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510 S. Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90020
opportunity.lacounty.gov
deo@opportunity.lacounty.gov
844-777-2059

America's Job Centers:
(888) 226-6300
Office of Small Business:
(800) 432-4900

November 21, 2025

TO: Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell
Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Supervisor Janice Hahn

FROM: Kelly LoBianco, Director *Kelly LoBianco*

SUBJECT: **REPORT BACK ON MOTION BY SUPERVISORS
HILDA L. SOLIS AND JANICE HAHN – RESPONDING
TO WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC IMPACT OF
FEDERAL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT IN LOS
ANGELES COUNTY (ITEM NO. 51-C OF
SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA OF JUNE 17, 2025)**

On June 17, 2025, your Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted a motion introduced by Supervisors Hilda L. Solis and Janice Hahn directing the Director of the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) to:

1. Collaborate with applicable entities and report back in writing within 15 days with an assessment that will, at minimum, produce the following data regarding federal immigration enforcement in LA County:
 - a) Economic impact on small businesses due to loss of workforce, including identification of the most impacted areas and most impacted types of businesses in the County of Los Angeles.
 - b) Economic impact of property damage and imposed curfews; and
 - c) Identify available supportive services for impacted small businesses and ways to make services available in a manner that is responsive to their language and immigration needs.
2. Identify the most impacted industrial sectors by connecting with labor unions and other applicable entities.



3. Continue to report back in writing monthly thereafter through December 2025 on data points identified in Directive 1.
4. Delegate authority to the Director of DEO or their designee to enter into contracts not to exceed \$150,000 with the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) for data and analysis needed in Directives 1-3, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel; and ensuring that data are protected and do not include identifiable information that may put individuals, systems and organizations at risk.
5. Collaborate with the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs' (DCBA) Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA), Small Business Commission, and the Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board to convene impacted County departments and community stakeholders for a listening session to further inform Directive 1.
6. Collaborate with OIA and DCBA's Office of Labor Equity (OLE), in consultation with County Counsel, to develop a rapid response communication strategy for impacted businesses and workers that would facilitate access to legal aid, resources for impacted workers with rental concerns, mental health resources and, when feasible, financial resources. The strategy should, at least, include the following:
 - a) Develop and provide live webinars about resources and "Know Your Rights" (KYR) information for business owners and workers across the County, ensuring that anonymity is allowed and interpretation is available for the languages spoken by the impacted business owners.
 - b) Produce and disseminate video webinars covering the information provided in live webinars, in English and the languages spoken by the impacted business owners, on a media platform that offers online privacy tools.
 - c) Develop a printable toolkit for small businesses and workers that includes resources to address the legal rights for small businesses; in collaboration with Department of Mental Health include information and resources to address employee stress and anxiety; and create a toolkit or module that meets the unique needs of street vendors.
 - d) Direct relevant community organizations funded by DEO provide outreach to street vendors regarding resources, KYR cards and toolkit.
7. Include the OIA's KYR information in Youth@Work curriculum going forward; and collaborate with community-based organizations and relevant entities to extend Youth@Work opportunities such as expanding work hours from the current 150 hours to 400 hours to support youth and transitional-aged youth that have become the bread winners of their households due to separation from parental figures.
8. Partner with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), Los Angeles Community Colleges, and other relevant schools to disseminate the information in Directive 6 to students and their parents and care providers.
9. Partner with the Chief Executive Office Center for Strategic Partnerships (CEO-CSP) and philanthropy to identify funding for a DEO-led business interruption fund for small businesses impacted Countywide due to loss of workforce and/or curfews imposed due to federal immigration enforcement activity, and to identify supplemental funding for Directive 6.
10. Partner with CEO-CSP and philanthropy to identify funding for local community-serving organizations to provide cash-assistance for impacted workers and youth/transitional-aged youth

that have become head of household.

11. Report back in writing in 30 days and in 60 days on Directives 4-9.
12. Direct the Chief Executive Office's Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations (CEO-LAIR) to advocate in support of state-level measures for impacted businesses and workers.

Immigration reports were submitted to the Board on the following dates:

- July 3, 2025: 15-Day report updating the Board on Directives one (1) through four (4)
- July 23, 2025: 30-Day report on Directives one (1) through ten (10)
- August 21, 2025: Report on all Directives
- September 22, 2024: Report on all Directives
- October 17, 2025: Report on all Directives
- November 20, 2025: Report on all Directives

DIRECTIVES ONE (1) THROUGH FOUR (4) –

Executive Summary on Economic Impacts of Immigration Enforcement

The Institute for Applied Economics (IAE) at The Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) reports that Federal immigration enforcement in Los Angeles County during 2025 has triggered significant economic, operational, and community impacts, especially on small businesses, immigrant and mixed-status households, and the region's service-heavy urban core. This 150-day update highlights rising immigration court removals, new federal policies affecting the labor force, and the economic consequences of the June downtown curfew. Community interviews reinforce the profound fallout—loss of trust, lower program participation, and growing strain on support organizations. Impacts vary by scenario, but even the best case shows measurable countywide losses. (Attachment)

Key Highlights

Immigration Enforcement Trends

- Removal orders up 70% in Los Angeles County in early 2025 vs. 2024, driven mostly by in-absentia rulings and policy shifts. Removal orders legal decision issued by an immigration judge that mandates the deportation of a noncitizen from the United States.
- Backlogged immigration cases are being ruled on faster, contributing to rising removals.

Multiple High-Profile Enforcement Flashpoint Incidents Involving Firearms Heighten Community Tension

- On October 21 in Los Angeles, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents fired "defensive shots" at Carlitos Ricardo Parias, a citizen journalist from Mexico who posts about immigration enforcement activities on TikTok under the name Richard Noticias LA. Federal officials say that Parias rammed his car into law enforcement vehicles while trying to evade arrest and was subsequently shot in the elbow. A deputy U.S. Marshal assisting with the arrest was hit in the hand with a ricochet bullet.

Federal Policy Impacts on Labor Supply

- New \$100,000 H-1B visa fee threatens to reduce the talent pipeline; about 25% of applicants may still be affected. The new federal \$100,000 H-1B application fee threatens local industries that rely

on highly skilled foreign labor, particularly in technology, professional services, and health care sectors, potentially curbing innovation and growth.

- Proposed DHS weighted lottery rule could sharply reduce Level 1 (entry-level) H-1Bs—up to a 48% national reduction—a major risk for LA’s labor market.

Economic Impact of the June 2025 Downtown Curfew

Scenario 1 - Short disruption & rapid recovery

- 3,920 job-years lost, \$312M in labor income, \$840M output loss.
- Fiscal loss: \$127M.

Scenario 2 – Slower six-month recovery

- 6,000 job-years lost, \$477M in labor income, \$1.29B output loss.
- Fiscal loss: \$194M.

Scenario 3 – Repeat disruption in December 2025

- 11,730 job-years lost, \$932M in labor income, \$2.5B output loss.
- Fiscal loss: \$379M.

Industries Most Affected Across Scenarios

- Accommodation & Food Services
- Other Services (personal care, repair, laundry, etc.)
- Professional & Technical Services
- Retail Trade, Wholesale Trade, Finance & Insurance (due to downtown concentration)

Community & Small Business Impacts

- 90% of small business leaders report rising distrust in government; many fear sharing personal information.
- Sharp declines in participation in Spanish-language entrepreneurship programs and licensing support.
- Families are avoiding schools, youth programs, and public spaces due to fear of enforcement.
- Community organizations report reduced capacity, funding cuts, and program disruptions—even mid-execution.
- Rapid-response networks, legal aid funding, and alternative income supports identified as urgent

Next Steps (from LAEDC – IAE)

- Submit final Immigration report in January 2026 that will incorporate data analysis of immigration enforcement and impacts that are being performed by the University of Southern California (USC) Equity Research Institute, business surveys, town hall findings, and refined data on undocumented populations.

DIRECTIVE FIVE (5)

Stakeholder Engagement

The Los Angeles Economic Equity Accelerator & Fellowship (LEEAF), under contract with LAEDC – IAE, has compiled additional data on how immigration enforcement is reshaping community behavior, economic stability, and the region’s social safety net. Drawing from interviews with 178 small business owners, a live town hall, and discussions with 22 community organizations, LEEAF finds that fear and mistrust, triggered by ICE activity, are keeping people from public spaces and essential services. Businesses and nonprofits report steep drops in participation, loss of income, and heightened stress for families across generations. Service providers describe shrinking capacity, reduced funding, and difficult tradeoffs—such as ending mid-stream programs or avoiding federal grants that carry compliance risks. These pressures have reduced access to resources precisely when communities need them most.

At the same time, the report highlights resilience and leadership emerging across Los Angeles County. Many small businesses have become informal hubs of support by sharing verified information, creating safe spaces, delivering essentials, and raising funds for vulnerable neighbors, often while dealing with their own financial setbacks. Community organizations and business owners alike emphasize the need for greater investment in rapid response networks, legal aid, cross-sector coordination, and simple, low-barrier pathways to resources. Recent town halls reaffirmed these themes and surfaced ongoing challenges—from technical barriers to shifting business models—that make recovery harder than during earlier crises.

LEEAF has begun to hold Town Halls aimed at gathering additional input and stories from small businesses and nonprofit organizations. On November 12, 2025, the first virtual Town Hall was held with close to 30 participants. Additionally, the first in person Town Hall meeting was held on November 20, 2025, in East LA with another 30 participants and a final one to be held in early December. These insights will inform the final report developed with LAEDC to guide strategies for economic resilience and community recovery. (Attachment)

DIRECTIVE SIX (6)

Rapid Response Strategies and Resources

The DEO, in partnership with DCBA–OIA, continues to develop and implement a rapid response communication strategy, including webinars and a toolkit for businesses and workers. The DEO has launched its immigration webpage, which provides links to business, non-profit and worker resources, recorded educational webinars, and downloadable Know Your Rights (KYR) cards.

The DEO Immigration Web page: <https://opportunity.lacounty.gov/immigration/> includes links to:

- The Small Business Resiliency Fund (SBRF)
- LAEDC - IAE Business Impact Survey – 274 responses received as of 11/15/25.
- Previously recorded KYR webinars for Small Businesses and Nonprofits
- Immigration Resource Guide for Small Businesses and Workers
- Immigration Toolkit for Small Businesses and Workers (Attachment)
- [Calendar of OIA KYR webinars](#)

DEO also continues to widely share these resources across all its networks, including the County’s America’s Job Centers of California (AJCC) and Youth@Work partners.

