

Nonimmigrant Admissions to the United States: 2015

JOHN TEKE AND WALEED NAVARRO

Nonimmigrants are foreign nationals granted temporary admission to the United States. The major purposes for which nonimmigrant admission is authorized include 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, among others. The United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) collects information on the characteristics of certain nonimmigrant admissions from DHS Form I-94 arrival records. This DHS Office of Immigration Statistics Annual Flow Report presents information gathered from I-94s on the number and characteristics of nonimmigrant admissions to the United States in 2015.

During 2015,¹ DHS granted a total of more than 181 million nonimmigrant admissions to the United States, according to DHS workload estimates (see Figure 1).² These admissions included about 104.4 million visitors, mainly business travelers and tourists from Canada and Mexico, who were exempted from filling out I-94/I-94W forms, as discussed below, and about 76.6 million nonimmigrants who were issued Form I-94/I-94W (collectively referred to as I-94 admissions)—the primary focus of this report.³ About 90 percent of I-94 admissions were temporary visitors for business and pleasure, 4.9 percent were temporary workers and their families, and 2.6 percent were students and their families. The leading countries of citizenship for I-94 admissions were Mexico (27 percent), Canada (18 percent), the United Kingdom (6.5 percent), Japan (5.2 percent), and China (3.8 percent).

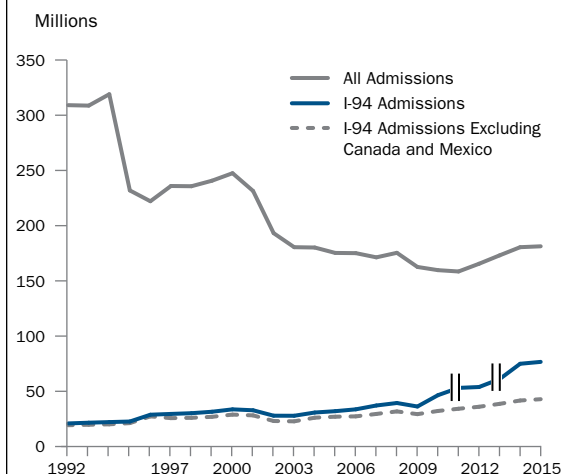
DEFINING “NONIMMIGRANT”

Nonimmigrants are foreign nationals admitted temporarily to the United States within classes of admission that are defined in section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).⁴ Examples of nonimmigrant classes of admission include foreign government officials,

temporary visitors for business and pleasure, aliens in transit, treaty traders and investors, academic and vocational students, temporary workers, exchange visitors, athletes and entertainers, victims of certain crimes, and certain family members of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents (LPRs). Unlike people granted LPR, or “green card” status, who may live in the United States essentially without restrictions, nonimmigrants are authorized to enter the country for specific purposes. Nonimmigrants’ duration of stay and lawful activities, such as employment, travel, and accompaniment by dependents, are prescribed by their class of admission.

¹ In this report, years refer to fiscal years (October 1 to September 30).
² U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Operations Management Reporting, Fiscal Year 2015.
³ For this report, I-94 admissions refer to admissions documented with paper or electronic Form I-94/I-94Ws.
⁴ A few nonimmigrant classes are authorized in sections other than INA section 101(a)(15), including NAFTA nonimmigrants and 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.

Figure 1.
Nonimmigrant Admissions: Fiscal Years 1992 to 2015



Note: There are two major breaks in the I-94 data. Beginning in 2010, changes in the recording of admissions at the 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 the I-94 data.
 Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Fiscal Years 1992 to 2015.



Box 1.

Changes to 2013 and 2014 I-94 Admissions Data

Data in this report are based on paper and electronic Forms I-94/I-94W, which U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) uses to record certain nonimmigrant admissions. As described in greater detail below, a number of changes to I-94 procedures in recent years affect I-94 admissions data. Beginning in 2010, DHS completed updates to computer systems at vehicular lanes and pedestrian crossings along the Northern and Southwest borders to record land admissions previously excluded from I-94 data systems. Beginning in April 2013, CBP automated the I-94 process for nonimmigrants admitted at air and sea ports. This transition from paper to electronic I-94 records at air and sea ports also means that CBP automatically generates I-94 records for Canadian business and tourist travelers admitted at air and sea ports even though they generally are not required to fill out I-94 forms. In 2014 CBP made additional changes to its electronic data systems, which have resulted in large increases in the number of I-94 admissions recorded compared to previous years.

