



LOCAL IMMIGRATION FACTS

You don't
deserve this.



Updated February 2026

Do we have a significant immigrant population in Pinellas Co., FL?

YES.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION & IMPACT OF IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS

Pinellas Co. immigrant neighbors provide:



- \$2.6B in Spending Power
- \$873.1M in Taxes Paid
- 8,840 Immigrant-owned businesses

Florida immigrant neighbors provide:

77% of Crop Production

64% of Taxi & Ride-share Services

50% of Building Maintenance Services

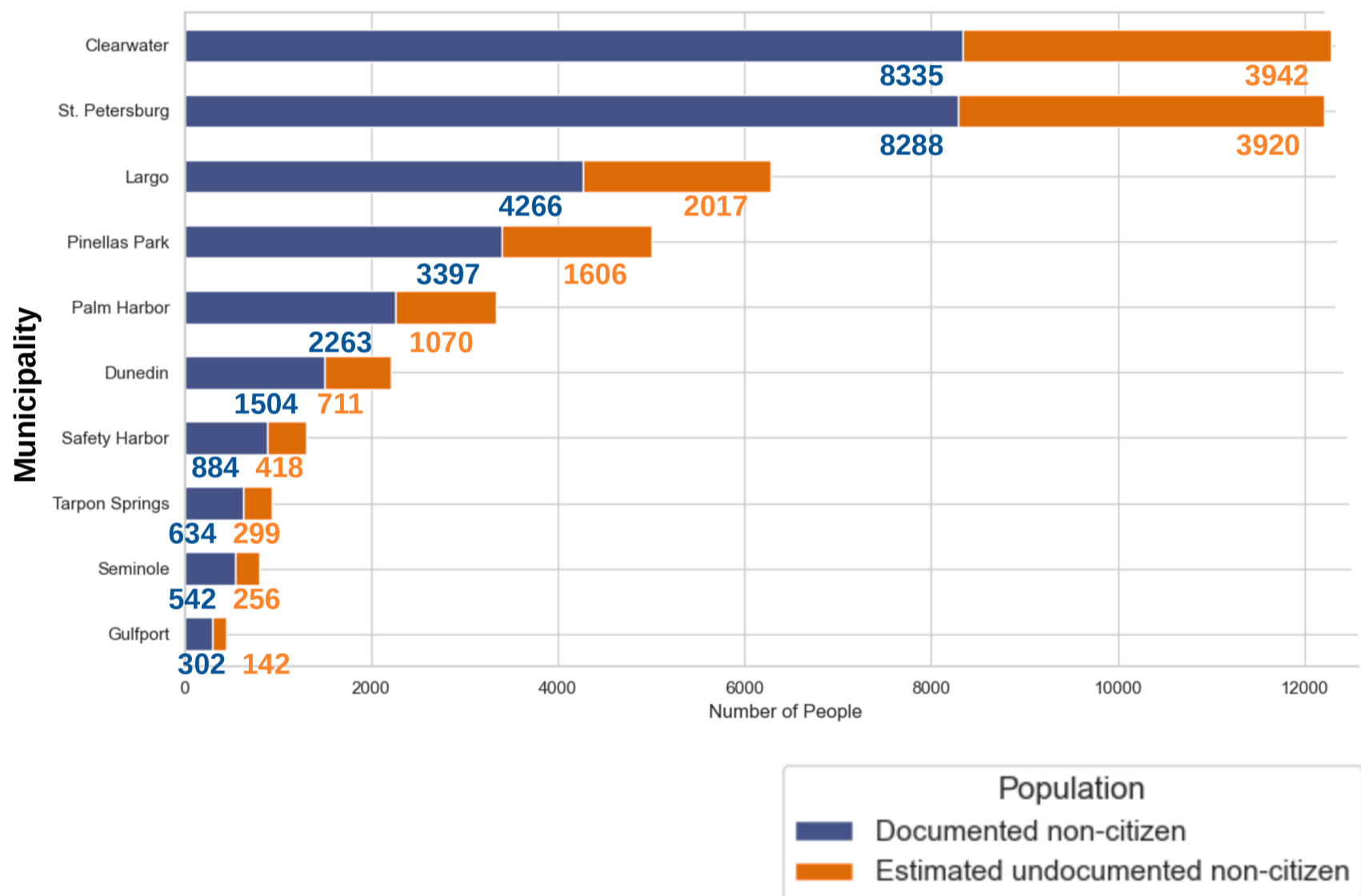
42% of Landscaping Services

26% of Restaurant & Food Services

28.4% of Healthcare Roles

Sources: American Immigration Council; U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS)

