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The Effects of Immigration Enforcement on Student Outcomes in a New Era of Immigration Policy in the United States

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This study presents the first evidence, to our knowledge, of the effects of the surge in interior immigration apprehensions in 2025 in the United States on student academic performance using detailed student-level administrative records from Florida. We find evidence that immigration enforcement reduced test scores for both U.S.-born and foreign-born Spanish-speaking students while also reducing the likelihood that these students are involved in disciplinary incidents in schools. Both of these effects are more pronounced for students in middle and high schools.

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[‡] Umut Özek is an Independent Researcher; however, the views, opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations contained herein are the authors' alone and not those of RAND or its research sponsors, clients, or grantors. The authors thank the anonymous school district for providing the data used in the analysis, and for providing useful feedback. Note that the views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the anonymous district or the institution to which the authors are affiliated.

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Abstract: This study presents the first evidence, to our knowledge, of the effects of the surge in interior immigration apprehensions in 2025 in the United States on student academic performance using detailed student-level administrative records from Florida. We find evidence that immigration enforcement reduced test scores for both U.S.-born and foreign-born Spanish-speaking students while also reducing the likelihood that these students are involved in disciplinary incidents in schools. Both of these effects are more pronounced for students in middle and high schools.

Keywords: immigration enforcement; recent immigrants; immigrant students; human capital

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1. Introduction

So far in 2025 there has been a dramatic increase in interior immigration enforcement in the United States. Monthly interior immigration apprehensions by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) between February and August 2025 were over twice the monthly apprehension rate during the first three months of fiscal year (FY) 2025, twice the monthly apprehension rate during FY2024, and at least fifty percent higher than the monthly apprehension rate in any year since FY2014.³

We present the first evidence, to our knowledge, of the effects of this marked increase in interior immigration enforcement on student academic performance. We employ detailed student-level data from a large urban school district in Florida (LUSD) – one of the ten largest in the United States – and introduce a novel identification strategy in which we measure a school's exposure to increased immigration enforcement based upon the mix of the countries of origin of the school's student body. Using this measure, we estimate that, even among schools in the school district's top tercile of percent foreign-born students, some schools are as much as ten times as exposed to immigration enforcement than are other schools with very large foreign-born populations. We estimate the effects of recent immigration enforcement exposure on attendance, disciplinary incidents, and test scores of a range of students, including both Spanish-speaking and non-Spanish-speaking students and foreign-born and U.S.-born students. We find evidence that the recent surge in interior immigration enforcement reduced test scores for both U.S.-born

³ Data downloaded from Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse and reports from the Office of Homeland Security Statistics, September 17, 2025.

⁴ We have no way of knowing whether a foreign-born student is a documented or undocumented immigrant. By definition, all U.S.-born students are citizens, but some of their parents are undocumented immigrants.

and foreign-born Spanish-speaking students, especially in higher-poverty middle and high schools. Meanwhile, these same students have reduced rates of disciplinary incidents.

Florida is an especially good place to study this question. For one, Florida has a very large and diverse population of foreign-born students, and LUSD is no exception. Sizeable numbers of foreign-born students hail from 27 different birth countries – providing considerable variation for our causal identification strategy – and LUSD educates a large number of U.S.-born Spanish-speaking students as well. Over 30 percent of LUSD's student body is Spanish-speaking and over 15 percent are foreign-born. In addition, Florida tests students three times per year, so we can compare test score changes between December 2024, just before the surge in interior immigration enforcement, and May 2025, when enforcement had dramatically ramped up, to the same time period in the immediately prior years.

While this is the first known study of the academic performance effects of the very recent surge in interior immigration enforcement, this study substantively builds upon the prior literature on the consequences of immigration enforcement on U.S. children. To the best of our knowledge, there are only two studies to date that examine the effects of the recent rise in immigration enforcement on student outcomes. For example, Dee (2025) finds a marked reduction in aggregate daily attendance rates in five school districts in California's Central Valley following a set of nearby immigration raids that began on January 7, 2025. Similarly, Slungaard Mumma (2025) finds that the rise in immigration enforcement significantly increased student absences among likely immigrants in Rhode Island and Connecticut. Yet, neither study looks at test scores or student behavior, makes use of individual-level data, or identifies treatment effects based on local differences in enforcement exposure. Studies of prior rounds of

⁵Dee does find that the increases in absences after January 7, 2025 are more pronounced in districts closer to the location of the raids.

enhanced interior immigration enforcement have found evidence that these episodes harmed student educational outcomes and mental health, and had other effects on affected families.⁶

We contribute to the literature in several principal ways. First, we are the first, to our knowledge, to estimate the effects of the sharp increase in interior immigration enforcement in 2025 on any educational outcome other than aggregate attendance rates. The 2025 change in immigration policy is different in nature, conduct, scale, and the degree of interior enforcement than recent prior increases in immigration enforcement, making the study of the 2025 immigration policy changes important *per se*. We use student-level data to investigate effects on test scores, disciplinary outcomes, and attendance.

