

Department of Homeland Security
Fiscal Year 2005
Immigration Monthly Statistical Report
September 2005



Prepared by the Office of Immigration Statistics

October 31, 2005



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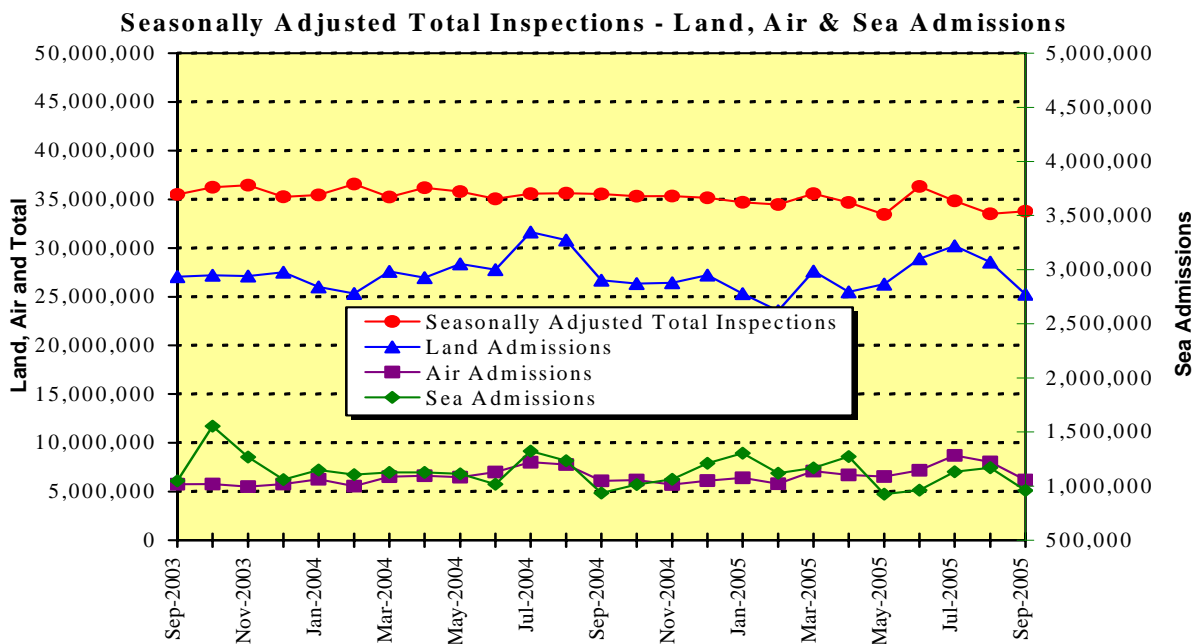
1. Monthly data are preliminary and subject to revision; they are current as of October 31, 2005.

INSPECTIONS

Total inspections decreased 3 percent in fiscal year 2005 compared to fiscal year 2004, while air admissions increased by 4 percent, and land admissions decreased by 4 percent.

	<i>Month</i>			<i>Fiscal Year</i>			<i>Total FY 2004</i>
	<i>Sep-2005</i>	<i>Sep-2004</i>	<i>%Change</i>	<i>FY 2005 to Date</i>	<i>FY 2004 to Date</i>	<i>%Change</i>	
Total Inspections	32,513,627	34,197,314	-5	416,984,908	428,883,663	-3	428,883,663
Air Admitted	6,164,373	6,103,416	1	80,644,361	77,384,069	4	77,384,069
Land Admitted	25,264,636	26,683,810	-5	321,202,682	332,977,339	-4	332,977,339
Sea Admitted	959,448	937,033	2	13,306,975	14,019,089	-5	14,019,089
Inadmissible	37,535	48,432	-22	550,079	601,759	-9	601,759

Data Source: PAS G-22.1



- The total number of persons admitted at DHS ports of entry during September 2005 include approximately 13.0 million U.S. citizens and 19.5 million aliens. The above categories of admission include individuals who make multiple entries; for example, citizens who leave and reenter the United States multiple times, permanent residents who make multiple entries, or aliens who hold non-immigrant visas or border crossing cards and commute back and forth each week from Canada or Mexico.
- The total inadmissible count for September, 2005 was 37,535, a 22 percent decrease compared to the total for September, 2004. Inadmissible persons include aliens referred to secondary inspection who withdraw, are refused entry, are paroled in, or are referred to an Immigration Judge for a removal hearing. Also included are expedited cases where an alien can withdraw, or receives an expedited removal order, or is referred for a credible fear interview.
- The number of inspections has not reached the levels experienced before September 11, 2001. The seasonally adjusted inspections decreased 23 percent between August 2001 and October 2001, but have increased 4 percent since then.

