Organized crime before and after the pandemic

Before → There were a lot more "in person crimes"

After → Cyber crimes became the most popular form of organized crime

There were 60.3 homicides in 2019, which was a little bit of a decrease from 2020.

There is no evidence that, in 2019, organized crime syndicates targeted US citizens

ASSUMPTION: According to my research, in 2019 in Mexico, there was a decline in retail sales in December, which could weaken many companies. However the employment rate went up, which is a good thing for the economy. In 2020, there economy went down 8.5 percent. So we can assume that 2019 was better than 2020 in terms of economics.

ASSUMPTION: Considering that drug prices went up 70 percent in 2020, we can assume that they were less expensive in 2019, which could cause less violence amongst cartels.

Similarities

Organized crime has affected the economy pre and post pandemic. Criminal organizations liquidating businesses and political groups are nothing new. Places like Venezuela and Mexico have many poor regions because of these groups infiltrating themselves into poorer neighborhoods. Organized crime has also created a sense of fear and resentment for those affected, maybe even those affected by the drug business. It seems as though their motives are the same, but the way they are doing it is different. It is now more technological and less of a face to face crime ridden world.

Regardless of how many homicides, murders, attacks or drug deals are done each year, it is still a big problem. Since 2014, homicide and dangerous crimes have spiked, and it seems to have subsided a little in 2019, but spiked back up again in 2020. A similarity is that, even though rates have gone down, it is still a problem. The Mexican Government has tried to set up organizations to fight these crimes, however their ideas are highly problematic

Homicide is still the leading cause of death in Mexico in people aged 15-39

Statistics show that 44 to 80 percent of homicides can be linked to organized crime. I am assuming that this is mostly because of lack of payment to drug cartels.

Murders rose up to 10 percent during the three months of lockdown. Over 3,000 murders happened just in March of 2020.

ASSUMPTION: Assuming that cyber crimes and scams became more frequent in 2020-2021, we can assume that US citizens were also targeted, as well as other countries.

Because of the pandemic, organized crime groups have deepened bonds with struggling companies and taking advantage of their weakened state. They also formed relationships with the government and civil society organizations

Drug cartels couldn't get what they needed due to decrease in stock, and that caused violence among cartels and gangs. The prices of drugs have also gone up as much as 70 percent since lockdown started, and many have turned to "home grown" drug solutions.

I needed to synthesize my project, and figured the best way to do so was to predict how Mexico will deal with the new wave of cyber crime that the pandemic has brought onto them. I did some research, and it seems like they have already taken steps in 2021 to help with cyber security and cyber crime. They have a federal crime code that they use for two different types of cyber criminals: Simple or aggravated. According to my research, these laws and regulations were passed in 2021. In this law, they also cover Phishing, Infection of IT systems and Distribution of tools or cyberware to commit these crimes. However, Phishing and Infection of IT systems are not necessarily covered. Phishing in the federal crime code does not really have any definition, however, it could be considered fraud. Infection of IT systems does also not have a specific definition in the federal crime code, but could be considered hacking. In my opinion, what I believe will happen is that they will strengthen these laws and regulations as time goes on, and provide better and more specific definitions for ones who have not been provided with those yet. I think since they are so serious (like IT system hackings, that could ruin businesses) they should put stricter definitions as well as not putting a statute of limitations on them (if possible) depending on how serious the crime is. That will definitely reduce cyber crime activities.