POLICY BRIEF

The Decline in Mexican Migration to the U.S.:
Why is Texas different?
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STATEMENT OF ISSUE

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declines in immigration on a national level, rather than a state-by-state basis. We present an empirical model
that studies net Mexican migration by state and includes different push and pull factors that have been
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KEY FINDINGS

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trends since the turn of the century.
- Gender parity has been basically achieved among Mexicans in Texas, contrary to the pattern of
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observed in Texas: Mexican young and minors' migration is on a clear declining trend, while older age
adult Mexicans' net migration is on a rising trend.
- Relative costs of fuel, water, electricity and rent are growing at a slower pace in Texas than the average
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CONCLUSIONS

- The national declining trend for Mexican immigration is not found in all demographic sub-groups.
- The increase of Mexican population in Texas can be ‡š’Žƒ‹•‡† „› •‹‰”ƒ•– ™Š‘ Ð‹”•– …ƒ•‡ ‹• states and later relocated to Texas.
- •‘–‡ ‹Ð‹… ‡š‹… ‡ˆˆ‡…–• ‘• •‘•‡ ‘—† ‹• Žƒ˜•… —• demographic groups and for certain control variables: A positive effect is found in strong migrant networks and Texan house values, while a negative effect is shown for electricity costs, the retail trade industry
- decline, and surprisingly in the manufacturing sector (even as the growth of the sector in Texas outpaced that of other states).
- Models predict that under current conditions ‡šƒ• ™‹ŽŽ •‘”‡ Ž‹•‡Ž› ——”• –‘ ˆ‘Ž Žƒ ›‘ decline in the number of Mexican residents in the medium term. The speed at which this decline will occur may depend on how much time passes before the differences in living costs between Texas and other states such as California begin to shrink.