### U.S. Border Patrol Southwest Border Encounters FY2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USBP</th>
<th>Demographic</th>
<th>OCT</th>
<th>NOV</th>
<th>DEC</th>
<th>JAN</th>
<th>FEB</th>
<th>MAR</th>
<th>APR</th>
<th>MAY</th>
<th>JUN</th>
<th>JUL</th>
<th>AUG</th>
<th>SEPT</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southwest Border</td>
<td>Unaccompanied Alien Child</td>
<td>2,841</td>
<td>3,308</td>
<td>3,223</td>
<td>2,680</td>
<td>3,070</td>
<td>2,974</td>
<td>712</td>
<td>966</td>
<td>1,603</td>
<td>2,426</td>
<td>2,998</td>
<td>3,756</td>
<td><strong>30,557</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Family Units*</td>
<td>9,721</td>
<td>9,006</td>
<td>8,595</td>
<td>5,161</td>
<td>4,610</td>
<td>3,455</td>
<td>716</td>
<td>979</td>
<td>1,581</td>
<td>1,989</td>
<td>2,609</td>
<td>3,808</td>
<td><strong>52,230</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Single Adult</td>
<td>22,840</td>
<td>21,210</td>
<td>21,035</td>
<td>21,364</td>
<td>22,397</td>
<td>23,960</td>
<td>14,754</td>
<td>19,648</td>
<td>27,652</td>
<td>34,121</td>
<td>41,676</td>
<td>47,207</td>
<td><strong>317,864</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Southwest Border Total Apprehensions</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>35,402</td>
<td>33,524</td>
<td>32,853</td>
<td>29,205</td>
<td>30,077</td>
<td>30,389</td>
<td>16,182</td>
<td>21,593</td>
<td>30,836</td>
<td>38,536</td>
<td>47,283</td>
<td>54,771</td>
<td><strong>400,651</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Family Unit represents the number of individuals (either a child under 18 years old, parent, or legal guardian) apprehended with a family member by Border Patrol.
*The fiscal year is the accounting period for the federal government which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30.


### U.S. Border Patrol Southwest Border Encounters FY2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USBP</th>
<th>Demographic</th>
<th>OCT</th>
<th>NOV</th>
<th>DEC</th>
<th>JAN</th>
<th>FEB</th>
<th>MAR</th>
<th>APR</th>
<th>MAY</th>
<th>JUN</th>
<th>JUL</th>
<th>AUG</th>
<th>SEPT</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southwest Border</td>
<td>Unaccompanied Alien Child</td>
<td>4,690</td>
<td>4,475</td>
<td>4,852</td>
<td>5,687</td>
<td>9,269</td>
<td>18,724</td>
<td>16,910</td>
<td>13,906</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>78,513</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Family Units*</td>
<td>4,634</td>
<td>4,172</td>
<td>4,248</td>
<td>7,066</td>
<td>19,287</td>
<td>53,396</td>
<td>48,297</td>
<td>40,708</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>181,808</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Single Adult</td>
<td>59,727</td>
<td>60,518</td>
<td>62,043</td>
<td>62,560</td>
<td>69,084</td>
<td>97,084</td>
<td>108,479</td>
<td>117,397</td>
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<td><strong>636,892</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Southwest Border Total Apprehensions</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>69,051</td>
<td>69,165</td>
<td>71,143</td>
<td>75,313</td>
<td>97,640</td>
<td>169,204</td>
<td>173,886</td>
<td>172,011</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>897,213</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Family Unit represents the number of individuals (either a child under 18 years old, parent, or legal guardian) apprehended with a family member by Border Patrol.
*The fiscal year is the accounting period for the federal government which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30.

