



# The 2014 Quadrennial Homeland Security Review

## Overview:

Four years ago, the Department of Homeland Security's first quadrennial review answered the question, "What is homeland security?", laying out the vision, five mission areas, and goals and objectives for homeland security.

This second quadrennial review reflects a more focused, collaborative Departmental strategy, planning, and analytic capability. The risk-informed priorities set forth in this Review will drive operational planning, as well as analysis of resource and capability options and tradeoffs over the next four years. The Review also recognizes the responsibility the Department shares with hundreds of thousands of people across the federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, the private sector, and other nongovernmental organizations, and provides a path forward for engaging in public-private partnerships. These are the people who regularly interact with the public, who are responsible for public safety and security, who own and operate our nation's critical infrastructure and services, who perform research and develop technology, and who keep watch, prepare for, and respond to emerging threats and disasters.

To access a copy of the 2014 QHSR, please visit [www.dhs.gov/QHSR](http://www.dhs.gov/QHSR).

## Securing and Managing Flows of People and Goods

**The movement of people and goods around the world has expanded dramatically in recent years. As the volume of global trade and travel increases, the potential for illegal transport of people and goods across our borders also increases. Between 2005 and 2012, U.S. exports increased 72 percent and imports 36 percent. In the same timeframe, lawful travel to and from the United States increased 36 percent, and air travel increased 47 percent internationally. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and our partners continue to secure and manage the flows of people and goods to ensure economic prosperity and minimize risk.**

### Our Risk Segmentation Approach

Based on an in-depth look at the flows of people and goods there are three distinct but interrelated types of flows, each requiring a different risk-based approach by DHS and our partners. Through this risk segmentation approach to managing the flows of people and goods, DHS ensures a more focused strategy to expediting and safeguarding trade and travel while deterring and interdicting illicit traffic with a more efficient allocation of resources.

#### Legal Flows of People and Goods:

*The vast majority of people and goods entering, exiting, and traversing the United States represent lawful travel and trade. These flows are a main driver of U.S. economic prosperity, and DHS will prioritize the following:*

- Increasing the use of risk-based measures, such as traffic segmentation, and expediting the movement of trusted and low-risk people and goods;
- Upgrading aging infrastructure at air, land, and sea ports of entry to manage higher volumes of trade and travel; and
- Expanding public-private partnerships to leverage overlapping interests, resources, and authorities to meet mutual safety and security needs while expediting trade and travel.

#### Market-Driven Flows:

*DHS will emphasize efforts to counter illicit finance and exploitation of legitimate trade and travel flows by prioritizing activity in two areas where intervention can have an especially high impact:*

- Targeting the profits of market-driven criminal activity and increasing outbound inspections, eliminating the motive for transnational criminal organizations (TCOs) to conduct illicit activity; and
- Increasing perception of risk TCOs face in attempting to serve U.S. markets by shifting DHS resources and capabilities to further target interdiction activities.

#### Terrorism and Other Non-Market Concerns:

*DHS will prioritize efforts to counter terrorist travel into the United States, terrorism against international travel and trade systems, and the export of sensitive goods and technology.*

These illicit flows attempt to threaten national security and/or disrupt global commerce. Examples include terrorists, migration driven by climate change or political fears, and the movement of diseases, pests, and invasive species.

For more on our updated posture to address the terrorist threat, please see the "Securing Against the Evolving Terrorism Threat" section of the QHSR report.