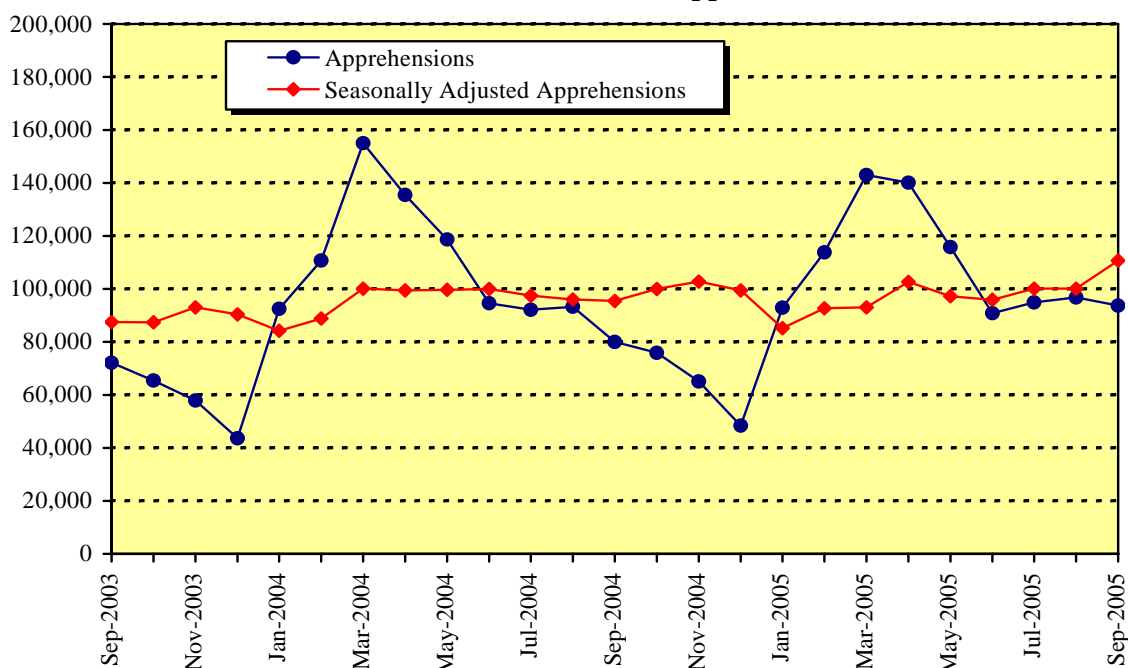
SOUTHWEST BORDER APPREHENSIONS

The U.S. Border Patrol made 93,734 apprehensions along the southwest border during September 2005, representing a 17 percent increase when compared to September 2004. Voluntary returns increased by 7 percent compared to the same month last year. Apprehensions increased 3 percent in fiscal year 2005, while voluntary returns decreased 7 percent compared to FY 2004.

Southwest Border	Month			Fiscal Year			Total FY 2004
	Sep-2005	Sep-2004	%Change	FY 2005 to Date	FY 2004 to Date	%Change	
Apprehensions	93,734	80,017	17	1,171,268	1,139,282	3	1,139,282
Voluntary Returns	72,471	67,868	7	951,897	1,020,325	-7	1,020,325

