

# IMMIGRATION HUB

## Right-Wing Media Data Impact: February, 2024

### Summary:

During the February tracking period, there were 4,918 negative immigration mentions across right-wing media outlets to an estimated audience of 19,290,219,057 people worth an estimated \$666,826,638 in publicity. There were 51,739 mentions on X (formerly known as Twitter) to an audience of 431,210,925 people.

In contrast, during the January tracking period there were 5,960 negative immigration mentions across right-wing media outlets to an estimated audience of over 27,149,001,098 people worth an estimated \$781,979,623 in publicity. There were 62,352 mentions on X to an audience of 573,958,746 people.

The majority of overall negative immigration mentions in February centered around the border, with an emphasis on Texas and the [dueling visits](#) by both President Biden and Trump, along with articles focused on the [murder](#) of Laken Riley in Athens, Georgia. There were numerous articles covering a [call](#) between Trump and Riley's parents and [support](#) from Border Patrol agents for Trump. There were also segments on Fox News by [Jesse Waters](#) and [Hannity](#) that hit Biden on his age, claiming he had to be led around due to cognitive decline during his border visit.

- The largest spike in February occurred on the 6th, when a vigilante group named the Guardian Angels led by right wing fringe figure Curtis Silwa [assaulted](#) a man live on Hannity's Fox News program due to mistaking him for a migrant due to his Spanish accent. There was also [reaction](#) by lawmakers to the failed impeachment of Alejandro Mayorkas. Senate Democrats also [blocked](#) a resolution to deem the situation at the border "an invasion."
- Another large spike occurred on February 2nd, with articles [claiming](#) that an Arizona election law may enable non-citizens to vote in the 2024 presidential election. Another series of articles claimed that Minnesota is [attempting](#) to become a 'sanctuary state' despite a possible terrorist apprehended in the state. A [video](#) of Dr. Phil visiting the southern border while criticizing Biden and Harris went viral on X.

- The second largest spike in February occurred on the 29th, due to the [dueling](#) visits to the border by both Biden and Trump. There were articles [detailing](#) a call between Trump and the parents of Laken Riley, the young woman from Georgia murdered by an immigrant from Venezuela. Texas Lt. Governor Dan Patrick [attacked](#) Biden for his handling of the border.

**Smaller spikes occurred throughout the month as right-wing media continued to fixate on the border:**

- On February 9th, Breitbart ran an [article](#) claiming that the mayor of Denver announced reduction in city services to offset costs related to migrants. Washington Examiner ran an article on Trump [predicting](#) ‘100% chance’ of a terrorist attack in ‘not-too-distant future’ due to the border crisis. The Daily Caller ran a [headline](#) regarding a “15-year-old migrant arrested after allegedly shooting tourist inn NYC
- On February 14th, Rep. Tony Gonzales, whose district in southern Texas includes hundreds of miles of the U.S. border, said during an [interview](#) that he believes Mexican drug cartels are dialing back their human smuggling operations ahead of the 2024 presidential election in an effort to help Biden. A Daily Caller [article](#) claimed that Border Patrol agents recorded more than 18,000 encounters of Chinese migrants crossing the southern border illegally in just four months.
- On February 21st, the Daily Caller ran an [article](#) claiming that Chicago residents are “blasting” city officials over the “migrant crisis”, claiming that they are being “pushed out.” Another Daily Caller article [detailed](#) how New York City Mayor Eric Adams aims to “cut funding to migrants.” In November 2023, Adams authorized city-wide budget cuts where New Yorkers would have public services eliminated because of what he claims are cost allocated to support the influx of migrants into the city. An [article](#) from Twitchy claimed that “more illegals entered under Biden than the population of 36 states.”
- On February 27th, Breitbart ran an article about the White House [snubbing](#) the Border Patrol Union President on Biden’s Border Trip, but Trump inviting him on his visit. Megyn Kelly [claimed](#) on Newsmax that “Biden’s border killed Laken Riley.”

## (2/1- 2/29) Immigration Mentions Across Right-Wing Media

