## FA49QRS

### MEMORANDUM FOR U.S. Army Analytic Agency

### ATTN: Ms. Janet Smith

### SUBJECT: United States Border Crossing Information Paper

1.Purpose: To provide insights gathered from the border crossing/entry dataset.

2.Backgorund: The Border Crossing/Entry dataset contains 364,510 records, pertaining to 7 distinct measures (variables). The dataset specifically measures border crossing at the U.S.-Canada and the U.S.-Mexico border, at the port level[[1]](#footnote-24). Data area available for the following crossing methods: Personal Vehicle Passengers, Personal Vehicles, Truck Containers Empty, Truck Containers Loaded, Trucks, Pedestrians, Rail Containers Empty, Rail Containers Loaded, Train Passengers, Trains, Buses, Bus Passengers[[2]](#footnote-26)d. Data is available from 1996, for 103 of 117 port cities, multiple additional dates for the remaining ports.

3.Assumptions: The following assumptions are made with regard to the border crossing dataset:

* Border crossings are ligitately documented individuals, and do not represent smuggling
* All crossings are reported for the port city on record, and not surrounding areas
* Each crossing represents an individual or vehicle, and may be duplicated at another time in the dataset

1. Discussion: periodicity of the port cities; pedestrian v port traffic;
2. First: Every border crossing city experiences periodicity of some sort, especially those where personal passener vehicles and pedestrian traffic is predominant. This phenomenon is evident in Piegan, MT (Figure A), where both personal vehicles and personal passenger vehicles are the predominant method of transportation, and significant spikes occur each year. Similarly, we see that a similar trend is present for Skagway, AK, with buss passengers as the predominant mode of transportation.
3. Second: There exists a significantly larger traffic footprint at the U.S.-Mexico border, than the U.S.-Canada border. Here is where I talk Andra’s pivot data…
4. Third: Anomolies exists within the dataset that warraint further examination, beyond this analysis.
5. Findings: This analysis does something…

1. Border Crossing/Entry Data. Accessed on 11Jun21. <https://www.bts.gov/browse-statistical-products-and-data/border-crossing-data/border-crossingentry-data> [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
2. Ibid. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)