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Food costs could rise under visa crackdown



A woman is detained during a raid by Immigration and Customs Enforcement at a meat production plant in Omaha. U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT VIA REUTERS

Meat lobby group: 20% of workers to lose jobs

Donnelle Eller
Des Moines Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

Meat-packing giant JBS' July firing of 200 workers in Iowa because the Trump administration was revoking their work visas could be just the start of a wave of job losses, with thousands more workers across the state and nation also caught in the crackdown on immigrants, experts say.

Dramatic roundups of undocumented immigrants at meat plants, like one in June that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement staged in Omaha, Nebraska, have been isolated so far.

But the Meat Institute, the industry's lobbying group, estimates that 20% of the nation's meat processing workforce – about 102,000 of 510,000 workers – have lost or will lose their jobs as President Donald Trump's Department of Homeland Security moves to shut down programs like the humanitarian parole under which the workers were employed in Ottumwa, Iowa.

The parole program for immigrants from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua and Venezuela began in early 2023 during the Biden administration and allowed them to

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Meat-packers so far are downplaying the effects of an immigration crackdown. JBS said in a statement that it was replacing immigrant workers who were fired after their work visas were revoked, and that it hadn't lost production capacity. MATTHEW STOCKMAN/GETTY IMAGES

The threat of higher consumer prices comes as Americans have struggled with inflation. Food prices climbed about 24% from 2020 to 2024, U.S. Department of Agriculture data shows.

KINGS MOUNTAIN

Council approves renovation plan for park

Rebecca Sitzes
Shelby Star
USA TODAY NETWORK

The city of Kings Mountain is moving forward with a park renovation project that is part of a master parks and recreation plan.

City council approved the \$509,000 renovations at Thombs walking track at Watterson Park during the Aug. 12 meeting, although not all members were on board.

Phil Dee and Tommy Hawkins voted against the project.

The contract was awarded to Gutter Guys, who had submitted the lowest bid, but it did not include an alternate fee, which made the project over budget.

Christina Martin, director of cultural enrichment, gave a presentation during

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Why retailers shouldn't discount Generation X

Betty Lin-Fisher
USA TODAY

Generation Xers have often been the discounted or forgotten generation, but a new joint report might change some marketers' minds about who they target.

Now in their peak expenditure years, Gen Xers have been leading global consumer spending since 2021, according to the report titled "The X Factor: How Generation X is quietly driving trillions in consumer spending."

"Our findings show that Gen X is the most influential consumer cohort of the next decade," Wolfgang Fengler,

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