

## Fact Sheet: ICE Enforcement in New York City May 2018

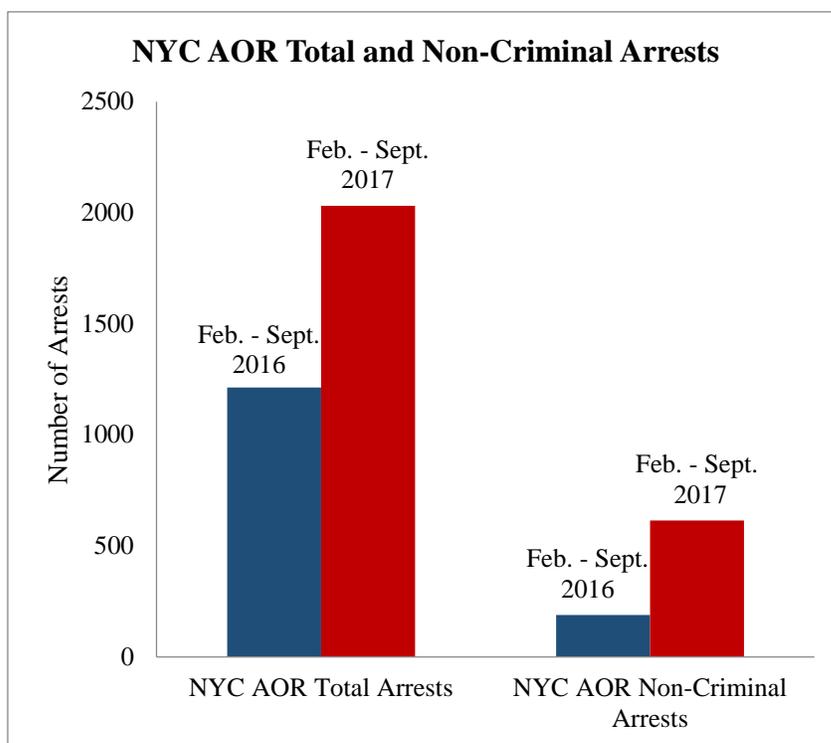
*This fact sheet presents the New York City Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs' analysis of data showing changes in immigration enforcement in the New York City area after February 2017.*

*During this time, immigration enforcement efforts spiked nationwide and in the New York City area of responsibility (AOR),<sup>1</sup> according to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) data. ICE has quickly adjusted to the President's Executive Order 13768, which largely abandoned any enforcement priorities, by arresting and deporting a greater number of immigrants who pose no threat to public safety.*

*The new enforcement environment has led to an increased use of detention and a greater number of immigrants facing deportation in New York City.*

### ICE increased its total arrests by over 65% and arrests of individuals with no criminal convictions by over 200% in the NYC area

- The number of people arrested without criminal convictions ("non-criminal arrests") in the NYC AOR increased 225% in the 8 months after the 2017 Presidential inauguration, compared to the same period in the previous year, while total arrests increased by 67%.<sup>2</sup>
- Nationally, the number of non-criminal arrests increased 181% in the 8 months after the inauguration, while the number of total nationwide arrests increased 43%.
- Non-criminal arrests during this period comprised a significantly larger portion of overall arrests, both nationally and in NYC.



<sup>1</sup> The ICE NYC Area of Responsibility comprises the five boroughs of New York City, plus Dutchess, Nassau, Putnam, Suffolk, Sullivan, Orange, Rockland, Ulster, and Westchester counties.

<sup>2</sup> MOIA used ICE data to conduct the analysis of arrests and removals for this fact sheet, comparing the period after President Trump's inauguration through the end of federal fiscal year (FY) 2017 (Feb. 2017- Sept. 2017) to the same time period in FY2016 (Feb. 2016- Sept. 2016). (ICE data available at <https://www.ice.gov/removal-statistics/2017>).

