

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [Illegal US Border Crossings Aren't Really Breaking Records](#)

Article Link: <https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2024-03-20/illegal-us-border-crossings-aren-t-really-breaking-records?sref=U3dOGIDF>

Author(s)	Justin Fox
Publication	Bloomberg
Publication Date	March 20, 2024

Tweet: [Illegal immigration may not be at a record high. @foxjust argues statistics are being skewed by a change in behavior as illegals seek out government authorities to take advantage of the asylum system.](#)

Summary: The problem with the statistics on what US Customs and Border Protection now calls Southwest land border encounters is that they leave out people who successfully evade the agency's agents. In past decades, these were the majority of illegal border crossers. The Department of Homeland Security estimates of the Southwest border apprehension rate in the 2000s range from 33% (in 2003) to 43% (in 2000 and 2009). In recent years, the apprehension rate has been much higher than that. According to the most recent estimate by DHS, it was 81% in the 2021 fiscal year. Going by monthly CBP "got away" estimates compiled by the Cato Institute's David J. Bier, the apprehension rate was 79% in both the 2022 and 2023 fiscal years, and 92% in the first four months of the 2024 fiscal year. That rate has risen partly because the US-Mexico border is more tightly controlled than it used to be, but mainly it's just that most of the people crossing the border illegally intend to turn themselves in and apply for asylum.

Related Articles: [New Immigration Estimates Help Make Sense Of The Pace Of Employment and The Demographic Outlook: 2024 to 2054 and Illegal Immigration Is a Bigger Problem Than Ever. These Five Charts Explain Why](#)

Primary Topic: Immigration

Topics: Database, Immigration, Op-Ed/Blog Post, Politics, Weekly, Workforce

Permalink: <https://www.edwardconard.com/macro-roundup/illegal-immigration-may-not-be-at-a-record-high-foxjust-argues-statistics-are-being-skewed-by-a-change-in-behavior-as-illegals-seek-out-government-authorities-to-take-advantage-of-the-asylum-system?view=detail>

Featured Image Link: <https://www.edwardconard.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Long-View-Of-Illegal-Immigration.png>