

FACT SHEET | Center for Homeland Security & Immigration HOW FENTANYL ENTERS AMERICAN

COMMUNITIES

Kristen Ziccarelli | March 2023

Smuggled through the Southern Border

Fentanyl is smuggled across the border by cartels evading Border Patrol and by Americans recruited to carry it across.

Origin: China Most fentanyl precursors are manufactured in clandestine labs in China; some of it comes from India. ★

1.

Imported to Mexico

Fentanyl is easily transported from to Mexico through cartelcontrolled ports in Southern Mexico.

Data obtained from: Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Customs and Border Patrol (CBP)

Packaged by Cartels

3.

Mexican drug cartels lace fake prescription pills and other illicit drugs with fentanyl.

DEBUNKING FALSE CLAIMS

ABOUT FENTANYL AT THE BORDER

FACTS FROM RECENT HOUSE COMMITTEE HEARINGS:

"Ninety percent of fentanyl is seized at U.S. ports of entry."



Recent congressional testimony revealed that <u>48%</u> <u>of fentanyl</u> is being intercepted between ports, and 52% at ports. Law enforcement reports that the cartels have a multipronged approach to smuggling fentanyl into our country, and they know how to get through the gaping, unguarded holes in our border. "Nearly all fentanyl is smuggled across the border by Americans."



Cartels are enticing Americans (especially juveniles) by paying them thousands to smuggle illegal aliens and illicit drugs across the border. This has resulted in dangerous, <u>high-speed car</u> <u>chases</u> putting law enforcement, Americans, and other migrants at risk. "More fentanyl seizures are a sign of success."



Greater fentanyl seizures are a sign that the cartels are more emboldened than ever. Photo and video evidence overwhelmingly show unlawful border crossers <u>dressed in</u> <u>camouflage</u>, carrying backpacks full of illicit drugs over the border, and using advanced tactics to evade Border Patrol.