



Archived Content

In an effort to keep DHS.gov current, this document has been archived and contains outdated information that may not reflect current policy or programs.



“Immigration: Perception versus Reality”

James A. Baker III
Institute for Public Policy
June 8, 2015



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Security

The Public Perception

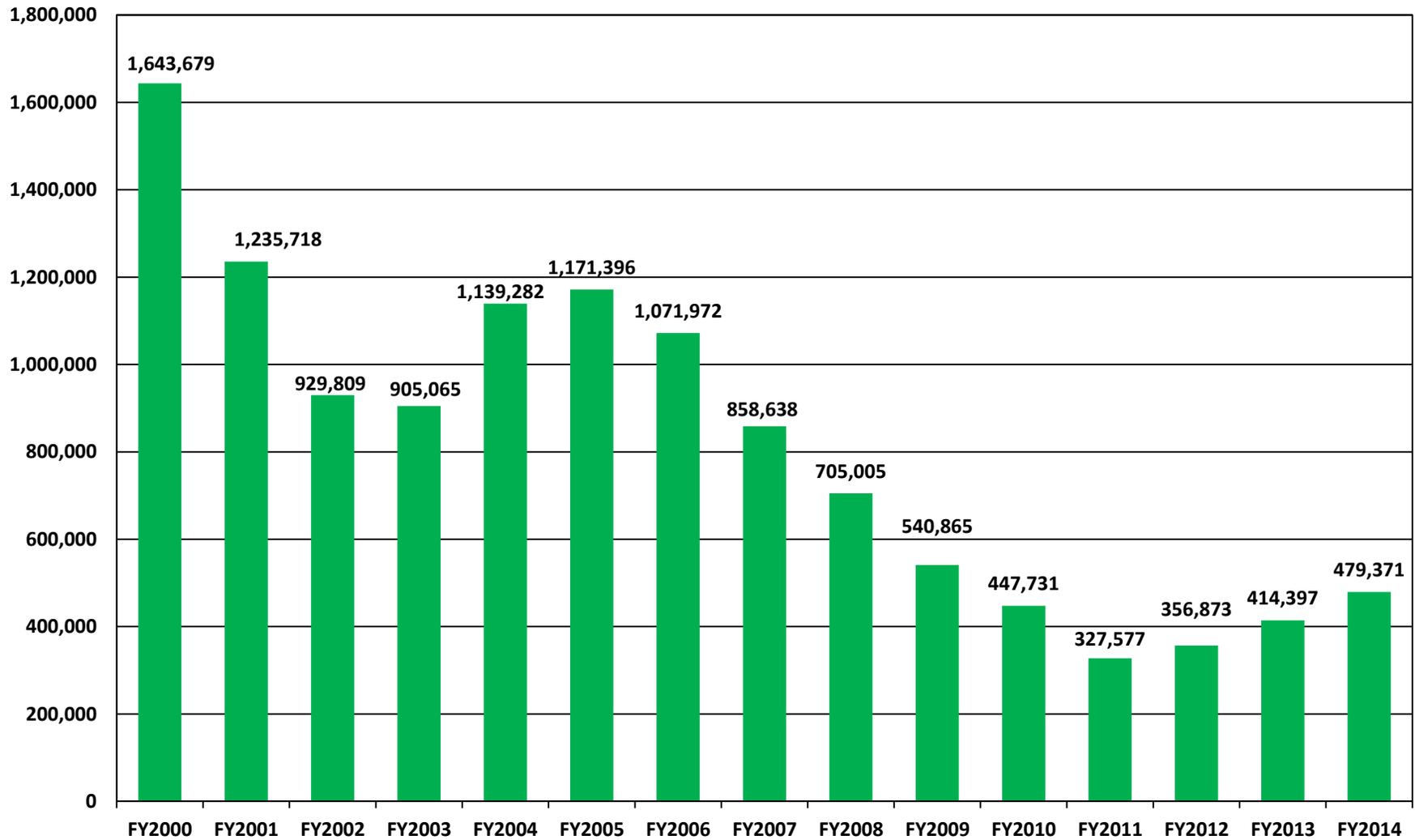
June 2013 Survey

“Just your best guess—compared with ten years ago, do you think the number of immigrants entering the U.S. illegally today is higher, lower, or about the same?”

55% ----- Higher
15% ----- Lower
27% ----- About the same
3% ----- Unsure or refused to answer