Second, we introduce a much more granular measure of exposure to interior immigration enforcement intensity. Our insight comes from the fact that interior immigration enforcement intensity (measured by annualized apprehension rates per thousand non-citizens from a given country of origin) has increased much more dramatically for people born in some countries than in others. Matching data on the timing and country of origin of apprehensions in Florida to

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⁶ Studies of prior rounds of enhanced interior immigration enforcement have found evidence that this activity led Hispanic students to leave a school (Dee and Murphy, 2020) and children of likely undocumented immigrants to repeat a grade or drop out of school (Amuedo-Dorantes and Lopez, 2015; Amuedo-Dorantes and Lopez, 2017). There is evidence from aggregate school-district level data as well: White-Hispanic gaps in aggregate test scores increased in school districts with larger incidences of deportations within 25 miles (Kirksey et al., 2020), Hispanic students' test scores declined with increased rates of deportation proceedings in their county (Kirksey, 2023), and Hispanic and non-Hispanic Black students' aggregate scores declined in communities following the rollout of the Secure Communities program (Bellows, 2019). County-level apprehension rates reduced Hispanic students' test scores and sense of safety in a student-level study of seven California school districts (Kirksey and Sattin-Bajaj, 2021). Reduced likelihood of maternal deportation (either through Deferred Action for Childhood Admissions or "Safe Zone" policies) improved child mental health and educational outcomes (Amuedo-Dorantes, Bucheli, and Martines-Donate, 2022; Hainmueller et al., 2017). Case studies of specific raids in Tennessee and Texas demonstrated reductions in academic and mental health outcomes (Heinrich, Hernández, and Shero, 2023; Zuniga, 2018). Relatedly, studies have also documented considerable family trauma associated with prior enforcement rounds (Capps et al., 2015; Dreby, 2012), and have found that prior enforcement rounds reduced infant health (Amuedo-Dorantes, Churchill, and Jong, 2022; Tome et al., 2021; Vu, 2024) and increased Hispanic mortgage foreclosure rates (Rugh and Hall, 2016) though had no effect on adult crime (Miles and Cox, 2014).

estimates from the American Community Survey of numbers of Florida resident non-citizens born in each country, we estimate that, while enforcement intensity has increased across the board, there have dramatic differences across countries of origin in implied annualized apprehension rates in Florida in 2025 versus fall 2024 or prior periods. For instance, implied annualized apprehension rates increased from 1 to 4 per thousand Florida resident non-citizens born in the Dominican Republic, from 1 to 8 per thousand Venezuelans, from 2 to 13 per thousand Ecuadoreans, from 9 to 25 per thousand Nicaraguans, from 11 to 29 per thousand Mexicans, from 12 to 38 per thousand Hondurans, and from 21 to 68 per thousand Guatemalans. We can therefore compare two schools in Florida with identical fractions of foreign-born students – but one with a disproportionate number of, say, Guatemalan students and one with a disproportionate number of Venezuelan students – and suspect that the former school has been much more exposed to recent increases in interior immigration enforcement intensity than the latter school. As LUSD has over 200 schools with vastly different compositions of foreign-born students, there is considerable variation in implied changes in enforcement intensity. The high frequency at which Florida tests students also contributes to internal validity of our findings.

Third, our use of individual microdata at the scale that we are able to observe allows us to study pre-post changes in student outcomes for a variety of subgroups, including sample splits by Spanish-speaking and non-Spanish-speaking students, foreign-born and non-foreign-born students, and the interaction between the two. This allows us, for example, to observe that the estimated effects of enforcement intensity are similar for foreign-born Spanish-speakers and US-born Spanish-speakers, leading us to conclude that the effects of enforcement appear to be working not through a specific student's likelihood of being deported but rather through the likelihood that a student's undocumented parents might be at risk of deportation or through

broader school/neighborhood-level climate factors. These microdata also allow us to investigate differential incidence of enforcement by measures of prior performance; we observe that the effects of increased enforcement intensity has larger effects on lower-performing Spanish-speakers than on higher-performing Spanish-speakers.

Taken together, this paper therefore yields several new insights about the effects of interior immigration enforcement in the United States, and provides an early picture of the implications of the recent surge in immigration enforcement in 2025.

2. Data

We rely on two sources of data in our analysis. The first is student-level administrative data from LUSD covering the school years between 2022-23 and 2024-25. There are several reasons why we focus on this timeframe. First, as described above, we leverage the rise in immigration apprehensions following the change in presidential administration in January 2025. Second, we drop years before 2022-23 because (1) Florida started administering the new statewide standardized test (Florida Assessment of Student Thinking [FAST]) in the 2022-23 school year and (2) 2022-23 school year (and later years) are less susceptible to the data availability and data quality issues related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Administrative school records contain information about student test scores (in grades 3 through 10 in English language arts [ELA] and in grades 3 through 8 in math); student demographics, English learner, home language, and special education status, student absences, school enrollment (including the entry and withdrawal dates to and from each school in which the student was enrolled), and disciplinary incidents. More importantly for our research

⁷ In Florida, middle school students either take the regular FAST test in math or the end of course test if they are enrolled in advanced math courses such as Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II. As such, in the analysis, we restrict the math scores to students in grades 3 through 6 – grades in which all students take the regular FAST test in math.

questions, the data also include information about student country of birth and language spoken at home. In the analysis, our primary outcomes of interest are student test scores (in nationally-normed percentile points) averaged across subjects and disciplinary incidents. The unique aspect of these data is that we can observe these outcomes at a higher frequency than typical (i.e., annual) because (1) Florida administers FAST three times a year (once at the beginning of the school year in August or early September, once at the end of December, and once at the beginning of May); and (2) disciplinary data include the day of the incident. As such, we are able to make comparisons within the same school year, between post-January (post-inauguration) and pre-January (pre-inauguration) as we describe in the Empirical Strategy section below.

