BORDER BRIEF

U.S. HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

CHAIRMAN ANDREW GARBARINO | SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MICHAEL GUEST

State of the Border: One Year of Unprecedented Security

JAN. FY2026 NATIONWIDE ENCOUNTERS	JAN. FY2025 NATIONWIDE ENCOUNTERS	JAN. FY2024 NATIONWIDE ENCOUNTERS
34,626	81,479	242,530

- **U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) nationwide border encounters in January 2026 decreased 85% compared to January 2024 under the Biden administration,** which was the worst January on record. CBP recorded just **9,726 Southwest border encounters in January, the third lowest month on recent record and 94 percent below January 2024 under the Biden administration.**
- In the first year of President Trump's second term, **CBP recorded roughly 344,000 encounters nationwide from February 2025-January 2026. This marks an 83.9% drop compared to the final year of the Biden administration, in which CBP recorded 2.1 million encounters from February 2024-January 2025.**
- **Border Patrol apprehensions** between ports of entry at the Southwest border in January 2026 (6,070) **decreased 95% compared to January 2023 (129,513) and 2024 (124,215).**
- **For comparison, there were more Border Patrol apprehensions at just the Southwest border from October 2023 through January 2024 (753,810) under the Biden administration than there were at all our borders in the entirety of 2025 (127,539) under President Trump.**
- According to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), USBP agents **apprehended an average of 196 inadmissible aliens per day along the Southwest border in January, 96 percent lower** than the daily average under the Biden administration.
- CBP encounters of inadmissible aliens **at the northern border (4,261) dropped over 73% in January 2026 compared to the highest January on record** in 2024, which had 15,916 encounters.
- In January 2026, for the ninth month in a row, there **were zero inadmissible aliens paroled by Border Patrol** into our communities. **For comparison, the Biden administration paroled 7,041 inadmissible aliens** in December 2024.
- **CBP seized 785 pounds of fentanyl at our borders nationwide in January. Overall, narcotic seizures increased 15% from December 2025.** Cocaine seizures increased by 7%, methamphetamine seizures increased by 35%, and marijuana seizures increased by 76% from January 2025.
- **In January, the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) seized approximately 17,750 pounds of cocaine, worth more than $133.5 million, over the course of four interdictions in the Eastern Pacific.**
- Even as the state of the border remains strong, **Senate Democrats are continuing to block crucial funding for DHS** and pay for many of its frontline personnel, causing **the second shutdown for the agency in six months, which has now stretched to double digits.**
- **While the One Big Beautiful Bill Act is helping CBP continue part of its core mission during the shutdown,** CBP, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) **testified this month that interagency coordination will be harmed during the lapse in funding.**

Nationwide U.S. Customs and Border Protection Encounters in January

