# Fairmont Prep KT --- Taiwan Invitational --- Neg vs. Taipei American

## 1NC

### 1NC --- Agriculture

**Global food exports are reliant on the US now.**

**Reinsch 23** [William Alan Reinsch, Senior Adviser and Scholl Chair in International Business, 10-24-2023, Climate Change and U.S. Agricultural Exports, Center for Strategic International Studies, https://www.csis.org/analysis/climate-change-and-us-agricultural-exports, recut-WT]

The main bane of the Florida citrus industry has been the citrus greening disease, spread by tiny insects known as psyllids, as well as the damage caused by Hurricanes Ian and Nicole—both factors that are exacerbated by climate change. Trends in Major U.S. Agricultural Exports Due to **favorable climate** conditions, an abundance and variety of arable land, and good **access to human capital** and advanced machinery, the United States has historically been a world **leader** in agriculture. The United States is the **largest exporter** of agricultural commodities in the world: foreign markets absorb about one-fifth of U.S. agricultural production. **Developing nations** with younger populations, high rise in income, and quick rates of urbanization are **driving** an increase in demand for U.S. products. On the other hand, demand from **wealthier nations**—such as Canada, EU countries, and Japan—is experiencing **stagnated growth.** However, the total value of U.S. products has been declining since 2014, in part due to lower prices of bulk agricultural commodities but also due to the growth in value of U.S. imports in the sector, which have risen faster than U.S. exports, lowering the trade surplus. Nevertheless, the United States remains an **important producer** of the world’s agricultural goods. It particularly stands out in exporting wheat, soybeans, corn, cotton, and livestock products abroad. These five goods are therefore useful case studies to establish how U.S. agricultural output and exports are projected to fare in the future. Projections show that warmer temperatures are generally a double-edged sword when it comes to crop productivity. In some places, climate change can lead to more growing-degree days when conditions are favorable for crops; however, in all places, climate change will increase killing-degree days during which temperatures are too hot for crops to grow. In other words, while climate change generally spells trouble for agriculture output, different crops in different regions will be affected unequally. As a result, crops affected by climate change can be divided into two categories: those that receive a “climate boost”—if yields are increased compared to what they would be without climate change—and those that bear a “climate burden”—if yields are decreased compared to what they would be without climate change. For instance, a burden on crop yields occurs when extreme heat decreases more crop yields than warmer temperatures or technological advancement can boost them. The Environmental Defense Fund highlights this phenomenon well: in Iowa, for example, all of the state’s counties will experience climate burdens by 2030 resulting in 5 percent lower yields of corn than they would have been without climate change, and over half of these yields will experience burdens of more than 10 percent. In contrast, wheat yields are projected to see an increase of 17 percent in this time period as its growing range is expanded due to higher temperatures. A General Shift Northward

#### However, unauthorized migrants are critical in upholding US agriculture.

**FWD 22** [No Author, Criminal Justice & Immigration Reform Group founded by Joe Green & Mark Zuckerberg, 9-14-2022, Immigrant Farmworkers and America's Food Production: 5 Things to Know, FWD.US, https://www.fwd.us/news/immigrant-farmworkers-and-americas-food-production-5-things-to-know/, Willie T.]  
1| Farmworkers are essential workers - and most are immigrants Immigrant farmworkers make up an estimated **73% of agriculture workers** in the United States. Farm labor is absolutely **essential** work that puts food on our tables across the country, **powers the economy** and **supports our communities**, from dairy farms in Wisconsin to strawberry fields in Florida and apple orchards in Washington. All together, food and agriculture sector is a $1.053 trillion industry.1 Every state is involved in food production, but California, Iowa, Texas, Nebraska, and Minnesota make up more than one-third of total U.S. agricultural-output value. While some sectors like livestock production are scattered across the country, others are concentrated in certain regions, such as lettuce grown in Arizona or poultry farming in southeastern states like Georgia and Alabama.2 Agricultural work requires great skill and is relentless, exhausting, and can be extremely dangerous. All across the country, farmworkers spend extremely long hours harvesting crops in all types of weather while risking injury or illness from heavy equipment or pesticide exposure. In recent years, workers in states like California and Oregon have also faced wildfires and record heat waves, in addition to the threat of COVID-19. Underscoring the critical importance of farmworkers, the Department of Homeland Security has deemed the food and agriculture sector as “critical infrastructure” during the pandemic. They deserve protections — not just the label "essential." 2| Even before COVID-19 struck, America's farms faced a chronic labor shortage crisis The American Farm Bureau Federation estimates that, in total, U.S. agriculture needs 1.5 to 2 million hired workers each year. Farmers have been struggling to fill these positions; in 2019, 56% of California farmers reported being unable to find all the workers they needed over the last five years. This is partly because, even when wages and benefits are increased, there are still not enough U.S. citizens applying. The current agricultural workforce is also aging, requiring younger workers to replace them. Immigrants have filled these shortfalls in the workforce for decades, but in recent years, fewer immigrants are coming to the U.S. to work in agriculture, a result of current U.S. immigration policy and rising incomes in Mexico. The labor shortage puts American agriculture at a competitive disadvantage. American growers’ inability to find dependable sources of labor is a major reason for the significant increase in the amount of fresh fruit and vegetables that are imported into the U.S, costing billions in sales and tens of thousands of jobs. Without workers, crops wither in the fields, contributing to food waste and millions of dollars in lost production. In 2020, this chronic labor shortage was further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which forced employers to keep workers at home and restricted access to foreign-born workers that farmers had been planning to employ. 3| Legalizing the undocumented workforce is an economic and moral imperative Undocumented farm workers make up approximately **50%** of the farm labor workforce. Without their hard work, millions of pounds of food would otherwise go **unharvested**. While these workers pay taxes and contribute to the economy, they are not protected by U.S. labor laws, and they live every day under the threat of arrest and family separation – all while working in extremely difficult conditions.

