remains high and stable: 81% for undocumented immigrants brought to the country as children and 75% for undocumented immigrants generally.
- [Economist/YouGov](#) (Aug. 7-10, 2026): Majorities back four specific citizenship pathways: for people brought here as children (63%), married to U.S. citizens (62%), living here more than a decade (58%), and with U.S.-citizen children (55%).
- [Program for Public Consultation](#) "Common Ground in the Battlegrounds" survey (fielded May 27-June 25, 2026, across 11 competitive states and 28 competitive U.S. House districts): Bipartisan majorities in every battleground tested support a path to legal status for undocumented immigrants who've lived here for years without a serious criminal record – not mass deportation.

Point 6: Latino voters, a decisive bloc in midterm battlegrounds, have turned sharply against Trump and the GOP over immigration.

- [UnidosUS/BSP Research/Shaw & Co.](#) (April 27-May 14, 2026): Two-thirds of Latino voters disapprove of Trump's job performance. Immigration enforcement now ranks as their second most important issue, behind only the cost of living, and ahead of jobs and the economy.
- [Third Way](#)/UnidosUS (April 2026): Latino voters favor Democrats on the generic ballot by a 30-point margin, 61-31%, including a 22-point advantage among Latino men – a sharper swing than among voters overall.
- [FIU Latino Public Opinion Forum](#) (April 2026): More than two-thirds of Latino voters nationally disapprove of Trump, and 60% plan to vote Democratic in November.
- [Hart Research/TelevisaUnivision](#) (Aug. 6-17, 2026, 1,500 Latino registered voters across 17 competitive House districts): 63% of Latino voters disapprove of Trump's handling of the presidency, with only 36% approving. 62% disapprove of his handling of immigration enforcement and deportations specifically, and 64% hold an unfavorable view of ICE.

Bottom line:

- Americans have watched this administration's mass deportation machine sow chaos and operate with impunity for a year and a half. They've delivered their verdict: it's making our country weaker, poorer, and less safe.
- Americans want a targeted, balanced approach: legal status for long-residing immigrants, not mass deportation. This continues to draw bipartisan majorities even in the most competitive midterm battlegrounds.
- What comes next is up to voters. In a matter of weeks, they'll have the chance to hold Trump, Stephen Miller, and everyone who enabled them accountable at the ballot box.