



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

*Collaboratively Advancing Growth and Prosperity for All*

# Economic Impacts of Federal Immigration Enforcement *In Los Angeles County*



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California Senate Labor, Public  
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[www.laedc.org](http://www.laedc.org)



# Undocumented Workers Are a Core Component of the LA County Labor Market

**Nearly 950,000 undocumented workers across all industries**

## Economic Contribution: Undocumented Workers in LA:

- **\$253.9B** in annual economic activity (17% countywide output)
- **1.06M** jobs supported (direct + indirect) with **\$80.4B** in labor income
- **\$147.4B** (16%) of countywide Gross County Product (GCP)

**3.5M immigrants**  
in LA County  
(35% of population)

**Undocumented workers in LA County account for 60% of GSP related to undocumented labor statewide (\$278B\*)**

## Estimated Economic Contribution of Undocumented Workers in LA County (2023)

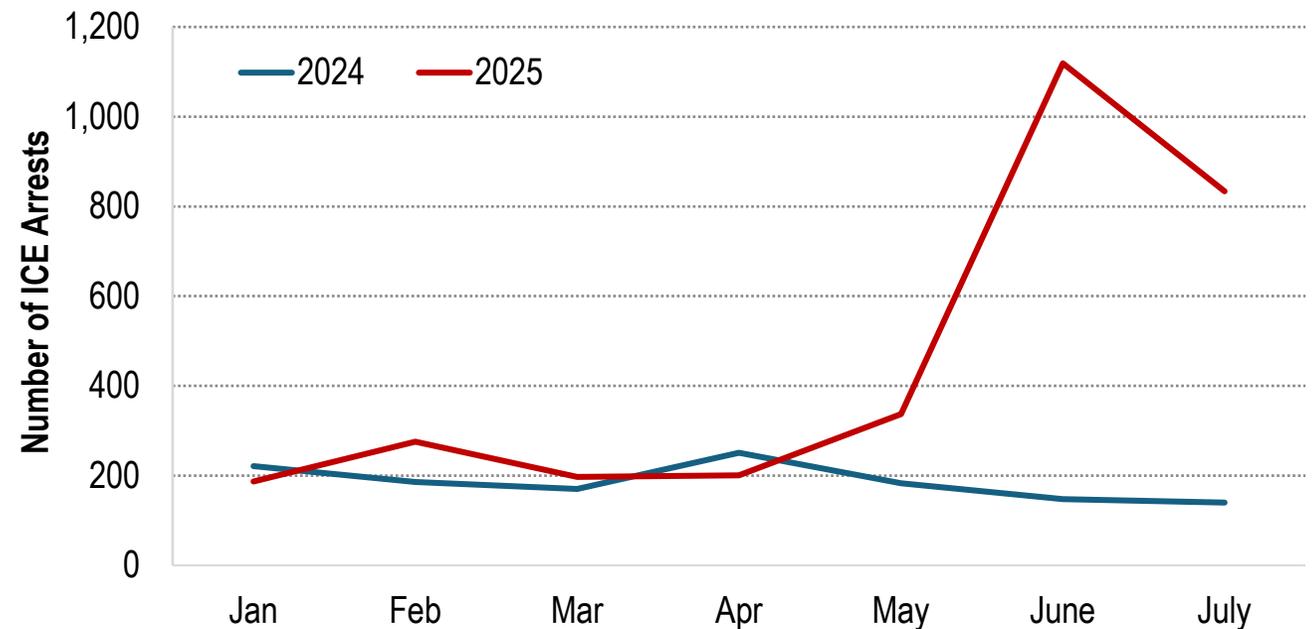
<b>Output</b> (\$ millions)	<b>\$253,879</b>
<i>Direct</i>	\$158,805
<b>Employment</b> (jobs)	<b>1,062,550</b>
<i>Direct</i>	630,120
<b>Labor income</b> (\$ millions)	<b>\$80,444</b>
<i>Direct</i>	\$47,699
<b>Value added</b> (\$ millions)	<b>\$147,361</b>
<i>Direct</i>	\$88,389

Source: IMPLAN; estimates by LAEDC

# Federal Enforcement Activity Increased Significantly

- Intensified federal enforcement beginning June 2025
- 3,151 ICE arrests through July (**143% year-over-year increase**)
- Enforcement expanded beyond criminal history cases
- Under direction of the LA County BOS, DEO commissioned IAE to quantify economic impacts

**Comparison of Monthly ICE Arrests between 2024 and 2025  
Los Angeles County**



Source: Deportation Data Project, Public, Anonymized U.S. Government Immigration Enforcement Datasets (through July 28, 2025).