We link these student-level administrative records with school-level immigration apprehension intensity measures that we calculated using the number of immigration apprehensions by country of birth in the state of Florida obtained using Freedom of Information Act requests from the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) ⁸ and the distribution of country of birth in each school in LUSD. In particular, we first calculate the apprehension intensity by country of origin as follows:

$$ArrInt_{ct} = \frac{ObsArr_{ct}}{NonCitizen_c} x \frac{365}{N_t}$$
 (1)

where $ArrInt_{ct}$ represents apprehension intensity for country c in period t, $ObsArr_{ct}$ is the number of observed immigration apprehensions for country c in period t in Florida, $NonCitizen_c$ is the estimated number of non-citizens from country c in the state from the 2023 American Community Survey, and N_t is the number of days in period t. We designate three periods during the year to align with the testing schedule in Florida: (1) fall period that is

⁸ Immigration apprehension data can be found at deportationdata.org, accessed on August 29, 2025.

⁹ We are unable to use number of apprehensions at a geographical level smaller than the state as apprehension location is not available at the county level.

between the third test of the prior school year and the first test of the current school year (May to September); (2) winter period that is between the first and second tests of the current school year (September to December); and (3) spring period that is between the second and third tests of the current school year (January to May). 10 We then calculate school-level intensity by weighting $ArrInt_{ct}$ with the share of students from each country:

$$ArrInt_{st} = \sum_{c=1}^{c} ArrInt_{ct} * w_{sc}$$
 (2)

where $ArrInt_{st}$ is the apprehension intensity in school s and period t and w_{sc} is the share of students in school s from country c.

Figure 1 presents the spring (post-inauguration) apprehension intensity versus winter (pre-inauguration) apprehension intensity by country of birth in Florida in the 2024-25 school year for the 27 countries with at least 50 children in LUSD in 2024-25 born in that country, with circle size proportional to the size of the non-citizen population from that country¹¹ and the dashed red line representing the 45-degree line. The results suggest that apprehension intensity increased significantly for all countries of origin after the inauguration. At the same time, as mentioned in the introduction, for some countries of origin the initial level and change in the apprehension rate per thousand non-citizens is dramatically different than for others in absolute terms. This variation in change in enforcement intensity is what generates our identifying variation.

¹⁰ We measure spring period apprehension intensities between January 21 and the timing of the spring test in each year, because the change of presidential administrations took place on January 20, 2025.

11 We group countries of origin into three size categories to preserve the anonymity of the county-level school

district.

Figure 2 applies this logic to the school level, weighting the country-specific apprehension intensities in Florida by the countries of birth of all students in the school. 12 The figure plots the change in apprehension intensities in LUSD schools from winter to spring in the 2024-25 school year. It is immediately apparent that, while all schools experience increases in implied apprehension intensities (a function of the fact that apprehension intensities increased for all countries of origin), some schools have much greater changes in implied apprehension intensities than others. This is not due to some schools having more foreign-born students than others: The different markers divide the schools by foreign-born percentage, with blue circles representing schools that fall into the lowest tercile based on foreign-born student share, red triangles representing the middle tercile, and green squares presenting the top tercile. Once again, we find significant increases in immigration apprehension intensity and that increase is highly correlated (positive) with school-level pre-inauguration apprehension intensity, which implies that high pre-inauguration intensity schools experienced a much larger rise in apprehension intensity compared to lower pre-inauguration intensity schools.

3. Empirical Framework

To identify the causal effect of immigration apprehensions on student outcomes, we leverage the rise in apprehensions after the presidential inauguration in January 2025 in a difference-in-differences (DiD) and difference-in-differences (DDD) frameworks. In particular, in our preferred specification for outcomes that are observed more than annually (test scores, disciplinary incidents, measures of attrition), we compare the relationship between pre-inauguration school-level apprehension intensity (in winter 2024-25, between the first test

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¹² Students born in the United States proper and in Puerto Rico are assigned enforcement intensities of zero in all periods for this calculation. All other students' countries of origin have positive enforcement intensities in all periods.

and the second) and student outcomes in spring periods with pre-spring periods, in 2024-25 school year with the prior two years. For student absences that are observed annually, we compare this relationship in 2024-25 with the prior two years. Formally, we estimate the following equation using OLS:

$$Y_{isty} = \alpha + \beta_1 ArrInt_{s,w2425} * Spring_y * Y2425 + \beta_2 ArrInt_{s,w2425} * Spring_y +$$

$$\beta_3 ArrInt_{s,w2425} * Y2425 + \beta_4 Spring_y * Y2425 + \delta_i + \gamma_t + \theta_y + \varepsilon_{isty}$$

$$(3)$$

where Y_{isty} is the outcome of student i in school s, period t, year y, $ArrInt_{s,w2425}$ is school-level apprehension intensity during winter period of 2024-25 (the period right before the presidential inauguration), $Spring_y$ is an indicator for the spring period in each year, Y2425 is an indicator for 2024-25 school year, δ_i is student fixed effects, γ_t is period fixed effects, and θ_y is year fixed effects. In this setting, β_1 , our parameter of interest, can be interpreted as the differential change in the relationship between pre-inauguration immigration apprehension intensity from winter to spring periods in 2024-25 compared to the prior two years.

