

Immigration Enforcement Actions: 2018

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INTRODUCTION

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) engages in immigration enforcement actions to prevent unlawful entry into the United States and to apprehend and repatriate aliens who have violated or failed to comply with U.S. immigration laws. The primary responsibility for the enforcement of immigration law within DHS rests with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). CBP primarily enforces immigration laws along the borders and at ports of entry (POE), ICE is responsible for interior enforcement and detention and removal operations, and USCIS adjudicates applications and petitions for immigration and naturalization benefits.

The 2018 *Immigration Enforcement Actions Annual Flow Report*, authored by the DHS Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS), presents information on DHS immigration enforcement actions during 2018.¹ This includes determinations of inadmissibility by CBP Office of Field Operations (OFO) officers, apprehensions by CBP U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) agents, and ICE administrative arrests, initiations of removal proceedings, intakes into immigration detention, and repatriation through removal or return.²

Key findings:

- DHS made 24 percent more apprehensions in 2018 than in 2017, largely driven by increases in apprehensions of Guatemalan and Honduran nationals along the Southwest Border.
- OFO made 30 percent more determinations of inadmissibility than in 2017, largely driven by increases for nationals of the Philippines, Mexico, and the People's Republic of China (China).
- DHS issued 37 percent more Notices to Appear (NTA) in 2018 than in 2017, with increases across all DHS Components.

¹ In this report, "years" refer to fiscal years, which run from October 1 to September 30.

² Data in this report are event-based data rather than person-centric, meaning an alien may be counted more than once within a table if that alien has been subject to an action more than once. For this reason, this report discusses numbers of actions performed rather than numbers of aliens subject to such actions.

- ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) initiated 23 percent more intakes into immigration detention, with detentions of aliens from the Northern Triangle of Central America and Mexico accounting for 85 percent of total detentions.
- DHS repatriations (including both removals and returns) increased 14 percent over 2017, the first increase since 2004.
- DHS performed 17 percent more removals in 2018 than in 2017, with about 44 percent of removals involving aliens who had a prior criminal conviction.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS PROCESSES

Determinations of Inadmissibility

All aliens seeking admission at a POE are subject to inspection. OFO officers conduct these inspections at designated POEs and at pre-clearance locations at certain foreign ports. Applicants for admission who are determined to be inadmissible may be permitted to voluntarily withdraw their application for admission and return to their home country, processed for expedited removal, referred to an immigration judge (IJ) for removal proceedings, processed for a visa waiver refusal, or paroled into the United States.³ Aliens referred to an IJ for removal proceedings under section 240 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) are issued a form I-862, a *Notice to Appear*, and may be transferred to ICE for a custody determination. Aliens who apply under the Visa Waiver Program who are found to be inadmissible are refused admission without referral to an IJ per section 217 of the INA, unless the alien requests asylum, withholding of removal, or protection under the United Nations Convention Against Torture.

DHS Apprehensions

DHS apprehensions of aliens for suspected immigration violations include "apprehensions" by USBP and "administrative arrests" by ICE. CBP and ICE agents and officers also initiate criminal charges against certain inadmissible or removable aliens, as well as against

³ Note that OFO makes determinations of admissibility in cases of expedited removal, administrative removal, reinstatement of removal, and visa waiver refusal. In cases resulting in referral to an IJ for proceedings (e.g., asylum-only, withholding-only, or removal proceedings), the IJ makes determinations of admissibility or deportability.



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certain individuals who are suspected of non-immigration-related offenses. While criminal arrests are beyond the scope of this report, aliens who are arrested (by any law enforcement agency) and convicted of criminal activity also may be potentially removable and subject to administrative arrest upon release from criminal custody.

USBP Apprehensions

Aliens whom USBP apprehends entering without inspection between POEs are generally subject to removal. Adults may be permitted to voluntarily return to their country of origin, removed administratively, or referred to an asylum officer for a credible fear interview or to an IJ for removal proceedings (i.e., issued an NTA). Adults from non-contiguous countries and all adults who are referred to an asylum officer or issued an NTA are generally transferred to ICE for a custody determination. Unaccompanied alien children (UAC) from contiguous countries may be permitted to return to their country of origin under certain circumstances, while other UAC are processed by ICE and then transferred to the custody of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement. Historically, DHS has separated alien minors from adults claiming to be a parent or legal guardian (i.e., divided family units) in certain limited circumstances, such as if DHS is unable to confirm a custodial relationship, when DHS determines the minor may be at risk with the adult, for urgent medical issues, or when the adult is transferred to criminal detention as the result of a criminal charge or conviction.⁴

Beginning in 2012, USBP implemented the Consequence Delivery System (CDS). The CDS guides USBP agents through a process designed to uniquely evaluate each subject and identify the most effective and efficient consequences to deliver in order to impede and deter further violations of immigration law. Examples of CDS consequences include expedited removal, lateral repatriation through the Alien Transfer Exit Program, and immigration-related criminal charges, among others.

ICE Administrative Arrests

Aliens unlawfully present in the United States and those lawfully present who are subject to removal may be identified and arrested by ICE within the interior of the United States. ICE usually identifies potentially removable aliens in the interior by working with federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to verify the immigration status of arrested or incarcerated individuals, as well as by conducting operations to detain certain at-large removable aliens. Aliens arrested by ICE may be permitted to depart voluntarily, removed administratively, or referred to an IJ for removal proceedings.

Benefit Denial

USCIS may issue an NTA upon determining that an alien applicant for an immigration or naturalization benefit is inadmissible under INA section 212 or removable under section 237. USCIS will also issue an NTA when required by statute or regulation

(e.g., upon termination of conditional permanent resident status, referral of an asylum application, termination of asylum or refugee status, or following a positive credible fear determination) or, in certain cases, upon the subject's request.⁵

Detention Process

ERO makes a custody determination for aliens whom ICE arrests or CBP apprehends and transfers to ICE. ICE officers base determinations on whether the alien is subject to mandatory detention, the alien's risk to public safety, the effort to promote compliance with removal proceedings or removal orders (i.e., reducing flight risk), and the availability and prioritization of resources. Options available to ICE include immigration detention, supervised alternatives to detention, release on bond, parole, or release on the alien's own recognizance. ICE may redetermine custody at any point while the alien is in removal proceedings.

Repatriation Process

Inadmissible and deportable aliens may be subject to repatriation. Repatriations include execution of removal orders, which carry penalties such as bars to reentry, and returns, which generally do not carry such penalties. Removal orders can be further categorized as expedited removal orders, reinstatements of removal orders, administrative removals, or removal orders issued during proceedings in immigration court. Depending upon the individual circumstances of the case, penalties associated with removal may include a bar of between five years and life from future admission into the United States. Aliens who unlawfully reenter the United States following an execution of a removal order may also be subject to criminal charges and imprisonment for up to 20 years.

