What: NEW RESEARCH: Affordability Concerns Deepen as Harmful Immigration

Policies Push Prices Higher

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President Trump's immigration policies are <u>worsening</u> the already intense affordability crisis that is hitting working families across the country — and voters are unhappy about it. New polling confirms that voters of all political backgrounds believe President Trump's policies are raising prices while economic research makes clear his immigration policies are one of the biggest contributors to rising prices. An already out of control deportation machine, <u>expensive raids</u> increasingly funded by the \$170 billion reconciliation bill, unlawful <u>troop deployments into cities</u>, and policies that aim to revoke legal status for millions and <u>target the ability of immigrants to work in vital sectors</u> are pushing prices higher and <u>making daily life more difficult for all Americans</u>.

A new Politico/Morning Consult shows that inflation and the cost of living remain the largest concern for Americans, including voters who supported President Trump. Majorities believe the administration is <u>prioritizing</u> immigration crackdowns over efforts to lower costs, and they understand that they are paying the direct price of these choices through increased spending and higher consumer costs.

Economic Data Shows the Price Impact Will Be Severe and Will Get Much Worse, Costing Families Thousands More Annually

FWD.us released a detailed economic analysis earlier this year showing that *the administration's immigration policies will sharply increase prices by about \$2,150 a year* for the average American family. This is the direct result of three incredibly economically damaging efforts: cutting legal immigration, expanding deportations, and a ramp up in deportations that in total if implemented will force millions out of the country. On top of this, voters know they're financing unprecedented levels of new federal spending on immigration enforcement.

Labor shortages alone will drive significant price spikes in food and housing. Slashing legal immigration will worsen workforce gaps in health care, child care, and elder care, pushing costs even higher. And the hundreds of billions in new federal spending for detention and incarceration, mass family separations and other enforcement fall on taxpayers, who are already struggling with rising prices.

Here are some numbers:

- \$2,150 per year per family the increase in costs to the average family of the planed deportations, revocations of work authorization and cuts to legal immigration.
- \$170 billion the massive, one-time spending influx just beginning from the reconciliation bill, which will increase nearly every aspect of immigration enforcement by 300% to 500% each year.
- 46% per Politico's polling, the number of voters who say the cost of living is the worst it has ever been, including a view held by 37% of Trump 2024 voters.

While the macro economic concepts are complex, voters intuitively understand this relationship. They know that when the government spends heavily on policies that eliminate workers and destabilize industries, they end up paying more.

Voters Understand These Policies Have Real Economic Costs — **Costs That They're Going to Pay**

The public is increasingly <u>dissatisfied</u> with the current economic reality, directly linking immigration enforcement actions to rising costs. Voters understand that mass deportation plans, a militarized ICE build-up, revoking legal status for millions and new restrictions on legal immigration lead to higher costs for <u>food</u>, <u>housing</u>, <u>health care</u>, <u>child care</u>, and <u>everyday goods</u>. President Trump's *own* <u>Department of Agriculture</u> has stated that the administration's immigration policies are making food more expensive. Moreover, evidence makes clear these <u>massive expansions in the use of prisons</u>, jails and detention centers are incredibly expensive — accounting for an unaffordable family tax — while leading to worse public safety outcomes.

A More Effective Approach Is Both Clear and Popular

The public overwhelmingly supports a smart approach to immigration that secures the border, strengthens the workforce, and provides dignity and a process for immigrants who have built their lives here to earn legal status. They want solutions that lower costs, improve economic stability, and bring more fairness and order to the immigration system. In response to the cruelty people are seeing daily and rising, support for immigrants and immigration and a pathway to citizenship has reached an all-time high in public polling.

This approach is not only economically sound, it is also much more aligned with public opinion than the current trajectory. <u>Parents in North Carolina, Chicago and Washington D.C.</u>, want a good education and more affordable groceries, not masked ICE agents chasing people outside schools.

The path forward is clear. An immigration system that modernizes — not destroys — legal pathways; keeping people working rather than revoking legal status, and rather than mass family separations, arrests without due process and deportation, we can ensure that people building their

lives here can actually get legal status and earn citizenship. It's good for these individuals, it's smart economics, and ensures that life is better and more affordable for all Americans.