

# Immigration Enforcement Actions: 2020

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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 noncitizens who are removable pursuant to U.S. immigration laws. The primary responsibility for the enforcement of immigration law within DHS rests with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). CBP primarily enforces immigration laws along the borders at and between ports of entry (POEs) and ICE is responsible for interior enforcement and most detention and removal operations. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) adjudicates applications and petitions for immigration and naturalization benefits.

This *Immigration Enforcement Actions Annual Flow Report*, authored by the DHS Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS), presents information on DHS immigration enforcement actions during 2020.<sup>1</sup> This includes determinations of inadmissibility by CBP Office of Field Operations (OFO) officers, apprehensions by CBP U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) agents, ICE administrative arrests and intakes into immigration detention, and DHS-wide initiations of removal proceedings and repatriations.<sup>2</sup>

In addition to key findings below, new trends, challenges, and changes in operations emerged during March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and affected immigration enforcement, including a worldwide reduction in travel, the application of U.S. Code Title 42 to suspend the introduction of certain noncitizens,<sup>3</sup> reductions in ICE interior arrests and detention space, and reductions in processing of Notices to Appear (NTAs).

### Key findings:

- The numbers of total encounters, apprehensions, determinations of inadmissibility, NTAs, detentions, removals, and returns all showed declines between 2019 and 2020, in part reflecting the extraordinary number of encounters with nationals of the Northern Triangle countries of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras during 2019, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, and changes to immigration enforcement practices (Figure 1).
- Mexico was the leading country for DHS apprehensions and detention book-ins again in 2020 (after Guatemala became the leading country for these enforcement actions in 2019), reversing a steady trend since 2010 of nationals from the Northern Triangle countries accounting for growing shares of these enforcement populations. Mexico was also the leading country for determinations of inadmissibility and removals in 2020. At the same time, for the first time since data have been available, Mexico was no longer the leading country for noncitizen returns, having been surpassed by the Philippines, with most of the latter group being crew members detained on board their vessels.
- Single Adults (SA) made up the largest share of Southwest Border encounters in 2020, reversing the pattern in recent years of Individuals in a Family Unit (FM) and Unaccompanied Children (UC) accounting for growing shares of encounters.
- The majority of USBP encounters, starting on March 20, 2020, resulted in expulsions on public health

<sup>1</sup> In this report, “years” refer to fiscal years, which run from October 1 to September 30. This report also covers CBP encounters which resulted in persons expelled or prevented from entering the United States under Title 42 of the U.S. Code. Although Title 42 is not an immigration authority, Title 42 encounters were a significant portion of all encounters and coincided with other notable changes in immigration enforcement trends, as discussed further in the report.

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

<sup>3</sup> On March 20, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, issued an order suspending the introduction of certain noncitizens into the United States under Title 42 of the U.S. Code Section 265. This provision allows the CDC to suspend the right of introduction of persons to prevent spread of communicable diseases.

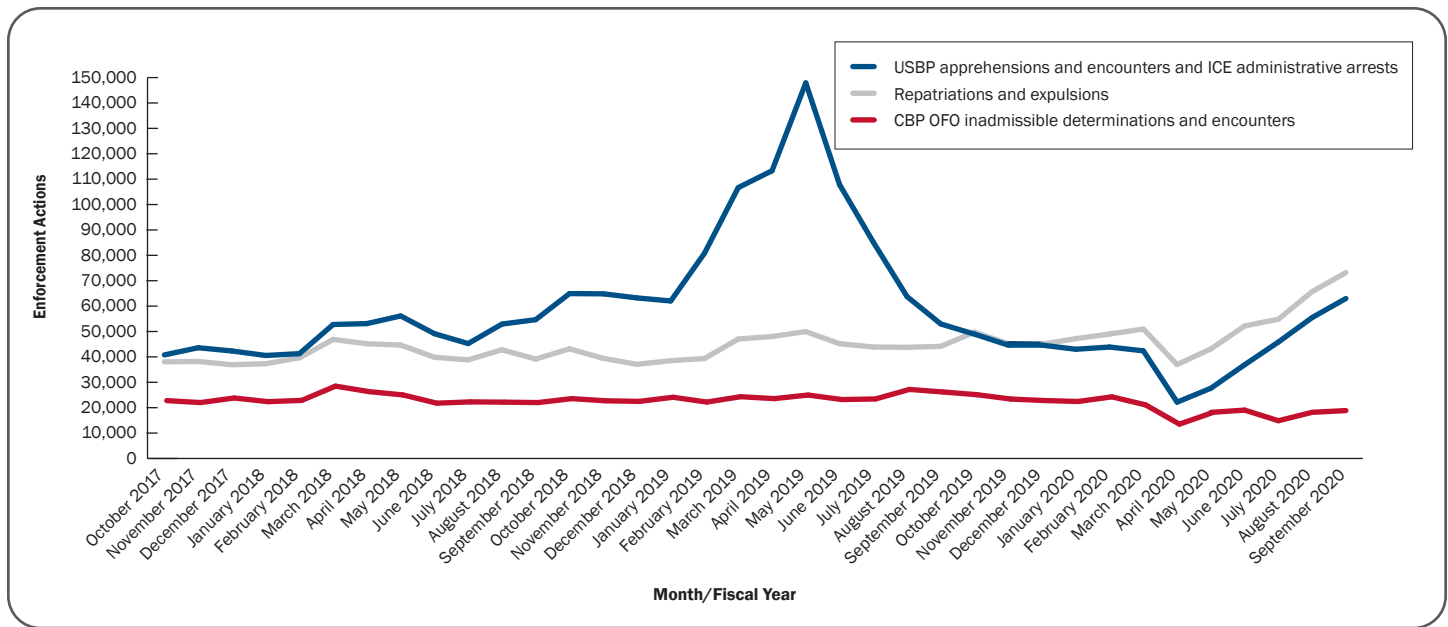


**Homeland  
Security**

Office of Immigration Statistics  
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Figure 1.

Enforcement Actions by Month: Fiscal Years 2018 to 2020



Notes: Data for USBP encounters, CBP OFO encounters, and repatriations and expulsions for March 2020 onward include encounters resulting in Title 42 expulsions. Title 42 expulsions began on March 21, 2020 for USBP encounters and on March 27, 2020 for CBP OFO encounters. Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

grounds as part of the U.S. Government’s efforts to assist in the implementation of the CDC’s Title 42 order. These “Title 42 expulsions” were considered as an important tool for managing the spread of COVID-19 but also contributed to growing numbers of repeat encounters of the same individuals. Forty-six percent of encounters between April 2020 and September 2020 were of persons previously encountered during the prior 12 months, compared to an average of 15 percent from 2014 to 2019.

## ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS PROCESSES

### Determinations of Inadmissibility

All persons seeking admission at a POE are subject to inspection. CBP OFO Officers conduct these inspections at designated POEs and at Preclearance 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 some form of administrative removal, processed for a visa waiver refusal, referred to an immigration judge (IJ) for removal proceedings, and/or paroled into the United States. Noncitizens subject to administrative forms of removal and those processed for a visa waiver refusal may be repatriated directly by CBP OFO unless they express a fear of returning to their home country and are subsequently found to be potentially eligible for some form of humanitarian relief or protection, such as asylum, withholding of removal, or protection under the regulations implementing the United Nations Convention Against Torture. For noncitizens processed for expedited removal and found to have a credible fear or noncitizens initially placed in removal proceedings under Section 240 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), CBP OFO officers issue a form I-862, Notice to Appear, to initiate removal

proceedings, and the noncitizen is typically transferred to ICE for custody.

### DHS Apprehensions

DHS apprehensions of noncitizens for suspected immigration violations include “apprehensions” by USBP and “administrative arrests” by ICE. CBP and ICE Agents and Officers also refer individuals for criminal prosecution in certain circumstances. While criminal arrests are beyond the scope of this report, noncitizens 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

Persons whom USBP apprehends entering without inspection between POEs are generally subject to immigration removal proceedings. Adults and members of family units may be permitted to voluntarily return to their country of origin, removed administratively, processed for expedited removal or reinstatement of a removal order, and referred to an asylum officer if they express a fear of persecution or torture in their country of origin, or placed in removal proceedings before an IJ (i.e., issued an NTA). Adults from non-contiguous (to the United States) countries are generally transferred to ICE for a custody determination. UCs from contiguous countries to the United States may be permitted to voluntarily return to their country of origin under certain circumstances, while other UCs (as well as contiguous country UCs who do not voluntarily return) are transferred to the custody of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). Historically, DHS has separated minors from adults claiming to be a parent or legal guardian 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. Under current DHS and CBP policy, family units can only be separated consistent with the preliminary injunction in *Ms. L v. ICE (Ms. L)*.<sup>4</sup>

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

### ICE Administrative Arrests

Noncitizens unlawfully present in the United States and those lawfully present but who are subject to removal may be identified and arrested by ICE within the interior of the United States. ICE usually identifies potentially removable persons 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 persons. Noncitizens arrested by ICE may be permitted to depart voluntarily, removed administratively, or referred to an IJ for removal proceedings.

### CBP Encounters and Title 42 Expulsions

Historically, CBP OFO determinations of inadmissibility and USBP apprehensions together have comprised “CBP encounters.” In response to the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, CBP began assisting in the enforcement of the CDC’s Title 42, order by expelling certain noncitizens from the United States under that order. These efforts began on March 21, 2020, for USBP and March 27, 2020, for OFO. This report includes Title 42 expulsions as part of the numbers for CBP encounters (as well as the subtotals of CBP OFO and USBP encounters) and discusses them in more detail under the appropriate sections below.

### Benefit Denial

USCIS may issue an NTA upon determining that the noncitizen beneficiary of an application for an immigration or naturalization benefit is inadmissible under INA section 212 or removable under INA 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.<sup>5</sup>

### Detention Process

ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) makes a custody determination for noncitizens whom ICE arrests or CBP apprehends and transfers to ICE. ICE Officers base determinations on whether the person is subject to mandatory detention, the person’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, release on parole, or release on the individual’s own recognizance. ICE may redetermine custody at any point while the person is in removal proceedings.

### Repatriation Process

Inadmissible and deportable persons 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. Types of removal orders include expedited removal, reinstatement of removal, administrative removal, and removal orders issued pursuant to proceedings in immigration court. Depending upon the individual circumstances of the case, penalties associated with removal may include a bar of between 5 years and life from future admission into the United States. Noncitizens who unlawfully reenter the United States following removal may also be subject to criminal charges and imprisonment for up to 20 years.

### Returns

Certain noncitizens found inadmissible at a POE or apprehended near the border, or who are otherwise determined to be removable, may be offered the opportunity to *withdraw* their application for admission or *voluntarily return* to their home country in lieu of immigration removal proceedings. Generally, individuals withdrawing an application for admission or accepting an offer of voluntary return waive their right to a hearing, remain in custody until their departure from the country, and, if applicable, agree to depart the United States under supervision. Some noncitizens apprehended within the United States or placed in removal proceedings before an IJ may have the opportunity to agree to *voluntarily depart* (also a form of “return”). Certain DHS officials may grant voluntary departure prior to an immigration hearing, or an IJ may do so during or at the conclusion of an immigration hearing. For all three types of return, noncitizens are exempted from the administrative penalties associated with removal described in the previous paragraph; but despite the “voluntary” label, all three forms of return involve *mandatory* repatriation from the United States.

### Removal Proceedings

Noncitizens issued an NTA are provided an immigration hearing under the jurisdiction of the Department of Justice (DOJ) Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR). Removal

<sup>4</sup> *Ms. L v. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement*, 310 F. Supp. 3d 1133 (S.D. Cal. June 26, 2018), also referred to as “*Ms. L*”. On June 26, 2018, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California in *Ms. L* issued a preliminary injunction generally prohibiting DHS from separating noncitizen parents from their children, absent a determination that the parent is unfit or presents a danger to the child, and requiring the reunification of certain previously separated parents and children. The class excluded those parents with criminal histories, those with communicable diseases, or those encountered in the interior. Since the issuance of the preliminary injunction in *Ms. L*, family separations by DHS have been consistent with the injunction. For a more detailed discussion of family separations and related issues see *DHS Family Unit Actions Report*, July 2021.

<sup>5</sup> Individuals may request that USCIS issue an NTA allowing them to seek relief in removal proceedings. If USCIS determines that a person has not established a credible fear or reasonable fear, the subject may request an appearance before an IJ for reconsideration of that determination.

hearings before an immigration court are administrative proceedings during which potentially removable persons may present evidence before an IJ that they are not removable from the United States and/or eligible for relief or protection from removal. IJs may issue an order of removal, grant voluntary departure at the individual's expense (a form of "return"), terminate, dismiss, or administratively close proceedings, or grant other relief or protection from removal. Forms of relief or protection from removal may include the grant of an application for asylum, adjustment of status, or cancellation of removal. Noncitizens ordered removed by an IJ generally can appeal the order to the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) and may petition to have certain unfavorable BIA decisions reviewed by the U.S. Courts of Appeals.

### Expedited Removal

Expedited removal (ER) is a process wherein DHS may remove certain noncitizens from the United States administratively. Under ER provisions, noncitizens meeting certain criteria may be removed without appearing before an IJ described below. Expedited removal may apply to three classes of noncitizens:

- 1) certain noncitizens who arrive at a POE without proper documentation or who attempt to gain entry through fraud or misrepresentation;<sup>6</sup>
- 2) certain noncitizens apprehended between POEs and within 100 miles of the U.S. 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;<sup>7</sup> and
- 3) certain noncitizens apprehended anywhere in the United States within 2 years of crossing the border.<sup>8</sup>

### Reinstatement of Final Removal Orders

DHS may administratively reinstate final removal orders without further hearing or review for noncitizens who unlawfully reenter the United States after DHS has previously removed them or after they have departed voluntarily under an order of removal.<sup>9</sup> In cases in which DHS reinstates the prior order of removal, the order is reinstated from its original date, and the person is generally ineligible and may not apply for relief from removal except under certain conditions described below.

<sup>6</sup> See INA § 235(b)(1)(A)(i); "Inspection and Expedited Removal of Aliens; Detention and Removal of Aliens; Conduct of Removal Proceedings; Asylum Procedures," 62 Fed. Reg. 10,312 (Mar. 6, 1997).

<sup>7</sup> See DHS CBP, "Designating Aliens for Expedited Removal," Federal Register, Vol. 69, No. 154, p. 48877-48881, Aug. 11, 2004. On July 23, 2019, DHS published in the Federal Register announcing an expansion of expedited removal. This expedited removal designation applies to applicants for admission (other than UCs as defined in 6 U.S.C. § 279(g)(2)), who are determined to be inadmissible under sections 212(a)(6)(C) or (a)(7) of the INA, have not been admitted or paroled into the United States, and either: (1) did not arrive by sea, are encountered anywhere in the United States more than 100 air miles from a U.S. international land border, and have been continuously present in the United States for less than two years; or (2) did not arrive by sea, are encountered within 100 air miles from a U.S. international land border, and have been continuously present in the United States for at least 14 days but less than two years prior to the date of the determination of inadmissibility. The 2019 Designation was challenged in federal court, and its implementation was subject to a preliminary injunction on September 27, 2019. The D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the injunction on June 23, 2020, and DHS was permitted to implement the Designation, pending the outcome of litigation.

<sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>9</sup> See INA § 241(a)(5).

### Administrative Removal

DHS may administratively remove noncitizens convicted of an aggravated felony who did not have U.S. lawful permanent resident status at the commencement of removal proceedings.<sup>10</sup>

### Fear Claims and Consideration of Relief from Administrative Forms of Removal

Noncitizens subject to expedited removal, reinstatement of a prior order of removal, or administrative removal generally are not entitled to proceedings before an IJ or consideration for relief or protection from removal. However, if a person expresses a fear of persecution or 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 individual is referred to USCIS for a determination of their potential eligibility for seeking protection. In some cases, the individual may then be referred to an IJ. The specific procedures for establishing the right for review by an IJ differ for each administrative removal process.

## 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 2011 to 2020.

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 noncitizens who are returned without supervision until the noncitizen 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 a total of 520,000 apprehensions, administrative arrests, and USBP Title 42 encounters in 2020, down 49 percent

<sup>10</sup> See INA § 238(b). See also INA § 101(a)(43) (defining "aggravated felony").

**Table 1.**

**Apprehensions by Program and Country of Nationality: Fiscal Years 2011 to 2020**

(Countries ranked by 2020 figures)

Program and country of nationality	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>
<b>PROGRAM</b>										
Total	678,606	671,327	662,483	679,996	462,388	530,250	461,540	572,566	1,013,539	518,597
USBP	340,252	364,768	420,789	486,651	337,117	415,816	310,531	404,142	859,501	405,020
Southwest sectors (sub-total)	327,577	356,873	414,397	479,371	331,333	408,870	303,916	396,579	851,508	400,635
ICE ERO	322,093	290,622	229,698	181,719	117,983	110,104	143,470	158,581	143,099	103,603
ICE HSI	16,261	15,937	11,996	11,626	7,288	4,330	7,539	9,843	10,939	9,974
<b>COUNTRY OF NATIONALITY</b>										
Total	678,606	671,327	662,483	679,996	462,388	530,250	461,540	572,566	1,013,539	518,597
Mexico	517,472	468,766	424,978	350,177	267,885	265,747	220,138	252,267	254,595	318,516
Guatemala	41,708	57,486	73,208	97,151	66,982	84,649	81,909	135,354	285,067	61,382
Honduras	31,189	50,771	64,157	106,928	42,433	61,222	60,169	91,141	268,992	51,011
El Salvador	27,652	38,976	51,226	79,321	51,200	78,983	59,687	42,132	99,750	23,051
Ecuador	3,298	4,374	5,680	6,276	3,438	3,472	2,568	2,708	14,503	13,028
Cuba	4,801	4,121	2,809	2,872	2,281	3,061	2,432	2,321	14,136	11,227
Brazil	3,228	2,433	1,702	1,643	1,911	3,738	3,699	2,810	19,168	7,917
Haiti	1,351	1,492	1,992	1,810	1,124	1,113	1,211	818	2,830	5,820
Nicaragua	2,278	2,532	2,712	2,912	1,577	1,756	1,721	4,014	14,248	2,739
Dominican Republic	4,433	4,506	3,893	3,455	2,797	2,770	2,582	2,628	2,924	2,220
All other countries	41,196	35,870	30,126	27,451	20,760	23,739	25,424	36,373	37,326	21,686

<sup>1</sup> USBP data for 2020 include USBP encounters resulting in Title 42 expulsions.

Notes: "All other countries" includes unknown. Statistics reported by OIS and ICE tend to vary slightly due to differences in methodology.

Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

from 1,010,000 total apprehensions in 2019 (Table 1).<sup>11</sup> Apprehensions and USBP Title 42 encounters of nationals from the Northern Triangle countries numbered only 140,000 in 2020, a 79 percent decrease from 650,000 apprehensions in 2019. Mexico became the leading country of nationality again after apprehensions of persons from Guatemala and Honduras surpassed those from Mexico in 2019. Apprehensions and Title 42 encounters of Mexicans increased 25 percent from 250,000 in 2019 to 320,000 in 2020, partly due to an increase in repeated encounters of the same individuals. The percentage of apprehensions and Title 42 encounters of Mexican and Northern Triangle nationals together as a share of the total decreased slightly from 90 percent in 2019 to 88 percent in 2020.

**USBP Apprehensions and Title 42 Encounters**

USBP encounters (i.e., apprehensions through 2019, apprehensions plus Title 42 expulsions in 2020) decreased 53 percent from 860,000 in 2019 to 405,000 in 2020. Historically, single adults from Mexico were the largest group of USBP apprehensions, but in recent years, increasingly more noncitizens from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras traveling as UCs or FMs have been apprehended, particularly in 2019. Mexican nationals accounted for an average of 96 percent of apprehensions between 1970 and 2009, but their share declined afterwards from 84 percent in 2011 to 20 percent in 2019, a historical low in recent decades. In 2020, the share of Mexicans increased to 63 percent of all USBP encounters, with 250,000 encounters. The proportion of apprehensions of nationals from Northern Triangle countries increased

<sup>11</sup> Data in this report are rounded for readability; please refer to accompanying data tables and the Yearbook of Immigration Statistics for precise counts. Total DHS apprehensions are defined to include the sum of USBP border apprehensions and ICE administrative arrests. Data on Title 42 expulsions completed by OFO are included in the section "Inadmissible Noncitizens and CBP OFO Title 42 Encounters."

from 24 percent in 2012 to a record high of 71 percent in 2019. In 2020, the number of USBP encounters (105,000) of Northern Triangle nationals was the lowest since 2012 and comprised of only 26 percent of the total (Table 2 and Figure 2).

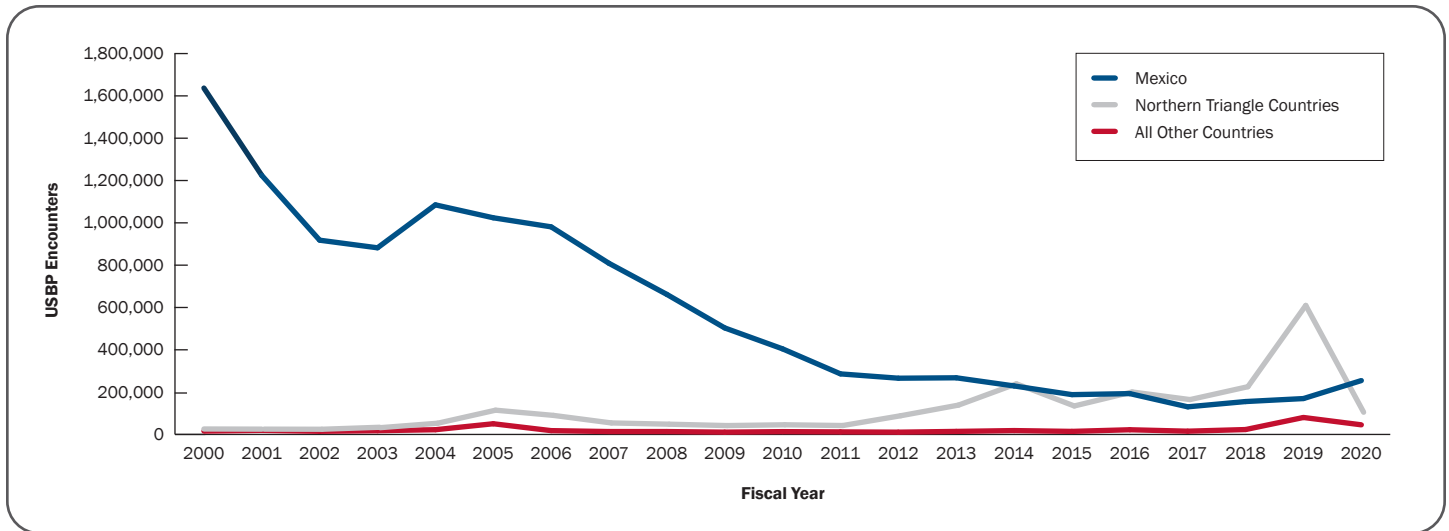
SAs as a proportion of USBP encounters rose to 81 percent in 2020 from 35 percent in 2019, reversing a trend of generally year-to-year declines of SAs as a share of the total from 87 percent in 2013 (Figure 3).<sup>12</sup> USBP encounters of UCs decreased from 76,000 (8.9 percent) in 2019 to 30,000 (7.8 percent) in 2020, and encounters of FMs decreased from 470,000 (56 percent) in 2019 to 42,000 (11 percent) in 2020, the lowest proportion since 2013.

After DHS began Title 42 expulsions in March 2020, approximately 90 percent of all USBP encounters during this period (197,000 encounters, including 94 percent of Mexicans and 90 percent of Northern Triangle nationals) resulted in Title 42 expulsions (Figure 4). Coinciding with this trend, the number of USBP encounters increased during the latter half of 2020, and attempted re-entries surpassed levels seen in recent years, particularly for persons from Mexico and Northern Triangle countries. Between 2014 and March 2020, 15 percent of all USBP apprehensions were of persons previously encountered during the prior 12 months, or "repeat encounters" (Figure 5); this includes 30 percent of apprehensions of Mexicans and 6.1 percent of Northern Triangle nationals as well as 23 percent of apprehensions of SAs, 2.1 percent of FMs, and 8.5 percent of UCs. In contrast, from April 2020 to September 2020, the share of repeat encounters increased to 46 percent, with 94 percent of repeat encounters being persons previously expelled under Title 42. Repeat encounters of Mexicans and Northern Triangle nationals as well as for all

<sup>12</sup> USBP has tracked UCs since 2008 and distinguished between SAs and FMs since 2012; OFO has tracked UCs since 2013 and distinguished between FMs and SAs since 2017.

**Figure 2.**

**USBP Encounters by Selected Countries: Fiscal Years 2000 to 2020**



Note: Data for 2020 include USBP encounters resulting in Title 42 expulsions.  
Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

**Table 2.**

**USBP Encounters by Selected Countries of Nationality: Fiscal Years 2011 to 2020**

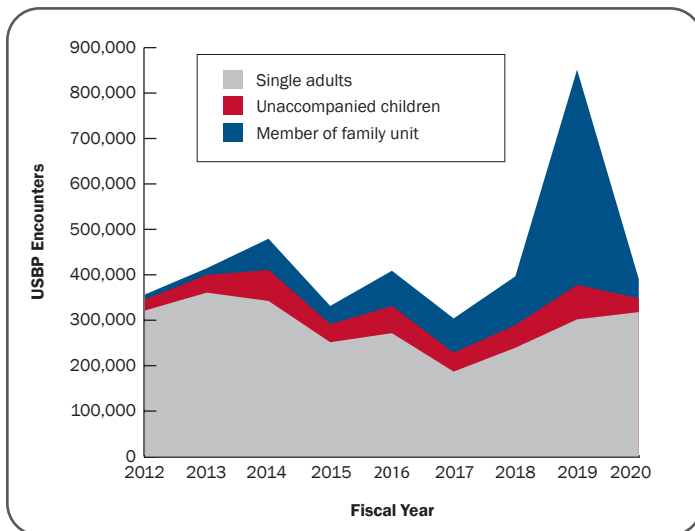
(Ranked by 2020 state of residence)

Country of citizenship	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020 <sup>1</sup>	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	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	859,501	100.0	405,020	100.0
Mexico	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	169,536	19.7	254,633	62.9
Guatemala	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	265,129	30.8	47,828	11.8
Honduras	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	254,561	29.6	40,476	10.0
El Salvador	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	90,085	10.5	16,627	4.1
All other countries	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	80,190	9.3	45,456	11.2

<sup>1</sup> USBP data for 2020 include USBP encounters resulting in Title 42 expulsions.  
Note: "All other countries" includes unknown.  
Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

**Figure 3.**

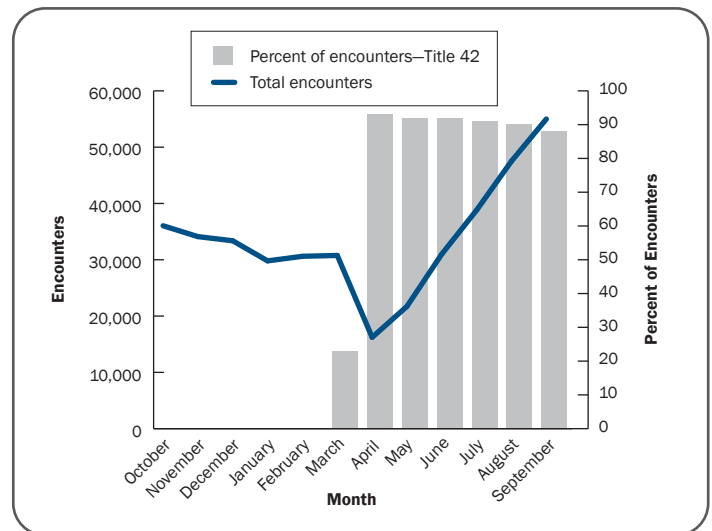
**USBP Encounters by Family Unit Status: Fiscal Years 2012 to 2020**



Notes: USBP started tracking individuals in family units in Fiscal Year 2012. Data for 2020 include USBP encounters resulting in Title 42 expulsions.  
Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

**Figure 4.**

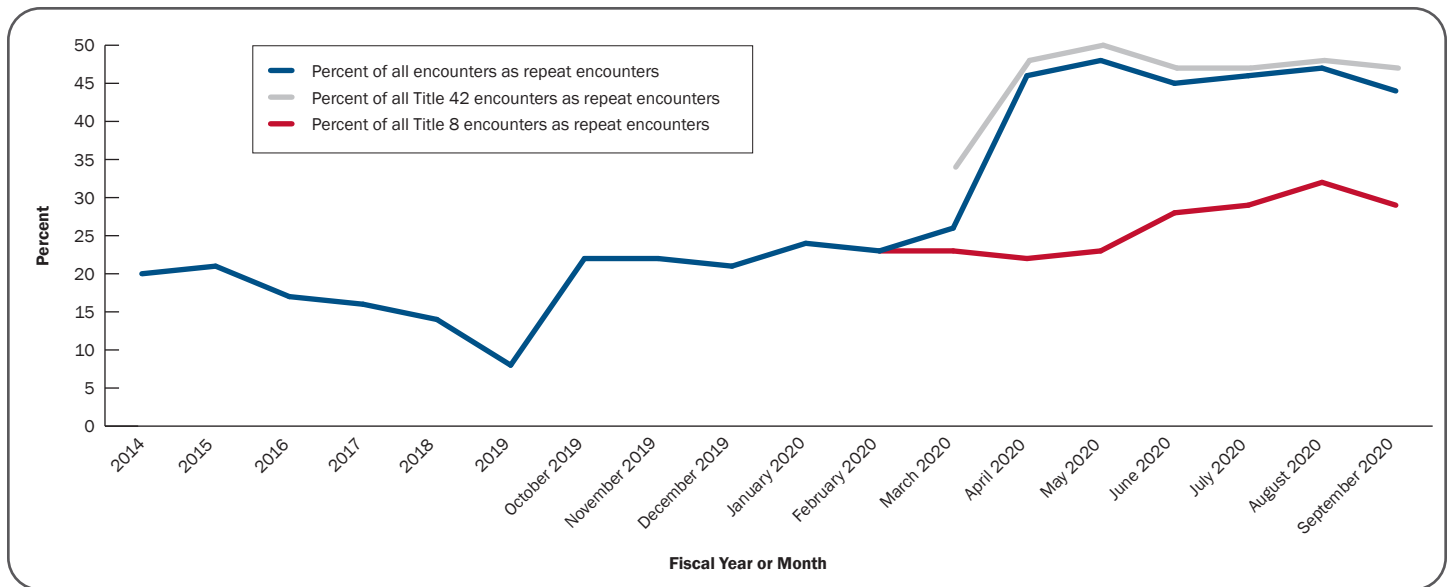
**USBP Encounters by Month and Title Authority: Fiscal Year 2020**



Notes: Data include USBP encounters resulting in Title 42 expulsions. Title 42 expulsions began on March 21, 2020 for USBP encounters.  
Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

**Figure 5.**

**USBP Repeat Encounters by Title Authority: Fiscal Years 2014 to 2020**



Notes: Data for 2020 include USBP encounters resulting in Title 42 expulsions. Title 42 expulsions began on March 21, 2020 for USBP encounters. All encounters prior to this date are Title 8 encounters. Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

family status categories experienced similar trends during this period. Including persons previously expelled under Title 42, 48 percent of encounters of Mexicans and 37 percent of Northern Triangle nationals were repeat encounters, as were 47 percent of encounters of SAs, 28 percent of FMs, and 38 percent of UCs; for all these demographic groups, more than 90 percent of these repeat encounters were of persons previously expelled under Title 42.

**ICE Administrative Arrests**

Administrative arrests conducted by ICE ERO and ICE Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) decreased from 150,000 in 2019 to 110,000 in 2020 (Figure 6). ICE ERO administrative arrests decreased 28 percent from 143,000 in 2019 to 104,000 in 2020. ICE HSI administrative arrests decreased 9 percent from 11,000 in 2019 to 10,000 in 2020. ICE ERO and ICE HSI arrests were greatly reduced during March 2020 but began to increase in the summer months (though not to the same level as prior to March 2020).

**Inadmissible Noncitizens and CBP OFO Title 42 Encounters**

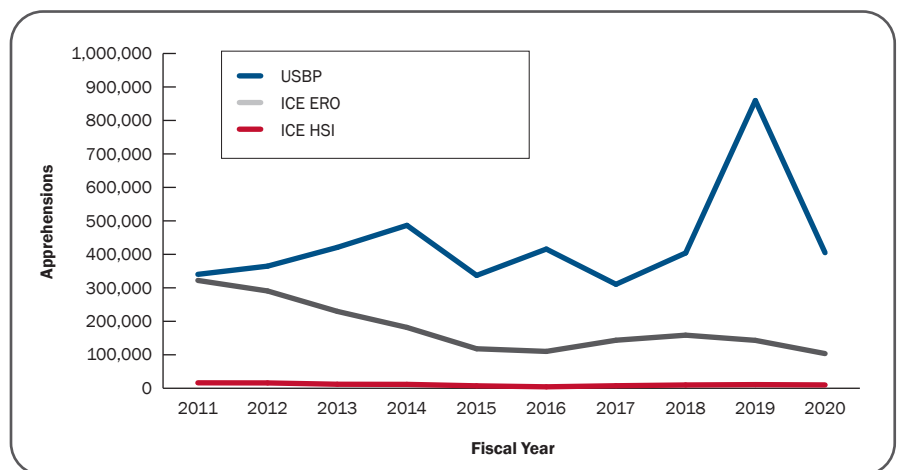
CBP OFO encounters (i.e., inadmissibility determinations in 2019, inadmissibility determinations plus Title 42 expulsions in 2020)<sup>13</sup> decreased

16 percent from 290,000 in 2019 to 242,000 in 2020 (Table 3). In contrast to the increased number of USBP encounters for Mexicans from 2019 to 2020, the number of CBP OFO encounters for Mexicans decreased from 79,000 to 55,000.

In 2020, 46 percent of CBP OFO encounters occurred at seaports, 36 percent at land ports, and 18 percent at airports; these proportions are not comparable to 2019 as the number from land ports is under 100,000 for the first time in the period of 2011 through 2020. The leading ports were Houston (47,000), Laredo (22,000), San Diego (21,000), and New Orleans (17,000).

**Figure 6.**

**Apprehensions by Program: Fiscal Years 2011 to 2020**



Note: USBP data for 2020 include USBP encounters resulting in Title 42 expulsions. Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

<sup>13</sup> Does not capture inadmissibility determinations made by DOS with input from ICE through the visa security program.

**Table 3.**

**Noncitizens Determined Inadmissible by Mode of Travel, Country of Nationality, and Field Office: Fiscal Years 2011 to 2020**

(Countries ranked by 2020 figures)

Characteristic	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>
<b>MODE OF TRAVEL</b>										
Total.....	213,345	195,804	205,623	225,016	254,714	274,617	216,257	281,928	287,977	241,763
Sea .....	66,538	53,774	52,326	52,695	49,672	35,327	19,778	71,935	77,575	111,057
Land .....	107,385	100,592	103,642	118,662	139,790	174,868	136,477	156,431	157,153	87,742
Air .....	39,422	41,438	49,655	53,659	65,158	64,422	59,803	53,456	53,237	42,951
Unknown.....	-	-	-	-	94	-	199	106	12	13
<b>COUNTRY</b>										
Total.....	213,345	195,804	205,623	225,016	254,714	274,617	216,257	281,928	287,977	241,763
Mexico.....	67,590	58,945	56,504	63,805	74,473	73,338	62,439	77,570	78,888	54,575
Philippines .....	25,305	22,893	23,722	24,313	22,731	15,842	8,988	31,432	31,002	45,847
Canada .....	32,182	30,786	29,403	28,100	26,347	22,120	22,353	23,917	24,696	20,576
India .....	5,998	6,947	11,864	8,585	7,207	7,115	5,644	8,597	8,531	18,655
China, People's Republic.....	17,175	13,346	13,812	14,601	15,640	12,180	9,151	18,575	20,295	17,172
Ukraine .....	4,368	2,968	2,915	3,415	3,123	2,612	1,345	4,383	4,985	7,679
Russia .....	3,934	2,880	2,443	2,331	2,097	1,483	1,082	3,807	3,910	5,917
Cuba .....	7,794	12,290	17,717	24,301	43,146	54,226	20,263	9,415	22,367	4,108
Venezuela.....	347	367	408	500	961	1,715	2,146	4,042	8,178	3,256
Burma .....	2,673	2,543	2,048	2,026	2,069	1,548	693	2,730	3,202	3,061
All other countries .....	45,979	41,839	44,787	53,039	56,920	82,438	82,153	97,460	81,923	60,917
<b>FIELD OFFICE</b>										
Total.....	213,345	195,804	205,623	225,016	254,714	274,617	216,257	281,928	287,977	241,763
Houston .....	19,573	12,786	10,958	10,492	11,224	9,820	8,931	22,628	25,232	47,322
Laredo.....	25,847	28,212	32,149	39,699	52,795	68,014	49,596	49,160	49,804	22,455
San Diego.....	33,746	26,914	25,636	32,563	40,446	48,161	31,720	35,931	35,127	21,053
New Orleans.....	20,857	20,241	21,039	21,223	20,563	14,600	3,521	17,669	17,282	16,698
San Francisco.....	7,065	9,957	14,982	14,092	15,856	15,538	13,821	9,092	9,204	14,393
Buffalo .....	15,725	14,066	13,445	13,125	11,916	11,993	11,276	11,903	11,294	13,407
Atlanta.....	8,808	8,054	8,406	10,491	8,168	6,714	6,158	8,210	8,343	12,510
Miami .....	7,038	7,776	8,836	12,307	17,705	18,755	10,760	11,958	11,058	11,440
El Paso .....	6,942	6,981	7,870	10,185	12,063	23,552	17,738	23,612	26,485	9,689
Seattle.....	10,681	10,653	9,332	9,153	8,046	7,101	6,937	9,985	9,337	9,512
All other field offices.....	57,063	50,164	52,970	51,686	55,932	50,369	55,799	81,780	84,811	63,284

- Represents zero

<sup>1</sup> Data for 2020 include CBP OFO encounters resulting in Title 42 expulsions.

Note: "All other countries" and "All other field offices" include unknown. Statistics reported by OIS and CBP OFO tend to vary slightly due to differences in methodology.

Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

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

First, most inadmissible noncitizens from the leading countries of nonimmigrant applicants for admissions—including Mexico, Canada, People’s Republic of China (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 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 noncitizens present themselves at a POE despite knowing that they are inadmissible in order to seek some form of humanitarian relief or protection. Historically, a large share of these persons was paroled temporarily into the United States for humanitarian reasons or as a matter of policy.

Citizens of Cuba were generally exempted from expedited removal under the former “Wet Foot–Dry Foot” policy,<sup>14</sup> and many Cubans presented themselves at a POE to seek protection in the United States, including many inadmissible Cubans not in possession of valid travel documents. With the rescission of this policy in January 2017, the number of Cubans found inadmissible fell from 20,000 in 2017 to 9,400 in 2018; however, the trend of Cubans found inadmissible reversed and increased to 22,000 in 2019 and reversed again to 4,000 in 2020.

An increasing number of nationals from the Northern Triangle also sought asylum at POEs and were found inadmissible in each year from 2013 to 2018, but all three countries had decreases in these determinations in 2019 and further decreases in encounters in 2020. CBP OFO encounters of Northern Triangle nationals totaled 5,600 in 2020, a 71 percent decrease from 2019 (Figure 7). Inadmissible nationals from Northern Triangle countries who claim a fear of

<sup>14</sup> The “Wet Foot–Dry Foot” policy exempted certain Cuban nationals from the provisions of INA Section 235(b)(1) and allowed them to remain in the United States if they reached U.S. soil. Since the end of this policy on January 12, 2017, all Cuban nationals entering without proper documentation are subject to removal.



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.<sup>15</sup>

The third main category of inadmissible noncitizens 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 crew member 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 are in this category.

From March 2020 to the end of the year, approximately 9 percent of CBP OFO encounters (all at land ports and including 41 percent of Mexicans and 27 percent of Northern Triangle nationals encountered during this period) were expelled under U.S. Code Title 42, for a total of 9,400. The total number of encounters decreased in April 2020 but then increased again afterwards partly due to more encounters at seaports; the total number of encounters at land ports remained low for the remainder of 2020.

### Notices to Appear

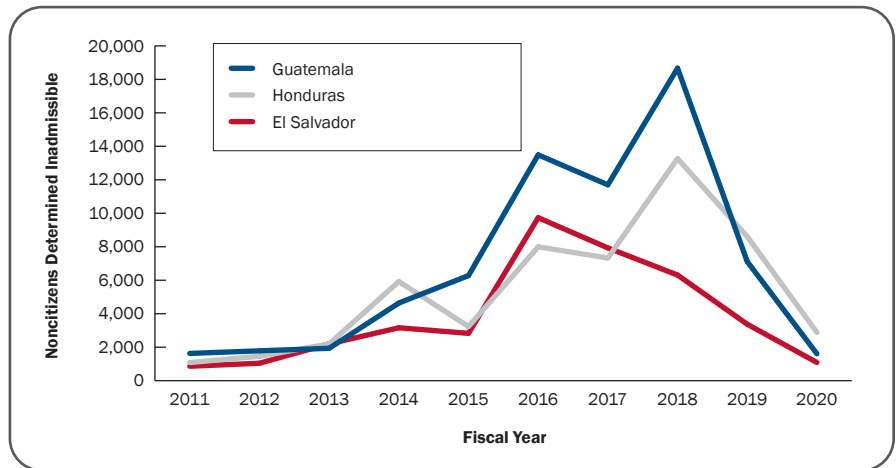
DHS issued 210,000 NTAs to initiate removal proceedings before an IJ in 2020, a 74 percent decrease from 2019 and a 46 percent decrease over the 5-year average from 2015 to 2019 (Table 4). In each of the four agencies issuing NTAs, the numbers decreased in 2020 from 2019. USBP issued 58,000 NTAs in 2020, an 89 percent decrease from 2019 and a 67 percent decrease from the 5-year average from 2015 to 2019. CBP OFO issued 19,000 NTAs in 2020, a 69 percent decrease from 2019 and a 54 percent decrease from the 2015–2019 average. ICE ERO issued 49,000 in 2020, down 30 percent from 2019 and down 22 percent from the 2015–2019 average. USCIS issued 84,000 NTAs in 2020, a 40 percent decrease from 2019 and a 20 percent decrease from the 2015–2019 average.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>15</sup> Beginning in January 2019, under the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP), certain noncitizens (other than Mexican nationals) 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 removal proceedings.

<sup>16</sup> The decrease in DHS NTA issuances in 2020 partly reflects not just the impacts of Title 42 expulsions but also the large numbers of NTAs issued following the much higher numbers of CBP encounters in 2019. The number and percentage of CBP encounters that resulted in an NTA issued were already decreasing during the first half of 2020 (and prior to the implementation of Title 42 expulsions).

Figure 7.

### Noncitizens Determined Inadmissible by Selected Countries: Fiscal Years 2011 to 2020



Note: Data for 2020 include CBP OFO encounters resulting in Title 42 expulsions. Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

### Detentions

ICE ERO, the agency responsible for immigration detention, initiated 183,000 detention book-ins in 2020, a 64 percent decrease from 2019 (Table 5 and Figure 8). Detentions of Mexican nationals decreased 29 percent to 87,000 in 2020, yet Mexicans accounted for 47 percent of ICE detentions, marking its highest share since 2015. Detentions of noncitizens from Northern Triangle countries decreased from 300,000 in 2018 to 59,000 in 2020, marking the first time since 2015 that Northern Triangle detentions did not surpass those of Mexicans. As in previous years, nationals of Mexico and the Northern Triangle comprised over 75 percent of total detentions. Among other top countries for detention in 2020, detentions of Brazilian, Cuban, and Ecuadorian nationals all dropped from their 2019 figures.

### Repatriations and Expulsions

DHS repatriations include removals and returns conducted by ICE and CBP. DHS made 406,000 noncitizen repatriations in 2020, a 22 percent decrease from 2019 when 520,000 repatriations were made. The decline in repatriations is partly attributable to the 207,000 border encounters that might have resulted in repatriations in previous years but were expelled under Title 42 in 2020. Accounting for this population, DHS completed a total of 613,000 repatriations and expulsions, an increase of 18 percent from the count of 2019 repatriations.<sup>17</sup>

### Title 42 Expulsions

CBP completed 207,000 expulsions under Title 42 authority, including more than 197,000 by USBP and more than 9,000 by OFO. Mexico was the leading country for Title 42 expulsions (158,000 or 76 percent of all Title 42 expulsions), followed by Honduras (17,000 or 8 percent) and Guatemala (15,000 or 7 percent). Most Title 42 expulsions were of single adults (185,000 or 89 percent), followed by UCs (11,000 or 5.4 percent) and FMs (10,000 or 4.8 percent).<sup>18</sup>

<sup>17</sup> As noted in Key Findings, many people expelled under Title 42 authority were encountered on multiple occasions, so the total count of expulsions exceeds the number of unique individuals expelled.

<sup>18</sup> On November 18, 2020 (after the period covered by this report), the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia issued an injunction that prevented DHS from expelling UCs under Title 42 authority. Subsequently, the CDC issued orders exempting UCs from expulsion under Title 42 in 2021.

**Table 4.**

**Notices to Appear Issued by DHS Component: Fiscal Years 2011 to 2020**

(Ranked by 2020 Notices to Appear)

Component	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	256,546	100.0	241,788	100.0	228,398	100.0	277,085	100.0	194,392	100.0	273,901	100.0	281,413	100.0	385,942	100.0	793,912	100.0	209,688	100.0
USCIS	44,638	17.4	41,778	17.3	56,896	24.9	56,684	20.5	56,835	29.2	92,229	33.7	91,711	32.6	140,246	36.3	140,396	17.7	83,732	39.9
USBP	31,739	12.4	31,506	13.0	42,078	18.4	118,753	42.9	64,775	33.3	93,146	34.0	88,315	31.4	116,428	30.2	521,894	65.7	57,928	27.6
ICE ERO	162,627	63.4	146,808	60.7	105,791	46.3	82,111	29.6	46,274	23.8	45,980	16.8	69,910	24.8	81,332	21.1	69,730	8.8	48,664	23.2
CBP OFO	17,542	6.8	21,696	9.0	23,633	10.3	19,537	7.1	26,508	13.6	42,546	15.5	31,477	11.2	47,936	12.4	61,892	7.8	19,364	9.2

Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

**Table 5.**

**Initial Admissions to ICE Detention Facilities by Country of Nationality: Fiscal Years 2011 to 2020**

(Ranked by 2020 Notices to Appear)

Country of Nationality	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	421,312	464,190	440,540	425,728	307,342	352,882	323,591	396,448	510,854	182,869
Mexico	283,615	298,973	244,532	172,560	143,834	134,546	121,405	139,967	121,258	86,685
Guatemala	38,187	50,068	59,212	74,543	52,562	65,757	62,741	99,746	152,249	30,722
Honduras	26,106	39,859	50,622	76,708	34,899	46,753	43,411	62,461	104,166	16,860
El Salvador	23,457	30,808	40,258	59,933	40,263	57,953	42,457	33,169	43,408	11,108
Brazil	2,467	1,920	1,423	1,376	1,802	4,056	4,791	5,477	10,093	5,833
Cuba	2,149	1,904	1,455	1,111	1,132	1,271	3,755	8,514	23,706	4,693
Ecuador	2,929	3,811	4,717	5,351	3,097	3,196	2,455	2,548	6,710	3,913
Dominican Republic	3,987	3,954	3,538	3,379	2,757	2,788	2,599	2,404	2,649	1,983
China, People's Republic	2,289	1,966	1,729	2,444	1,880	3,023	2,261	2,381	3,388	1,869
Nicaragua	1,975	2,055	2,323	2,382	1,469	1,544	1,514	3,428	7,893	1,467
All other countries	34,151	28,872	30,731	25,941	23,647	31,995	36,202	36,353	35,334	17,736

Notes: Excludes Office of Refugee Resettlement and Mexican Interior Repatriation Program facilities. "All other countries" includes unknown. Statistics reported by OIS and ICE tend to vary slightly due to differences in methodology.

Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

**Removals**

DHS completed 239,000 removals of noncitizens in 2020, a 31 percent decrease from 2019 (Table 6). USBP completed 20 percent of DHS removals, ICE ERO accounted for 72 percent, and CBP OFO completed the remaining 8 percent. Expedited removals accounted for 41 percent of all removals while 40 percent were based on the reinstatement of prior removal orders. Removals of nationals from Mexico made up 63 percent of removals while removals of persons from the Northern Triangle countries made up 25 percent.

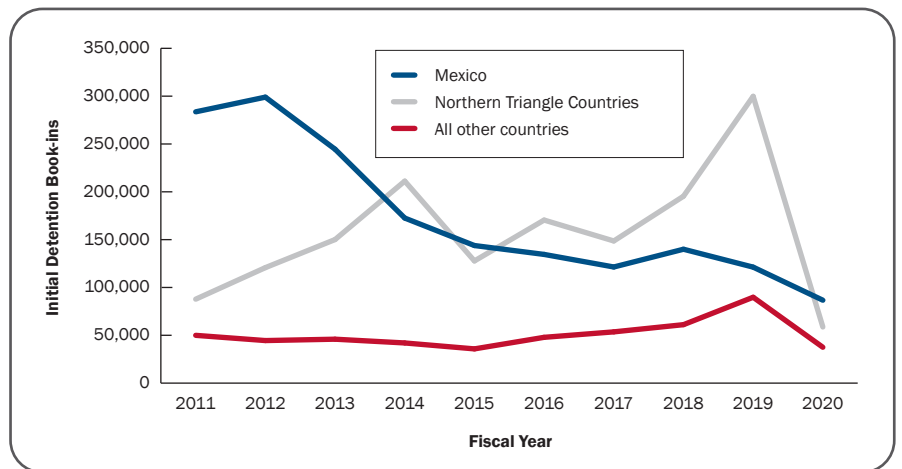
Over 65 percent of all removals resulted from a USBP apprehension in 2020 (Figure 9). ICE administrative arrests led to the next largest share of removals (23 percent), and CBP OFO determinations of inadmissibility led to 13 percent.

Fifty percent of removals in 2020 were of non-citizens with prior criminal convictions, similar to the average for the entire 2011–2019 period.<sup>19</sup> Fifty-one percent of the removals of Mexican nationals, 41 percent of the removals of those from the Northern Triangle countries, and

<sup>19</sup> Excludes criminal removals by CBP as CBP EID does not identify if noncitizens removed have criminal convictions. OIS estimates the resulting undercount is very small as CBP refers most noncitizens with criminal convictions to ICE.

**Figure 8.**

**ICE ERO Initial Detention Book-ins by Selected Countries: Fiscal Years 2011 to 2020**



Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

**Table 6.**

**Noncitizen Removals by Component and Removal Type: Fiscal Years 2011 to 2020**

Component and removal type	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>APPREHENDING COMPONENT</b>																				
Total	390,413	100	415,587	100	432,212	100	405,042	100	325,191	100	331,570	100	286,758	100	327,568	100	348,468	100	239,151	100
ICE	185,650	48	153,021	37	115,293	27	93,928	23	66,047	20	61,769	19	74,941	26	83,862	26	75,003	22	54,211	23
CBP U.S. Border Patrol	168,262	43	230,934	56	288,912	67	283,470	70	228,063	70	235,899	71	172,985	60	206,220	63	235,237	68	154,795	65
CBP Office of Field Operations	36,501	9	31,632	8	28,007	6	27,644	7	31,081	10	33,902	10	38,832	14	37,486	11	38,228	11	30,145	13
<b>REMOVING COMPONENT</b>																				
Total	390,413	100	415,587	100	432,212	100	405,042	100	325,191	100	331,570	100	286,758	100	327,568	100	348,468	100	239,151	100
ICE	319,212	82	345,608	83	332,028	77	301,914	75	228,627	70	232,472	70	213,932	75	238,699	73	248,222	71	171,318	72
CBP U.S. Border Patrol	41,561	11	48,307	12	78,832	18	82,472	20	73,799	23	73,576	22	48,403	17	62,876	19	72,553	21	48,160	20
CBP Office of Field Operations	29,640	8	21,672	5	21,352	5	20,656	5	22,765	7	25,522	8	24,423	9	25,993	8	27,693	8	19,673	8
<b>REMOVAL TYPE</b>																				
Total	390,413	100	415,587	100	432,212	100	405,042	100	325,191	100	331,570	100	286,758	100	327,568	100	348,468	100	239,151	100
Expedited Removals	124,560	32	165,603	40	197,600	46	188,404	47	152,727	47	155,707	47	121,907	43	143,603	44	163,600	47	99,210	41
Reinstatements	123,740	32	143,073	34	162,366	38	158,454	39	128,994	40	134,131	40	112,688	39	123,144	38	128,632	37	95,225	40
All other removals	142,113	36	106,911	26	72,246	17	58,184	14	43,470	13	41,732	13	52,163	18	60,821	19	56,236	16	44,716	19

Note: Statistics reported by OIS and ICE tend to vary slightly due to differences in methodology. Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

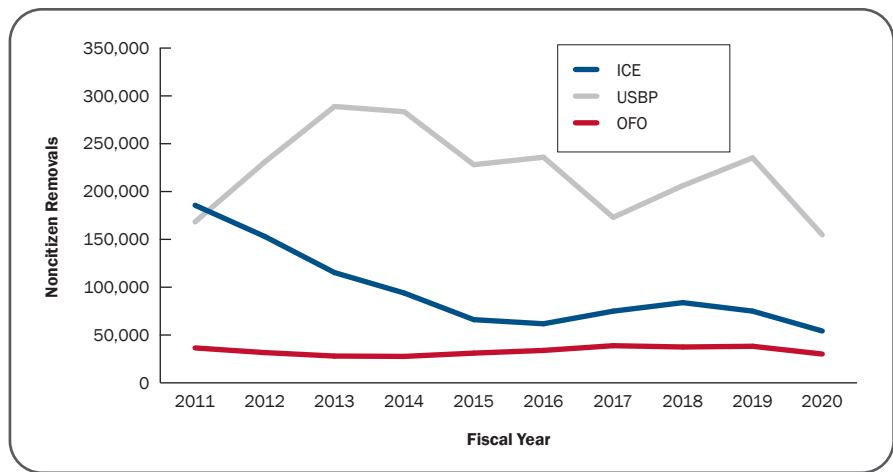
58 percent of removals of nationals from other countries involved those with prior criminal convictions (Table 7). As in previous years, a majority of prior criminal convictions involved immigration violations, traffic offenses, and drug offenses (Table 8).

**Returns**

DHS completed 167,000 returns of noncitizens to their home countries in 2020, a 2 percent decrease from 2019 (Table 9). USBP returns dropped by 54 percent, ICE ERO returns dropped by 23 percent, and CBP OFO returns (the largest share of returns) increased by 9 percent from 2019 to 2020. Twenty-eight percent of returns in 2020 involved Mexican or Canadian nationals, but the Philippines was the leading country with

**Figure 9.**

**Noncitizen Removals by Initial Apprehending Component: Fiscal Years 2011 to 2020**



Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

**Table 7.**

**Noncitizen Removals by Criminal Status and Country of Nationality: Fiscal Years 2011 to 2020**

(Ranked by 2020 noncitizens removals)

Country of nationality	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Total	Percent-Criminal <sup>1</sup>	Total	Percent-Criminal <sup>1</sup>	Total	Percent-Criminal <sup>1</sup>	Total	Percent-Criminal <sup>1</sup>	Total	Percent-Criminal <sup>1</sup>	Total	Percent-Criminal <sup>1</sup>	Total	Percent-Criminal <sup>1</sup>	Total	Percent-Criminal <sup>1</sup>	Total	Percent-Criminal <sup>1</sup>	Total	Percent-Criminal <sup>1</sup>
Total	390,413	48.6	415,587	48.1	432,212	45.9	405,042	42.6	325,191	37.9	331,570	35.1	286,758	38.2	327,568	45.2	348,468	48.8	239,151	49.5
Mexico	287,452	50.6	300,477	50.4	306,886	47.6	265,038	47.6	233,085	38.3	236,058	35.1	183,774	40.3	208,190	43.3	203,824	48.4	151,518	51.4
Guatemala	30,871	38.1	38,885	34.7	47,013	32.8	54,405	25.2	33,379	31.5	33,886	31.3	33,048	33.6	49,135	40.3	53,174	43.3	28,192	36.2
Honduras	22,675	48.0	31,724	43.6	36,635	45.3	40,877	34.4	20,298	42.2	22,015	39.0	22,162	41.9	28,449	44.8	40,747	44.0	20,280	47.1
El Salvador	17,945	47.6	18,910	45.8	21,130	44.8	26,671	33.6	21,899	33.0	20,264	33.2	18,448	35.2	14,876	47.1	18,185	48.4	11,938	41.9
Ecuador	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	1,428	62.2	2,494	59.3	3,084	48.6
India	754	21.5	587	27.8	458	29.5	445	24.0	523	25.6	712	14.5	695	23.0	841	54.6	1,815	34.7	2,531	21.6
Brazil	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	2,130	55.6	2,399	61.7	2,275	58.2
Dominican Republic	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	1,863	80.2	2,207	73.7	1,910	77.5
Colombia	2,138	49.7	1,607	65.8	1,468	63.3	1,375	63.7	1,596	49.8	2,086	36.6	2,059	31.1	2,638	86.5	2,947	88.6	1,872	82.7
Cuba	88	67.0	64	87.5	41	73.2	28	57.1	45	40.0	51	62.7	196	38.3	493	42.2	1,163	13.8	1,529	15.6
All other countries	20,305	40.8	15,933	50.9	13,177	52.8	11,582	52.0	10,037	45.3	11,591	38.5	21,224	25.0	17,525	67.8	19,513	70.1	14,022	64.3

<sup>1</sup> Refers to removals of persons who have a prior criminal conviction. Notes: Excludes criminals removed by CBP. CBP EID does not identify if persons removed were criminals. "All other countries" includes unknown. Statistics reported by OIS and ICE tend to vary slightly due to differences in methodology. Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

**Table 8.****Criminal Noncitizen Removals by Crime Category: Fiscal Years 2011 to 2020**

(Ranked by 2020 noncitizens removals)

Crime category	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	189,702	100.0	200,039	100.0	198,488	100.0	172,403	100.0	123,277	100.0	116,354	100.0	109,595	100.0	148,123	100.0	170,112	100.0	118,357	100.0
Immigration <sup>1</sup>	37,697	19.9	47,559	23.8	62,033	31.3	54,646	31.7	37,734	30.6	37,052	31.8	28,829	26.3	41,942	28.3	63,176	37.1	39,664	33.5
Dangerous Drugs <sup>2</sup>	43,535	22.9	42,738	21.4	30,692	15.5	28,202	16.4	22,530	18.3	21,610	18.6	19,845	18.1	18,039	12.2	16,809	9.9	13,120	11.1
Traffic Offenses <sup>3</sup>	43,334	22.8	46,141	23.1	29,966	15.1	24,725	14.3	16,138	13.1	15,068	13.0	15,807	14.4	17,463	11.8	18,456	10.8	12,232	10.3
Assault	12,835	6.8	12,993	6.5	20,192	10.2	17,721	10.3	13,422	10.9	12,117	10.4	12,432	11.3	12,283	8.3	12,501	7.3	9,390	7.9
Weapon Offenses	2,742	1.4	2,510	1.3	5,277	2.7	4,588	2.7	3,548	2.9	3,456	3.0	3,258	3.0	3,200	2.2	3,009	1.8	2,480	2.1
Sexual Assault	3,592	1.9	3,363	1.7	3,168	1.6	2,953	1.7	2,516	2.0	2,486	2.1	2,472	2.3	2,409	1.6	2,368	1.4	2,078	1.8
Burglary	3,824	2.0	3,557	1.8	5,504	2.8	4,750	2.8	3,482	2.8	3,110	2.7	3,065	2.8	2,780	1.9	2,589	1.5	1,966	1.7
Fraudulent Activities	4,271	2.3	3,870	1.9	5,186	2.6	3,940	2.3	2,660	2.2	2,164	1.9	2,951	2.7	2,700	1.8	2,532	1.5	1,843	1.6
Larceny	5,749	3.0	5,419	2.7	5,329	2.7	4,350	2.5	2,851	2.3	2,479	2.1	2,590	2.4	2,575	1.7	2,619	1.5	1,797	1.5
Sex Offenses	2,097	1.1	2,063	1.0	2,594	1.3	2,424	1.4	1,968	1.6	1,969	1.7	2,133	1.9	2,076	1.4	1,902	1.1	1,682	1.4
All other	30,026	15.8	29,826	14.9	28,547	14.4	24,104	14.0	16,428	13.3	14,843	12.8	16,213	14.8	42,656	28.8	44,151	26.0	32,105	27.1

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

Notes: Data refers to removal of persons who have a prior criminal conviction. Excludes criminals removed by CBP. CBP EID does not identify if persons removed were criminals. "All other categories" includes unknown. Statistics reported by OIS and ICE tend to vary slightly due to differences in methodology.

Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

**Table 9.****Noncitizen Returns by Component, Country of Nationality, and Type: Fiscal Years 2011 to 2020**

Characteristic	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>COMPONENT</b>																				
Total	322,046	100.0	231,106	100.0	178,975	100.0	163,838	100.0	129,661	100.0	106,454	100.0	100,694	100.0	159,933	100.0	171,126	100.0	167,327	100.0
CBP OFO	130,977	40.7	109,440	47.4	104,235	58.2	108,718	66.4	105,036	81.0	82,648	77.6	75,449	74.9	128,547	80.4	130,601	76.3	142,799	85.3
USBP	113,844	35.4	58,159	25.2	38,670	21.6	40,323	24.6	16,158	12.5	16,023	15.1	13,058	13.0	14,000	8.8	21,489	12.6	9,962	6.0
ICE	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	10.9	19,036	11.1	14,566	8.7
<b>COUNTRY OF NATIONALITY</b>																				
Total	322,046	100.0	231,106	100.0	178,975	100.0	163,838	100.0	129,661	100.0	106,454	100.0	100,694	100.0	159,933	100.0	171,126	100.0	167,327	100.0
Philippines	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	28,275	17.7	27,618	16.1	37,766	22.6
Mexico	205,049	63.7	132,447	57.3	88,384	49.4	72,720	44.4	40,662	31.4	37,298	35.0	39,802	39.5	42,148	26.4	49,540	28.9	32,071	19.2
China, People's Republic	16,331	5.1	11,854	5.1	11,753	6.6	12,324	7.5	12,865	9.9	8,693	8.2	5,246	5.2	16,546	10.3	17,843	10.4	15,016	9.0
India	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	5,443	3.4	5,434	3.2	14,184	8.5
Canada	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	18,141	11.3	18,521	10.8	14,050	8.4
Ukraine	4,112	1.3	2,589	1.1	2,606	1.5	3,052	1.9	2,660	2.1	2,062	1.9	890	0.9	3,893	2.4	4,366	2.6	6,255	3.7
Russia	3,514	1.1	2,444	1.1	1,994	1.1	1,908	1.2	1,492	1.2	886	0.8	516	0.5	2,815	1.8	2,617	1.5	4,565	2.7
Burma	2,582	0.8	2,337	1.0	1,920	1.1	1,888	1.2	2,012	1.6	1,444	1.4	625	0.6	2,603	1.6	3,122	1.8	2,808	1.7
Korea, South	1,630	0.5	1,195	0.5	1,265	0.7	1,241	0.8	1,186	0.9	899	0.8	916	0.9	1,787	1.1	1,880	1.1	2,411	1.4
Guatemala	3,010	0.9	2,346	1.0	1,390	0.8	1,140	0.7	813	0.6	899	0.8	1,338	1.3	2,211	1.4	2,679	1.6	2,160	1.3
All other countries	30,273	9.4	24,661	10.7	21,688	12.1	21,327	13.0	22,604	17.4	19,828	18.6	23,909	23.7	36,071	22.6	37,506	21.9	36,041	21.5
<b>RETURN TYPE</b>																				
Total	322,046	100.0	231,106	100.0	178,975	100.0	163,838	100.0	129,661	100.0	106,454	100.0	100,694	100.0	159,933	100.0	171,126	100.0	167,327	100.0
Crew member detained	60,910	18.9	47,373	20.5	44,716	25.0	45,670	27.9	43,242	33.4	30,347	28.5	15,075	15.0	65,055	40.7	69,331	40.5	91,731	54.8
Withdrawal	62,300	19.3	55,260	23.9	51,650	28.9	55,439	33.8	54,171	41.8	46,320	43.5	51,909	51.6	54,055	33.8	51,133	29.9	43,967	26.3
Voluntary Return	169,727	52.7	103,245	44.7	64,535	36.1	48,766	29.8	20,230	15.6	19,110	18.0	17,453	17.3	18,779	11.7	25,891	15.1	14,366	8.6
Voluntary Departure	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	8.7	15,561	9.1	11,581	6.9
All other returns	5,475	1.7	5,635	2.4	6,169	3.4	5,879	3.6	6,204	4.8	5,216	4.9	7,706	7.7	8,140	5.1	9,210	5.4	5,682	3.4

Note: "All other countries" and "All other returns" include unknown. Statistics reported by OIS and ICE tend to vary slightly due to differences in methodology.

Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics.

23 percent. For the first time since OIS started reporting noncitizen returns by nationality, Mexico was no longer the leading country for noncitizen returns; the proportion of returns who were Mexican nationals has declined in recent years. Crew members detained on board their vessels made up 55 percent of returns, while withdrawals of applications for admission, voluntary returns, and voluntary departures made up 26 percent, 9 percent, and 7 percent of total returns, respectively.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

For more information about immigration and immigration statistics, visit the OIS website at [www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics](http://www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics).

**REFERENCES**

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