NON-CITIZEN DOCUMENTED AND ESTIMATED UNDOCUMENTED POPULATIONS (TOP 10 MUNICIPALITIES OF PINELLAS CO., FL)



Sources: U.S. Census ACS 2024 5-year Estimate, Table B05001; Migration Policy Institute (MPI)



Is ICE active here?

YES.

Florida's State-run tracker shows data of all encounters and detentions across the State of Florida from August 1, 2025 until present day.

Scan here to see data in real-time:



FLORIDA DETENTIONS TRACKER

Source: The Florida State Board of Immigration Enforcement
www.fdle.state.fl.us/state-board-of-immigration-enforcement



If ICE is here, why haven't I seen them?

287(g) agreements.

Immigration enforcement here “looks” different than in places like Minnesota due to 287(g) agreements, which train our local officers to act as federal ICE agents. Every local police department in Pinellas County has a 287(g) agreement.

While Florida’s SB 1808 mandates jail participation for sheriffs, no municipal police department has such a legal obligation. Their participation in 287(g) is a voluntary, local choice that can be rescinded at any time.

Florida has nearly 100% coverage. Nearly 98% of Florida State Highway troopers are tasked to perform ICE functions and all 67 Sheriff’s departments now operate with ICE authority via 287(g) agreements.

287(g) agreements are not a federal mandate. Consequently, municipal 287(g) participation in Pinellas County is a local choice, not a federal requirement—leaving the power to participate entirely in the hands of our state legislators and city leaders.

Routine traffic enforcement for minor infractions like tinted windows or broken lights has become the primary point of contact leading to immigration detention. As of January 2026, 74.2% of all ICE detainees had no criminal record; in Florida, 67% of ICE arrests originate in local facilities following these initial minor infraction municipal charges.

Sources: ACLU, ICE, CATO Institute, TRAC, Prison Policy Initiative, Deportation Data Project, Migration Policy Institute (MPI), Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, Florida Senate



‘Alligator Alcatraz’ closed, right? NO.

Timeline of the Everglades Detention Facility a.k.a. ‘Alligator Alcatraz’ located in Ochopee, Florida

Jul 3, 2025 - DETENTIONS BEGAN
Facility began housing detained individuals.

Aug 7, 2025 - TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER (TRO) ISSUED
Construction paused for 14 days; operations and detentions continued.

Aug 21, 2025 - INJUNCTION ISSUED
Court orders 60-day wind-down and total closure.

Sept 4, 2025 - STAY ISSUED
Order to close is frozen. Facility remained open.

Dec 4, 2025 - AMNESTY INT’L REPORT
A landmark report about the detention facility titled "Torture and Enforced Disappearances in the Sunshine State" is released.

