

# **Recognizing Changing Enforcement and Crossing Trends at the U.S.-Mexico Border**



May 4, 2017

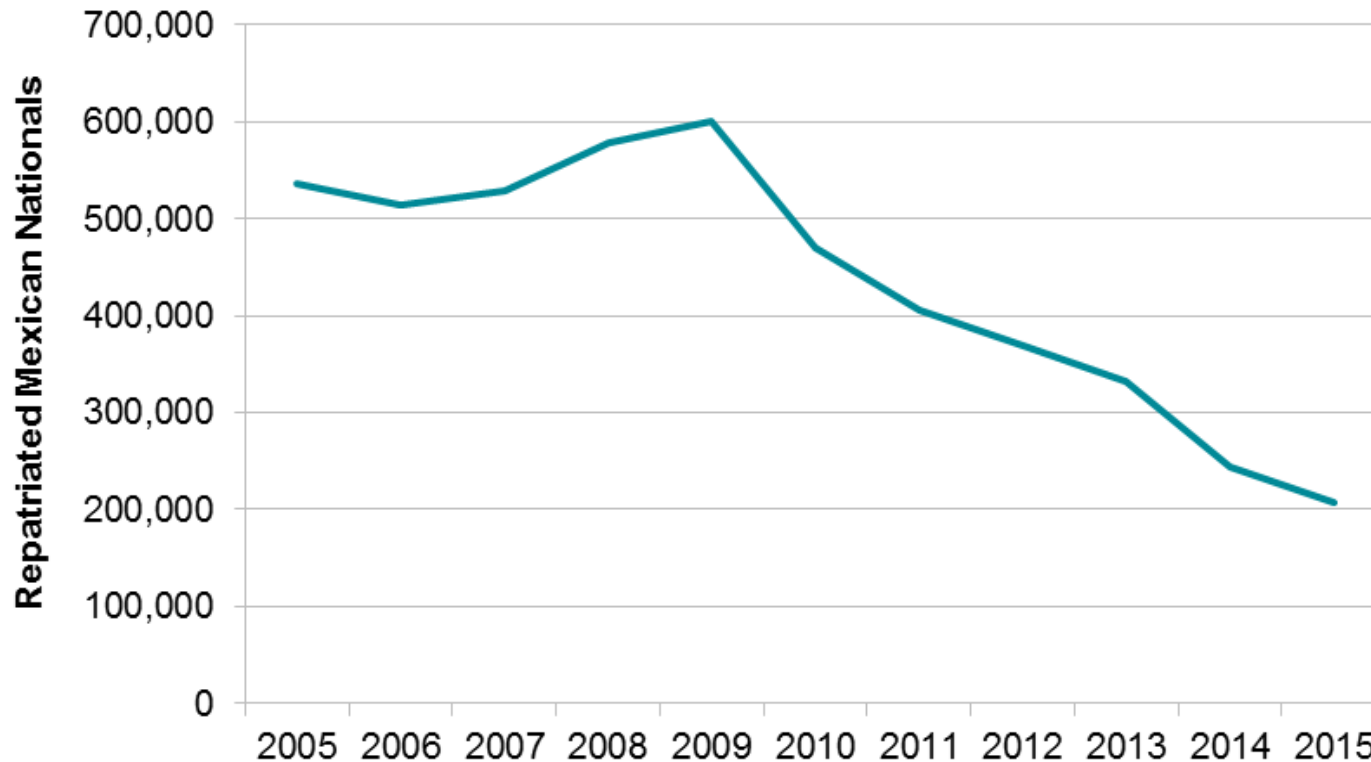


# Two New MPI Studies


1. A Revolving Door No More? A Statistical Profile of Mexican Adults Repatriated from the United States
  - **Authors:** Ryan Schultheis, Ariel G. Ruiz Soto
  - **Data and methods:** Analysis of representative data from survey of deported Mexican migrants (EMIF Norte), 2005- 2015
2. Advances in U.S.-Mexico Border Enforcement: A Review of the Consequence Delivery System
  - **Authors:** Randy Capps, Faye Hipsman, Doris Meissner.
  - **Data and methods :** Analysis of unpublished CBP data from consequence delivery system, FY 2011-14, and findings from MPI fieldwork in the two busiest Border Patrol sectors (Tucson, AZ, and Rio Grand Valley, TX).