Know Your Rights (KYR) Outreach

In partnership with OIA, DEO has distributed over 14,000 KYR red cards in multiple languages—including Amharic, Arabic, Armenian, Chinese, Farsi, Haitian, Khmer, Pashto, Russian, Tagalog, English, and Spanish—through the Office of Small Business (OSB), AJCCs, and community events.

The OSB continues to distribute KYR red cards—primarily in English and Spanish—to small businesses and sidewalk vendors at Countywide events, Sidewalk Vending workshops, and through targeted canvassing visits, with roughly 200 cards shared to date. OSB is also identifying community organizations that need cards in additional languages and assisting individuals with applications for programs such as the Small Business Resiliency Fund. To further expand access, OSB will proactively contact immigrant-serving community groups to coordinate simple handoff processes, providing standard bundles of multilingual red cards and confirming preferred delivery methods, while continuing to distribute cards at upcoming community events.

DIRECTIVE SEVEN (7)

Youth@Work Expansion

DEO worked with a consultant to integrate KYR content into the Youth@Work Transitional Age Youth World of Work (TAY WOW) 20-hour career readiness curriculum used for the paid “Personal Enrichment Training” component. The updated training covers workplace immigration enforcement response, identifying valid warrants, safety planning, and resources from DEO, LAEDC - IAE, LACOE, and OIA. KYR materials have also been added to the Youth@Work Technical Assistance Guide and provider training, linking to OIA and LACOE resources. Provider training on the revised curriculum began in September 2025, and DEO will continue coordinating Youth@Work webinars with OIA.

Together with OIA, DEO has developed a referral process for youth from households affected by immigration enforcement. On October 14, 2025, DEO trained 40 staff from LA County AJCCs and LA City YouthSource Centers on enrolling youth referred by DCBA OIA providers serving families impacted by immigration enforcement into the expanded Youth@Work program, which provides 400-hour paid work experience opportunities for 100 impacted participants. On November 12, 2025, DEO provided a training to DCBA OIA providers on workforce services available through the AJCCs and how to refer participants to the expanded Youth@Work program. DEO also issued a directive to operationalize the program through AJCC and OIA partners and has developed a referral guide for DCBA OIA providers to refer eligible youth and any other members of the household to the AJCCs. DEO will provide updates on enrollment numbers in final report.

DIRECTIVE EIGHT (8)

School Districts collaboration

DEO continues to work with LACOE, LAUSD, Los Angeles Community Colleges (LACCD), the Opportunity Youth Collaborative (OYC), and other school districts throughout Los Angeles County to share resources available to students, parents, legal guardians, and other care providers. LACOE has developed a [website](#) with resources and a toolkit for immigrant students and their families with various partners including the LACCD and LAUSD navigators supporting referrals to the Youth@Work program.

DIRECTIVE NINE (9)

LA Region Small Business Resiliency Fund (SBRF)

In partnership with CEO–CSP, DEO launched the LA Region Small Business Resiliency Fund (SBRF) on September 29, 2025, as an emergency grant program providing up to \$5,000 to small and micro businesses across Los Angeles County that have been impacted by federal immigration enforcement actions since June 6, 2025. Eligible impact includes temporary business closure, reduced hours of operation, property damage, labor impacts or shortages, and related revenue loss. Applications closed on October 31, 2025, and DEO has extended the verification window until November 21, 2025, due to a high volume of applications.

The program is led by DEO and supported by philanthropic and public partners, identified in the next section of this report. Additionally, it works with Community Business Organizations (CBOs) to validate impact for all business applicants outside of areas that had a curfew zone imposed by the City of Los Angeles in June 2025. These CBOs also help applicants with acquiring documents necessary to apply for and qualify for the grant. Eligible applicants include brick-and-mortar businesses with storefronts, independent contractors, sidewalk vendors, and certain consumer-facing home-based businesses such as daycares.

SBRF Application Data Status to Date

As of November 14, 2025, SBRF has received:

Completed Applications		By Supervisorial District	
		SD1	1,173
396	Within Curfew Zone	SD2	693
2,336	Vetted by CBOs	SD3	587
738	In process of vetting by CBOs	SD4	601
Total		SD5	235
3,473	Undetermined addresses		184

Approximately 67% of applicants are storefront businesses, 17% street vendors, 10% Independent Contractors and 6% home-based businesses. Approximately 34% have been in business for over 10 years, 28% between 5-10 years and 38% less than 4 years.

SBRF Program Administration

- Southern California Grantmakers (SCG) serves as fiscal sponsor and has subcontracted with AidKit to manage applications, disburse awards, and provide technical assistance related to the application portal.
- CBO partners include LEEAF, Initiating Change in Our Neighborhoods (ICON) CDC, and the Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCDD), which replaced Vermont Slauson EDC. Along with DEO's OSB, they provide multilingual outreach, eligibility guidance, and impact verification.
- DEO's OSB also serves as the main hub for general questions and guidance related to the program.

SBRF Funding and Budget Adjustments

To fund the SBRF, DEO redirected \$1.8 million from its *General Access to Funding for Small, Minority-Owned Businesses Program* funded by the Care First Community Initiative (CFCI) for Year Three, which will support over 300+ businesses. To address increasing needs for these grants, the CFCI Advisory Committee recommended \$3.7 million for the SBRF to help to support 650+ additional businesses.

SBRF Timeline*

Below is the projected timeline for the initial \$1.8 million currently funding the program.

Phase	Timeframe
Applications Opened	September 29, 2025
Applications Close	October 31, 2025
Application Verification Extension	November 21, 2025
Review & Awards	November–December 2025
Program Closeout	January 2026

**Additional funding will be distributed in a longer timeframe.*

Community Engagement

SBRF outreach focused on immigrant-dense areas—East LA, the San Gabriel Valley, South/Central LA, and the San Fernando Valley—using trusted CBO partners and multilingual materials.

Outreach efforts included:

- Bilingual informational webinars in English and Spanish took place in mid-October with recordings of both webinars available on [DEO's YouTube channel](#) and at the [Small Business Resiliency Fund Webpage](#). [The webinars have](#) over 250 views since.
- Media Campaign
 - There has been 15+ earned media placements across TV, radio, and digital platforms, and coverage in multiple languages since program launch, with *Univision* and *KFI FM* who are *sharing reminders prior to the application close*.
- DEO is sharing information every week about the program to its audiences via its digital platforms, including e-newsletter with 154 subscribers and social media platforms.
- LEEAF continues to host [pop-up SBRF outreach sites](#) in impacted areas such as:
 - East LA/West San Gabriel America's Job Centers of California (AJCC) - 5301 Whittier Blvd, Second Floor Los Angeles, CA 90022
 - James George Bell house 4401 E Gage Ave., Bell, CA 90201
 - ORALE (Organizing Rooted in Abolition, Liberation, and Empowerment) - 236 East 3rd Street, Suite #210 Long Beach, CA 90802

- PACE (Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment) Business Development Center - 11100 Valley Blvd, Suite #208 El Monte, CA 91731
- Storefront at 3322 W. Beverly Blvd, Montebello, CA 90640

DIRECTIVE TEN (10)

Immigrant Worker Fund

The OIA in partnership with the County, City of Los Angeles (City), and the California Community Foundation (CCF) has launched the Los Angeles Neighbors Support Fund (LA Neighbors Fund), which is a collaborative effort to provide rapid, direct financial assistance to immigrant families impacted by federal immigration enforcement actions. LA Neighbors Fund offers immediate, stabilizing support so that families can stay housed, keep the lights on, and access food, transportation, and legal help. The LA Neighbors Fund was created in response to the impact that immigration enforcement has had on immigrant workers and their households.

So far, the LA Neighbors Fund has raised \$1.15 million to launch this important effort. Of that amount, 1 million was donated by the Los Angeles Dodgers to the City, which has already been distributed financial assistance to 1,000 immigrant families. Each family received \$1,000 through the City's network of Family Source Centers (FSCs). The County, City, and CCF are continuing to work side by side to grow the fund and expand its reach by engaging philanthropic foundations, local businesses, sports teams, and members of the public. All new funds raised will be split by 60 percent for the County and 40 percent for the City. The City will continue to distribute its share through the FSCs, while the County will deliver its portion through a partnership with Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE), a nonprofit organization with deep ties to local communities.

OIA continues to collaborate closely with the Center for Strategic Partnerships (CSP) to strengthen and expand these philanthropic efforts in support of immigrant families and workers. Through this collaboration, OIA and the CSP are identifying opportunities to leverage private and philanthropic contributions to LA Neighbors Fund and other immigrant focused initiatives. In parallel, CSP and OIA will continue to engage the respective Board offices to exchange ideas, explore strategic partnerships, and identify additional opportunities for fundraising and resource development in support of this collective effort.

DIRECTIVE TEN (11) - Ongoing

Support of state-level measures for impacted businesses and workers

The California State Legislature reconvenes on January 5, 2026, at which point, CEO-LAIR will begin reviewing newly introduced legislation and work with DEO to identify and review any legislation related to measures that support businesses and workers negatively impacted by the ICE enforcement activities. If any relevant bills are introduced, CEO-LAIR will work with DEO to provide an advocacy recommendation to the Board.

Conclusion

Moving forward, DEO will submit its final report to your Board on all Directives through January 2026.

Target date for final report:

- January 19, 2026 (Final)

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Gary Smith at gsmith@opportunity.lacounty.gov.

KL:LL:KA:GS:dm

Attachment

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
 Chief Executive Office
 Chief Executive Office – Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Affairs
 County Counsel
 Department of Consumer and Business Affairs - Office of Immigrant Affairs
 Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation



**Economic Impacts of Federal Immigration
Enforcement in Los Angeles County
150-Day Update of Ongoing Analysis
November 15, 2025**

Dear Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO),

The Institute for Applied Economics (IAE) at the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) is in the midst of analyzing the economic impacts of federal immigration enforcement efforts in Los Angeles County. The purpose is to quantify and understand the cascading economic effects across small businesses, key industries, informal work sectors, and households—especially those in immigrant and mixed-status communities—resulting from these enforcement efforts. This memorandum provides a 150-day update of our ongoing analysis.

