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Right-Wing Media Data Impact: Jan. - Feb.

Hi team,

Welcome to my monthly update email where you'll receive a recap of right-wing media's impact on shaping the narrative on immigration. I compile the data and top immigration topics that push anti-immigrant trends online and in the news, highlighting their volume and reach to a national audience and showing us what we're up against. You'll receive these updates on a monthly basis. Feel free to contact me should you have any questions or feedback!

Best,

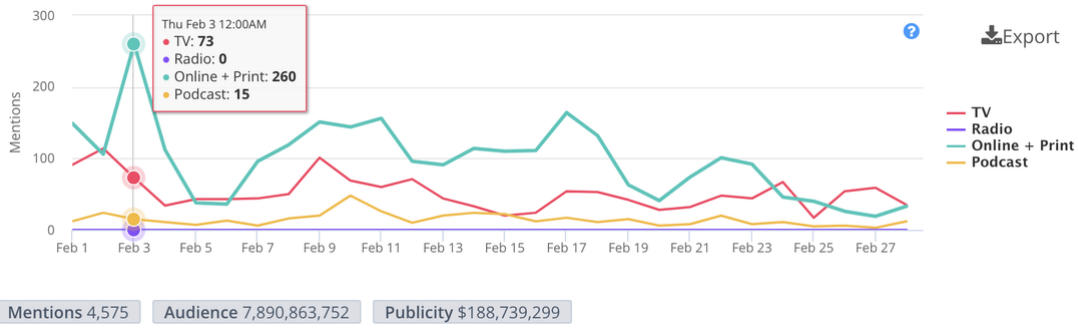
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February Summary:

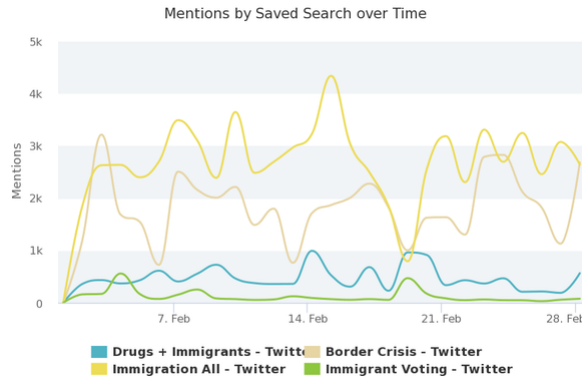
During the February 1-28 tracking period, there were more than 4 thousand negative immigration mentions across right-wing media outlets to an audience of over 7 billion people and over 140 thousand Twitter mentions. Compared to January, there was a decrease in media mentions because of the shift in media coverage on the Ukrainian conflict. There was one significant peak and two other minor spikes in media mentions.

- The first peak occurred on Feb. 3, following Kamala Harris's exclusive interview on [Telemundo](#). During the interview, Harris discusses her root causes approach to immigration and Congress's inability to pass immigration reform. Still, [Fox News](#) critiqued and blamed her for the "border crisis." Republicans echoed this message on [Twitter](#), claiming she is prioritizing "amnesty for illegal aliens."
- The next spike in mentions developed around Feb. 10-11 for two reasons. First, a widespread [Twitter campaign](#) among GOP House members to push the connection between fentanyl and the border crisis. Second, conservative media spread [misinformation](#) via [Twitter](#) and other platforms that the Biden administration would hand out "crack pipes" as part of a \$30 million public health grant package that stemmed from a [Washington Free Bacon article](#).
- On Feb. 17, the [Washington Examiner](#) and others detailed that DHS reported 153,941 migrant encounters in January, which almost doubled Jan. '21 (78,414), contributing to the third spike. Republicans used this as an opportunity to push the border crisis narrative on [Twitter](#).
- The top [Facebook post](#) is a [Fox News article](#) about Rep. Lauren Boebert's plans to introduce legislation that would ban federally-funded legal aid for "illegal immigrants." This post garnered 86,000 emoticons and over 6,000 shares, but it's important to note that the reach can go further with Facebook users, so we don't know the full magnitude.

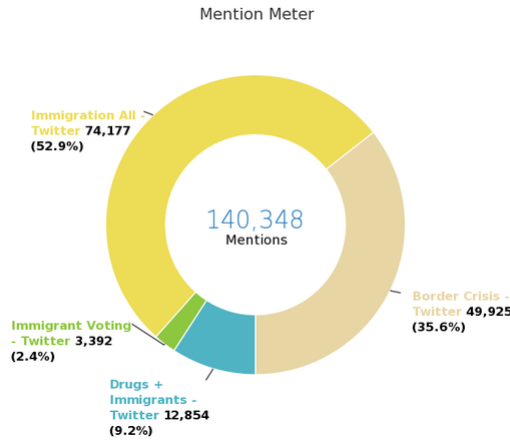
(1/1-1/31) Immigration Mentions Across Right-Wing Media



