

Temporary Admissions of Nonimmigrants to the United States: 2005

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Each year, millions of foreign nationals are admitted into the United States. Those who are admitted temporarily for a defined period of time and for a specific purpose are referred to as nonimmigrants. Most nonimmigrants enter as tourists or business travelers on short-term trips, while others, such as students, temporary workers, and foreign diplomats, stay for longer periods of time, ranging from a few months to several years. This Office of Immigration Statistics *Annual Flow Report* examines the number and characteristics of nonimmigrant admissions in 2005¹ recorded by the Treasury Enforcement Communications Systems (TECS) of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

TECS is the primary source for data collected from the Arrival-Departure Record, also known as DHS Form I-94². Nonimmigrants arriving by air, land, or sea are required to complete Form I-94, with two important exceptions. Canadians who travel to the United States as tourists or on business generally do not need the I-94 Form. Also, certain Mexicans who have a nonresident alien Border Crossing Card, commonly known as a laser visa or a multiple-entry nonimmigrant visa, may not be required to complete the I-94 Form for entry. These exceptions are significant because Canadian and Mexican citizens make up the vast majority of all nonimmigrant

admissions. In 2005, there were an estimated 175 million nonimmigrant admissions (see Table 1 and Figure 1).³ Of these, an estimated 148 million were admissions by Canadian and Mexican citizens, including 143 million not required to complete an I-94 Form at entry.⁴

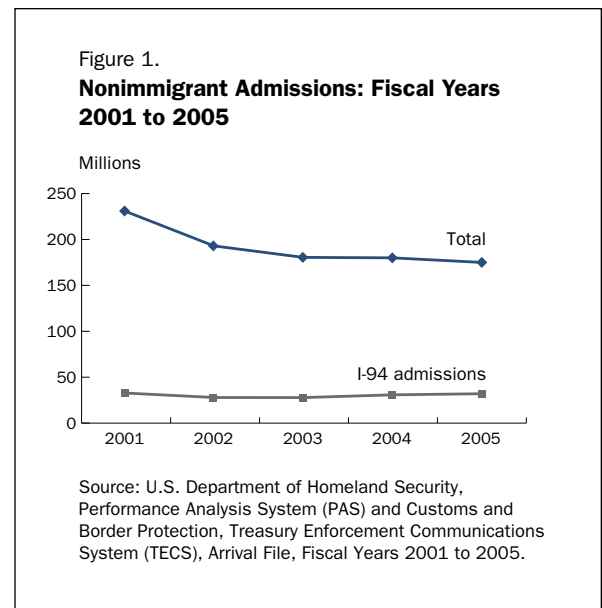
While TECS excludes information on the majority of short-term admissions from Canada and Mexico, it does

Table 1.
Nonimmigrant Admissions: Fiscal Years 2001 to 2005
(in millions)

| Year | Total ¹ | I-94 admissions |
|------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 2001 | 231.4 | 32.8 |
| 2002 | 193.2 | 27.9 |
| 2003 | 180.5 | 27.8 |
| 2004 | 180.2 | 30.8 |
| 2005 | 175.4 | 32.0 |

¹ Excludes sea and air crew admissions (D-1 and D-2 visas).
Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Performance Analysis System (PAS), and Customs and Border Protection, Treasury Enforcement Communications System (TECS), Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2001 to 2005.

² In this report, years refer to fiscal years (October 1 to September 30).
³ There are two types of I-94 Forms. Nonimmigrant visitors entering the United States with a visa are required to complete Arrival-Departure Record Form I-94 (white form). Nonimmigrant visitors seeking entry into the United States without a visa under the Visa Waiver Program must complete Nonimmigrant Visa Waiver Arrival-Departure Form I-94W (green form). In this report, the term "I-94" refers to both the I-94 and I-94W Forms.



³ The 175 million nonimmigrant admissions for fiscal year 2005 exclude sea and air crew admissions (D-1 and D-2 visas).
⁴ Estimates based on data derived from both TECS (Arrival File, FY 2005) and the Performance Analysis System (PAS).



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capture data on short-term admissions, including tourists, business travelers, and transit aliens, issued I-94 Forms at entry from all other countries. It also includes admissions of temporary residents, such as students and high-skilled workers, long-term residents, such as fiancés(ées) of U.S. citizens, and diplomats, such as ambassadors and consular officers, who were issued I-94 Forms at entry from all countries, including Canada and Mexico.

In 2005, TECS recorded 32 million I-94 admissions. This report describes those nonimmigrant arrivals by class of admission and country of citizenship, as well as other characteristics, including gender, age, state of destination, month of arrival, and port of entry. In summary, of the 32 million I-94 admissions, most entered as short-term visitors, either as tourists (74 percent) or business travelers (15 percent). One-half of all arrivals were by citizens of just four countries: the United Kingdom (16 percent), Mexico (15 percent), Japan (14 percent), and Germany (5 percent).