#### Moreover, this workforce needs a continued flow of migration.

**Sims 21** [Sydney Sims, 3-28-2021, "American Agriculture’s Dependence on Immigrant Workers," Arkansas Journal of Social Change and Public Service, accessed 8-28-2024, https://ualr.edu/socialchange/2021/03/28/american-agricultures-dependence-on-immigrant-workers/ //vh]

Labor needs are concentrated in California, Texas, Michigan, Washington and North Carolina where the local demand for labor far outweighs the labor supply, pushing farmers to bring in immigrant workers. 80% of immigrant workers fall into the “settled” farmworker category, meaning they work at a single farm location within 75 miles of their home. Those in opposition of immigrant labor are quick to argue the unemployment rates in the U.S., but the truth is Americans would rather be jobless than work in agriculture. A 2010 national survey conducted by the National Council of Agricultural Employers of H-2A employers showed that 68% of the 36,000 domestic workers state agencies referred to H-2A employers did not accept jobs offered to them. The job requires long, laborious work for minimal pay. Farm labor is the third highest expense for a farmer, making it virtually impossible for business owners to increase wages and keep product prices low. Increasing labor costs to incentivize domestic workers is not a solution since American consumers are sensitive to increased price on fruits, vegetables and other horticultural goods. But **Mexican and Central American immigrants can make double their local minimum wages by working in the U.S. Another issue facing immigrant labor is holding onto immigrant workers long term. The turnover rate for immigrant workers is extremely high. Agriculture acts as a steppingstone to the “American dream” and immigrants don’t plan to work in farm labor any longer than necessary**.

**Unfortunately, harsh border policies such as the affirmative create the fear of apprehension which decks migration and lowers agricultural output.  
Kille 12** [Leighton Walter Kille, co-founded Journalist's Resource @ Harvard Kennedy School where he served as managing editor and research editor, 6-25-2012, Implications of immigration policies for U.S. farm sector and workforce, Journalist's Resource, https://journalistsresource.org/environment/implications-immigration-policies-u-s-farm-sector-labor/, accessed 7-10-2024 // BZ + recut-WT] \*\*edited for objectionable language\*\*

A 2011 study published in Economic Inquiry, “Implications of Immigration Policies for U.S. Farm Sector and Workforce,” examined the effect of U.S. immigration policy on the flow of unauthorized immigrants from Mexico and the subsequent impact on the nation’s economy. The researchers, based at Washington State University and the University of Idaho, modeled the relationship between restrictive policies and the productivity of the U.S. agricultural sector. The findings include: There is a **strong relationship between** spending on**border security** and **rates of illegal [unauthorized] immigration** from Mexico. “As the **probability of apprehension** of illegal [unauthorized] immigrants at the border **increases**, the flow of **undocumented [unauthorized] workers into the United States lessens.**” A **10% increase** in domestic enforcement spending, primarily worksite surveillance, reduces the wage rate for illegal workers more than 11%; curbs illegal [unauthorized] labor use by approximately **9,000 workers to U.S. ag**riculture; and decreases U.S.-Mexico commodity trade by an average of $180 million. “**Heightened border enforcements** **reduce the employment of undocumented** **[unauthorized] workers**and commodity production, which causes U.S. agricultural exports to Mexico to decline by an average of 5%.” Reductions in the immigrant labor force has caused labor shortages in several states and has had “devastating effects on farm production and profitability.” These are being felt by consumers through higher costs for fruits and vegetables. “The results of the study show the distinct tradeoffs between reducing illegal immigration into the United States, and the productivity of the agricultural sector, and subsequently the U.S. economy,” the researchers state. “U.S. government policies aimed at deporting unauthorized workers — without taking adequate measures to supply farm laborers through guest-worker programs — will adversely affect the supply of farm laborers to crop production.”