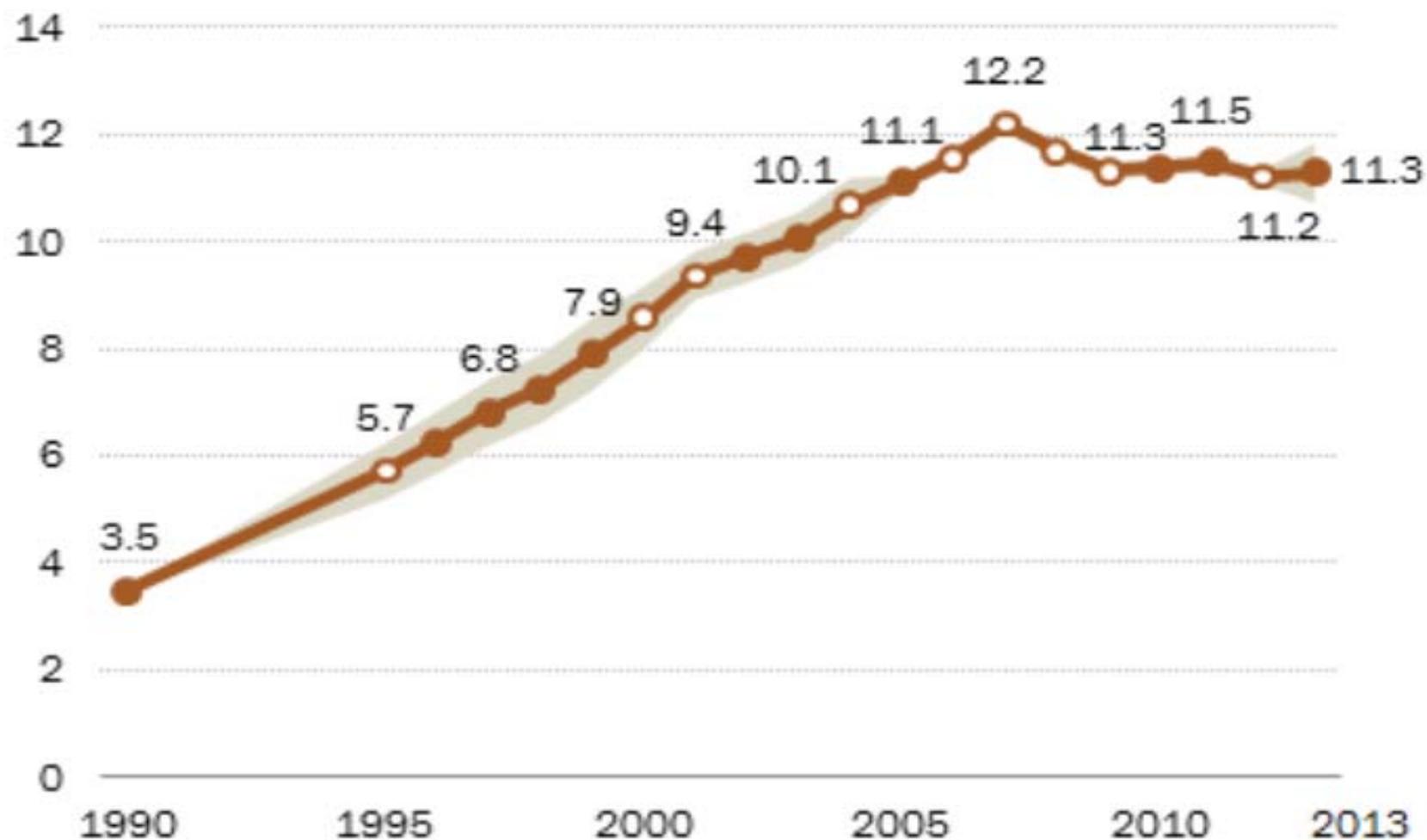
Southwest Border

USBP Apprehensions FY2000 – FY2014



Growth in Unauthorized Immigration Has Levelled Off

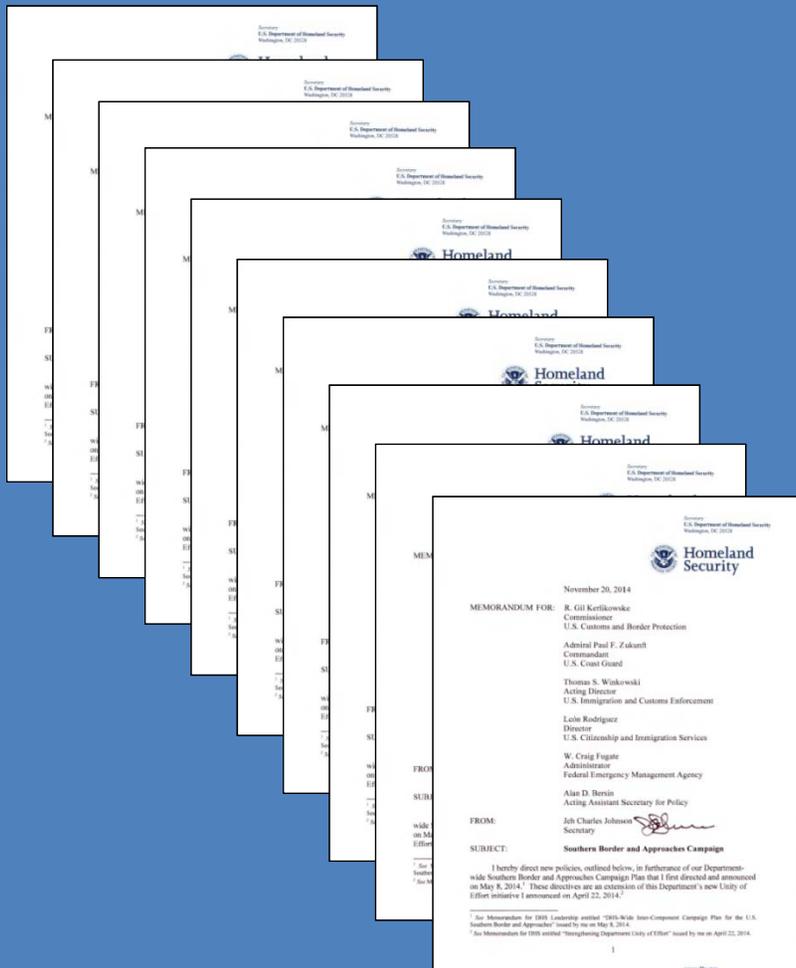
In millions



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Fixing Our Immigration System

- Immigrant accountability
- Prioritizing felons over families
- Prioritizing border security
- Southern Border Campaign Plan
- Ending Secure Communities
- Pay reform for ICE ERO personnel
- Helping military families
- Promoting access to citizenship
- Supporting high-skilled workers
- Consistency in legal guidance



