



U.S. - Mexico At a Glance

Extraditions

June 2009

The overwhelming majority of fugitives extradited by Mexico are wanted in the U.S. for the most serious crimes, including murder, rape, sexual offenses against children, and drug trafficking. Most fugitives extradited to the U.S. are Mexican citizens.

Recent extraditions by Mexico have included high-level drug traffickers from the most notorious Mexican cartels.

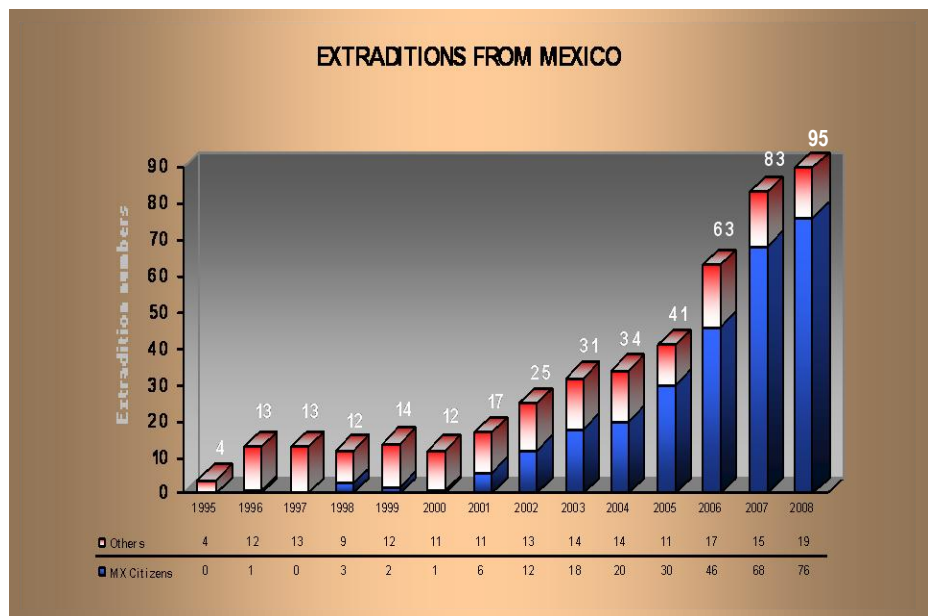
Mexican court decisions in recent years also have removed significant obstacles to extradition, including a former prohibition on the extradition of fugitives who face life imprisonment without the possibility of parole in the U.S.

The USG is working closely with Mexico to make effective use of our bilateral extradition treaty and other legal mechanisms in order to ensure that our shared border does not serve as a barrier behind which fugitives from justice may flee, find safe haven, and continue to commit crimes.

Extraditions from Mexico have increased significantly in recent years, from 4 in 1995 to 95 in 2008. From January to June 2009, Mexico extradited 54 indicted criminals to the U.S., including 11 fugitives wanted for murder and 13 fugitives wanted for committing sexual assaults against children. Some of the most noteworthy extraditions in 2009 are:

- Miguel Caro Quintero, wanted in Colorado and Arizona for trafficking narcotics.
- Cesar Armando Laurean, a U.S. citizen, wanted in Onslow County, North Carolina for murder, robbery, and related offenses.
- Ever Villafane Martinez, a Colombian national, who will stand trial in the Southern District of California for federal narcotics trafficking and money laundering offenses.

Aside from extraditions, Mexican immigration authorities, in cooperation with U.S. law enforcement agencies, have been aggressively making use of Mexican immigration laws to deport non-Mexican fugitives to the United States. Since 2005, Mexico has deported between 150 and 200 fugitives to face justice in the U.S. each year.



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