**Devastatingly, such a collapse doesn’t stay contained to the US.**

**Win 20** [Thin Lei Win, 3-19-2020, Climate shocks in just one country could disrupt global food supply, Reuters, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-climate-change-usa-food/climate-shocks-in-just-one-country-could-disrupt-global-food-supply-idUSKBN2170GZ/> //SJID]

ROME (Thomson Reuters Foundation) - Catastrophic crop failures caused by extreme weather in just one country could disrupt global food supplies and drive price spikes in an interconnected world, exposing how climate change threatens global stability, researchers said on Friday. They examined how the global trade and supplies of wheat, a crop used for food staples like bread and pasta, would be affected by four years of severe drought in the United States, one of the world’s top exporters of the grain. Based on two models of how countries could try to meet their needs, an international research team found the United States would deplete nearly all its wheat reserves after four years in both scenarios, while global stocks could drop by 31%. The **174 countries** to which America exports wheat would see their **reserves decrease**, even though they did not themselves suffer failed harvests, according to a study published in the journal Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems. “It affects almost every country in the world because the U.S. has **so many trade links**,” said lead author Alison Heslin, a researcher at Columbia University’s Center for Climate Systems Research and NASA’s Goddard Institute for Space Studies. Those links mean there is a **cascading effect**, either directly from the United States or via one of **its trading partners**, which could reduce the amount of wheat available and increase prices, she told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. As reserves are depleted, changes in production would have a bigger impact on the price of food, Heslin added. Reduced global reserves would also mean a **smaller buffer** against future shocks such as a drought in other wheat-producing nations like Russia or France, she said. Scientists have warned hotter temperatures and more erratic rainfall could increase the frequency and intensity of droughts, with multi-year droughts already **wreaking havoc in many nations**. Five years of recurring droughts have destroyed maize and bean harvests in Central America’s Dry Corridor, for example, leaving poor farmers struggling to feed their families and pushing them to migrate, the United Nations said in 2019. The wheat study was based on data from the 1930s American Dust Bowl disaster when maize and wheat production plummeted due to intense drought, higher temperatures and strong winds, causing thousands of deaths. Heslin said global food security was key to people’s health and safety, with international food price spikes in 2008 and 2011 curtailing families’ ability to purchase food and rattling **political stability** as people protested on the streets. Maintaining strategic food reserves and a diverse set of trading partners could help countries reduce risks, she added.

**This shock would be the last straw for millions.**

**Chan 22** (Wai Kwen Chan, 5/27/2022, “Millions of people ‘marching towards starvation’ as global food crisis worsens”, Financial Times, https://www.ft.com/content/bc0fab32-4edb-4018-9de4-cf330c66f5d8. DOA: 9/9/2022)

**An impending global food crisis has been high on the agenda** at the World Economic Forum, and could turn into the worst hunger catastrophe in decades. **Since the war in Ukraine**, wheat and corn prices have jumped 41 per cent and 28 cent respectively, as Russia and Ukraine combined represent about 30 per cent of global wheat exports. Some European **nations are concerned that rising food prices and shortages** in the fragile emerging markets in Africa and the Middle East **could lead to a humanitarian disaster** and trigger another wave of migration to EU countries. Russian president Vladimir Putin told Italian prime minister Mario Draghi that Moscow could help alleviate the crisis stemming from the blockade of Ukrainian grain exports, if the west eases its sanctions against Russia. Putin also suggested that the country could export its own grain and fertiliser, if sanctions were lifted. David Beasley, executive director of the UN World Food Programme, said up to **323mn people were “marching towards starvation” and 49mn were “knocking on famine’s door**” in 43 countries. Food protectionism is also a growing concern, with India announcing a ban on wheat exports this month. Beasley told Gideon Rachman: “Export ban on food can create havoc in the market. We ask countries not to do that.

#### Food insecurity is often a death wish.

**Ross 24** [Steven Ross, Public health reporter @ US News, 1-29-2024, Food Insecurity Tied to Shorter Life, Early Death, US News & World Report, https://www.usnews.com/news/health-news/articles/2024-01-29/study-food-insecurity-tied-to-shorter-life-early-death, Willie T.]