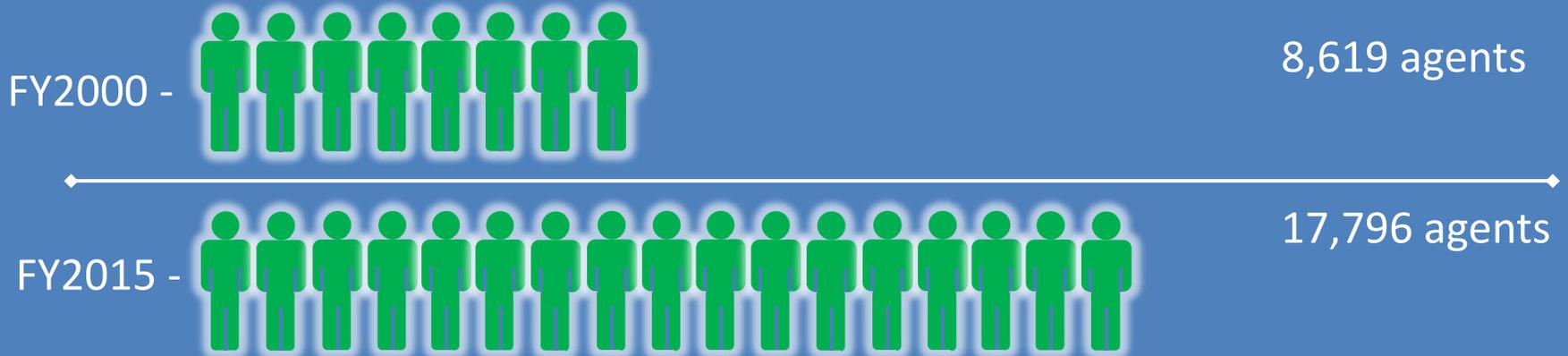
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Today's Border Patrol