In the preferred specification, we use the school-level apprehension intensity in the period right before inauguration, but we also check the robustness of our findings to using (1) the change in school-level apprehension intensity between spring and winter periods in 2024-25 (post-inauguration versus the period right before inauguration) and (2) pre-inauguration school-level intensity averaged over all periods between the winter period in 2023-24 school year and the winter period in 2024-25. We cluster our standard errors at the school level.

4. Results

Table 1 presents our main results and reveals that an increase in immigration apprehensions reduces test scores among Hispanic and Spanish-speaking students while also reducing the likelihood that they are involved in disciplinary incidents in school. In this analysis,

we restrict the sample to students who took all three tests in the subjects they are tested for the test score analysis (roughly 93 percent of the students fit this description) and to students who did not leave the district during the school year (about 97 percent of the students) for the disciplinary incident analysis. We discuss the implications of attrition for our results below.

In particular, the first three columns present DiD results (the coefficient on $ArrInt_{s,w2425}*Spring_y$) using the 2024-25 school year for all students, Hispanic students, and students who reported Spanish as their home language; columns 4-6 present the same coefficients using the prior two years; and the last three columns present the DDD coefficient (β_1 in equation (3)) for test scores (nationally-normed percentile rankings averaged across subjects) in the top panel and for disciplinary incidents in the bottom panel. There are two results worth highlighting.

First, the DiD results reveal no differential change in the relationship between school-level apprehension intensity and student outcomes from winter to spring periods in the prior two years. This is expected given that there was no significant change in apprehension intensity in those two years from winter to spring periods. In contrast, we find a negative and statistically significant change in this relationship for test scores in 2024-25 when high-intensity schools experienced a significant rise in immigration apprehensions from winter to spring for Hispanic students and Spanish-speakers.

Second, the DDD results reported in the last three columns also reveal significant negative effects on both test scores and disciplinary incidents for these student groups. The estimated coefficients suggest that a 1-point increase in school-level immigration apprehension intensity, which roughly corresponds to (1) going from the school in the 5th percentile of the intensity distribution to the school in the 95th percentile or to (2) 1/1000 difference in pre-2025

apprehension rates for noncitizens (or about a 3/1000 difference in 2025 apprehension rates), reduces test scores by 0.53 percentiles for Hispanic students and by 0.7 percentiles for Spanish-speakers. These are relatively modest effects: For example, the White-Hispanic test score gap in LUSD is 17 percentiles (so the effect on Hispanic students represents only about 3 percent of this gap) while the gap between English-speakers and Spanish-speakers is 8 percentiles (so the effect on Spanish-speakers corresponds roughly to 10 percent of this gap).

We also find that a 1-point increase in school-level immigration enforcement intensity reduces disciplinary incidents by 0.8 percentage points for both Hispanic students and Spanish-speakers, corresponding to 13-14 percent of the dependent variable mean. This negative effect could arise for two reasons. First, it could be due to change in student behavior: students who are more likely to be exposed to immigration apprehensions (Hispanic and Spanish-speaking students) might try to avoid getting in trouble at school. Second, it could be due to change in educators' attitudes towards these students: teachers and principals might be more lenient towards similar behaviors from students who experience hardships due to increased immigration enforcement. Unfortunately, due to data limitations, we are unable to disentangle these two channels.

To what extent can these effects be explained by the possibility that the apprehension intensity measure is capturing differences in student composition across schools (foreign-born or recent immigrant share, in particular)? Appendix Table 1 repeats the DDD analysis presented in Table 1, this time controlling for the share of foreign-born students in schools and its interactions with $Spring_y$ and Y2425 in columns labeled as (II). The results remain virtually unchanged, providing evidence against this potential concern.

Appendix Table 2 checks the robustness of the findings in Table 1 to alternative measures of school-level apprehension intensity. In the first three columns we use the change in apprehension intensity from the winter period to the spring period in 2024-25 while in the last three columns we present findings using the average apprehension intensity between the winter period of 2023-24 and the winter period of 2024-25. The findings reveal similar patterns as in Table 1.

Can these effects on students be explained by student attrition (i.e., some students leaving the district or not taking the test as a result of increased immigration enforcement) or increased student absences, which could explain the decline in both test scores and disciplinary incidents (Dee, 2025; Kirksey and Sattin-Bajaj, 2021)? Table 2 examines this question and shows no effect of increased immigration enforcement on the likelihood that the student takes the test, leaves the district, or does not attend school. In particular, we replace the outcomes of interest used in Table 1 with an indicator that equals one if the student did not take the test in the top panel; with an indicator if the student left the district in the winter or spring periods in the middle panel; and with percent absent days that we observe annually in the bottom panel. To examine the extent of differential attrition (i.e., certain student groups are more likely to leave the sample) or a differential change in absences, in the last six columns, we break down the sample based on student performance on the first and second tests of the year (below median versus above median of the average test score on these two tests). The top two panels present the DDD estimates (the coefficient on the $ArrInt_{s,w2425} * Spring_v * Y2425$) while the last panel presents the DD estimate (the coefficient on the $ArrInt_{s,w2425} * Y2425$). We do not find any economically or statistically significant effect of immigration enforcement on these outcomes.¹³

¹³ That said, we acknowledge that an increase in immigration enforcement could lead to student attrition at the end of the school year (rather than during the school year). We also note that absences could have increased in the spring

Table 3 presents the results in Table 1 for different student groups (by grade level, gender, average test scores on the first and second tests of the year, and nativity) among Spanish-speakers in the top panel and non-Spanish speakers in the bottom panel. The results in the top panel suggest that the adverse test score effects are primarily concentrated among middle and high school students, are slightly larger for female students and lower-performing students. For example, a 1 point increase in the school-level apprehension intensity measure reduces test scores among students in middle and high school by 1.3 percentiles (about 10 percent of the gap between Spanish and English speakers in those grades). Importantly, the findings suggest that this is not just a foreign-born issue: we find similar effects for foreign-born and U.S. born Spanish-speakers. In fact, while we do not find any significant adverse effects on the test scores of non-Spanish speaking students, we find a statistically significant and negative effect when we look at U.S.-born students overall (coefficient of -0.42, p-value: 0.072) and U.S.-born middle and high school students (coefficient of -0.992, p-value: 0.045).

