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Rebuttal

Increased visa processing is the best long-term solution

Oates 8/17/18; Bryce Oates: previous farm owner, writer and reporter for civil eats covering agriculture, ecology, politics, and the relationship between the economy and the landscape,
<http://www.dailyyonder.com/immigration-proposal-nothing-address-ag-worker-shortage/2017/08/08/20745/>, immigration proposal does nothing to solve ag-worker shortage

Livestock producers, whose animals require daily labor rather than seasonal demands, criticize the program for not allowing a year-round labor option. Farmworker groups don't believe that H2A system adequately protects worker rights, and that H2A workers are burdened with excessive fees and predatory debts for navigating the guestworker visa paperwork and transportation process. They are collaborating with House and Senate Democrats to propose a different immigration process for needed agricultural laborers, the Agricultural Worker Program Act. "The core issue, **the solution to the long-term issue of agricultural employment, is establishing a path to citizenship for farm workers.**" said Farmworker Justice President Goldstein. "

Economic gains for DHS

Melyana R **Pugu**, 20**24**-04-28 "INFLUENCE OF BORDER INFRASTRUCTURE ON TRADE AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN BORDER AREAS", INJOSER, <https://injoser.ioln.org/index.php/123/article/view/172> // RB

The results of the research show that the **improvement of the infrastructure in the border area has a significant positive impact on the volume of trade, with reduced logistics costs and improved efficiency of the flow of goods and services.** Better infrastructure is strongly correlated with **higher levels of foreign investment and closer regional economic integration. Further analysis shows that increased access to education, health care, and public services, catalysed by infrastructure investment, significantly contributes to economic and social development in the border areas.** The research also found that strong border infrastructure increases economic resilience to external disturbances and drives long-term growth through economic diversification and innovation.

Increased investment means the aff pays back for itself

Degeurin 22 [Mack is a reporter at Gizmodo. "Why Emerging Tech's Partly to Blame for a Record \$2.1 Trillion Military Spending Last Year," Gizmodo. 4-26-22.

<https://gizmodo.com/why-emerging-techs-partly-to-blame-for-a-record-2-1-tr-1848844170>

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2021 saw the Biden administration complete the U.S. military's withdrawal out of Afghanistan, drawing a symbolic end to more than two decades worth of large-scale fighting in the Middle East. The country's military spending hasn't reduced in kind to reflect that change, a disparity driven partly by defense industry leaders' eager interest in new, and often extremely expensive, cutting edge tech nologies. While traditional spending on weapons and other arms procurements decreased by 6.4% between 2012-2021, U.S. spending on research and development actually increased by 24%.

"The increase in R&D spending over the decade 2012–21 suggests that the United States is focusing more on next-generation technologies," SIPRI Military Expenditure and Arms Production Programme Researcher Alexandra Marksteiner said in a statement. "The US

Government has repeatedly stressed the need to preserve the US military's technological edge over strategic competitors."

That "technological edge," includes numerous pricey contracts with Silicon Valley for shiny new toys. Just last year, the U.S. Army entered into a major contract with Microsoft, reportedly worth up to \$21.9 billion, to bring its HoloLens augmented reality headsets to soldiers. The army believes the soldiers will strap on the headsets to "fight, rehearse, and train" using a single integrated system and use AR and VR to, "enable a life-like mixed reality training environment." Actual deployment of those goggles has already faced delays.

The military's ties with Big Tech aren't just limited to Microsoft either. A report published last year by by advocates and researchers at Little Sis, Action Center for Race and the Economy (ACRE), and MPower Change, estimates the Pentagon and The Department of Homeland Security spent over \$44 billion on services from Amazon, Google, Microsoft, Facebook, and Twitter since 2004.

Tech focused R&D spending in the military may swell even further in the next decade as the Pentagon ramps up its already brewing technological arms race with China, particularly around artificial intelligence. Speaking at an event organized by the United Nations last year, U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin said the U.S. would dish out nearly \$1.5 billion on AI research and development in the next five years to compete with China, which he claims is developing the tech for, "a range of missions, from surveillance to cyberattacks to autonomous weapons."

Part of that effort to ramp up the military's AI presence traces back to former Google CEO and President Obama tech whisperer Eric Schmidt. As head of the National Security Commission on AI, Schmidt and other defense minded thinkers published a report pushing back against international calls for bans on AI-assisted weapons systems and forcefully advocated for increased cooperation between private industry and military. Not long after Schmidt co-authored The Age of AI, with former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger where he warned of a coming AI Cold War.

President Biden, who faced criticism from some conservatives and interventionists over the U.S' response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine doesn't seem interested in cutting back on military spending anytime soon. Earlier this month, the president

released his annual budget proposal which sought to provide the military with a record \$813 billion in funding over a year, a 4% increase from the previous. Even if Biden's unlikely to secure that exact amount in funding, the proposal provides a glimpse into the President's priorities. Those figures drew the ire of progressive lawmakers like Washington state congresswoman Pramila Jayapal and Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders who slammed the proposal for prioritizing military spending above needed social services.

Rest were analytics.