

# The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

RE V1 V2 V3 V4

Rain 66/36 • Tomorrow: Mostly sunny 50/34 B18

Democracy Dies in Darkness

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026 • \$4

## Far fewer migrants moving to big cities

Steep drops in Chicago, New York, Los Angeles amid Trump crackdown

BY MARIANNE LEVINE

The number of new immigrants settling in metropolitan areas in the United States has declined steeply, according to a Brookings Institution analysis of recently released U.S. Census Bureau data, a shift that comes as the Trump administration restricts arrivals from other nations.

New York, Los Angeles and Chicago were among the large metro areas that saw a significant percentage decline compared with the previous year in net immigration — defined as the percentage gain or loss in immigrant arrivals. That factors in immigrants who arrived from other nations and those who left.

All three areas saw net immigration declines of 62 percent or higher. The Washington region saw a 44 percent drop, according to the analysis from William Frey, a demographer at Brookings. Frey examined recently released census data for July 2024 to June 2025.

The nation's three most populous metro regions all saw their total population growth — from international immigration as well as domestic migration, births and deaths — decline after they had begun to gain residents following declines during the pandemic. For the New York area, Frey found a population growth of 32,000 from July 2024 through the end of June 2025, a dip from 291,000 the previous year, which he said came in large part from a drop in how many immigrants live in the region. He found a similar trend in Los Angeles, an area that had experienced growth the previous year but has since seen a contraction.

While the census data does not directly link changes in population to the Trump administration's policies, the reduction in

SEE CENSUS ON A6



EMILIO MORENATTI/AP

Displaced children in Beirut take shelter Thursday from the rain. Israel has gone to war in Lebanon in response to a Hezbollah attack in support of Iran, which Lebanese authorities say has killed more than 1,000 people and displaced more than 1 million.

## Trump adds 10 days to threat to attack energy sites in Iran President skirts Congress, orders pay for TSA officers

BY LEO SANDS AND SUSANNAH GEORGE

President Donald Trump said Thursday that progress has been made in negotiations with Tehran aimed at ending the Iran war. Talks "are going very well," he wrote in a post to social media.

In the same post, Trump said he would delay attacks on Iran's energy infrastructure by an additional 10 days. Trump issued a 48-hour ultimatum to Iran last weekend, saying he would "obliterate" the country's power plants, beginning with the largest, if it did not reopen the Strait of Hormuz. Trump on Monday issued a five-day timeline, saying negotiations to end the war had begun.

Statements from Iran about the negotiations have struck a different tone. Iran's state-run

media reported Thursday that Tehran had rejected a 15-point ceasefire proposal by the White House. But the Iranian report did not suggest a total breakdown in negotiations, leaving open the possibility that Washington could issue a follow-up proposal.

Iran has previously offered its own terms for ending the conflict that include a demand that the United States and Israel pay compensation for war damage and recognize Iran's sovereignty over the Strait of Hormuz.

In a post Thursday morning on his Truth Social platform, Trump called Iranian negotiators "strange" and said, "They are 'begging' us to make a deal."

Financial markets fell on Thursday, as oil prices again rose above \$100 a barrel. The S&P 500

SEE IRAN ON A14

BY EMILY DAVIES, MARIANNE LEVINE AND THEODORIC MEYER

President Donald Trump said Thursday that he was ordering officials to pay Transportation Security Administration officers despite Congress's failure to appropriate funds, claiming emergency powers to act during the congressional stalemate.

"Because the Democrats have recklessly created a true National Crisis, I am using my authorities under the Law to protect our Great Country, as I always will do!" Trump wrote on Truth Social. "Therefore, I am going to sign an Order instructing the Secretary of Homeland Security, Markwayne Mullin, to immediately pay our TSA Agents in order to address this Emergency

Situation."

The White House did not immediately respond to questions about what legal authority Trump was employing for his order.

The move sidesteps Congress as millions of air travelers face record security delays, largely because of staffing problems at TSA. It follows more than five weeks of gridlock on Capitol Hill that have left TSA officers working without pay, prompting some to call out and triggering widespread disruptions as millions of Americans travel for spring break. The chaos at airports has intensified pressure on Capitol Hill and at the White House to resolve the impasse over the Department of Homeland Security budget.

SEE TRUMP ON A10

## U.S. weighs shift in war aid

ARMS FOR UKRAINE MAY GO TO MIDEAST

Offensive in Iran depletes military's vital munitions

BY NOAH ROBERTSON AND ELLEN FRANCIS

The Pentagon is considering whether to divert weapons intended for Ukraine to the Middle East as the war in Iran depletes some of the U.S. military's most critical munitions, according to three people familiar with the matter.

Although a final decision to redirect the equipment has not yet been made, the shift would highlight the growing trade-offs required to sustain the U.S. war against Iran, where U.S. Central Command has hit more than 9,000 targets in just under four weeks of fighting.