Some nonimmigrants enter the United States more than once in a given year, and this report describes the number of nonimmigrant admission events rather than the number of individual nonimmigrants admitted. Admission numbers presented in this report will differ from the number of Department of State nonimmigrant visa issuances, which include all nonimmigrant visas that were issued regardless of whether, or how many times, the foreign national was admitted to the United States.

THE NONIMMIGRANT ADMISSIONS PROCESS

Eligibility

To qualify for admission in a nonimmigrant status, a foreign national generally must establish that the visit will be temporary, agree to depart at the end of the authorized stay, possess a valid passport, 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 admission. Additional requirements differ based on a foreign national's country of citizenship and the conditions of their visit, as discussed below.

Documentary Requirements

Visa Required. Most classes of nonimmigrants are required to obtain a visa to enter the United States. In these cases, foreign nationals must fill out an Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application, Form DS-160, or a Nonimmigrant Visa Application, Form DS-156. In addition, applicants aged 14 to 79 years are generally required to visit a U.S. embassy or consulate and be interviewed by a consular official. Possession of a valid visa does not guarantee admission. A CBP officer determines if the nonimmigrant may enter the United States and the authorized duration of stay.

Mexican Tourist and Business Admissions. Mexican nationals who meet the requirements for a B1/B2 visa (temporary visitor for business or pleasure), have a valid Mexican passport, demonstrate that they will return to Mexico upon completion of their stay, and reside in close proximity to the U.S./Mexico border may be eligible for a Border Crossing Card (BCC) or "laser visa." The BCC is a machine-readable card that is valid for 10 years and contains fingerprint

and other biometric data. Those who reside in the interior areas of Mexico are issued visas affixed to their passports.

To be admitted to the U.S.-Mexico border zone (up to 25 or 75 miles from the border, depending on the entry location) without a Form I-94 as a nonimmigrant visitor, a Mexican national must be in possession of a BCC or a passport and valid visa, or for a Mexican national who is a member of the Texas Band of Kickapoo Indians or Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma, a Form I-872 American Indian Card. Generally, Mexican nationals are required to present a BCC or a valid passport with a valid nonimmigrant visa, unless exempt. Mexican nationals with BCCs or Form I-872 are generally authorized to travel within the border zone for up to 30 days at a time without having to obtain a Form I-94. Also, Mexicans entering the United States with a passport and visa may remain in the border zone for up to 72 hours without having to obtain an I-94. However, Mexican nationals traveling beyond these specified zones, who will remain beyond the time periods indicated above, or who seek entry for purposes other than as a temporary visitor for business or pleasure, are required to obtain and complete a Form I-94.

Canadian Tourist and Business Admissions. Canadian short-term business and tourist visitors to the United States are required to possess a valid Canadian passport or other Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI)-approved form of identification,⁵ but they generally are not required to obtain a visa or apply for travel authorization through the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA).

Visa Waiver Program. The Visa Waiver Program (VWP) allows nationals of designated countries to travel to the United States as tourists or business travelers without a visa for periods not to exceed 90 days. Qualified 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; obtain travel authorization through ESTA; and waive their right to contest an immigration officer's

⁵WHTI-approved travel documents include an Enhanced Driver's License, Enhanced Identification Card, or Trusted Traveler Program card.

determination of admissibility and the right to contest removal, other than on the basis of an application for asylum. Nationals of VWP countries must obtain a visa if they are traveling to the United States for a purpose other than tourism or business or if their stay will exceed 90 days.

As of fiscal year 2015, 38 countries participated in the VWP: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, South Korea, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, and Chile, whose admission to the VWP was March 31, 2014.