Scope of Work

LAEDC has been tasked with the following analyses to understand the impacts of federal immigration enforcement in Los Angeles County:

- Assessing the economic impact on small businesses due to loss of workforce, including identifying the most impacted areas and most impacted types of businesses in Los Angeles County;
- Assessing the economic impact of property damage and imposed curfews; and
- Identifying available supportive services for impacted small business and ways to make them available in a manner that is responsive to their language and immigration needs.

All three tasks are underway and are being conducted concurrently. Additionally, we are compiling relevant facts and stories that support these tasks as we come across them.

Broader Context

Potential Flashpoints across the County

The major protests against Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) that Los Angeles has experienced in 2025 have been sparked by flashpoints. The June 2025 protests that led to extensive property damage downtown and a weeklong curfew, for example, resulted from a series of workplace raids in the Fashion District, Westlake, and elsewhere. The July 2025 protests in MacArthur Park followed a large-scale operation on July 7 that involved federal agents and military personnel, including Border Patrol agents on horseback. While subsequent ICE activity around Los Angeles County has not been as pronounced, it still has the potential to create flashpoints that could develop into protests and larger disruptions. Recent activities involving the use of firearms have heightened this concern:

- On October 21 in Los Angeles, Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents fired “defensive shots” at Carlitos Ricardo Parias, a citizen journalist from Mexico who posts about immigration enforcement activities on TikTok under the name Richard Noticias LA. Federal officials say that Parias rammed his car into law enforcement vehicles while trying to evade arrest and was subsequently shot in the elbow. A deputy U.S. Marshal assisting with the arrest was hit in the hand with a ricochet bullet.¹

¹ Ding, J. (2025, October 21). Immigration agents shot a suspect after he rammed their vehicle during LA stop, DHS says. Associated Press. <https://apnews.com/article/california-immigration-shooting>

- On October 28 in Ontario, an ICE agent shot Carlos Jimenez, a 25-year-old U.S. citizen, who reportedly was a bystander asking federal agents to move away from a bus stop where schoolchildren would soon be gathering. Lawyers for Mr. Jimenez said he was later shot in the shoulder as he drove away from federal agents, but said that he did not try to use his vehicle to harm anyone.²
- On November 9 in Santa Ana, a Fullerton police officer intervened when he saw a man in plain clothes pointing a gun at a female driver on a busy street. The man later identified himself as an immigration agent and accused the driver of “following him” during an “operation.”³

Going forward, it will be important to monitor whether these types of events are increasing in frequency.

Impacted Businesses in Los Angeles County

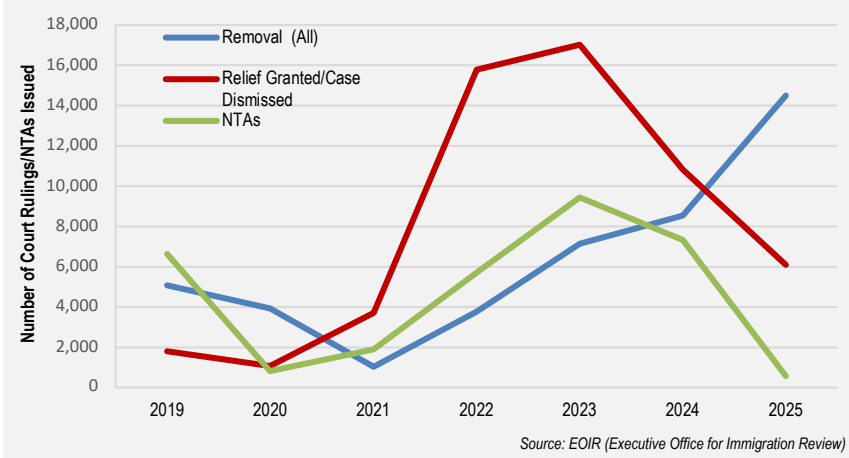
Immigration Court Removal Orders Surge

Los Angeles County businesses have been negatively affected by the fear and anxiety felt by undocumented workers across the region. These workers do not show up to work to avoid being arrested, and their families spend less time and money in their communities as well.

Contributing to this fear and anxiety has been an increase in rulings from immigration court judges ordering the speedy removal of defendants from the country. This surge in “removal orders” became particularly noticeable since the beginning of President Trump's second term in office. In the first eight months of 2025, removal orders are up 70 percent for Los Angeles County residents compared to the first eight months of 2024 (**Exhibit 1**).

This jump may be partially attributed to specific actions taken by the Trump administration, such as the reinstatement of the “Return to Mexico” program⁴, which forces non-Mexican asylum seekers crossing the Mexican border to remain in Mexico while their case is decided; removing guidance to use “administrative closure”⁵, which paused ongoing immigration court proceedings to allow judges to focus on higher priority cases; and increasing the scope and speed at which a ruling must be made for cases on the “Dedicated Docket”⁶ in immigration court,

Exhibit 1. Removal Case Outcomes and NTAs for Immigration Court
January-August of Each Year, 2019-2025, Los Angeles County Residents



² Karlamangla, S. (2025, November 3). Man shot by ICE was not trying to run over agent, lawyers say. The New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/11/03/us/ontario-ice-agent-shooting.html>

³ Mejia, B., & Uranga, R. (2025, November 10). Fullerton police stop man pointing gun at female driver, only to learn he is ICE agent. Los Angeles Times. <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2025-11-10/ice-agent-points-gun-at-female-fullerton-police-stop-not-knowing-the-identity-of-the-armed-male>

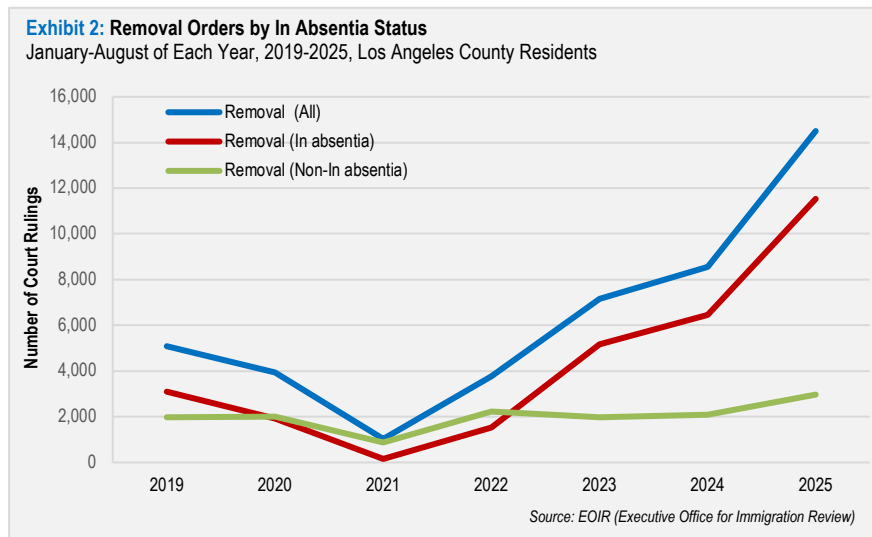
⁴ <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/trump-administration-reinstating-remain-mexico-program-2025-01-21>

⁵ https://iptp-production.s3.amazonaws.com/media/documents/2025.03.21_EOIR_25-27_Cancellation_of_DM_23-01_and_Reinstatement_of_PM_19-13.pdf

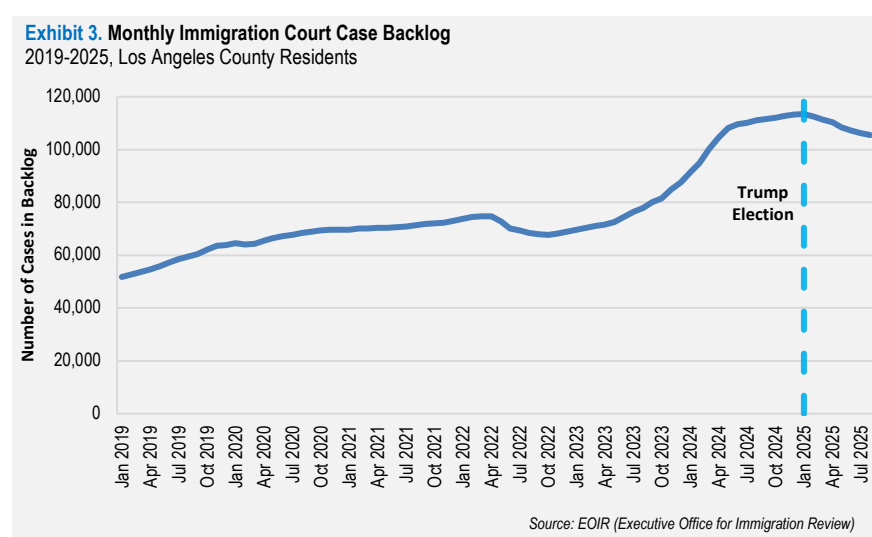
⁶ <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/media/1411511/>

among several others. Exhibit 1 also indicates a decline in relief-granted orders, where an immigration court judge rules that a defendant can remain in the United States, as well as removal case dismissals.

Exhibit 2 shows that most of the increase in removal orders appears to be driven by in absentia cases, where the defendant does not appear in court to defend themselves. One reason defendants may not be appearing in court is due to fears of immigration enforcement, as ICE officers have been reported conducting courtroom arrests this year.⁷



While issuing a Notice to Appear (NTA) is the first step in starting a removal case in immigration court, Exhibit 1 shows that NTA issuance has not increased significantly during President Trump's second term. Instead, it appears that the surge in removal orders has not come from recently issued NTAs, but from rulings on the backlog of immigration court cases.⁸ This relationship is illustrated in **Exhibit 3**, which shows an increase in the number of backlog cases in immigration court up until January 2025, after which the number of backlog cases begins to decline.



While both Exhibits 1, 2, and 3 only concern Los Angeles County residents, similar patterns have been observed throughout the United States.⁹

\$100,000 H-1B Visa Fee Update

H-1B visas are a significant source of the immigrant labor force in Los Angeles County. However, certain immigration policies implemented by the Trump Administration threaten to lessen the number of H-1B visa holders in the Los Angeles region.

