



U.S. - Mexico At a Glance

Extraditions

September 2008

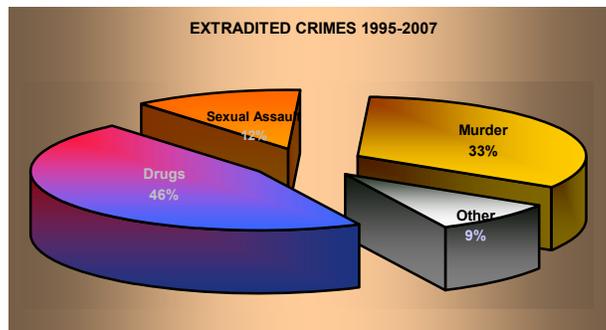
Extraditions from Mexico have increased significantly in recent years, from 4 in 1995 to 83 in 2007. Continuing this trend, 57 fugitives were extradited between January and August of 2008.

Recent extraditions by Mexico have included high-level drug traffickers, such as Osiel Cardenas Guillen, the leader of the Gulf Cartel.

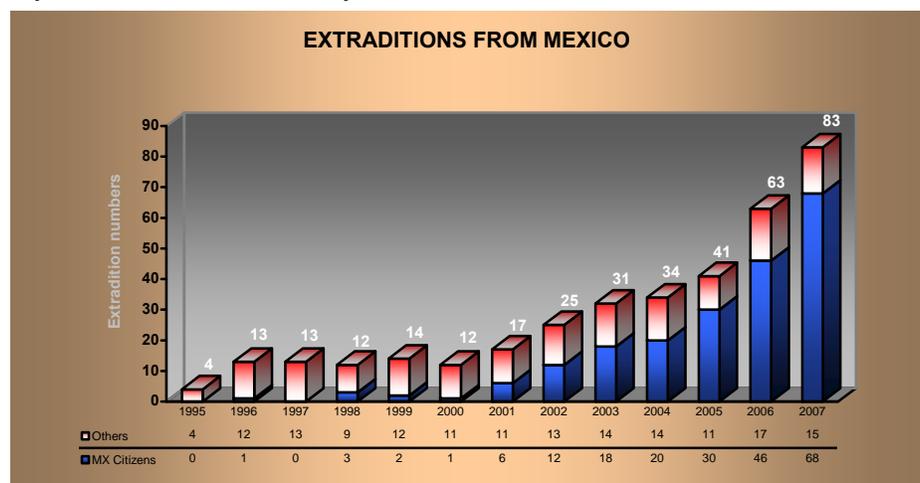
Recent court decisions in Mexico also have removed significant obstacles to extradition, including a former prohibition on the extradition of fugitives who face life imprisonment without the possibility of parole in the U.S.

The USG is working closely with Mexican counterparts 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.

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 of the fugitives returned to the U.S. by extradition are Mexican citizens.



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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