

# Ukrainian refugees lining up at southern border ahead of Biden's Title 42 change

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WASHINGTON (TND) — Ukrainian refugees have been fleeing to Mexico in hopes of entering the U.S. amid an escalating human rights crisis spurred by Russia's war on its neighboring country.

An estimated 1,700 Ukrainians have arrived in Tijuana, Mexico in recent weeks and were joined by an additional 400 Ukrainian refugees Saturday, 30% of which are reportedly children, settling near an international port of entry south of San Diego, according to [Reuters](#).

Refugees from the war-torn country are arriving in Mexico daily via travel visas, and then heading to the San Ysidro port of entry in hopes of getting into the U.S. after being denied visas or getting told they must wait from U.S. embassies abroad, [CBS News](#) reports.

***They will continue to arrive," Enrique Lucero, Tijuana's migration affairs director, told Reuters.***

While American-bound immigrant hopefuls from Ukraine are initially crammed into makeshift camps near the border, Mexican authorities have reportedly converted a sports complex to house hundreds of them as they wait to cross the border into the U.S. Previously, the complex was used to house migrants from Central America, according to [The Washington Examiner](#).

Tijuana reportedly has around 25 other shelters that are housing roughly 3,000 migrants from other countries, who are waiting for Title 42 – an order allowing the deportation of migrants coming from countries where communicable diseases are present – to expire. Other Ukrainian immigrants are reportedly staying in hotels around the city.

The influx of Ukrainian migrants comes as U.S. Customs and Border Protection [plans](#) to increase personnel at the border to help with the fallout from the termination of Title 42 – which is expected to increase the number of encounters at the border.

***We will increase personnel and resources as needed and have already redeployed more than 600 law enforcement officers to the border,” Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas said in a statement Friday.***

Prior to the surge of Ukrainians traveling to the southern border, a smaller number of roughly 15 Ukrainian refugees per day were simply being waved through into the U.S., according to Reuters.

As the number of Ukrainian refugees seeking to gain entry through the southern border grows, other migrants from Russia, Mexico, and Central America are being told to wait due to Title 42.

While significant, the number of Ukrainian refugees in Mexico is but a small part of the roughly 3.8 million Ukrainian refugees who have fled to nearby European countries.

On March 24, President Joe Biden announced the U.S. would “welcome up to 100,000 Ukrainians and others fleeing Russia’s aggression.”

However, some critics are unsure how willing the U.S. actually is to help Ukrainian refugees.

***[Biden] doesn’t explain who the ‘others’ are, but 100,000 would amount to less than 3 percent of the Ukrainian refugees outside of Ukraine and 1 percent of Ukraine’s displaced population including those inside Ukraine,” writes immigration research fellow at the CATO Institute, David J. Bier.***

***The reasons for skepticism are plentiful,” Bier continued. “There is every reason to believe that this latest target is just another in a list of immigration goals that Biden will fail to achieve.***