Data Source: PAS G-23.8 & G-23.18 FY 2004; ENFORCE - EID FY 2005

Southwest Border Total Apprehensions



- Normally, apprehensions reach a yearly low in December followed by a strong seasonal increase in January. Seasonal highs tend to be reached in early spring. Apprehensions decrease but remain relatively high through the summer months and then start their autumn decline in September, which continues through the Christmas holidays.
- Seasonally adjusted apprehensions increased 10.6 percent in September 2005 when compared to August 2005.
- In fiscal year 2004 (October-September), Central American apprehensions by the border patrol at the southwest border reached 53,120, an increase of 22,071 when compared to the previous year. In fiscal year 2005, southwest border Central American apprehensions reached 117,748 an increase of 122 percent compared to fiscal year 2004. Of the 117,748 Central Americans apprehended in fiscal year 2005, 44 percent were Honduran, 33 percent were El Salvadoran, 19 percent were Guatemalan, and 3 percent were Nicaraguan.
- In fiscal year 2005, 30,843 Brazilians were apprehended by the border patrol at the southwest border, an increase of 22,227 or 258 percent compared to fiscal year 2004.

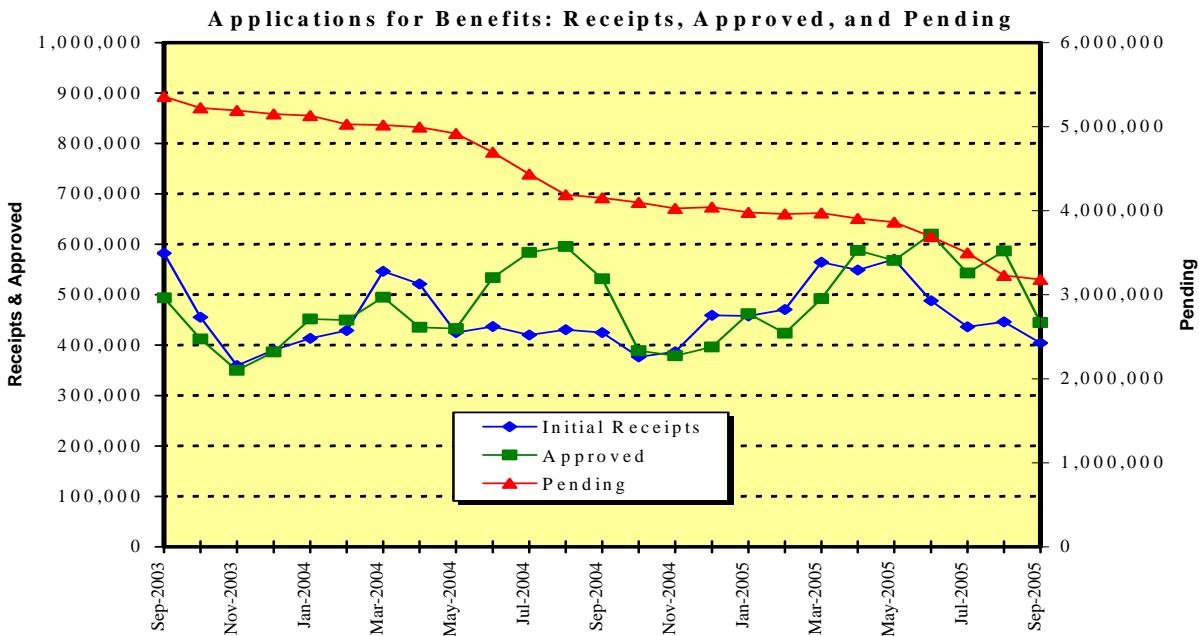
APPLICATIONS FOR IMMIGRATION BENEFITS

Applications and petitions for immigration benefits in September 2005 decreased 5 percent compared to the number received in September 2004. September approvals decreased 16 percent, while denials increased by 6 percent and pending decreased 23 percent when compared to September 2004. In fiscal year 2005, receipts increased by 7 percent, approvals increased 4 percent and denials increased by 2 percent compared to fiscal year 2004.

	<i>Month</i>			<i>Fiscal Year</i>			<i>Total FY 2004</i>
	<i>Sep-2005</i>	<i>Sep-2004</i>	<i>%Change</i>	<i>FY 2005 to Date</i>	<i>FY 2004 to Date</i>	<i>%Change</i>	
Initial Receipts¹	404,320	424,908	-5	5,609,957	5,253,844	7	5,253,844
Approved	444,809	531,465	-16	5,893,064	5,658,329	4	5,658,329
Denied	73,369	69,175	6	777,438	764,473	2	764,473
Pending¹	3,182,223	4,151,484	-23	3,182,223	4,151,484	-23	4,151,484

Data Source: PAS G-22.2

¹ Receipts and Pending do not reflect an estimated 6,172 I-485s filed but not data entered.