DEFINING “NONIMMIGRANT”

A nonimmigrant is a foreign national seeking to enter the United States temporarily for a specific purpose. Nonimmigrants are admitted for a temporary period of time and, once in the country, are restricted to activities related to the purpose for which their visa was issued. They may have more than one type of nonimmigrant visa but are admitted in only one status.

In general, foreign nationals seeking temporary admission to the United States must first apply for a visa at the American Embassy or Consulate with jurisdiction over their place of permanent residence. The type of nonimmigrant visa required is defined by immigration law and relates to the purpose of travel. Visa applicants must also: be admissible or have obtained a waiver for any ground of inadmissibility; be in possession of a valid passport; maintain a foreign residency, in most instances; show proof of financial support for their stay, if required; abide by the terms and conditions of admission; and agree to depart at the end of their authorized stay or extension.

Nonimmigrant visas allow foreign nationals to travel to a U.S. port of entry, such as an international airport, a seaport, or a land border crossing. However, they do not guarantee entry. At the port of entry, an immigration officer of CBP authorizes a traveler’s admission into the United States and the period of stay (i.e., the length of time the bearer of a nonimmigrant visa is allowed to remain in the United States) for that visit. The initial authorized stay is noted in the I-94 Form issued to the nonimmigrant by CBP.

Nonimmigrant visa holders may apply to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to extend their initial period of stay provided they meet certain eligibility requirements. Many visas are valid for several years, allowing those visa holders to enter the United States multiple times. Nonimmigrants on long-term visas, however, are still issued an authorized period of stay by CBP each time they are admitted.

Nonimmigrants are not permanent residents but they may apply to adjust their status to lawful permanent residence (i.e., obtain a “green card”) if they meet certain eligibility requirements. A

Table 2.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 Only) by Number of Arrivals: Fiscal Year 2005

| Category | Number |
|--|------------|
| Number of admissions. | 32,003,435 |
| Number of individuals ¹ | 26,890,666 |
| Single arrival | 23,549,788 |
| More than one arrival | 3,340,878 |

¹ Calculated based on total (31,889,353) that excludes arrivals with missing name or date of birth data.

Note: Excludes the majority of short-term admissions from Canada and Mexico.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Treasury Enforcement Communications System (TECS), Arrival File, FY2005 and RAW File, FY 2005.

nonimmigrant visa, however, does not necessarily lead to permanent resident status.

Visa Waiver Program. The Visa Waiver Program enables nonimmigrants from qualified countries to travel to the United States without a visa if they meet certain conditions. To be admitted, they must be citizens of a Visa Waiver Program country, seek entry as a tourist or business traveler for a period of not more than 90 days, possess a valid, machine-readable passport, have a round-trip ticket with a qualified carrier when arriving by air or sea, and meet other requirements. Visa Waiver Program entrants are not permitted to extend their visits or change to another visa category.

Currently, 27 countries participate in the Visa Waiver Program, including Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

Classes of Admission

The Steerage Act of 1819 established the official collection of immigrant arrival data and was the first Federal law to distinguish permanent immigrants from alien visitors not intending to stay in the United States. Separate reporting of permanent and temporary entrants, however, was not required until the Passenger Act of 1855. The Immigration Act of 1907 required aliens to declare themselves as either permanent immigrants or temporary “nonimmigrants.”

The Immigration Act of 1924 defined several classes of admission that have been expanded in subsequent legislation. Today, a wide variety of temporary visitors fall within the definition of nonimmigrant. Historically, tourists (or temporary visitors for pleasure) have been the largest class of admission. Second in volume to tourists are business travelers who come to the United States to conduct business, but not for employment.

Other classes of admission account for a smaller number of nonimmigrant admissions annually. Students include those foreign nationals pursuing a full course of study at an academic or vocational institution. Temporary workers and trainees include nonimmigrants in “specialty occupations,” such as H-1B computer programmers, as well as temporary agricultural laborers, seasonal labor, religious workers, and artists, athletes, and entertainers. Other classes authorized to work temporarily in the United States include intracompany

