How Improvements Along the Border, In Our Immigration System and In Mexico Are Impacting the National Immigration Debate

By Simon Rosenberg, Kristian Ramos and Emma Buckhout
NPI’s 21st Century Border Initiative
Updated August 26, 2013
The Border Is Safer
Since 2002, Enforcement Budget Has Tripled

Immigration Enforcement Funding (In Billions)

2002: $6.2
2006: $12.5
2012: $18

MPI - Immigration Enforcement in the United States a Formidable Machinery
Number of “Boots on The Ground” Has Doubled

Border Patrol Agents

- 2004: 10,650
- 2008: 17,499
- 2012: 21,300

MPI - Immigration Enforcement in the United States a Formidable Machinery
And It Has Worked - Crime on U.S. Side of the Border Has Plummeted

Incidents of Violent Crime Along Border *

* Analysis comes from the 11 largest cities along the our southern border: Brownsville, TX, Calexico, CA, Chula Vista, CA, El Paso, TX, Eagle Pass, TX, Las Cruces, NM, Laredo, TX, McAllen, TX, Nogales, AZ, San Diego, CA, Tucson, AZ, Yuma, AZ,
Across the Board Success

El Paso Violent Crimes
- 2004: 3,242
- 2008: 2,825
- 2012: 2,859

Nogales Violent Crimes
- 2004: 77
- 2008: 69
- 2012: 59

San Diego Violent Crimes
- 2004: 6,744
- 2008: 6,047
- 2012: 5,529

Updated Data, FBI Crime Statistics
Two Border Cities Are Safest in US

Lowest Crime Rate Ranking for Cities of 500,000 or more Population (33 cities)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>City, State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>El Paso, TX</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Austin, TX</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>San Jose, CA</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
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<td>Portland, OR</td>
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<td>Charlotte, NC</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Seattle, WA</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>San Antonio, TX</td>
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</tbody>
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Unauthorized Immigration Flow Is Half of What It Was

Average Annual Inflow of Unauthorized Immigrants

- 1990-1994: 330,000
- 1995-1999: 300,000
- 2000-2004: 550,000
- 2005-2010: 263,333

*Based on DHS “Period of Entry of the Unauthorized Immigrant Population” Data
While Deportations Have Increased

Removals per Year

DHS “Yearbook of Immigration Statistics: 2011”
Net Flow Is Now Zero, Even Negative

*Calculations based on DHS Data*
Leading to a Drop in Total Unauthorized Population

Estimated US Unauthorized Immigrant Population (In Millions)

*Rough Estimates Calculated by Pew Hispanic Center
Flow of **Mexican** Migrants Has Plummeted

Annual Immigration From Mexico To U.S.  
(In Thousands)

Pew Hispanic Center - Net Migration from Mexico Falls to Zero—and Perhaps Less
Unauthorized **Mexican** Population in the US Is Shrinking

Estimated US Unauthorized Immigrant Population from Mexico

Pew Hispanic Center — Unauthorized Immigrant Population: National and State Trends, 2010
Net Mexico-US Migration Now at Zero

Pew Hispanic Center - Net Migration from Mexico Falls to Zero—and Perhaps Less
Tough Enforcement Provisions in Senate Bill Will Push Unauthorized Flow Even Lower

Unauthorized Immigrants Entering US Per Year

- Current Estimate: 300,000
- CBO Projection for SJC S. 744- 25% Decrease: 225,000
- CBO Projection for Passed S. 744-33% Decrease: 200,000
- CBO Projection for Passed S. 744-50% Decrease: 150,000

CBO, Pew Hispanic Center

*Since CBO did not include base numbers, estimates are based on recent rough estimate of current influx
Two of the Five “High Traffic” Corridors are Already Above 90% “Effectiveness Rates”

Of the Border Patrol’s nine southwest-border sectors, five had more than 30,000 apprehensions making them a “high traffic” corridor.

“Effectiveness rate” is calculated by dividing the percentage of apprehensions plus turn backs per year by the estimated total number of illegal entries per year.

Apprehensions per Border Patrol Agent, 1992-2012

[Graph showing the number of apprehensions per Border Patrol Agent from 1992 to 2012]
The Immigration System Is Better
Administration Has Used Its Legal Authority To Make Significant Improvements In the System

- Replaced work place raids with more targeted and effective I-9 audits
- Expanded and improved the nation's worker verification system
- Prioritized criminal migrants for deportation
- Implemented Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DREAM Youth)
- Is doing away with the 3-10 year bar, allowing more families to stay together during the legal immigration process
Administration Fought Self - Deportation Movement and Won

• In 2010 the Obama Administration Sued Arizona to stop the enforcement of Arizona’s anti-immigrant legislation SB-1070

• Arizona's SB1070, was dealt a near deathblow last year by a conservative U.S. Supreme Court.

• State Senator Russell Pearce, the political architect of SB1070, was recalled from office by a coalition led by mainstream GOP and business leaders
Mexico Is Modernizing, Growing
Mexico’s GDP Is Growing

Mexico’s GDP Projected to Overtake France, Germany, UK, Rival Japan by 2050
US Trade with Mexico Has Skyrocketed 1993-2012

*Bilateral goods and services trade reached an estimated $536 billion in 2012, a new record.

Mexico Has Become the US’s Third Largest Trading Partner

- Canada: 16.5%
- China: 15.1%
- Mexico: 12.8%
- Japan: 5.3%
- Germany: 3.8%

2012 Census - Foreign Trade Statistics
And Our Second Largest Export Market

- Canada: 23%
- Mexico: 18%
- China: 9%
- Japan: 5.1%
- Germany: 3.8%
Mexico’s Progress Is Much More Broadly Shared

Gross National Income (GNI)

- 1991: $3,250
- 1995: $3,760
- 2000: $5,010
- 2005: $7,820
- 2010: $8,930

World Bank - World Bank Development Indicators
Mexico Moving Toward Modern Developed Nation Birthrates
Flow of Mexican Migrants Has Slowed

Annual Immigration From Mexico To U.S.
(In Thousands)

Pew Hispanic Center - Net Migration from Mexico Falls to Zero—and Perhaps Less
Net Mexico-US Migration Now at Zero

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The Bottom Line

With more money, a better strategy and greater cooperation with Mexico, the Obama Administration and Congress have made our border safer, our immigration system better while also dramatically expanding legal trade and tourism with Mexico.

We have made great progress in recent years, but now need to finish the job and pass a good CIR bill – which includes a reasonable and fair path to citizenship - this year.
Thank You

www.ndn.org
www.21border.com