**People who experience food insecurity are at greater risk of dying prematurely and living a shorter life** after age 50, researchers say, underscoring how a fairly prevalent problem can impact individual health. The federal government says food insecurity refers to “limited or uncertain access to adequate food” – an economic and social condition that can lead to hunger. In an analysis published Monday in JAMA Internal Medicine, researchers found 78.4% of more than 57,400 U.S. adults included in the study were fully food secure, compared with 8.5% who had marginal food security, 7.4% who had low levels of food security and 5.6% who experienced very low food security. **Researchers also found estimated life expectancy at age 50 was 32.5 years among individuals with full food security, compared with 29.9 years among adults with marginal food security, 30 years among those with low food security and 28 years among individuals with very low food security.** That means adults with very low food security lived 4.5 years less once they turned 50 than those with full food security, and researchers said about half of the lost life expectancy could be attributed to deaths from cardiovascular disease and cancer. The analysis, based on survey data from 1999 to 2018, additionally **found an association between** **even marginal food security and a 50% higher risk of premature mortality, defined as a death occurring before a person turns 80.** “The present findings may have a great public health implication,” researchers wrote. “Our results suggest that in addition to encouraging people to improve their lifestyle and cardiovascular health, improving food security may also be a way to curb the stagnant life expectancy of U.S. residents.” The new findings come on the heels of provisional data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention showing average life expectancy in the U.S. rebounded in 2022 by a little over a year following two straight declines, fueled largely by a drop in mortality tied to COVID-19. Overall life expectancy at birth rose from 76.4 years in 2021 to 77.5 years in 2022. By gender, the new study found women with very low food security lived an average of 5.8 years less at age 50 compared with women with full food security. Men with very low food security, meanwhile, had a life expectancy three years shorter than men with full food security at that age threshold.

### 1NC --- Remittances

**Remittances are money transfers.**

**Ratha nd** [Dilip Ratha, scholar of international migration and its relationship with global development, “What Are Remittances?”, International Monetary Fund, https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/basics/pdf/ratha-remittances.pdf //akang]

WHEN MIGRANTS send home part of their earnings in the form of either cash or goods to support their families, these transfers are known as workers’ or migrant **remittances**. They have been growing rapidly in the past few years and now represent the largest source of foreign income for many developing economies. It is hard to estimate the exact size of remittance flows because many take place through unofficial channels. Worldwide, officially recorded international migrant remittances are projected to reach $596 billion in 2017, with $450 billion flowing to developing economies. These are recorded in the balance of payments; exactly how to record them is being reviewed by an international technical group. Unrecorded flows through informal channels are believed to be at least 50 percent larger than recorded flows. Not only are remittances large but they are also more evenly distributed among developing economies than capital flows, including foreign direct investment. Remittances are especially important for low-income countries and account for nearly 4 percent of their GDP, compared with about 1.5 percent of GDP for middle-income countries.

#### These funds are increasing in Latin America as we speak.

**Inter-American Development Bank 23** [Inter-American Development Bank, “Remittances to Latin America and the Caribbean Set a New Record”, https://www.iadb.org/en/news/remittances-latin-america-and-caribbean-set-new-record //akang]

Remittances received by Latin American and Caribbean countries are projected to reach a record $155 billion in 2023 if the trends observed to date continue, according to a new report by the Inter-American Development Bank. This is an increase of 9.5% compared to the $142 billion received in 2022, completing fifteen consecutive years of growth. The sustained growth of remittances reflects new intraregional migratory flows and the contribution that migrants make to their countries of origin. Despite a moderate increase between 2017 and 2019 and the extraordinary growth in 2021 (26.7%) during the COVID-19 pandemic, remittances to Latin American and Caribbean countries have shown sustained growth of around 10% annually for the past 10 years. This increase in 2023 is mainly explained by the growth in remittances received by Central American countries (13.2%), the growth in remittances received by Mexico (9.8%), and the growth in remittances that South America received (7.9%). In the case of the Caribbean countries, growth in 2023 is more moderate (2.6%). This new report by the Inter-American Development Bank also offers a detailed analysis of the origins and destination of remittances to the countries of the region based on data published by the Central Banks. The amount estimated for the year reflects the increase in the income of migrants, who improved their employment rates, as well as the progress of the migration process in previous periods, which allowed an increase in the flows of remittances received by families in the countries of origin.

#### Not only are they growing in numbers, but they’re growing in importance.

**Harris 22** [Jeremy Harris, PhD in Economics from the University of Maryland, June 2022, Remittances to Latin America and the Caribbean in 2021. Migrant efforts during the COVID-19 crisis, Inter-American Development Bank, https://publications.iadb.org/en/remittances-latin-america-and-caribbean-2021-migrant-efforts-during-covid-19-crisis, Willie T.]

At the subregional level, **remittance flows** in 2021 accounted for **12.4%** and 12.2% of GDP in the Caribbean and Central America, respectively. This share was much lower in Mexico and South America: 4.0% and 0.8%, respectively. Although at the macroeconomic level remittances appear to be less significant in these countries as compared to their respective average incomes, these flows are **still vital** for **millions of families** there.

