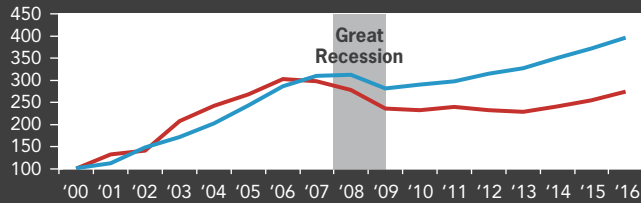


Remittances to Central America Soar

Design: Emily Rogers & Darcy Taj; Content: Stephanie Gullo & Jesus Cañas

Money Sent to Central America on the Rise

Total remittances received, index, 2000 = 100



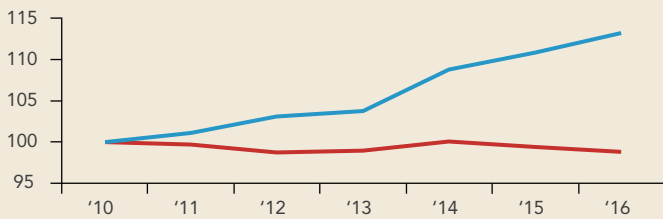
... but **1.6** times more remittances were sent to Mexico than Central America in 2016.

Central America \$18.3 billion **Mexico** \$28.7 billion

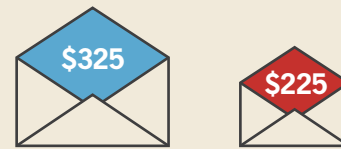
What's Behind the Change?

Central American immigrant population in U.S. increasing, while Mexican immigrant population in U.S. decreasing ...

Population in U.S., index, 2010 = 100



Central Americans in U.S. send more money home per person on average



Central America

Mexico

... but **Central American population still far smaller than Mexican immigrant population**



What Does This Mean for Receiving Countries?

Remittances provide relatively bigger boost to **Central American economies**, which are more dependent on them than Mexico.

Remittances Per Capita in Receiving Countries

El Salvador —\$724	Belize —\$238	Panama —\$125
Guatemala —\$450	Mexico —\$225	Costa Rica —\$113
Honduras —\$422	Nicaragua —\$206	

Remittances as Percent of GDP



NOTES: Dollar values are inflation-adjusted 2016 dollars. Central America includes Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama. All data refer to 2016 unless otherwise noted.
SOURCES: Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates; World Bank.