Returns

Certain aliens found inadmissible at a POE, apprehended near the border, or who are otherwise potentially removable, may be offered the opportunity to voluntarily return to their home country in lieu of formal removal. Generally, aliens accepting an offer of voluntary return waive their right to a hearing, remain in custody, and, if applicable, agree to depart the United States under supervision. Some aliens apprehended within the United States may have the opportunity to agree to voluntarily depart (also a form of "return"). Certain DHS officials may grant an alien voluntary departure prior to an immigration hearing, or an IJ may do so during or at the conclusion of an immigration hearing.

Removal Proceedings

Aliens issued an NTA are provided an immigration hearing under the jurisdiction of the Department of Justice (DOJ) Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR). Removal hearings before an immigration court are administrative proceedings during which potentially removable aliens may present evidence before an IJ that they are eligible to remain in the United States. IJs may issue an order of removal, grant voluntary departure at the alien's expense (a form of "return"),

⁴ For a fuller discussion of family separations and related issues see DHS Family Unit Actions Report, April 2019.

⁵ If USCIS finds an alien who has applied for an immigration benefit to be ineligible, the subject may request an appearance before an IJ for reconsideration.

terminate or suspend proceedings, or grant relief or protection from removal. Forms of relief or protection from removal may include the grant of an application for asylum or lawful permanent resident status. Aliens can file a petition for review of a Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) decision to the U.S. Courts of Appeals within the judicial branch.

Expedited Removal

Expedited removal is a process wherein DHS removes aliens from the United States administratively (i.e., through standardized functions when meeting certain criteria and without appearing before an EOIR IJ). Expedited removal applies to three classes of aliens:

- (1) certain aliens who arrive at a POE without proper documentation or who attempt to gain entry through fraud or misrepresentation;⁶
- (2) aliens apprehended between POEs and within 100 miles of the land border who cannot establish to the officer's satisfaction that they have been continuously physically present in the United States for the 14-day period immediately prior to the date of encounter;⁷ and
- (3) aliens apprehended within two years after arriving by sea without being admitted or paroled.⁸

Reinstatement of Final Removal Orders

DHS may administratively reinstate final removal orders without further hearing or review for aliens who unlawfully reenter the United States after DHS has previously removed them or after they have departed voluntarily under an order of removal.⁹ DHS reinstates the prior order of removal from its original date, and the alien is generally ineligible and may not apply for relief under the INA.¹⁰

Administrative Removal

DHS may administratively remove aliens convicted of an aggravated felony who did not have U.S. lawful permanent resident status at the commencement of removal proceedings.¹¹

Aliens subject to expedited removal, reinstatement of removal, or administrative removal generally are not entitled to proceedings before an IJ or consideration for relief or protection unless the alien expresses past persecution, fear of future persecution, or fear of torture upon return to his or her country of nationality or makes a claim to certain forms of legal status in the United States. The specific procedures for establishing the right for review by an IJ differ for each administrative removal process.

⁶ See INA section 235(b)(1)(A)(i).

⁷ Current regulations limit authority granted in INA section 235(b)(1)(A)(iii) to focus enforcement resources upon unlawful entries that have a close spatial and temporal nexus to the border. See DHS CBP, "Designating Aliens for Expedited Removal," Federal Register, Vol. 69, No. 154, p. 48877-48881, Aug. 11, 2004.

⁸ See DOJ, "Notice Designating Aliens Subject to Expedited Removal Under §235(b)(1)(A)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act," Federal Register, Vol. 67, No. 219, p. 68924-68926, Nov. 13, 2002.

⁹ See INA section 241(a)(5).

¹⁰ See INA section 241(a)(5).

¹¹ See INA section 238(b). Also see INA section 101(a)(43) for definition of "aggravated felony."

DATA AND METHODS

This report uses administrative record data processed according to a set of defined rules. To the extent possible, these rules group events into time periods according to when the event took place, rather than the date of case completion, closure, or update. Whenever possible, this report presents statistics for each year from 2010 to 2018.

The removal and return numbers included here are estimates. This is largely due to the absence of explicit records on CBP-performed removals and because a return cannot be confirmed for aliens who are returned without supervision until the alien verifies his or her departure with a U.S. consulate. Due to these limitations, OIS updates previously-reported estimates as new data become available.

Apprehension and inadmissibility data are collected in the Enforcement Integrated Database (EID) using Form I-213, *Record of Deportable-Inadmissible Alien*, and EID Arrest Graphical User Interface for Law Enforcement (EAGLE). Data on individuals detained are collected through the ICE ENFORCE Alien Detention Module (EADM) and the ENFORCE Alien Removal Module (EARM). Data on USCIS NTAs are collected using the USCIS NTA Database. Data on individuals removed or returned are collected through both EARM and EID. OIS' and ICE's methodologies for reporting immigration enforcement statistics differed slightly prior to 2016, resulting in small discrepancies between historic ICE and OIS numbers.

TRENDS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Apprehensions

DHS made 570,000 apprehensions in 2018, up 24 percent from 460,000 in 2017 and the highest total since the Department apprehended 680,000 aliens in 2014 (Table 1).¹² Apprehensions of Guatemalan nationals largely drove this increase with 53,000 more apprehensions than in 2017 (65 percent increase). Apprehensions of Honduran nationals also grew by 31,000, a 51 percent increase over 2017. Indian nationals experienced the largest proportional growth in apprehensions among leading countries, increasing by 170 percent between 2017 and 2018, but still accounted for just 10,000 apprehensions in 2018.

U.S. Border Patrol Apprehensions

USBP apprehensions increased 30 percent from 310,000 in 2017 to 400,000 in 2018, mostly due to the increase in apprehensions along the Southwest Border, where 98 percent of USBP apprehensions occurred. Mexican nationals accounted for an average of 96 percent of USBP apprehensions between 1970 and 2009, but their share dropped from 87 percent in 2010 to 42 percent in 2017, and continued to decline to 38 percent in 2018. Meanwhile, the share of USBP apprehensions involving nationals from Northern Triangle countries kept rising, from 10 percent in 2010 and 48 percent in 2016, to a record high of 56

¹² Data in this report are rounded for readability; please refer to accompanying data tables and the Yearbook of Immigration Statistics for precise counts.

Table 1.