Data Source: [https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/southwest-land-border-encounters](https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/southwest-land-border-encounters)

### 2021 Title 42 Expulsions And Title 8 Apprehensions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S. Border Patrol (USBP)</th>
<th>Enforcement Actions</th>
<th>OCT</th>
<th>NOV</th>
<th>DEC</th>
<th>JAN</th>
<th>FEB</th>
<th>MAR</th>
<th>APR</th>
<th>MAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southwest Border</td>
<td>Title 42 Expulsions²</td>
<td>63,007</td>
<td>61,282</td>
<td>60,596</td>
<td>62,531</td>
<td>72,316</td>
<td>107,100</td>
<td>110,687</td>
<td>110,400</td>
<td>647,919</td>
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<td>Title 8 Apprehensions¹</td>
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<td>7,883</td>
<td>10,547</td>
<td>12,782</td>
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<td>62,999</td>
<td>61,611</td>
<td>249,294</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>69,051</td>
<td>69,165</td>
<td>71,143</td>
<td>75,313</td>
<td>97,640</td>
<td>169,204</td>
<td>173,886</td>
<td>172,011</td>
<td>897,213</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern Border</td>
<td>Title 42 Expulsions²</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>266</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Title 8 Apprehensions¹</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>27</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>73</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Border Total</td>
<td>Title 42 Expulsions²</td>
<td>63,034</td>
<td>61,348</td>
<td>60,621</td>
<td>62,547</td>
<td>72,333</td>
<td>107,132</td>
<td>110,717</td>
<td>110,453</td>
<td>648,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Title 8 Apprehensions¹</td>
<td>6,090</td>
<td>7,909</td>
<td>10,577</td>
<td>12,810</td>
<td>25,353</td>
<td>62,188</td>
<td>63,051</td>
<td>61,638</td>
<td>249,616</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>69,124</td>
<td>69,257</td>
<td>71,198</td>
<td>75,357</td>
<td>97,688</td>
<td>169,320</td>
<td>173,765</td>
<td>172,091</td>
<td>897,801</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹Title 8: Enforcement Actions refers to apprehensions or inadmissibles processed under CBP’s immigration authority. Inadmissibles refers to individuals encountered at ports of entry who are seeking lawful admission into the United States but are determined to be inadmissible, individuals presenting themselves to seek humanitarian protection under our laws, and individuals who withdraw an application for admission and return to their countries of origin within a short timeframe. Title 8 Apprehensions refers to the physical control or temporary detainment of a person who is not lawfully in the U.S. which may or may not result in an arrest.

²Title 42: Expulsions refers to individuals encountered by U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) and Office of Field Operations (OFO) and expelled to the country of last transit or home country in the interest of public health under Title 42 U.S.C. 265.


Benedictine Sisters Corporate Responsibility Coalition
More Than 1 Million Migrants Arrested At The US-Mexico Border Since October
By Priscilla Alvarez and Geneva Sands, CNN, June 29, 2021

- More than 1 million migrants have been arrested after illegally crossing the US-Mexico border since last October, according to two US Department of Homeland Security officials, surpassing the 2019 border crisis tally with three months still left in the fiscal year. Federal border officials have not yet released its June arrest numbers, but they have said encounters for the fiscal year have already hit 1 million when those are taken into account. While the number of border arrests remain
- s high, many of those apprehended are repeat crossers as a result of a pandemic-related policy. In June, more than 6,300 people on average have been encountered crossing the border every day, according to one official, citing the 21-day average.

Immigration Detention Quick Facts: 26,222 People in Immigrant Detention New Data Show
By the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse, June 2021

- The Transactional Research Access Clearinghouse (TRAC) a research organization at Syracuse University created “Quick Facts” tools to provide a user-friendly way to see the most updated data available on immigrant detention and the immigration courts. The tools include easy-to-understand data in context and provide quotable descriptions. Data on the immigration detention system provided by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) show that:
  - Immigration and Customs Enforcement held 26,222 in ICE detention according to data released on June 24, 2021.
  - 20,723 out of 26,222—or 79.0%—held in ICE detention have no criminal record, according to data released on June 24, 2021. Many more have only minor offenses, including traffic violations.
  - ICE relied on detention facilities in Texas to house the most people during FY 2021, according to data released on June 24, 2021 [Texas 4,560, Louisiana 2,187, Arizona 1,807, Georgia 1,174, and California 1,150].
  - ICE arrested 2,836 and CBP arrested 19,796 of the 22,632 people booked into detention by ICE during May 2021.
  - South Texas ICE Processing Center in Pearsall, Texas held the largest number of ICE detainees so far in FY 2021, averaging 751 per day (as of June 2021).
  - ICE Alternatives to Detention (ATD) programs are currently monitoring 103,933 families and single individuals, according to data released on June 24, 2021.
- For more information, visit TRAC’s Quick Facts tools: https://trac.syr.edu/immigration/quickfacts/

LATEST NEWS

Parents Of 368 Migrant Children Separated At Border Under Trump Have Still Not Been Found, Court Filing Says
By Priscilla Alvarez, CNN, June 30, 2021

- Attorneys are still trying to reach the parents of 368 migrant children who had been separated at the US-Mexico border under the Trump administration, down from 391 last month, according to a federal court filing Wednesday [June 30]. The filing from the Justice Department and the American Civil Liberties Union is part of an ongoing effort to identify and reunite families three years after the “zero tolerance” policy was created. Since May, the parents of 23 of those children whose whereabouts were previously unknown have been found, according to Wednesday's [June 30] filing. Under then-President Donald Trump's “zero tolerance” immigration policy, border officials separated at least 2,800 children from their parents, according to government data. Officials later found that more than 1,000 children had been separated from their families before Trump's policy went into effect in 2018. The latest court filing is specific to those families separated under the Trump administration.

U.S. Closing 6 Makeshift Housing Sites For Unaccompanied Migrant Children
By Camilo Montoya-Galvez, CBS News, June 30, 2021

- Starting June 30, the administration is set to begin closing six emergency housing facilities that were used to accommodate a record number of unaccompanied children who entered the U.S. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) plans to officially discontinue emergency housing sites at Lackland Airforce Base in the San Antonio area and a former camp for oil workers in Midland, Texas, on June 30. Two other makeshift shelters in Carrizo Springs and Donna, Texas, are scheduled to close on July 19. Convention centers in San Diego and Long Beach, California, are slated to stop housing unaccompanied children on July 15 and August 2, respectively. HHS said it would keep four emergency facilities open for the time being. They include a former work camp in Pecos, Texas; a facility for young children in Albion, Michigan; a site in Pomona, California; and a tent camp inside the Fort Bliss U.S. Army base that can accommodate up to 10,000 minors. As of June 29, there were 14,400 unaccompanied minors in HHS care.
Supreme Court Rules Noncitizens Who Re-Enter U.S. Illegally Must Be Held
By Jess Bravin, Wall Street Journal, June 29, 2021
- The Supreme Court ruled Tuesday [June 29] that deported noncitizens who re-enter the U.S. illegally and claim asylum must remain in custody while their cases are processed. Normally, noncitizens seeking asylum are entitled to bail hearings where they can seek release if an immigration judge finds they meet certain conditions. But “aliens who re-entered the country illegally after removal have demonstrated a willingness to violate the terms of a removal order,” Justice Samuel Alito wrote for the court.

Backlog At U.S. Immigration Courts Getting Worse, New Research Finds
By Sandra Sanchez, Border Report, June 15, 2021
- The number of backlogged immigration cases is rising each month with far more new cases added than completed, according to new data by Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC). The nonprofit research organization, part of Syracuse University, reports that 126,911 new immigration court cases were added so far in fiscal 2021, but only 68,260 cases have been completed. According to our most recent data, the immigration courts received 126,911 new cases so far in FY 2021, but were only able to complete 68,260 during this same period. The total number of backlogged immigration cases is now 1,337,372, the most ever. New data also shows that most of the pending immigration cases are in Texas, which has 213,254 cases.

Analysis: Biden Kept A Trump-Era Border Policy In Place - That Was A Mistake, Allies Say
By Ted Hesson, Reuters, July 7, 2021
- The so-called Title 42 order has allowed U.S. officials to immediately expel migrants who cross the border illegally. The Biden administration is now aiming to exempt families from the policy at the end of July after defending it for months as necessary to help stop the spread of COVID-19 across the southern border. Human rights groups and migration advocates have cheered the potential move, but some say the president made a costly mistake in keeping it in place for so long. They argue that it has done little to deter hundreds of thousands of migrants, nor has it insulated him from attacks that his policies have fueled a spike in migration from Central America.
- News Article Source: https://www.reuters.com/world/us/biden-kept-trump-era-border-policy-place-that-was-mistake-allies-say-2021-07-07/

Nonprofits Helping To Locate Migrants Whose MPP Cases Could Get A 2nd Chance
By Sandra Sanchez, Border Report, Jun 29, 2021
- Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley, and the Sidewalk School for Asylum Seekers, are among non-governmental migrant advocacy organizations that are helping to spread the word on how families with terminated asylum cases through the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP) program might have a second chance. The Department of Homeland Security announced that it “will expand the pool of MPP-enrolled individuals who are eligible for processing into the United States.” Since MPP was started in early 2019, over 68,000 migrants were placed in the program and forced to wait in Mexico during their U.S. asylum proceedings. Over 27,800 cases ended in absentia removal orders and 6,686 have ended with termination. Over 16,000 migrants are still waiting in Mexico for their cases to be transferred or resolved, according to TRAC data.

Biden Admin Again Flying Migrants Who Cross Border In One Place To Another Place Before Expelling Them
By Julia Ainsley, NBC News, June 18, 2021
- The Biden administration is restarting what are known as “lateral flights,” in which migrants crossing into the U.S. from Mexico in one area are transported to another part of the border and often sent back into Mexico from there. Immigrants could be flown from the Rio Grande Valley or Del Rio, Texas, sectors into El Paso, for example, and then sent back across the border from there. Del Rio is 372 miles by air from El Paso. For now, the government will only be placing single adult migrants on lateral flights, according to the two immigrant advocacy groups, which say the government had previously been transporting whole families.
Biden Administration Expands Program Allowing Legal Immigration For Central American Minors
By Michelle Hackman, Wall Street Journal, June 15, 2021

- The Biden administration said it is expanding a program called The Central American Minors program, designed to let children and teenagers from Central America come to the U.S. legally. Former President Donald Trump terminated the program in 2017. President Biden restarted it March 10. Under the original program, Central American minors would be eligible to come to the U.S. if they had one parent living legally in the country—either as a permanent resident or a person covered by a program offering temporary protection from deportation. Before the program was terminated, 1,450 children entered the U.S. under humanitarian parole, and another 2,700 had been conditionally approved, according to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

News Article Source: https://www.wsj.com/articles/biden-administration-expands-program-allowing-legal-immigration-for-central-american-minors-11623785832

DETENTION CENTERS

The Number Of Immigrants Jailed By ICE Has Ballooned Under Biden This Year
By Hamed Aleaziz, BuzzFeed News, June 29, 2021

- The number of immigrants detained by ICE has grown significantly under the Biden administration, including those who have passed their initial asylum screenings, according to an analysis of government data by BuzzFeed News. The number of immigrants held in private prisons and local jails that sat partially empty during the pandemic has risen from 14,000 early this year to nearly 27,000 in June as key White House officials, including Vice President Kamala Harris, have publicly discouraged people from trying to cross the border. But within the administration, there is disagreement over whether ICE should be detaining people at the rate it has been. So far, the numbers are far below the peak ICE detention levels under former president Trump, which at one point was more than 55,000 immigrants.

News Article Source: https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/hamedaleaziz/ice-detainee-numbers-increasing-biden

BORDER WALL

Texas Border Wall Project Receives Over $450K In Donations, A Week After Gov. Greg Abbott Announced Plans
By Reese Oxner, Texas Tribune, June 23, 2021

- Over the span of about a week, Texas received $459,000 in private donations for the state’s planned wall at the southern border, the governor’s office said Wednesday [June 23]. This comes after Gov. Greg Abbott said he would reallocate $250 million in state funds as a “down payment” for the project — while crowdfunding some of the remaining costs. Abbott has not given an estimate of the project’s total costs or details of how long the wall will be or where it will be located but said he expected it to be “hundreds of miles” long. He directed the Texas Facilities Commission to hire a program manager who will lead efforts to determine those factors. Portions of the existing wall in Texas cost $26.5 million per mile to construct, federal lawmakers have said. The Biden administration has said building the wall cost taxpayers $46 million per mile in some areas along the border.

News Article Source: https://www.texastribune.org/2021/06/23/texas-border-wall-donations/

REPORTS

Written by Taylor Koehler, Esq., CVT Public Policy Fellow, The Center for Victims of Torture, 2021

- On the eve of International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, the Center for Victims of Torture (CVT) has published a new backgrounder titled “Arbitrary & Cruel: How U.S. Immigration Detention Violates the Convention against Torture and Other International Obligations.” The backgrounder illustrates how the dehumanizing and cruel policies and practices in the immigration detention system lead to violations of the Convention against Torture, and makes the case that the system must be eliminated for the United States to comply with international law. Author of the report, Taylor Koehler, Esq., CVT public policy fellow, undertook extensive research to evaluate the links among arbitrary detention and violations of the prohibition against torture within the U.S. immigration detention system. The backgrounder ultimately concludes both that the system is arbitrary and that U.S. immigration detention systematically exposes detained migrants to violations of the prohibition on torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment.

To download the report, go to: https://www.cvt.org/sites/default/files/attachments/u93/downloads/arbitrary_and_cruel_d5_final.pdf

Benedictine Sisters Corporate Responsibility Coalition
DEVELOPING STORIES

U.S. Says Order Coming This Week On Border Asylum Restrictions
By Jake Bleiberg and Elliot Spagat, Associated Press, July 13, 2021

- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will issue an order this week (July 13-18) about how migrant children are treated under a public health order that has prevented people from seeking asylum at the nation’s borders, a Justice Department attorney said Tuesday [July 13]. The comment by Assistant U.S. Attorney Brian Stoltz at a court hearing in Fort Worth, Texas, comes as the Biden administration faces pressure from pro-immigration allies to lift the last major Trump-era restrictions on asylum at the border. Stoltz told a federal judge that the CDC will release “a new order on the subject of the children” by the end of the week. It will revise a Biden administration policy announced in February that exempts children crossing alone from the ban on asylum. Stoltz did not offer additional details on the changes during a hearing on a lawsuit that Texas brought to compel enforcement of the public health order that former President Donald Trump’s administration used to quickly expel people from the country during the coronavirus pandemic. The CDC, in a three-paragraph order signed by its director, Dr. Rochelle Walensky, on Feb. 11, exempted unaccompanied children from being expelled to Mexico until “a forthcoming public health reassessment,” which has yet to be published. Texas argues in its lawsuit that the administration’s justification was insufficient. While the [Biden] administration has exempted unaccompanied children, some families and nearly all adults traveling alone are expelled from the United States — often to Mexico within two hours — without a chance to seek asylum.

- News Article Source: https://apnews.com/article/health-government-and-politics-immigration-coronavirus-pandemic-89e58e676c6860c3632f6b87e691e3f2

Final Destination: For Many Of The World’s Refugees, Mexico Is Their New Home
By Albinson Linares, Noticias Telemundo, July 13, 2021

- In recent years, Mexico has ceased to be a transitory country for people heading to the United States, increasingly becoming the final destination of an important migratory flow. Between 2014 and 2019, the number of asylum applications registered in the country increased from 2,137 to 70,418 — an increase of more than 3,000 percent, according to the Mexican Commission for Refugee Assistance, or COMAR. In 2013, Mexico registered only 1,296 applications for asylum. Four years later, the number was 14,419, and by 2019, the government had received over 70,000 requests. The total figure for 2021 is projected to be between 90,000 and 100,000 asylum applications. Due to its size and economic opportunities, Mexico has been able to handle the migratory flow driven by the successive crises in Central American countries, according to Andrés Ramírez Silva, who heads COMAR. As part of Mexico’s asylum process, a person must remain in the state where the application is made during the time the process lasts, which, in normal times, should range between 45 and 90 business days. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, COMAR announced in March 2020 that it was suspending the deadlines for these processes. This has generated multiple complaints from migrants who are trapped in places where they cannot work, in large part because they lack adequate documentation. Based on COMAR data, experts point out that from Jan. 1, 2018, to Oct. 25, 2019, there were 90,397 applications for refugee status, and 70.6 percent (63,860) were awaiting resolution. Of that figure, “6,230 people had been waiting for more than a year,” the document stated.


Mexican Adults Are Crossing The Border Again And Again In Attemps To Reach The United States
By Kate Morrissey, The San Diego Tribune Union, July 11, 2021

- Through May of fiscal 2021, about 40 percent of apprehensions along the U.S.-Mexico border were of Mexican adults. Along the California border, their share of apprehensions was even higher, at 80 percent. Nearly everyone interviewed by the San Diego Union-Tribune shortly after being expelled to Tijuana said that they had tried crossing the border three or more times in recent weeks in hopes of getting in. Part of the reason that border crossers are able to try so many times is Title 42, the policy that the Trump administration put in place at the beginning of the pandemic and that the Biden administration has maintained. It gives border officials the power to immediately expel people they apprehend back to Mexico or to their countries of origin. For border crossers who aren’t trying to request asylum, the policy removes some of the consequences they would have otherwise faced for crossing multiple times. Illegal reentry is a federal felony and can come with up to two years in federal prison — or a decade or more if the individual has certain criminal history. Under Title 42, rather than refer repeat crossers for prosecution, agents are generally sending them back again and again and again.


Benedictine Sisters Corporate Responsibility Coalition
The Trump Administration Used An Early, Unreported Program To Separate Migrant Families Along A Remote Stretch Of The Border

By Kevin Sieff, The Washington Post, July 9, 2021

- The Trump administration began separating migrant families along a remote stretch of the U.S.-Mexico border months earlier than has been previously reported — part of a little known program coming into view only now as the Biden administration examines government data. In May 2017, Border Patrol agents in Yuma, Ariz., began implementing a program known as the Criminal Consequence Initiative, which allowed for the prosecution of first-time border crossers, including parents who entered the United States with their children and were separated from them. From July 1 to Dec. 31, 2017, 234 families were separated in Yuma, according to newly released data from the Department of Homeland Security, almost exactly the same number as were separated in a now well known pilot program in El Paso that year. Because the Yuma program began in May, and the existing data on family separations begins only in July, the number of separations there was likely higher than 234, a prospect the Biden administration is now investigating. Some of the parents separated under the Yuma program still remain apart from their children four years later. Others are missing — lawyers and advocates have been unable to locate them since they were deported alone. The children separated in Yuma in 2017 were as young as 10 months old, according to government data. More than 5,600 families were separated between mid-2017 and mid-2018, according to the Department of Homeland Security.


ICE To Avoid Detaining Pregnant, Nursing And Postpartum Women

By Maria Sacchetti, The Washington Post, July 9, 2021

- U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement will no longer detain most pregnant, nursing and postpartum women for deportation, reversing a Trump-era rule that permitted officials to jail thousands of immigrants in those circumstances, according to a new policy released Friday [July 9]. ICE’s new policy is even more expansive than it was during the Obama era, when President Biden was vice president. The Obama administration generally exempted pregnant women from immigration detention, but the Biden administration is also including women who gave birth within the prior year and those who are nursing, which could last longer than a year. Pregnant and postpartum women may still be detained in “very limited circumstances,” the policy said, when the woman “poses an imminent risk of death, violence, or physical harm” or is a national security concern. A field office director must approve the arrest and detention and ensure that the women receive medical care. The policy revokes a 2017 Trump administration directive that “ended the presumption of release for all pregnant detainees.” Thirteen pregnant women were in ICE custody as of Thursday [July 8], and they are being considered for release under the new policy, officials said.

News Article Source: https://www.washingtonpost.com/immigration/ice-pregnant-immigrants/2021/07/09/882be75a-e000-11eb-9f54-7eee10b5fc2d_story.html

Before COVID-19, More Mexicans Came To The U.S. Than Left For Mexico For The First Time In Years

By Ana Gonzalez-Barrera, Pew Research Center, July 9, 2021

- More Mexican migrants came to the United States than left the U.S. for Mexico between 2013 and 2018 – a reversal of the trend in much of the prior decade, according to a new Pew Research Center analysis of the most recently available data capturing migration flows from both countries. An estimated 870,000 Mexican migrants came to the U.S. between 2013 and 2018, while an estimated 710,000 left the U.S. for Mexico during that period. That translates to net migration of about 160,000 people from Mexico to the U.S., according to government data from both countries.

To read the report, visit: https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2021/07/09/before-covid-19-more-mexicans-came-to-the-u-s-than-left-for-mexico-for-the-first-time-in-years/

States Plan To Deploy National Guard, Police To US-Mexico Border

By Aline Barros, VOA News, July 8, 2021

- In recent weeks, states including Arkansas, Florida, Iowa, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin have announced plans to deploy National Guard troops or law enforcement personnel along the southern border. The role those units can play and the duties they perform remains to be seen and could be a point of contention. Legal experts told VOA the authority to enforce U.S. immigration law is “almost exclusive” to the federal government but is not a military matter. “Federal law is really clear that members of the military cannot engage in law enforcement activities of any kind within the United States territory,’ said César Cuauhtémoc García Hernández, a professor at the Mortiz College of Law at Ohio State University, in a VOA interview.


Benedictine Sisters Corporate Responsibility Coalition
Problems Ignored, Complaints Discouraged At Fort Bliss Migrant Children’s Camp
By Julian Resendiz, Border Report, July 7, 2021

- Minors ages 13 to 17 being woken up with a bullhorn siren. A volunteer being told she could not take to the doctor a girl bleeding profusely. Beddings going unchanged for weeks in cots where thousands of children slept. When two volunteers tried to express their concerns over conditions they witnessed at the Department of Health and Human Services’ Emergency Intake Site at Fort Bliss, they say they were discouraged from filing reports. The Government Accountability Project on Wednesday [July 7] forwarded their testimonies to Congress, the Office of the Inspector General and the U.S. Office of the Special Counsel in hopes of spurring an inquiry into a facility that immigrant rights advocates in El Paso say should be shut down. The volunteers said they served at the Fort Bliss EIS in May and June. The whistleblowers said a large number of closely spaced bunk beds made line-of-sight supervision of migrant children impossible. This was a problem because a large number of migrant children were suffering from trauma, anxiety and depression. The volunteers learned some of the children were victims of sexual assaults and other crimes during their journey from Central America or watched others die along the way. Clean bedding and clothes were not regularly provided, and the children complained about not having clean socks or underwear. In the girls’ tent, the minors waited to shower until the day they were provided clean underwear, the volunteers said. According to figures HHS released on Wednesday [July 7], as of Tuesday [July 6], 14,852 children were in the care of HHS, while 966 were in the care of U.S. Customs and Border Protection.


As Migrants Arrive From More Nations, Their Paths To U.S. Border Diverge, New Data Show
By Nick Miroff, The Washington Post, July 6, 2021

- From South America, the Caribbean, Asia and beyond tens of thousands of migrants bound for the United States have been arriving to Mexico each month. Then their paths to the U.S. border begin to diverge. Brazilians mostly head for Yuma, Ariz. Of the 7,366 Brazilian nationals taken into custody by U.S. agents along the border in May, 63 percent crossed into the Yuma area, the latest government figures show. The majority of Venezuelans enter the United States near Del Rio, Tex. In May, 74 percent of the 7,371 Venezuelans who crossed the border arrived there. Ecuadorans go to El Paso. Cubans use Yuma and Del Rio. Haitians head for Del Rio and El Paso. And the Rio Grande Valley, the Border Patrol’s busiest sector, remains the prime entry point for Central American families with children under 7. These forking routes are part of a migration pattern that U.S. officials say they have never seen to this degree.


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