\$3.5 billion budget/ 22,000 personnel/ 20,499 agents

Border Patrol Agents on the Southern Border



Total Fence on the Southern Border

FY2000 –  77 miles

Today –  700 miles



Primary Fence



Secondary Fence



Tertiary Fence



Underground Sensors



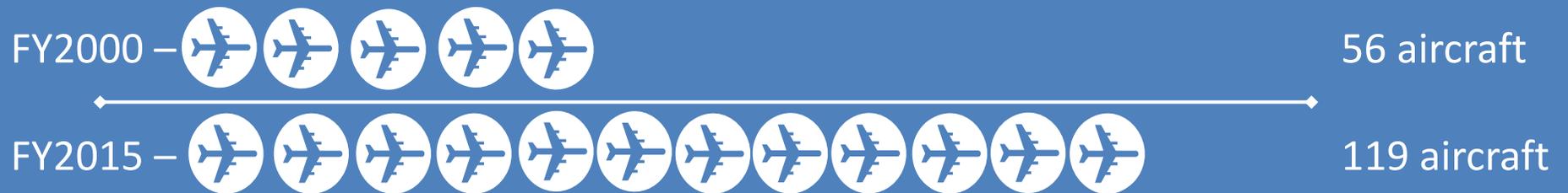
FY2000 – n/a

FY2015 –



11,863

Aircraft



Unmanned Aerial Systems



FY2000 –

0 systems

FY2015 –



6 systems

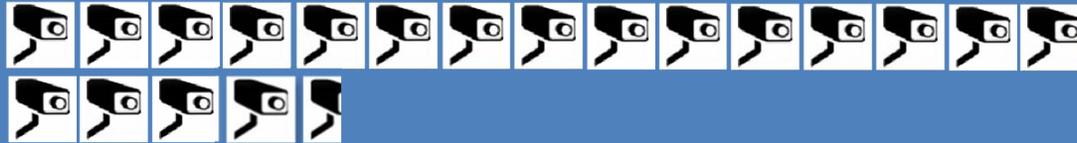
Mobile Surveillance System



FY2000 – 

1 system

FY2015 –



39 systems

Mobile Video Surveillance System



FY2000 – n/a

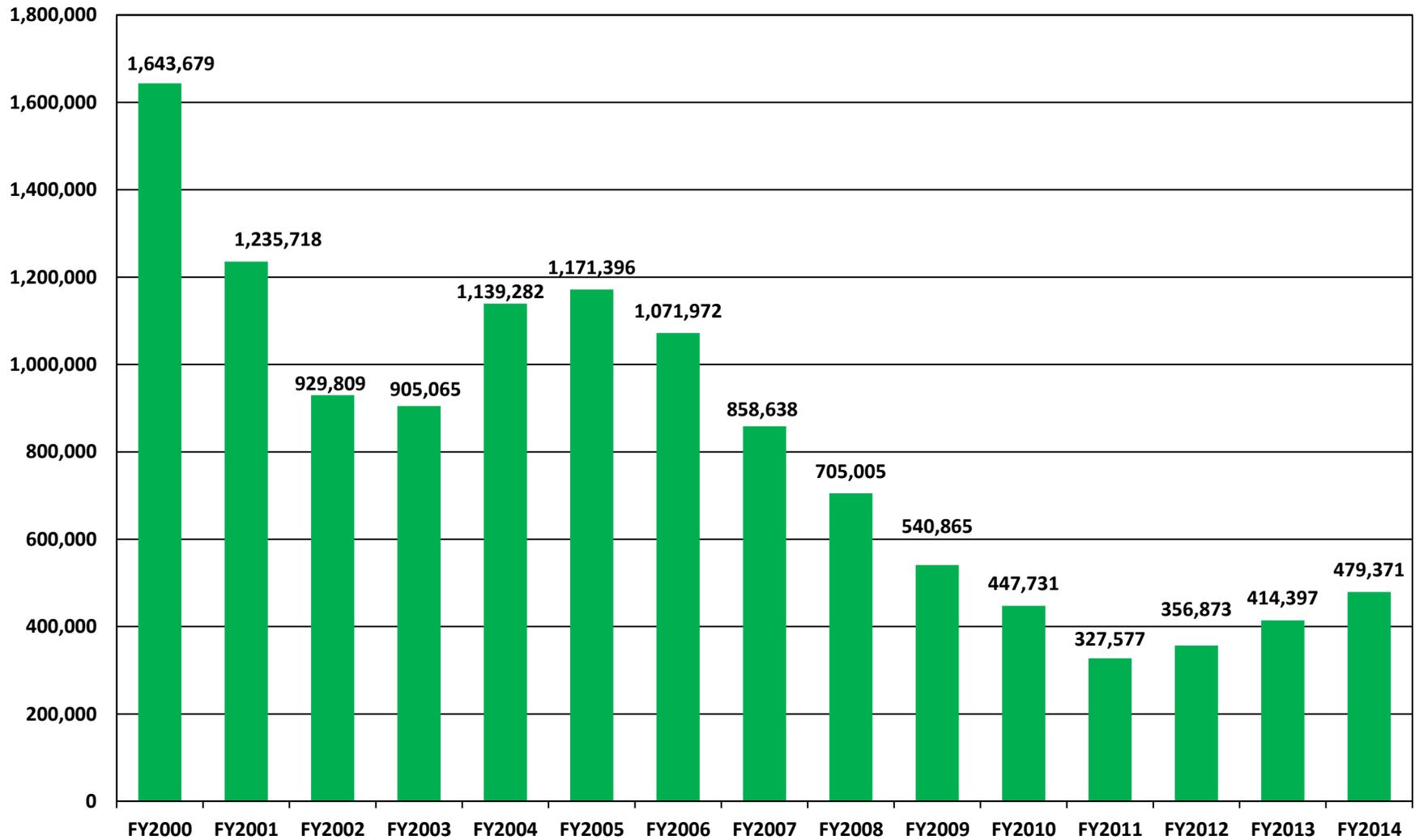


FY2015 – 

179 systems

Southwest Border

USBP Apprehensions FY2000 – FY2014



The Response

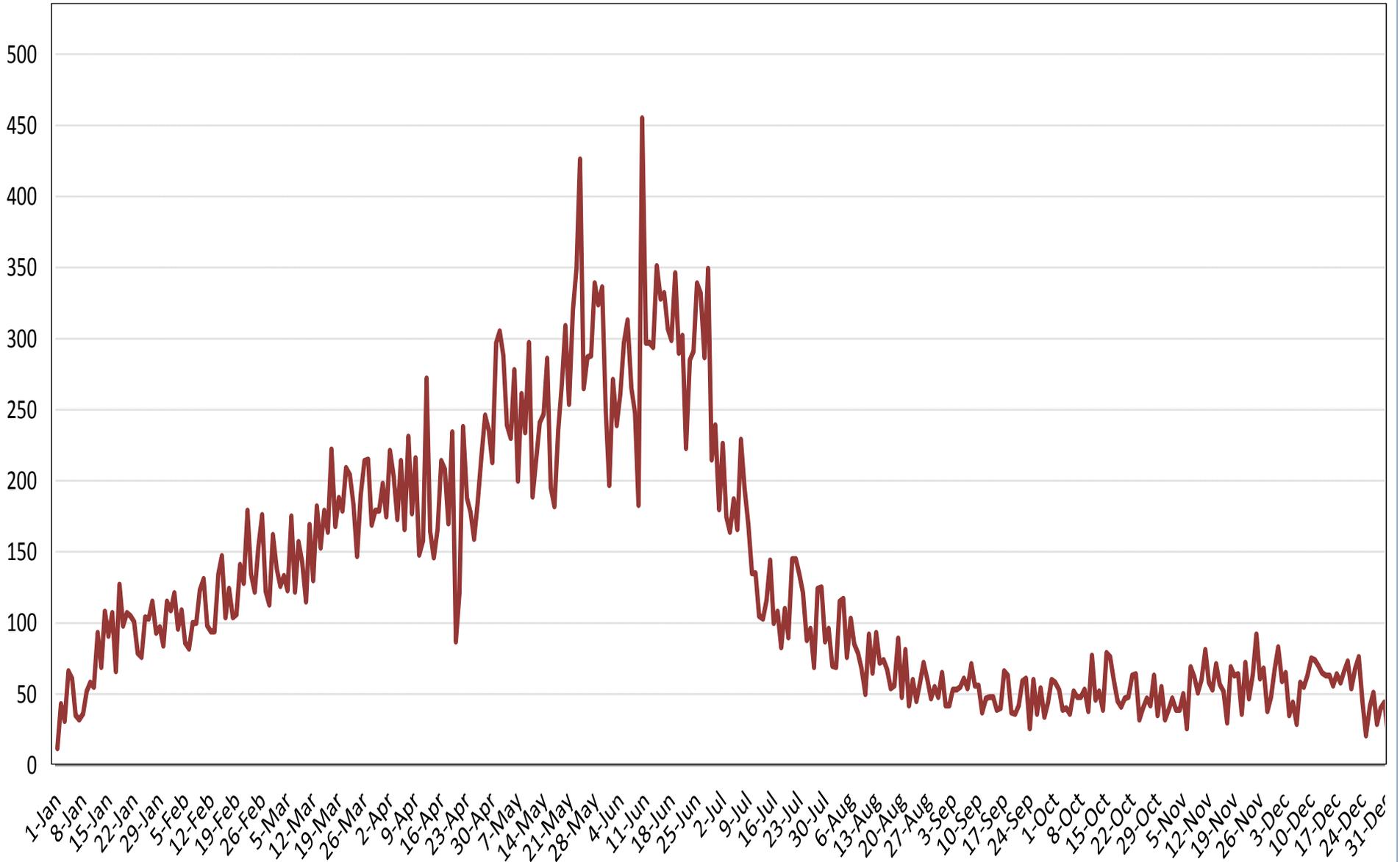
- More security and law enforcement resources into South Texas
- More processing centers
- More Border Patrol agents into RGV
- Reduced time to repatriate adults
- More prosecutions of criminal smuggling organizations
- Public messaging campaign
- Engagement of Mexican and Central American leaders
- Established in-country refugee processing centers
- More detention space