Table 3.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 Only) by Class of Admission: Fiscal Years 2003 to 2005

| Class of admission | 2005 | | 2004 | | 2003 | |
|--|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 32,003,435 | 100.0 | 30,781,330 | 100.0 | 27,849,443 | 100.0 |
| Temporary visitors for pleasure | 23,814,565 | 74.4 | 22,802,797 | 74.1 | 20,142,786 | 72.3 |
| Visitors for pleasure (B-2) | 9,758,617 | 30.5 | 9,185,492 | 29.8 | 8,532,461 | 30.6 |
| Visa waiver (WT) | 13,568,455 | 42.4 | 13,521,963 | 43.9 | 11,520,679 | 41.4 |
| Visa waiver, Guam (GT) | 487,493 | 1.5 | 95,342 | 0.3 | 89,646 | 0.3 |
| Temporary visitors for business | 4,695,809 | 14.7 | 4,593,124 | 14.9 | 4,215,714 | 15.1 |
| Visitors for business (B-1) | 2,432,587 | 7.6 | 2,352,404 | 7.6 | 2,245,350 | 8.1 |
| Visa waiver (WB) | 2,261,354 | 7.1 | 2,239,595 | 7.3 | 1,969,180 | 7.1 |
| Visa waiver, Guam (GB) | 1,868 | - | 1,125 | - | 1,184 | - |
| Temporary workers/trainees and families | 883,706 | 2.8 | 831,715 | 2.7 | 796,898 | 2.9 |
| Specialty occupations (H-1B) | 407,418 | 1.3 | 386,821 | 1.3 | 360,498 | 1.3 |
| Chile/Singapore Free Trade Agreement (H-1B1) | 499 | - | 326 | - | X | - |
| Nurses under the Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas Act (H-1C) | 31 | - | 70 | - | 48 | - |
| Seasonal agricultural workers (H-2A) | 7,011 | - | 22,141 | 0.1 | 14,094 | 0.1 |
| Seasonal nonagricultural workers (H-2B) | 122,316 | 0.4 | 86,958 | 0.3 | 102,833 | 0.4 |
| Industrial trainees (H-3) | 2,938 | - | 2,226 | - | 2,370 | - |
| Spouses/children of H-1, H-2, and H-3 workers (H-4) | 130,145 | 0.4 | 130,847 | 0.4 | 124,487 | 0.4 |
| Workers with extraordinary ability or achievement (O-1) | 29,715 | 0.1 | 27,127 | 0.1 | 25,541 | 0.1 |
| Workers accompanying and assisting in performance of O-1 workers (O-2) | 7,635 | - | 6,332 | - | 5,321 | - |
| Spouses/children of O-1 and O-2 workers (O-3) | 4,154 | - | 3,719 | - | 3,665 | - |
| Internationally recognized athletes or entertainers (P-1) | 43,766 | 0.1 | 40,466 | 0.1 | 43,274 | 0.2 |
| Artists/entertainers in reciprocal exchange programs (P-2) | 4,423 | - | 3,810 | - | 3,898 | - |
| Artists/entertainers in culturally unique programs (P-3) | 10,836 | - | 10,038 | - | 8,869 | - |
| Spouses/children of P-1, P-2, and P-3 workers (P-4) | 1,938 | - | 1,853 | - | 1,667 | - |
| Workers in international cultural exchange programs (Q-1) | 2,575 | - | 2,113 | - | 2,074 | - |
| Workers in religious occupations (R-1) | 22,362 | 0.1 | 21,571 | 0.1 | 20,272 | 0.1 |
| Spouses/children of R-1 workers (R-2) | 6,712 | - | 6,443 | - | 6,105 | - |
| North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) professional workers (TN) | 65,010 | 0.2 | 66,219 | 0.2 | 59,446 | 0.2 |
| Spouses and children of NAFTA professional workers (TD) | 14,222 | - | 12,635 | - | 12,436 | - |
| Students and families | 663,958 | 2.1 | 656,373 | 2.1 | 662,966 | 2.4 |
| Academic students (F-1) | 621,178 | 1.9 | 613,221 | 2.0 | 617,556 | 2.2 |
| Spouses/children of academic students (F-2) | 33,756 | 0.1 | 35,771 | 0.1 | 37,112 | 0.1 |
| Canadian or Mexican national commuter student (F-3) | 39 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Vocational students (M-1) | 8,378 | - | 6,989 | - | 7,361 | - |
| Spouses/children of vocational students (M-2) | 607 | - | 392 | - | 937 | - |
| Intracompany transferees and families | 455,350 | 1.4 | 456,583 | 1.5 | 434,281 | 1.6 |
| Intracompany transferees (L-1) | 312,144 | 1.0 | 314,484 | 1.0 | 298,054 | 1.1 |
| Spouses/children of intracompany transferees (L-2) | 143,206 | 0.4 | 142,099 | 0.5 | 136,227 | 0.5 |
| Exchange visitors and families | 382,463 | 1.2 | 360,777 | 1.2 | 362,782 | 1.3 |
| Exchange visitors (J-1) | 342,742 | 1.1 | 321,975 | 1.0 | 321,660 | 1.2 |
| Spouses/children of exchange visitors (J-2) | 39,721 | 0.1 | 38,802 | 0.1 | 41,122 | 0.1 |
| Transit aliens ¹ | 361,597 | 1.1 | 338,170 | 1.1 | 554,559 | 2.0 |
| All other classes, including unknown ² | 745,987 | 2.3 | 741,791 | 2.4 | 679,457 | 2.4 |

X Not applicable.

