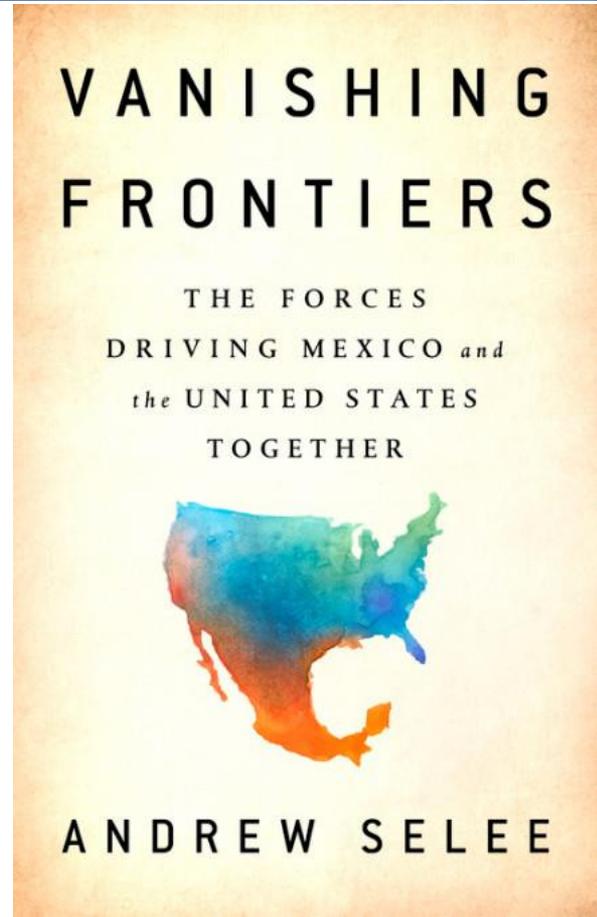
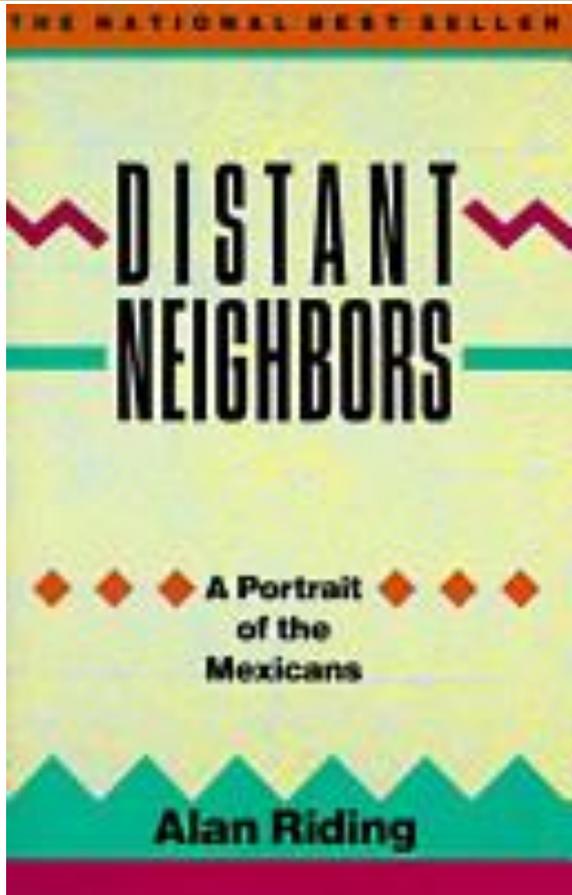


*The United States
and Mexico:
Partnership tested*

Dr. Maggie Commins
Senior Scholars
April 12, 2019





Understanding the U.S.- Mexican “partnership” in four dimensions:

Historical/Geographical

Economics

Security

Social

To keep in mind

- Geography is destiny
- Domestic politics drive decisions about bilateral relations in both countries



Historical/ Geographical



“Poor Mexico. So far from God and so close to the United States.”

- Porfirio Diaz



CHANGES TO THE UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER FROM 1835 TO 1848



1820 - Spain opens the northeastern region of Mexico (later the Mexican state of Coahuila and Texas) to Anglo-American settlement.

1821 - Mexico wins its independence from Spain.

1830 - Wary of the swelling influx of immigrants from the United States, the Mexican government legislates against further settlement in Coahuila and Texas by Anglo-Americans.

