

Immigration and Human Rights in the Pandemic

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(John Moore / Getty)



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DETAINED POPULATION ¹

AS OF 06/11/2021

25,238

COVID-19 POSITIVE CASES CURRENTLY IN CUSTODY ²

UNDER ISOLATION OR MONITORING AS OF 06/15/2021

588

DETAINEES TESTED

AS OF 06/11/2021

198,866

COVID-19 CASES IN IMMIGRATION DETENTION

From <https://www.ice.gov/coronavirus>, accessed on 6/21/21.



Handout/Getty Images

WASHINGTON STATE

Northwest Detention Center

- April 2020 request for precautionary measures filed with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
- Claiming violations of rights to life, personal integrity and health

- “U.S. government should adopt the measures necessary to ensure that detention conditions comply with the applicable international standards”
- Commission calls upon US to double “its efforts in identifying *ex officio* all those who might fall under discretionary release based on medical circumstances while preventing from placing any new such persons at the NWDC”



COMMISSION
GRANTS
PRECAUTIONARY
MEASURES
IN
JULY 2020

GEORGIA

Irwin County Detention Center
and
Stewart Detention Center

- September 2020: public whistleblower complaint filed about violations at Irwin
- March 2021: complaint filed with DHS on behalf of inmates at Stewart

INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS THEMATIC HEARING REQUEST

- Filed by the Transnational Legal Clinic, University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School
- Focusing on the situation of migrants and detention centers in the United States
- Hearing request granted, will be held on Monday June 28th 9am ET before the Commission

VIOLATIONS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF MIGRANTS IN ICE CUSTODY

- Claiming violations of the right to health, right to sanitation, right to food, and right to security of person
- Arguing this is all part of a much broader story of migrant dehumanization; and
 - System is designed to be punitive and to deter immigration, which is fundamentally antithetical to human rights of migrants.