Important Ties with Mexico

- U.S.-Mexico ties touch more U.S. lives daily than any other country via trade, border connections, tourism, and family ties as well as illicit flows. The same is even more true for Mexico.
- An estimated 36.6 million U.S. citizens are of Mexican heritage.
- From the year 2000 to 2017, the Mexican-origin population increased by 76%.
- The shared 1990-mile border (3,201 km) creates overlapping security, economic and environmental interests.
- 2010-2016, government-to-government collaboration, including against crime, was unprecedented.
Serious Challenges to Address

- U.S. drug demand and cross-border criminal networks
- Strengthening law enforcement cooperation
- Negative public perceptions
- Addressing Causes of Central American migration
- Implementing USMCA
- Migration & border Management
- Surging Criminal Violence in Mexico
- Countering Corruption
- Potential Terrorism
Importance of U.S.-Mexico Trade

Mexico is the U.S.’:
• 2nd largest export market
• 3rd largest Ag export market: $19 billion in 2017
• 1st or 2nd export market for 28 U.S. States
• 1st export market for U.S. Southern Border States

For the first time in 2019, Mexico became the US’ largest trading partner, ahead of Canada and China.
US-Mexico Trade

2018 Trade in goods and services:

$678 Billion

US and Mexico trade over 1 million dollars per minute

Currency in USD. Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2019
US-Mexico Border Crossings

Each day there are over

1 million

border crossings

Source: Bureau of transportation statistics, 2016
U.S. Trade with Mexico has multiplied by 6 since 1993

- The U.S. sells more to Mexico than to all the BRICS countries together

Mexico & Canada: Top Trading Partners in 2019

For the first time, trade with Mexico exceeds Canada and China.

More U.S. Content in Imports from Mexico and Canada

Value of U.S. Content in Manufactured Imports from Selected Economies
2010 Study

Source: Robert Koopman et al. “Give Credit Where Credit is Due: Tracing Value Added in Global Production Chains”. NBER Working Paper No 16426.
Mexico trade and investment supports over 5 million US jobs

Some 5 million US jobs depend on trade and investment ties with Mexico (2017), compared to an estimated 700,000 jobs in 1993.

# Rank Order: Top US States’ Trade with Mexico 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Volume $USD (Billions)</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Volume $USD (Billions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>71.6</td>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>21.2</td>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>15.7</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Secretaria de Economia, 2018
U.S.-Mexico Border States

• In 2017, the U.S.-Mexico Border States’ GDP reached $5.07 trillion

• GDP from both sides of the border would constitute the 3rd largest economy in the world.

Source: Mexico Institute calculations based on the US Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2018 and INEGI, 2018

Largest economies in the world (2017)
- United States: $19.49 trillion
- China: $12.01 trillion
- Japan: $4.87 trillion
- Germany: $3.7 trillion
Border Management: Licit and Illicit Flows
Moving toward Co-Management of the Border
Trucks Crossing the US-Mexico Border

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 2017
2012-2016 from blame to “shared responsibilities”

- Making the border more open to legitimate travel and commerce.
- Worked to align customs regulations; started joint customs facilities.
- New mechanisms to communicate, coordinate and more effectively counter illicit trade and travel: drugs, guns, money and people.
- Steps to reduce cross-border violence.
- New programs to share information on potential border crossers.
- Worked to create a Trilateral Trusted Traveler Program.
- Coordinated to manage immigrant surge from Central America 2014-15.
- Cooperation complicated 2017-19.
- 2019 agree to reduce migrant flows.
Migrant Flows

- Mexican immigrants to the U.S. are at the **lowest levels** since the 1990s.
- Numbers of Undocumented Mexican immigrants in the U.S. **have been dropping** since 2007.
- In FY 2018, apprehensions of Mexican unauthorized immigrants declined **20.18%** from FY 2016.
- Net-Zero or Negative flows.

Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 2019
Number of Unauthorized Immigrants in the U.S.

Source: PEW Research Center, 2019
In 2014, The US and Mexico enhanced cooperation in response to a surge of child and family migrants, including at Mexico’s southern border against smuggling of people & drugs.

In 2017, the US and Mexico co-hosted a Conference on Prosperity and Security in Central America. Commitments included:

• U.S. FY 2018 budget request for $460 million for the Northern Triangle (NT); $53 in Mexican infrastructure projects.
• Improved cooperation to combat transnational criminal organizations.

In 2018, Mexico’s Senate condemned U.S. border policies and called to end cooperation.

In 2018-19, Mexico called for addressing root causes; U.S. threatened tariffs on Mexican exports over rising migrant numbers (and cut aid to Central America). In June, agreement reached to reduce numbers and allow some migrants to wait for U.S. decisions in Mexico.

In January 2020, a new “2020 Caravan” of Migrants from Central America reached Mexico and clashed with the National Guard at the Southern Border. 800 migrants were detained, and some 2,300 Hondurans were deported.
Sharp Rise in U.S.-Mexico border apprehensions

- In the **2019 fiscal year**, there were **851,508 border apprehensions**, most since 2012.
- Early **2019**, record numbers of migrant families: breaking records.
- Over **144,000 apprehensions in May**.
- After U.S.-Mexico agreement in June, Mexico stepped up its enforcement actions.
- Apprehensions dropped to **45,184 in December**: about a 70% reduction from May.
- Mexico detained **179,000 migrants**; deported **84,300**; **70,000 seek asylum**

Bilateral Cooperation Against Crime: Pending Review

Source: CDC Wonder Database; CDC Provisional Counts of Drug Overdose Deaths, 2019
Urgency: Homicides in Mexico

Source: Secretaria Ejecutiva de Seguridad Nacional, 2000-2019
Homicides in Mexico: Crisis Levels

34,582 homicides in 2019; average 90 homicides a day. July 2018: most violent month since 1997.

2019 total homicides set a new record.

Violence cost up to 24% GDP.

Cartels fighting for territory and routes, but types of crime expanded and affects more states.

$19-30 billion to criminal groups from US illegal drug sales.

Source: Secretaria Ejecutiva de Seguridad Nacional, 2018; El Pais, 2018; Mexico News Daily, 2019.
Percent who See Security as the most Important Issue
Dec. 2019 poll: 73% say they feel unsafe in their cities

Source: LAPOP Americas Barometer Pulse of Democracy, 2019; December 2019 INEGI poll.
Mexico’s Peace Index 2018-19

Least Peaceful States
1. Baja California
2. Guerrero
3. Colima
4. Quintana Roo
5. Chihuahua

More Peaceful States
1. Yucatan
2. Campeche
3. Tlaxcala
4. Chiapas
5. Hidalgo

- Peacefulness in Mexico declined by 5%, the third consecutive year.

- Economic impact of violence increased by 10% last year to 5.16 trillion pesos (US$ 268 billion).

 Mérida Initiative: AMLO might end or repurpose bilateral cooperation? U.S. Concerned.

1. Disrupting the operational capacity of organized crime.
2. Institutionalizing reforms to sustain the rule of law and respect for human rights in Mexico.
3. Creating a “21st Century Border”.
4. Building strong and resilient communities.

$2.9 billion appropriated by the US since 2008.

$1.6 billion already spent on training and equipment via over 100 programs to bolster Mexican capacity.

Mexico has spent over 10 times more, but heroin, fentanyl and meth trafficking still increasing and criminal violence still high.

- Mérida Initiative Programs & Agency-to-Agency Cooperation
- Defense Dialogues & Cooperation
- Security Coordination Group (est. 2014);
  High-Level Security Group (est. 2019)
2017-2019 Challenges in Addressing Illicit Drugs

- 2017 agreement to partner on supply and demand for illicit drugs.
- **Necessary tools:** physical barriers, technology, patrolling, eradication, enhanced law enforcement cooperation, anti-addiction programs.
- Attack entire criminal business network from means of production, cross-border distribution networks, to profit flows and weapons procurement.
- In 2018, AMLO ordered a review of Mexican cooperation with U.S. Has not agreed to a new U.S.-Mexico strategy & action plan as of late 2019.
- U.S. concern grows; drugs flows increase; Trump threat to designate cartels as Foreign Terrorist Organizations sparks progress late 2019.
Trade Negotiations
NAFTA/USMCA
North American Trade

• Canada, Mexico and the U.S. trade $1.3 trillion a year.
• $3.6 billion a day, reflecting major shared production networks.
• More than US trade with all the European Union and over 2 times more than with China.
• Over 12 million U.S. jobs are supported by trade and investment with both neighbors.
• 50 percent of NAFTA trade is intermediate goods.

North American Trade in Goods and Services

Source: Secretaria de Economia, 2018; BEA, 2018; Census Bureau, 2018; Americas Society/Council of the Americas, 2019
North American Investment

In 2018, Canada’s and Mexico’s FDI in the U.S. reached $625 billion.

The U.S. had $517 billion FDI in Canada and Mexico.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>US FDI in Canada</th>
<th>Mexico’s FDI in Canada*</th>
<th>Mexico’s FDI in the US</th>
<th>Canada’s FDI in the US</th>
<th>Canada’s FDI in Mexico</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US Department of Commerce 2019</td>
<td>$401 billion</td>
<td>$2 billion</td>
<td>$37.2 billion</td>
<td>$588 billion</td>
<td>$3.2 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico Secretaria de Economía 2019</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NAFTA Countries were richer each year due to “extra” trade growth (2014 estimate)

The pure economic payoff for the U.S. is $400 per person

Source: NAFTA 20 Years Later. Petersen Institute for International Economics, 2014
### Rank Order: Top U.S. States’ Trade with Mexico 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Volume $USD (Billions)</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Volume $USD (Billions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>9.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>73.1</td>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>9.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>65.5</td>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>Kentucky</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
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<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Secretaria de Economia, 2017
Top U.S. States’ Trade with Canada 2017

- Canada ranks as the United States' top export partner, accounting for more than 18% of the total.
- Canada is the number one export market for 35 U.S. states, and the largest foreign supplier of oil, natural gas, and electricity to U.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top 10 Trading States</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>$USD (Billions)</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>$USD (Billions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Michigan</td>
<td>72.0</td>
<td>6. Ohio</td>
<td>30.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. California</td>
<td>44.0</td>
<td>7. Pennsylvania</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Illinois</td>
<td>41.2</td>
<td>8. Washington</td>
<td>19.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Texas</td>
<td>35.2</td>
<td>9. Indiana</td>
<td>19.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. New York</td>
<td>33.7</td>
<td>10. New Jersey</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Net Number of U.S. Jobs Related to Trade with Mexico and Canada

#### Top 10 states 2017

**Trade with Mexico: 4.9 million**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Net Number of U.S. Jobs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>California</td>
<td>+ 572.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>+ 399.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>+ 325.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>+ 198.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>+ 195.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>+ 170.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>+ 158.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>+ 150.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>+ 141.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>+ 135.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Trade with Canada: 7.2 million**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Net Number of U.S. Jobs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>California</td>
<td>+ 898.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>+ 549.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>+ 475.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>+ 446.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>+ 293.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>+ 282.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>+ 257.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>+ 229.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>+ 225.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>+ 209.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Trade Partnership, 2019
From NAFTA to USMCA

• The USMCA (United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement), or T-MEC in Mexico, is replacing the 1993 NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement).

• Leaders of the three countries signed the new agreement on November 30, 2018.

• A revised agreement was reached on December 10, 2019.

• U.S. Senate approved and President Trump signed USMCA in January 2020.

• Mexican Senate approved earlier.

• Canada’s parliament now moving to approve.

Source: Office of the United States Trade Representative, 2018.
Main elements of the USMCA (T-MEC)

• **Rules of Origin, wages and steel for Vehicles to be phased in 2020-2023**
  - 75% of the value of a vehicle to be produced in the region (up from 62.5%); 70% of steel and aluminum.
  - 40%-45% percent of auto content produced by workers earning over $16 per hour.

• **Dispute Settlement**
  - Maintains NAFTA’s dispute-settlement provision over unfair trade practice allegations (Chapter 19) and state to state differences of treaty interpretation (Ch. 20), but limits investor dispute (ISDR) options to key sectors of U.S.-Mexico investment; eliminates coverage for U.S.-Canada issues. New ”rapid” dispute settlement for labor enforcement and eliminated ability of a government to block a dispute settlement panel.

• **Successfully Updated Treatment of IPR, Internet-related issues, Labor, Environment…**
  - Achieved or exceeded most of modernization goals sought, including stronger labor rights provisions, IPR protections, inclusion of electronic commerce and data issues, anti-corruption, among others.

• **Sunset Clause:** 16-year lifetime for the agreement, with a review every six years and possible 16-year renewal.

• **Dairy:** Addressed some U.S. concerns over Canada’s dairy policies and restrictions.
Approval of USMCA

Canada: Parliament needs to approve.

Mexico: U.S. unions and democrats will focus on implementation of labor reforms. Some U.S. Unions will likely file complaints early. Mexico’s reforms implemented over 4 years.

Biggest gain from approving USMCA: reduced uncertainty that had hindered additional investment by businesses and farmers across North America.

Once Canada approves, the three states will move to implement which includes systems to monitor rules of origin for vehicles, setting up the dispute settlement system, and much more.
USITC: Likely Impact of USMCA

- International Trade Commission estimates that if fully implemented and enforced, USMCA would have a **positive impact on U.S. real GDP and employment** over 6 years.

- The most significant for U.S. economy are:
  1. Provisions that reduce policy uncertainty for **digital trade** (positive).
  2. **New rules of origin** applicable to the automotive sector (marginally positive).

- Estimate that strengthening labor standards and collective bargaining provisions would **increase wages of unionized Mexican workers by 17.2 percent**.

- **Would increase U.S. Trade.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S. Exports</th>
<th>U.S. Imports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>to Canada</strong></td>
<td><strong>to Mexico</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$19.1 billion</td>
<td>$14.2 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5.9 percent)</td>
<td>(6.7 percent)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Not included:** value of preserving existing commercial networks & 16 years of stable rules.

Source: USITC, 2019.
US Opinion:
Is NAFTA/USMCA Good for the US Economy?

Overall, Is NAFTA Good for the US Economy? (% Good)

Mexico’s 2018 Elections
Presidential Results: Launches the “4th Transformation”

July 1 voter turnout: 63.5%

Andres Manual Lopez Obrador’s party, Morena, **won big majorities in Congress** and state legislatures.

**AMLO** took office December 1.

Most powerful President in decades: few counterweights.

Source: Instituto Nacional Electoral; Consulta Mitofsky, 2018
Issues that Influenced Votes

Corruption
Violence and Security
Unemployment

Poverty and Low Wages
Public Health
Inflation

Source: Edelman, 2018; GEA/ISA poll, 2018
AMLO’s Popularity Remains High

AMLO’s current approval level is higher than any of the last three Presidents of Mexico

AMLO’s Approval Ratings by Issue - 2019

Security

Corruption

Economy

Poverty

Public Health
AMLO’s Policy Proposals and Actions

**Economic Policy:**
- Focus on developing Mexico’s internal market; **encourage investment.**
- **Build Infrastructure** (e.g. railways).
- Redirect spending to **social programs to poor but won’t raise taxes or increase debt.**
- **Lower taxes along U.S. border.**
- **Aim to achieve 4% average GDP growth** over his six-year term; 2% year one;
- **Develop south** of country.

**Energy:**
- Strengthen **energy independence.**
- Strengthen the role of national oil company **PEMEX** and electricity authority, **CFE.**
- Postpone new oil exploration auctions for at least two years.
- Limit gasoline price increases; decrease prices in several years.
- **Build new refineries.**

Source: Wilson Center’s Mexico Institute, 2018
AMLO’s Policy Proposals and Early Actions

**Poverty:**
- Increased **minimum wage**.
- Launched new **youth jobs** programs.
- Subsidize inputs for **small farmers; programs benefit indigenous**.
- Provide universal health coverage; starting with **elderly and disabled**.

**Corruption and Government Efficiency:**
- Better supervision of public spending; increase legal penalties for corruption.
- **Cut public officials’ salaries, perks. Reduce staff and existing programs**.
- Named new independent “Fiscal General”; active Financial Crime Unit, pursue corruption investigations.
- **Use plebiscites** to consult with the people.

**Trade:**
- Finish and implement **USMCA**.

**Education:**
- Eliminated key parts of Education Reform that alienated teachers’ unions.
- Launched new youth scholarships, promised new universities.

Source: Wilson Center’s Mexico Institute, 2018
AMLO’s Security Proposals and Goals

Security Proposals:
• **End to the War on drugs** and “prohibitionist” policy.
• Consider reforms in treatment of currently illegal drug production and use.
• **Weaken crime’s social base** with social, education and jobs programs; provide alternatives to illicit income from drug cultivation and fuel theft.
• Generate peace though **non-violent methods**, **transitional justice and amnesty**.
• Establish a **Council on Peace Construction**; Emphasize **human rights**.
• **Aim to reduce homicides and car theft by 50%**.
• **Strengthen the judicial system**: close wage gaps for employees.
• **Deploy up to 140,000 National Guard** Officers across 226 regions.
• **Aim to reduce crime rate by 15%**.
• **Aim to reduce the public perception of insecurity from 80% to 39.4%**.
• Try to boost **World Justice Project’s Rule of Law score** from 0.45 to 0.60 by 2024.

Source: Wilson Center’s Mexico Institute, 2019
AMLO after a year: Mixed Results

- On December 1, 2019, a year after taking office, AMLO claimed that 89 of his 100 promises have been fulfilled. He asked for one more year of support to carry forward his transformative government programs.
  - **Crime**: mixed bag; claims 94% reduction in fuel theft but violent homicides set a record in 2019.
  - **Austerity**: senior government salaries, staff, sending reduced, but at what cost to government efficiency.
  - No increase in debt, **inflation reduced**, big **min. wage increase**, but **economic growth near 0%**.
  - **New Programs**: Claims over 1 million **jobs** created; new **scholarships** given, 600,000 participants in a workplace training program, other social reforms underway with **direct funds to poor**, but critics question results.
  - Construction of new Dos Bocas refinery begun, but critics say not needed and won't be done well or on time.
  - Work underway for Maya and Isthmus train projects; still many critics of Mayan project including in region.
  - New Mexico City Airport canceled and started work on Santa Lucia airport, but critics say costs are enormous.
  - **National Guard created**, which is to deploy 70,000 troops to 150 regions within the country, but **impact unclear**.
  - National Guard’s **first major mission was to intercept Central American migrants; not stop crime**: criticized.
  - Overcame U.S. crisis through **immigration agreement with U.S.** but much work still needed on migrants.
  - **Tensions** with U.S. high over how to handle **organized crime**; criticized at home too.
  - Ratification of the **USMCA**.
  - **Popularity still high**.
Criticisms of the “Fourth Transformation”

- Power centered around President: reduced role of cabinet and checks and balances.


- Education and social programs: critics say buying political support, not improving results.

- Energy: PEMEX production not rebounding; Bonds downgraded.

- Corruption: Financial Intelligence Unit active; less transparency; more sole source govt. contracts.

- Public Security: Strategy to reduce violence not yet producing results; critics say no clear strategy to do so; proposed judicial reforms mixed bag

- US-Mexico Bilateral relationship: need to implement trade deal; Avoid clashes over migration, crime & drug policy?

- Democracy: Critics see a diminishing of independent voices in government and civil society.

- Countervailing powers: Markets; investors; economic performance; Senate; public opinion.
Economic Slowdown in Mexico?

- AMLO has maintained strong fiscal and monetary fundamentals, inflation down, winning IMF kudos, but the Fund also raised warning flags about downside risks ahead.

- Economic growth has slowed in Mexico; economy shrank 0.1% in 2019. This is the first economic contraction in a decade; the IMF trimmed its growth forecast for 2020 from 1.3% to 1%.

- IMF suggestions include:
  - Improving tax revenues through better collection and reforms;
  - Revisiting PEMEX’s business plan, including more joint ventures with the private sector;
  - Enhancing growth-friendly public expenditures;
  - Invigorating structural reforms such as reducing labor informality, combatting corruption and enhancing law enforcement and justice institutions.

  Government & private sector launched a $44 billion 5-year infrastructure program in November. AMLO established new economic cabinet in January.