- Figure is zero or rounds to 0.0.

¹ Transit aliens include C-1, C-2, and C-3 visas, and for 2003 only, C-4 arrivals.² Other includes the following visas: A-1 to A-3, E-1 to E-2, G-1 to G-5, I-1, K-1 to K-4, N-1 to N-9, Q-2 and Q-3, T-1 to T-4, U-1 to U-4, V-1 to V-3, and nonimmigrants with unknown classes of admission.

Note: Excludes the majority of short-term admissions from Canada and Mexico.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Treasury Enforcement Communications System (TECS), Arrival File, FY2005.

transferees, treaty traders and investors, representatives of foreign information media, and exchange visitors who study, teach, or conduct research.

Nonimmigrants also include diplomats, such as ambassadors and consular officers, and representatives of international organizations. Transit aliens, or foreign nationals in immediate and continuous transit through the United States, are also classified as nonimmigrants.

There are also several special nonimmigrant classes aimed at protecting victims of a severe form of trafficking and criminal activity.

Appendix 1 lists the nonimmigrant visas by code and provides a short description for each.

Annual Numerical Limits. There is no limit on the total number of nonimmigrants admitted each year. However, there are numerical

limits for certain classes of admission. The number of visas issued to alien victims of criminal activity and their families, for example, is limited to 10,000 per year. There are also limits on the number of petitions approved for initial employment for certain categories of temporary workers. For example, in 2005, high-skilled H-1B visas for certain first-time applicants were limited to 65,000. In general, there are few limitations on the number of immediate family members who can enter the country with nonimmigrant visa holders.

DATA

The data presented in this report are derived from the Treasury Enforcement Communications System (TECS) of the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Customs and Border Protection. TECS compiles and maintains information collected from nonimmigrants by DHS Form I-94, which asks for dates of arrival and departure as well as limited demographic information, such as name, sex, nationality, and date of birth.

I-94 Forms issued at air and sea ports of entry, in most cases, can be used for a single entry only. Each time a nonimmigrant enters the United States via air or sea, the arrival portion of the I-94 Form is collected and the information is entered into the data system. Conversely, each time a nonimmigrant leaves the United States via air or sea, the departure portion is collected and the additional data is recorded into TECS. By comparison, I-94 Forms issued at land border ports of entry, in most cases, can be used for multiple entries during an authorized period of admission. The arrival portion of the I-94 Form is collected and entered into the data system only at the time of initial form issuance and admission. Thus, while a nonimmigrant may enter the United States at a land border port of entry numerous times using the same I-94 Form, the arrival information recorded in TECS refers to the initial entry only. Also, a nonimmigrant who has been issued a multiple-entry I-94 and who leaves the United States via the land border is not required to surrender the departure portion of the form if the authorized period of admission is still valid and the nonimmigrant intends to return before the I-94 Form has expired. The information from the departure portion of the form is recorded into TECS after the nonimmigrant surrenders the form. Although TECS records both arrival and departure data, the information presented in this report is based on arrival data only.

Table 4.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 Only) by Country of Citizenship: Fiscal Years 2003 to 2005

(Ranked by 2005 admissions)

| Country of citizenship | 2005 | | 2004 | | 2003 | |
|-------------------------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 32,003,435 | 100.0 | 30,781,330 | 100.0 | 27,849,443 | 100.0 |
| United Kingdom | 5,087,096 | 15.9 | 5,051,364 | 16.4 | 4,583,897 | 16.5 |
| Mexico | 4,774,161 | 14.9 | 4,454,054 | 14.5 | 4,307,144 | 15.5 |
| Japan | 4,400,386 | 13.7 | 4,335,972 | 14.1 | 3,589,589 | 12.9 |
| Germany | 1,711,425 | 5.3 | 1,630,243 | 5.3 | 1,439,131 | 5.2 |
| France | 1,309,830 | 4.1 | 1,244,642 | 4.0 | 1,039,087 | 3.7 |
| Korea ¹ | 876,614 | 2.7 | 829,031 | 2.7 | 840,162 | 3.0 |
| Italy | 810,137 | 2.5 | 759,895 | 2.5 | 638,512 | 2.3 |
| Australia | 702,097 | 2.2 | 645,235 | 2.1 | 550,315 | 2.0 |
| India | 665,202 | 2.1 | 611,293 | 2.0 | 537,992 | 1.9 |
| Netherlands | 642,256 | 2.0 | 624,586 | 2.0 | 561,474 | 2.0 |
| Brazil | 636,111 | 2.0 | 534,162 | 1.7 | 497,039 | 1.8 |
| Spain | 507,545 | 1.6 | 542,733 | 1.8 | 428,234 | 1.5 |
| China | 505,462 | 1.6 | 446,818 | 1.5 | 390,453 | 1.4 |
| Ireland | 469,869 | 1.5 | 428,208 | 1.4 | 370,716 | 1.3 |
| Colombia | 412,256 | 1.3 | 394,148 | 1.3 | 379,519 | 1.4 |
| Venezuela | 396,828 | 1.2 | 363,959 | 1.2 | 343,488 | 1.2 |
| Sweden | 345,708 | 1.1 | 307,827 | 1.0 | 256,454 | 0.9 |
| Taiwan | 340,759 | 1.1 | 322,633 | 1.0 | 264,948 | 1.0 |
| Israel | 339,448 | 1.1 | 337,511 | 1.1 | 303,630 | 1.1 |
| Bahamas | 284,824 | 0.9 | 321,046 | 1.0 | 306,316 | 1.1 |
| All other countries | 6,785,421 | 21.2 | 6,595,970 | 21.4 | 6,221,343 | 22.3 |

