

# Strengthening Border Security and Immigration Enforcement



Illegal immigration and other illicit materials, particularly illegal drugs, coming across our borders have strained Federal resources and overwhelmed agencies charged with border security and immigration enforcement. High levels of illegal immigration have also impacted the local communities where many of these aliens have settled. The Federal Government will employ all lawful means to enforce the immigration laws of the United States and reduce the flow of illegal aliens and illegal drugs into the country.

The President's 2021 Budget provides funding for sizable investments in:

- Border infrastructure;
- Border security technology and equipment;
- Additional law enforcement personnel at U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE);
- Increased capacity to administratively detain illegal aliens and incarcerate criminal aliens;
- Increased capacity to adjudicate immigration cases at the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR);
- Increased capacity to remove illegal aliens; and
- Shelter capacity and care for Unaccompanied Alien Children.

The Administration is committed to providing our law enforcement personnel the tools and resources they need to secure our country.

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## Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Discretionary Funding by Year: FYs 2017 - 2021 (\$ billions)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 PB
CBP	\$12.1	\$14.0	\$16.1	\$14.8	\$15.6
ICE	\$6.4	\$7.1	\$7.8	\$8.1	\$9.9
EOIR	\$0.4	\$0.5	\$0.6	\$0.7	\$0.9
UAC	\$1.2	\$1.3	\$4.2	\$1.3	\$2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20.1</b>	<b>\$22.9</b>	<b>\$28.7</b>	<b>\$24.9</b>	<b>\$28.4</b>

**Department of Homeland Security.** Overall 2021 funding for CBP (\$15.6 billion) and ICE (\$9.9 billion) is 11 percent higher than the FY 2020 level.

The Budget proposes sizable investments in a border wall; border security technology and equipment; funding to hire additional CBP and ICE law enforcement officers and support personnel; and increased capacity to detain and deport illegal aliens.

- The Budget requests \$2.3 billion in high priority investments in border security technology, infrastructure, and equipment to help CBP prevent, detect, and interdict illegal border crossings. These investments include:

- \$2 billion for new border wall in locations identified by the Border Patrol as necessary to obtain operational control of the border and impede the flow of illegal crossings;
- \$28 million for approximately 30 additional innovative surveillance towers, which use artificial intelligence to autonomously identify objects of interest, an amount sufficient to field up to 200 towers with funds provided through 2021; and
- \$317 million for other border security investments such as aircraft, surveillance technology, and equipment to support the interdiction of illegal aliens, illicit drugs such as deadly fentanyl, and contraband across United States borders.
- The Budget continues implementation of the President’s direction to hire 5,000 additional Border Patrol Agents and 10,000 ICE officers and investigators. The Budget proposes \$726 million to hire and support over 5,800 additional law enforcement officers, agents, and support staff at CBP and ICE. Specifically:
  - CBP: The Budget proposes \$161 million to hire and support an additional 750 U.S. Border Patrol Agents to interdict people, illicit drugs, and contraband illegally entering the United States between ports of entry.
  - CBP: The Budget proposes \$21 million to hire 300 additional U.S. Border Patrol processing coordinators, whose duties include receiving and in-processing detainees at Border Patrol facilities.
  - ICE: The Budget proposes \$544 million to hire and support an additional 2,844 Law Enforcement Officers and 1,792 critical mission support staff and attorneys for a total of 4,636 staff to support the President’s direction to increase interior immigration enforcement.
- The Budget includes \$72 million to help CBP care for those in its custody, especially children and families, including \$40 million for a Humanitarian Care Center in south Texas.
- The Budget makes other investments in increasing interior immigration enforcement, including:
  - \$3 billion in total funding for 60,000 average daily ICE immigration detention beds;
  - \$194 million for the identification, location, and arrest of fugitive illegal aliens in the United States;
  - \$415 million for the removal of criminal aliens incarcerated in United States jails and prisons; and
  - \$119 million for the E-Verify program to support mandatory nationwide use, ensuring that businesses employ only those authorized to work in the United States.

**Department of Justice.** At the Department of Justice (DOJ), the 2021 Budget proposes an overall funding level of \$883 million for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), a 31 percent increase over the 2020 level. As part of the Administration’s efforts to reduce the pending caseload, the Budget expands EOIR’s adjudicatory capacity by providing funding for an additional 100 Immigration Judge teams, and provides additional support for EOIR’s IT modernization efforts.

**Department of Health and Human Services.** The Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) Program, operated by the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), is required to provide care, food, shelter, and services to UAC in ORR custody before release to a suitable sponsor, usually a parent or close relative. To address the inherent uncertainty in this program and ensure that the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is always able to provide high-quality care to all UAC in its care, the Budget makes up to \$4.5 billion available in 2021. Specifically, the Budget proposes \$2 billion in base discretionary funding for the UAC Program, \$680 million above 2020 enacted, as well as no-year funding authority. In addition, the request further expands the HHS Secretary’s transfer authority allowing funding up to 20 percent of the appropriated amount into the account, potentially providing an additional \$491 million in discretionary resources to this program, which affords the Secretary flexibility to address unforeseen increases in UAC referrals to the program. Finally, to ensure HHS is

able to meet the legal and programmatic requirements involved in the UAC Program during periods of high referrals, the Budget requests a mandatory contingency fund capped at \$2 billion over a 3 year period.

**Sanctuary Cities.** Within the Budget's statutory proposals for DHS and DOJ, there are twin provisions that would amend 8 U.S.C. 1373 to:

- Clarify that a Federal, State, or local law, a Federal, State, or local government entity or official may not prohibit, or in any way restrict, any government entity or official from honoring or complying with a civil immigration detainer; and
- Explicitly authorize DHS and DOJ to condition certain grants and cooperative agreements on requirements that recipients agree to cooperate with specific Federal immigration enforcement activities and requests.

**Deficit Reduction.** The Budget also includes two immigration-related deficit reduction proposals:

- The Budget proposes adding a 10-percent surcharge to immigration filing fees to be used for deficit reduction. This proposal, which will raise more than \$4 billion over the next 10 years, recognizes that those who relocate to the United States benefit significantly from the Nation's opportunities; and
- The Budget also proposes a 35 percent increase in all civil and criminal worksite enforcement penalties assessed against those employers who violate Immigration and Nationality Act provisions on the unlawful employment of aliens. The additional revenue from these increases will be directed to deficit reduction.