

# El Paso looks like a ‘third-world country’ after Texas border city is overrun by migrants

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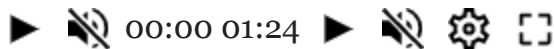
Shocking photos show President Biden’s border crisis has hit a new peak in El Paso, Texas — where a historic flood of migrants has turned the city into what a local pol says resembles “a third-world country.”

Regional Border Patrol Chief Gloria Chavez posted snapshots Monday night on Instagram that showed hordes of migrants dumped under an El Paso bridge over the weekend because the city has no more room to even process them.

“We’ve never seen anything like this,” said outraged US Rep. Tony Gonzales (R-Texas), whose district covers part of the city, as El Paso began grappling with its highest daily influx ever last month.

“It’s a scene that you would see in a third-world country, not in the streets of El Paso.”

Gonzalez warned, “Everything that I’ve been told and every indication tells me that we haven’t seen the worst yet.



“I was having regular conversations with the White House a few months ago, and now, we really aren’t having any conversations.

“Just when you think [things] can’t get any worse, they get worse. “

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Since September 1, El Paso has averaged 1,300 migrant encounters per day.  
Jose Luis Gonzalez/REUTERS



A long line of migrants sat along a fence beneath the highway overpass in El Paso.  
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Migrants sit on benches in a covered, open-air, makeshift processing facility in north El Paso.  
Instagram/[@usbpchiefpt](#)



Normal migrant processing could be 72 hours, but with the surge, it's unclear how long the wait could take.

Jose Luis Gonzalez/REUTERS

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In a stunning revelation posted with the photos, Chavez wrote, "Since September 1st, El Paso Sector has averaged 1300 encounters per day."

Most of the migrants flooding El Paso's border are from Venezuela, and their numbers are averaging daily all-time highs, Border Patrol said. It wasn't immediately clear what the city's previous daily highs were.

The migrants, who cross into the US illegally and then claim they need asylum, are usually processed in a massive intake center that can handle 3,400 people.

But given the burgeoning figures, people are now being processed in a makeshift set-up under the local highway overpass.

The migrants are then either ditched on local streets, since there are no more government-funded hotel or shelter rooms available, or helped along to their final destination — which is usually New York City, El Paso officials told The Post on Tuesday.



“We ask the migrants where they wish to go. Nearly all of the migrants say New York City,” said El Paso spokeswoman Laura Cruz-Acosta. “To date, we have chartered 25 buses. All have been to New York City.”

The number of migrants bussed off since late August has totaled at least 1,135, the city said.



Unaccompanied migrant girls from Honduras cross the Rio Bravo to turn themselves in to Border Patrol agents to request asylum.

Jose Luis Gonzalez/REUTERS

Gonzales said the impact on El Paso was “very sad to see.”

“You have hundreds of folks that are essentially loitering,” he said of the migrants on the streets.

“Many of them don’t have a place to stay. Many of them don’t have a place to stay because the [non-governmental organizations] are overcapacity, so they’re sleeping on the streets. Some of them are panhandling for money to get bus tickets or plane tickets to go elsewhere.”

In the images posted to Instagram, the throngs of migrants under the bridge appeared to be mostly men in their 20s and 30s.



A bus carrying Venezuelan migrants to New York prepares to depart from the Centro de los Trabajadores Agricolas Fronterizos in El Paso, Texas.

Paul Ratje/REUTERS

Some stood with blankets wrapped around their shoulders and others had backpacks and containers of water on the ground nearby.

Other images showed men and women — most wearing blue face masks — sitting shoulder-to-shoulder on benches in the makeshift processing area in downtown El Paso. The center was being overseen by Border Patrol agents in green uniforms who were providing water and keeping them cool with giant outdoor fans.

Normal processing would be around 72 hours, but with the surge, it's unclear how long the wait could take.





The migrants processed this past weekend were released onto El Paso's streets because the city's shelters and hotels were filled to capacity.

KFOX-TV

“Over the weekend, an increase in migrant encounters continued in our #ElPaso region,” Chavez wrote — while praising her agents for their “phenomenal efforts” as they “continue to manage this migration flow.”

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The Border Patrol's El Paso sector saw a staggering 46.9% increase in encounters with migrants from October through July, compared to the same period last year, according to the latest figures from US Customs and Border Protection.

In July, authorities tallied 24,916 encounters, an average of about 804 a day, up 21.2% from July 2021, the statistics show.