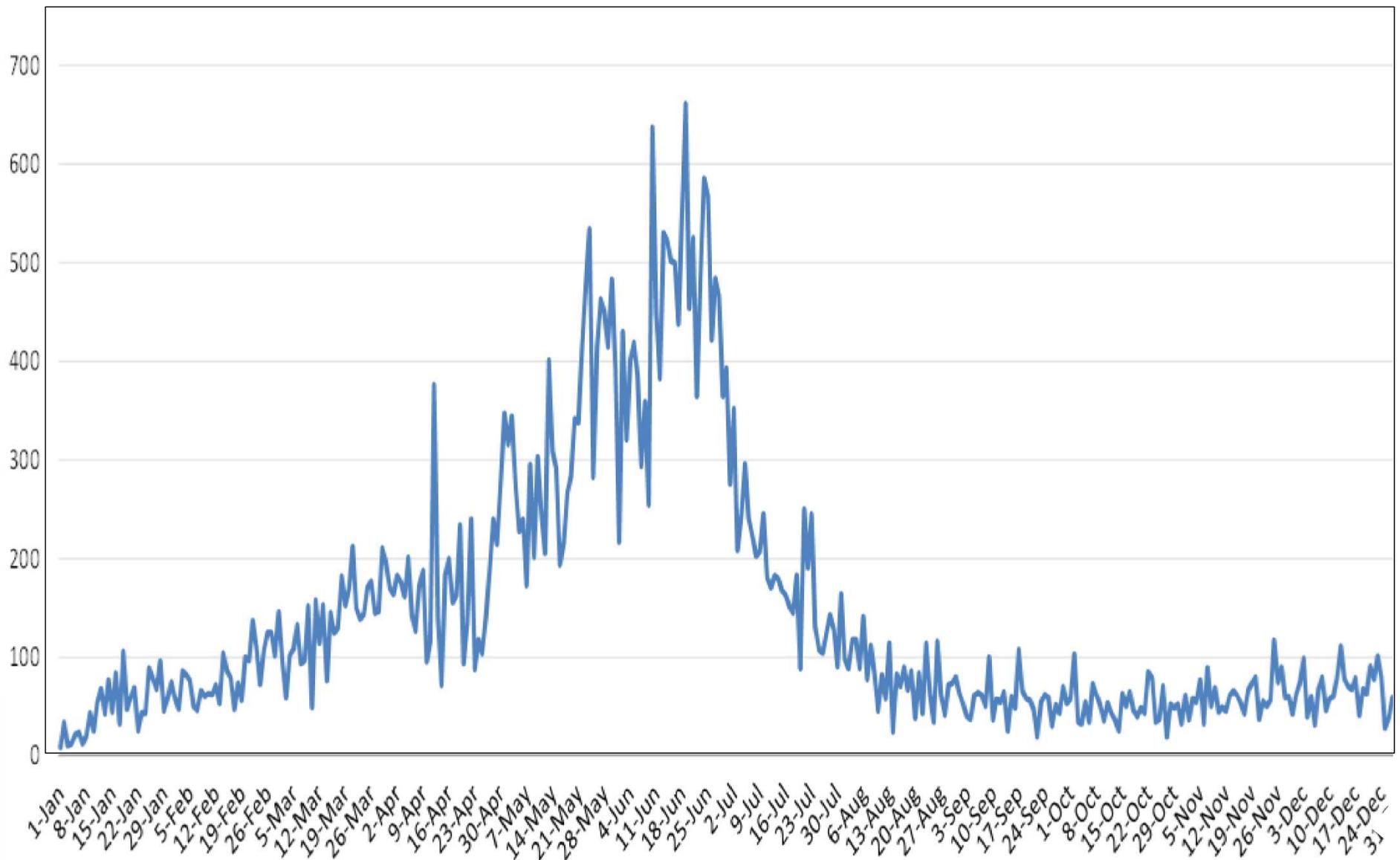
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CBP Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Sector Unaccompanied Children Apprehensions