¹ Korea includes admissions from both North Korea and South Korea.

Note: Excludes the majority of short-term admissions from Canada and Mexico.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Treasury Enforcement Communications System (TECS), Arrival File, FY2005.

Table 5.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 Only) by Gender: Fiscal Years 2003 to 2005

(Ranked by 2005 admissions)

| Gender | 2005 | | 2004 | | 2003 | |
|-------------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 32,003,435 | 100.0 | 30,781,330 | 100.0 | 27,849,443 | 100.0 |
| Male | 16,858,051 | 52.7 | 16,225,125 | 52.7 | 14,786,786 | 53.1 |
| Female | 14,713,378 | 46.0 | 14,118,634 | 45.9 | 12,580,817 | 45.2 |
| Unknown | 432,006 | 1.3 | 437,571 | 1.4 | 481,840 | 1.7 |

Note: Excludes the majority of short-term admissions from Canada and Mexico.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Treasury Enforcement Communications System (TECS), Arrival File, FY2005.

Table 6.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 Only) by Age: Fiscal Years 2003 to 2005

| Age | 2005 | | 2004 | | 2003 | |
|-----------------------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 32,003,435 | 100.0 | 30,781,330 | 100.0 | 27,849,443 | 100.0 |
| Under 15 years | 2,769,433 | 8.7 | 2,699,113 | 8.8 | 2,408,581 | 8.6 |
| 15 to 64 years | 26,873,900 | 84.0 | 25,824,170 | 83.9 | 23,503,473 | 84.4 |
| 15 to 44 years | 17,893,638 | 55.9 | 17,255,496 | 56.1 | 15,924,268 | 57.2 |
| 15 to 24 years | 3,759,922 | 11.7 | 3,591,305 | 11.7 | 3,352,067 | 12.0 |
| 25 to 44 years | 14,133,716 | 44.2 | 13,664,191 | 44.4 | 12,572,201 | 45.1 |
| 45 to 64 years | 8,980,262 | 28.1 | 8,568,674 | 27.8 | 7,579,205 | 27.2 |
| 65 years and over | 2,313,013 | 7.2 | 2,177,561 | 7.1 | 1,847,995 | 6.6 |
| 18 years and over | 28,306,828 | 88.4 | 27,181,582 | 88.3 | 24,631,099 | 88.4 |
| Unknown | 47,089 | 0.1 | 80,486 | 0.3 | 89,394 | 0.3 |

Note: Excludes the majority of short-term admissions from Canada and Mexico.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Treasury Enforcement Communications System (TECS), Arrival File, FY2005.

Table 7.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 Only), Excluding Transit Aliens, by State of Destination: Fiscal Years 2003 to 2005

(Ranked by 2005 admissions)

