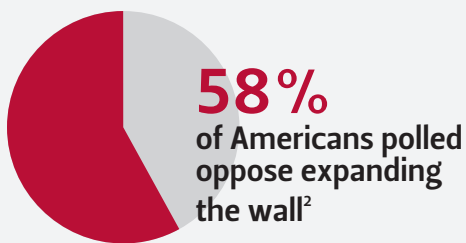
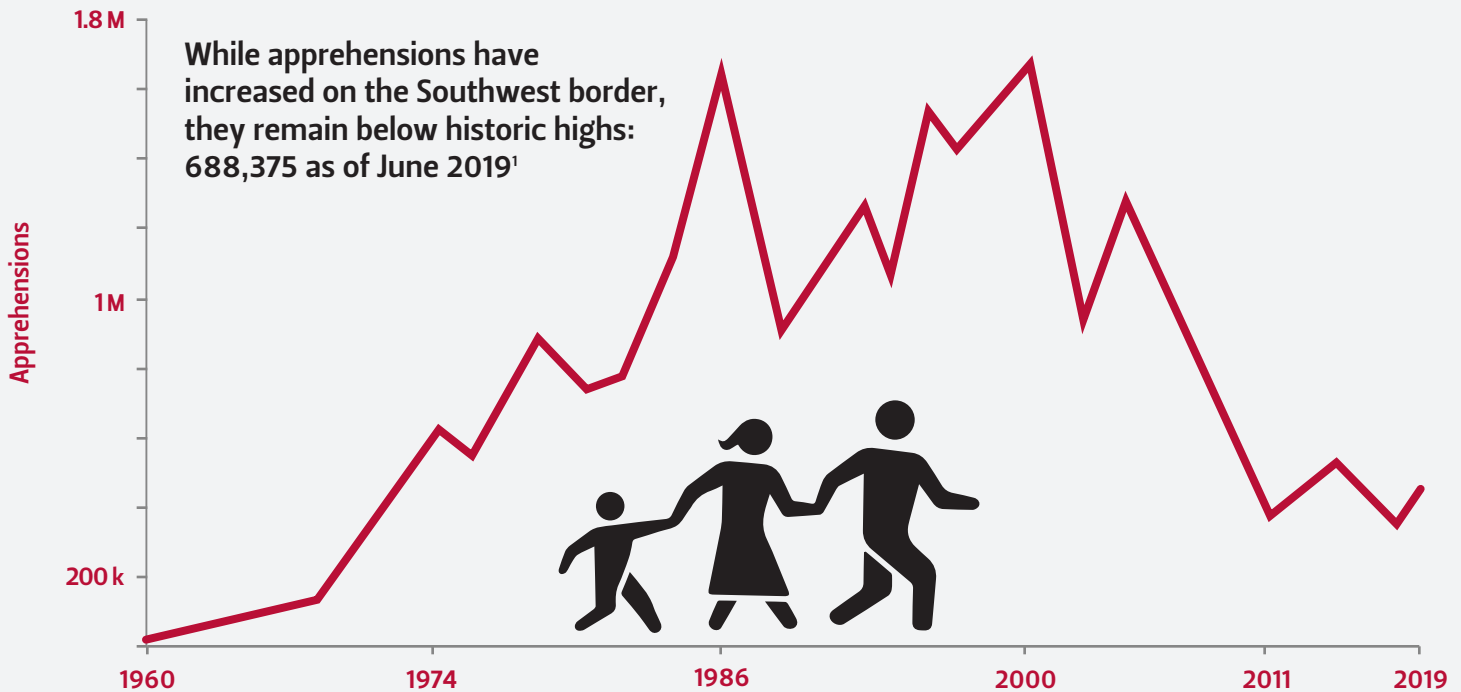


Is a Border Barrier Justified?

On February 15, 2019, President Donald Trump declared a national emergency on the southern border after Congress refused to fully fund a wall. Democrats and Republicans disagree over the right border security measures, cost and the effectiveness of physical barriers.



~90% of heroin, cocaine, meth, and fentanyl are smuggled through ports of entry, not between them³

The wall could worsen flooding and threaten wildlife, including **100 ENDANGERED SPECIES**⁴

Policy Recommendations

- Find the right mix of physical barriers of several types, and use technology and agents on the ground for border security
- Invest in more technology to detect cargo carrying illegal drugs at ports of entry
- Allocate more funding for the U.S. immigration system, including courts and judges, prioritize visa overstay enforcement, and expand and modernize guest worker programs

Sources

1. CBP, <https://bit.ly/2mnbZsp>; <https://bit.ly/2UIhQwP>
2. Pew Research Center, <https://pewrsr.ch/2RwJM4U>
3. CBP, <https://bit.ly/2mQv4q7>
4. Baker Institute for Public Policy, <https://bit.ly/2EKAgnn>

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