# A Statistical Profile of Mexican Adults Repatriated from the United States

The number of Mexicans repatriated from the United States fell by two-thirds from 2009 to 2015, mirroring the drop in Border Patrol apprehensions over that period.



Source: Migration Policy Institute (MPI) analysis of data from SEGOB, "Boletines Estadísticos," 2005-15, accessed September, 2, 2016, [www.politicamigratoria.gob.mx/es\\_mx/SEGOB/Boletines\\_Estadisticos](http://www.politicamigratoria.gob.mx/es_mx/SEGOB/Boletines_Estadisticos).



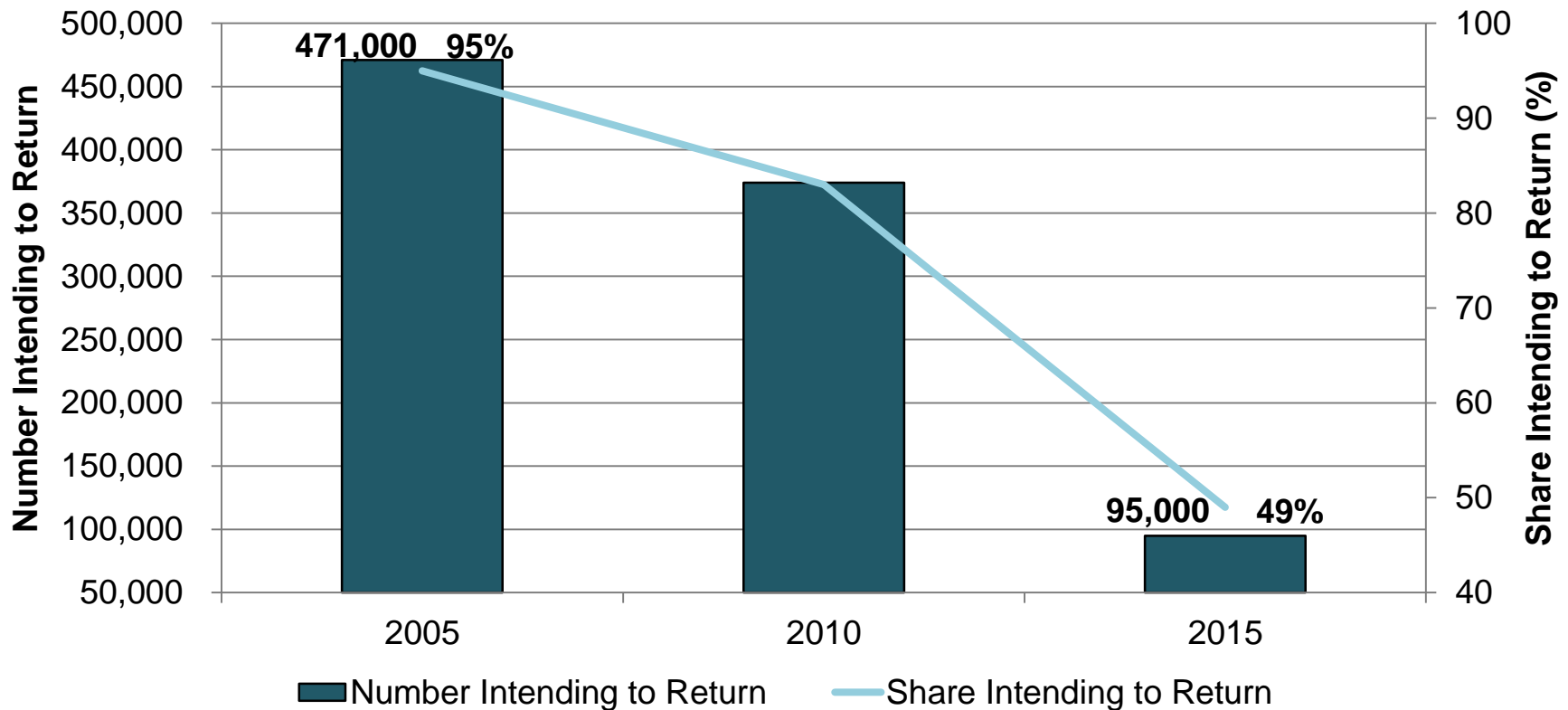
# Statistical Profile of Mexican Adults Repatriated from the United States

