



Ranking Member John Katko

BORDER CRISIS STARTLING STATS

“...The border presents significant security issues. There’s a wide array of criminal threats that we encounter down at the border.” - [FBI Director Christopher Wray, August 4, 2022](#)

Despite a record number of illegal border crossings, including encounters with known or suspected terrorists, President Biden, “Border Czar” Vice President Kamala Harris, and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) continue to strip U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) of critical tools that have proven to help manage the staggering number of migrants crossing our borders.

Now that an unprecedented total of 66 people whose names appear on the terror watch list were stopped trying to cross the U.S.-Mexico border between ports of entry in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, it’s clear that the administration has no plan to address the very real national security threat at the Southwest border.

JULY 2022
ENCOUNTERS
199,976

JULY 2021
ENCOUNTERS
213,593

JULY 2020
ENCOUNTERS
40,929

- July was the **17th straight month with more than 150,000 encounters** – a trend never before recorded.
- CBP had **199,976 migrant encounters** along the Southwest border in July 2022, including 134,362 single adults, 52,040 family units, and 13,299 unaccompanied minors.
 - **80%** total migrant encounter increase compared to July 2020.
 - **About 7 in 10 migrants** encountered at the Southwest border were single adults.
- Since President Biden has been in office, there have been nearly **3.4 million migrant encounters** at the Southwest border, in addition to over **900,000 known gotaways** who evaded U.S. Border Patrol agents.
- Ten months into FY 2022, CBP has already had a **total of 2,242,413 nationwide encounters**.
- CBP expelled only **37% of individuals under Title 42** in July 2022, again highlighting the Biden administration’s refusal to fully utilize the public health authority.
 - Border Patrol agents are being left to manage an impossible situation – the few tools that they had at their disposal to help, such as “Remain in Mexico” and Title 42, were ripped away.
- As July 31st, **66 people** whose names appear on the Terrorist Screening Dataset (TSDS) were stopped trying to cross the U.S.-Mexico border between ports of entry this fiscal year.
 - This is more than double than the last 5 years combined.

FY 2021 TSDS
15

FY 2020 TSDS
3

FY 2019 TSDS
0

**These numbers refer to U.S. Border Patrol TSDS Encounters Between Ports of Entry of Non-U.S. Citizens at the Southwest Border.*



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“The Border Presents a Significant Security Risk”

- In the first 4 days of July, **Border Patrol agents in the Rio Grande Valley Sector arrested five gang members and a sex offender.**
 - Including three MS-13 members, and an 18th street gang member from El Salvador interdicted by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) at Harlingen airport who had served 12 years for aggravated robbery.
- During the first week of July, Border Patrol agents in the Del Rio Sector **arrested a convicted rapist from Guatemala in Brackettville, Texas.**
 - **Hector Portillo-Soto** was convicted of rape in Louisiana in 2019, sentenced to three years in prison, and was deported in February.
- In FY 2022, CBP has already arrested **23,264 individuals attempting to cross the border with criminal convictions** and **627 known gang members**, including **256 members of MS-13.**

Biden: Making the Cartels & Traffickers Richer Since January 2021

- The Biden administration’s policies act as a significant pull factor for the record-breaking number of migrants encountered at the Southwest border and provide an opportunity for cartels, traffickers, and human smugglers to profit from the resulting chaos.
- In July 2022, **CBP seized 51,802 pounds of drugs.**
 - Heroin seizures **increased by 8%** from June 2022 to July 2022.
- Fentanyl seizures **increased by 203%** from June 2022 to July 2022.
 - **Over 2,100 pounds of fentanyl was seized last month—the highest monthly seizure in at least the last four fiscal years.**
- CBP has seized enough fentanyl so far this fiscal year to kill almost 2.4 billion people, **over seven times the U.S. population.**
- In the first week of July, Mexican authorities announced the **largest fentanyl seizure in history with over 1,197 pounds of the lethal drug** found in a warehouse in Culiacan, Mexico.
 - The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) says **one kilogram of fentanyl has the potential to kill 500,000 people.**
- **Border Patrol conducted two separate fentanyl busts at the port of entry in Nogales, Arizona.**
- More than 40,000 fentanyl pills were found in a vehicle’s modified battery, and more than 100,00 pills were found stashed in a woman’s body shaping garment.

States Are Being Forced to Take Control

- It is the responsibility of the federal government to secure our nation’s sovereign borders. However, under the Biden administration, states like Texas and Arizona, have had to take matters into their own hands to keep their citizens safe.
 - For the last several months, the Texas National Guard has been combining land and maritime assets and tactics to quickly interdict illegal immigrants and transnational criminals at the Texas-Mexico border.
 - Arizona is no longer waiting for the Biden administration to secure its border and **is moving forward with building its own border wall.**