The Guam-Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Visa Waiver Program (GCVWP) permits nationals of designated countries and geographic areas to be admitted to Guam or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) without a visa. Admissions under the GCVWP may not exceed 45 days in Guam and/or CNMI. In 2014, Australia, Brunei, Hong Kong,⁶ Japan, Malaysia, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom participated in the GCVWP.⁷

THE I-94 FORM

CBP collects information from most classes of nonimmigrants arriving in the United States on paper and electronic Forms I-94/I-94W. Information collected from these I-94 records includes arrival and departure dates, port of entry, class of admission, country of citizenship, state of destination, age, and gender. Detailed nonimmigrant data in this report were obtained from CBP's TECS database, which compiles and maintains I-94 information.

The I-94 data do not describe all nonimmigrant admissions because certain visitors are not required to fill out I-94 forms. In general, Canadians traveling to the United States on B1 tourist or B2 business visas and Mexicans entering with BCCs who plan to remain in the border region are not required to complete the I-94 Form.⁸ These exceptions are significant because Canadian and Mexican citizens make up the vast majority of all nonimmigrant admissions.

Caution should be exercised when interpreting trends in I-94 admissions because I-94 policies have undergone important changes in recent years. First, between 2005 and March 2010,

⁶ Eligibility for Hong Kong includes citizens of the former colony of Hong Kong who are in possession of the United Kingdom passport that states "British National Overseas" or holders of the Special Administrative Region (SAR) travel document. Both of these travel documents must be in conjunction with a Hong Kong Identification Card.

⁷ On November 28, 2009, the GCVWP replaced the Guam Visa Waiver Program (GVWP) which permitted nationals of participating countries to be admitted to Guam without a visa. Australia, Brunei, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, South Korea, Singapore, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, and Vanuatu were included in the GVWP when it ended.

⁸ North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) 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 U.S. under military orders.

DHS completed updates to computer systems at vehicular lanes and pedestrian crossings along the Northern and Southwest borders to record land admissions that were previously excluded from I-94 data systems. Consequently, the numbers of I-94 nonimmigrant admissions in 2010 and 2011 greatly exceeded totals reported in previous years. Second, beginning in April 2013, CBP automated the I-94 process for nonimmigrants admitted at air and sea ports. As part of this automation, CBP began generating electronic I-94s for short-term Canadian tourists and business travelers admitted at air and sea ports who had previously been exempted from the form—a change resulting in additional increases in the I-94 data. (Canadian tourists and business travelers entering at land ports of entry are still excluded from the I-94 data.) Most recently, CBP implemented new electronic data collection systems which resulted in less complete recording of certain data elements including country of residence, gender, and state of destination, but also in more complete recording of country of citizenship. ESTA and I-94 collection methods were digitized through the Automated Passport Control (APC) and Global Entry (GE) systems which do not require fields of these data elements to be collected.

CHARACTERISTICS OF I-94 NONIMMIGRANT ADMISSIONS

Class of Admission

CBP granted 76,638,236 I-94 nonimmigrant admissions in 2015 (see Table 1). The largest category of admission in 2015 was temporary visitors for pleasure, which represented 80 percent of I-94 admissions. This category includes the B2 (temporary visitors for pleasure) and WT (VWP—temporary visitors for pleasure) classes of admission, which accounted for 54 and 24 percent, respectively, of all admissions. Approximately 10 percent of admissions in 2015 were in the temporary visitors for business category of admission. B1 (temporary visitors for business) admissions represented 6.4 percent of all admissions and WB (VWP—temporary visitors for business) accounted for 4.0 percent. About 4.9 percent of all admissions consisted of temporary workers and their families. The leading classes of admission in this category were TN NAFTA professional workers (1.0 percent), L1 intracompany transferees (0.8 percent), and H1B workers in specialty occupations (0.7 percent). F1 academic students represented 2.5 percent of I-94 admissions, nearly all of the admissions in the student category.

Country of Citizenship

The leading countries of citizenship for I-94 nonimmigrant admissions to the United States in 2015 were Mexico (27 percent), Canada (18 percent), the United Kingdom (6.5 percent), Japan (5.2 percent), China (3.8 percent), Brazil (3.3 percent), Germany (3.1 percent), France (2.7 percent), South Korea (2.5 percent), and India (2.5 percent) (see Table 2). I-94 admissions from Canada increased from 13,254,972 in 2014 to 13,408,292 in 2015 following a large increase from 4,445,881 in 2013 as CBP began recording Canadian air and sea admissions of tourists and business travelers in April 2013.

