



From setback to comeback.

No matter your orthopedic challenge, start your comeback today!

ArnotHealth
A Member of Centralus Health

Orthopedics



LEARN MORE
centralushealth.org/ortho

Removed from U.S., some monetize their new lives in Mexico

Deportees turn into influencers

A lot of the deportees' content has the draw of a classic American up-by-their-bootstraps success story, with a modern social media twist: from hardship to sponsorship. GETTY IMAGES



Lauren Villagran USA TODAY

Deported and alone, Annie Garcia landed in Mexico with \$40 in her pocket, a criminal record in the United States behind her and an unknown future ahead in a country she barely remembered.

● Fast forward to the present, to a video shared with her more than half-a-million social media followers in August. Her hair blows in the wind as she speeds on a boat through an emerald sea. She tagged the clip: #LifeAfterDeportation.

Expelled from the United States, Mexican immigrants like Garcia, 35, are documenting the aftermath of their deportation online. Their videos – raw grief over what they lost in America, surprise and gratitude for what they’ve found in Mexico – are rapidly gaining them tens of thousands of followers.

At least a dozen of these deportees-turned-influencers, Garcia included, have started over in Mexico’s west coast beach gem Puerto Vallarta.

“If there’s one thing I wish my content could embody it’s how much life there is on this side of the border,” Garcia wrote June 15 on Instagram. “Our countries aren’t what they were 20 or 30 years ago when our par-

ents left.”

Returning to an unfamiliar ‘home’

More than 70,000 Mexican nationals were deported from the United States to Mexico in the first six months of 2025, according to Mexico’s Interior Ministry.

That’s down from the more than 102,000 deported during the same six-month period in 2024, when people were being deported after crossing the border. Now, the people being deported are more likely to have built lives and families in the United States.

See DEPORTEES, Page 4A



As the U.S. immigration crackdown widens, Mexico’s President Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo has been publicly offering moral support to Mexicans facing deportation.

MANUEL VELASQUEZ/GETTY IMAGES FILE

30 NY colleges among best in US

Emily Barnes
New York Connect Team
USA TODAY NETWORK

Thirty New York schools made it on WalletHub’s recently released list of best and worst community colleges in 2025.

The personal finance company compared over 650 community colleges across 18 metrics ranging from cost of in-state tuition fees to graduation rate and New York was ranked No. 20 out of all 50 states’ community-college systems.

“A good community college minimizes costs for students while also providing an enriching learning experience that leads to high student retention and high graduation rates,” WalletHub analyst Chip Lupo says. “The best colleges also help their students even post-graduation by offering employment services to help them find jobs with good salaries.”

Only one community college in New York made it into WalletHub’s top 100: CUNY Stella and Charles Guttman Community College in Manhattan. The school received a No. 98 ranking with a total score of 63.3 and has some of the highest per-pupil spending, according to WalletHub.

Here’s which other New York community colleges made the list.

- **CUNY Queensborough Community College**, ranked No. 131 with a total score of 62.32
- **Nassau Community College**, ranked No. 138 with a total score of 62.1
- **Rockland Community College**, ranked No. 153 with a total score of 61.76
- **CUNY LaGuardia Community College**, ranked No. 173 with a total score of 61.14
- **CUNY Borough of Manhattan Community College**, ranked No. 177 with a total score of 61.07
- **Hudson Valley Community College**, ranked No. 180 with a total score of 60.96
- **Suffolk County Community College**, ranked No. 196 with a total score of 60.56

See COLLEGES, Page 4A

Property lines matter

What if my neighbor’s fence is on my land?

Michelle Grisales
Rockland/Westchester Journal News
USA TODAY NETWORK

Here in New York, property lines matter. Especially in the suburbs, where fences don’t just define where a yard ends, but often define relationships between neighbors, too. Every so often, a homeowner discovers that a fence, shed or landscaping from the next property is actually sitting on their land. And when that happens, it’s natural to ask: Can I take it down?

Can I remove my neighbor’s fence?

While it may be frustrating to see someone else’s fence on what you believe is your property, New York law doesn’t allow you to simply tear it down. Doing so could actually open you up to legal trouble, including liability for damages or even trespass depending on the situation. When a neighbor’s fence crosses on to your land, it’s considered an encroachment. Still, according to the New York Real Property Actions and Proceedings Law (RPAPL), small-scale encroachments, like fences, are generally

See FENCE, Page 4A



New York state law doesn’t allow you to tear down your neighbor’s fence, even if you believe it is encroaching on your property. Confirming your official property lines is the first step you should take, along with consulting a real estate attorney on what to do next. SEARAGEN/GETTY IMAGES