TODAY IT IS FULLY OPEN AND OPERATING; ~1,500 PERSONS CURRENTLY DETAINED; LAWSUITS PENDING

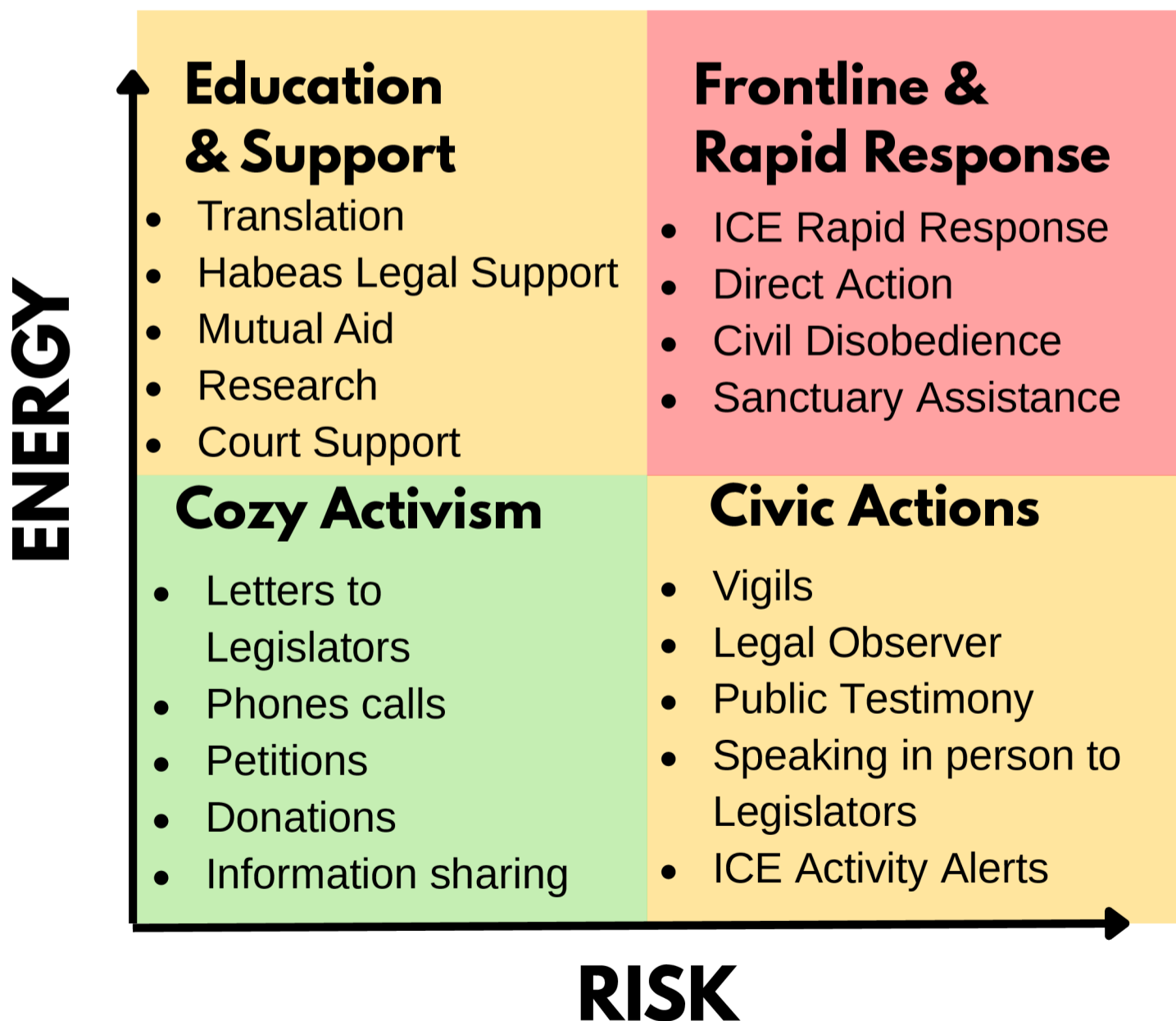
SOURCES - Amnesty International; WUSF; WGUC; Friends of the Everglades; Courthouse News Services

What can I do about any of this?

ACT!

All forms of participation are valuable.

Choose advocacy roles that align with the capacity, safety, and sustainability according to your bandwidth. This is a marathon, not a sprint. Rest and joy are resistance!





*If you witness or experience ICE activity in Florida,
call the RAISE hotline to report or for support.*

Confidential Hotline

1-888-600-5762

IMMIGRATION JUSTICE RESOURCES:



**END 287(g)
SAMPLE
LETTER**



**IMMIGRATION
ATTORNEY
REFERRALS**



VIRTUAL KNOW-YOUR-RIGHTS TRAININGS:

