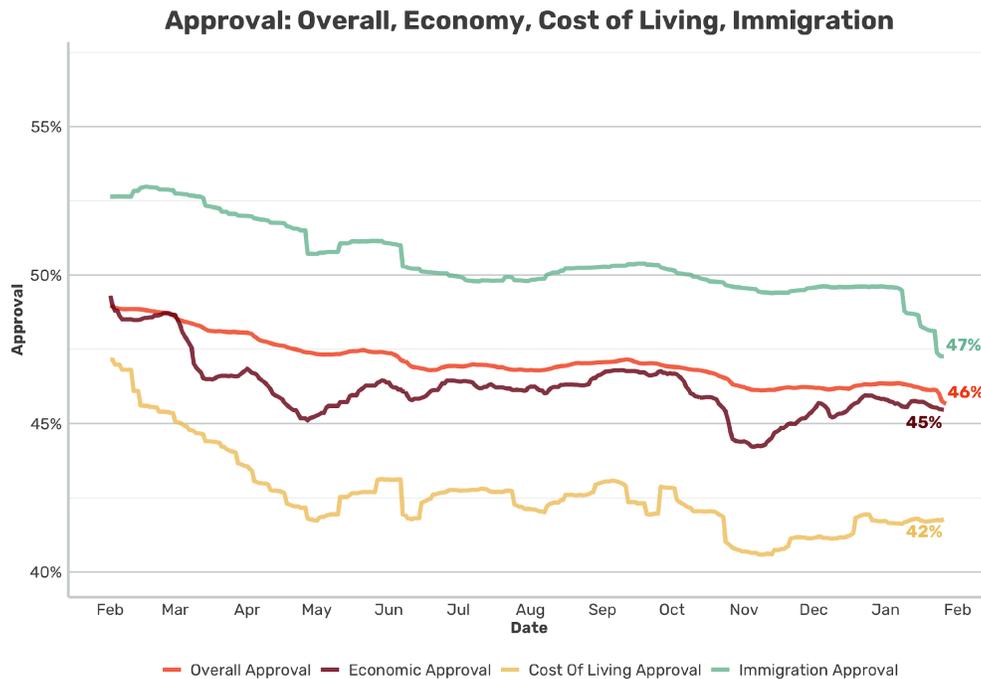


Date: January 27, 2026
 Subj: New Research on ICE and Minneapolis

After yet another disturbing and horrifying weekend in Minneapolis, our team conducted a number of research instruments to gauge how people are viewing this moment.

From January 25-26, we collected 30,224 survey responses nationally via web panel, weighted to likely voters. Key highlights from this research are below:



<i>If Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) were to be reformed in one out of the two following ways, which would you be more likely to support?</i>	Overall	Harris 2024	Swing 2020 x 2024	Trump 2024
Require federal ICE agents to have body cameras activated during all enforcement operations, with footage publicly released within 48 hours	72%	64%	72%	79%
Scale-down ICE's operation to focus only on dangerous criminals, not families who have lived peacefully in the US for years	66%	64%	67%	69%
Establish a federal use-of-force policy for immigration enforcement that matches FBI standards, requiring agents to exhaust all alternatives before using lethal force	61%	49%	61%	72%
Require ICE to obtain warrants signed by a judge before making any immigration-related arrests	60%	58%	60%	61%
Establish independent state-led investigations for all federal ICE agent shootings, with guaranteed access to evidence and crime scenes	58%	53%	59%	64%
Reform ICE as a government agency that more narrowly enforces immigration laws in an effective, safe, and fair manner	57%	48%	57%	65%
Allow state and local law enforcement to arrest federal ICE agents suspected of committing crimes during operations	57%	61%	57%	53%
Redirect funding from ICE enforcement operations back to	54%	59%	54%	50%

Affordable Care Act subsidies and healthcare programs which were cut earlier this year				
Abolish ICE and start from scratch with a new organization built to enforce immigration laws more effectively, safely and fairly	54%	64%	55%	45%
Create criminal penalties for federal ICE officials who make false public statements about shootings before investigations are complete	54%	53%	54%	55%
Cooperate with local authorities seeking to investigate ICE agents involved in the shootings of Alex Pretti and Renee Good	52%	47%	52%	57%
Require that ICE receive permission from state and local governments before they launch new operations	50%	47%	50%	53%
Allow state-level criminal prosecutions of the agents who shot Alex Pretti and Renee Good to go forward	48%	54%	48%	42%
Remove agency leadership who oversaw the response to recent ICE-related shootings, including Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem	48%	56%	48%	39%
Prohibit ICE operations within 1,000 feet of schools during arrival and dismissal times	47%	39%	47%	55%
Prohibit ICE operations within 1,000 feet of schools, churches, and courthouses	46%	42%	46%	51%
Require federal compensation to families of US citizens killed by immigration enforcement agents	46%	46%	46%	46%
Require immediate public release of the names of all federal ICE agents involved in shootings, including the shootings of Alex Pretti and Renee Good	43%	46%	42%	39%
Prohibit ICE and Border Patrol agents from wearing masks during operations	40%	42%	40%	39%
Creating a legal defense fund to allow family members of Alex Pretti and Renee Good to pursue legal action against public figures who called them domestic terrorists without evidence	39%	42%	39%	37%
Ban federal ICE agents from using chemical irritants (pepper spray, tear gas) against protesters and legal observers	39%	45%	39%	34%
Fully abolish ICE entirely and move any essential functions to other existing government agencies	39%	52%	38%	26%
Creating a legal defense fund to allow victims of ICE related violence to pursue civil action	38%	39%	38%	37%
Limit ICE operations to within 25 miles of the US-Mexico border only	29%	30%	29%	28%

Message Source

Message Content

Trump Disapproval Percentile

Healthcare Cuts Funded ICE	Donald Trump cut hundreds of billions of dollars from health care and food assistance and used that money to hire thousands of poorly trained ICE agents who are now terrorizing cities and killing US citizens. Democrats want less money spent on ICE so that we can restore funding for basic benefits Americans deserve, like health care and food assistance.	95%
Healthcare Cuts Funded ICE + Tax Breaks for Billionaires	Donald Trump is spending billions of dollars on ICE operations that are terrorizing cities and killing US citizens, while also making massive cuts to benefits like health care and food assistance to pay for huge tax breaks for billionaires. Democrats want less money spent on ICE so	93%

	that we can restore funding for basic benefits Americans deserve, like health care and food assistance.	
ICE is Supposed to Protect Americans	ICE is supposed to protect Americans, not kill them. Alex Pretti was a U.S. citizen and a veteran's nurse, with no criminal record. Federal agents pinned him down and shot him. Democrats are demanding accountability to stop these executions and ensure real oversight of law enforcement.	88%
Demand an End to Violence	Donald Trump's immigration crackdown has turned deadly. In just three weeks, federal agents have shot three people in Minneapolis - killing two Americans, including an ICU nurse. These ICE agents are terrorizing our communities in the name of immigration enforcement. Democrats are demanding an end to this violence.	74%
Demand Constitutional Rights Be Restored	Federal agents are executing Americans without due process. Alex Pretti had a constitutional right to carry a gun and protest peacefully. Instead, masked agents shot him while he was pinned to the ground, even though he was disarmed. Democrats are demanding that Americans' constitutional rights be restored and respected.	71%
Untrained and Unaccountable ICE Agents Are Violent	ICE agents are recklessly killing American citizens. In just three weeks, federal agents have shot three people in Minneapolis - killing two Americans, including an ICU nurse. These untrained and unaccountable ICE agents are violent and out of control. Democrats are demanding an end to this brutality from our own government.	66%
Demand Consequences and Oversight	ICE agents are killing Americans in the streets with zero accountability. Federal agents shot Alex Pretti, a nurse who cared for our veterans, then mocked protesters afterward. Democrats are demanding consequences for these out-of-control agents and real oversight over ICE operations.	66%
Demand an End to the Occupation of American Cities	Minneapolis is under siege by federal agents who are killing peaceful protesters. Two Americans are dead in three weeks, agents are blocking state investigators, and there is no accountability. This is a crisis. Democrats are demanding Trump end this occupation of American cities immediately.	48%