Table 1.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Class of Admission: Fiscal Years 2013 to 2015

Class of admission	2015		2014		2013	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	76,638,236	100.0	74,930,606	100.0	61,052,260	100.0
Temporary workers and families	3,722,543	4.9	3,398,961	4.5	2,996,743	4.9
Temporary workers and trainees	2,306,962	3.0	2,095,175	2.8	1,853,915	3.0
CNMI-only transitional workers (CW1)	5,096	-	4,045	-	1,642	-
Workers in specialty occupations (H1B)	537,450	0.7	511,773	0.7	474,355	0.8
Chile and Singapore Free Trade Agreement aliens (H1B1)	93	-	D	-	8	-
Registered nurses participating in the Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas (H1C)	-	-	D	-	7	-
Agricultural workers (H2A)	283,580	0.4	240,620	0.3	204,577	0.3
Nonagricultural workers and returning H2B workers (H2B, H2R)	120,219	0.2	105,416	0.1	104,993	0.2
Trainees (H3)	3,514	-	4,306	-	4,117	-
Workers with extraordinary ability or achievement and their assistants (O1, O2)	119,679	0.2	107,191	0.1	87,366	0.1
Internationally recognized athletes or entertainers (P1)	99,351	0.1	95,470	0.1	85,583	0.1
Artists or entertainers in reciprocal exchange or culturally unique programs (P2, P3)	26,021	-	24,999	-	21,818	-
Workers in international cultural exchange programs (Q1)	2,988	-	2,976	-	2,685	-
Workers in religious occupations (R1)	14,109	-	13,839	-	14,191	-
North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) professional workers (TN)	787,180	1.0	712,737	1.0	612,535	1.0
Spouses and children of temporary workers and trainees (CW2, H4, O3, P4, R2, TD)	307,682	0.4	271,773	0.4	240,038	0.4
Intracompany transferees	917,613	1.2	835,707	1.1	723,641	1.2
Intracompany transferees (L1)	648,611	0.8	591,728	0.8	503,206	0.8
Spouses and children of intracompany transferees (L2)	269,002	0.4	243,979	0.3	220,435	0.4
Treaty traders and investors and spouses and children (E1 to E3)	449,732	0.6	422,025	0.6	373,360	0.6
Representatives of foreign media and spouses and children (I1)	48,236	0.1	46,054	0.1	45,827	0.1
Students	1,990,661	2.6	1,837,664	2.5	1,669,225	2.7
Academic students (F1)	1,886,948	2.5	1,737,927	2.3	1,577,509	2.6
Vocational students (M1)	19,878	-	20,534	-	19,106	-
Spouses and children of academic and vocational students (F2, M2)	83,835	0.1	79,203	0.1	72,610	0.1
Exchange visitors	576,347	0.8	557,760	0.7	492,937	0.8
Exchange visitors (J1)	502,372	0.7	486,827	0.6	433,534	0.7
Spouses and children of exchange visitors (J2)	73,975	0.1	70,933	0.1	59,403	0.1
Diplomats and other representatives	438,477	0.6	421,144	0.6	373,330	0.6
Ambassadors, public ministers, career diplomats, consular officers, other foreign government officials and their spouses, children, and attendants (A1 to A3)	224,963	0.3	220,837	0.3	200,825	0.3
Representatives to international organizations and their spouses, children, and attendants (G1 to G5)	161,354	0.2	152,903	0.2	141,744	0.2
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) officials, spouses, and children (N1 to N7)	52,160	0.1	47,404	0.1	30,761	0.1
Temporary visitors for pleasure	61,017,237	79.6	59,784,922	79.8	48,346,018	79.2
Temporary visitors for pleasure (B2)	41,671,997	54.4	40,457,847	54.0	29,915,467	49.0
Visa Waiver Program - temporary visitors for pleasure (WT)	18,138,442	23.7	18,161,646	24.2	17,168,958	28.1
Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program - temporary visitors for pleasure to Guam or Northern Mariana Islands (GMT)	1,206,798	1.6	1,165,429	1.6	1,261,593	2.1
Temporary visitors for business	8,008,659	10.4	7,734,191	10.3	6,299,533	10.3
Temporary visitors for business (B1)	4,933,958	6.4	4,755,509	6.3	3,498,688	5.7
Visa Waiver Program - temporary visitors for business (WB)	3,070,226	4.0	2,976,445	4.0	2,798,130	4.6
Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program - temporary visitors for business to Guam or Northern Mariana Islands (GMB)	4,475	-	2,237	0.0	2,715	-
Transit aliens	689,990	0.9	1,004,916	1.3	628,711	1.0
Aliens in continuous and immediate transit through the United States (C1)	672,420	0.9	987,546	1.3	608,396	1.0
Aliens in transit to the United Nations (C2)	524	-	638	-	2,269	-
Foreign government officials, their spouses, children, and attendants in transit (C3)	17,046	-	16,732	-	18,046	-
Commuter Students	100,495	0.1	109,833	0.1	105,263	0.2
Canadian or Mexican national academic commuter students (F3)	100,495	0.1	109,833	0.1	105,263	0.2
Alien fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens and children	35,266	-	41,778	0.1	29,773	-
Fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens (K1)	30,942	-	36,680	-	26,046	-
Children of K1 (K2)	4,324	-	5,098	-	3,727	-
Alien spouses of U.S. citizens and children, immigrant visa pending	743	-	1,340	-	1,679	-
Spouses of U.S. citizens, visa pending (K3)	644	-	1,004	-	1,262	-
Children of U.S. citizens, visa pending (K4)	99	-	336	-	417	-
Alien spouses of U.S. permanent residents and children, immigrant visa pending	884	-	935	-	1,335	-
Spouses of permanent residents, visa pending (V1)	563	-	647	-	867	-
Children of permanent residents, visa pending (V2)	307	-	252	-	271	-
Dependents of V1 or V2, visa pending (V3)	14	-	36	-	197	-
Other	74	-	72	-	87	-
Unknown	56,860	0.1	37,090	-	107,626	0.2