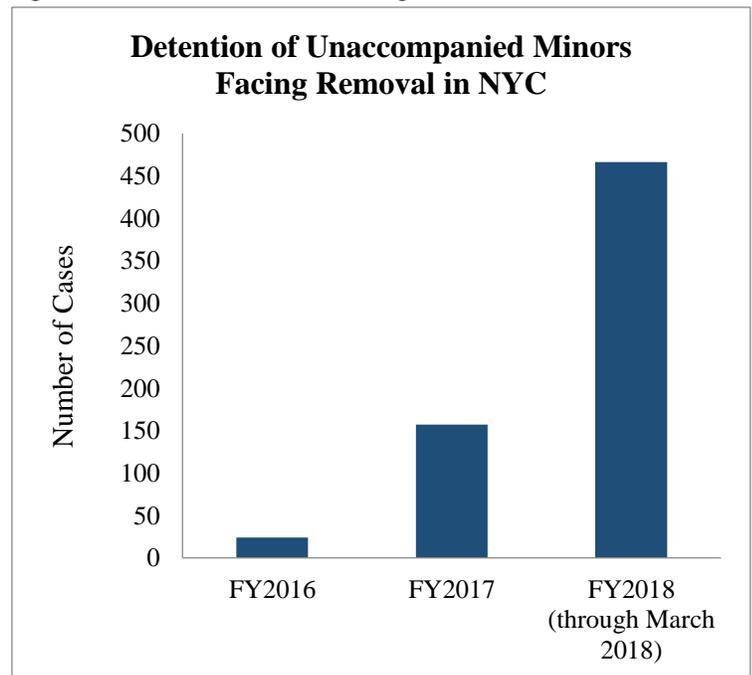
**ICE increased its total removals by over 100% and its removal of immigrants with no prior criminal convictions by over 150% in the NYC area**

- ICE increased its total removals in the NYC AOR by 109% and its removal of non-criminal immigrants by 155% during federal FY2017 in the 8 months after the inauguration compared to the same period in federal FY2016.
- The drastic increase in non-criminal removals in the NYC AOR during this 8-month period is consistent with the nationwide trend over the full federal fiscal year: Federal FY2016 to FY2017 saw a 174% spike in ICE's non-criminal removals from the interior of the country, and a 25% overall increase in total removals from the interior of the country over the same period of time.<sup>3</sup>

**Increased ICE enforcement is contributing to an increased use of detention, including the detention of unaccompanied minors, and a massive backlog of immigration removal cases**

Increased ICE enforcement has led to an increased use of detention, including among vulnerable populations, and contributed to the enormous backlog of removal cases in the immigration courts located in NYC and nationwide.

- Detention of unaccompanied minors (UAC) in removal proceedings in NYC rose by 554% from federal FY2016 to FY2017. This trend has accelerated in federal FY2018, with the number of removal cases initiated through March 2018 against detained UACs more than double the total for all of FY2017.<sup>4</sup>
- The number of removal cases initiated against detained immigrants increased 53% from federal FY2016 to FY2017, even though the overall number of removal cases initiated in the New York City immigration courts, which includes removal cases for non-detained immigrants, decreased 7% over the same time period.<sup>5</sup>
- The national backlog of immigration cases through March 2018 is over 692,000 and the backlog in NYC is over 90,000.<sup>6</sup>



<sup>3</sup> ICE distinguishes enforcement activity on the border from enforcement activity in the interior of the country. (ICE Fiscal Year 2017 ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations Report available at <https://www.ice.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Report/2017/iceEndOfYearFY2017.pdf>).

<sup>4</sup> MOIA used Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) data obtained through FOIA by Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC) to calculate the percent change in UAC removal cases initiated from federal FY2016 to FY2017 in NYC. (TRAC data available at <http://trac.syr.edu/phptools/immigration/juvenile/>).

<sup>5</sup> See *supra* note 4, for the data and methodology used to compare total removal cases and detained immigrant removal cases. (TRAC data available at <http://trac.syr.edu/phptools/immigration/nta/>).

<sup>6</sup> EOIR data obtained through FOIA by TRAC. (TRAC data available at [http://trac.syr.edu/phptools/immigration/court\\_backlog/](http://trac.syr.edu/phptools/immigration/court_backlog/)).