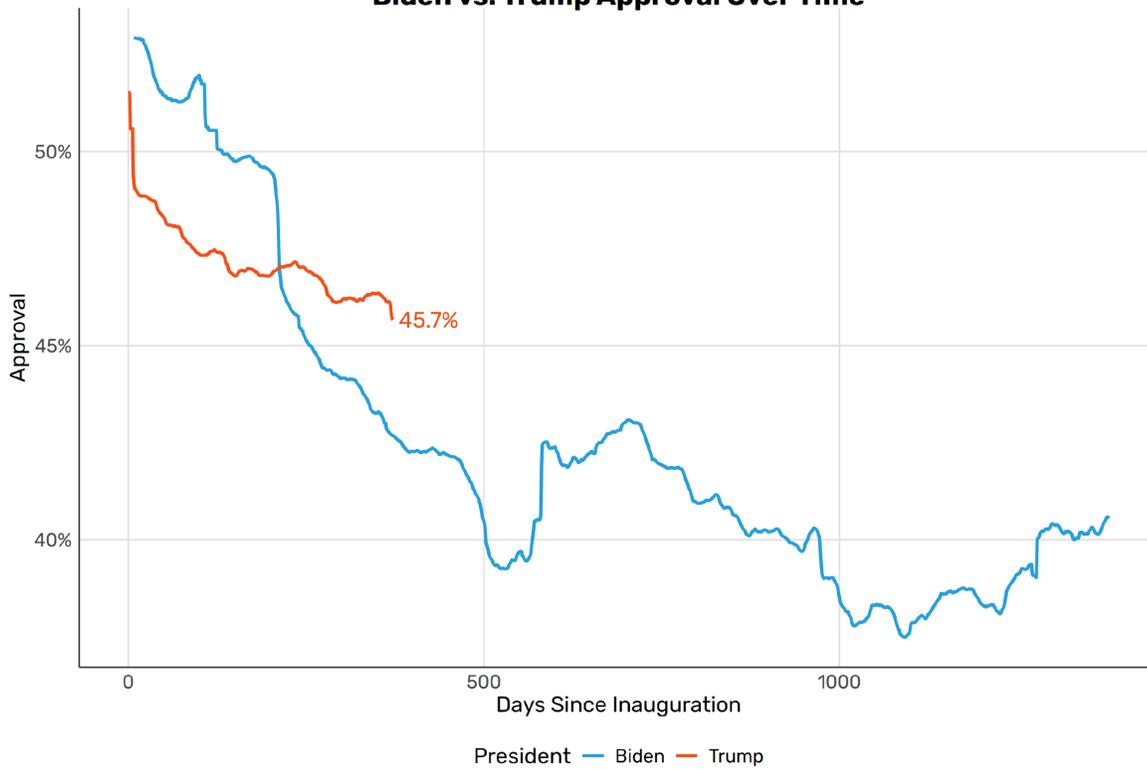
In message testing of real-world statements, we find that emphasized specific demands for public safety, accountability, and protecting constitutional norms performed better than abstract frames. Some of the top testing messages included those from Gov. Josh Shapiro, Iowa State Auditor Rob Sand, Sen. Jacky Rosen, Sen. Cory Booker, and Rep. Ocasio-Cortez.

In video testing, we observe that eyewitness video of Alex Pretti's murder increases Trump disapproval significantly (in the 95th percentile). Two of the highest-view reactions over the weekend (from a fitness influencer and Jon Favreau) were also significantly persuasive, which hasn't always been the case - suggesting this incident is resonating.

Taken together, the data suggests an opportunity for Dems to connect this moment to a broad indictment of Trump's Presidency: **Trump's decisions, his priorities, and his budgets led to this moment. And it was financed by cuts to benefits that Americans depend on.**

Polling Appendix:

Biden vs. Trump Approval Over Time



Approval: Overall, Economy, Cost of Living, Immigration



Have you seen any video of the incident in Minneapolis involving several ICE agents shooting and killing Alex Pretti, a 37-year-old Minneapolis resident?

Response	Overall	Harris 2024	Swing 2020 x 2024	Trump 2024	Did not vote 2024
Yes, a lot	38%	48%	35%	29%	28%
Yes, a little	33%	29%	36%	37%	33%
No	26%	20%	27%	31%	32%
Not sure	3%	2%	2%	3%	6%

Do you approve or disapprove of President Trump’s handling of recent ICE-involved civilian deaths in Minneapolis?

Response	Overall	Harris 2024	Swing 2020 x 2024	Trump 2024	Did not vote 2024
Strongly approve	19%	2%	8%	36%	11%
Somewhat approve	12%	2%	13%	23%	10%
Somewhat disapprove	8%	5%	17%	11%	13%
Strongly disapprove	49%	87%	47%	11%	47%
Not sure	13%	5%	15%	20%	18%
Approve	31%	3%	21%	58%	21%
Disapprove	57%	92%	64%	22%	61%
Net	-26%	-89%	-42%	37%	-39%

Democrats say the ICE shooting of Alex Pretti was murder. Video clearly shows Pretti was facing away from ICE agents and posing no threat to them when they wrestled him to the ground, and shot him multiple times while pinned down.

Republicans say federal agents acted in self-defense when Alex Pretti chose to interfere in a dangerous law-enforcement situation while carrying a loaded gun. Border Patrol officers showed restraint by trying to subdue him first, and only fired when he violently resisted.

Who do you agree with more?

