



## **BORDER SURGE STARTLING STATS**

*House Homeland Security Republicans, led by Ranking Member Katko, have been sounding the alarm for weeks on how misguided Biden Administration actions have accelerated the crisis at the southwest border. These actions already have and will continue to have detrimental effects on our immigration system, border security, public health, and rule of law.*

### Reaching The Breaking Point

- Prior to Inauguration Day, CBP was encountering **less than 500 family units per week** attempting to cross illegally, **now we are seeing nearly 2,500 per week**.
- According to CBP, the number of migrants apprehended at the border this January climbed to **nearly 78,000, more than double the 36,679 encounters** in January 2020.
- HHS is "seeing the **highest February numbers...in the history of the UAC program**," Axios reported.
  - According to reports, there is a need for 20,000 beds to shelter the expected rush of child migrants crossing the U.S.-Mexico border.
- HHS overflow facilities are expected to **hit capacity this month** as more migrants surge across the southwest border.
- ICE and CBP are operating at **LESS THAN 30% of their capacity** as part of COVID-19 social distancing precautions.
  - CBP and HHS have reopened their respective overflow facilities for both family units and unaccompanied minors that were used during the 2019 border crisis.
  - HHS is reportedly looking at Department of Defense owned locations to house unaccompanied minors if the volume keeps increasing.
  - CBP has been forced to release thousands of migrants into border communities from their facilities due to capacity restraints.

### Trending In The Wrong Direction

- CBP has encountered more people each month on average during the pandemic in Fiscal Year 2021 than it did during the lead up to the 2019 border crisis.
- CBP officials are projecting a **peak of 13,000 unaccompanied children** crossing the border in May.
  - This would exceed UAC encounters at the height of the 2019 crisis.
  - As HHS facilities reach capacity, the average time in CBP custody for UACs continues to rise. UACs must remain in CBP custody until HHS is able to accept them for placement.
- **Hundreds of border patrol agents** are being diverted from the northern and coastal borders to the Rio Grande Valley sector to respond to the mounting crisis at the border.
- As Americans are told to shut down their businesses, stay home, and avoid "non-essential travel," the Biden Administration is opening the door to let **over 25,000 migrants into the U.S. who previously attempted to enter illegally**.
- Those being re-processed south of our border by international organizations will soon be released into U.S. communities as they get **added to the 1,000,000+ immigration court backlog**.

### Politically Motivated & Counterproductive Policy

- In a dangerous shift toward open borders, the Biden Administration has:
  - Halted construction of the southwest border wall system, including projects already funded through bipartisan appropriations.
  - Implemented selective enforcement of our immigration laws.
  - Suspended the Remain in Mexico policy and allowed the entry of thousands of migrants waiting in Mexico into the country with little guidance around COVID safety precautions.
  - Reimplemented "catch and release."
  - Cancelled Asylum Cooperative Agreements with Central American partners.