| State of destination | 2005 | | 2004 | | 2003 | |
|---|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 31,641,838 | 100.0 | 30,443,160 | 100.0 | 27,294,884 | 100.0 |
| Florida | 4,973,277 | 15.7 | 4,837,850 | 15.9 | 4,451,933 | 16.3 |
| California | 4,697,471 | 14.8 | 4,031,772 | 13.2 | 3,729,559 | 13.7 |
| New York | 4,121,406 | 13.0 | 3,723,944 | 12.2 | 3,186,804 | 11.7 |
| Texas | 2,099,577 | 6.6 | 1,979,673 | 6.5 | 1,895,660 | 6.9 |
| Hawaii | 1,783,160 | 5.6 | 1,751,070 | 5.8 | 1,584,841 | 5.8 |
| Nevada | 1,003,800 | 3.2 | 870,006 | 2.9 | 753,974 | 2.8 |
| Illinois | 749,990 | 2.4 | 689,406 | 2.3 | 685,246 | 2.5 |
| New Jersey | 706,833 | 2.2 | 657,685 | 2.2 | 599,606 | 2.2 |
| Massachusetts | 675,186 | 2.1 | 647,747 | 2.1 | 622,201 | 2.3 |
| Arizona | 571,693 | 1.8 | 492,100 | 1.6 | 433,874 | 1.6 |
| Washington | 459,331 | 1.5 | 393,129 | 1.3 | 355,057 | 1.3 |
| Georgia | 408,275 | 1.3 | 383,175 | 1.3 | 348,596 | 1.3 |
| Pennsylvania | 365,909 | 1.2 | 351,341 | 1.2 | 335,968 | 1.2 |
| Virginia | 362,169 | 1.1 | 340,027 | 1.1 | 309,281 | 1.1 |
| Michigan | 352,841 | 1.1 | 337,161 | 1.1 | 308,467 | 1.1 |
| Colorado | 322,069 | 1.0 | 302,754 | 1.0 | 290,170 | 1.1 |
| District of Columbia | 316,135 | 1.0 | 296,633 | 1.0 | 281,409 | 1.0 |
| Maryland | 289,490 | 0.9 | 279,479 | 0.9 | 260,594 | 1.0 |
| Ohio | 234,500 | 0.7 | 225,877 | 0.7 | 211,179 | 0.8 |
| North Carolina | 224,062 | 0.7 | 217,929 | 0.7 | 198,883 | 0.7 |
| Connecticut | 204,067 | 0.6 | 199,100 | 0.7 | 187,636 | 0.7 |
| Louisiana | 166,582 | 0.5 | 176,688 | 0.6 | 162,416 | 0.6 |
| New Mexico | 152,847 | 0.5 | 149,549 | 0.5 | 153,222 | 0.6 |
| Minnesota | 149,245 | 0.5 | 137,997 | 0.5 | 125,830 | 0.5 |
| Indiana | 125,064 | 0.4 | 120,527 | 0.4 | 111,798 | 0.4 |
| Oregon | 124,381 | 0.4 | 114,715 | 0.4 | 103,678 | 0.4 |
| Tennessee | 121,135 | 0.4 | 119,283 | 0.4 | 104,792 | 0.4 |
| Wisconsin | 113,235 | 0.4 | 110,287 | 0.4 | 105,139 | 0.4 |
| Missouri | 106,590 | 0.3 | 91,991 | 0.3 | 88,511 | 0.3 |
| South Carolina | 97,683 | 0.3 | 91,085 | 0.3 | 84,881 | 0.3 |
| Utah | 94,660 | 0.3 | 91,747 | 0.3 | 80,084 | 0.3 |
| Alaska | 92,161 | 0.3 | 95,681 | 0.3 | 77,236 | 0.3 |
| Alabama | 73,708 | 0.2 | 65,447 | 0.2 | 57,239 | 0.2 |
| Kentucky | 68,328 | 0.2 | 64,451 | 0.2 | 58,492 | 0.2 |
| Oklahoma | 58,630 | 0.2 | 56,526 | 0.2 | 53,641 | 0.2 |
| Kansas | 56,101 | 0.2 | 51,830 | 0.2 | 49,673 | 0.2 |
| New Hampshire | 54,212 | 0.2 | 54,339 | 0.2 | 50,631 | 0.2 |
| Rhode Island | 43,634 | 0.1 | 43,346 | 0.1 | 40,582 | 0.1 |
| Maine | 40,514 | 0.1 | 38,886 | 0.1 | 37,906 | 0.1 |
| Iowa | 40,364 | 0.1 | 40,212 | 0.1 | 36,675 | 0.1 |
| Vermont | 39,380 | 0.1 | 37,855 | 0.1 | 34,640 | 0.1 |
| Arkansas | 34,758 | 0.1 | 32,475 | 0.1 | 30,339 | 0.1 |
| Delaware | 30,791 | 0.1 | 30,403 | 0.1 | 29,133 | 0.1 |
| Montana | 24,982 | 0.1 | 21,297 | 0.1 | 19,466 | 0.1 |
| Idaho | 24,426 | 0.1 | 22,648 | 0.1 | 20,812 | 0.1 |
| Nebraska | 23,813 | 0.1 | 23,361 | 0.1 | 21,027 | 0.1 |
| Mississippi | 23,489 | 0.1 | 23,112 | 0.1 | 22,122 | 0.1 |
| Wyoming | 16,087 | 0.1 | 13,856 | - | 12,843 | - |
| West Virginia | 13,359 | - | 12,749 | - | 12,143 | - |
| North Dakota | 10,827 | - | 9,865 | - | 9,253 | - |
| South Dakota | 8,987 | - | 8,829 | - | 8,619 | - |
| Other, including unknown ¹ | 4,690,624 | 14.8 | 5,484,265 | 18.0 | 4,461,123 | 16.3 |

- Figure rounds to 0.0.