Response	Overall	Harris 2024	Swing 2020 x 2024	Trump 2024	Did not vote 2024
Democrats a lot more	42%	80%	33%	6%	35%
Democrats a little more	7%	7%	15%	6%	13%
Republicans a little more	11%	2%	16%	20%	12%
Republicans a lot more	20%	1%	9%	39%	11%
Not sure	20%	10%	28%	29%	30%
Democrats	49%	87%	48%	12%	47%
Republicans	31%	2%	25%	59%	23%
Net	18%	85%	23%	-48%	24%

1/09 - Which party do you trust more to enforce immigration laws?

Response	Overall	Harris 2024	Swing 2020 x 2024	Trump 2024	Did not vote 2024
Democratic Party more	37%	74%	25%	3%	30%
Republican Party more	48%	7%	48%	87%	40%
Net	-10%	66%	-23%	-84%	-9%

1/25 - Which party do you trust more to enforce immigration laws?

Response	Overall	Harris 2024	Swing 2020 x 2024	Trump 2024	Did not vote 2024
Democratic Party more	40%	76%	28%	5%	34%
Republican Party more	46%	7%	44%	86%	35%
Net	-7%	69%	-16%	-81%	-2%

After several ICE agents shot and killed Alex Pretti, a 37-year-old Minneapolis resident on Saturday morning, which party do you trust more to enforce immigration laws?

Response	Overall	Harris 2024	Swing 2020 x 2024	Trump 2024	Did not vote 2024
Democratic Party a lot more	33%	65%	17%	3%	24%
Democratic Party a little more	8%	14%	18%	3%	11%
Republican Party a little more	9%	3%	15%	15%	8%
Republican Party a lot more	29%	1%	12%	57%	16%
Not sure	20%	17%	38%	22%	41%
Democratic Party more	42%	79%	35%	6%	35%
Republican Party more	38%	4%	27%	72%	24%
Net	3%	75%	8%	-67%	11%

Some Democrats in Congress are proposing changes to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), including limiting their use of firearms, requiring ICE agents to wear identification and remain unmasked during enforcement operations, and requiring DHS to obtain warrants before they make any arrests.

Democrats support this because they say these reforms prevent the government from taking advantage of Americans and protects peaceful protestors from aggressive ICE actions – like the recent protestor’s death in Minneapolis.

Republicans oppose this because they say these restrictions endanger officer safety, hamper effective immigration enforcement, and create operational burdens that criminals could exploit to evade arrest.

Who do you agree with more – Democrats or Republicans?

Response	Overall	Harris 2024	Swing 2020 x 2024	Trump 2024	Did not vote 2024
Democrats a lot more	37%	72%	23%	3%	28%
Democrats a little more	10%	15%	21%	5%	15%
Republicans a little more	12%	3%	19%	20%	12%
Republicans a lot more	29%	1%	15%	57%	17%
Not sure	12%	9%	22%	15%	28%
Democrats	47%	87%	44%	8%	43%
Republicans	40%	4%	34%	77%	29%
Net	7%	83%	9%	-69%	14%

We asked voters to choose between 2 randomized, potential ICE reforms – in order to assemble a rank order of voters’ priorities. In this scenario, these values don’t represent actual support levels but instead how often they are chosen relative to any other option in the list:

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Require ICE to obtain warrants signed by a judge before making any immigration-related arrests	60%	58%	60%	61%
Establish independent state-led investigations for all federal ICE agent shootings, with guaranteed access to evidence and crime scenes	58%	53%	59%	64%
Reform ICE as a government agency that more narrowly enforces immigration laws in an effective, safe, and fair manner	57%	48%	57%	65%
Allow state and local law enforcement to arrest federal ICE agents suspected of committing crimes during operations	57%	61%	57%	53%
Redirect funding from ICE enforcement operations back to Affordable Care Act subsidies and healthcare programs which were cut earlier this year	54%	59%	54%	50%
Abolish ICE and start from scratch with a new organization built to enforce immigration laws more effectively, safely and fairly	54%	64%	55%	45%
Create criminal penalties for federal ICE officials who make false public statements about shootings before investigations are complete	54%	53%	54%	55%
Cooperate with local authorities seeking to investigate ICE agents involved in the shootings of Alex Pretti and Renee Good	52%	47%	52%	57%
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Fully abolish ICE entirely and move any essential functions to other existing government agencies	39%	52%	38%	26%

Creating a legal defense fund to allow victims of ICE related violence to pursue civil action	38%	39%	38%	37%
Limit ICE operations to within 25 miles of the US-Mexico border only	29%	30%	29%	28%