Apprehensions by Program and Country of Nationality: FY 2010 to 2018

(Countries ranked by 2018 apprehensions)

Program and country of nationality	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
PROGRAM									
Total	796,587	678,606	671,327	662,483	679,996	462,388	530,250	461,540	572,566
USBP	463,382	340,252	364,768	420,789	486,651	337,117	415,816	310,531	404,142
Southwest sectors (sub-total)	447,731	327,577	356,873	414,397	479,371	331,333	408,870	303,916	396,579
ICE ERO	314,915	322,093	290,622	229,698	181,719	117,983	110,104	143,470	158,581
ICE HSI	18,290	16,261	15,937	11,996	11,626	7,288	4,330	7,539 ¹	9,843 ²
COUNTRY OF NATIONALITY									
Total	796,587	678,606	671,327	662,483	679,996	462,388	530,250	461,540	572,566
Mexico	632,034	517,472	468,766	424,978	350,177	267,885	265,747	220,138	252,267
Guatemala	39,050	41,708	57,486	73,208	97,151	66,982	84,649	81,909	135,354
Honduras	32,501	31,189	50,771	64,157	106,928	42,433	61,222	60,169	91,141
El Salvador	29,911	27,652	38,976	51,226	79,321	51,200	78,983	59,687	42,132
India	2,175	3,859	1,566	1,791	2,106	2,967	4,123	3,682	9,953
Nicaragua	2,587	2,278	2,532	2,712	2,912	1,577	1,756	1,721	4,014
Brazil	3,532	3,228	2,433	1,702	1,643	1,911	3,738	3,699	2,810
Ecuador	3,890	3,298	4,374	5,680	6,276	3,438	3,472	2,568	2,708
Dominican Republic	5,274	4,433	4,506	3,893	3,455	2,797	2,770	2,582	2,628
China, People's Republic	2,709	2,546	2,350	1,918	2,601	1,875	3,197	2,371	2,322
All other countries	42,924	40,943	37,567	31,218	27,426	19,323	20,593	23,014	27,237

¹ ICE HSI data as of October 31, 2017.

² ICE HSI data as of November 14, 2018.

Note: "All other countries" includes unknown.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

percent in 2018. The increase in 2018 was driven entirely by growing apprehensions of Guatemalans and Hondurans as apprehensions of El Salvadorans decreased 37 percent in 2018.

USBP's apprehension of 150,000 Mexican nationals was the second lowest total for that country since 1999 (only exceeding the 2017 count of 130,000 apprehensions). Conversely, the 230,000 apprehensions of Northern Triangle nationals represented the second-highest total for that region ever (second only to 2014) and the largest-ever average compared to Mexican nationals. (Table 2, Figure 1).

The Rio Grande Valley (RGV) sector of the Southwest Border was the leading sector for USBP apprehensions, as it has been every year since overtaking the Tucson sector in 2013. USBP made 160,000 apprehensions in RGV in 2018, accounting for 40 percent of the Southwest Border total. The RGV sector accounted for 45 percent of total USBP apprehensions in the five-year period 2013 – 2017.

Continuing a trend since at least 2013 when USBP began fully tracking the family status of apprehensions,¹³ the share of single adults as a proportion of apprehensions fell to 60 percent in 2018, down from 61 percent in 2017 and 87 percent in 2013 (Figure 2). USBP apprehensions of UAC increased from 41,000 to 50,000 and accounted for 13 percent of the total (down from 14 percent in 2017); and apprehensions of parents or legal guardians and minor children traveling together, known as family unit aliens (FMUAs), increased from 76,000 to 107,000, accounting for 27 percent of the total, an all-time high.

¹³ USBP has tracked UACs since 2008 and aliens arriving in family units (FMUAs) since 2013; OFO has tracked UACs since 2013 and FMUAs since 2017.

ICE Administrative Arrests

Administrative arrests conducted by ERO and ICE Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) increased from 150,000 in 2017 to 170,000 in 2018 (Figure 3). ERO administrative arrests rose 11 percent from 140,000 in 2017 to 160,000 in 2018 but remained just under half of ERO's peak number of 320,000 administrative arrests in 2011. Similarly, HSI administrative arrests rose 31 percent from 7,500 in 2017 to 9,800 in 2018, just over half of HSI's peak of 18,000 administrative arrests in 2010.

Inadmissible Aliens

During inspection of aliens seeking admission at POEs in 2018, OFO officers made 280,000 inadmissibility determinations,¹⁴ an increase of 30 percent from 2017 (Table 3). A 250 percent increase in inadmissibility determinations for nationals of the Philippines largely drove this increase, along with increases for nationals of Mexico, which saw the highest number since 2008, and China, Guatemala, Honduras, and Brazil, which each saw all-time highs. Inadmissibility determinations dropped for Haitians after surging in 2016 and 2017.

In 2018, 55 percent of the inadmissibility determinations occurred at land ports, 19 percent at air ports, and 26 percent at sea ports; these proportions are not comparable to 2016 and 2017 due to temporary policy change in how crew members detained aboard were categorized in those two years.¹⁵ The leading ports were Laredo (where OFO made 49,000 alien inadmissibility determinations), San Diego (36,000), El Paso

¹⁴ Does not capture inadmissibility determinations made by Department of State with input from ICE through the visa security program.

¹⁵ For a period of time in 2016 and 2017, detained crew members were not counted as inadmissible.

Table 2.

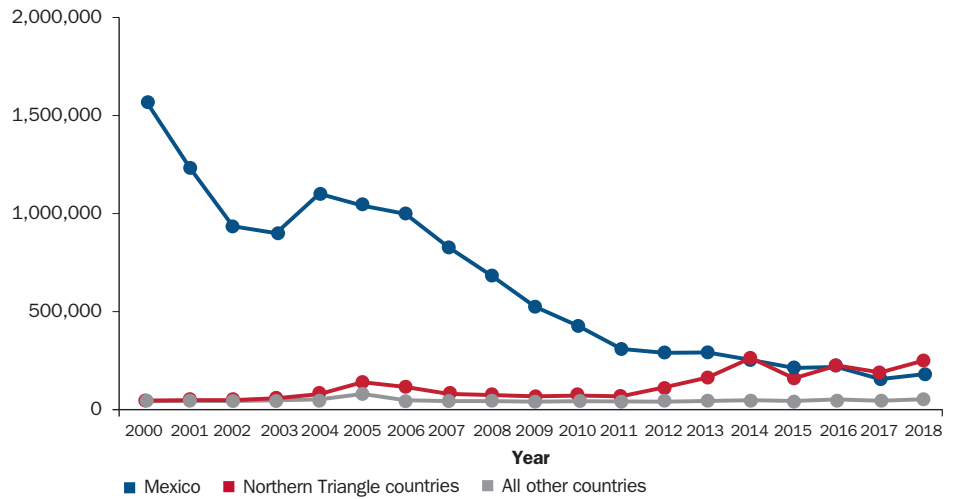
USBP Apprehensions by Selected Countries of Nationality: FY 2010 to 2018

	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	463,382	100.0	340,252	100.0	364,768	100.0	420,789	100.0	486,651	100.0	337,117	100.0	415,816	100.0	310,531	100.0	404,142	100.0
Mexico	404,365	87.3	286,154	84.1	265,755	72.9	267,734	63.6	229,178	47.1	188,122	55.8	192,969	46.4	130,454	42.0	155,452	38.5
Guatemala	18,406	4.0	19,061	5.6	35,204	9.7	54,692	13.0	81,116	16.7	57,160	17.0	75,246	18.1	66,807	21.5	116,808	28.9
Honduras	13,580	2.9	12,197	3.6	30,953	8.5	46,865	11.1	91,475	18.8	33,848	10.0	53,402	12.8	47,900	15.4	77,128	19.1
El Salvador	13,723	3.0	10,874	3.2	22,158	6.1	37,149	8.8	66,638	13.7	43,564	12.9	72,018	17.3	50,011	16.1	31,636	7.8
All other countries	13,308	2.9	11,966	3.5	10,698	2.9	14,349	3.4	18,244	3.7	14,423	4.3	22,181	5.3	15,359	4.9	23,118	5.7

Note: "All other countries" includes unknown.
Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Figure 1.

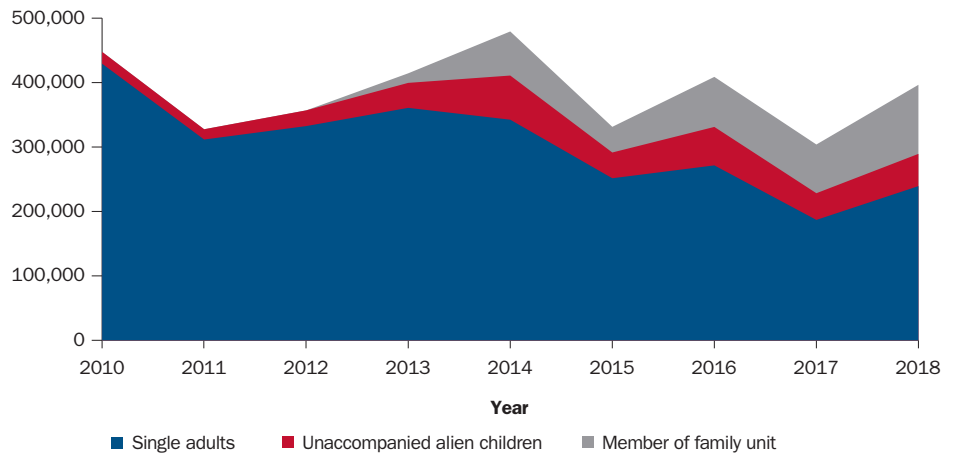
USBP Apprehensions for Selected Countries of Nationality: FY 2000 to 2018



Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Figure 2.

USBP Southwest Border Apprehensions of Aliens by Family Unit Status: FY 2010 to 2018



Note: Data on family unit (FMUA) apprehensions are not available prior to 2013.
Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

(24,000), and Houston (23,000). Among the 10 ports with the highest number of inadmissibility determinations in 2018, Boston and Houston saw the largest increases over the five-year average for 2013 to 2017 (135 percent and 120 percent, respectively). Though not among the top 10 ports, Portland's 4,800 inadmissibility determinations in 2018 were more than four times the number in 2017 and more than three times the five-

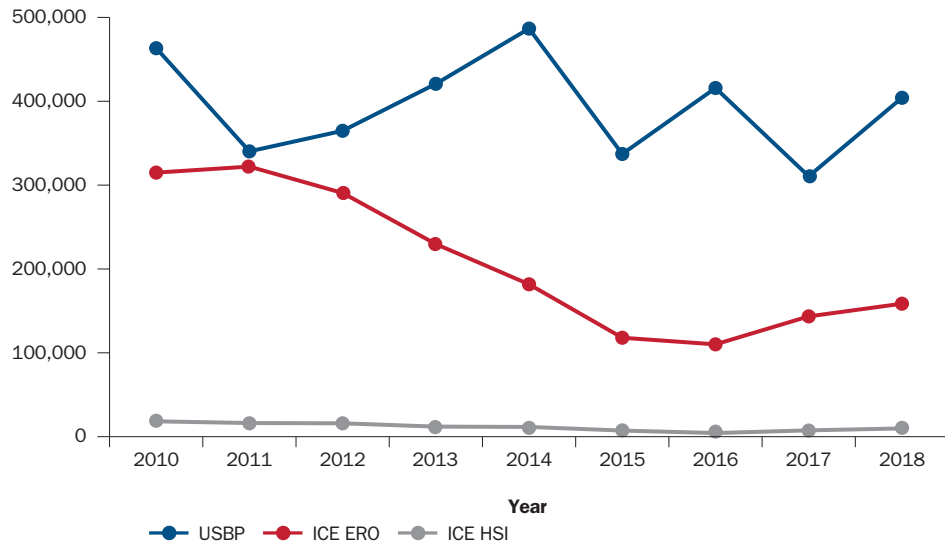
year average for 2013 to 2017.

Most aliens found inadmissible by OFO at POEs fall into one of three main categories:

First, most inadmissible aliens from the leading countries of nonimmigrant admissions—including Mexico, Canada, China, and India—are denied for having missing, invalid, or expired documents, for having intentions prohibited by the visa (e.g., presenting a tourist visa but

Figure 3.

Apprehensions by Program: FY 2010 to 2018



Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Table 3.

Alien Inadmissibility Determinations by Mode of Travel, Country of Citizenship, and Field Office: FY 2010 to 2018

(Ranked by 2018 alien inadmissibility determinations)

Characteristic	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
MODE OF TRAVEL									
Total	229,575	213,345	195,804	205,623	225,016	254,714	274,617	216,257	281,928
Land	116,997	107,385	100,592	103,642	118,662	139,790	174,868	136,477	156,431
Air	44,324	39,422	41,438	49,655	53,659	65,158	64,422	59,803	53,456
Sea	68,254	66,538	53,774	52,326	52,695	49,672	35,327	19,778	71,935
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	94	-	199	106
COUNTRY									
Total	229,575	213,345	195,804	205,623	225,016	254,714	274,617	216,257	281,928
Mexico	75,485	67,590	58,945	56,504	63,805	74,473	73,338	62,439	77,570
Philippines	22,918	25,305	22,893	23,722	24,313	22,731	15,842	8,988	31,432
Canada	33,155	32,182	30,786	29,403	28,100	26,347	22,120	22,353	23,917
Guatemala	1,770	1,627	1,783	1,934	4,637	6,278	13,490	11,700	18,669
China, People's Republic	17,175	17,028	13,239	13,712	14,487	15,531	12,083	9,072	18,503
Honduras	1,301	1,084	1,457	2,197	5,922	3,235	7,996	7,327	13,270
Cuba	7,456	7,794	12,290	17,717	24,301	43,146	54,226	20,263	9,415
India	6,579	5,998	6,947	11,864	8,585	7,207	7,115	5,644	8,597
El Salvador	1,100	862	1,040	2,198	3,160	2,828	9,738	7,931	6,310
Brazil	1,111	804	738	824	881	1,164	2,537	3,081	6,231
All other countries	61,525	53,071	45,686	45,548	46,825	51,774	56,132	57,459	68,014
FIELD OFFICE									
Total	229,575	213,345	195,804	205,623	225,016	254,714	274,617	216,257	281,928
Laredo, TX	24,443	25,847	28,212	32,149	39,699	52,795	68,014	49,596	49,160
San Diego, CA	40,021	33,746	26,914	25,636	32,563	40,446	48,161	31,720	35,931
El Paso, TX	7,898	6,942	6,981	7,870	10,185	12,063	23,552	17,738	23,612
Houston, TX	18,966	19,573	12,786	10,958	10,492	11,224	9,820	8,931	22,628
New Orleans, LA	19,162	20,857	20,241	21,039	21,223	20,563	14,600	3,521	17,669
Tucson, AZ	8,744	7,986	7,674	10,041	9,014	9,423	11,835	13,675	17,344
Miami, FL	9,210	7,038	7,776	8,836	12,307	17,705	18,755	10,760	11,958
Buffalo, NY	17,768	15,725	14,066	13,445	13,125	11,916	11,993	11,276	11,903
Boston, MA	4,721	5,223	4,862	4,996	4,547	5,093	3,593	4,789	10,839
Pre-clearance ¹	9,543	8,604	8,582	9,707	10,710	10,763	8,065	8,372	10,258
All other field offices	69,099	61,804	57,710	60,946	61,151	62,723	56,229	55,879	70,626

- Represents zero.

¹ Refers to field offices abroad.

Note: "All other countries" and "All other field offices" include unknown.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

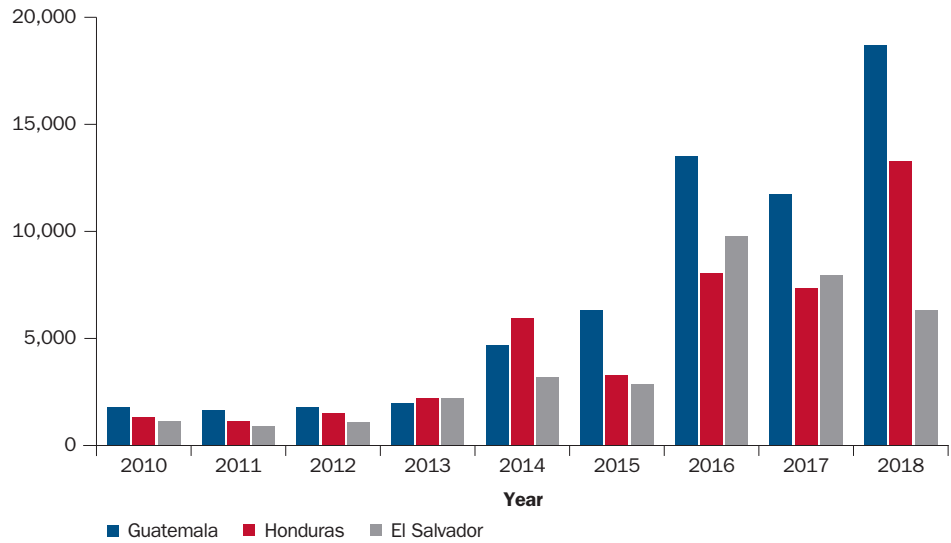
Table 4.
Notices to Appear Issued by DHS Component: FY 2010 to 2018
(Ranked by 2018 notices to appear)

Component	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	260,143	100.0	250,127	100.0	235,687	100.0	224,185	100.0	273,727	100.0	191,747	100.0	270,494	100.0	278,037	100.0	380,534	100.0
USBP	34,986	13.4	31,739	12.7	31,506	13.4	42,078	18.8	118,753	43.4	64,775	33.8	93,146	34.4	88,315	31.8	116,428	30.6
USCIS	53,820	20.7	44,638	17.8	41,778	17.7	56,896	25.4	56,684	20.7	56,835	29.6	92,229	34.1	91,711	33.0	140,246	36.9
ICE ERO ¹	152,345	58.6	156,208	62.5	140,707	59.7	101,571	45.3	78,753	28.8	43,860	22.9	42,573	15.7	66,534	23.9	75,924	20.0
CBP OFO	18,992	7.3	17,542	7.0	21,696	9.2	23,640	10.5	19,537	7.1	26,277	13.7	42,546	15.7	31,477	11.3	47,936	12.6

¹ NTAs from ICE ERO may differ from values reported by ICE as a different methodology is employed. Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Figure 4.

Alien Inadmissibility Determinations by Selected Countries: FY 2010 to 2018



Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

intending to seek employment), or for national security reasons. These denials of admission constitute a small fraction of persons who present themselves for inspection at a POE.

Second, certain inadmissible aliens present themselves at a POE despite knowing that they are ineligible for admission in order to seek some form of humanitarian relief. Historically, a large share of these aliens have been paroled into the United States for humanitarian reasons or as a matter of policy. Citizens of Cuba were generally exempted from the provisions of section 235(b)(1)(B) of the INA under the former “Wet Foot – Dry Foot” policy, and many Cubans requested asylum at a POE, including many inadmissible Cubans not in possession of valid travel documents. With the rescission of this policy on January 12, 2017, the number of Cubans found inadmissible fell from 20,000 in 2017 (and 54,000 in 2016) to 9,400 in 2018, reversing a steady long-term increase.

Numerous nationals from the Northern Triangle have also been found inadmissible in recent years, roughly paralleling (on a much smaller scale) the rise in USBP apprehensions of nationals from the region. Inadmissibility determinations of Northern Triangle nationals totaled 38,000 in 2018, a 42 percent increase from 2017 and a nine-fold increase from 2010 (Figure 4).

Inadmissible nationals from Northern Triangle countries who claim a fear of persecution or torture or who indicate their intention to apply for asylum may be placed in removal proceedings and either detained or released into the United States depending on available resources and other factors.¹⁶

The third main category of inadmissible alien consists of crew members of foreign vessels who may be required to remain aboard their ships. Cargo operations can require visits to multiple ports, or multiple docks within a single port, and can take longer than the 29 days permitted by a D-1 nonimmigrant crewmember visa. In such cases, crew members initially granted shore leave may be re-coded as inadmissible once the shore leave expires, regardless of whether the crew members intended or attempted to disembark the vessel. Most inadmissible nationals from the Philippines and China fall into this category.

Notices to Appear

DHS issued 380,000 NTAs to initiate removal proceedings before an IJ in 2018, a 37 percent increase over 2017 and a 54 percent increase over the five-year average from 2013 to 2017

¹⁶ Beginning in January 2019, under the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP), certain aliens entering or seeking admission to the United States from Mexico – illegally or without proper documentation – may be returned to Mexico and wait outside of the United States for the duration of their immigration proceedings. The MPP was initiated in FY 2019, and does not apply to any cases described in this report.

Table 5.

Initial Admissions to ICE Detention Facilities by Country of Nationality: FY 2010 to 2018

(Ranked by 2018 detention admissions)

Country of nationality	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total	358,390	421,312	464,190	440,540	425,728	307,342	352,882	323,591	396,448
Mexico	216,938	283,615	298,973	244,532	172,560	143,834	134,546	121,405	139,967
Guatemala	35,653	38,187	50,068	59,212	74,543	52,562	65,757	62,741	99,746
Honduras	27,742	26,106	39,859	50,622	76,708	34,899	46,753	43,411	62,461
El Salvador	25,361	23,457	30,808	40,258	59,933	40,263	57,953	42,457	33,169
India	1,996	3,388	1,453	4,057	2,306	2,971	4,088	3,656	9,818
Cuba	2,306	2,149	1,904	1,455	1,111	1,132	1,271	3,755	8,514
Brazil	2,889	2,467	1,920	1,423	1,376	1,802	4,056	4,791	5,477
Nicaragua	2,331	1,975	2,055	2,323	2,382	1,469	1,544	1,514	3,428
Ecuador	3,627	2,929	3,811	4,717	5,351	3,097	3,196	2,455	2,548
Dominican Republic	4,870	3,987	3,954	3,538	3,379	2,757	2,788	2,599	2,404
All other countries	34,677	33,052	29,385	28,403	26,079	22,556	30,930	34,807	28,916

Notes: Excludes Office of Refugee Resettlement and Mexican Interior Repatriation Program facilities. "All other countries" includes unknown.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

(Table 4). USBP issued 120,000 NTAs in 2018, a 32 percent increase over 2017 and a 43 percent increase over the five-year average from 2013 to 2017. ERO issued 76,000 in 2018, the highest number since 2014 and up 14 percent from 2017 and the 2013 – 2017 average. USCIS issued 140,000 NTAs in 2018, more than in any year since at least 2012, a 53 percent increase over 2017, and a 98 percent increase over the 2013 – 2017 average. OFO issued 48,000 NTAs in 2018, a 52 percent increase over 2017, a 67 percent increase over the 2013 – 2017 average, and the highest number of OFO NTAs since at least 2005 when data began being collected.

Detentions

ERO, the agency responsible for immigration detention, initiated 400,000 detention book-ins in 2018, a 23 percent increase over 2017

and the highest number since 2014 (Table 5, Figure 5). Detentions of Mexican nationals increased 15 percent to 140,000 in 2017, reversing a multiyear decline from a peak of 300,000 in 2012. At the same time, Mexicans accounted for just 35 percent of ICE detentions, marking its lowest share since at least 2008 when data began being collected. Detentions of aliens from Northern Triangle countries increased from 150,000 in 2017 to 200,000 in 2018—despite a 22 percent decrease in detentions of El Salvadoran nationals—marking the third year in a row that Northern Triangle detentions surpassed those of Mexicans. As in previous years, nationals of Mexico and the Northern Triangle comprised 80 to 90 percent of total detentions. Among other top countries for detention in 2018, detentions of Indian, Cuban, and Nicaraguan nationals all more than doubled from 2017 figures.

Repatriations

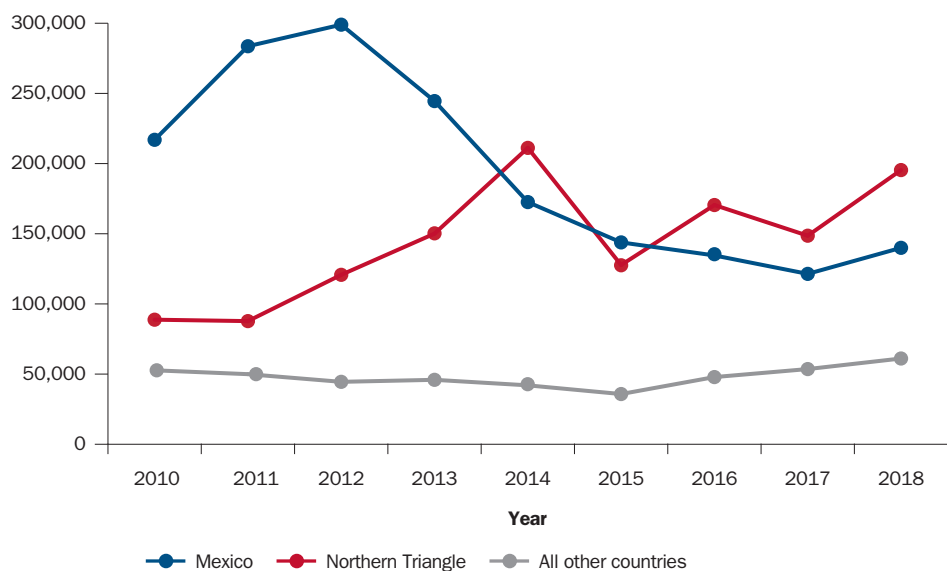
DHS repatriations include removals and returns conducted by ICE and CBP. DHS made 450,000 alien repatriations in 2017, a 15 percent increase over 2016 and the first annual increase in repatriations since 2004.

Removals

DHS performed 340,000 removals of aliens in 2018, a 17 percent increase from 2017 (Table 6). ERO completed 71 percent of DHS removals, USBP accounted for 21 percent, and OFO completed the remaining eight percent of removals. Expedited removals accounted for 43 percent of all removals while 39 percent were based on the reinstatement of prior removal orders. Removals of nationals from Mexico made up 65 percent of removals while removals of aliens from the Northern Triangle countries made up 27 percent.

Figure 5.

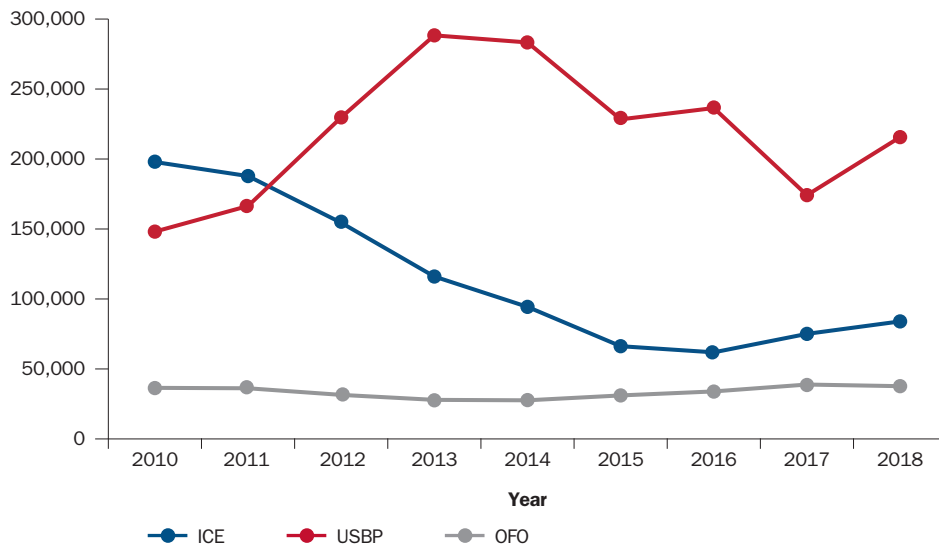
Initial Admissions to ICE Detention Facilities by Country of Nationality: FY 2010 to 2018



Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Figure 6.

