



January 30, 2026

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Erik Iverson, Peak Insights
RE: National Poll Shows Support for ICE Enforcement of Immigration Laws

A recent national voter survey conducted by Peak Insights January 27-28, 2026 (N=1000 voters, MoE +/- 3%), examining public opinion surrounding immigration issues and The Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), found strong support for ICE’s efforts to address illegal immigration. Specifically, the survey revealed five key findings:

➤ **Voters believe illegal immigration is a serious problem and strongly back ICE actions to enforce immigration laws.**

More than 7-in-10 voters (71%) nationwide believe illegal immigration is a “serious” problem with 40% saying it is “very” serious.

Accordingly, 62% of voters want ICE to fight illegal immigration, crack down on illegal border crossings and increase deportations. This view is shared by 91% of Republicans and 55% of Independents.

<i>“As you may know, the Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE, is the federal agency responsible for enforcing U.S. immigration laws. In your opinion, how important is it for ICE to fight illegal immigration, including cracking down on illegal border crossings and increasing the deportations of people who are in the United States illegally?”</i>	
Total important	62%
Total not important	30%
Unsure	7%

➤ **Voters overwhelmingly support core ICE functions.**

When asked if they support or oppose “major functions and responsibilities of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE” voters voice strong support for core ICE functions.

Core ICE Functions	Total Support	Total Oppose	Unsure
Investigating and dismantling drug cartels and human trafficking operations.	86%	10%	4%
Tracking down and arresting individuals who have previously been given a court order to leave the country.	75%	20%	5%
Partnering with local police and law enforcement agencies to identify and detain individuals in local jails who are suspected of being in the country illegally.	67%	27%	6%
Enforcing immigration laws and catching and deporting people who have entered the country illegally.	66%	28%	6%

There is majority support among Republicans and Independents for all four of these core ICE functions. Notably, there is even majority support among Democrats for two out of four of these core functions (investigating and dismantling cartels/human trafficking operations and arresting individuals who have been court ordered to leave the U.S.).

➤ **Voters back ICE agents and want them to prioritize deporting criminal illegal immigrants.**

When given a series of statements and asked if they agree or disagree, fully 84% say ICE’s priority should be deporting violent, criminal illegals. This view finds wide majority agreement across party lines among Republicans, Democrats and Independents. And a strong 58% majority believes ICE agents are “brave law enforcement officers” who have a “difficult and dangerous job enforcing America’s immigration laws” and keeping us safe.

	Total Agree	Total Disagree	No opinion
The top priority for ICE should be deporting violent, criminal illegal immigrants.	84%	11%	5%
The men and women working at ICE are brave law enforcement officers faced with a difficult and dangerous job enforcing America’s immigration laws. They put their lives on the line to keep America safe from criminals who are in our country illegally.	58%	35%	7%

➤ **Voters say protesters should not block, harass, or interfere with ICE agents.**

While the actions of protestors in Minneapolis have commanded near wall-to-wall media coverage, voters are clear they do not support interfering with ICE agents who are enforcing America’s immigration laws.

	Total Agree	Total Disagree	No opinion
Protestors should not interfere with ICE agents who are enforcing our country's immigration laws.	57%	35%	8%
ICE officers should not be harassed or blocked by protestors from enforcing America's immigration laws.	57%	34%	9%

➤ **Voters do not want to shut the government down over ICE funding.**

As Congress considers the federal budget, voters are clear they do not want the government shutdown over disagreement about ICE funding. This sentiment is shared by a majority of Republicans as well as a plurality of Independent voters.

	Total Agree	Total Disagree	No opinion
ICE should be defunded, even if that means shutting down the government.	40%	50%	9%

Methodology: The survey was conducted by Peak Insights among a representative sample of likely November 2026 general election voters. Online interviews were conducted January 27-28, 2026. The potential sampling error is +/- 3% at the 95% confidence level.