- Represents zero or rounds to 0.0.

D Data withheld to limit disclosure.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Port of Entry

The largest 20 ports of entry accounted for 65 percent of I-94 nonimmigrant admissions in 2015 (see Table 3). About half of all nonimmigrants were admitted through New York (9.1 percent), Miami (8.0 percent), Los Angeles (6.3 percent), Toronto⁹ (4.8

percent), San Ysidro (3.3 percent), Newark (3.0 percent), San Francisco (2.9 percent), Honolulu (2.9 percent), Chicago (2.7 percent), Houston (2.5 percent), Vancouver (2.3 percent), Otay Mesa (2.2 percent), Atlanta (2.2 percent), Boston (2.2 percent), and Juarez-Lincoln Bridge (2.1 percent). The Boston port of entry reported the highest increase (25 percent) in the number of nonimmigrant admissions in 2015, while Otay Mesa reported the largest decrease (-3.0 percent; see Figure 2).

⁹DHS is the U.S. government agency responsible for securing U.S. borders and facilitating international trade and travel. Through CBP preclearance operations, the same immigration, customs, and agriculture inspections of international air passengers performed on arrival in the United States are completed before departure at foreign airports instead. Currently, pre-clearance operations take place at 15 foreign airports in six different countries (including Canada - Toronto and Vancouver), benefitting air passengers, airports, and air carriers, in the United States and abroad.