(1/16-1/31) Twitter Mentions by Saved Search over Time



(1/16-1/31) Twitter Mentions



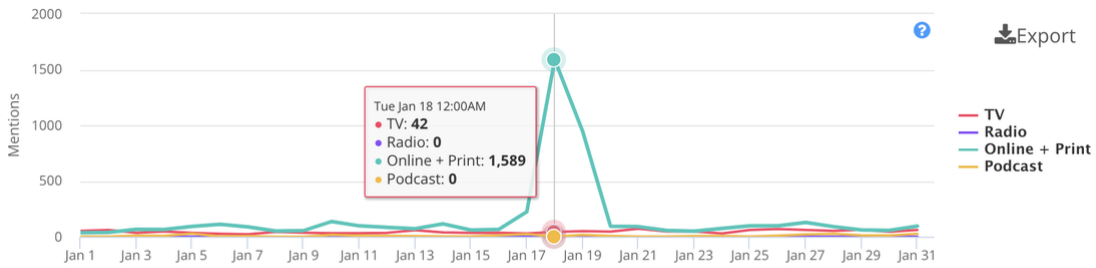
January Summary:

During the January 1-31 monitoring period, there were more than 6 thousand negative immigration mentions across right-wing media outlets to an audience of over 10 billion people and over 86 thousand Twitter mentions. Two major spikes in media mentions occurred during this monitoring period:

- The first spike was related to two articles circulated widely by the GOP on Twitter around Jan. 18-19. The first article by [The Daily Caller](#) reported that undocumented migrants have been flying using arrest warrants as an alternate form of identification when presented at the airport. The second article, by [Fox News](#), revealed that court documents showed the number of border encounters in December before their official release. [Republicans framed this](#) on Twitter as the Biden administration actively “refusing to release” the numbers to hide the “border crisis.”
- The next spike was the audience reach on Twitter on Jan. 25, when CBP data was officially released. [The Washington Times](#) reported 178,840 border encounters in December, which [Republicans](#) took to Twitter to highlight that there were nearly 2 million encounters in 2021.

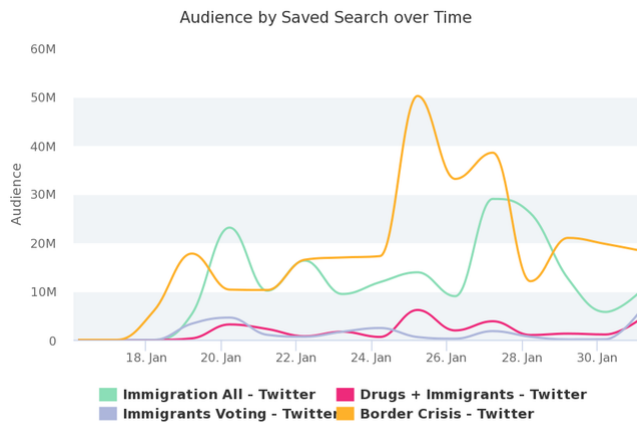
- Another notable story published by [Fox News](#), among other outlets, is regarding New York City's new law that allows legal non-citizens to vote in local elections starting in 2023. However, [Republicans](#) framed it on Twitter as "illegal immigrants are being rewarded with the right to vote."
- The top [Facebook post](#) came from Fox News, which quoted Trump speaking to supporters at a Save America Rally in Texas. This post garnered 42,000 emoticons and over 2,000 shares. Other top posts focused on [fentanyl](#) entering the border and the possibility that [Biden can face an impeachment inquiry](#), based on the administration's "failed approach" to the border.

(1/1-1/31) Immigration Mentions Across Right-Wing Media

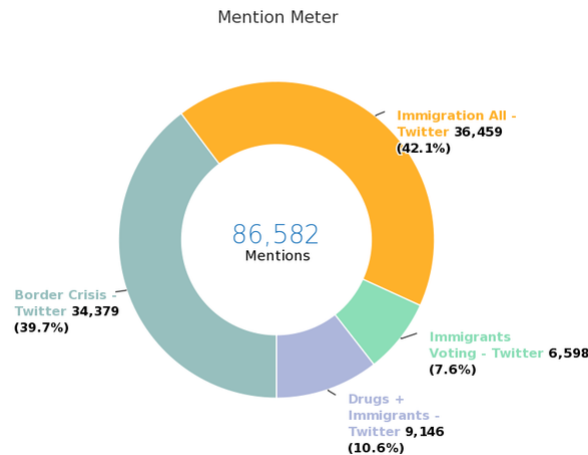


Mentions 6,656 Audience 10,562,678,347 Publicity \$235,347,151

(1/16-1/31) Twitter Mentions by Saved Search over Time



(1/16-1/31) Twitter Mentions



Sources: Critical Mention data, Feedly, Daily GOP Chatter by America's Voice, and manual research pulled from Twitter and Facebook.

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