#### However, affirming upends this growth.

**Alden 17** [Edward Alden, Professor @ Western Washington University, 2017, Is Border Enforcement Effective? What We Know and What it Means, Center for Migration Studies, https://cmsny.org/publications/jmhs-is-border-enforcement-effective/, Willie T.] \*\*edited for objectionable content\*\*

Until recently it has been hard to referee the disputes with any confidence because the data was simply inadequate — both sides could muster their preferred measures to make their case. But improvements in both data and analysis are increasingly making it possible to offer answers to the critical question of the effectiveness of border enforcement in stopping and deterring illegal [unauthorized] entry. The new evidence suggests that unauthorized migration across the southern border has **plummeted**, with successful illegal [unauthorized] entries falling from roughly 1.8 million in 2000 to just 200,000 by 2015. Border enforcement has been a **significant reason** for the decline — in particular, the growing use of “consequences” such as jail time for illegal [unauthorized] border crossers has had a powerful effect in **deterring repeated border crossing efforts**. The success of deterrence through enforcement has meant that attempted crossings have **fallen dramatically** even as the **likelihood of a border crosser being apprehended** by the Border Patrol has **only risen** slightly, to just over a 50-50 chance. These research advances should help to inform a more rational public debate over the incremental benefits of additional border enforcement expenditures. With Congress gearing up to consider budget proposals from the Trump administration that seek an additional $2.6 billion for border security, including construction of new physical barriers, the debate is long overdue.

#### This is devastating.

**Nunez 21** [Roy Nunez, Professor @ Universidad de las Americas Puebla (Mexico), Remittances, migration, and poverty. A study for Mexico and Central America, Investigación económica, https://www.scielo.org.mx/scielo.php?script=sci\_arttext&pid=S0185-16672021000400098, Willie T.]  
In the last two decades, **remittances** have acquired **great importance** as a source of external income for various developing economies. In the particular case of Latin America, the United States represents the most important destination, with 62.1 million Latinos living there according to U.S. Census Bureau. This paper analyses the effect that migration and remittances have on poverty in Mexico and Central America. The results show that a 10% increase in migration to the United States (as a percentage of the population in the destination country) translates into an 8.6% reduction in the population living on less than US$ 1.90 a day, while the **poverty** gap is reduced by 12.8%. With regard to remittances, a reduction of 6.7% is observed in the poor population and 10% in relation to the poverty gap. Resumen Recientemente, las remesas han adquirido gran importancia como fuente de ingresos externos de diversas economías en desarrollo. En el caso particular de América Latina, Estados Unidos representa el destino más importante, con 62.1 millones de latinos viviendo en ese país según el U.S. Census Bureau. El presente trabajo analiza el efecto que tienen la migración y el envío de remesas en la pobreza de México y Centroamérica. Los resultados muestran que un incremento del 10% en la migración hacia Estados Unidos (como porcentaje de la población en el país de destino) se traduce en una reducción de 8.6% de la población que vive con menos de US$ 1.90 al día; mientras que la brecha de pobreza se reduce en 12.8%. Con relación al envío de remesas, se observa una reducción de 6.7% en la población pobre y de 10% respecto a la brecha de pobreza. Clasificación JEL: C36; F22; F24; I32 Palabras clave: remesas de trabajadores; pobreza; migración internacional; variables instrumentales No one leaves home unless home is the mouth of a shark you only run for the border when you see the whole city running as well your neighbors running faster than you breath bloody in their throats the boy you went to school with who kissed you dizzy behind the old tin factory is holding a gun bigger than his body you only leave home when home won’t let you stay. W. Shire, Home (2021). 1. Introduction Migration and its counterpart, remittances, are probably some of the most human topics in economic science where many questions remain to be solved. Despite the efforts and advances in the study of migration and remittances, it is still necessary to know the dynamics of migration in order to understand the link that exists between this population group and the evolution of the remittances they send to their families in the country of origin to be able to analyse the effect on poverty (Banerjee and Duflo, 2019). Therefore, this study aims to discuss the effect of migration and remittances on poverty in the origin country. In this sense, the analysis is twofold: We first compute the effect of migration on poverty and then the impact of remittances on poverty. The remittances that Mexico and Central America receive from abroad increase the living standards of recipient households and reduce poverty in the recipient country (World Bank, 2019). In fact, remittances measured in relation to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) reach very high percentages in economies with lower per capita income. However, the contribution of remittances is often ignored when measuring poverty. In Mexico, during the 1990s, financial flows from the United States by way of remittances from Mexican workers living in that country increased rapidly. The flow from Mexico to the United States was the main migratory corridor in 2020, representing 3.9% of global migration (Fundación BBVA Bancomer-CONAPO, 2020). The Bank of Mexico reported that in 2020 Mexico received US$ 40,606 million in remittances, of which 95.4% came from the United States. Central America, meanwhile, is an important regional source of migrants. In 2018, this region received more than US$ 22,000 million in remittances. These resources are **very important** in El Salvador, where they are equivalent to 21.4% of GDP; in Honduras they amount to 20.0% of GDP, in Guatemala 12.0% and in Nicaragua 11.3%. In recent decades, two major stages of Central American emigration can be distinguished. One of them is associated with political conflicts and civil wars in different countries, exacerbated in the 1980s, and which caused an increase in emigrants from El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala. The second is explained by the economic conditions, the search for better opportunities and the increase in violence, all of which have been increasingly noticeable since the beginning of the 21st century, leading to a growth of emigrants from Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras (Fundación BBVA Bancomer-CONAPO, 2019).

#### Make no mistake, poverty does kill

Paul S. **Mueller**, Professor of Internal Medicine @ UT Austin Dell Medical School, April 20, 20**23**. “Poverty Is a Leading Cause of Death in the U.S.” NEJM. Journal Watch. https://www.jwatch.org/na56040/2023/04/20/poverty-leading-cause-death-us

**Current poverty is associated with 42% excess risk for death. Cumulative poverty (i.e., 10 continuous years of** poverty) is associated **with 71% excess risk for death.** Survival of people in poverty diverges from those not in poverty at age 40. Divergence peaks at age 70 and diminishes thereafter. In 2019, among people who were 15 or older, **cumulative poverty was the fourth leading cause of death (296,000 deaths), behind heart disease, cancer, and smoking, and ahead of dementia and obesity. Current poverty was the seventh leading cause (183,000 deaths),** ahead of accidents, chronic lung disease, stroke, suicide, and homicide.

## 2NC

**A2: Drugs**

**1. T – Border enforcement means deadlier drugs.**

**Thornton 22** [Christy Thornton, assistant professor of sociology & Latin American studies at Johns Hopkins University, 9-7-2022, New York Times, The U.S. Has Led the War on Drugs Abroad for Decades, and It’s Been a Staggering Failure, https://www.nytimes.com/2022/09/07/opinion/colombia-drug-war-us.html, Willie T.]  
Though a place like West Virginia may seem removed from the jungles of Colombia or the mountains of Mexico, they are connected by U.S. drug control policy. Prohibition measures abroad not only have failed to stop the flow of drugs but also have been a key driver of the deadly innovations in the drug supply here at home. While forced eradication can decrease the supply of drug crops in a particular location, studies have shown that these reductions are always temporary. In fact, experts have long recognized that crackdowns in one place merely create a “**balloon effect**” in which production and trafficking **shift to another place**. Cultivators move production to locations under less scrutiny, and traffickers move to new territory — as we have seen in the shift in recent years from Colombia to Mexico and Central America. Further, going after high-profile kingpins merely splinters drug trafficking organizations into new factions, increasing competition and violence in source countries. As a result, traffickers are pushed into ever more remote and often ecologically fragile areas — with devastating environmental effects that contribute to displacement. And perhaps most important, militarized source-control measures and increased border security efforts actually **create incentives** for traffickers to find new profit sources that are **easier to manufacture and transport**, as we’ve seen over the decades — from cannabis to cocaine and heroin, to methamphetamines, and now to synthetic opioids like **fentanyl.** Combined with a well-documented crackdown on overprescribed prescription painkillers here in the United States, this has led to an explosion in the supply of the fentanyl that is driving our **overdose crisis**. Ultimately, more than four decades of the U.S.-led war on drugs abroad has not only failed to reduce the supply of illicit substances, it has actually made them more dangerous. A recent U.N. report found that global drug use is up 26 percent from a decade ago. Another survey by the Drug Enforcement Administration confirmed that despite decades of these source control measures, drug prices remain steady, purity and potency remain high, drugs remain widely available, and overdoses are skyrocketing. “It is time for a new international convention that accepts that the war on drugs has failed,” President Petro said during his inauguration speech, echoing an argument that has been made by other Latin American leaders in recent years. Promoting policies that foster violence overseas will do nothing to reverse the trend toward an increasingly unsafe drug supply here at home.

**2. NL – Cartels adapt to aquatic routes and other markets.**

**Habib this week** [Maria Abi-Habib, Latin America investigative correspondent @ NYT, 9-15-2024, How a Tourist Paradise Became a Drug-Trafficking Magnet, New York Times, https://www.nytimes.com/2024/09/15/world/americas/costa-rica-drug-trafficking.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share&referringSource=articleShare&sgrp=c-cb&ngrp=mnp&pvid=A31D683A-9FE3-402F-84C3-3D9079788F90, Willie T.]

Mexican and Colombian cartels now use fruit warehouses in Limón to store their drugs, as fronts to send containers of cocaine abroad and to launder their money through agricultural farms, Costa Rican officials said. The produce can bruise easily and is laborious to sort through for security checks; therefore, the fruit must be transported quickly before it rots, putting pressure on ports to get shipments moving fast. “The world is a logistics puzzle and the narcos are **experts** at logistics,” said Mr. Zamora. And the traffickers always seemed **a step ahead**. The Costa Rican authorities recently found that the criminal groups were employing **scuba divers** to weld underwater hulls to the bottoms of ships that could carry up to 1.5 tons of cocaine. The authorities also discovered that local traffickers were smuggling soda bottles filled with cocaine converted into liquid form to **Europe and the Middle East**. Randall Zuñiga, the director of the Judicial Investigation Department, Costa Rica’s equivalent of the F.B.I., said the liquid cocaine discovery had spooked the authorities, signaling the growing **sophistication** of the country’s traffickers. “The narcos used to be focused on getting drugs up to Mexico to enter the U.S.,” Mr. Zuñiga said. “But Mexico is **no longer** the most important player, because Costa Rica is a bridge to **Europe**, which is now flooded with cocaine.” ‘We Have to Adapt’ During a recent joint operation combining Costa Rica’s park rangers and the border police, the officers strapped on bulletproof vests, life jackets layered on top. Their boats — donated by the United States — sliced through the calm waters of a river canal as they scanned mangroves for any signs of suspicious activity.

**That’s worse --- Only America with its history of overdose has the measures needed to save lives.**

**Hoffman 24** [Jan Hoffman, Addiction Crisis Reporter @ The NYT & Journalism Fellow @ Yale Law School, 5-15-2024, Overdose Deaths Dropped in U.S. in 2023 for First Time in Five Years, the New York Times, https://www.nytimes.com/2024/05/15/health/drug-overdose-deaths.html, Willie T.]

Overdose deaths in the United States **declined slightly last year**, the first decrease in five years, according to preliminary federal data released Wednesday. The rare good news in the decades-old addiction crisis was attributable mostly to a drop in deaths from **synthetic opioids, chiefly fentanyl**, said researchers at the National Center for Health Statistics, who compiled the numbers. But the full portrait of the death toll from street drugs remains grim. Even as opioid deaths fell, deaths from stimulants such as cocaine and methamphetamine rose. And some states, including Oregon and Washington, continued to experience sharp rises in overall overdose fatalities. The report from the health statistics agency, an arm of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, did not offer reasons for the drop. But **naloxone**, a drug that reverses opioid overdoses, **has become more widely available**: In 2023, 22 million doses of Narcan, the best-known brand, were distributed in the United States and Canada. **Test strips for users to detect the presence of fentanyl in a drug became more popular**, and **many communities and clinics offered programs** that hand out sterile syringes. Dr. Bruce Hurley, president of the American Society of Addiction Medicine, a professional organization of more than 7,500 treatment providers, said that the group appreciated what he called “the leveling of the overdose curve.”

**A2: Guns**

**1. NU – Mexico is moving towards peace.**

**Pandit 24** [Puja Pandit, 5-14-2024, 4th consecutive year of improvement in peacefulness in Mexico, Vision of Humanity, https://www.visionofhumanity.org/fourth-consecutive-year-of-improvement-amid-persistent-organized-crime-challenges/] doobz

**Mexico’s peacefulness** improved by **1.4 percent** in 20**23**, with all **five indicators** of the MPI **registering** modest **improvements**. The homicide rate decreased by 5.3% in 2023, marking the fourth straight year of improvement. However, homicides continue to be a significant concern, with more than 30,500 victims last year.

**2. Taking guns out means they fight over the existing guns. It’s offense for us!**

**3. T – Cartels would retaliate.**

**HRMI 19** [No Author. September 24, 2019. “Cartel Wars: How A Border Wall Will Increase Drug Cartel Violence in Mexico”. Human Rights Measurement Initiative. https://humanrightsmeasurement.org/cartel-wars-how-a-border-wall-will-increase-drug-cartel-violence/] doobz