## TOP FINDINGS:


- The number of deported Mexican adults indicating they would attempt to re-enter the United States dropped 80%, from 471,000 in 2005 to 95,000 in 2015.
- Over this period, the number intending to remain in Mexico rose from 26,000 to 91,000—a 250% increase.
- This pattern indicates a substantial decline in *recidivism* (i.e., repeated attempts to cross the U.S.-Mexico border) alongside increased need for effective reintegration in Mexico.

# Statistical Profile of Mexican Adults Repatriated from the United States

The number of repatriated Mexican adults intending to return to the U.S. fell from 471,000 to 95,000 between 2005 and 2015—decreasing from 95% to 49% of deportees.



Source: Migration Policy Institute (MPI) analysis of data from SEGOB, “Boletines Estadísticos,” 2005-15 [www.politicamigratoria.gob.mx/es\\_mx/SEGOB/Boletines\\_Estadisticos](http://www.politicamigratoria.gob.mx/es_mx/SEGOB/Boletines_Estadisticos), and Colegio de la Frontera Norte (COLEF), “Encuesta sobre migración en la frontera norte de México (EMIF Norte),” 2005, 2010, and 2015, accessed September 2, 2016, [www.colef.mx/emif/eng/bases.php](http://www.colef.mx/emif/eng/bases.php). © 2017 Migration Policy Institute