Table 2.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Country of Citizenship: Fiscal Years 2013 to 2015

Country of citizenship	2015		2014		2013	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	76,638,236	100.0	74,930,606	100.0	61,052,260	100.0
Mexico	20,378,001	26.6	20,002,936	26.7	17,980,784	29.5
Canada	13,408,292	17.5	13,254,972	17.7	4,445,881	7.3
United Kingdom	4,968,044	6.5	4,814,074	6.4	4,566,669	7.5
Japan	4,021,857	5.2	4,199,152	5.6	4,298,081	7.0
China	2,935,175	3.8	2,555,896	3.4	2,098,801	3.4
Brazil	2,505,525	3.3	2,390,245	3.2	2,143,154	3.5
Germany	2,381,765	3.1	2,448,591	3.3	2,359,681	3.9
France	2,075,665	2.7	2,115,350	2.8	1,959,424	3.2
Korea, South	1,946,887	2.5	1,780,662	2.4	1,656,795	2.7
India	1,898,327	2.5	1,720,729	2.3	1,491,712	2.4
Other	20,067,213	26.2	19,622,267	26.2	17,886,490	29.3
Unknown	51,485	0.1	25,732	-	164,788	0.3

- Represents zero or rounds to 0.0.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Table 3.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Port of Entry: Fiscal Years 2013 to 2015

Port of entry	2015		2014		2013	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	76,638,236	100.0	74,930,606	100.0	61,052,260	100.0
New York, NY	7,008,893	9.1	6,840,544	9.1	6,129,709	10.0
Miami, FL	6,143,161	8.0	5,996,284	8.0	5,679,558	9.3
Los Angeles, CA	4,802,308	6.3	4,511,326	6.0	4,165,812	6.8
Toronto, Canada	3,711,453	4.8	3,272,177	4.4	1,323,357	2.2
San Ysidro, CA	2,562,392	3.3	2,198,221	2.9	1,981,939	3.2
Newark, NJ	2,314,270	3.0	2,378,659	3.2	2,148,824	3.5
San Francisco, CA	2,248,550	2.9	2,107,390	2.8	1,986,263	3.3
Honolulu, HI	2,189,114	2.9	2,184,386	2.9	2,107,178	3.5
Chicago, IL	2,092,782	2.7	2,112,491	2.8	1,832,126	3.0
Houston, TX	1,946,343	2.5	1,855,594	2.5	1,501,909	2.5
Vancouver, Canada	1,730,938	2.3	1,573,396	2.1	741,873	1.2
Otay Mesa, CA	1,724,207	2.2	1,777,473	2.4	1,523,289	2.5
Atlanta, GA	1,672,693	2.2	1,697,023	2.3	1,516,566	2.5
Boston, MA	1,670,740	2.2	1,333,341	1.8	861,150	1.4
Juarez-Lincoln Bridge, TX	1,590,967	2.1	1,630,676	2.2	1,446,231	2.4
Orlando, FL	1,475,907	1.9	1,261,033	1.7	1,117,181	1.8
Dallas, TX	1,349,493	1.8	1,236,698	1.7	1,112,289	1.8
Nogales, AZ	1,316,397	1.7	1,301,907	1.7	1,144,427	1.9
Washington, DC	1,301,120	1.7	1,317,550	1.8	1,239,607	2.0
Agana, GU	1,281,865	1.7	1,260,180	1.7	1,293,000	2.1
Other	26,150,583	34.1	26,764,781	35.7	19,984,689	32.7
Unknown	354,060	0.5	319,476	0.4	215,283	0.4

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Table 4.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by State of Destination: Fiscal Years 2013 to 2015

State of destination	2015		2014		2013	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	76,638,236	100.0	74,930,606	100.0	61,052,260	100.0
California	10,609,329	13.8	10,102,622	13.5	11,182,804	18.3
Florida	10,253,858	13.4	9,180,841	12.3	8,089,139	13.2
New York	7,773,970	10.1	7,419,709	9.9	6,805,732	11.1
Texas	5,064,473	6.6	5,248,779	7.0	7,605,578	12.5
Hawaii	2,714,804	3.5	2,552,833	3.4	2,261,576	3.7
Nevada	2,489,732	3.2	2,293,655	3.1	2,128,680	3.5
Arizona	1,690,893	2.2	1,653,321	2.2	1,952,808	3.2
Illinois	1,437,223	1.9	1,309,781	1.7	1,197,625	2.0
Massachusetts	1,246,289	1.6	1,156,761	1.5	1,056,505	1.7
Washington	1,174,095	1.5	1,141,456	1.5	1,415,063	2.3
Other	11,893,587	15.5	10,904,311	14.6	10,986,783	18.0
Unknown	20,289,983	26.5	21,966,537	29.3	6,369,967	10.4