- Major volumes in September 2005 receipts include: 102,506 I-765 employment authorizations; 62,561 I-90 Green Card renewals/replacements; 59,609 I-130 relative/ I-129F fiancé(e) petitions; and 50,414 I-485 permanent resident adjustments
- Major volumes of pending applications at the end of September 2005 include: 1,291,868 I-130 relative/I-129F fiancé(e) petitions; 889,447 I-485 permanent resident adjustments; 274,395 I-765 employment authorizations; 253,553 I-90 Green Card Renewals/replacements; and 61,374 I-821 temporary protected status.

N-400 NATURALIZATION BENEFITS

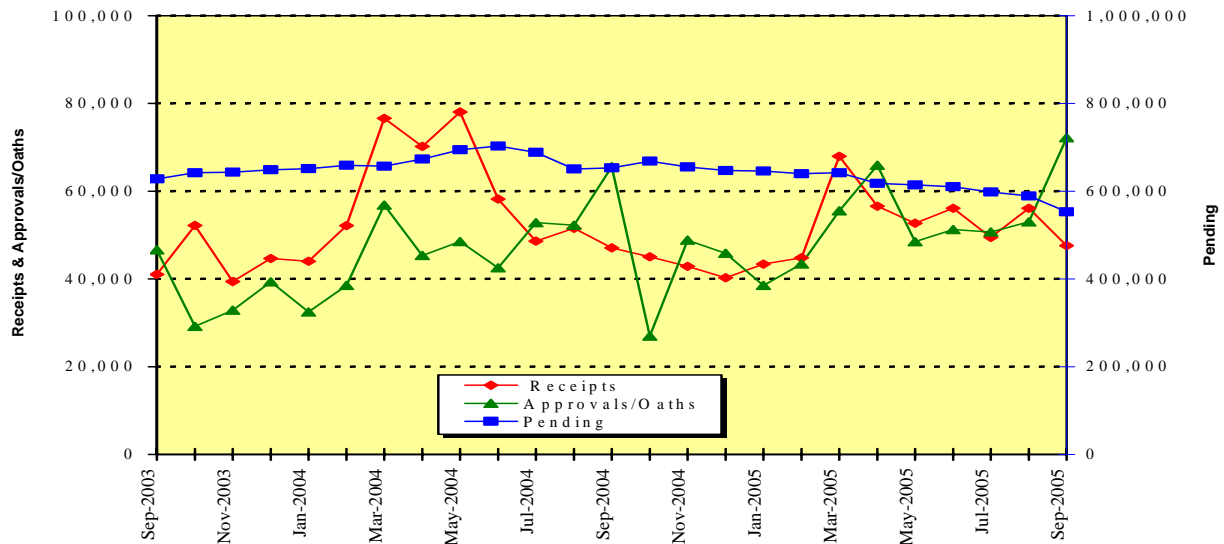
Naturalization receipts in September 2005 increased 1 percent when compared to September 2004, while approvals/oaths increased 10 percent and denials decreased 10 percent. The total number of persons who took the oath of citizenship in fiscal year 2005 was 600,609, an increase of 12 percent compared to fiscal year 2004.

	<i>Month¹</i>			<i>Fiscal Year</i>			<i>Total FY 2004</i>
	<i>Sep-2005</i>	<i>Sep-2004</i>	<i>%Change</i>	<i>FY 2005 to Date</i>	<i>FY 2004 to Date</i>	<i>%Change</i>	
Receipts	47,610	47,088	1	602,972	662,794	-9	662,794
Approvals/Oaths	72,182	65,576	10	600,609	536,176	12	536,176
Denied	14,991	16,621	-10	108,247	103,339	5	103,339
Pending	552,940	653,128	-15	552,940	653,128	-15	653,128

Data Source: PAS G-22.3

¹ Receipts and Pending do not reflect an estimated 4,237 N-400s filed but not data entered.

N - 4 0 0 N a t u r a l i z a t i o n A p p l i c a t i o n s R e c e i p t s , O a t h s / A p p r o v e d , a n d P e n d i n g



- The number of pending cases reached 552,940 in September, a decrease of 15 percent compared to the same month in fiscal year 2004.