¹ Includes U.S. dependencies, e.g., American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands, and armed forces posts.

Note: Excludes the majority of short-term admissions from Canada and Mexico.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Treasury Enforcement Communications System (TECS), Arrival File, FY2005.

Admissions v. Nonimmigrants

TECS is designed to record both the legal admissions of nonimmigrants issued an I-94 Form at arrival as well as their departures. Many nonimmigrants, such as students, diplomats, and temporary workers, enter and leave the United States more than once each year, and the TECS system separately records each new issuance of an I-94 Form at arrival and each I-94 Form collected at departure. Since the arrival data are collected each time a new I-94 Form is issued, and an individual might enter more than once in a fiscal year, the count of admissions exceeds the number of individuals arriving.

In 2005, for example, there were 32 million I-94 admissions recorded by TECS, but only 26.9 million individuals entered the United States (see Table 2). Of those 26.9 million, 88 percent arrived once while 12 percent arrived two or more times during the year. This report uses TECS data to describe the number and characteristics of the 32 million I-94 admissions and not the 26.9 million individual nonimmigrants.

RESULTS

In 2005, TECS recorded 32 million I-94 admissions, compared with 30.8 million in 2004 (see Table 1). Between 2004 and 2005, I-94 admissions increased by approximately 4 percent.

Class of Admission

Of the 32 million I-94 admissions in 2005, 23.8 million entered as tourists with an additional 4.7 million entering as business travelers (see Table 3). Combined, tourists and business travelers accounted for 89 percent of all I-94 arrivals for the year. Five additional classes accounted for more than 1 percent each of all I-94 arrivals, including temporary workers/trainees and their families (2.8 percent), students and their families (2.1 percent), intracompany transferees and their families (1.4 percent), exchange visitors and families (1.2 percent), and transit aliens (1.1 percent).

Country of Citizenship

Almost one-half (45 percent) of all I-94 admissions in 2005 were by citizens of three countries: the United Kingdom (16 percent), Mexico (15 percent), and Japan (14 percent) (see Table 4). Other leading countries of citizenship included Germany (5.3 percent), France (4.1 percent), Korea (2.7 percent), Italy (2.5 percent), Australia (2.2 percent), India (2.1 percent), and the Netherlands and Brazil (2.0 percent each).

Gender and Age Distribution

Males were more likely than females to enter the United States in 2005. Approximately 53 percent of all I-94 admissions were by males, compared with 46 percent by females (see Table 5). For every 100 admissions that were female, 115 were male.

Of all I-94 admissions, 88 percent were by persons 18 years of age and over. Only 12 percent were by persons under 18 years of age, with 9 percent under the age of 15. Over one-half (56 percent) of all I-94 admissions were by nonimmigrants between the ages of 15 and 44 years, with 44 percent between the ages of 25 and 44 years (see Table 6).

State of Destination

Among the I-94 admissions, excluding transit aliens, the most common states of destination included Florida (16 percent), California (15 percent), New York (13 percent), Texas (7 percent), and Hawaii (6 percent) (see Table 7). Combined, these five states represented the destinations of 56 percent of all I-94 admissions in 2005. Four additional states, including Nevada (3.2 percent), Illinois (2.4 percent), New Jersey (2.2 percent), and Massachusetts (2.1 percent), each represented over 2 percent of all I-94 admissions.

Month of Arrival

The months with the highest number of I-94 admissions in 2005 include July (3.5 million) and August (3.1 million) (see Table 8). The months with the lowest number of I-94 admissions were February (2.1 million) and January (2.2 million). On average, there were 2.7 million I-94 admissions each month.

Port of Entry

The ports of entry with the highest number of I-94 admissions in 2005 include New York (4.0 million), Miami (3.7 million), and Los Angeles (3.5 million) (see Table 8). Honolulu, Newark, Chicago, San Francisco, Agana (Guam), and Atlanta had over 1 million I-94 admissions each.