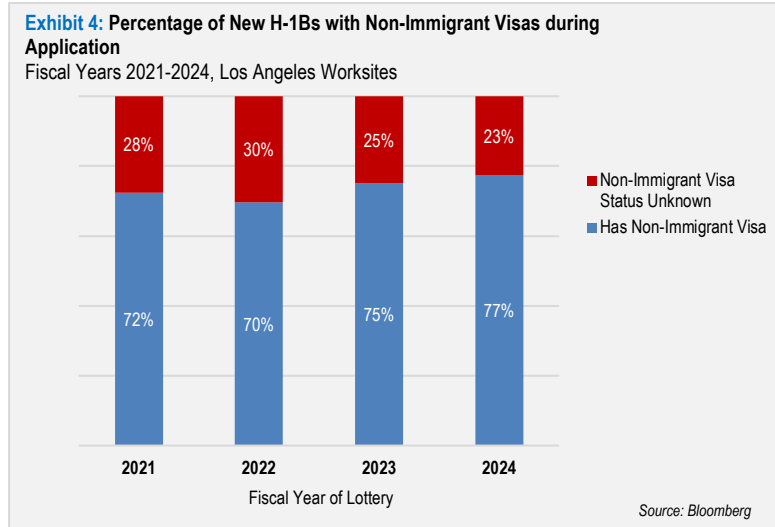
⁷ <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2025/feb/18/trump-immigration-drag-net>

⁸ Backlog court case in any month is one that was received by the court that month or before, but was not ruled on in that month.

⁹ <https://tracreports.org/immigration/tools/>

On September 19th, 2025, President Trump signed a proclamation instituting a \$100,000 fee for employers applying for an H-1B visa on behalf of their potential employee.¹⁰ At the time of signing, it was unclear whether H-1B visa applications from individuals currently in the United States on a non-immigrant visa, other than an H-1B, would be subject to the new fee. On October 20th, 2025, USCIS clarified that employers sponsoring a potential employee who is switching from another non-immigrant visa, such as students on an F-1 visa, to an H-1B visa will not be charged the new \$100,000 fee when applying.¹¹ However, employers sponsoring applicants without non-immigrant visas may still be required to pay the \$100,000 fee.

We used Freedom of Information Act data sourced from USCIS by Bloomberg to estimate the number of new H-1B visa holders who already held a non-immigrant visa when applying for their H-1B visa (Exhibit 4). Most applicants granted an H-1B visa with a worksite in Los Angeles County already had a nonimmigrant visa when applying during fiscal years 2021-2024. However, Exhibit 4 also indicates that approximately 25 percent of H-1B grantees had unknown non-immigrant status when applying. A significant number of potential H-1B holders may then not find an employer willing to pay \$100,000 to sponsor their future employment.¹²



New Proposed Rule Regarding H-1B Lottery

On September 24th, 2025, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced a proposed rule to adjust the H-1B lottery process.¹³ Currently, the H-1B lottery is held annually by randomly selecting a portion of entrants who have signed up for the lottery. The proposed rule by DHS would alter the lottery to assign weights to each entrant based on their Department of Labor (DOL) “wage level.”

The DOL assigns a wage level to each H-1B applicant based on several factors related to the position, including required experience and education, level of supervision, and occupational classification. There are four possible wage levels, with the lowest level (Level 1) typically assigned to entry-level positions and the highest level (Level 4) usually assigned to more senior positions. Under the proposed rule, applications with higher wage levels would have a significantly higher chance of being selected. For the nationwide distribution of H-1B visas, DHS has estimated a 48 percent decrease in H-1B visas granted for wage level 1 applications, a 3 percent increase for wage level 2 applications, a 55 percent increase for wage level 3 applications, and a 107 percent increase for wage level 4 applications.¹⁴

¹⁰ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/09/restriction-on-entry-of-certain-nonimmigrant-workers/>

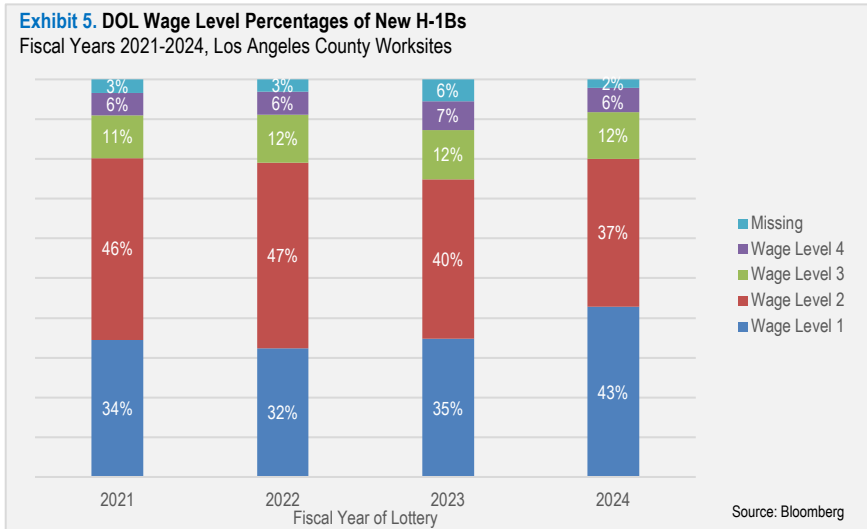
¹¹ <https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/blog/uscis-implements-h1b-100000-fee/>

¹² While this data includes many new H-1B visa holders, it does not include information on H-1B visa holders exempt from the lottery. As such, employees working for employers such as schools or nonprofits, which are typically exempt from the H-1B lottery, are not included in our dataset.

¹³ <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/09/24/2025-18473/weighted-selection-process-for-registrants-and-petitioners-seeking-to-file-cap-subject-h-1b>

¹⁴ <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2025-09-24/pdf/2025-18473.pdf>

Using the Bloomberg data, we estimated the wage level distribution for new H-1B visas with a worksite in Los Angeles County over fiscal years 2021-2024 (**Exhibit 5**). As shown, around 32 percent to 43 percent of new H-1Bs are wage level 1. This suggests many of the potential H-1B grantees may be negatively impacted by the proposed regulation. Exhibit 5 also shows that few new H-1Bs are in wage levels 3 or 4, suggesting that the extra weight afforded them by the proposed rule may have a small impact on the resulting distribution of new H-1B wage levels. We are currently working on a simulation that would predict the effect of this proposed rule on new H-1B visas in Los Angeles County.



Downtown Los Angeles Curfew and Property Damage

Economic Impact Analysis of Curfew-Related Business Disruptions

In June 2025, in response to rising tensions and protests surrounding the intensified federal immigration enforcement, Mayor Karen Bass declared a nightly curfew in downtown Los Angeles to protect residents, businesses, and public property. The curfew, which lasted from June 10 through June 16, 2025, covered an area of roughly one square mile bounded by the I-5, I-10, and I-110 freeways. This area encompasses the core of the city's commercial, cultural, and civic activity. While the curfew was effective in maintaining public safety and mitigating potential damage, it also resulted in economic disruptions by curtailing normal business operations, limiting consumer mobility, and reducing both daytime and nighttime visitation.

IAE conducted an analysis to evaluate the economic and fiscal impacts of the curfew and the associated disruption to the curfew area and beyond. The analysis not only examines the initial short-term losses experienced during and right after the curfew in June, but also explores alternative scenarios in terms of trajectory of recovery and potential repeated disruptions, and their impacts on the total economic losses.

Using a combination of business-level foot traffic data, regional input-output modeling, and scenario development, the study quantifies the impacts on employment, labor income, total output, and fiscal revenues across three geographic scales: the curfew area, the rest of the City of Los Angeles, and the rest of Los Angeles County.

Scenario Development

To capture the range of possible economic impacts associated with the curfew, three alternative scenarios were developed. Each scenario draws upon observed visitation data for businesses within the curfew zone, as well as considerations on characteristics of business operations, consumer behavior, and broader environment of immigration enforcement activities in the region.

Analysis of location-based foot traffic data revealed that the curfew had an immediate and substantial impact on visitation to downtown businesses. On a year-over-year basis, total monthly visitors to establishments in

the curfew area were down 8.7 percent in June 2025 compared to June 2024.¹⁵ While visitation levels had already declined earlier in the year due to lingering economic effects from the Eaton and Palisades wildfires, the June curfew reversed the steady improvement that had been observed in April and May.¹⁶

Total monthly visitors to establishments in the curfew area were down 8.7 percent in June 2025 compared to June 2024.

Following the significant drop in foot traffic in June, visitation data indicate a gradual but steady recovery in the following months. Year-over-year changes improved to -2.6 percent in July and -4.2 percent in August, respectively, reflecting a partial rebound in visitation. By September and October, foot traffic had nearly returned to pre-disruption levels, with year-over-year declines narrowing to -0.1 percent and -0.8 percent, respectively. These trends suggest that most consumers and workers resumed normal activity in the downtown area within approximately three months after the restrictions were lifted. However, interpreting these data requires caution: foot traffic alone does not fully capture the economic magnitude of disruption, as there can be varying relationship between physical visitation and sales volume across businesses. Still, these metrics provide a credible benchmark for estimating the relative magnitude and duration of curfew-related impacts.

The following scenarios are developed to capture the possible range of economic impacts associated with the curfew-related business disruptions:

- Scenario 1: Short-Term Disruption and Rapid Recovery.** Scenario 1 represents the baseline recovery trajectory, assuming that the economic disruptions were largely limited to the curfew week and its immediate aftermath. This scenario closely follows the observed foot traffic trends, showing a sharp 8.7 percent decline in June, followed by a steady and rapid rebound that reaches near-normal levels by September to October 2025. It reflects conditions in which most affected businesses quickly resumed operations and consumer confidence rebounded, allowing spending and visitation patterns to return to typical levels within a few months after the temporary restrictions were lifted.
- Scenario 2: Extended Recovery with Lingering Impacts.** This scenario models a more extended recovery trajectory, taking into consideration that even short-lived curfews can have lingering effects on business operations and visitor perceptions. Following periods of civic disruption, consumers may hesitate to return to areas perceived as unstable or alter their spending patterns altogether. At the same time, businesses, particularly small and service-oriented establishments, often face operational and financial challenges that prevent an immediate rebound once disruptions subside. Under this scenario, we assume the curfew triggered an 8.7 percent initial decline in foot traffic across businesses in June, but recovery of visitations is assumed to be slower and more gradual, extending over six months until returning to the normal levels by the end of December 2025.¹⁷

¹⁵ When calculating the year-over-year changes in foot traffic within the curfew area, we first excluded visit counts associated with NAICS 71 (Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation). Foot traffic to these venues tends to fluctuate significantly depending on the timing and frequency of major events, such as sporting events, concerts, or festivals, which can create irregular spikes or dips unrelated to broader economic or mobility trends.

¹⁶ We modeled the monthly year-over-year change in foot traffic within the curfew zone using data from February through May, applying a linear functional form to capture the underlying trend. This fitted relationship was then extrapolated to June to estimate the expected level of foot traffic in the absence of the curfew. The model predicts a year-over-year change of -0.5 percent, suggesting that without the disruption from curfew, physical visitation in June 2025 would have been expected to return nearly fully to its normal level, comparable to those observed in June 2024.

¹⁷ The recovery path between June and December is modeled using a slightly concave, logarithmic function. This shape better reflects real-world post-curfew recovery patterns than a linear path, capturing the relatively quick initial rebound in activity as restrictions lift, followed by a slower, tapering recovery as consumer confidence gradually returns.

- Scenario 3: Recurring Disruption.** This scenario builds on Scenario 2 to simulate the potential impacts if a similar disruption occurs again later in the year. Under this scenario, visitations follow the same gradual recovery pattern described in Scenario 2, but another similar disruptive event is assumed to occur in early December 2025, leading to another similar decline in foot traffic as taking place in June. Recovery would then follow a similar path as described in Scenario into 2026, gradually normalizing by midyear. This scenario represents the worst case among the three scenarios modeled, exploring the cumulative impacts of repeated shocks and extended recoveries.

The methodology for examining these three scenarios is presented in Appendix A.

Economic Impact Results

Scenario 1 assumes that the curfew's economic effects were largely confined to the month of June 2025, and that recovery took place quickly afterward. In Scenario 1, we estimate the total losses to the Los Angeles County economy to be approximately 3,920 job-years,¹⁸ \$312 million in labor income, and \$840 million in total output.

In Scenario 1, we estimate the total losses to the Los Angeles County economy to be approximately 3,920 job-years, \$312 million in labor income, and \$840 million in total output.

Of these totals, approximately 2,200 job-years, \$184 million in labor income, and \$484 million in output losses occurred directly within the curfew zone caused by reduced foot traffic and shortened hours of operation. The indirect impacts, totaling about 880 job-years, \$70 million in labor income, and \$186 million in output losses, stem from reduced purchasing by downtown firms from suppliers located elsewhere in the city and county. The induced effects, representing household spending reductions because of the reduced labor income, contributed an additional 840 job-years, \$58 million in labor income, and \$170 million in output losses (**Exhibit 6**).

The associated fiscal revenue losses totaled \$127 million, including \$30 million in local, \$30 million in state, and \$67 million in federal tax impacts (**Exhibit 7**).

Exhibit 6.
Economic Impacts of Business Disruptions in the Curfew Area – Scenario 1

Impact	Employment (job-years)	Labor Income (\$M)	Value Added (\$M)	Output (\$M)
Direct (Curfew Area)	2,200	\$184	\$306	\$484
Indirect	880	\$70	\$110	\$186
Rest of City of LA	470	\$39	\$61	\$103
Rest of LA County	410	\$31	\$49	\$83
Induced	840	\$58	\$111	\$170
Rest of City of LA	210	\$14	\$31	\$46
Rest of LA County	630	\$44	\$80	\$124
Total (Direct+Indirect+Induced)	3,920	\$312	\$527	\$840
Curfew Area	2,200	\$184	\$306	\$484
Rest of City of LA	680	\$53	\$93	\$149
Rest of LA County	1,040	\$75	\$129	\$207

Sources: IMPLAN; estimates by LAEDC

Exhibit 7.
Fiscal Impacts of Business Disruptions in the Curfew Area – Scenario 1 (millions \$)

Fiscal Impact	Local	State	Federal	Total
Direct (Curfew Area)	\$21	\$18	\$36	\$76
Indirect	\$3	\$5	\$16	\$24
Rest of City of LA	\$2	\$2	\$8	\$11
Rest of LA County	\$2	\$3	\$9	\$13
Induced	\$6	\$6	\$14	\$27
Rest of City of LA	\$2	\$2	\$3	\$7
Rest of LA County	\$4	\$5	\$11	\$20
Total (Direct + Indirect + Induced)	\$30	\$30	\$67	\$127
Curfew Area	\$21	\$18	\$36	\$76
Rest of City of LA	\$3	\$4	\$11	\$18
Rest of LA County	\$6	\$7	\$20	\$33

Sources: IMPLAN; estimates by LAEDC

¹⁸ One job-year represents one job held for an entire year. Even though the business disruptions may last only a few weeks or months, we annualize the effects so that employment impacts are comparable across scenarios and industries. Using this measure is also consistent with how economic models report results. For example, a three-month disruption for 100 workers would equal 25 job-years.

Scenario 2 explores a more extended recovery trajectory, in which the curfew's immediate impacts are followed by a slow rebound in visitation, spending, and business activities over a six-month period. In this scenario, overall economic activity in the curfew area remains below baseline levels through the end of 2025. In Scenario 2, we estimate the total losses to the Los Angeles County economy to be approximately 6,000 job-years, \$477 million in labor income, and \$1.29 billion in total output.

In Scenario 2, we estimate the total losses to the Los Angeles County economy to be approximately 6,000 job-years, \$477 million in labor income, and \$1.29 billion in total output.

Of these, 3,370 job-years, \$281 million in labor income, and \$740 million in output are the losses directly associated with businesses in the curfew zone. The indirect impacts, affecting businesses across the region that serve in the supply-chain of the directly affected businesses, are estimated to be 1,340 job-years, \$107 million in labor income, and \$284 million in output losses. Moreover, reduced consumer spending by affected employees and contractors is estimated to result in another 1,290 job-years employment impact, \$89 million in labor income and \$260 million in output losses (**Exhibit 8**).

Fiscal impacts are estimated to increase to approximately \$194 million, including \$47 million for local governments, \$45 million for the state, and \$102 million for the federal government (**Exhibit 9**).

Exhibit 8.

Economic Impacts of Business Disruptions in the Curfew Area – Scenario 2

Impact	Employment (job-years)	Labor Income (\$M)	Value Added (\$M)	Output (\$M)
Direct (Curfew Area)	3,370	\$281	\$468	\$740
Indirect	1,340	\$107	\$168	\$284
Rest of City of LA	720	\$59	\$94	\$157
Rest of LA County	620	\$48	\$74	\$127
Induced	1,290	\$89	\$170	\$260
Rest of City of LA	320	\$22	\$48	\$71
Rest of LA County	970	\$67	\$122	\$189
Total (Direct+Indirect+Induced)	6,000	\$477	\$806	\$1,285
Curfew Area	3,370	\$281	\$468	\$740
Rest of City of LA	1,040	\$81	\$142	\$228
Rest of LA County	1,590	\$114	\$197	\$317

Sources: IMPLAN; estimates by LAEDC

Exhibit 9.

Fiscal Impacts of Business Disruptions in the Curfew Area – Scenario 2 (millions \$)

Fiscal Impact	Local	State	Federal	Total
Direct (Curfew Area)	\$32	\$28	\$55	\$116
Indirect	\$5	\$7	\$25	\$37
Rest of City of LA	\$2	\$3	\$12	\$17
Rest of LA County	\$2	\$4	\$13	\$19
Induced	\$10	\$10	\$22	\$41
Rest of City of LA	\$3	\$3	\$5	\$10
Rest of LA County	\$7	\$7	\$17	\$31
Total (Direct + Indirect + Induced)	\$47	\$45	\$102	\$194
Curfew Area	\$32	\$28	\$55	\$116
Rest of City of LA	\$5	\$6	\$16	\$27
Rest of LA County	\$9	\$11	\$30	\$51

Sources: IMPLAN; estimates by LAEDC

Scenario 3 represents the worst case among the three modeled, extending the analysis in Scenario 2 by modeling the effects of a second curfew or comparable disruption occurring in early December 2025. Compounding the earlier summer event, this scenario simulates the conditions that continued volatility and recurring disruptions in business operations scale up the impacts and further delay full recovery into 2026. In Scenario 3, we estimate the total losses to the Los Angeles County economy to be approximately 11,730 job-years, \$932 million in labor income, and \$2.5 billion in total output.

The direct impact within the curfew zone alone accounts for 6,590 job-years, \$549 million in labor income, and \$1.45 billion in total output losses. These effects also ripple across the city and county's economies through indirect and induced channels. The indirect impacts, representing losses among suppliers to directly affected businesses, are estimated at 2,620 job-years, \$209 million in labor income, and \$556 million in output. Meanwhile, reduction in

In Scenario 3, we estimate the total losses to the Los Angeles County economy to be approximately 11,730 job-years, \$932 million in labor income, and \$2.5 billion in total output.

household spending by workers affected by the curfew contributes an additional 2,520 job-year decline, \$174 million in labor income, and \$509 million in output losses (**Exhibit 10**).

From a fiscal perspective, Scenario 3 projects total tax revenue losses approaching \$379 million, with approximately \$91 million borne by local governments, \$89 million by the state, and \$199 million at the federal level (**Exhibit 11**).

Exhibit 10.**Economic Impacts of Business Disruptions in the Curfew Area – Scenario 3**

Impact	Employment (job-years)	Labor Income (\$M)	Value Added (\$M)	Output (\$M)
Direct (Curfew Area)	6,590	\$549	\$915	\$1,447
Indirect	2,620	\$209	\$329	\$556
Rest of City of LA	1,410	\$116	\$183	\$307
Rest of LA County	1,210	\$93	\$145	\$249
Induced	2,520	\$174	\$333	\$509
Rest of City of LA	620	\$43	\$94	\$139
Rest of LA County	1,900	\$131	\$239	\$370
Total (Direct+Indirect+Induced)	11,730	\$932	\$1,576	\$2,512
Curfew Area	6,590	\$549	\$915	\$1,447
Rest of City of LA	2,030	\$159	\$277	\$446
Rest of LA County	3,110	\$224	\$385	\$619

Sources: IMPLAN; estimates by LAEDC

Exhibit 11.**Fiscal Impacts of Business Disruptions in the Curfew Area – Scenario 3 (millions \$)**

Fiscal Impact	Local	State	Federal	Total
Direct (Curfew Area)	\$63	\$55	\$108	\$227
Indirect	\$9	\$14	\$48	\$72
Rest of City of LA	\$5	\$7	\$23	\$34
Rest of LA County	\$5	\$8	\$26	\$38
Induced	\$19	\$19	\$43	\$81
Rest of City of LA	\$5	\$5	\$9	\$20
Rest of LA County	\$13	\$14	\$33	\$61
Total (Direct + Indirect + Induced)	\$91	\$89	\$199	\$379
Curfew Area	\$63	\$55	\$108	\$227
Rest of City of LA	\$10	\$11	\$32	\$53
Rest of LA County	\$18	\$22	\$59	\$99

Sources: IMPLAN; estimates by LAEDC

Impact by Industry

Exhibit 12 below presents the estimated total economic impacts of curfew-related business disruptions by major industry sector in Los Angeles County across the three modeled scenarios. The results reflect that service-oriented and consumer-facing industries are expected to experience the greatest impacts across all scenarios, reflecting their high dependency on in-person activity and foot traffic.

Under Scenario 1, the industries most affected by employment losses include Accommodation and Food Services (600 job-years), Professional and Technical Services (470 job-years), and Other Services (390 job-years).¹⁹ In terms of output, the largest declines occur in Wholesale Trade (\$153.7 million), Professional and Technical Services (\$103.3 million), and Finance and Insurance (\$91.8 million), reflecting both the concentration of these sectors in the downtown area and their linkages with consumer-facing activity.

As the duration and persistence of disruptions extend in Scenario 2, Accommodation and Food Services (910 job-years), Professional and Technical Services (720 job-years), and Other Services (600 job-years) remain the most affected industries by employment. Output losses are greatest in Wholesale Trade (\$235.1 million), Professional and Technical Services (\$158.0 million), and Finance and Insurance (\$140.5 million).

Under Scenario 3, the largest employment effects are again observed in Accommodation and Food Services (1,790 job-years), Professional and Technical Services (1,400 job-years), and Other Services (1,160 job-

In all scenarios, service-oriented and consumer-facing industries are expected to experience the greatest impacts.

¹⁹ “Other Services” include a range of primarily consumer-facing activities such as repair and maintenance services, personal care services, dry-cleaning and laundry services, and membership organizations. These businesses tend to rely heavily on in-person interactions and are therefore particularly sensitive to disruptions in foot traffic and local access.

years). Corresponding output losses are most significant in Wholesale Trade (\$459.8 million), Professional and Technical Services (\$309.1 million), and Finance and Insurance (\$274.8 million).

Exhibit 12.**Estimated Economic Impacts by Industry of Curfew-Related Business Disruptions on the Los Angeles County Economy**

	Scenario 1		Scenario 2		Scenario 3	
	Employment (job-years)	Output (\$ M)	Employment (job-years)	Output (\$ M)	Employment (job-years)	Output (\$ M)
Agriculture	0	\$0.1	0	\$0.1	0	\$0.3
Mining, and oil and gas extraction	0	\$0.3	0	\$0.5	0	\$1.0
Utilities	80	\$33.1	120	\$50.6	240	\$99.0
Construction	20	\$5.3	40	\$8.1	70	\$15.8
Manufacturing	70	\$26.3	110	\$40.3	210	\$78.8
Wholesale trade	150	\$153.7	230	\$235.1	440	\$459.8
Retail trade	280	\$56.4	430	\$86.4	840	\$168.9
Transportation and warehousing	290	\$29.0	440	\$44.4	870	\$86.9
Information	110	\$49.6	170	\$75.9	330	\$148.4
Finance and insurance	270	\$91.8	420	\$140.5	820	\$274.8
Real estate and rental and leasing	200	\$71.8	310	\$109.8	610	\$214.8
Professional and technical services	470	\$103.3	720	\$158.0	1,400	\$309.1
Management of companies	70	\$25.7	110	\$39.3	210	\$76.8
Administrative and waste services	240	\$28.0	360	\$42.8	700	\$83.7
Educational services	80	\$5.3	120	\$8.1	240	\$15.9
Health care and social assistance	250	\$31.3	390	\$47.8	760	\$93.5
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	150	\$26.7	230	\$40.9	450	\$79.9
Accommodation and food services	600	\$57.6	910	\$88.1	1,790	\$172.3
Other services	390	\$28.4	600	\$43.5	1,160	\$85.0
Government	190	\$15.9	290	\$24.3	580	\$47.6
Total All Industries*	3,920	\$839.6	6,000	\$1,284.6	11,730	\$2,512.3

Source: Estimates by LAEDC; *Totals may not sum due to rounding.

While Professional and Technical Services and Finance and Insurance appear among the top sectors by magnitude of output impact due to their high concentration of firms in the downtown area, their overall sensitivity to foot traffic reductions is comparatively lower. Many businesses in these sectors possess greater operational flexibility, such as remote work capability, online client servicing, and rescheduling potential, allowing more rapid recovery or deferral of lost activity relative to consumer-facing industries.

Overall, the analysis shows that employment and output impacts are most significant in sectors dependent on in-person interactions, particularly Accommodation and Food Services and Other Services. In contrast, sectors such as Professional and Technical Services and Finance and Insurance exhibit high measured output impacts largely due to their economic scale and downtown concentration, rather than vulnerability to foot traffic reductions.

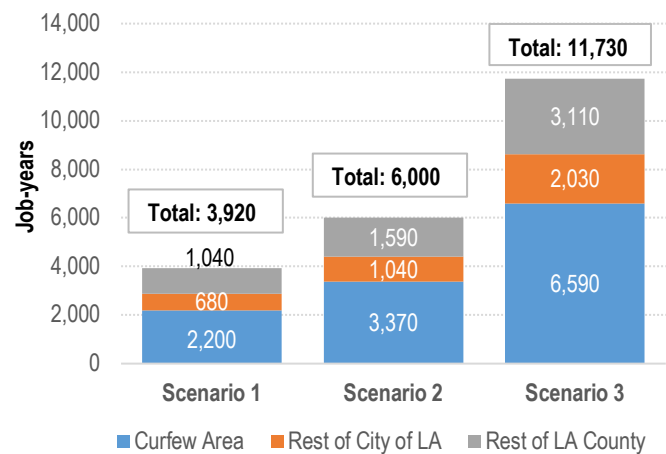
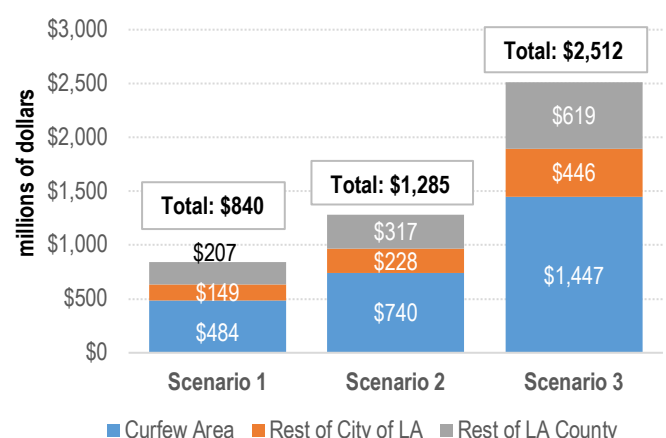
Summary of Total Impacts

Exhibit 13 and **Exhibit 14** below summarize the estimated economic impacts of curfew-related business disruptions within the directly affected curfew zone, as well as the broader ripple effects across the rest of the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County. The results indicate that total countywide employment losses range from approximately 3,920 job-years under Scenario 1, representing a short disruption and rapid recovery, to 11,730 job-years under Scenario 3, which assumes a recurrence of disruption later in the year

and a more extended recovery path. Correspondingly, total output losses are estimated between \$0.84 billion and \$2.51 billion, with the curfew area itself accounting for more than half of the total losses in each scenario.

While the direct effects are most concentrated within the curfew zone, reflecting disrupted business operations, reduced spending, and lost sales, the economic impacts extend well beyond the immediate area. In each scenario, the indirect and induced effects combined contribute nearly 40 percent of total countywide output losses, reflecting the interconnected nature of the Los Angeles economy. Sectors dependent more on in-person activity, such as accommodation, food services, arts and entertainment, and personal services, experience the largest proportional declines.

The three scenarios indicate the sensitivity of the Los Angeles economy to disruptions in its urban core. Even a short-term curfew produces measurable losses through direct interruptions to business operations and cascading supply chain and household spending effects. The results also highlight that as the duration and frequency of disruptions increase, total economic losses rise accordingly, reflecting compounding challenges in consumer confidence and business recovery. Coordinated recovery efforts, particularly those that provide targeted assistance to small and customer-facing businesses, along with initiatives aimed at restoring consumer confidence, can play an important role in mitigating the adverse economic impacts of such disruptions.

Exhibit 13.**Employment Impacts of Curfew-Related Business Disruptions****Exhibit 14.****Output Impacts of Curfew-Related Business Disruptions**

Supportive Services for Impacted Small Businesses

Community Engagement

LAEDC also has partnered with the Los Angeles Economic Equity Accelerator & Fellowship (LEEAF) to strengthen community engagement efforts across the region. This collaboration focuses on ensuring outreach to vulnerable and hard-to-reach communities, with the goal of capturing voices and perspectives that can complement traditional economic analyses.

LEEAF engaged the regional community through interviews with small business leaders, input from a live Town Hall held on November 12, 2025, and conversations with community organizations. LEEAF reports that through this engagement they found that aggressive federal immigration enforcement has generated fear and mistrust that have created ripple effects across communities and the broader regional economy. (LEEAF's November report is included as Appendix B.)

For the small business interviews, LEEAF connected with 178 business leaders from LEEAF's network of 13,000 businesses across Los Angeles County. Business leaders were united in the assessment that ICE raids have damaged trust, with 90 percent of respondents seeing distrust growing across both federal and local governments and only 7 percent distinguishing between federal and local governments. More than a dozen respondents described this distrust as intense.

LEEAF spoke with leaders in 22 nonprofits and community organizations across the region who provide a range of services including business support, public health, legal services, worker resources, policy advocacy, and basic needs. Conversations with these organizations from August through November explored economic impacts of ICE along with broader community impacts and the specific impacts on social safety net organizations. The organizations reported seeing a long-term impact on small business owners, with many owners dropping out of support programs and foregoing resources and others forced to close. The community support organizations in particular also faced impacts to their own work, with nearly every respondent agreeing that their capacity had decreased in 2025.

LEEAF also reports that some business leaders went the extra mile to provide vital information and resources, build safe spaces, and turn care into effective action throughout their communities. Consequently, making even small investments in the capacity and coordination of local small businesses could help support both inclusive economic growth and community resilience.

Next Steps:

IAE will continue to update this economic analysis on a monthly basis as we obtain more information over time from impacted businesses, workers and affected stakeholders.

IAE will next analyze the results of the business impact survey as well as additional findings from the townhalls. We will also analyze an updated dataset on the distribution of undocumented residents across Los Angeles County.

About Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) www.laedc.org

The Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) is a public-benefit nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing a strong, growing, and sustainable economy for the Los Angeles region. Now in its 44th year, LAEDC works collaboratively with partners across the county to improve the quality of life for residents by fostering job creation, supporting key industries, and strengthening the region's economic resilience. As a trusted leader, LAEDC serves the people of Los Angeles County by promoting a healthy economy and high standard of living.

Appendix A: Methodology for Economic Impact Analysis of Curfew-Related Business Disruptions

To estimate the economic impact of the curfew-related business disruptions, we translated observed declines in foot traffic into percentage changes in industry output using industry-specific elasticities. Elasticity in this context measures the sensitivity of an industry's economic output (i.e., total sales or production value) to changes in physical visitation or foot traffic:

$$\% \text{ Output Change} = \text{Elasticity} \times \% \text{ Foot-Traffic Change}$$

A higher elasticity indicates that a decline in foot traffic results in a proportionally larger decline in output, which is typically the case for sectors that depend heavily on in-person customers. In contrast, lower elasticities correspond to sectors that can maintain operations despite reduced local visits.

This approach is intentionally conservative, as it assumes that the output of different industries varies in its sensitivity to fluctuations in visitation levels due to factors such as the degree of customer-facing activity, the ability to conduct business online or remotely, and the potential to reschedule or recapture lost sales at a later time. This differentiation helps avoid overestimating potential economic losses.

The following elasticity assumptions are adopted:

- Elasticity = 1.0 for Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (NAICS 71), Accommodation and Food Services (NAICS 72), and Other Services (NAICS 81). In other words, a 10 percent decline in foot traffic for these sectors is translated to a 10 percent reduction in gross output. These sectors are highly customer-facing and depend almost entirely on in-person patronage. A decline in foot traffic directly translates into reduced business activity, with limited ability to shift transactions online or reschedule/recapture lost revenue.
- Elasticity = 0.5 for other service-producing industries (NAICS 42–62), including Retail Trade, Information, Finance and Real Estate, Professional and Administrative Services, Educational Services, and Health Care. This means a 10 percent decline in foot traffic for these sectors is translated to a 5 percent reduction in gross output. These sectors are partially insulated from foot traffic declines due to online service delivery, remote work capability, or rescheduling or recapturing lost revenue possibilities. For example, retailers may recoup some sales through e-commerce, and professional and financial services can continue operating remotely.
- Elasticity = 0.25 for non-service industries, including Agriculture, Mining, Utilities, Construction, and Manufacturing (NAICS 11–33). In this case, a 10 percent decline in foot traffic is translated to a 2.5 percent reduction in gross output of these sectors. These sectors have limited direct exposure to local visitation patterns, as their activities are largely production- or infrastructure-based rather than customer-facing. Curfews may temporarily disrupt operations or logistics, but such effects are expected to have modest impacts on the overall output of these sectors.

Baseline economic activity for businesses located within the curfew zone was estimated using industry classification, employment, and sales volume data obtained from Data Axle for all establishments in the area.

After estimating the direct impacts on businesses located within the curfew zone under each scenario, a customized input–output (I–O) model was developed for both the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County to quantify the total economic effects. The I–O framework traces how initial disruptions in one part of the

economy ripple through the broader economy via inter-industry supply chain linkages and household spending effects.

The total estimated economic losses include direct, indirect, and induced impacts:

- **Direct impacts** represent the immediate loss of output and employment among businesses located in the curfew zone.
- **Indirect impacts** capture the reduced demand for goods and services supplied to those businesses by vendors elsewhere in the city and county.
- **Induced impacts** measure the decline in household spending when employees, whose wages depend on directly and indirectly affected business activity, experience reduced income.

Together, these different layers of impacts represent the multiplier effects of business disruptions, showing how localized shocks ripple outward through the broader regional economy. Economic results are expressed in terms of employment, labor income (wages and benefits), value added (regional GDP equivalent), and total output (sales revenue). Fiscal impacts were also estimated for local, state, and federal tax revenues associated with each scenario.

Appendix B:



LOS ANGELES
ECONOMIC EQUITY
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November Report

LEEF x LAEDC Immigration Enforcement Impacts

The November report dives deeper into the economic impact and community response surrounding immigration enforcement, bringing together three sets of data: interviews with small business leaders; community input from a live Town Hall held on November 12, 2025; and conversations with community organizations. Their responses show how fear and mistrust create ripple effects across communities and the broader regional economy, and how ICE raids have strained the social safety net that makes possible economic growth. This report closes by highlighting businesses that go above and beyond to serve as community resource hubs, opening a pathway for investment in economic recovery.

Impacts of mistrust: Ripple effects on resource use and community life

For the small business interviews, LEEAF connected with 178 business leaders from LEEAF's network of 13,000 businesses across Los Angeles County, centering respect and care to enable business leaders to share candid insights. Our Facilitator and Outreach Teams led phone and in-person interviews in August and September that covered the economic impacts highlighted in LEEAF's October report along with the broader social dynamics and stories of resistance and resilience highlighted here.

"We feel the federal and local government is out to get us. We don't trust our government to assist us, instead we feel they are asking for our information to deport us and separate us from our families."

Business leaders were united in the assessment that ICE raids have damaged trust, with 90% of respondents seeing distrust growing across both federal and local governments and only 7% distinguishing between federal and local governments. More than a dozen respondents described this distrust as intense, like the owner of a flower shop who told us "we feel the federal and local government is out to get us." The owner of a clothing store echoed this sentiment, telling us that "business owners don't feel protected or supported, it feels like the system is working against us."

The few who did distinguish between federal and local government expressed appreciation for the way local officials stood up for

communities, like the cafe owner who said that "People confide in the local government. It has always been there for people and actually fought for the people they serve."

Specific barriers to resource use included in-person attendance requirements and the need to give private information to access services. The leader of a community program shared with us that more than 50% of their usual clients have opted out of receiving services in person. Another nonprofit leader told us that "resources ask for a lot of information like address, income, etc. I understand why they need it, but people aren't going to trust them with their personal information out of fear that it will be used against them."

Respondents traced the decline in community use of resources to schools and youth programs, despite very public efforts of educational institutions to shield youth and families from enforcement actions. One respondent told us of her friends and neighbors who were "worried about sending their children to school", and the owner of a bakery spoke of how ICE raids have "not only affected businesses but also recreational activities, families, and the community", noting that less kids are showing up even to her daughter's sports teams. Impacts cut across generations, as the owner of a food & beverage business observed: "Families are stressed, kids pick up on that energy, and people pull back from public life."

Organization interviews: Challenges and adaptations to support networks

LEEAF spoke with leaders in 22 nonprofits and community organizations across the region. The interviews spread across three broad categories of program: we talked with the leaders of 12 small business support programs that provide direct services to entrepreneurs; 7 programs providing health, family, and community services covering a range of basic needs and capacity-building for the community; and 3 organizations focused on advocacy and empowerment specifically for immigrant communities. Conversations with these organizations from August through November explored economic impacts of ICE along with broader community impacts and the specific impacts on social safety net organizations. The discussions closed with their perspective on what policies and resources would help them better serve and uplift communities impacted by immigration enforcement.

"We'd been excited to get them connected with resources, but then with the new administration they have to look after their families and basic needs, so formalizing their small businesses also fell to the side."

Organizations echoed the business leaders we interviewed about the economic impact of recent enforcement. One respondent spoke of workers "not wanting to leave their home, not being able to socialize the ways they typically do because of the day-to-day fear." The leader of a housing assistance program described the financial problems facing families, noting how "many people are having their basic utilities shut off" Another described opening a cash support fund online that was depleted in 2 minutes from the overload of applicants. Six respondents told of intense impacts on families of street vendors and day laborers whose families have lost their primary source of income in recent months.

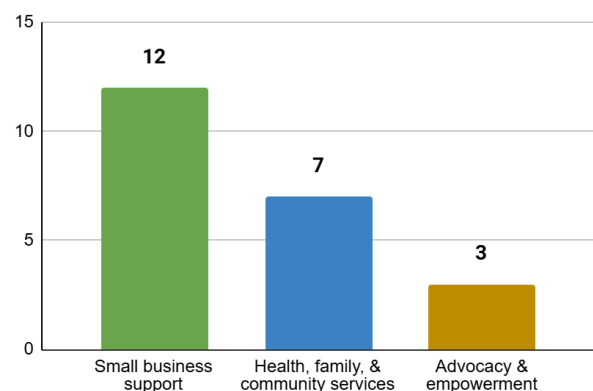
The leaders who spoke with us saw a long-term impact on small business owners, with many owners dropping out of support programs and foregoing resources and others forced to close. One business support program saw a "huge dropoff" in

Spanish-language entrepreneurship courses. Another business leader shared the impact on participation in a program that helped entrepreneurs earn business licenses: "We'd been excited to get them connected with resources, but then with the new administration they have to look after their families and basic needs, so formalizing their small businesses also fell to the side."

Community support organizations faced impacts to their own work, with nearly every respondent agreeing that their capacity had decreased in 2025. The leader of a youth program spoke of "trying to maintain staff so we don't have to cut beyond what we already have" and a health organization spoke of staff "having to work remotely, reducing hours or having to drop out of the workforce." Four respondents shared that resource gaps forced them to end programs in the middle of execution, and three more reported having to switch away from planned programs to focus on the basic needs of their participants.

Many organizations told of struggling to sustain funding for core programs. Cuts to federal grants, especially to legal and immigrant services, forced layoffs of critical staff. Three respondents described hesitation in applying for further federal grants that may come with "strings attached", forbidding advocacy for civil rights or even carrying the risk of compromising private information shared by their clients. The leader of an economic equity program told how "donor fatigue has diminished resources. We gave over \$2M in direct relief funding after the fires. When the immigration raids came, there wasn't as much. Funders hesitate knowing that it goes on their permanent record to give funds to organizations that support immigrants."

Interviews by type of program



"I hope that's the real outcome of it all, that we create something new and better because we've seen it at its worst."