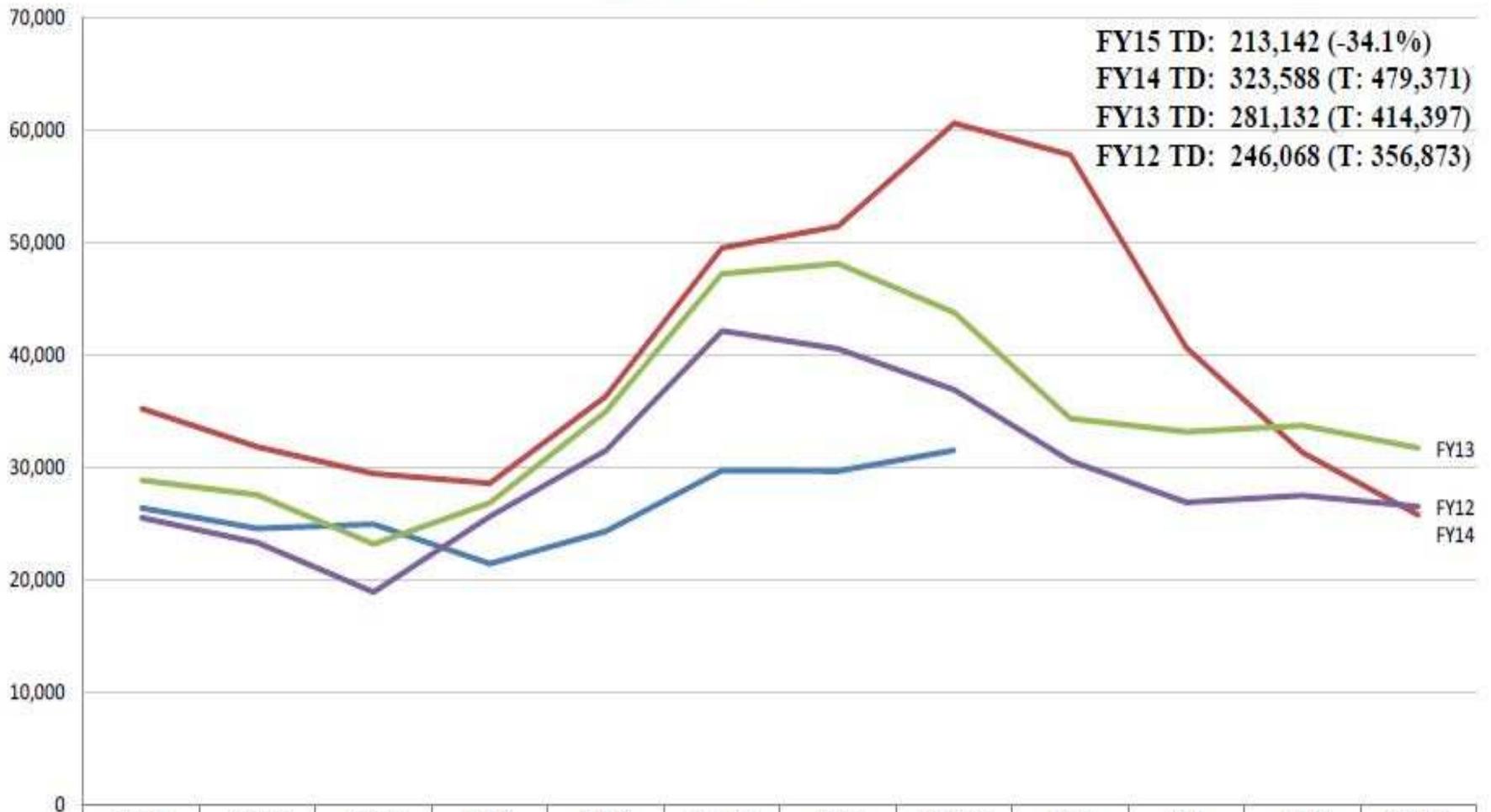
2014



CBP Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Sector Family Unit Apprehensions 2014



**United States Border Patrol
Southwest Border Apprehensions
Total (FY12 - 15)**



	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT
FY15	26,451	24,642	25,022	21,515	24,379	29,792	29,751	31,590				
FY14	35,312	31,896	29,528	28,668	36,403	49,596	51,502	60,683	57,862	40,708	31,388	25,825
FY13	28,929	27,636	23,243	26,921	35,042	47,293	48,212	43,856	34,436	33,230	33,797	31,802
FY12	25,612	23,368	18,983	25,714	31,579	42,218	40,628	36,966	30,669	26,978	27,567	26,591

**Fiscal year 2015 apprehensions are 34.1% lower than fiscal year 2014.*

The Future

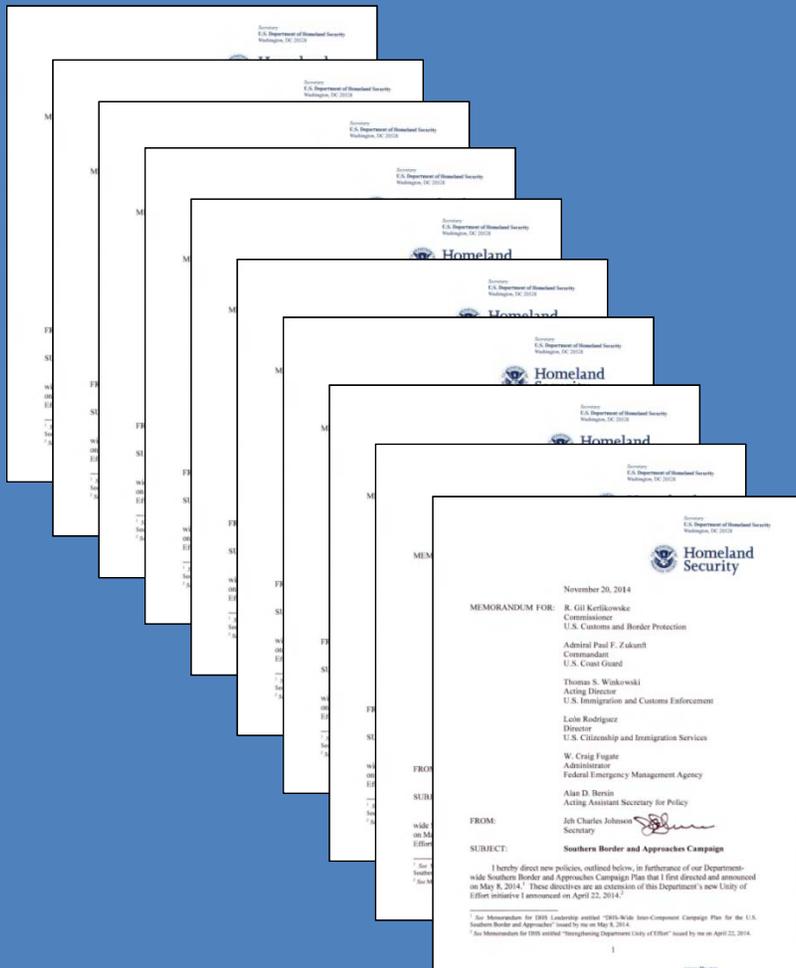
- Implementing a Risk Based Strategy
- Better Technology
- More Equipment
- Enhanced Detection Capability
- More Resources
- More Aid to Central America



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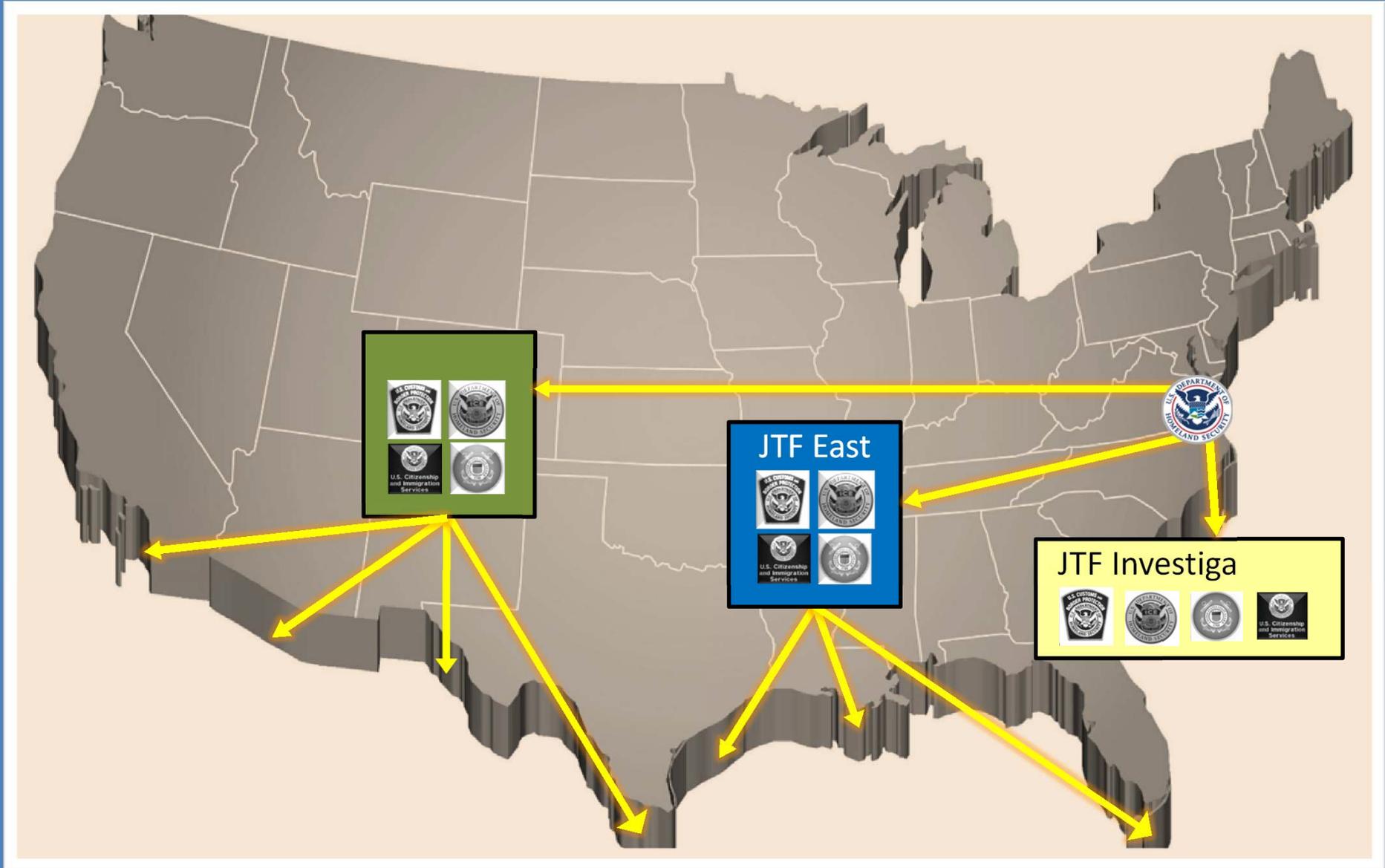
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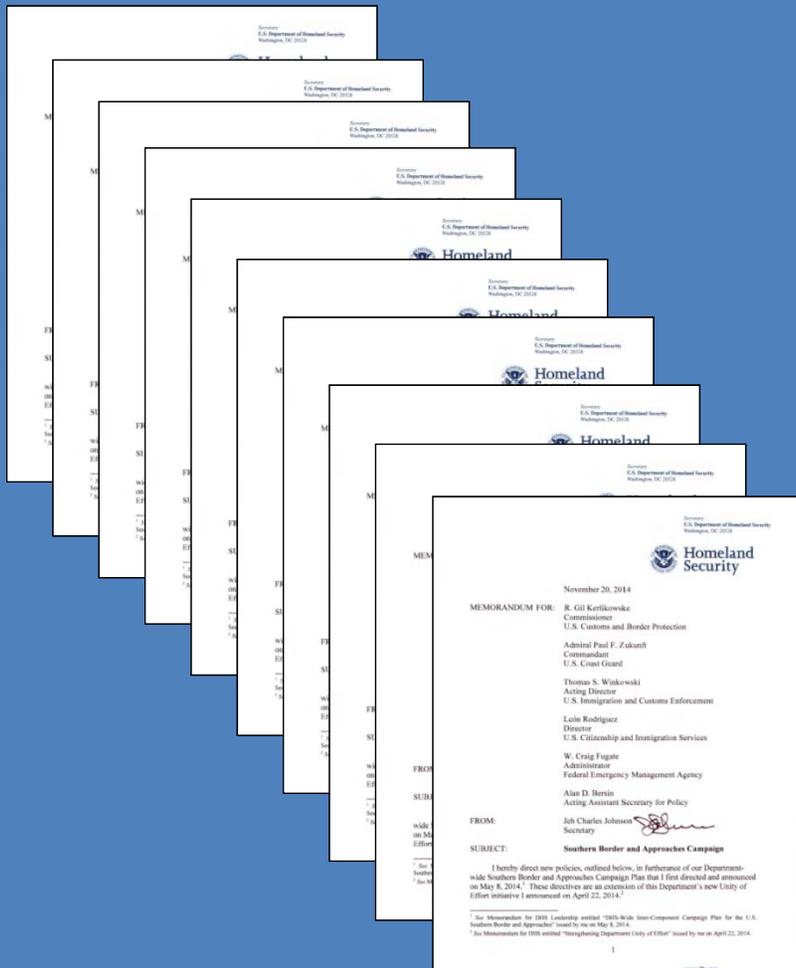
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The Southern Border Campaign Plan