October 1835 to April 1836 - Texas Revolution

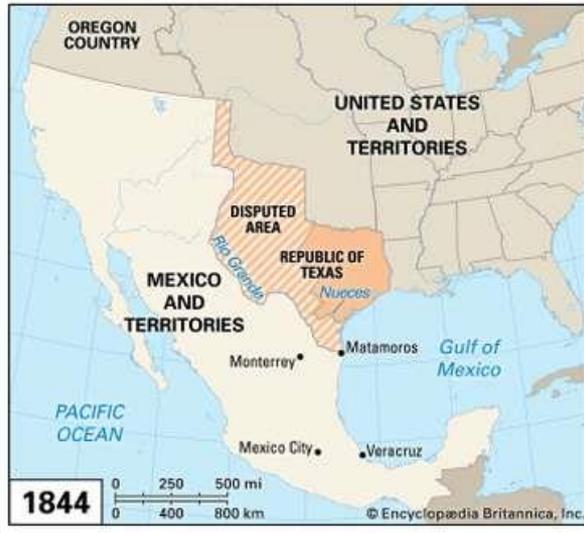
May 14, 1836 - Republic of Texas recognized by Mexico in the Treaty of Velasco.

1845 - United States annexes Texas.

January 1846 - U.S. troops commanded by Gen. Zachary Taylor cross the Nueces River (considered the border by Mexico) and advance to the Rio Grande (considered the border by the United States).

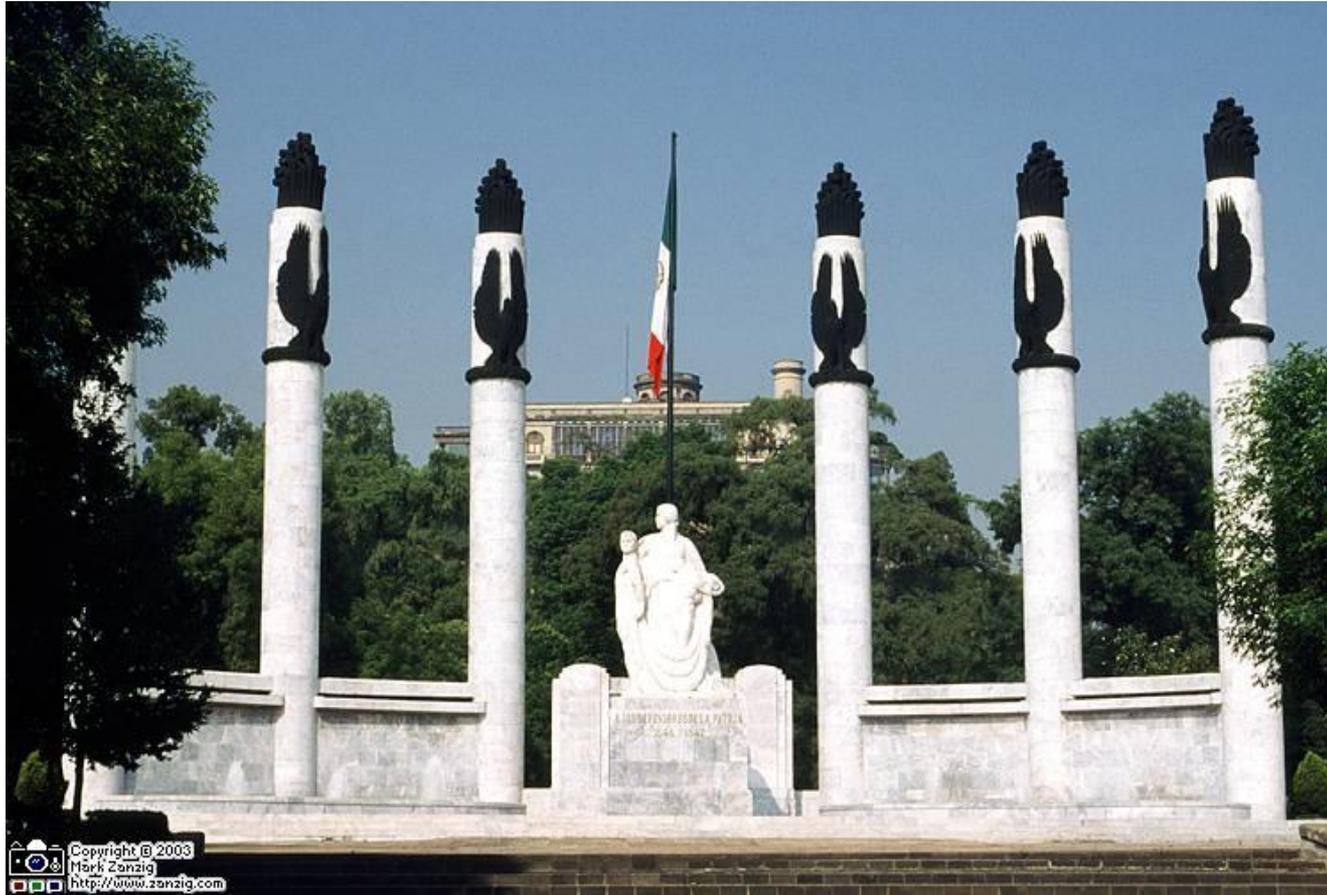
April 1846 to February 1848 - Mexican-American War

February 2, 1848 - Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo signed. Mexico cedes to the United States nearly all the territory now included in the states of New Mexico, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, California, Texas, and western Colorado for \$15 million.