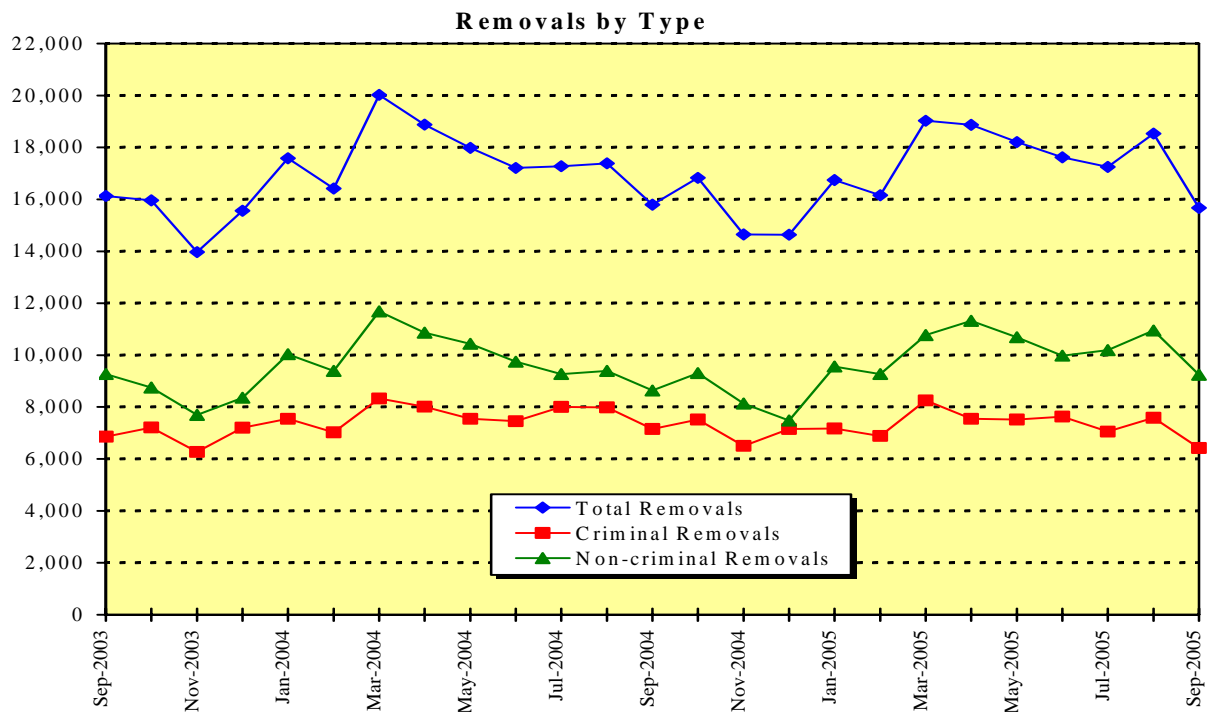
REMOVALS

Total removals for September decreased 1 percent compared to the same month a year before. In September 2005, DHS removed 15,671 aliens from the United States, 6,424 of these aliens were criminals.

	<i>Month</i>			<i>Fiscal Year</i>			<i>Total FY 2004</i>
	<i>Sep-2005*</i>	<i>Sep-2004</i>	<i>%Change</i>	<i>FY 2005 to Date</i>	<i>FY 2004 to Date</i>	<i>%Change</i>	
Deportable Inadmissible	2,784	3,908	-29	40,891	49,840	-18	49,840
Total Removals	15,671	15,793	-1	204,193	204,039	0	204,039
Criminal Removals	6,424	7,156	-10	87,256	89,751	-3	89,751
Non-criminal Removals	9,247	8,637	7	116,937	114,288	2	114,288

Data Source: HQSTA DACS Monthly Extract

* Current Monthly Data are Preliminary.



- The current month's statistics are preliminary. Historically there have been significant upward revisions in the statistics for three months after the initial reporting period. The August statistic for total removals has increased 10.3 percent (1,723 removals) since the preliminary number was released last month.
- Preliminary data indicate that the 204,193 total removals in fiscal year 2005 represent almost no change compared to fiscal year 2004.
- Preliminary data indicate that removals of criminal aliens (including expedited) decreased 3 percent in fiscal year 2005 compared to fiscal year 2004.

ASYLUM

The number of applications for asylum in September 2005 increased 23 percent when compared to the number filed in September 2004. The pending caseload was 47 percent lower than in the same month last year.

	Month			Fiscal Year			Total FY 2004
	Sep-2005	Sep-2004	%Change	FY 2005 to Date	FY 2004 to Date	%Change	
Cases Filed	3,207	2,612	23	32,900	34,184	-4	34,184
Approved	947	920	3	9,902	10,613	-7	10,613
Denied	662	743	-11	7,690	9,080	-15	9,080
Otherwise Closed	10,569	12,477	-15	86,060	77,795	11	77,795
Referred to IJ	1,083	962	13	12,977	13,158	-1	13,158
Pending	98,449	184,501	-47	98,449	184,501	-47	184,501

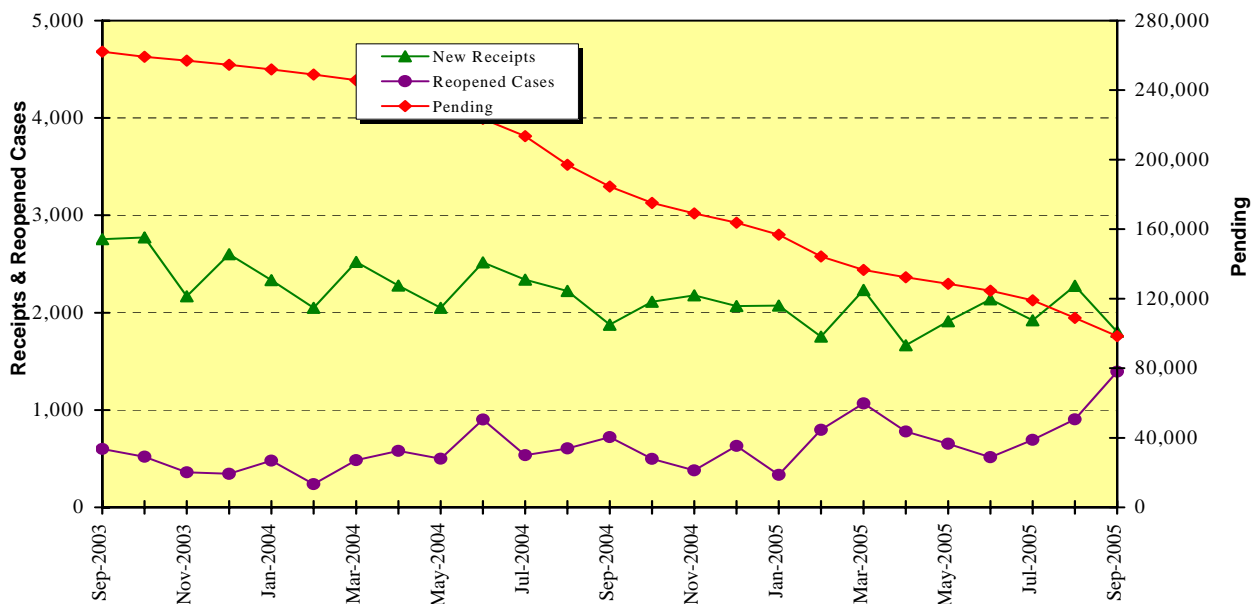
IJ - Immigration Judges at the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR).

Cases filed - includes both new and reopened applications.

Denied - includes applications rejected under the one-year filing deadline.

Data Source: RAPS

Asylum Applications Received, Reopened Cases & Pending



- Nationals from El Salvador submitted the most asylum applications in September 2005, followed by nationals from Haiti and the People's Republic of China..
- Nearly 78 percent of the pending caseload involves aliens whose cases may be adjudicated under one of the provisions of the Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act of 1997 (NACARA) or the Haitian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act of 1998 (HRIFA) rather than through an asylum process. The pending caseload excluding those special-group cases is approximately 19,198 cases.
- The substantial growth in cases otherwise closed is mostly attributable to the large number of cases adjudicated under NACARA.