Erecting a stronger continuous border wall along the US-Mexico border may lead to an **escalation in violence** and greater human rights violations. The newer physical barrier might reduce cartel human trafficking and narcotics, but that will likely come at a cost.On 06-19-1019 construction crews continue work on the replacement border wall on the boundary between the United States and Mexico near the Calexico Port of Entry. Photo by Mani Albrecht. A more tightly controlled barrier will **increase fragile tensions** between top Mexican drug syndicates and the Mexican government. Currently, an **uneasy alliance** exists among the major rings in Mexico. According to a DEA report in 2018, Mexico is dominated by the Sinaloa Cartel, Juarez Cartel, Los Zetas, and a string of smaller cartels. Each control territory or ‘plazas’ that collect revenue for trafficking narcotics, weapons, and humans. **Historically**, when the distribution routes are threatened it results in war between drug syndicates. For example, in 2012, the newly elected Mexican government adopted a more militarised strategy targeting the cartels; it strangled their resources and revenue streams. The cartels responded with an increase in violence against the government, civilians, and other rings. Mexico saw **its worst spike in forced disappearances, crime, and homicides**. As the border wall is constructed, officials in the United States and Mexico can expect another spike in mob violence. Torture, forced disappearances, executions are common tactics as they suppress local populations and instil terror. The cartels possess sophisticated weaponry and maintain large paramilitaries that rival the Mexican army. Many of these acts of violence often involve the Mexican police or government officials. The cartels pay billions in bribes to judges, police, military, and politicians. Many of these individuals assist the syndicates through committing torture and forced disappearances, or by shielding the perpetrators from prosecution. Similarly, the Mexican government often acts with violence against the cartels. The government strategy to counter the cartels has focused on using the military. The Mexican military has been responsible for large numbers of illegal killings, torture, and disappearances. Building a border wall will decrease the smuggling routes across the U.S. border, prompting more violence as the syndicates attempt to keep these routes open and compete for control.

**Outweighs on probability because it’s historically verified.**

**4. NL – We can’t take out existing guns which means current violence stays or gets worse --- we control the only risk of offense. Guns break down in years. They can’t come close to solving for decades.**

**5. NL - Cartels just shift to stealing from the military**

**Peralta 22** [A Martinez and Eyder Peralta, 10-14-2022, “Data leak exposes Mexico military corruption, including collusion with drug cartels”, NPR, https://www.npr.org/2022/10/14/1129001666/data-leak-exposes-mexico-military-corruption-including-collusion-with-drug-carte //akang]

A MARTINEZ, HOST: Mexico is trying to come to terms with a data leak of more than 4 million documents from inside the military that has exposed some of the country's closest-kept secrets. LEILA FADEL, HOST: NPR has obtained the documents, which includes everything from the health of the president to **corruption** among Mexico's military. MARTINEZ: NPR's Eyder Peralta joins us now from Mexico City. Eyder, let's start with what was leaked. What have we learned about that so far? EYDER PERALTA, BYLINE: We've learned a ton about the military. I mean, one of the big ones is that President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador had to be airlifted to a hospital with a heart problem. Another document alleges that a top law enforcement officer was taking $250,000 a month to protect the cartel. But above all, this has revealed a ton about Mexico's military. We've learned that despite being tasked with fighting the drug war, some of its **soldiers sold weapons to the cartels**. We've learned that they suggested - that the military suggests legislation, that the military keeps statistics on murders and that they run surveillance on airports. We found that they keep dossiers on politicians and environmental activists, anarchists and feminists. In one email, we found what military officials calls a counterintelligence operation against the bricklayers at a government project. There are millions of documents, as you said, but I think what is clear and what we find is that **Mexico's military is involved in every major aspect of this country**. MARTINEZ: So what do we know about the group that leaked it? PERALTA: So they call themselves the Guacamaya, or the Macaws. And they're anonymous, but they say that they're anti-colonial anti-capitalist environmentalists. And they've done similar things in other countries. But this hack is huge - 6 terabytes of data taken from the email servers of the Mexican Ministry of Defense. And it's one of the biggest leaks in history. MARTINEZ: What has the government said about this? Because I've got to admit, Eyder, I'm not too shocked. What's been the reaction? PERALTA: President Lopez Obrador has admitted that the documents were real, but he shrugged it off. The defense minister actually refused an invitation by Parliament to testify about this. But what's important to note is that this is coming at a time when this president has given the military a lot more power, and it comes when, through other reports, we've learned that the military was also involved in the killing of 43 college students in 2014. Yet the president continues to tell the Mexican people that the only institution that can be trusted is the military. I spoke to political analyst Denise Dresser. And like you, she says that while none of this is a surprise to those who were paying attention, it's still about an institution that was supposed to fix things, and that's why these leaks are so hard to process. Let's listen. DENISE DRESSER: There's still an element, I think, of false hope that if we continue to rely on the Mexican military, eventually some semblance of peace will emerge. What the leaks reveal is that perhaps there's already a level of collusion that can't be dismantled. PERALTA: So the military, she says, the president and the Mexicans had put their faith in has turned almost **all powerful**, and it may just be as corrupt as the rest of the Mexican state. And that's really hard to come to terms with, she says. MARTINEZ: NPR's Eyder Peralta in Mexico City. Eyder, thanks. PERALTA: Thank you, A.

**That’s worse:**

**A --- fostering greater connection through arms sales between cartels and the government supercharges every issue since the Mexican military is the biggest safeguard against CARTELS**