Table 8.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 Only) by Month of Arrival: Fiscal Years 2003 to 2005

| Month | 2005 | | 2004 | | 2003 | |
|---------------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 32,003,435 | 100.0 | 30,781,330 | 100.0 | 27,849,443 | 100.0 |
| October | 2,592,878 | 8.1 | 2,429,488 | 7.9 | 2,367,086 | 8.5 |
| November | 2,276,594 | 7.1 | 2,302,587 | 7.5 | 2,166,059 | 7.8 |
| December | 2,788,012 | 8.7 | 2,840,684 | 9.2 | 2,669,293 | 9.6 |
| January | 2,240,456 | 7.0 | 2,167,819 | 7.0 | 2,113,898 | 7.6 |
| February | 2,119,682 | 6.6 | 2,108,387 | 6.8 | 1,836,351 | 6.6 |
| March | 2,830,165 | 8.8 | 2,289,916 | 7.4 | 1,928,354 | 6.9 |
| April | 2,474,997 | 7.7 | 2,661,567 | 8.6 | 2,091,370 | 7.5 |
| May | 2,593,285 | 8.1 | 2,476,428 | 8.0 | 2,084,734 | 7.5 |
| June | 2,794,901 | 8.7 | 2,630,509 | 8.5 | 2,287,325 | 8.2 |
| July | 3,489,723 | 10.9 | 3,294,062 | 10.7 | 2,918,194 | 10.5 |
| August | 3,056,073 | 9.5 | 2,996,784 | 9.7 | 2,889,000 | 10.4 |
| September | 2,746,669 | 8.6 | 2,583,098 | 8.4 | 2,497,779 | 9.0 |
| Unknown | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |

- Figure is zero or rounds to 0.0.

Note: Excludes the majority of short-term admissions from Canada and Mexico.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Treasury Enforcement Communications System (TECS), Arrival File, FY2005.

Table 9.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 Only) by Port of Entry: Fiscal Years 2003 to 2005

(Ranked on 2005 admissions)

| Port of entry | 2005 | | 2004 | | 2003 | |
|---|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 32,003,435 | 100.0 | 30,781,330 | 100.0 | 27,849,443 | 100.0 |
| New York, New York | 4,017,353 | 12.6 | 3,626,323 | 11.8 | 3,234,612 | 11.6 |
| Miami, Florida | 3,665,366 | 11.5 | 3,828,943 | 12.4 | 3,543,138 | 12.7 |
| Los Angeles, California | 3,461,467 | 10.8 | 3,331,876 | 10.8 | 2,898,689 | 10.4 |
| Honolulu, Hawaii | 1,694,198 | 5.3 | 1,666,062 | 5.4 | 1,531,801 | 5.5 |
| Newark, New Jersey | 1,690,698 | 5.3 | 1,597,137 | 5.2 | 1,360,489 | 4.9 |
| Chicago, Illinois | 1,633,765 | 5.1 | 1,523,374 | 4.9 | 1,438,129 | 5.2 |
| San Francisco, California | 1,440,374 | 4.5 | 1,419,629 | 4.6 | 1,292,248 | 4.6 |
| Agana, Guam | 1,204,804 | 3.8 | 1,184,129 | 3.8 | 828,806 | 3.0 |
| Atlanta, Georgia | 1,114,499 | 3.5 | 1,004,174 | 3.3 | 937,111 | 3.4 |
| Houston, Texas | 996,036 | 3.1 | 922,457 | 3.0 | 883,204 | 3.2 |
| All other ports (including unknown) | 11,084,875 | 34.6 | 10,677,226 | 34.7 | 9,901,216 | 35.6 |

Note: Excludes the majority of short-term admissions from Canada and Mexico.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Treasury Enforcement Communications System (TECS), Arrival File, FY2005.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the Office of Immigration Statistics web page at <http://www.dhs.gov/immigrationstatistics>.

Appendix A.

Nonimmigrant Classes of Admission

| Class | Description |
|---|---|
| Transit aliens | |
| C-1..... | Aliens in continuous and immediate transit through the United States |
| C-2..... | Aliens in transit to the United Nations Headquarters District |
| C-3..... | Foreign government officials, attendants, servants, and personal employees, and spouses and children in transit |
| C-4 ¹ | Transit Without Visa (TWOV) aliens |
| Temporary visitors for business | |
| B-1..... | Temporary visitors for business |
| GB..... | Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for business to Guam |
| WB..... | Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for business |
| Temporary visitors for pleasure | |
| B-2..... | Temporary visitors for pleasure |
| GT..... | Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for pleasure to Guam |
| WT..... | Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for pleasure |
| Treaty traders and investors | |
| E-1..... | Treaty traders and spouses and children |
| E-2..... | Treaty investors and spouses and children |
| E-3..... | Australian Free Trade Agreement principals and spouses and children |
| Students | |
| F-1..... | Students – academic institutions |
| F-2..... | Spouses and children of F-1 |
| F-3..... | Canadian or Mexican national commuter students – academic institutions |
| M-1..... | Students – vocational/nonacademic institutions |
| M-2..... | Spouses and children of M-1 |
| M-3..... | Canadian or Mexican national commuter students – vocational/nonacademic institutions |
| Temporary workers and trainees | |
| H-1B..... | Temporary workers with “specialty occupation” |
| H-1B1..... | