

# U.S. Nonimmigrant Admissions: 2023

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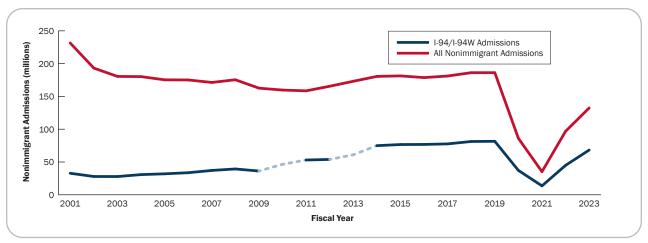
Nonimmigrants are foreign nationals with permanent residence outside the United States who are granted temporary admission to the United States for a specific purpose, including temporary visits for business or pleasure, academic or vocational study, temporary employment, and to act as a representative of a foreign government or international organization. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) collects information regarding nonimmigrant admissions at ports of entry (POEs) and from DHS Form I-94/I-94W. The 2023 U.S. Nonimmigrant Admissions Annual Flow Report, authored by the Office of Homeland Security Statistics (OHSS), presents workload information on total nonimmigrant admissions and detailed data gathered from I-94 arrival records on the number and characteristics of nonimmigrant admissions to the United States in Fiscal Year 2023.<sup>2</sup>

# SUMMARY

In 2023, DHS granted an estimated 132 million nonimmigrant admissions to the United States (Figure 1).<sup>3</sup> These included 68 million admissions of nonimmigrants who were issued Form I-94, the primary focus of this report.<sup>4</sup> Nonimmigrant admissions in 2023 increased 52 percent from 2022 and were 16 percent lower than 2019, the last pre-pandemic full year. During the pandemic, nonimmigrant admissions reached a low point of 160,000 in April 2020, followed by an overall increase to a high of 7.1 million in August 2023, and then 6.2 million in September 2023 (Figure 2). Of the over 68 million I-94 admissions in 2023, 88 percent were temporary visitors for business or pleasure, 7.3 percent were temporary workers and their families, and 2.5 percent were students and their families (Table 1). As in 2022, the four leading countries of citizenship for I-94 admissions were Mexico (29 percent), Canada (20 percent), the United Kingdom (6.2 percent), and India (3.8 percent) (Table 2). The fifth leading country was Germany (2.9 percent), replacing France from 2022.

Figure 1.

Nonimmigrant Admissions: Fiscal Years 2001 to 2023



Notes: There are two major breaks in I-94 data. Beginning in 2010, changes in the recording of admissions at land ports increased I-94 admission counts. Beginning in 2013, I-94 automation at air and sea ports increased the number of admissions recorded in I-94 data.

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

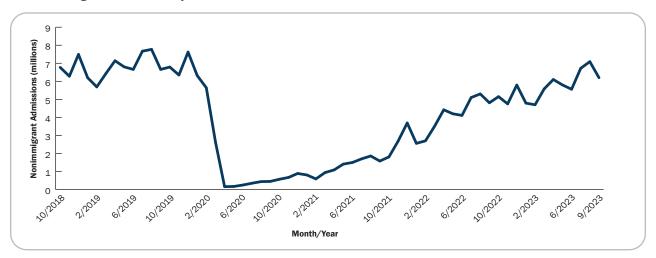
All references to Form I-94, Arrival/Departure Record, include Form I-94W, NonimmigrantVisaWaiver Arrival/Departure Record, where applicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This report was prepared by OHSS, which replaced the Office of Immigration Statistics in September 2023. Led by the DHS Statistical Official, OHSS' mission is to foster transparency and data-driven homeland security decision-making by analyzing and disseminating timely, objective DHS data and statistics. This report includes OHSS' analysis of relevant statutes, policy, and processes to provide background and context for DHS statistical data. DHS Component statistical officials have reviewed this report for accuracy. In this report, "years" refer to fiscal years, which run from October 1 to September 30. Fiscal Year 2023 ran from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. The 2023 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics and other OHSS reports contain additional context and are available at <a href="https://ohss.dhs.gov/topics/immigration/yearbook">https://ohss.dhs.gov/topics/immigration/yearbook</a>. Not all numbers cited in this report are contained in this report's tables. To protect privacy, table cells and numbers in this report are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding.

<sup>3</sup> Workload estimates based on U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Primary Name Queries/BorderStat, Fiscal Year 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> I-94 data do not describe all nonimmigrant admissions because certain visitors are not required to have an I-94 form, including all sea and air crew admissions (D1 and D2 visas) and a large share of Mexican and Canadian business and tourist travelers, as discussed elsewhere in this report. Current DHS data systems limit this report to the I-94 population, but OHSS is working to describe characteristics of all nonimmigrant admissions in future reports.

Figure 2. I-94 Nonimmigrant Admissions by Month: Fiscal Years 2019 to 2023



Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

Table 1.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Class of Admission: Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023

	2021		2022	2	2023	
Class of admission	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total I-94 admissions	13,623,120	100.0	44,897,660	100.0	68,227,240	100.0
Temporary workers and families	1,843,940	13.5	3,176,970	7.1	4,980,290	7.3
Temporary workers and trainees	1,448,740	10.6	2,335,450	5.2	3,639,940	5.3
CNMI-only transitional workers (CW1)	370	0.0	990	0.0	2,060	0.0
Workers in specialty occupations (H1B)	148,600	1.1	425,130	0.9	755,020	1.1
Chile and Singapore Free Trade Agreement aliens (H1B1)	370	0.0	1,310	0.0	2,510	0.0
Agricultural workers (H2A)	586,990	4.3	684,000	1.5	718,530	1.1
Nonagricultural workers and returning H2B workers (H2B, $\rm H2R)^{1}$	123,070	0.9	152,720	0.3	175,270	0.3
Trainees (H3)	400	0.0	950	0.0	1,350	0.0
Workers with extraordinary ability or achievement and their assistants (01, 02)	34,910	0.3	118,420	0.3	165,300	0.2
Internationally recognized athletes or entertainers (P1)	37,210	0.3	89,600	0.2	113,820	0.2
Artists or entertainers in reciprocal exchange or culturally unique programs (P2, P3)	2,810	0.0	16,580	0.0	29,390	0.0
Workers in international cultural exchange programs (Q1)	100	0.0	820	0.0	3,320	0.0
Workers in religious occupations (R1)	4,370	0.0	8,120	0.0	13,780	0.0
North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) professional workers (TN)	385,870	2.8	550,400	1.2	1,204,910	1.8
Spouses and children of temporary workers and trainees (CW2, H4, O3, P4, R2, TD)	123,650	0.9	286,430	0.6	454,700	0.7
Intracompany transferees	182,380	1.3	478,350	1.1	752,170	1.1
Intracompany transferees (L1)	116,120	0.9	305,520	0.7	503,490	0.7
Spouses and children of intracompany transferees (L2, L2S, and L2Y) <sup>2</sup>	66,260	0.5	172,830	0.4	248,680	0.4
Treaty traders and investors and spouses and children (E1 to E3) <sup>3</sup>	200,670	1.5	337,890	0.8	555,710	0.8
Representatives of foreign media and spouses and children $(\mathrm{I1})$	12,150	0.1	25,270	0.1	32,470	0.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Class of Admission: Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023 (continued)

	2021	_	2022	2	2023	
Class of admission	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Students	798,980	5.9	1,264,290	2.8	1,700,280	2.5
Academic students (F1)	758,460	5.6	1,199,090	2.7	1,625,740	2.4
Vocational students (M1)	7,870	0.1	9,890	0.0	11,770	0.0
Spouses and children of academic and vocational students (F2, M2)	32,650	0.2	55,310	0.1	62,770	0.1
Exchange visitors	174,410	1.3	432,430	1.0	543,280	0.8
Exchange visitors (J1)	151,260	1.1	384,710	0.9	481,280	0.7
Spouses and children of exchange visitors (J2)	23,160	0.2	47,730	0.1	62,000	0.1
Diplomats and other representatives	161,040	1.2	331,230	0.7	437,330	0.6
Ambassadors, public ministers, career diplomats, consular officers, other foreign government officials and their spouses, children, and attendants (A1 to A3)	87,680	0.6	169,590	0.4	218,550	0.3
Representatives to international organizations and their spouses, children, and attendants (G1 to G5)	50,760	0.4	112,420	0.3	159,730	0.2
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) officials, spouses, and children (N1 to N7)	22,600	0.2	49,210	0.1	59,050	0.1
Temporary visitors for pleasure	9,055,380	66.5	34,945,930	77.8	52,956,620	77.6
Temporary visitors for pleasure (B2)	8,169,830	60.0	24,517,000	54.6	37,058,780	54.3
Visa Waiver Program - temporary visitors for pleasure (WT)	883,560	6.5	10,298,440	22.9	15,360,400	22.5
Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program - temporary visitors for pleasure to Guam or Northern Mariana Islands (GMT)	2,000	0.0	130,500	0.3	537,440	0.8
Temporary visitors for business	1,346,210	9.9	4,234,790	9.4	6,846,860	10.0
Temporary visitors for business (B1)	1,223,570	9.0	3,037,740	6.8	4,883,380	7.2
Visa Waiver Program - temporary visitors for business (WB)	122,580	0.9	1,196,520	2.7	1,962,650	2.9
Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program - temporary visitors for business to Guam or Northern Mariana Islands (GMB)	70	0.0	530	0.0	820	0.0
Transit aliens	211,280	1.6	447,490	1.0	706,560	1.0
Aliens in continuous and immediate transit through the United States (C1)	207,310	1.5	440,440	1.0	696,660	1.0
Aliens in transit to the United Nations (C2)	130	0.0	190	0.0	780	0.0
Foreign government officials, their spouses, children, and attendants in transit (C3)	3,840	0.0	6,860	0.0	9,130	0.0
Commuter Students	510	0.0	1,000	0.0	730	0.0
Canadian or Mexican national academic commuter students (F3)	510	0.0	1,000	0.0	730	0.0
Alien fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens and children	18,970	0.1	25,680	0.1	21,710	0.0
Fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens (K1)	16,640	0.1	22,260	0.0	18,660	0.0
Children of K1 (K2)	2,330	0.0	3,420	0.0	3,050	0.0
Other <sup>4</sup>	30	0.0	70	0.0	70	0.0
Unknown <sup>5</sup>	12,360	0.1	37,790	0.1	33,520	0.0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Issuances of H2R (returning H2B workers not subject to annual numerical limits) ceased at the end of 2007.

Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding. Table excludes D1/D2 classes of admission (certain crewman who are not admitted to the United States).

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

On January 27, 2022 two new classes of admission were approved (L2S and L2Y) to differentiate between spouses and children of the principal applicant L1. The original L2 class has been retired. Previous years show spouses and children of principal applicants as L2; use of L2S and L2Y starts in 2022.

<sup>3</sup> New classes of admission were approved January 27, 2022 to differentiate spouses and children from principal applicants for classes of admission E1, E2, and E3. Spouses and children of principal applicants are included in visas E1, E2, and E3 for years prior to 2022.

 $<sup>^{4} \</sup>hspace{0.5cm} \textbf{Other includes certain classes of admission with smaller counts, including K3, K4, N8, N9, Q2, Q3, V1, V2, and V3.} \\$ 

<sup>5</sup> Unknown includes missing or invalid classes of admission.

# NONIMMIGRANT DEFINITION, PROCESS, AND REQUIREMENTS

# **Defining "Nonimmigrant"**

Nonimmigrants are foreign nationals admitted temporarily to the United States within classes of admission mostly defined in section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). Examples of nonimmigrant classes of admission include temporary visitors for business or pleasure, temporary workers, academic and vocational students, treaty traders and investors, foreign nationals in transit, exchange visitors, foreign government officials, athletes and entertainers, and victims of certain crimes. Unlike individuals granted lawful permanent residence (LPR), or "green card" status, nonimmigrants are authorized to enter the country for specific purposes and limited periods of time. Nonimmigrants' duration of stay and the scope of their lawful activities, such as employment, travel, and accompaniment by dependents, are governed by their respective classes of admission.6

# **I-94 Nonimmigrants**

The remainder of this report focuses exclusively on nonimmigrants for whom CBP generates and collects electronic I-94s. Information collected from these I-94 records include arrival and departure dates, POE, class of admission, country of citizenship, state of destination, age, and sex. I-94 data do not describe all nonimmigrant admissions because certain visitors are not required to have an I-94 form, including the majority of short-term visitors from Mexico and Canada. Specific information regarding the I-94 form is located at the end of this report.

# Three nonimmigrant classes are authorized in sections other than INA § 101(a)(15). They include: (1) North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) nonimmigrants; (2) Nationals of the Freely Associated States admitted under the Compacts of Free Association between the United States and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau; and (3) The Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Concerning Mutual Visits by Inhabitants of the Bering Straits Region.

# Nonimmigrant Admissions vs. Estimated Nonimmigrant Individuals vs. Nonimmigrant Visas Issued

This report covers admission events in 2023, not the number of individuals who entered the United States, nor the number of visas issued. Many nonimmigrants are admitted to the United States more than once in a year, and each admission is recorded separately and issued a new I-94 document at arrival. As a result, the count of admission events exceeds the number of unique individuals arriving. For more information on unique arrivals, see the OHSS Fact Sheet, Nonimmigrant Admissions and Estimated Nonimmigrant Individuals: 2022.<sup>7</sup>

Admission events also differ from the number of nonimmigrant visus issued by the U.S. Department of State (DOS) for four main reasons: (1) a citizen or national from a country participating in the U.S. Visa Waiver Program (VWP) may travel to the United States for business or tourism for stays of up to 90 days without a visa; (2) a visa recipient may be admitted to the United States more than once on each visa, as is the case with many nonimmigrants; (3) a visa recipient may decide not to travel to the United States or decide to travel during the following year (subject to the validity of the visa); and (4) an individual arriving with a visa may be determined to be inadmissible to the United States upon arrival.

# **Process**

Individuals seeking to travel to the United States as a nonimmigrant can apply for a visa through U.S. embassies or consulates, or they may travel to the United States without a visa under the VWP if they are a citizen or national of one of the currently 40 participating countries and meet eligibility requirements for traveling under that program.<sup>8</sup> When arriving in the United States at a POE, an applicant for admission as a nonimmigrant has the burden of demonstrating to the inspecting officer that they are admissible to the United States and qualify

Information relating to duration of stay can be found at <a href="https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/visa-expiration-date.html">https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/visa-expiration-date.html</a>.

<sup>7</sup> The factsheet is available at <a href="https://ohss.dhs.gov/topics/immigration/nonimmigrant-fact-sheet">https://ohss.dhs.gov/topics/immigration/nonimmigrant-fact-sheet</a>.

A full list of VWP countries and requirements is available at <a href="https://www.dhs.gov/visa-waiver-program-requirements">https://www.dhs.gov/visa-waiver-program-requirements</a>. Israel is on the list but did not start participation until 2024.

for the intended nonimmigrant class of admission. Such individuals must show valid travel documents as part of the inspection process. CBP officers conduct arrival inspections and make admissibility determinations at the POEs.

# **Eligibility**

To be admitted in a nonimmigrant status, a foreign national generally must:

- 1. establish that the visit will be temporary;
- 2. agree to depart at the end of the authorized stay;
- 3. possess a valid passport;
- 4. maintain a foreign residence (in most cases);
- be admissible to the United States or have been granted a waiver for any grounds of inadmissibility; and
- agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the relevant class of admission, including establishing that the purpose of their travel falls within the relevant class of admission.

In general, nonimmigrants must acquire a visa or other form of authorization abroad prior to traveling to the United States, with the specific requirements determined by a foreign national's country of citizenship and the conditions of their visit. However, possession of a valid travel document does not guarantee admission: CBP officers at POEs make the final determination whether a nonimmigrant is admitted to the United States and the authorized duration of stay.

### **Document Requirements**

Most classes of nonimmigrants are required to obtain a visa to enter the United States. In these cases, foreign nationals must fill out a Form DS-160, Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application, or a Form DS-156, Nonimmigrant Visa Application. In addition, applicants aged 14 to 79 years generally are required to visit a U.S. embassy or consulate and be interviewed by a consular official.9

**U.S.Visa Waiver Program.** The VWP, administered by DHS in consultation with DOS, permits citizens or nationals of designated participating countries to travel to the United States as tourists or business travelers without a visa for periods not to exceed 90 days. There are currently 40 countries participating in the VWP. Qualified citizens

or nationals of VWP countries must be admissible to the United States and not have violated the terms of any previous admission under the VWP, possess a valid machine-readable passport, travel on an approved carrier and possess a round trip ticket if arriving by air or sea, and obtain travel authorization through the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA). VWP travelers also waive their right to contest an immigration officer's determination of admissibility as well as their right to contest removal, other than on the basis of an application for asylum and related protections. Citizens or nationals of participating VWP countries traveling to the United States for a purpose other than tourism or business or whose stay will exceed 90 days must obtain a visa.<sup>10</sup>

Mexican Tourist and Business Admissions. Mexican citizens residing in Mexico who meet the requirements for a B1/B2 visa (temporary visitor for business or pleasure), who have a valid Mexican passport, and who demonstrate that they will return to Mexico upon completion of their stay may be eligible for a Border Crossing Card (BCC) or "laser visa." The BCC is a machine-readable card that is valid for ten years and contains fingerprint and other biometric data.<sup>11</sup> Stand-alone BCC cards authorize travel for up to 30 days within the U.S.-Mexico border region, 12 or BCCs may be used in combination with a Mexican passport as a regular B1/B2 visa for admission for up to 180 days anywhere in the United States. Mexican nationals also may apply for regular B1/B2 visas, which are affixed to their passports. Most Mexican nationals remaining in the border zone are not required to have an I-94 and are excluded from this report's data tables, as described in detail below.

**Canadian Tourist and Business Admissions.** Temporary Canadian visitors for business or pleasure to the United States are required to possess a valid Canadian passport or other Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative-approved form of identification, but generally are not required to obtain a visa or apply for travel authorization through ESTA or to have I-94s. They are excluded from this report's data tables.

The Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application and related information are available at <a href="https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visitor.html">https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visitor.html</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See <a href="https://www.dhs.gov/visa-waiver-program">https://www.dhs.gov/visa-waiver-program</a> for additional details on the VWP.

Mexican children under 15 years of age pay a reduced fee for a BCC. BCCs issued for the reduced fee expire on the child's 15th birthday unless the full fee is paid, in which case the child receives a BCC valid for the full ten years. Visit <a href="https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/border-crossing-card.html">https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/border-crossing-card.html</a> for additional information on BCCs.

The current BCC border zone is within 25 miles of the border in California and Texas, within 55 miles of the border in New Mexico, and within 75 miles of the border in Arizona.

# TRENDS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF I-94 NONIMMIGRANT ADMISSIONS

### **Historical Trends**

The number of I-94 admissions has generally grown over time and increased each year from just over 53 million in 2012 to over 81 million in 2019. This trend was interrupted during the Coronavirus-2019 (COVID-19) pandemic when travel restrictions, processing shutdowns, and other disruptions impacted foreign nationals living within the United States and prospective travelers. Total I-94 admissions decreased 83 percent from 2019 to 2021, while employment-based admissions decreased 55 percent from 2019 to 2021. As pandemic restrictions eased, from 2021 to 2023 total I-94 admissions increased 400 percent to 68 million—just 16 percent lower than 2019; and employment-based admissions from 2021 to 2023 increased 170 percent to 5.0 million, an increase of 21 percent compared to 2019. Total 2023 I-94 admissions were about 84 percent of total 2019 I-94 admissions.

# Class of Admission<sup>13</sup>

The largest class of admission in 2023 remained temporary visitors for pleasure (tourists), which

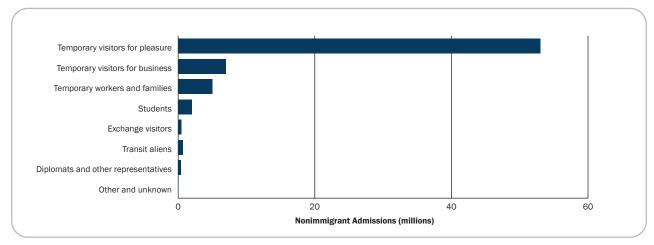
represented 78 percent of I-94 admissions (Figure 3). Tourists include nonimmigrants admitted under the Tourist Visitor Visa (B2), the Visa Waiver Program (WT), and the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program (GMT). Admissions on B2 visas accounted for 54 percent of total I-94 admissions, and WT Visa Waiver Program admissions accounted for another 23 percent. Tourists accounted for 53 million total admissions in 2023, up from 35 million in 2022, and down from 65 million in 2019.

Business visitors include nonimmigrants admitted under the Business Visitor Visa (B1), the Visa Waiver Program (WB), and the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program (GMB). Of I-94 admissions in 2023, 10 percent were in the temporary visitors for business category. B1 visitors made up 7.2 percent of total I-94 admissions, and business visitors under the Visa Waiver program (WB) accounted for 2.9 percent. Overall, business visitors accounted for 10 percent admissions in 2023, up from 9.4 percent in 2022 and down from 11 percent in 2019.

Temporary workers and their families accounted for 7.3 percent of I-94 admissions in 2023—a total of 3.6 million admissions, compared to 2.3 million in 2022 and 2.6 million in 2019. Leading classes of admission among the worker visas were TN (NAFTA) professional workers

Figure 3.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Class of Admission: Fiscal Year 2023 (Ranked by Class of Admission Group)



Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

For more information and definitions of the various classes of admission mentioned in this report, please visit: <a href="https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/all-visa-categories.html">https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/all-visa-categories.html</a>.

(1.8 percent), <sup>14</sup> H1B temporary workers in specialty occupations (1.1 percent), H2A temporary agricultural workers (1.1 percent), E1 to E3 Treaty traders and investors and spouses and children (0.8 percent), and L1 intracompany transferees (0.7 percent). <sup>15</sup> Students and their families (F1, M1, F2, and M2 visas) represented 2.5 percent of I-94 admissions. Students and their families accounted for 1.7 million total admissions in 2023, up from 1.3 million in 2022 and down from 1.9 million in 2019.

# **Country of Citizenship**

From 2022 to 2023 the I-94 admissions increase was 52 percent. Citizens from South Korea and Japan lead the way with increases of 114 percent and 194 percent, respectively. Both South Korea and Japan were new additions to the top ten countries in 2023 for I-94 admissions, displacing Colombia and Spain. Mexico continued to be the number one country of citizenship for I-94 admissions at 19.7 million (29 percent of the total and an increase of 45 percent over 2022). The top nine 2023 countries of citizenship, excluding Mexico, together increased 70 percent for the same period, significantly more than Mexico. Those nine countries accounted for 30 million I-94 admissions (45 percent of the total).

Table 2.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Country of Citizenship: Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023 (Ranked by 2023 nonimmigrant admissions)

	202	1	20	22	2023		
Country of citizenship	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	13,623,120	100.0	44,897,660	100.0	68,227,240	100.0	
Mexico	4,551,990	33.4	13,644,290	30.4	19,727,370	28.9	
Canada	1,512,470	11.1	6,903,580	15.4	13,584,590	19.9	
United Kingdom	212,080	1.6	3,090,440	6.9	4,260,040	6.2	
India	540,300	4.0	1,793,060	4.0	2,599,630	3.8	
Germany	144,770	1.1	1,404,350	3.1	1,990,460	2.9	
France	127,070	0.9	1,469,980	3.3	1,964,840	2.9	
Korea, South	168,260	1.2	795,360	1.8	1,699,890	2.5	
Brazil	122,940	0.9	1,063,680	2.4	1,649,580	2.4	
Japan	130,530	1.0	487,630	1.1	1,433,620	2.1	
Italy	145,090	1.1	865,390	1.9	1,261,780	1.8	
Other, including unknown	5,967,620	43.8	13,379,910	29.8	18,055,440	26.4	

Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding. Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

<sup>14</sup> TN class of admission allows qualified Canadian and Mexican citizens temporary entry into the United States for business activities at a professional level. These include, for example, accountants, engineers, lawyers, pharmacists, scientists, and teachers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Intra-company transferees include executive, managerial, and specialized personnel entering to continue employment with an office of the same employer, its parent, branch, subsidiary, or affiliate.

Table 3.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Port of Entry: Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023 (Ranked by 2023 nonimmigrant admissions)

	2021 2022			22	20	23
Port of entry	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	13,623,120	100.0	44,897,660	100.0	68,227,240	100.0
New York, NY	1,150,490	8.4	4,229,240	9.4	5,899,510	8.6
Miami, FL	2,346,020	17.2	4,503,550	10.0	5,095,300	7.5
Toronto, Canada	470,840	3.5	2,476,080	5.5	3,918,490	5.7
Los Angeles, CA	892,930	6.6	2,417,610	5.4	3,537,730	5.2
San Ysidro, CA	115,150	0.8	1,342,500	3.0	2,515,850	3.7
San Francisco, CA	311,720	2.3	1,375,000	3.1	2,180,330	3.2
Vancouver, Canada	169,110	1.2	1,214,890	2.7	2,005,410	2.9
Boston, MA	719,660	5.3	1,374,670	3.1	2,001,080	2.9
Newark, NJ	453,230	3.3	1,530,890	3.4	1,968,770	2.9
Houston, TX	1,022,870	7.5	1,422,850	3.2	1,767,090	2.6
Other, including unknown	5,971,120	43.8	23,010,390	51.2	37,337,680	54.7

Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding. Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

# **Ports of Entry**

In 2023 the ten largest POEs accounted for 31 million I-94 admissions, about 45 percent of the overall total (Table 3). The top five POEs accounted for 31 percent of nonimmigrant admissions: New York (5.9 million), Miami (5.1 million), Toronto, Canada<sup>16</sup> (3.9 million), Los Angeles (3.5 million), and San Ysidro, CA (2.5 million). Of the top ten POEs, San Ysidro, CA and Vancouver, Canada<sup>20</sup> saw the largest annual increases in admissions, up 87 percent and 65 percent, respectively.

# Reported State of Destination<sup>17</sup>

In 2023 the most frequently reported states of destination for I-94 admissions were California (18 percent), Florida (14 percent), Texas (12 percent), New York (11 percent), and Arizona (4.3 percent) (Table 4). In 2022 the same top five states occurred in the same order. In 2023 these five

states were the recorded destinations for 60 percent of the total, or 41 million I-94 admissions. In 2022 these five states accounted for 63 percent of the total, or 28 million.

# **Age and Sex**

In 2023, 58 percent of I-94 admissions (40 million) were individuals between the ages of 25 and 54, the same proportion as in 2022 (Table 5, Figure 4). The number of nonimmigrant admissions of those aged 55 to 64 years increased from 5.8 million (13 percent) in 2022 to 9.3 million (14 percent) in 2023. Forty-eight percent of I-94 admissions were female in 2023 and 52 percent were male, the same as in 2022.

Nonimmigrants admitted to the United States through Toronto and Vancouver are admitted via the CBP preclearance program, through which CBP officers conduct the same immigration, customs, and agriculture inspections of international air passengers that are normally performed on arrival in the United States before passenger departures. Preclearance operations currently take place at 15 foreign airports in six different countries, including Toronto and Vancouver in Canada.

<sup>17</sup> The state of destination is not a required field on an I-94 form, and the state reported may not be that of the nonimmigrants' final destination. Data on nonimmigrant state of destination should therefore be interpreted with caution.

Table 4.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Reported State of Destination: Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023 (Ranked by 2023 nonimmigrant admissions)

	20	21	20	22	2023		
State of destination	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	13,623,120	100.0	44,897,660	100.0	68,227,240	100.0	
California	1,859,670	13.7	8,162,890	18.2	12,482,520	18.3	
Florida	3,157,500	23.2	7,526,320	16.8	9,870,370	14.5	
Texas	2,002,630	14.7	5,766,530	12.8	8,473,460	12.4	
New York	1,183,340	8.7	4,889,510	10.9	7,172,240	10.5	
Arizona	486,160	3.6	2,044,140	4.6	2,941,190	4.3	
Nevada	251,960	1.8	1,462,570	3.3	2,387,430	3.5	
Hawaii	49,870	0.4	686,720	1.5	1,495,920	2.2	
Washington	243,100	1.8	829,310	1.8	1,462,060	2.1	
Illinois	341,870	2.5	1,020,580	2.3	1,444,160	2.1	
Michigan	367,310	2.7	674,300	1.5	1,405,630	2.1	
Other, including unknown	3,679,700	27.0	11,834,810	26.4	19,092,260	28.0	

Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding. Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

Table 5.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Age and Sex: Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023

	2021			2022			2023		
Age Group	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Total	6,112,400	7,509,500	13,623,120	21,517,260	23,360,660	44,897,660	32,710,960	35,092,110	68,227,240
Under 18 years	607,050	587,990	1,195,180	2,332,650	2,246,650	4,580,150	3,489,110	3,414,550	6,917,310
18 to 24 years	737,750	888,840	1,626,680	2,110,700	2,100,720	4,213,670	2,908,190	2,797,050	5,718,530
25 to 34 years	1,288,610	1,822,060	3,110,930	4,457,430	5,038,930	9,502,930	6,620,580	7,201,080	13,881,860
35 to 44 years	1,065,040	1,653,720	2,719,050	3,733,950	4,920,990	8,659,490	5,851,720	7,450,530	13,391,290
45 to 54 years	972,520	1,293,210	2,265,940	3,597,260	4,274,200	7,874,610	5,570,330	6,575,500	12,259,270
55 to 64 years	810,310	771,140	1,581,570	2,986,040	2,855,010	5,842,620	4,644,100	4,549,150	9,282,390
65 years and over	631,090	492,490	1,123,670	2,298,820	1,923,650	4,223,120	3,626,910	3,104,250	6,776,530

Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding. The total females and males per fiscal year include those whose ages are unknown. The totals per age groupings per fiscal year include those with unknown sex.

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

Under 18 years

18 to 24 years

25 to 34 years

35 to 44 years

45 to 54 years

55 to 64 years

65 years and over

Nonimmigrant Admissions (millions)

Figure 4.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Age and Sex: Fiscal Year 2023

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

### THE I-94 FORM

Detailed nonimmigrant data in this report were obtained from CBP's ADIS database, which maintains I-94 information.

In general, Canadians traveling to the United States on B1 tourist or B2 business visas are not required to have an I-94 form; Canadian nonimmigrants in all other visa classes are required to do so. Mexican tourists and business visitors traveling with a BCC or a Form I-872, American Indian Card, and remaining in the border zone generally are not required to complete an I-94, depending on the length of their visits. <sup>18</sup> These exceptions are significant because Canadian and Mexican tourists and business visitors make up the majority of all nonimmigrant admissions. <sup>19</sup>

Readers should exercise caution when interpreting trends in I-94 admissions because I-94 policies and processing have changed in recent years. Between 2005 and March 2010, DHS completed updates to computer

systems at vehicular lanes and pedestrian crossings along the Northern and Southwest Borders to record land admissions that previously were excluded from I-94 data systems. Consequently, the ratio of I-94 admissions to all nonimmigrant admissions in 2010 and 2011 exceeded those in previous years. Beginning in April 2013, CBP automated the I-94 process for nonimmigrants admitted at air and seaports. As part of this automation, CBP began generating electronic I-94s for short-term Canadian tourists and business travelers admitted at air and seaports who had previously been exempted from the form—a change resulting in additional increases in I-94 data. (Canadian tourists and business travelers entering at land POEs are still largely excluded from I-94 data.) CBP also implemented a new electronic ESTA system in 2009 and a new I-94 datacollection system in 2013, through the Automated Passport Control and Global Entry trusted traveler programs.<sup>20</sup> These updates have resulted in more complete recording of country of citizenship, but less complete recording of country of residence, sex, and state of destination.

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the OHSS web page at <a href="http://www.ohss.dhs.gov">http://www.ohss.dhs.gov</a>.

Mexicans with BCCs may remain in the border zone for up to 30 days without obtaining an I-94; Mexicans entering with a passport and visa or an I-872 may remain in the border zone for up to 72 hours without obtaining an I-94. Mexicans traveling beyond the border zone, those who will remain beyond the time periods indicated above, and those who seek entry for purposes other than as a temporary visitor for business or pleasure are required to obtain and complete an I-94.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> In addition to the Mexican and Canadian exemptions from I-94 requirements, North Atlantic Treaty Organization officials seeking N1-N5 nonimmigrant classification also are not required to submit an I-94 but may do so to document their admissions. Members of the foreign military generally are not issued an I-94 when entering the United States under military orders.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> See the ESTA Implementation Timeline at <a href="https://www.cbp.gov/travel/international-visitors/esta">https://www.cbp.gov/travel/international-visitors/esta</a>.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office of Homeland Security Statistics