“Los niños heroes” Chapultepec Park,

Mexico City



- Almost 2000 miles long
- 4 U.S. states
- 6 Mexican states
- 48 border crossings
- Over 15 million people



MEXICO

Tijuana

US

**California,
near San Diego**



Mauricio Lima for the *New York Times*
<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/09/world/americas/tijuana-mexico-border-wall-migrant-caravan.html>



Mauricio Lima for the *New York Times*
(<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/09/world/americas/tijuana-mexico-border-wall-migrant-caravan.html>)





Economics:

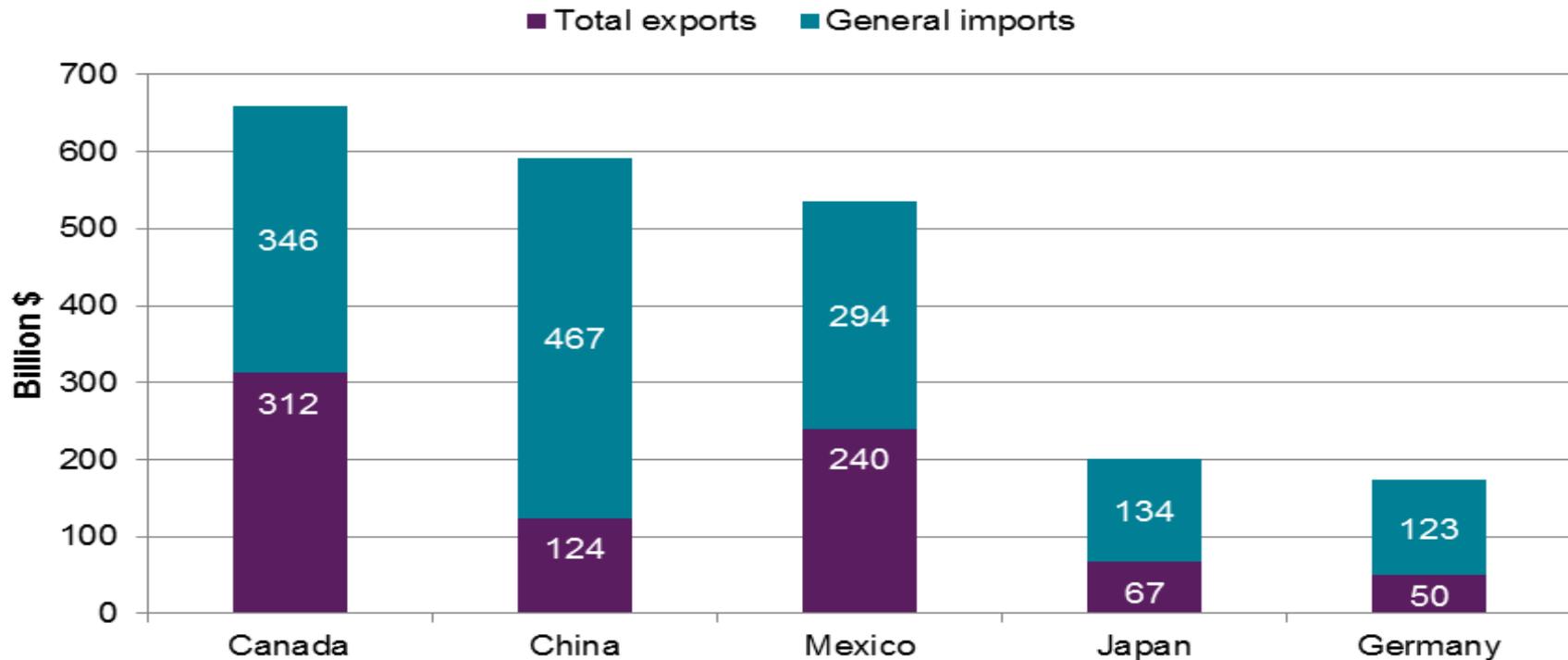
From NAFTA to the USMCA



<https://www.ncpedia.org/media/bill-clinton-signing-nafta>

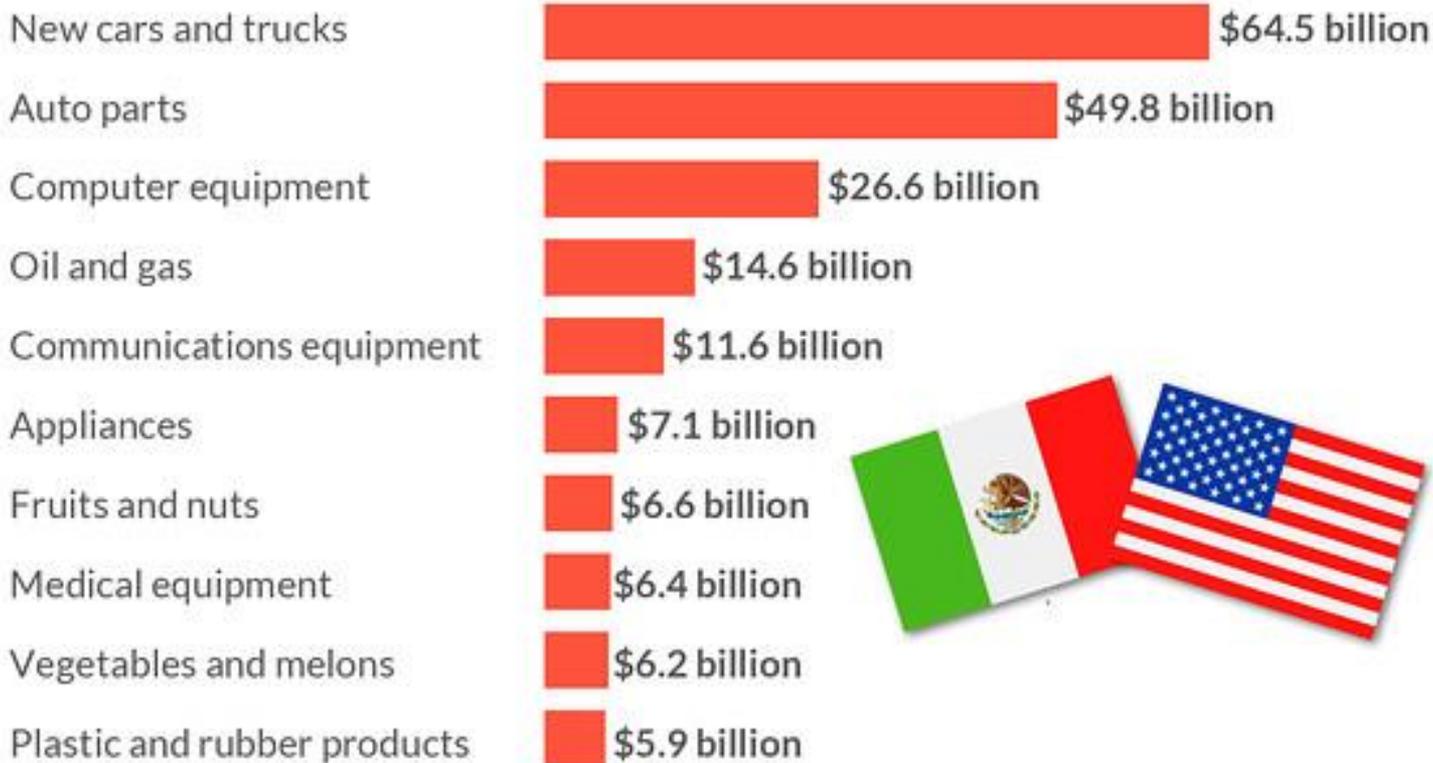


U.S. trade (2018, USITC)



U.S. and Mexican economies inseparable

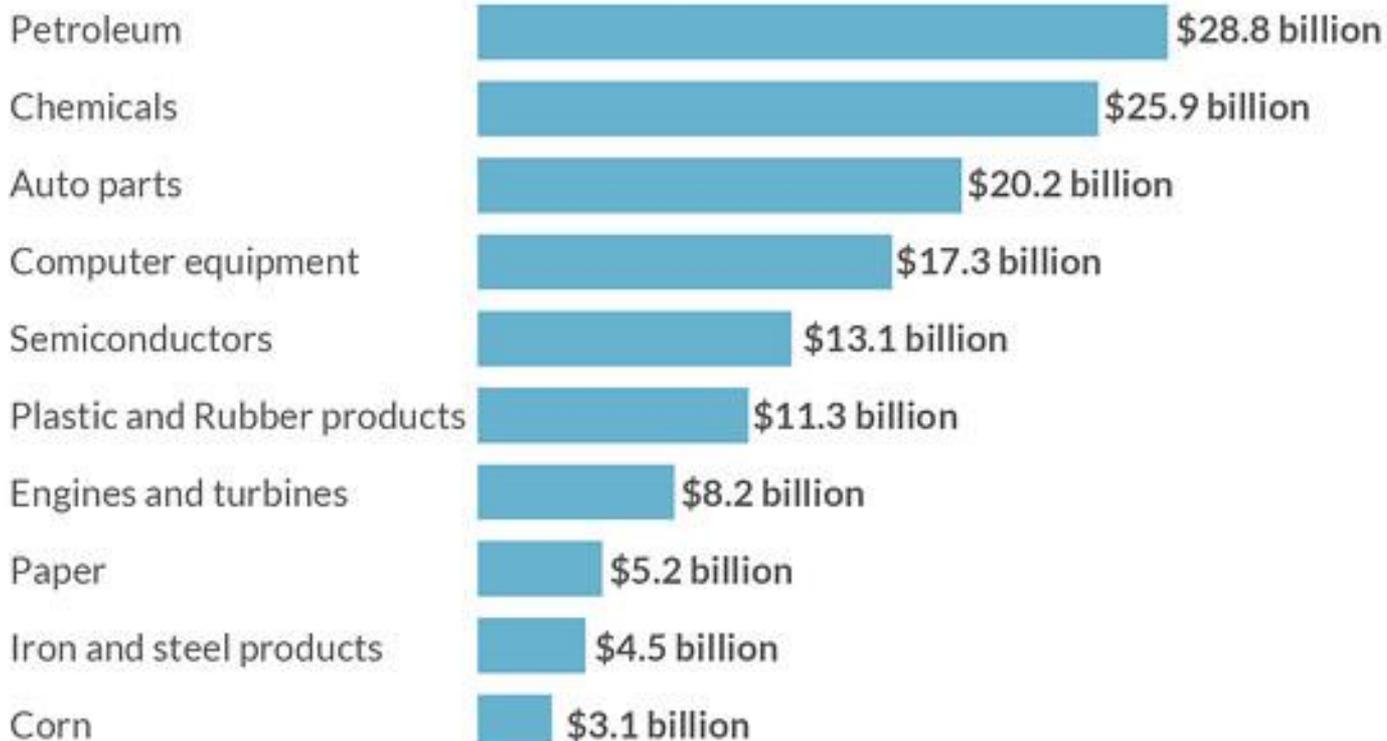
U.S. imports from Mexico totaled \$347 billion in 2018. Here are the top trade items:



Source: U.S. Census, Commerce Department

Mexico is a huge market for U.S. exports

The U.S. shipped \$265 billion worth of goods to Mexico in 2018



Source: U.S. Census, Commerce Department

Is NAFTA good for the U.S.?

1993

Trade: \$290 billion

U.S. FDI in Mexico:
\$15 billion

2017

Trade: \$1.1 trillion

U.S. FDI in Mexico:
\$100 billion

Is NAFTA good for the U.S.?

- about 15,000 jobs on net are lost each year due to NAFTA
- But, for each of job lost, the economy gains roughly \$450,000 in the form of higher productivity and lower consumer prices.

The Peterson Institute for International Economics (2014)

The story of Hazelton, Pennsylvania



Domestic political headwinds for bilateral economic relationship

MEXICO

- Two Mexicos
- Labor productivity
- AMLO's priorities

UNITED STATES

- President Trump's views on trade
- Will Congress pass the USMCA?

Security





**“The results of the
U.S.-backed war on
drugs are abysmal.”**

(Shifter and Binetti, p. 87)

8 most dangerous cities in world

Los Cabos, Mexico

Acapulco, Mexico

Tijuana, Mexico

Fortaleza, Brazil

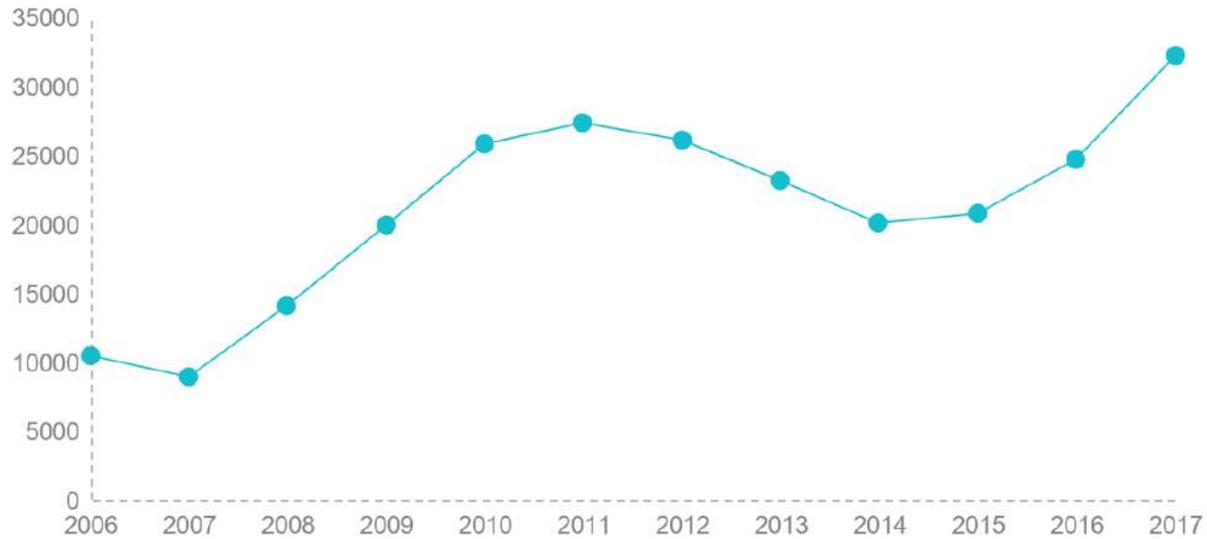
Caracas, Venezuela

Natal, Brazil

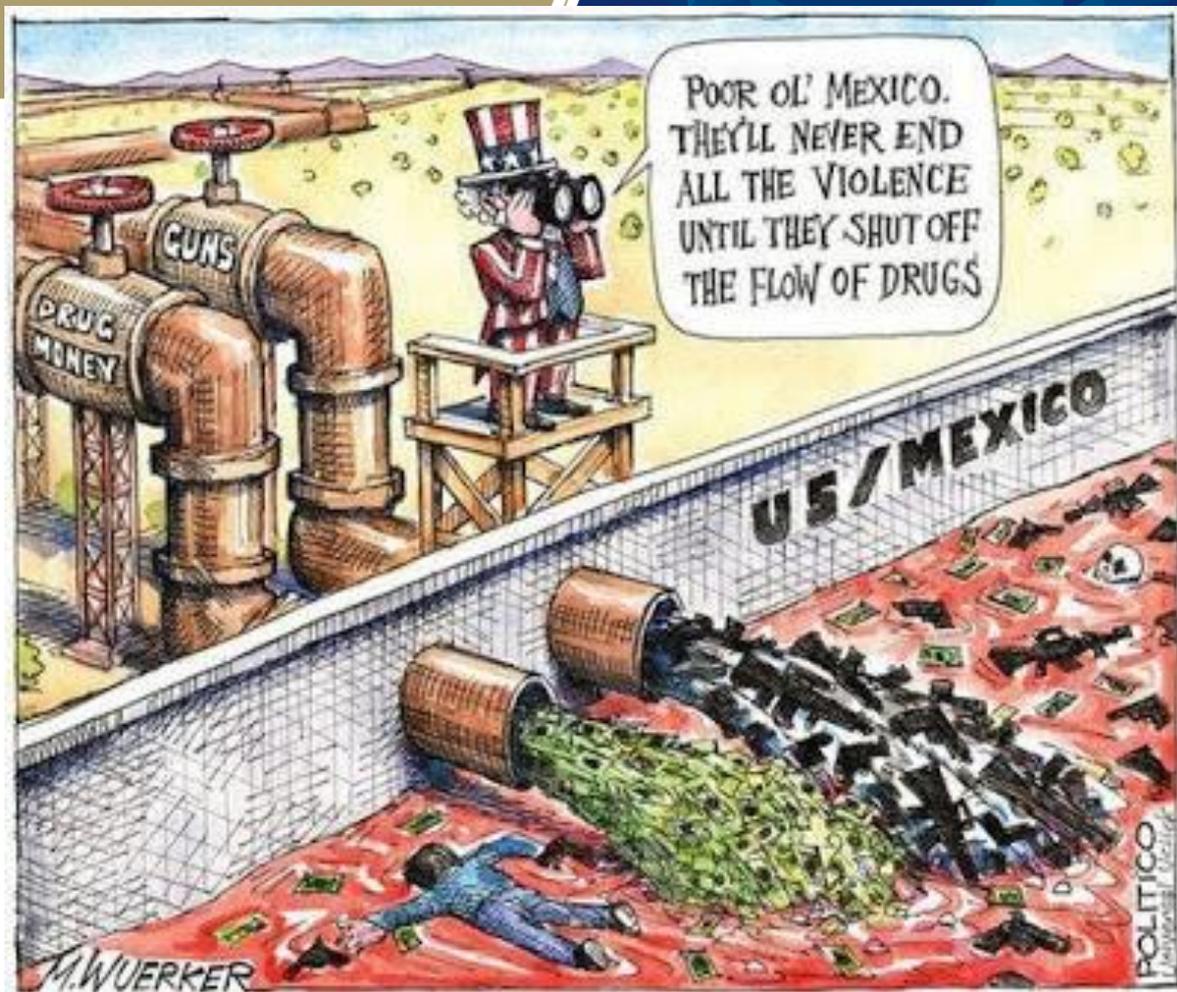
La Paz, Mexico

Ciudad Victoria

MEXICO'S HOMICIDE RATE



Source: Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática



A “strategic partnership?”

- The Calderon/Bush administrations and the Merida Initiative
- President Obama and “shared responsibility”
- President Trump? President AMLO?

Official statements tell the story

“It is our good fortune to be bordered by unique and sovereign nations that are democracies, allies, and friends.” (Op-Ed by U.S. Secretary of Commerce, Carlos M. Gutierrez, and U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security, Michael Chertoff, February 2008)

“We cannot ignore the fact that the challenge to our security has its roots on both sides of the border.” (President Calderon, May 2010)

“We are not just bound by history and geography. We are friends and partners.” (President Obama)

“I would build a great wall, and nobody builds walls better than me, believe me, and I’ll build them very inexpensively. I will build a great great wall on our southern border and I’ll have Mexico pay for that wall.” (President Trump)

**Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Funding by Year:
FYs 2014 - 2020
(\$ billions)**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 PB
CBP	\$10.6	\$10.9	\$11.2	\$12.1	\$14.0	\$15.0	\$18.2
ICE	\$5.3	\$6.0	\$5.8	\$6.4	\$7.1	\$7.6	\$8.8
EOIR	\$0.3	\$0.3	\$0.4	\$0.4	\$0.5	\$0.6	\$0.7
UAC	\$0.9	\$0.9	\$0.9	\$1.2	\$1.3	\$1.3	\$1.3
DOD	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$3.6
Total	\$17.1	\$18.1	\$18.3	\$20.1	\$22.9	\$24.5	\$32.6

Department of Homeland Security. Overall 2020 funding for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) (\$ billion) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) (\$8.8 billion) is 19 percent higher than the FY 2019 level.

Social





- Greater than 1 in 10 Americans is of Mexican descent
- 1 in 10 people born in Mexico lives in U.S. (about 12 million)
- More than 1 million Americans live in Mexico

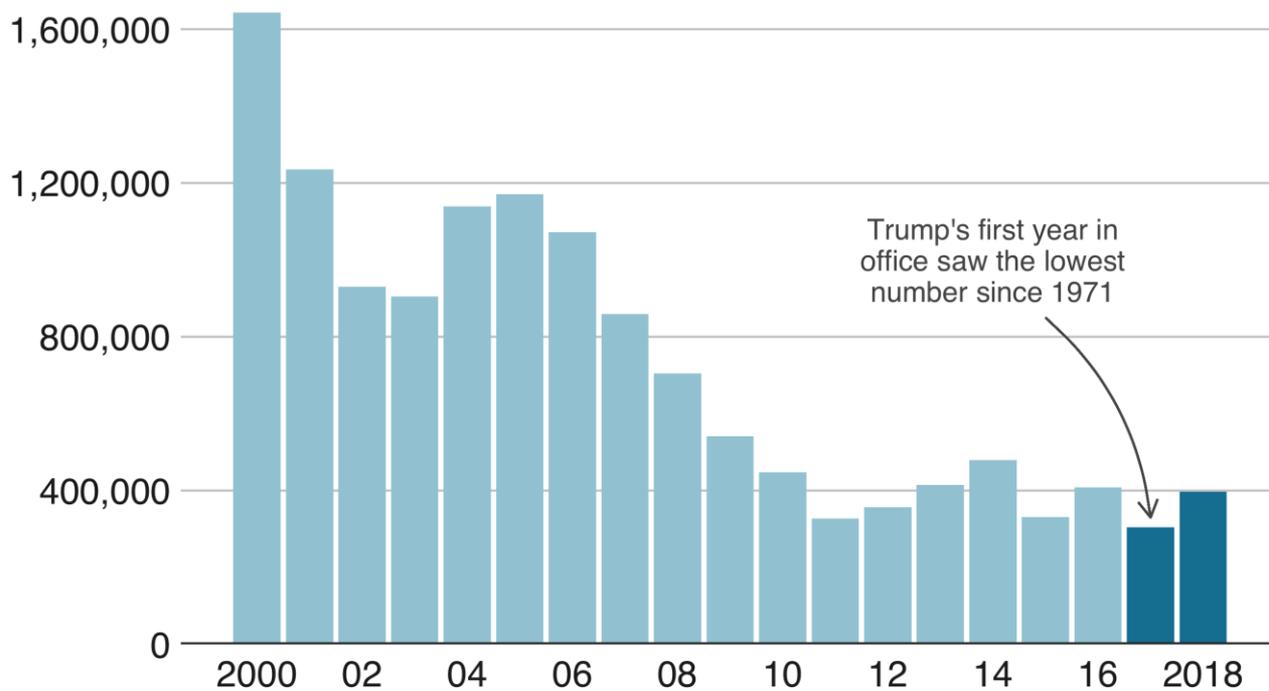


Migration



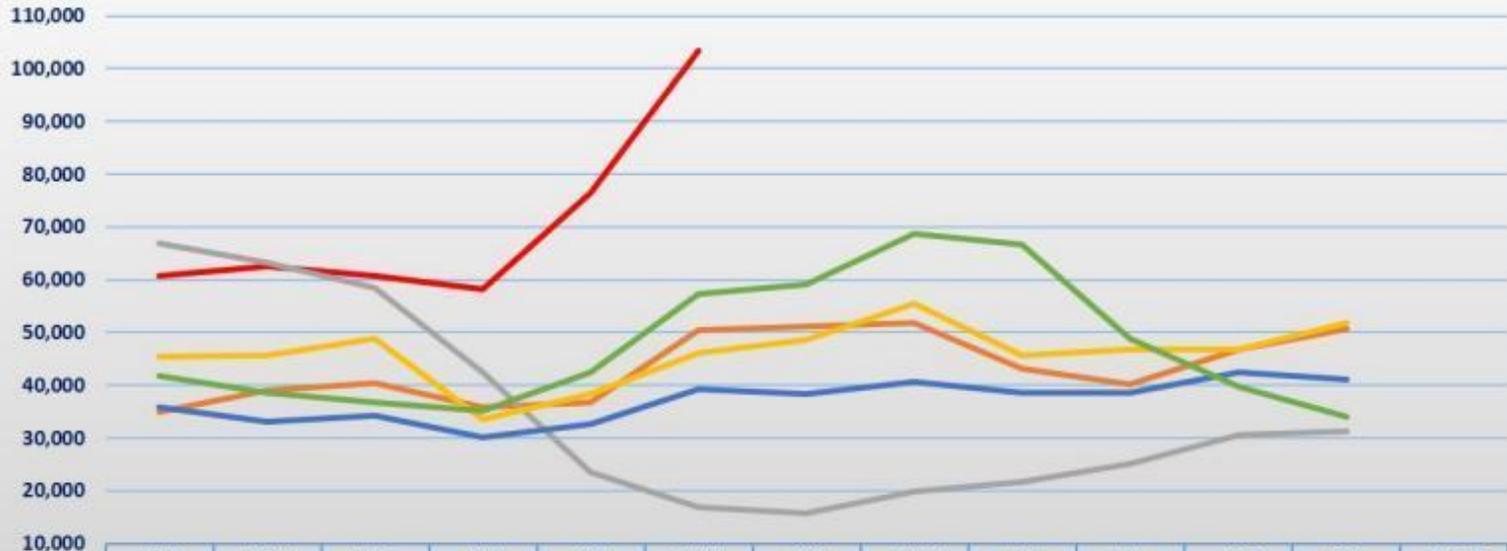
Apprehensions on US-Mexico border

Total number of migrants by US financial year (2000-2018)



Source: US Customs and Border Protection agency

CBP Southwest Border Total Apprehensions / Inadmissibles



	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	Total
FY19	60,776	62,461	60,777	58,293	76,535	103,492							
FY18	34,871	39,051	40,519	35,905	36,751	50,347	51,168	51,862	43,180	40,149	46,719	50,568	521,090
FY17	66,842	63,218	58,379	42,359	23,557	16,794	15,798	19,966	21,673	25,069	30,582	31,280	415,517
FY16	45,516	45,755	48,742	33,657	38,311	46,118	48,511	55,386	45,671	46,909	46,909	51,893	553,378
FY15	35,903	33,032	34,243	30,180	32,550	39,162	38,296	40,683	38,619	38,611	42,415	41,165	444,859
FY14	41,828	38,685	36,695	35,181	42,399	57,405	59,119	68,804	66,541	48,819	39,758	34,003	569,237

David Guzmán/EPA, via Shutterstock in NYTs (11/25/2018)



Mexican government press release

The Government of Mexico, respectful of the domestic affairs of the United States, takes note of the injunction issued by a federal judge in California that suspends, as of April 12, the return of certain non-Mexican migrants to Mexico to wait while their immigration cases proceed.

Mexico's view is that migration should not be forced as a result of poverty, wellbeing in Central America should be addressed, and human rights must be respected.

To keep in mind

- Geography is destiny
- Domestic politics drive decisions about bilateral relations in both countries

Questions?

(Unless otherwise noted, all images from Google)

