

Alliance REVIEW

Moving Our Community Forward

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026 | THE-REVIEW.COM

2026 STARK COUNTY
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Reduced immigration slows job growth

U.S. has added just 181K positions in 2025

Ann Saphir
REUTERS

The recent drop in unauthorized immigration to the United States has slowed employment growth, particularly in construction and manufacturing, and those trends are likely to continue,

new research from the San Francisco Federal Reserve published on Feb. 17 shows.

The study looked at the rapid rise in unauthorized immigrants beginning in 2021 and the slowdown that began in March 2024, and found that local job growth grew, and then shrank, in lock-step with those immigration trends. The findings could have important implications for the job market outlook and for housing affordability.

Revisions to jobs data published last week showed the U.S. economy added only 181,000 jobs in 2025, a fraction of the 1.459 million jobs added in 2024, the final full year of former President Joe Biden's term.

Economists have linked the slowdown to the sharp drop in immigration, but this latest study helps make that link concrete by its detailed analysis of unauthorized worker inflows and the impact on local labor markets.

"On average, places experiencing the biggest slowdowns in unauthorized immigration saw the biggest slowdowns in employment growth in construction, manufacturing, and other services," wrote Fed economists Daniel Wilson and Xiaoqing Zhou.

The Trump administration has said the reduction in immigration will benefit American workers, and will help make housing more affordable by reducing demand for homes.

Foster hometown pride to grow civic engagement



Regular community events, from farmers markets to fireworks, build emotional ties to a place. GETTY IMAGES

Local patriotism one cure for sour feelings about politics

Sean Richey

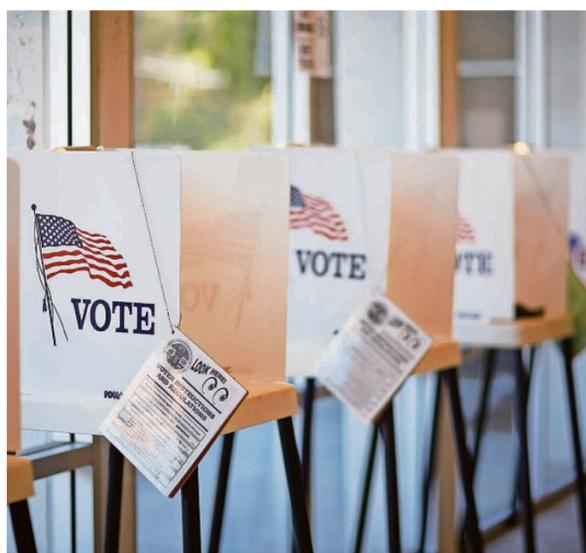
Georgia State University | THE CONVERSATION

Eileen Higgins won a historic victory in December. She became the first woman ever elected mayor of Miami, as well as its first Democratic mayor since 1997. • Although the stakes in the city's Dec. 9, runoff election were high, interest was not – 4 in 5 registered voters stayed home.

Low turnout is common in municipal elections across the country. While much of the nation's political attention stays focused on Washington, the leaders who control the nation's streets, schools and neighborhoods are typically chosen by a small fraction of citizens.

Although many Americans can identify their U.S. senators

See LOCAL PRIDE, Page 3A



Turnout in local elections regularly falls below 20%, often leaving critical decisions in the hands of small, unrepresentative groups, creating an electorate that's disproportionately White, elderly and affluent.

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Former Stark ESC attorney files federal lawsuit over loss of job

Amy L. Knapp

Massillon Independent
USA TODAY NETWORK

The former attorney for the Stark County Educational Service Center is suing the educational group alleging they wrongfully fired her last year.

Mary Jo Shannon Slick had worked as the group's general counsel for more than 28 years. Her position was eliminated by the ESC's governing board and her contract terminated on Oct. 16, 2025.

Shannon Slick, a Green resident, last month filed a federal lawsuit in U.S. District Court against the Stark County ESC, its governing board, Treasurer James Carman and Superintendent Joe Chaddock.

Shannon Slick alleges there was no justification for her losing her job and she was not given the chance to defend herself.

See ESC, Page 3A

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