

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910787288703321
Autore	Schryer Frans J.
Titolo	They never come back : a story of undocumented workers from Mexico // Frans J. Schryer
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Ithaca ; ; London : , : ILR Press, an imprint of Cornell University Press, , 2014
ISBN	0-8014-5511-1 0-8014-7961-4 0-8014-5512-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (viii, 160 pages) : illustrations, maps
Disciplina	331.6/2720973
Soggetti	Foreign workers, Mexican - United States - Social conditions Foreign workers, Mexican - United States - Economic conditions Noncitizens - United States - Social conditions Noncitizens - United States - Economic conditions Illegal immigration
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	What happened to the Mexican miracle? -- Struggling to get ahead -- No one lives there -- I feel sorry for them -- It used to be easy to cross the border -- In the U.S. all you do is work -- For me it is about the same -- Mexicans are good workers -- We can never hang out with our friends -- You are only sent back if you're bad -- We must carry on our ancestors' traditions -- I don't have much in common with my cousin -- The system is broken -- Final remarks.
Sommario/riassunto	For Mexicans on both sides of the border, the migrant experience has changed significantly over the past two decades. In <i>They Never Come Back</i> , Frans J. Schryer draws on the experiences of indigenous people from a region in the Mexican state of Guerrero to explore the impact of this transformation on the lives of migrants. When handicraft production was able to provide a viable alternative to agricultural labor, most migrants would travel to other parts of Mexico to sell their wares. Others opted to work for wages in the United States, returning to Mexico on a regular basis. This is no longer the case. At first almost

everyone, including former craft vendors, headed north; however it also became more difficult to go back home and then reenter the United States. One migrant quoted by Schryer laments, "Before I was an artisan and free to travel all over Mexico to sell my crafts. Here we are all locked in a box and cannot get out." NAFTA, migrant labor legislation, and more stringent border controls have all affected migrants' home communities, their relations with employers, their livelihoods, and their identity and customs. Schryer traces the personal lives and careers of indigenous men and women on both sides of the border. He finds that the most pressing issue facing undocumented workers is not that they are unable to earn enough money but, rather, that they are living in a state of ongoing uncertainty and will never be able to achieve their full potential. Through these stories, Schryer offers a nuanced understanding of the predicaments undocumented workers face and the importance of the ongoing debate around immigration policy.