For disciplinary incidents, we find that slightly larger negative effects for middle and high school students, male students, lower-performers, and U.S.-born students although it is important to note that these student groups have larger baseline values of incidents, so the percent change from these baselines are similar across student groups. We do not find any statistically significant effect on disciplinary incidents for non-Spanish speakers.

Finally, in Appendix Table 3A and Appendix Table 3B, we break down the analysis presented in Table 3 by school poverty. In particular, we use a school neighborhood poverty measure created by the National Center for Education Sciences (NCES) for 2021-22 school year (neighborhood income-to-poverty ratio for the neighborhood in which the school is located) and

period of 2024-25 with the rise in immigration enforcement, but not at a scale that influences the annual absence rate.

examine the effects separately for above-median poverty schools (i.e., those with lower than median income-to-poverty ratio) and for below-median poverty schools. The results suggest that the adverse effects of immigration enforcement on student test scores are more pronounced in higher-poverty school settings. For example, a 1-point increase in the school-level apprehension intensity measure reduces test scores among students in middle and high school by 1.7 percentiles in higher-poverty school settings while the same number for lower-poverty middle and high schools is 0.4 percentiles for Spanish-speaking students.

5. Conclusion

We find evidence that the 2025 surge in interior immigration enforcement in the United States led to modestly-sized negative effects on the academic performance of Spanish-speaking students – both foreign-born and US-born. The effects are stronger for lower-performing students than for higher-performing students, are somewhat stronger for girls than for boys, and are concentrated in middle and high schools rather than elementary schools. This is the first evidence on student test scores and disciplinary incidents, and the first student-level evidence on school attendance, in the wake of the recent enforcement surge.

Our identification strategy makes clear that not all immigrant communities have been affected equally from the recent enforcement surge. The surge in 2025 roughly proportionately increased enforcement for all countries of origin, but this means that populations who had low rates of apprehensions pre-surge continued to experience relatively low rates of apprehensions post-surge, while populations with larger rates of pre-surge apprehensions experienced sometimes massively larger rates of apprehensions post-surge. Meanwhile, we find very similar estimated effects for Spanish-speaking US citizens as we do for Spanish-speaking foreign-born children (some of whom may be citizens, but many of whom are not.) This set of findings – and

our identification strategy more broadly – signals that we can likely identify the communities of US citizens and non-citizens alike who are experiencing and may continue to experience especially pronounced incidence of increased interior immigration enforcement intensity.

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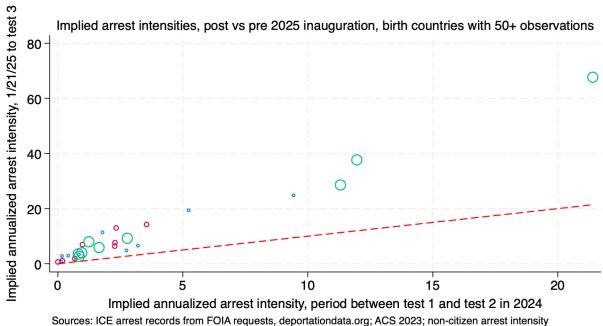
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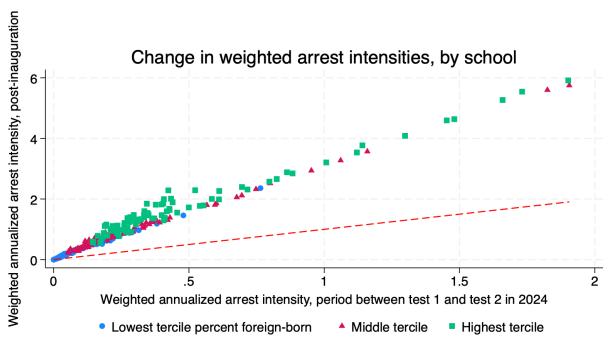
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Figure 1: Country-Level Arrest Intensities, Post- versus Pre-Inauguration, Birth Countries with 50 or More Observations



Notes: The figure presents the spring (post-inauguration) apprehension intensity versus winter (pre-inauguration) apprehension intensity by country of birth in Florida in the 2024-25 school year for the 27 countries with at least 50 children in LUSD in 2024-25 born in that country. Circle sizes are proportional to the size of the non-citizen population from that country and the dashed red line representing the 45-degree line.

Figure 2: Change in School-Level Arrest Intensities from Pre- to Post-Inauguration by Pre-Inauguration Arrest Intensity, LUSD Schools



School measures based on student composition by birth country; 250 randomly-selected schools

Notes: The figure plots the change in school-level apprehension intensities in LUSD schools from winter to spring in the 2024-25 school year against the pre-inauguration apprehension intensity, by the share of foreign-born students in the school (blue circles represent schools in the lowest tercile, red triangles represent middle tercile, and the green squares represent the highest tercile schools).