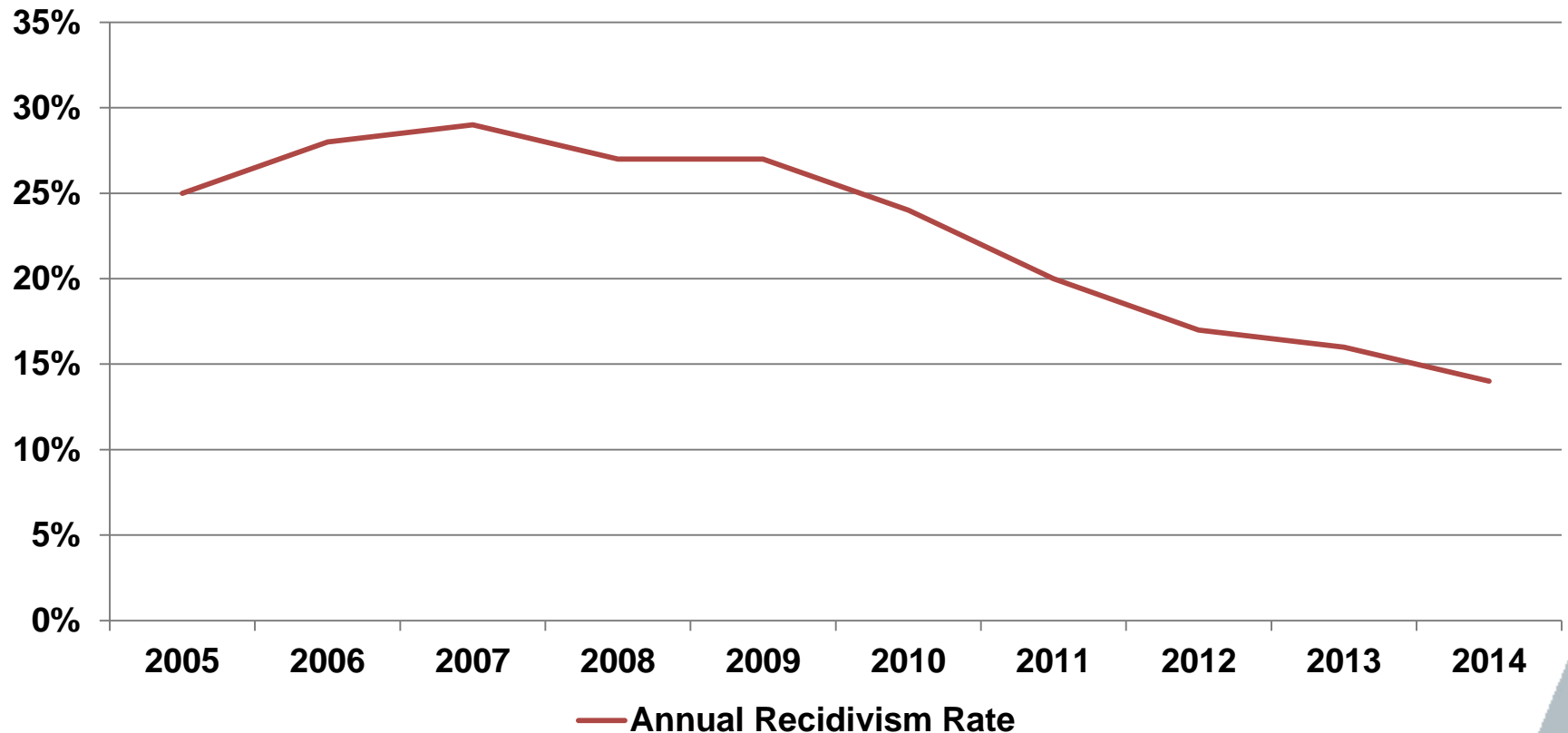
# A Review of the Consequence Delivery System

- Since the mid-2000s, the Border Patrol has increasingly implemented consequences for apprehended migrants:
  - The share of migrants returned voluntarily—without immigration consequences—fell from 41% in FY 2011 to 9% in FY 2014.
  - The share with formal removals—carrying bars on legal admission and the threat of expedited deportation if caught again—rose from 59% in FY 2011 to 91% in FY 2014.
  - A substantial share (15% in FY 2014) were deported via a different sector from where they were apprehended.
  - And 17% were charged with federal crimes for illegal entry or re-entry and potentially sentenced to prison time.
- These consequences make illegal entry more costly and time consuming.

# A Review of the Consequence Delivery System


As a result of these consequences, annual recidivism of migrants apprehended on the U.S.-Mexico border fell from 29% in FY 2007 to 14% in FY 2014.

Annual Recidivism Rate



Source: Data provided to MPI by the U.S. Border Patrol, Statistics and Data Integrity Unit.

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# A Review of the Consequence Delivery System

- Consequences such as formal removal instead of return, lateral repatriation, and prosecution can be imposed administratively and quickly on most apprehended migrants from Mexico.
- But there are limits to imposing consequences on other migrants:
  - Over half of migrants were not from Mexico in FYs 2014 and 2016.
    - They cannot be as rapidly deported (because it involves air flights) or laterally repatriated.
  - In FY 2014-16, more than one-third of apprehended migrants were families, children, or other asylum seekers.
    - Migrants seeking asylum (and most children) have the right to go before an immigration judge, so cannot be swiftly repatriated and are often released pending their asylum hearings.





# Conclusions from Both Reports

- They provide additional evidence that large-scale illegal immigration from Mexico is a thing of the past, and is not expected to rebound absent a sharp economic shock in Mexico.
- Recidivism is down, in part because new flows from Central America are up.
- Border enforcement strategies that were effective with Mexican adult migrants (formal charges, prosecution and lateral repatriation) are not always applicable for migrants in the newer, mixed flows.