

# Migration And Remittances From Mexico Trends Impacts And New Challenges

Essay from the year 2012 in the subject Politics - International Politics - Region: Middle- and South America, grade: 1,3, University of Toronto, language: English, abstract: In 2006, more than 30% of all immigrants residing in the United States were Mexicans, accounting for one tenth of the entire Mexican population (Migrationinformation). This makes Mexico the most important and most consistent sending country for immigrants to the U.S. The co-existence of two very different worlds in the geographical space North America, divided by one of the most secure borders in the world, leads not only to cultural influences, but also to the adaptation of socioeconomic and political ideas. Especially the fact that Mexico and the United States have very different political and socioeconomic conditions emphasizes the oppositional relationship between the two countries. In the face of such a strong and powerful neighbour, migration is always an option, a last resort, especially for Mexicans from rural communities that struggle with poor working conditions and low wages. Interestingly, this creates a certain type of migration known as transmigration. This transmigration occurs only due to socioeconomic reasons, especially labour conditions, and allows migrants to frequently travel back and forth between their home- and their host country. Since many of these transmigrants are young men who leave their families behind to earn money that they can then send back home in the form of financial remittances, different patterns of communication between these migrants and their relatives back home can be analyzed. This paper will first outline the situation of Mexican

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migrants to the United States, give a brief overview of their backgrounds and the demographic situation, and then turn to the push-factors for migration. It will especially focus on labour rights and working conditions in Mexico and the prospects for migrants arriving in the United States.

After that the concept of 'Social

Crossing anthropology with urban studies and architecture, this is the first book to explore how Mexican migrants are building houses and other structures in Mexico with the money they earn in the US. The author defines this as the development of remittance space, a phenomenon that is changing the landscapes and economies of villages and towns throughout Mexico and, not incidentally, of several US cities as well, including LA and Chicago. While remittance building is not unique to Mexico, the remittance corridor from the US to our southern neighbor is the largest in the world: a flow of about 22 billion dollars in 2010 alone. Lopez has identified a correspondence between this monetary flow and the construction boom in rural Mexico. In fact, she proposes that a Mexican's capacity to build in rural villages itself motivates migration and changes social and cultural life for migrants and their families. Through careful ethnographic and architectural analysis, Lopez brings migrant hometowns to life and positions them in larger critical debates about migration. The research was conducted on both sides of the border: Lopez worked and lived with migrants in Los Angeles and Chicago, and she pursued her subject throughout the south of Jalisco, not far from Guadalajara. This is a dangerous area: drug wars are raging, and it takes courage and care to spend time there, a matter covered in the book."

Central America and Mexico are characterized by high levels of poverty. In response, labor migration has emerged as a major strategy among families through the sending of earnings (or

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remittances) to households back home. Large amounts of remittances are sent, with over \$13 billion to Central America and more than \$23 billion to Mexico in 2011. While remittances to Mexico have been studied extensively, much less is known about the factors associated with remittances to Central America. This mixed methods study examined remittance sending and use patterns of Mexican and Central American labor migrants to the United States. Data on remittance behaviors were drawn from two major surveys, the Latin American Migration Project and Mexican Migration Project. Quantitative analyses were conducted using multiple regression to examine family-level predictors for the decision to engage in labor migration, whether remittances were sent, amount of remittances sent, and the purposes for remitting. Qualitative analysis involved focus group interviews of Mexican and Central American migrants in the United States who currently remit to their families back home. These interviews helped to discern the meaning of remittances for migrants and their families. The quantitative results suggest that top purposes for remitting include food and daily maintenance, education, health, and housing. Additionally, remittance sending patterns differed by region of origin. Mexican migrants were more likely to send remittances and to remit larger amounts. Additionally, individuals from Mexico had increased odds of sending funds for housing expenditures while Central Americans had greater odds of remitting for education and consumer goods. According to respondents who participated in the qualitative study, increasing costs of food, health, and education coupled with limited employment options contribute to a reliance on labor migration in both regions. For many, remittances have emerged as an essential source of income for economic wellbeing and even survival. A key implication for social work of this study on the larger population patterns on remittances is that at the family level, migrants carry a dual

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responsibility to settle into a new country while also maintaining the economic wellbeing of family left behind.

Many researchers have investigated the role of migration and remittances as drivers of economic development in migrant origin areas. However, the nature of the relationship seems to vary over time and space, and there are some notable cases where migration and remittances have been shown to have a neutral or even negative effect on some measures of economic development. In my dissertation, I investigate the circumstances and situations in which migration and remittances occur, and evaluate whether these have negative or positive effects on economic development in migrant sending areas. Specifically, I develop a model of activity participation, income, and investment decisions made by households. Then I use this model to measure the impact of migration and remittances on investments by households in rural agricultural production in Mexico using data from the National Survey of Rural Households in Mexico (abbreviated as ENHRUM, by its Spanish acronym). Using a multi-stage selection model, I find that migrant remittances are not linked to investment, but that local level variables are important determinants of investment, and that education is linked to both investment and migration.

Migration and Remittances from Mexico Trends, Impacts, and New Challenges Lexington Books Master's Thesis from the year 2003 in the subject Politics - International Politics - Region: Middle- and South America, grade: Honours, Dublin City University, 75 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: In times of rising inequality levels coupled with the fact that many governments of the developing world fail to provide even the most basic public services to their citizens and that neither aid nor trade have so far succeeded in spreading

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wealth more evenly across the globe, complementary innovative approaches need to be devised that benefit ordinary people. A myriad of root causes have resulted in ever-increasing international migration and, thus, in rising flows of remittances, which have already overtaken the worldwide amount of official development assistance. Whereas family remittances tend to be part of the recipient's survival strategy, collective remittances may aim at regional development. Yet not only due to their rather modest share of total remittances but also because of the complexities of regional development itself, collective remittances will certainly not be a "magic wand." They may, however, make a potentially far-reaching contribution both with regard to low-scale development and popular participation. This dissertation explores so-called "fund-matching schemes" in which the Mexican government provides additional financial resources for each dollar remitted by migrants as collective remittances. The increased pool of resources enables the implementation of a larger number of projects or of more resource-intensive projects for which the improvement of the local infrastructure and human development are currently prioritised. Furthermore, an interesting co-operation between migrants and the state emerges, which - although it shows some remnants of a traditionally authoritarian regime and isolated little cooperative attitudes among migrants - may positively influence Mexico's political culture in the long run... if handled constructiv

Migration reshapes rural economies in ways that may go beyond the contribution of migrant remittances to household income. Consumption and investment expenditures by migrant-sending households may transmit some of the impacts of migration to others inside and outside the rural economy, and they also may shape the potential effects of migration within the source household. Numerous studies have attempted to quantify the impact of migrant

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remittances on expenditures in migrant-sending households following one of two approaches. The first asks how migrant remittances are spent. It has the advantage of being simple but the significant disadvantage of ignoring the fungibility of income from migrant and nonmigrant sources. Remittances almost certainly have indirect effects on expenditures by way of their contribution to households' total budgets. The second uses a regression approach that considers remittances as an explanatory variable, in addition to total income and other controls, in a household expenditure demand system. It has the advantage of enabling one to test whether remittances affect expenditures in ways that are independent of their contribution to total income. But it does not take into account other ways, besides remittances, in which migration may influence expenditure patterns in households with migrants. It also may suffer from econometric bias resulting from the endogeneity of migration and remittance receipts. The same variables may simultaneously affect both remittances and household expenditures, and unless one controls for this, biased estimates may result.

This paper reviews common challenges faced by researchers interested in measuring the impact of migration and remittances on income, poverty, inequality, and human capital (or, in general, "welfare") as well as difficulties confronting development practitioners in converting this research into policy advice. On the analytical side, the paper discusses the proper formulation of a research question, the choice of the analytical tools, as well as the interpretation of the results in the presence of pervasive endogeneity in all decisions surrounding migration. Particular attention is given to the use of instrumental variables in migration research. On the policy side, the paper argues that the private nature of migration and remittances implies a need to carefully spell out the rationale for interventions. It also

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notices the lack of good migration data and proper evaluations of migration-related government policies. The paper focuses mainly on microeconomic evidence about international migration, but much of the discussion extends to other settings as well.

The current share of women in the world's international migrant population is close to one half. Despite the great number of female migrants and their importance for the development agenda in countries of origin, there has until recently been a striking lack of gender analysis in the economic literature on international migration and development. This volume makes a valuable contribution in this context by providing eight new studies focusing on the nexus between gender, international migration, and economic development.

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The poverty-reducing effects of remittances have been well-documented, however, their effects on inequality are less clear. This paper examines the

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impact of remittances on inequality in Mexico using household-level information on the receiving side. It hopes to speak to their insurance role by examining how remittances are affected by domestic and external crises: the 1994 Mexican Peso crisis and the Global Financial Crisis. We find that remittances lower inequality, and that they become more pro-poor over time as migration opportunities become more widespread. This also strengthens their insurance effects, mitigating some of the negative impact of shocks on the poorest.

Uses data on border enforcement and macroeconomic indicators from the U.S. and Mexico to estimate a two-country business cycle model of labor migration and remittances. It documents how remittances to Mexico serve an insurance role to smooth consumption across the border. During expansions in the destination economy, immigration increases with the expected stream of future wage gains, but it is dampened by a sunk migration cost. During recessions, established migrants are deterred from returning to their country of origin, which places a downward pressure on the wage of native unskilled workers. The authors quantify the welfare implications of immigration policies for the destination economy. Illustrations. A print on demand pub.

Workers' remittances have become a major source of financing for developing countries and are especially important in Latin America and the Caribbean, which

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is at the top of the ranking of remittance receiving regions in the world. While there has been a recent surge in analytical work on the topic, this book is motivated by the large heterogeneity in migration and remittance patterns across countries and regions, and by the fact that existing evidence for Latin America and the Caribbean is restricted to only a few countries, such as Mexico and El Salvador. Because the nature of the phenomenon varies across countries, its development impact and policy implications are also likely to differ in ways that are still largely unknown. This book helps fill the gap by exploring, in the specific context of Latin America and Caribbean countries, some of the main questions faced by policymakers when trying to respond to increasing remittances flows. The book relies on cross-country panel data and household surveys for 11 Latin American countries to explore the development impact of remittance flows along several dimensions: growth, poverty, inequality, schooling, health, labor supply, financial development, and real exchange rates.

"Compares impact of US migration on municipios in the states of Coahuila and Zacatecas. Findings suggest there are important differences in the socioeconomic characteristics of migrants of the two areas and that the remittance of funds by migrants impacted the receiving communities in different ways. Concludes with an interesting speculation on possible impacts of free trade

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initiatives for rural municipios"--Handbook of Latin American Studies, v. 57. Through pressing, current case studies, contributors examine the ubiquitous interplay among migration, development, culture, human rights, and government, all toward advancing more effective solutions to international migration issues. The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted every domain of life. Migration and human mobility in general are not exceptions. Since March 2020, researchers, policy makers and many others have channelled their efforts to understand this new coronavirus, its impact and prospects. Many scholars were thinking and writing on the pandemic from its onset and many blog essays quickly appeared. One of the earliest peer-reviewed research articles Sirkeci and Yucesahin (2020) is reproduced here. This article and its focus on mobility and travel data showed that it was possible to predict the spatial spread and concentration of COVID-19 cases. Not only was this finding crucial to developing appropriate policies and strategies to counter the spread of the virus, it reminded us that the pandemic is a social disease and not simply a biological threat. The contributions in this book should be considered in this regard tackling the social and policy aspects as we leave the biological and medical side to the experts. | "Covid-19 introduces new uncertainties for everyone. For agriculture, the longer term effects of the pandemic include faster mechanization, more guest workers, and rising imports. Responses are likely to vary by commodity and be shaped by government policies." – Philip L Martin, Professor Emeritus, University of California, Davis, USA "The COVID-19 pandemic reminds us of just how many people across the world rely on mobility for their livelihood: taxi drivers, delivery workers, street vendors, maintenance technicians of long-distance operation systems,

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all employees in the hospitality sector... not forgetting the most vulnerable at this time, the homeless, beggars and street kids, especially in the global South, who have to move from place to place to get food, to find a place to sleep through the night, and to run away from police.” – Biao Xiang, Professor of Anthropology, University of Oxford, UK Contents:

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Over the last decade, a new phenomenon has emerged within the international community: the Global Remittances Trend (GRT). Thereby, government institutions, international (financial) organisations, NGOs and private sector actors have become interested in migration and remittances and their potential for poverty reduction and development, and have started to devise institutions and policies to harness this potential. This book employs a gender-sensitive governmentality analysis to trace the emergence of the GRT, to map its conceptual and institutional elements, and to examine its broader implications. Through an analysis of the GRT at the international level, combined with an in-depth case study on Mexico, this book demonstrates that the GRT is instrumental in spreading and deepening specific forms of

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gendered neoliberal governmentality. This innovative book will be of interest to students and scholars of political science, international relations, sociology, development studies, economics, gender studies and Latin American studies.

People migrate in order to improve the economic wellbeing of their families. Once in their new host countries, migrants often send money home. In the past 10 years these monetary flows known as remittances have doubled worldwide. This study addresses the question how remittances are affecting land use and the well-being of the family in the community of origin. Fieldwork focused on Mexican migration to the USA and was conducted in the State of Jalisco in Western Mexico. On average, 50% of all households have or had at least one family member in the US as a migrant between 1980 and 2004. Remittances represent 45% of total household income. In general, the bulk of remittances income is used for subsistence needs and to repay debts. Nevertheless, 30% of migrant households invest remittances in land, livestock, agricultural production and in house construction. All these investments lead to land use changes. With regard to changes in labor availability due to out-migration, the results are ambiguous. Migration can drive land use change by encouraging a shift to low-labor land use systems, but these land use changes that require less labor can also drive migration.

As Mexico's remittances steadily rises, Mexican migration flow into the U.S. is decreasing. This indicates that migrants are remitting more money than in previous years. With the migrant demographic population unchanged, the exponential growth suggests that other forces are at work. This paper argues that the remittance growth is influenced by the development of the financial industry that has raised competition, reduced transfer fees, and opened new remittance services to allow for cheaper remittance transfers. Though the trend is encouraging

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to policymakers that support formal remittances, are migrants likely to send more money formally than informally? This study hypothesizes two things: 1) migrants remit more money through formal sectors and 2) among sending options, migrants remit the most money through financial institutions. This paper finds that migrants are likely to remit greater amounts informally, suggesting that transfer costs remain too high for migrants to spend on secured transfers.

International migration, the movement of people across international boundaries, has enormous economic, social and cultural implications in both origin and destination countries. Using original research, this title examines the determinants of migration, the impact of remittances and migration on poverty, welfare, and investment decisions, and the consequences of brain drain, brain gain, and brain waste.

This working paper presents findings from an effort to evaluate the impacts of immigration policies on the welfare of migrants and their families in migrant-sending countries. It uses a disaggregated micro economy-wide modelling approach, designed to capture both the potentially positive and negative effects of migration and remittances in migrant-sending areas and the complex processes shaping these impacts. The model is used to explore the possible effects of destination-country immigration policies on rural welfare in Mexico and Nicaragua (US policies in the first case and US and Costa Rican policies in the second). The findings highlight the sensitivity of sending-country welfare to immigration policies, not only in the households that send migrants and receive remittances but other households with which they interact within the migrant-sending economy. Impacts vary between the two countries and across households, and they also depend upon the gender and skills of migrants. The paper

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concludes by discussing the importance of both destination and source country policies in shaping the impacts of international migration on rural welfare.

Remittances remain a key source of funds for developing countries, far exceeding official development assistance and even foreign direct investment. Remittances have proved to be more stable than private debt and portfolio equity flows, and less volatile than official aid flows, and their annual flow can match or surpass foreign exchange reserves in many small countries. Even in large emerging markets, such as India, remittances are equivalent to at least a quarter of total foreign exchange reserves. India, China, Philippines and Mexico are the top recipients of migrant remittances. The Migration and Remittances Factbook 2016 attempts to present numbers and facts behind the stories of international migration and remittances, drawing on authoritative, publicly available data. It provides a snapshot of statistics on immigration, emigration, skilled emigration, and remittance flows for 210 countries and 15 regional and income groups. The Migration and Remittances Factbook 2016 updates the 2011 edition of the Factbook with additional data on bilateral migration and remittances and second generation diasporas, collected from various sources, including national censuses, labor force surveys, population registers, and other national sources.

Migration and Remittances from Mexico: Trends, Impacts, and New Challenges, edited by Alfredo Cuecuecha and Carla Pederzini, is an indispensable resource for Mexico-U.S. migration studies. It includes a review of the most important available databases for the study of migration from Mexico and Latin America to the United States.

A free ebook version of this title is available through Luminos, University of California Press's new open access publishing program for monographs. Visit [www.luminosoa.org](http://www.luminosoa.org) to learn more.

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We understand very little about the billions of dollars that flow throughout the world from migrants back to their home countries. In this rigorous and illuminating work, Matt Bakker, an economic sociologist, examines how these migrant remittances—the resources of some of the world's least affluent people—have come to be seen in recent years as a fundamental contributor to development in the migrant-sending states of the Global South. This book analyzes how the connection between remittances and development was forged through the concrete political and intellectual practices of policy entrepreneurs within a variety of institutional settings, from national government agencies and international development organizations to nongovernmental policy foundations and think tanks.

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