Table 1: Effects of Immigration Enforcement on Student Test Scores and Disciplinary Incidents - Overall, Hispanic Students, and Spanish-Speakers

	Difference	e-in-differer	nces using	Difference-in-differences using			Difference-in-difference-in-			
		2024-25		2022	2022-23 and 2023-24			differences		
			Spanish-		Spanish-				Spanish-	
	Overall	Hispanic	speaking	Overall	Hispanic	speaking	Overall	Hispanic	speaking	
Average test score	-0.352	-0.659*	-0.779**	-0.064	-0.130	-0.074	-0.288	-0.529**	-0.705***	
	(0.312)	(0.340)	(0.390)	(0.288)	(0.318)	(0.297)	(0.219)	(0.205)	(0.209)	
SD of dependent variable	28.70	28.39	28.41	28.46	27.91	27.72	28.56	28.09	27.97	
N	338,574	151,548	99,987	684,096	304,653	198,408	1,022,670	456,201	298,395	
Disciplinary incidents	0.006	-0.002	-0.003	0.007	0.006	0.006	-0.001	-0.008**	-0.008***	
1 ,	(0.008)	(0.005)	(0.005)	(0.005)	(0.005)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.003)	(0.003)	
Mean of dependent variable	0.067	0.058	0.059	0.067	0.060	0.060	0.067	0.059	0.060	
<i>N</i>	362,304	160,718	105,778	732,150	321,374	209,004	1,094,454	482,092	314,782	

Notes: Robust standard errors clustered at the school level are given in parentheses. Difference-in-differences estimates represent the coefficient on the interaction between the school-level immigration enforcement measure in winter 2024-25 and the spring test (semester) indicator in the test score (disciplinary incident) analysis and the interaction between the school-level immigration enforcement measure in winter 2024-25 and the spring semester indicator in the disciplinary incident analysis. Difference-in-differences estimates present the estimated coefficient on the interaction between the school-level immigration enforcement measure in winter 2024-25, the spring test (semester) indicator, and an indicator for 2024-25 school year in the test score (disciplinary incident) analysis. All specifications include student fixed-effects. *, **, *** imply that the estimated coefficient is statistically different than zero at 10, 5, and 1 percent level respectively.

Table 2: Effects of Immigration Enforcement on Student Attrition and Absences - Overall, Hispanic Students, and Spanish-Speakers by Prior Test Scores

_	Overall			Above me	dian on fall	and winter	Below median on fall and winter			
		tests						tests		
			Spanish-			Spanish-			Spanish-	
	Overall	Hispanic	speaking	Overall	Hispanic	speaking	Overall	Hispanic	speaking	
Did not take the test	0.011	0.010	-0.001	-0.001	0.004	0.000	-0.004	-0.002	-0.006	
	(0.009)	(0.009)	(0.007)	(0.003)	(0.004)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.004)	
Mean of dependent variable	0.072	0.080	0.083	0.024	0.027	0.026	0.065	0.068	0.071	
N	1,193,661	541,842	356,961	569,148	255,900	168,057	571,962	257,889	168,951	
Left the district	0.000	-0.000	-0.001	0.002	0.005	0.001	-0.001	0.001	0.001	
	(0.003)	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.002)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.005)	
Mean of dependent variable	0.030	0.031	0.031	0.013	0.015	0.014	0.031	0.032	0.032	
N	1,307,934	584,096	383,534	379,432	170,600	112,038	381,308	171,926	112,634	
Percent absent days	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.002	-0.003	-0.001	-0.000	-0.000	
•	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.003)	(0.004)	(0.004)	
Mean of dependent variable	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.065	0.069	0.071	0.095	0.092	0.092	
<i>N</i>	547,227	241,046	157,391	168,968	75,459	49,251	170,080	75.898	49,530	

Notes: Robust standard errors clustered at the school level are given in parentheses. The top and second panels present difference-in-differences estimates - the estimated coefficients on the interaction between the school-level immigration enforcement measure in winter 2024-25, the spring test (semester) indicator, and an indicator for 2024-25 school year in the top (second) panel. The third panel presents the difference-in-differences estimates - the estimated coefficients on the interaction between the school-level immigration enforcement measure in winter 2024-25 and an indicator for 2024-25 school year. All specifications include student fixed effects. *, **, *** imply that the estimated coefficient is statistically different than zero at 10, 5, and 1 percent level respectively.

Table 3: Effects of Immigration Enforcement on Student Test Scores and Disciplinary Incidents, Subgroup Analysis, Difference-in-Difference-in-Differences Estimates

	Spanish-Speaking Students									
	Elementary	Middle and high school	Male	Female	Lower performing	Higher performing	Foreign born	U.S. born		
Average test score	-0.123	-1.290***	-0.596**	-0.831***	-1.043***	-0.590*	-0.697**	-0.745***		
	(0.147)	(0.488)	(0.274)	(0.256)	(0.327)	(0.324)	(0.275)	(0.234)		
SD of dependent variable	26.90	28.65	28.08	27.81	13.93	18.73	28.83	27.08		
N	113,926	184,469	153,309	145,086	144,048	154,347	112,686	185,709		
Disciplinary incidents	-0.007***	-0.012	-0.011**	-0.006	-0.012**	-0.006*	-0.006*	-0.010**		
	(0.002)	(0.016)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.006)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.004)		
Mean of dependent variable N	0.021	0.091	0.078	0.040	0.110	0.036	0.055	0.062		
	139,778	175,004	161,926	152,856	99,280	215,502	109,972	204,810		
			No	n-Spanish-Sp	peaking Students					
	Elementary	Middle and high school	Male	Female	Lower performing	Higher performing	Foreign born	U.S. born		
Average test score	0.055	-0.287	-0.045	-0.052	-0.538	-0.256	0.752	-0.301		
	(0.282)	(0.509)	(0.337)	(0.346)	(0.485)	(0.377)	(0.901)	(0.319)		
SD of dependent variable	27.31	28.65	28.71	27.49	18.11	14.71	29.79	27.84		
N	278,495	445,780	368,157	356,118	282,672	297,210	91,464	632,811		
Disciplinary incidents	0.007	0.007	0.009	0.004	0.010	0.008	0.000	0.009		
	(0.006)	(0.015)	(0.009)	(0.006)	(0.013)	(0.006)	(0.011)	(0.008)		
Mean of dependent variable $\it N$	0.034	0.100	0.091	0.049	0.153	0.039	0.054	0.072		
	348,540	431,132	397,564	382,108	193,238	431,334	93,224	686,448		

Notes: Robust standard errors clustered at the school level are given in parentheses. Difference-in-difference-in-differences estimates present the estimated coefficient on the interaction between the school-level immigration enforcement measure in winter 2024-25, the spring test (semester) indicator, and an indicator for 2024-25 school year in the test score (disciplinary incident) analysis. All specifications include student fixed-effects. *, **, *** imply that the estimated coefficient is statistically different than zero at 10, 5, and 1 percent level respectively.

Appendix Table 1: Effects of Immigration Enforcement on Student Test Scores and Disciplinary Incidents - Overall, Hispanic Students, and Spanish-Speakers, Robustness Check Controlling for School Foreign-Born Share and Interactions

	Ove	erall	Hisp	anic	Spanish-speaker		
	(I)	(II)	(I)	(II)	(I)	(II)	
Average test score	-0.288	-0.330	-0.529**	-0.501**	-0.705***	-0.659***	
	(0.219)	(0.234)	(0.205)	(0.226)	(0.209)	(0.248)	
SD of dependent variable	28	.56	28.	.09	27.97 298,395		
N	1,02	2,670	456,	,201			
Disciplinary incidents	-0.001 (0.004)	-0.002 (0.004)	-0.008** (0.003)	-0.009** (0.003)	-0.008*** (0.003)	-0.010*** (0.003)	
	,	,	,	,	,	,	
Mean of dependent variable	0.0	067	0.0	159	0.060		
N	1,02	2,670	482,	,092	314,782		
Controlling for foreign-born share	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	

Notes: Robust standard errors clustered at the school level are given in parentheses. Difference-in-difference estimates present the estimated coefficient on the interaction between the school-level immigration enforcement measure in winter 2024-25, the spring test (semester) indicator, and an indicator for 2024-25 school year in the test score (disciplinary incident) analysis. Columns labeled as (II) introduce (1) school foreign-born share interacted with the spring test (semester) indicator, and an indicator for 2024-25 school year; (2) school foreign-born share interacted with the spring test (semester) indicator; and (3) school foreign-born share interacted with an indicator for 2024-25 school year in the test score (disciplinary incident) analysis. All specifications include student fixed-effects. *, **, **** imply that the estimated coefficient is statistically different than zero at 10, 5, and 1 percent level respectively.

Appendix Table 2: Effects of Immigration Enforcement on Student Test Scores and Disciplinary Incidents, Robustness to Alternative Immigration Enforcement Intensity Measures

-		n intensity between 2024-25 schoo		Average intensity during the year before sprir 2024-25 school year			
	Overall	Hispanic	Spanish- speaking	Overall	Hispanic	Spanish- speaking	
Average test score	-0.133	-0.259**	-0.352***	-0.316	-0.621**	-0.842***	
	(0.128)	(0.123)	(0.116)	(0.267)	(0.249)	(0.249)	
SD of dependent variable	28.56	28.09	27.97	28.56	28.09	27.97	
N	1,022,670	456,201	298,395	1,022,670	456,201	298,395	
Disciplinary incidents	-0.000	-0.003*	-0.003**	-0.001	-0.009**	-0.009**	
	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.001)	(0.005)	(0.004)	(0.004)	
Mean of dependent variable	0.067	0.059	0.060	0.067	0.059	0.060	
N	1,094,454	482,092	314,782	1,094,454	482,092	314,782	

Notes: Robust standard errors clustered at the school level are given in parentheses. Difference-in-difference-in-differences estimates present the estimated coefficient on the interaction between the school-level immigration enforcement measure provided, the spring test (semester) indicator, and an indicator for 2024-25 school year in the test score (disciplinary incident) analysis. All specifications include student fixed-effects. *, **, *** imply that the estimated coefficient is statistically different than zero at 10, 5, and 1 percent level respectively.

Appendix Table 3A: Effects of Immigration Enforcement on Student Test Scores and Disciplinary Incidents, Subgroup Analysis, Difference-in-Differences Estimates, Above-Median Poverty Schools

	Spanish-Speaking Students										
		Middle									
		and high			Lower	Higher	Foreign				
	Elementary	school	Male	Female	performing	performing	born	U.S. born			
Average test score	-0.188	-1.723***	-0.711*	-0.908***	-0.873**	-0.895*	-0.772**	-0.808***			
-	(0.170)	(0.642)	(0.389)	(0.296)	(0.410)	(0.464)	(0.364)	(0.300)			
SD of dependent variable	26.28	28	27.52	27.14	12.85	19.41	27.80	26.62			
N	60,759	90,792	78,372	73,179	73,254	78,297	53,766	97,785			
Disciplinary incidents	-0.007***	-0.011	-0.013***	-0.004	-0.009	-0.008**	-0.009***	-0.009*			
1	(0.002)	(0.019)	(0.004)	(0.003)	(0.006)	(0.004)	(0.003)	(0.005)			
Mean of dependent variable	0.022	0.102	0.084	0.046	0.119	0.042	0.062	0.067			
<i>N</i>	74,928	89,174	84,532	79,570	50,578	113,524	53,982	110,120			
			No	n-Spanish-S _l	peaking Stude	nts					
		Middle									
		and high			Lower	Higher	Foreign				
	Elementary	school	Male	Female	performing	performing	born	U.S. born			
Average test score	-0.011	-0.711	-0.035	-0.656	-0.318	-0.548	-0.136	-0.466			
	(0.325)	(0.544)	(0.366)	(0.447)	(0.547)	(0.419)	(0.944)	(0.374)			
SD of dependent variable	26.95	28.65	28.48	27.40	15.73	17.28	29.87	27.65			
N	113,276	168,373	143,892	137,757	107,142	112,056	35,235	246,414			
Disciplinary incidents	0.008	0.016	0.011	0.009	0.007	0.013	0.004	0.012			
1 / 2.2	(0.009)	(0.018)	(0.012)	(0.009)	(0.018)	(0.009)	(0.013)	(0.011)			
Mean of dependent variable	0.050	0.131	0.119	0.068	0.196	0.059	0.075	0.097			
N	142,592	170,164	159,702	153,054	74,222	169,526	37,702	275,054			

Notes: Robust standard errors clustered at the school level are given in parentheses. Difference-in-difference-in-differences estimates present the estimated coefficient on the interaction between the school-level immigration enforcement measure in winter 2024-25, the spring test (semester) indicator, and an indicator for 2024-25 school year in the test score (disciplinary incident) analysis. Above median poverty schools are defined as those in LUSD that fall into the bottom half of the neighborhood income-to-poverty ratio measure provided by the National Center for Education Statistics. All specifications include student fixed-effects. *, **, *** imply that the estimated coefficient is statistically different than zero at 10, 5, and 1 percent level respectively.

Appendix Table 3B: Effects of Immigration Enforcement on Student Test Scores and Disciplinary Incidents, Subgroup Analysis, Difference-in-Differences Estimates, Below-Median Poverty Schools

	Spanish-Speaking Students										
	Elementary	Middle and high school	Male	Female	Lower performing	Higher performing	Foreign born	U.S. born			
Average test score	0.115	-0.405	-0.094	-0.685	-1.129	-0.023	-0.094	-0.649			
Tivelage test score	(0.350)	(1.905)	(0.774)	(0.609)	(0.791)	(1.057)	(0.940)	(0.476)			
SD of dependent variable N	27.16 53,167	28.96 93,677	28.43 74,937	28.18 71,907	15.19 71,340	17.71 75,504	29.33 58,920	27.35 87,924			
Disciplinary incidents	-0.006 (0.005)	-0.020 (0.017)	-0.001 (0.010)	-0.015 (0.012)	-0.027** (0.011)	0.003 (0.009)	-0.004 (0.012)	-0.011* (0.006)			
Mean of dependent variable N	0.019 64,850	0.079 85,830	0.071 77,394	0.035 73,286	0.099 48,588	0.032 102,092	0.048 55,990	0.056 94,690			
• •	0 1,000	03,030			eaking Stude		33,770	<i>y</i> 1,000			
		Middle and high			Lower	Higher	Foreign				
	Elementary	school	Male	Female	performing	performing	born	U.S. born			
Average test score	0.061	-0.175	-0.044	0.863	-0.509	-0.210	3.878*	-0.045			
	(0.699)	(1.670)	(0.994)	(0.929)	(1.110)	(1.005)	(2.044)	(0.797)			
SD of dependent variable N	26.37 165,219	28.09 277,407	28.11 224,265	26.75 218,361	19.46 176,979	12.97 183,705	29.08 56,229	27.18 386,397			
Disciplinary incidents	0.002 (0.007)	-0.044* (0.024)	-0.001 (0.014)	-0.030*** (0.010)	-0.026 (0.023)	-0.006 (0.009)	-0.022 (0.027)	-0.015 (0.012)			
Mean of dependent variable $\it N$	0.0222 205,948	0.0795 260,968	0.0721 237,862	0.0356 229,054	0.120 119,740	0.0287 261,084	0.0399 55,522	0.0561 411,394			

Notes: Robust standard errors clustered at the school level are given in parentheses. Difference-in-difference-in-differences estimates present the estimated coefficient on the interaction between the school-level immigration enforcement measure in winter 2024-25, the spring test (semester) indicator, and an indicator for 2024-25 school year in the test score (disciplinary incident) analysis. Above median poverty schools are defined as those in LUSD that fall into the top half of the neighborhood income-to-poverty ratio measure provided by the National Center for Education Statistics. All specifications include student fixed-effects. *, **, *** imply that the estimated coefficient is statistically different than zero at 10, 5, and 1 percent level respectively.