Source: IMF Article IV Mission, Oct 2019; Bank of Mexico Jan. 2020
U.S.-Mexico Migration Issues

Migration remains an urgent area as U.S. pushes for lower numbers at the border. 

Long Term: Dealing with the roots of the problems in Central America and strengthening both country’s capacities to manage migrants well.

- December 2019, the Mexican and U.S. governments announced an ambitious strategy to address the root causes of Central American migration by attracting investment to encourage economic growth.

- No significant action to implement this.

Short Term: Managing better the unexpected large flows of families

- Both Countries were overwhelmed by the rising numbers from Central America, especially families. Facilities and tools to manage still lack needed capacity.

Controversy continues in both countries.

Source: various news reports, 2019
U.S.-Mexico Migration Agreement

- In June, President Trump threatened a 5% or higher tariff on Mexico’s exports unless migrant numbers dropped.

- After negotiations, the two governments reached agreement:
  - Mexico deployed National Guard troops to its southern & northern border & actions against migrant smugglers.
  - Mexico refuses to become a “Third Safe Country;” prefers enhanced regional cooperation/assistance.

- As of January:
  - Some 25,000 Mexican National Guard troops and immigration officers detaining/deporting record numbers.
  - Drop of over 70% in the number of migrants arriving at U.S. SW border by end of October.
  - Some 54,000 migrants are waiting in Mexico for U.S. asylum decisions.
  - Mexico and U.S. agreed to new cooperation to stop illegal guns flowing into Mexico.
  - U.S. got migration agreements with Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.
  - No U.S.-Mexico regional aid plan, as Mexico sought.
Maintaining a Partnership with Mexico?
Key Work Areas for U.S.-Mexico Relations

**Trade:**
- Complete USMCA approval; begin implementation.
- **Renew focus** on enhancing facilitation of trade and travel.

**Border, Migration, Security, Anti-Crime Cooperation:**
- Better manage migration; strengthen migrant services.
- Deepen support for addressing root causes of migration.
- **Strengthen cooperation** against cross-border crime, especially drug trafficking.
- Trump proposal to designate Mexican cartels as Foreign Terrorist Organizations reflects growing frustration with Mexico’s policies.
- **Progress needed** on bilateral action plan with specific objectives in key anti-crime areas.

**Improve Competitiveness:**
- Revive a bilateral and North American agenda to enhance economic competitiveness.

**Rebuilding Confidence:**
- Take steps to rebuild trust; avoid becoming “Distant Neighbors” again.
## Competitiveness Agenda: Enhancing Border Integration

<table>
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<tr>
<th>STUDY</th>
<th>IMPACT ON EMPLOYMENT &amp; GDP</th>
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</table>
| The Perryman Group 2018 Study | **US Border States**  
Employment: +702,421 to +1.4 million jobs  
**GDP:** +$69 billion to +$140 billion  
**Largest impact in California**  
**Mexico Border States**  
Employment: +95,948 to +193,526 jobs  
**GDP:** +$4.8 billion to +$9.7 billion  
**Largest impact in Nuevo Leon** |
Competitiveness: Address Talent Shortages

- There is a talent shortage across North America.
- Top Drivers of talent shortages: lack of applicants, lack of experience, applicants expecting higher pay than offered (Mexico and U.S. only) and applicants lack required hard skills (Canada only).

Mexico
50% of employers are having difficulty filling jobs.
- Hardest roles to fill:
  Manufacturing, Sales Representatives, Office Support and Skilled Trades.

United States
46% of employers are having difficulty filling jobs.
- Hardest roles to fill:
  Skilled Trades, Drivers, Sales Representatives, and Healthcare professionals.

Canada
41% of employers are having difficulty filling jobs.
- Hardest roles to fill:
  Skilled Trades, Drivers, Sales Representatives and Technicians.

Source: Manpower Group, 2018 Talent Shortage Study
Americans’ and Mexicans’ Perceptions of each other (per cent favorable)

- Mexico reversed its perception of the United States since AMLO’s election.
- In 2019 polling, a majority in Mexico (56%) had a favorable view of the United States; while 58% of Americans had positive views of Mexico.
- However, three-quarters (77%) of Mexicans have a bad opinion of Trump.
- Mexicans now view bilateral relations as stable.

Working with Mexico

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