



U.S. MIGRATION METRICS

Brief written by Natalee Chin, research brief editor, Penn State.
Based on research by Matthew Hall, Cornell University, and
alumnus, Penn State; Jacob S. Rugh, Brigham Young
University; Hao Liang, Ph.D. Candidate, Cornell University.

For the full study, see:
Hall, Matthew, Jacob S. Rugh, and Hao Liang*. 2025. "Deportations
and Latino Segregation: The Residential Impacts of Interior
Immigration Enforcement." *Demography* 62(6):1851-1872.
<https://doi.org/10.1215/00703370-12356987>

Deportations and Latino Segregation: The Residential Impacts of Interior Immigration Enforcement

Fast Facts

- 287 (g) is an elective Immigration and Customs Enforcement program which trains local law agencies to enforce immigration laws.
- This has slowed declines in Latino-White residential segregation by impacting residential mobility and household migration.

The 287 (g) Program

Section 287 (g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act was added in 1996 to allow state, local, and tribal law enforcement officers to carry out certain duties and actions which were solely authorized by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). This represents a notable departure from how policing typically works in the United States, since immigration law and criminal law are mostly independent of one another, with immigration enforcement falling under federal civil authority rather than the jurisdiction of local police. Through this program, ICE partners with local agencies and offers training and support to local law enforcement agencies to enforce immigration law.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (Accessed March 2026)

Residential Segregation, Selection, and Mobility

Latino communities have grown significantly in the United States for the past 20 years, and Latino-White residential segregation seemed to slowly decline. The implementation of the 287 (g) program is associated with slowing this decline, meaning neighborhoods are remaining segregated. This relationship is largely explained by two patterns: heightened residential movement of Latinos within counties, and out-migration from areas with 287 (g) programs. Segregation fails to decline in these areas not because Latino households are unable to move, but because they are more likely to move into majority Latino neighborhoods or to leave 287 (g) communities.

This pattern of migration and selection into majority Latino communities can help Latino residents avoid contact with law enforcement and white neighboring households.

Latino Residential Segregation and the 287 (g) Program

When Latino populations in the United States are racialized and targeted by immigration policy, the resulting patterns of selection and migration into Latino neighborhoods point toward slowed declines in residential segregation, signaling a barrier to integration.

The 287 (g) program's localized adoption and efficacy...

- Can involve deportation of undocumented immigrants currently incarcerated, or involve identifying and reporting undocumented non-criminals
- Is associated with increases in household poverty and declines in income and employment for Latino households
- Had greater rates of participation in Southern law enforcement agencies and areas with large Latino populations
- Saw harsher enforcement by early adopters compared to later participating agencies
- Influences residential segregation by altering Latino groups' defensive migration behavior