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Table 5.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Age and Gender: Fiscal Years 2013 to 2015

Characteristic	2015		2014		2013	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
AGE						
Total	76,638,236	100.0	74,930,606	100.0	61,052,260	100.0
Under 18 years	8,463,271	11.0	8,244,844	11.0	6,922,805	11.3
18 to 24 years	6,943,086	9.1	6,705,294	8.9	5,672,694	9.3
25 to 34 years	15,881,268	20.7	15,461,342	20.6	12,929,049	21.2
35 to 44 years	15,485,833	20.2	15,329,585	20.5	12,866,158	21.1
45 to 54 years	13,889,828	18.1	13,618,203	18.2	10,885,774	17.8
55 to 64 years	9,576,303	12.5	9,345,085	12.5	7,132,243	11.7
65 years and over	6,388,772	8.3	6,220,330	8.3	4,580,183	7.5
Unknown	9,875	-	5,923	-	63,354	0.1
GENDER						
Total	76,638,236	100.0	74,930,606	100.0	61,052,260	100.0
Female	32,699,741	42.7	33,942,123	45.3	29,285,737	48.0
Male	35,439,601	46.2	36,306,392	48.5	31,420,318	51.5
Unknown	8,498,894	11.1	4,682,091	6.2	346,205	0.6

- Represents zero or rounds to 0.0.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

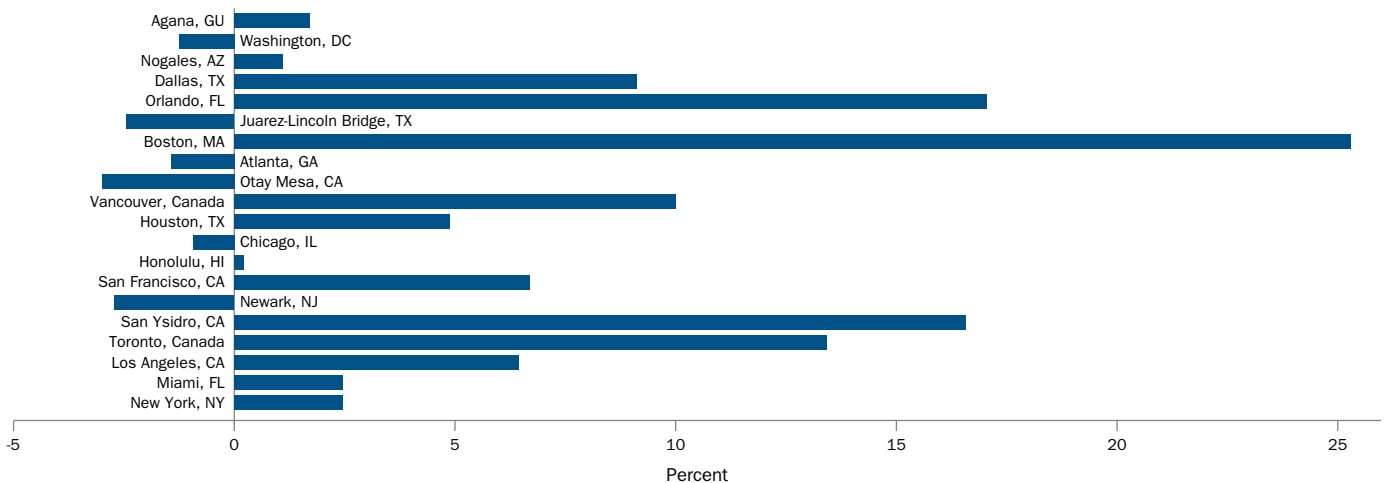
State of Destination

The most frequent states of destination for I-94 nonimmigrant admissions in 2015 were California (14 percent), Florida (13 percent), New York (10 percent), and Texas (6.6 percent) (see Table 4). These four states represented the destinations of approximately 44 percent of foreign nationals granted temporary admission to the United States in 2015. The largest increase in the number of nonimmigrant admissions in 2015 was for those destined for Florida (12 percent), whereas the number of nonimmigrant admissions in 2015 bound for Massachusetts decreased by 3.5 percent.

