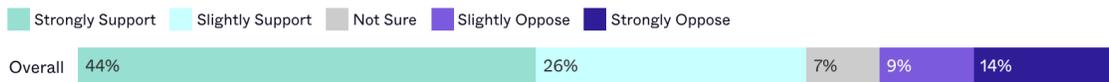


# New York Voters Overwhelmingly Support Universal Representation for Immigrants

As New York lawmakers have proposed investing \$175 million in immigration legal services in the fiscal year 2027 budget, new polling from Vera Action and YouGov shows massive support for funding immigrant legal defense, including from union households.

## 70 percent of New Yorkers support a right to representation

Do you support or oppose providing a government-funded attorney for everyone who cannot afford one in a court of law, including people in immigration court?

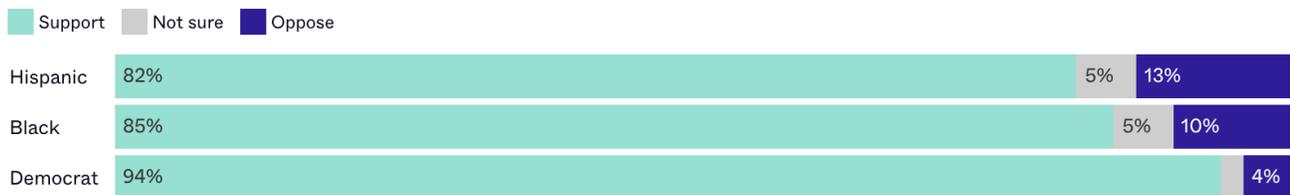


Source: March 2026 Vera Action/YouGov poll

The rapid escalation of federal enforcement and mass deportations is tearing families apart, removing workers from essential industries, and disrupting entire communities. As these pressures intensify, local leaders face a clear choice: allow this harm to continue or act decisively to protect constituents and defend fairness in the justice system. Across demographics, New Yorkers have made their position clear: they overwhelmingly support providing legal representation for immigrants.

## Support is even higher among Democrats, Black voters, and Hispanic voters

Do you support or oppose providing a government-funded attorney for everyone who cannot afford one in a court of law, including people in immigration court?



Source: March 2026 Vera Action/YouGov poll

Legal representation for immigrant workers keeps families together, workplaces stable, and unions strong. Mass deportation policies are already harming workers and industries, and many unions see legal representation as a key tool to protect their members. Correspondingly, support for universal representation is high among union households.

## Two out of every three union households in New York support universal representation

Do you support or oppose providing a government-funded attorney for everyone who cannot afford one in a court of law, including people in immigration court?



Source: March 2026 Vera Action/YouGov poll

Major labor unions—the Communications Workers of America (CWA), International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, 32BJ Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Laborers’ International Union of North America, Workers United NY/NJ Regional Joint Board, UAW Local 2325 Advocates and Attorneys, Retail,

Wholesale, Department Store Union (RWDSU/UFCW) Local 338, and the New York State Nurses Association—stand with a majority of New Yorkers in support of guaranteeing legal representation for all New Yorkers, recognizing it as essential to protecting workers’ rights, due process, and the stability of families and communities.

### **Methodology**

Sample of 1,000 voters fielded from March 6 to March 13, 2026, conducted via YouGov online panel. Margin of error: +/-3.6 percent. Sample weighted by gender, age, race/ethnicity, education, and region based on voter registration lists, United States Census data, and Pew Research Center party identification estimates. Graphs and analysis are based on Vera’s analysis of the results. Percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.