# Economic Vulnerability Is Concentrated

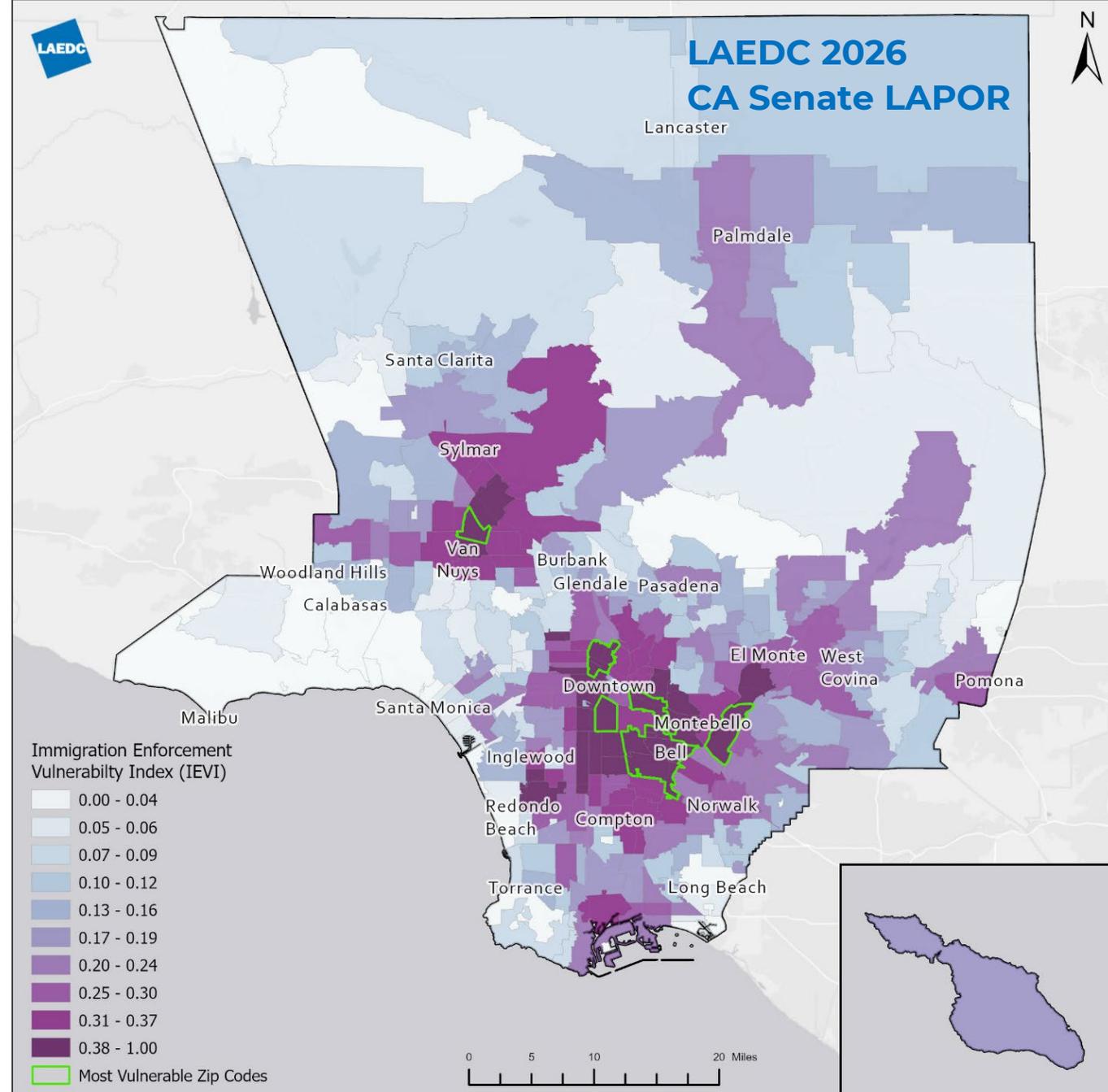
The **LAEDC Immigration Enforcement Vulnerability Index (IEVI)** aggregates multiple risk factors into a single score for each ZIP code in Los Angeles County

- **High IEVI Areas:**

- *Mission Hills–Panorama City*
- *Bell*
- *Pico Rivera*
- *Southeast LA (90011)*
- *Downtown-adjacent neighborhoods*

- **Most Impacted Sectors:**

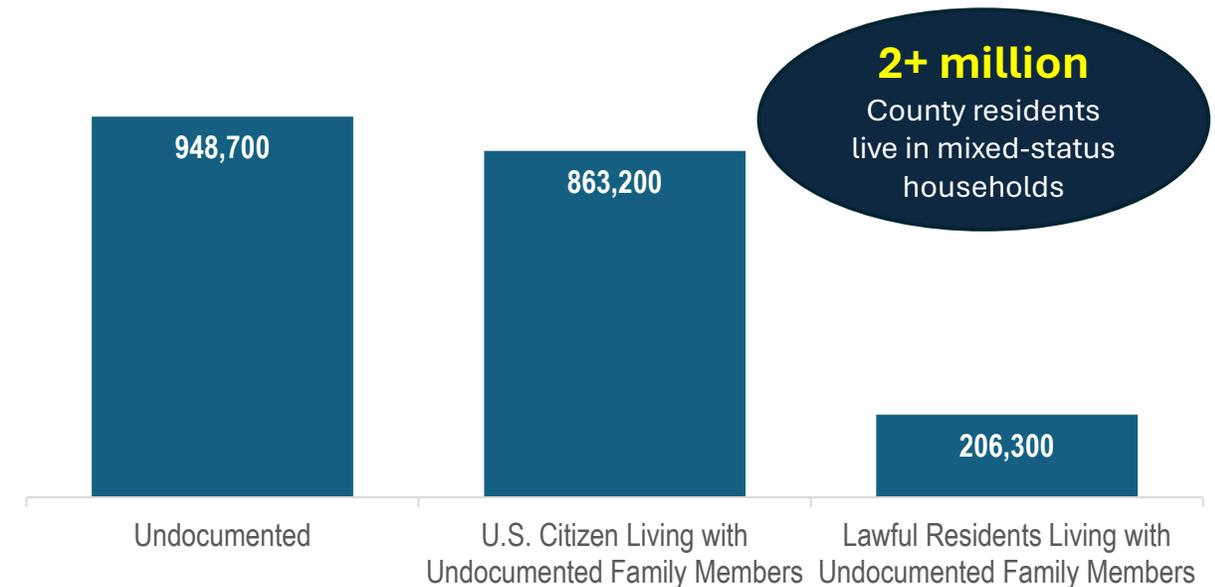
- *Retail trade*
- *Construction*
- *Manufacturing*
- *Accommodation & food services*



# The Economic Effects Beyond Enforcement Targets

- Immigration enforcement can reduce labor supply in key sectors
- Businesses experience revenue losses and workforce instability
- Community spending and mobility decline in affected areas
- These economic effects impact workers, employers, and local economies

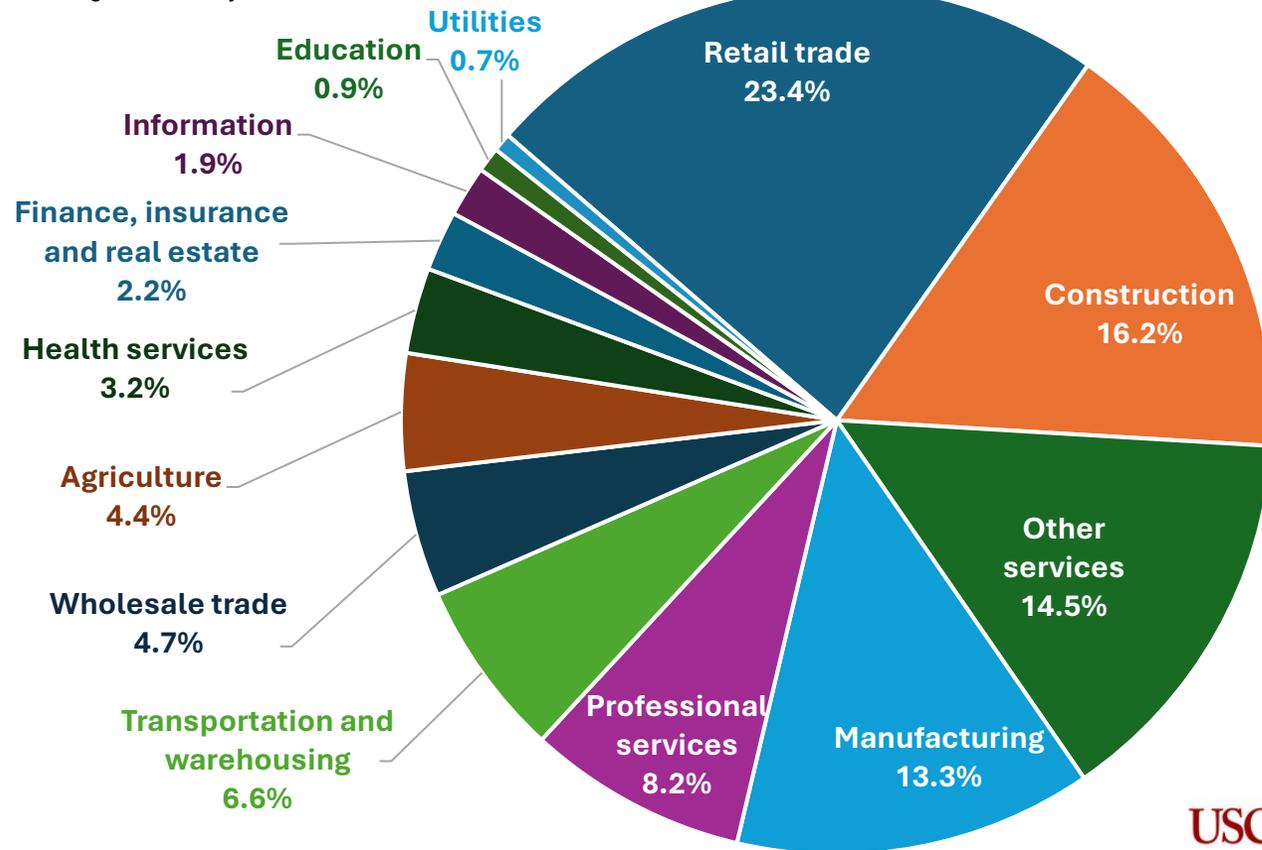
Undocumented Immigrants and Residents Living with Undocumented Family Members, Los Angeles County 2019-2023



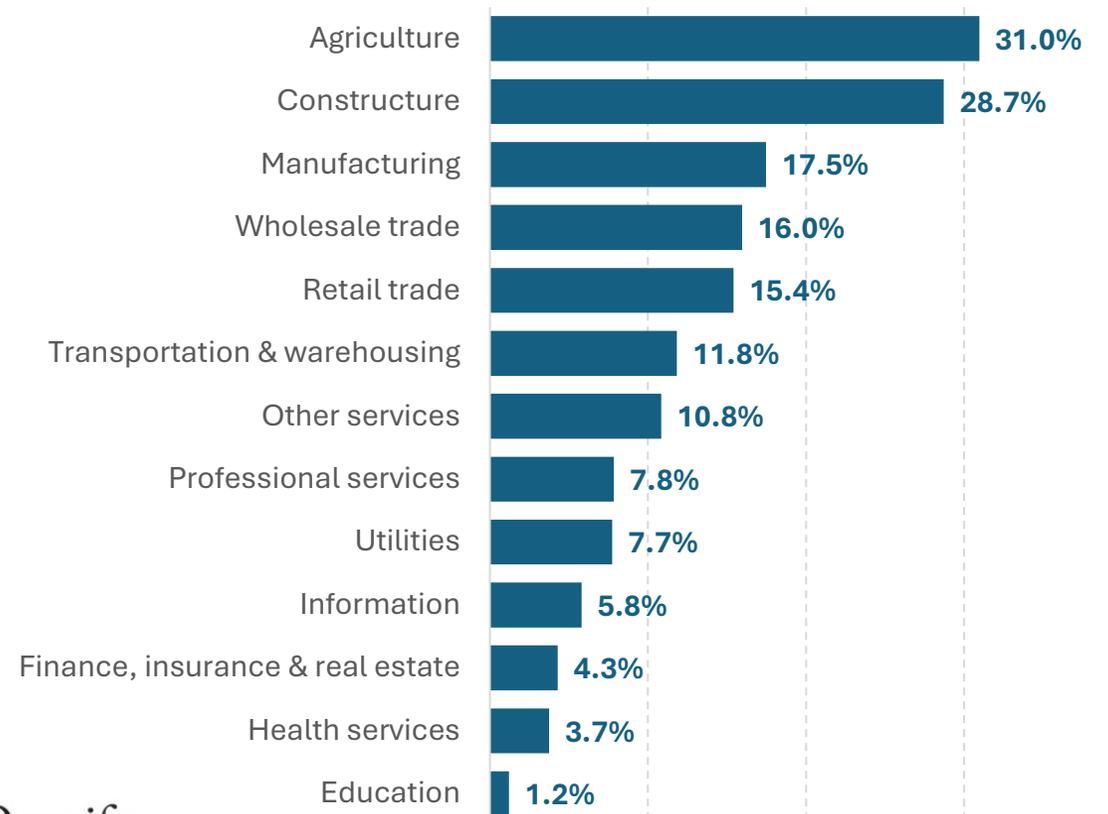
Source: USC Equity Research Institute analysis of 2023 5-year American Community Survey microdata from IPUMS USA and the 2014 Survey of Income and Program Participation