The weapons that could be diverted away from Ukraine include air defense interceptor missiles, ordered through a NATO program launched last year in which partner countries buy U.S. arms for Kyiv, the three people said, speaking on the condition of anonymity to describe the Pentagon's sensitive deliberations.

The Prioritized Ukraine Requirements List (PURL) initiative has ensured a flow of select military equipment to Kyiv even as the Trump administration has cut off most of the Pentagon's direct security assistance.

In a statement, a Pentagon spokesperson said the Defense Department would "ensure that U.S. forces and those of our allies and partners have what they need to fight and win" but declined to otherwise comment.

Asked about The Washington Post's reporting on Thursday,

SEE UKRAINE ON A13

## Young conservatives' bigotry has GOP on edge

Radicalization of youth on the right has set off bitter debate in the party

BY HANNAH KNOWLES

PHOENIX — Twenty-three-year-old Alec Beaton has the résumé of a model GOP foot soldier. He's a former precinct delegate and county Republican youth chair who ran a small Michigan field office for Donald Trump's 2024 campaign.

He's also a self-described Holocaust "revisionist" who views praise for Adolf Hitler as a way to "mess with people."

"We don't think Hitler is, like, the worst person ever," Beaton explained as he roamed a national conference for young conservatives with his friends, joined at one point by an acquaintance on the event staff for the host group, Turning Point USA.

Many Republicans dismiss young people such as Beaton as fringe actors, unrepresentative of the GOP. But there's a growing

unease in the party at their presence among the rank and file. Leaks of offensive group chats and infighting over the bounds of acceptable political discourse are fanning anxiety in the party: Maybe the kids are not all right.

At a conference on antisemitism this month in Washington, Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) warned that he has seen more prejudice against Jewish people "in the last 18 months on the right than at any point in my lifetime," and that "it is gaining real purchase, especially with young people."

The fight against antisemitism is winning with "folks in this room with some gray or salt-and-pepper in their hair," Cruz said.

"But in the college classroom," he added, "I'm a lot less certain."

Concern has flared with one scandal after another. In one group chat, Young Republican leaders from several states used racial slurs, casually referenced Hitler and described rape as "epic." In another meant for GOP students in Miami, participants called for grisly violence against Black people and discussed "Nazi

SEE REPUBLICANS ON A4

## Nats open with a bang in Chicago



ERIN HOOLEY/AP

Daylen Lile gets some love from teammates after scoring during a six-run fourth inning, the key frame in a 10-4 season-opening win over the Cubs at Wrigley Field in Chicago. The Nats blasted three home runs in the victory. **Story, B7**

## Layoffs rock Kennedy Center ahead of shutdown

BY TRAVIS M. ANDREWS AND JANAY KINGSBERRY

The Kennedy Center began layoffs on Thursday, initiating the first wave of anticipated cuts tied to President Donald Trump's plan to shut down the institution for two years.

Multiple departments were affected — including programming, development, advertising, marketing and the office of the president — according to multiple people at the center who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss personnel matters. It is unclear how many staffers were affected, but the number appears to be in the double digits.

Among the terminated were Nick Meade and Rick Loughery, who were installed in top roles by the center's former president,

SEE LAYOFFS ON A4

Twain Prize: Despite a White House denial, Bill Maher lands honor. **B1**

## IN THE NEWS

**Los Angeles Olympics** The White House cheered a ruling that only biologically female athletes may compete in women's sports. **A8**

**Flynn payout** The Justice Department agreed to settle claims that the ex-national security adviser was wrongfully prosecuted in the FBI's investigation into 2016 interference. **A6**

**THE NATION** A woman has landed a residency at a Yale hospital where she worked on the cleaning staff. **A2** **The president's** move to send ICE to airports failed to end the logjam or fix long lines. **A10**

**THE WORLD** **Afghans** held a second mass funeral for victims of a Pakistani airstrike on a Kabul facility. **A12** **Gulf countries** fear a hasty U.S. exit from the Iran war and press for a decisive victory. **A14**

**THE ECONOMY** Republicans and Democrats are pitching ideas intended to address affordability, but experts warn the proposals could cause other problems. **A18** **Stocks fell** sharply and oil prices rose as doubt took over again from hope on Wall Street. **A18**

**STYLE** **'Hannah Montana'** tore apart Miley Cyrus and her dad. Now they have mended ties. **B1**

**SPORTS** **Iia Malinin** bounced back from his misfire at the Olympics by leading after the short program at the figure skating world championships. **B7**

**THE REGION** A quadruple amputee who inspired others through cornhole is now accused of murder. **B13**

**WEEKEND** **Want to** introduce your kids to live music? Local offerings include the National Theatre, the MLK Library, Union Stage and the Atlantis.

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