Alien Removals by Initial Apprehending Component: FY 2010 to 2018



Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

convictions (Table 7). As in previous years, these prior criminal convictions most often involved immigration violations, drug offenses, and traffic offenses (Table 8).

Returns

DHS performed 110,000 returns of aliens to their home countries without an order of removal in 2018, an 8.3 percent increase from 2017 (Table 9). OFO returns rose by 2.9 percent, USBP returns rose by 7.3 percent, and ERO returns jumped by 43 percent to over 17,000 in 2018. Fifty-five percent of returns involved Mexican or Canadian nationals. Withdrawals of applications for admission made up 49 percent of returns, while voluntary returns and crew member detentions each made up 17 percent and 14 percent of total returns respectively.

Table 6.

Alien Removals by Component and Removal Type: FY 2010 to 2018

Component and Removal Type	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
APPREHENDING COMPONENT									
Total	382,461	390,442	415,636	432,281	405,239	325,668	332,227	288,093	337,287
ICE	197,860	187,811	154,444	116,031	94,352	66,250	61,870	75,059	83,966
CBP U.S. Border Patrol	148,115	166,441	229,727	288,347	283,294	228,341	236,419	174,179	215,632
CBP Office of Field Operations	36,486	36,190	31,465	27,903	27,593	31,077	33,938	38,855	37,689
REMOVING COMPONENT									
Total	382,461	390,442	415,636	432,281	405,239	325,668	332,227	288,093	337,287
ICE	303,080	319,212	345,608	332,028	301,914	228,627	232,472	213,932	238,699
CBP U.S. Border Patrol	47,659	41,584	48,351	78,897	82,654	74,238	74,170	49,688	72,368
CBP Office of Field Operations	31,722	29,646	21,677	21,356	20,671	22,803	25,585	24,473	26,220
REMOVAL TYPE									
Total	382,461	390,442	415,636	432,281	405,239	325,668	332,227	288,093	337,287
Expedited Removals	112,057	124,567	165,613	197,608	188,428	152,770	155,789	121,998	144,263
Reinstatements	124,618	123,762	143,112	162,427	158,627	129,428	134,706	113,932	132,198
All other removals	145,786	142,113	106,911	72,246	58,184	43,470	41,732	52,163	60,826

Note: Statistics reported by OIS and ICE tend to vary slightly due to differences in methodology.
Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Over two-thirds of all removals (64 percent) resulted from a USBP apprehension (Figure 6). ICE administrative arrests led to the next-largest share of removals (25 percent), and OFO determinations of inadmissibility led to 11 percent.

Forty-four percent of removals in 2018 were of aliens with prior criminal convictions, similar to the average of 43 percent for the entire 2010 – 2017 period.¹⁷ Forty-two percent of the removals of Mexican nationals, 43 percent of the removals of those from the Northern Triangle countries, and 68 percent of removals of nationals from other countries involved those with prior criminal

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about immigration and immigration statistics, visit the Office of Immigration Statistics website at www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics.

REFERENCES

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¹⁷ Excludes criminal removals by CBP as CBP EID does not identify if aliens removed have criminal convictions. OIS estimates the resulting undercount is very small as CBP refers most aliens with criminal convictions to ICE.

Table 7.

Alien Removals by Criminal Status and Country of Nationality: FY 2010 to 2018

(Ranked by 2018 alien removals)

Country of nationality	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Total	Percent Criminal ¹	Total	Percent Criminal ¹	Total	Percent Criminal ¹	Total	Percent Criminal ¹	Total	Percent Criminal ¹	Total	Percent Criminal ¹	Total	Percent Criminal ¹	Total	Percent Criminal ¹	Total	Percent Criminal ¹
Total	382,461	44.7	390,442	48.6	415,636	48.1	432,281	45.9	405,239	41.8	325,668	37.1	332,227	34.7	288,093	38.2	337,287	44.3
Mexico	275,572	47.1	287,480	50.6	300,525	50.4	306,953	47.6	265,235	46.5	233,562	37.2	236,713	34.5	185,103	40.2	217,919	42.0
Guatemala	29,403	32.0	30,871	38.1	38,885	34.7	47,013	32.8	54,405	25.2	33,379	31.5	33,886	31.3	33,050	33.6	49,149	40.3
Honduras	24,652	42.3	22,675	48.0	31,724	43.6	36,636	45.3	40,877	34.4	20,298	42.2	22,015	39.0	22,163	41.9	28,452	44.8
El Salvador	20,017	42.0	17,945	47.6	18,910	45.8	21,130	44.8	26,671	33.6	21,899	33.0	20,264	33.2	18,449	35.2	14,877	47.1
Colombia	2,327	53.7	2,138	49.7	1,607	65.8	1,469	63.2	1,375	63.7	1,596	49.8	2,086	36.6	2,059	31.1	2,631	86.5
Brazil	3,248	15.3	3,483	15.8	2,738	15.6	1,573	23.8	980	28.7	1,016	28.3	1,501	22.0	1,724	23.6	2,131	55.7
Dominican Republic	3,413	67.2	2,919	73.7	2,896	75.5	2,322	78.4	2,072	79.2	1,883	80.8	1,979	75.0	2,031	74.6	1,869	80.3
Venezuela	406	33.5	334	35.0	278	44.2	214	40.7	172	45.9	206	29.6	701	7.8	1,085	7.5	1,456	87.9
Ecuador	2,346	29.5	1,783	39.8	1,766	40.1	1,509	38.4	1,569	36.4	1,430	34.1	1,427	32.6	1,397	36.3	1,427	62.2
Jamaica	1,491	78.3	1,497	82.2	1,327	87.2	1,112	89.8	1,043	80.0	868	73.8	1,081	57.4	1,110	61.1	1,095	91.4
All other countries	19,586	36.2	19,317	37.1	14,980	47.1	12,350	48.8	10,840	48.3	9,531	41.9	10,574	37.1	19,922	24.0	16,281	62.9

¹ Refers to persons removed who have a prior criminal conviction.

Notes: Excludes criminals removed by Customs and Border Protection (CBP). CBP EID does not identify if aliens removed were criminals. "All other countries" includes unknown.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Table 8.

Criminal Alien Removals by Crime Category: FY 2010 to 2018

(Ranked by 2018 criminal alien removals)

Crime Category	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	171,030	100.0	189,702	100.0	200,039	100.0	198,488	100.0	169,459	100.0	120,846	100.0	115,301	100.0	109,992	100.0	149,440	100.0
Immigration ¹	31,944	18.7	37,697	19.9	47,559	23.8	62,033	31.3	53,810	31.8	37,047	30.7	36,728	31.9	28,997	26.4	42,563	28.5
Dangerous Drugs ²	43,463	25.4	43,535	22.9	42,738	21.4	30,692	15.0	27,728	16.4	22,216	18.4	21,491	18.6	19,937	18.1	18,194	12.2
Traffic Offenses ³	31,412	18.2	43,334	22.8	46,141	23.1	29,966	15.1	24,019	14.2	15,532	12.9	14,795	12.8	15,818	14.4	17,554	11.7
Assault	12,291	7.2	12,835	6.8	12,993	6.5	20,192	10.2	17,391	10.3	13,213	10.9	12,035	10.4	12,461	11.3	12,337	8.3
Weapon Offenses	2,839	1.7	2,742	1.4	2,510	1.3	5,277	2.7	4,561	2.7	3,501	2.9	3,441	3.0	3,268	3.0	3,217	2.2
Burglary	4,275	2.5	3,824	2.0	3,557	1.8	5,504	2.8	4,667	2.8	3,404	2.8	3,063	2.7	3,087	2.8	2,825	1.9
Fraudulent Activities	3,903	2.3	4,271	2.3	3,870	1.9	5,186	2.6	3,916	2.3	2,620	2.2	2,158	1.9	2,956	2.7	2,718	1.8
Larceny	5,468	3.2	5,749	3.0	5,419	2.7	5,329	2.7	4,314	2.5	2,818	2.3	2,460	2.1	2,591	2.4	2,585	1.7
Sexual Assault	3,333	1.9	3,592	1.9	3,363	1.7	3,168	1.6	2,937	1.7	2,506	2.1	2,481	2.2	2,481	2.3	2,416	1.6
Obstructing Police	2,486	1.5	2,097	1.1	2,063	1.0	2,594	1.3	2,404	1.4	1,954	1.6	1,960	1.7	2,136	1.9	2,084	1.4
All other categories	29,916	17.5	30,026	15.8	29,826	14.9	28,547	14.4	24,118	14.2	16,456	13.6	14,866	12.9	16,260	14.8	42,945	28.7

¹ Including entry and reentry, false claims to citizenship, and alien smuggling.² Including the manufacturing, distribution, sale, and possession of illegal drugs.³ Including hit and run and driving under the influence.

Notes: Data refers to persons removed who have a prior criminal conviction. Excludes criminals removed by Customs and Border Protection (CBP). CBP EID does not identify if aliens removed were criminals. "All other categories" includes unknown.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Table 9.

Alien Returns by Component, Country of Nationality, and Type: FY 2010 to 2018

Component, Nationality, and Type	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
COMPONENT																		
Total	471,800	100.0	322,049	100.0	231,109	100.0	178,978	100.0	163,853	100.0	129,666	100.0	106,464	100.0	100,708	100.0	109,083	100.0
CBP OFO	143,529	30.4	130,978	40.7	109,441	47.4	104,235	58.2	108,722	66.4	105,039	81.0	82,656	77.6	75,459	74.9	77,682	71.2
USBP	248,157	52.6	113,846	35.4	58,161	25.2	38,673	21.6	40,334	24.6	16,160	12.5	16,025	15.1	13,062	13.0	14,015	12.8
ICE	80,114	17.0	77,225	24.0	63,507	27.5	36,070	20.2	14,797	9.0	8,467	6.5	7,783	7.3	12,187	12.1	17,386	15.9
COUNTRY OF NATIONALITY																		
Total	471,800	100.0	322,049	100.0	231,109	100.0	178,978	100.0	163,853	100.0	129,666	100.0	106,464	100.0	100,708	100.0	109,083	100.0
Mexico	352,338	74.7	205,052	63.7	132,450	57.3	88,387	49.4	72,734	44.4	40,667	31.4	37,306	35	39,807	39.5	41,599	38.1
Canada	29,124	6.2	28,271	8.8	27,041	11.7	23,962	13.4	23,268	14.2	22,542	17.4	18,415	17.3	18,538	18.4	18,025	16.5
Philippines	21,387	4.5	23,161	7.2	20,904	9.0	21,533	12.0	22,164	13.5	20,434	15.8	13,604	12.8	6,564	6.5	7,293	6.7
China, People's Republic	16,432	3.5	16,237	5.0	11,777	5.1	11,697	6.5	12,238	7.5	12,793	9.9	8,646	8.1	5,195	5.2	5,517	5.1
India	4,675	1.0	4,113	1.3	3,288	1.4	2,480	1.4	2,806	1.7	2,391	1.8	2,426	2.3	2,350	2.3	3,001	2.8
Guatemala	2,236	0.5	3,010	0.9	2,346	1.0	1,390	0.8	1,141	0.7	813	0.6	899	0.8	1,338	1.3	2,151	2.0
Venezuela	267	0.1	215	0.1	188	0.1	203	0.1	177	0.1	270	0.2	233	0.2	547	0.5	1,615	1.5
France	959	0.2	849	0.3	660	0.3	608	0.3	687	0.4	596	0.5	653	0.6	729	0.7	1,396	1.3
United Kingdom	1,766	0.4	1,604	0.5	1,354	0.6	1,217	0.7	1,097	0.7	1,023	0.8	858	0.8	1,016	1.0	1,368	1.3
Spain	458	0.1	649	0.2	874	0.4	1,131	0.6	919	0.6	925	0.7	789	0.7	1,457	1.4	1,289	1.2
All other countries	42,158	8.9	38,888	12.1	30,227	13.1	26,370	14.7	26,622	16.2	27,212	21.0	22,635	21.3	23,167	23.0	25,829	23.7
RETURN TYPE																		
Total	471,800	100.0	322,049	100.0	231,109	100.0	178,978	100.0	163,853	100.0	129,666	100.0	106,464	100.0	100,708	100.0	109,083	100.0
Withdrawal	74,890	15.9	62,301	19.3	55,260	23.9	51,650	28.9	55,442	33.8	54,174	41.8	46,327	43.5	51,914	51.5	53,333	48.9
Crew member detained	61,904	13.1	60,910	18.9	47,373	20.5	44,716	25.0	45,670	27.9	43,242	33.3	30,347	28.5	15,075	15.0	14,981	13.7
Voluntary Return	310,334	65.8	169,729	52.7	103,248	44.7	64,538	36.1	48,778	29.8	20,232	15.6	19,113	18.0	17,458	17.3	18,710	17.2
Voluntary Departure	19,337	4.1	23,634	7.3	19,593	8.5	11,905	6.7	8,084	4.9	5,814	4.5	5,461	5.1	8,551	8.5	13,904	12.7
All other returns	5,335	1.1	5,475	1.7	5,635	2.4	6,169	3.4	5,879	3.6	6,204	4.8	5,216	4.9	7,710	7.7	8,155	7.5

Note: "All other countries" and "All other returns" include unknown.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.