# Several Key Industries Depend on This Workforce

**Distribution of Undocumented Workers by Industry**  
*Los Angeles County, 2021*



**Industry Workforce Dependence on Undocumented Labor**



# Widespread Business Impact

## LAEDC Business Impact Survey\* Findings:

- 82% of businesses negatively affected
- 44% of affected firms lost more than 50% of revenue
- 52% reported reduced daily sales
- 67% experiencing workforce disruptions
- 47% very concerned about long-term viability

## LEEAF Business and Community Interviews and Town Halls

- *Small business interviews with 178 business leaders*
- *3 community town halls (1 in-person, 2 virtual)*
- *Interviewed 22 nonprofits and CBOs*



**Findings:** Fear altered consumer behavior. Customers stayed home. Businesses shortened hours. Expansion plans were delayed.

## How Have Recent Federal Immigration Enforcement Activities Affected Your Business?

(Percentage of Respondents)



Source: LAEDC  
N = 175

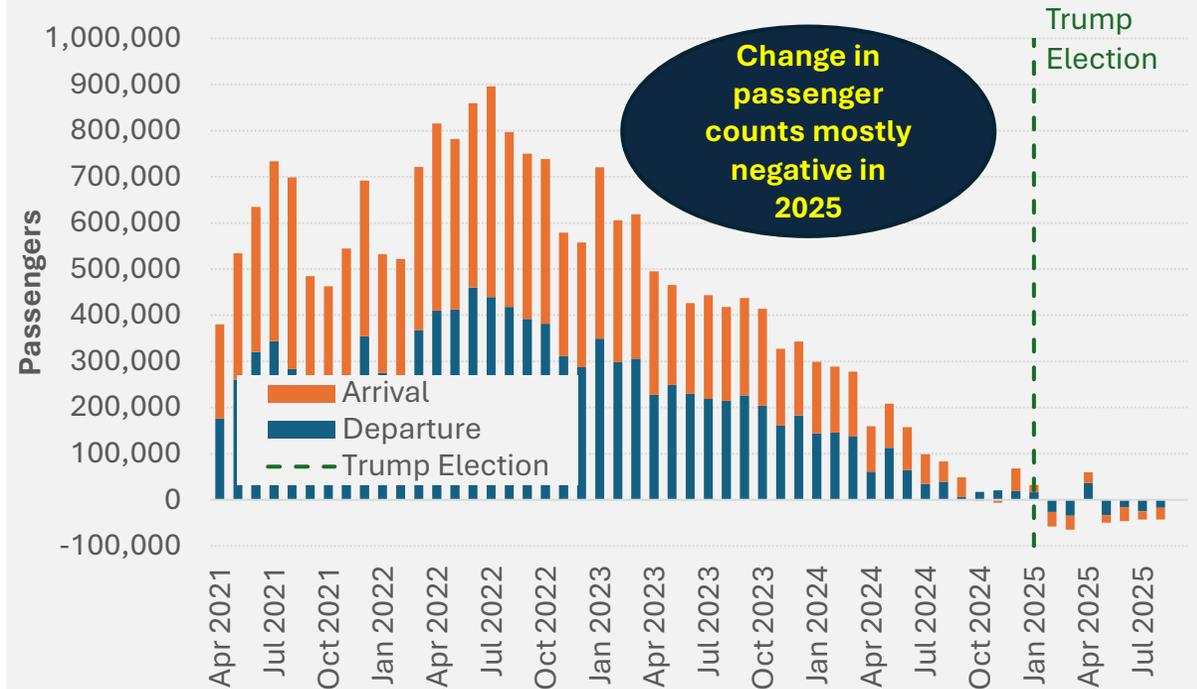
# Impacts Extend Beyond Direct Targets

**Ridership Comparison Between High and Low Vulnerable Bus Lines**  
*Los Angeles County METRO, Jan 2019-Aug 2025*



Source: <https://opa.metro.net/MetroRidership/>

**Year-Over-Year Change in Passengers on International Flights:**  
*Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), Apr 2021 - Aug 2025*



Source: LAWA's Volume of Air Traffic Data

# Short-Term Disruption, Large Economic Losses

## Downtown LA Case Study: Curfew Impact

### Baseline scenario (1-week curfew):

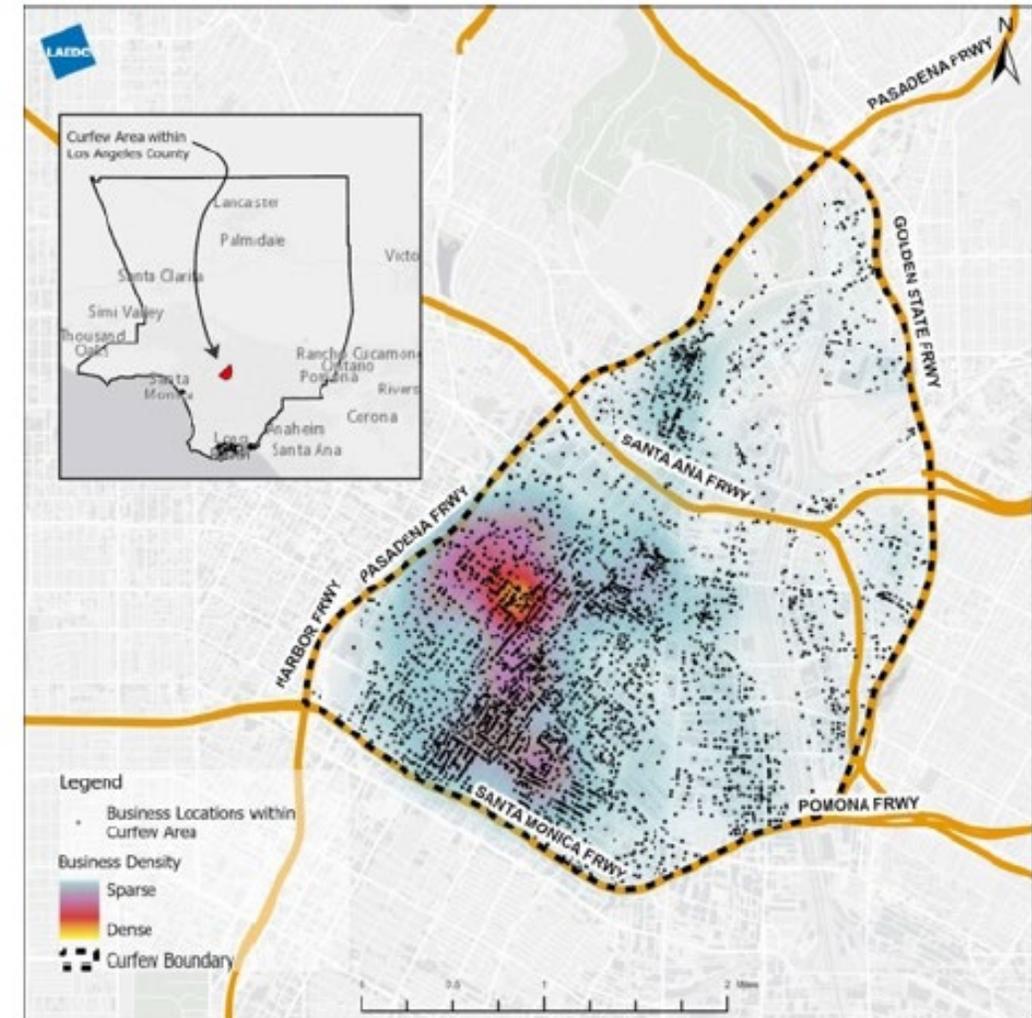
- \$840 million total output loss
- 3,920 job-years lost
- \$312 million labor income lost

### Extended disruption:

- Up to \$2.5 billion output loss
- Nearly 12,000 job-years

The curfew, while intended to address public safety concerns, disrupted economic activity in one of Los Angeles's most commercially active neighborhoods

Business Locations in Downtown Los Angeles Curfew Area





# Thank you!

## Key Findings

### In LA County:

- Undocumented workers are a core component of the labor market
- Business disruption has been widespread and severe
- Workforce instability is emerging
- Consumer behavior shifts are amplifying impacts
- Economic effects extend beyond directly targeted individuals
- Mobility and visitor indicators show measurable ripple effects
- Localized shocks can scale quickly