Age and Gender

In 2015, 59 percent of I-94 admissions were individuals aged 25 to 54. Of all I-94 admissions, 46 percent were males, 43 percent were females, and 11 percent were gender-unknown. From 2014 to 2015, the number of nonimmigrant admissions aged 18 to 24 years recorded the highest increase of 3.6 percent, while the age group 35 to 44 years old registered the lowest increase of 1.0 percent (see Table 5).

Figure 2.
Percentage Change in Nonimmigrant Admissions by Port of Entry for Fiscal Year 2015



Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Appendix A.

Nonimmigrant Classes of Admission

Class	Description
Temporary Workers and Families	
Temporary workers and trainees	
CW1	CNMI-only transitional workers
CW2	Spouses and children of CW1
H1B	Workers in specialty occupations
H1B1	Chile and Singapore Free Trade Agreement aliens
H1C	Registered nurses participating in the Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas
H2A	Agricultural workers
H2B	Nonagricultural workers
H2R	Returning H2B workers
H3	Trainees
H4	Spouses and children of H1, H2, or H3
O1	Workers with extraordinary ability or achievement
O2	Workers accompanying and assisting in performance of O1 workers
O3	Spouses and children of O1 and O2
P1	Internationally recognized athletes or entertainers
P2	Artists or entertainers in reciprocal exchange programs
P3	Artists or entertainers in culturally unique programs
P4	Spouses and children of P1, P2, or P3
Q1	Workers in international cultural exchange programs
R1	Workers in religious occupations
R2	Spouses and children of R1
TN	North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) professional workers
TD	Spouses and children of TN
Intracompany transferees	
L1	Intracompany transferees
L2	Spouses and children of L1
Treaty traders and investors	
E1	Treaty traders and their spouses and children
E2	Treaty investors and their spouses and children
E2C	Treaty traders and their spouses and children CNMI-only
E3	Australian Free Trade Agreement principals, spouses, and children
Representatives of foreign information media	
I1	Representatives of foreign information media and spouses and children
Students	
F1	Academic students
F2	Spouses and children of F1
M1	Vocational students
M2	Spouses and children of M1
Exchange visitors	
J1	Exchange visitors
J2	Spouses and children of J1
Diplomats and other representatives	
A1	Ambassadors, public ministers, and career diplomatic or consular officers and their families
A2	Other foreign government officials or employees and their families
A3	Attendants, servants, or personal employees of A1 and A2 and their families
G1	Principals of recognized foreign governments
G2	Other representatives of recognized foreign governments
G3	Representatives of nonrecognized or nonmember foreign governments
G4	International organization officers or employees
G5	Attendants, servants, or personal employees of representatives
N1 to N7	North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) officials, spouses, and children
Temporary visitors for pleasure	
B2	Temporary visitors for pleasure
WT	Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for pleasure
GMT	Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for pleasure to Guam or Northern Mariana Islands

Table continued on next page.

Appendix A.

Nonimmigrant Classes of Admission — Continued

Class	Description
Temporary visitors for business	
B1	Temporary visitors for business
WB	Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for business
GMB	Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for business to Guam or Northern Mariana Islands
Transit aliens	
C1	Aliens in continuous and immediate transit through the United States
C2	Aliens in transit to the United Nations
C3	Foreign government officials, their spouses, children, and attendants in transit
Commuter Students	
F3	Canadian or Mexican national academic commuter students
M3	Canadian or Mexican national vocational commuter students
Alien Fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens	
K1	Fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens
K2	Children of K1
Legal Immigration Family Equity (LIFE) Act	
K3	Spouses of U.S. citizens, immigrant visa pending
K4	Children of K3, immigrant visa pending
V1 to V3	Spouses and children of permanent residents, immigrant visa pending
Other categories	
N8	Parents of international organization special immigrants
N9	Children of N8 or international organization special immigrants
Q2	Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program aliens
Q3	Spouses and children of Q2

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.