

Mission for Migrants
April 1, 2014
Immigration Enforcement

- Over the past eight years, the budget for the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency has increased 94 percent, to nearly \$12 billion. The number of Border Patrol agents has tripled over the past twenty years, to over 21,000 agents today. (*Source: Department of Homeland Security*)
- The Department of Homeland Security spends about \$18 billion a year, outspending all of the other federal enforcement agencies combined---the FBI, DEA, ATF, Secret Service, and U.S. Marshall service. The U.S. Border Patrol budget has increased tenfold since 1993, from \$363 million to \$3.5 billion. (*Source: Office of Management and Budget*)
- According to Border Patrol estimates, more than 6,000 migrants have died attempting to cross the U.S.-Mexico border over the past 15 years. Thousands more, according to border groups, have died and not been included in Border Patrol records. (*Source: U.S. Border Patrol*)
- Over the past five years, close to 2 million persons have been deported, an average of over 400,000 per year. 100,000 per year are part of families with at least one U.S.-citizen, most likely a child. 5,000 children are reported in foster care as a result of a parent being deported. (*Source: Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency, Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Council*)
- Despite spending \$187 billion on immigration enforcement since the last legalization program in 1986, the undocumented population has tripled to 11-12 million today. (*Source: INS and DHS budgets, U.S. Census Bureau*)
- As of February, 2014, almost 700 miles of pedestrian and vehicle fencing has been completed along the U.S.-Mexico border. (*Source: Department of Homeland Security*)
- According to the Congressional Research Service, 208,939 unauthorized immigrants were prosecuted as criminals under Operation Streamline from 2005 to the end of FY 2012. They are sentenced in “group” trials that provide apprehended immigrants few legal rights. (*Source: Congressional Research Service*)
- The bed mandate of 34,000 persons per day passed by Congress in 2011 costs \$2 billion per year. Since 2005, the number of detention beds has surged 84 percent. In FY 2011, DHS incarcerated 429,000 persons at the cost of \$166 per person per day. Community-based alternatives to detention cost, on average, about \$22 a day. (*Source: Congressional Research Service*)
- In FY 2013, DHS detained 477,523 persons, a record. Two-thirds of the detention centers are operated by for-profit prison companies. Since 2003, about 2.5 million immigrants have been detained in the U.S. detention system. (*Source: Department of Homeland Security*)