Fixing Our Immigration System

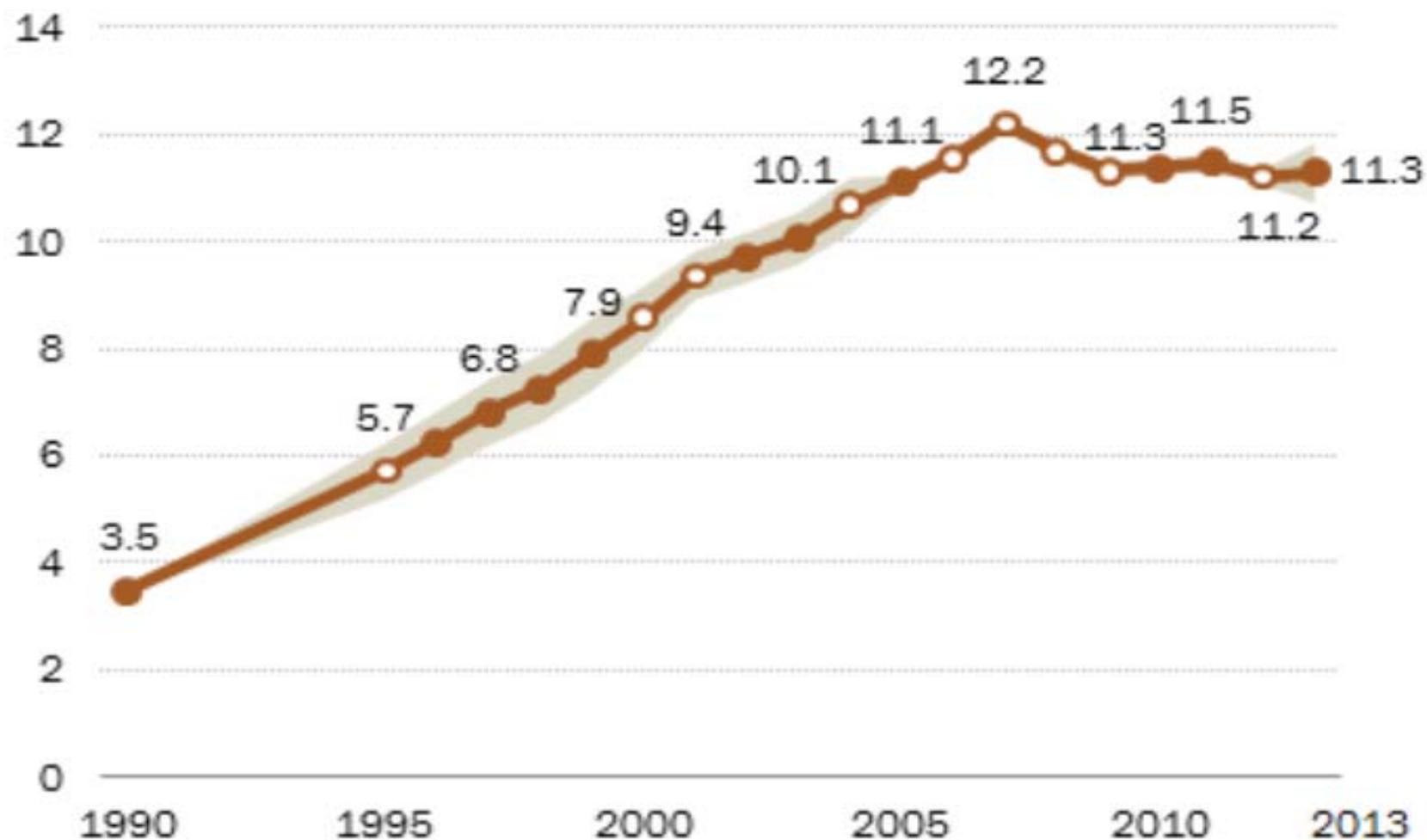
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Conclusion