

The Border: A Resource Page



As money is poured into border enforcement, it is critical that lawmakers consider the facts. The following resources provide key answers to basic questions about the U.S.-Mexico Border and the issues that surround it--from the fiscal implications of policies to the struggle to fight drug cartels.

Abuse on the Border:

- [No Action Taken: Lack of CBP Accountability in Responding to Complaints of Abuse](#) [1](May 2014)
- [Bordering on Criminal: The Routine Abuse of Migrants in the Removal System](#) [2] (December 2013)
 - [Part I: Migrant Mistreatment While in U.S. Custody](#) [3]
 - [Part II: Possessions Taken and Not Returned](#) [4]

Recently Released and Re-Released Reports:

- [An Unlikely Couple: The Similar Approaches to Border Enforcement in H.R. 1417 and S. 744](#) [5] (July 2013)
- [The Fallacy of "Enforcement First": Immigration Enforcement Without Immigration Reform Has Been Failing for Decades](#) [6] (May 2013)
- [Lost in the Shadow of the Fence: The Important Economic Relationship of Mexico and the United States](#) [7] (May 2013)
- [Border Security: Moving Beyond Past Benchmarks](#) [8] from AILA (January 2013)
- [How to Fix a Broken Border: A Three Part Series](#) [9] by Terry Goddard (May 2012) [9]
 - [Part I: Hit the Cartels Where it Hurts](#) [10]
 - [Part II: Disrupting Smuggling at its Source](#) [11]
 - [Part III: Follow the Money](#) [11]
- [Is More Getting Us Less? Real Solutions for Securing our Border](#) [12] by David Shirk (February 2011)

Background:

- [The Fallacy of "Enforcement First": Immigration Enforcement Without Immigration Reform Has Been Failing for Decades](#) [6] (May 2013)
- [Authority of U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agents: An Overview](#) [13] (February 2012)
- [New Border Patrol Strategy Changes Rhetoric More than Substance](#) [14] (May 2012)
- [Back to the Border: A Historical Comparison of U.S. Border Politics](#) [15] (September 2010)

The Economics of Border Control:

- [Lost in the Shadow of the Fence: The Important Economic Relationship of Mexico and the United States](#) [7] (May 2013)
- [Fiscally Irresponsible: Immigration Enforcement without Reform Wastes Taxpayer Dollars](#) [16] (October 2011)
- [Is More Getting Us Less? Real Solutions for Securing our Border](#) [12] (February 2011)
- [Throwing Good Money After Bad: Immigration Enforcement](#) [17] (May 2010)
- [The Rise and Fall of the Secure Border Initiative's High-Tech Solution to Unauthorized Immigration](#) [18] (April 2010)

Cartels and the Border:

- [How to Fix a Broken Border: A Three Part Series](#) [9] (May 2012)
 - [Part One: Hit the Cartels Where it Hurts](#) [10]
 - [Part Two: Disrupting Smuggling at its Source](#) [19]
 - [Part Three: Follow the Money](#) [11]
- [Guns, Drugs, and Money: Tackling the Real Threats to Border Security](#) [20] (September 2011)

Teleconferences:

- [Listen to Our Teleconference Briefing on the Border Here](#) [21] (February 2013)

Blog Posts:

- [View all blogs about the Border](#) [22]

View all of our publications on [the border](#). [23]

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Links:

[1] <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/special-reports/no-action-taken-lack-cbp-accountability-responding-complaints-abuse>

[2] <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/special-reports/bordering-criminal-routine-abuse-migrants-removal-system>

[3] <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/ipc/Border%20-%20Abuses%20FINAL.pdf>

[4] <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/ipc/Border%20-%20Possessions%20FINAL.pdf>

[5] <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/just-facts/unlikely-couple-similar-approaches-border-enforcement-hr-1417-and-s-744>

[6] <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/just-facts/fallacy-enforcement-first>

[7] <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/just-facts/lost-shadow-fence>

[8] <http://www.aila.org/content/default.aspx?bc=25667|43061>

[9] <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/perspectives/how-fix-broken-border-three-part-series>

[10] http://immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/Goddard-_How_to_Fix_a_Broken_Border_091211.pdf

[11] <http://immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/Goddard%20Part%20III%20-%20Follow%20the%20Money%20051812.pdf>

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- [13] <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/just-facts/authority-us-customs-and-border-protection-agents-overview>
- [14] <http://immigrationimpact.com/2012/05/15/new-border-patrol-strategy-changes-rhetoric-more-than-substance/>
- [15] <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/perspectives/back-border-historical-comparison-us-border-politics>
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- [19] <http://immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/Goddard%20Part%20II%20-%20Smuggling%2020112.pdf>
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- [21] <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/ipc/BORDER%2021213.mp3>
- [22] <http://immigrationimpact.com/category/border/>
- [23] <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/issues/border>