Given the challenges to sustaining core programs and the intense pressures on the people they serve, community organizations across all categories emphasized that now is the time to invest in the social safety net. Several program leaders emphasized that cross-sector partnerships were necessary to understand the intersecting needs of communities, like the business support program leader who shared that "ecosystem organizing is important. We need intersectional analysis here; so many of the people we serve have multiple sources of economic uncertainty, why not address all those needs at once?"

Asked the most effective way to foster community resilience despite these challenges to the social safety net, the most common responses focused on 1) investing in rapid response networks to protect targeted workers and families; 2) alternative employment and income sources for day laborers; and 3) providing fees for legal services. Nearly all respondents praised the work of local government, with some noting they can do more, like one who asked local officials "to stand up to all this injustice - we're still at the beginning of this four years and we need to utilize all our resources to show strength." The leader of a legal services group closed with a note of long-term opportunity: "I hope that's the real outcome of it all, that we create something new and better because we've seen it at its worst."

Resilience and leadership: Businesses as community resource hubs

Many business leaders told us how they went the extra mile to provide vital information and resources, build safe spaces, and turn care into effective action. Brick and mortar businesses were most strongly represented, but there were multiple business leaders who leveraged their entrepreneurial skills, connections, and care to serve as a resource even without a physical space.

Building connections and safe spaces was the most common theme for these respondents. The owner of a retail store shared that "sometimes we are people's only point of interaction outside their family in a day" and noted they had been intentional to "build rapport with the businesses on my block. It starts with making personal connections, joining WhatsApp groups, and then you are ready to support action." A restaurant owner described delivering groceries and medications to neighbors who are afraid to go outside, and others spoke of

Businesses are also directly contributing resources to support community resilience. One shared that "we lost 50% of revenue in July, but we also looked around us to the street vendors and realized they were suffering even more. We created a community fundraiser and raised \$2K to support local street vendors." Others told us of lobbying city council members to support residents, and giving their goods for free - food and juices to community members affected by the raids. One respondent shared that she picked up a side job in order to keep her workers employed, paying them with the revenue from her other job.

Right now businesses are...

- Hosting events to create safe spaces for connection and resource sharing
- Joining rapid response networks to share reliable, verified information
- Marking private spaces to deter raids from reaching customers and employees
- Partnering with local nonprofits and government to connect people with services

They are asking for...

- Training and partnership to connect people to appropriate resources
- Guidance on how to join and support rapid response networks
- Reliable, curated information to share
- Marketing to celebrate and recognize their work
- Funding and resources to support events and other community resilience work

Nearly every respondent expressed the desire to do more. Business leaders are playing multiple roles for their communities while also running their ventures, and they need support. Business leaders tell of

being overwhelmed by resource lists, playing roles in recovery without significant training, learning of crucial resources months after they would have been helpful. The leader of a corner grocery noted that "training is great but readiness takes resources" and that "resiliency funds need even less paperwork, programs need less obstacles."

"Sometimes we are people's only point of interaction outside their family in a day... it starts with making personal connections, joining WhatsApp groups, and then you are ready to support action."

Making even small investments in the capacity and coordination of our local small businesses will drive both inclusive economic growth and community resilience. The leader of an arts nonprofit shared that "We need one-click pathways for small businesses to advocate and step up for the communities. It is too hard for busy business leaders to step up and be heard."

Where businesses engage even more deeply with their customers and their communities, they also foster long-term economic growth. To identify strategies most likely to make a meaningful

difference for economic resilience, LEEAF wrote a [detailed policy report](#) and hosted a series of events where business and community leaders shared experiences and ideas.

Event reports and next steps: Town Halls and Voice to Action

LEEAF hosted two events in recent weeks focused on immigration enforcement impacts and community responses, part of a four-event series extending into December titled *From Enforcement to Resilience*.

The first event brought together over 50 small business owners, policymakers, and community programs to discuss the results of LEEAF's recent report *Invisible Losses: How Small Businesses and Communities Adapt to Immigration Raids*. The event included panels celebrating the work of small business leaders who have stepped up as hubs of resilience for their communities, and another focused on planning resources and policies to support recovery. The event closed with table discussions.

The second event, a virtual town hall focused on the experiences of small business owners, brought an intimate crowd together to share experiences and discuss solutions. Participants echoed and deepened the results of earlier conversations, sharing stories of lost revenue, worker challenges, and businesses forced to close or pivot to online services as communities pulled their attention inward.

When the conversation turned to business adaptations and opportunities for support, new insights arose into barriers: the leader of a business support program noted that pivoting to online operations "is a huge challenge with technical assistance, even down to getting an email and getting them on a Zoom meeting. It's layers and layers of obstacles to accessing support." For another participant, "this crisis has been even worse than COVID. With COVID there was much more funding and support to access the funding."

"This crisis has been even worse than COVID. With COVID there was much more funding and support to access the funding."

The final two events in the series, town halls focused on elevating the voices of workers and small business owners, will occur in late November and early December. In addition to opening space for discussing the impacts of immigration enforcement, these forums will aim to directly connect participants with critical resources and to discuss and develop new initiatives that equip workers and small businesses to serve as centers of resilience and recovery for their communities. These events will serve as the basis for a final report in partnership with LAEDC, which will synthesize insights from the hundreds of conversations and perspectives from community members gathered over the course of this project.



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DEO

Immigration Resources Toolkit

Small Businesses & Workers





LEEAFescucha

DE REPRESIÓN A RESILIENCIA-ASAMBLEAS COMUNITARIAS

DE REPRESIÓN A RESILIENCIA

asambleas comunitarias

¿HAS SIDO AFECTADO POR
LAS REDADAS DE ICE EN
LOS ÁNGELES?

¡CUÉNTANOS TU HISTORIA!

Próximas fechas



Miércoles, 12 de noviembre
Virtual | 4pm - 6pm



Jueves, 20 de noviembre
Presencial | 10am - 12pm



ESCANEA EL CÓDIGO QR PARA
CONFIRMAR TU ASISTENCIA A LAS
PRÓXIMAS ASAMBLEAS

[O CONFIRMA AQUÍ](#)



Las pequeñas empresas son el
corazón de nuestras
comunidades, ¡y tu voz
importa!

Únete a las asambleas
comunitarias de LEEAF para
compartir cómo la represión
migratoria reciente ha afectado
tu negocio y para ayudar a
construir el camino hacia la
resiliencia y la recuperación.



LEEAF
BUILDING EQUITY ONE
ENTREPRENEUR AT A TIME



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Who We Are

DEO was established in 2022 to lead and align the County's and region's economic development efforts.

Mission

We create quality jobs, help small businesses and high-road employers start and grow, and build vibrant local communities and spaces.

Vision

An equitable economy with thriving local communities, inclusive and sustainable growth, and opportunity and mobility for all.

On June 17, 2025, the Board of Supervisors directed DEO to develop a rapid response communication strategy for businesses and workers, including a toolkit that includes supportive services and resources.

Work, Live and Do Business in LA County



**REGIONAL ECONOMIC
APPROACH**



**JOBS AND
TRAINING**



**SMALL BUSINESS
SERVICES & CAPITAL
ACCESS**



**ENTREPRENEURSHIP
DEVELOPMENT**



**CERTIFICATIONS AND
CONTRACTING**



**INDUSTRY CLUSTER
DEVELOPMENT**



**BUSINESS ATTRACTION
AND RETENTION**



**REAL ESTATE AND
CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT**



Learn more about DEO

Follow DEO @econoppla
on social media.

opportunity.lacounty.gov



When Immigration (ICE) Comes to Your Workplace



Be Prepared: Workplace Safety Planning

- Discuss policies with your employer to limit ICE entry.
- If you have a union, raise the issue with them.
- Carry a Know-Your-Rights card stating that you will remain silent and wish to speak with an attorney.
- Memorize phone numbers of trusted contacts and an attorney.
- Arrange for childcare or dependent care in case of arrest.
- Keep important documents in a safe place accessible to a trusted person.
- Share your A-number (immigration number) with loved ones so they can locate you if detained:

<https://locator.ice.gov/odls/homePage.do>



IF ICE DOES NOT HAVE A WARRANT

- ICE cannot enter most workplaces without a warrant signed by a judge or permission from someone with authority.
- Employers and authorized staff should not let ICE in without a warrant.
- Stay calm — do not run. Running can be used as a reason for arrest.
- Politely ask ICE agents to leave if they do not have a warrant.



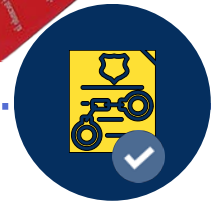
IF ICE FORCES ENTRY

- State that you do not consent to a search.
- Write down agents' names and badge numbers.
- Document the details of the search, including any violence, abuse, property damage, or items taken.
- Do not interfere physically, but observe and document as much as possible.



IF ICE HAS A SEARCH WARRANT

- Confirm the warrant is signed by a judge.
- Check that the workplace address is correct.
- Review what areas/items ICE is authorized to search.
- Do not allow access to areas not listed on the warrant.



IF ICE HAS AN ARREST WARRANT

- An arrest warrant signed by a judge allows ICE to arrest specific individuals, but not to enter your workplace without consent.
- Do not allow ICE to enter unless legally required.
- Speak with a supervisor or legal counsel before releasing anyone to ICE.



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If an employer fails to pay wages or retaliates, including threats to call ICE:

- Federal law prohibits retaliation for asserting your workplace rights—even if you do not have legal status.
- Document the employer's name, company address, exact locations worked, dates and hours worked, and wages promised versus wages paid.
- Leave the workplace safely if threatened.
- Gather any documents or evidence you can.
- Seek help from a worker center or legal aid organization.

You have the right to:

- Be paid at least the minimum wage.
- Receive overtime pay after 40 hours/week.
- Work in a safe workplace and file safety complaints with OSHA: [osha.gov/workers/file_complaint.html](https://www.osha.gov/workers/file_complaint.html)



Know Your Rights

All people in the United States, regardless of immigration status, have certain rights and protections under the U.S. Constitution.

The Immigration Legal Resource Center (ILRC)'s red cards give examples of how people can exercise these rights. However, they do not provide individualized legal advice. Community members are encouraged to check in with a trusted legal service provider for questions about their situation.

Pocket-sized guides that help individuals navigate and assert their rights if approached by immigration agents are available in over 20 languages.



Red Cards / Tarjetas Rojas | Immigrant Legal Resource Center | ILRC



Immigration Resource Guide

Download the free comprehensive directory of immigration related supports and services at:

opportunity.lacounty.gov/immigration



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THANK YOU

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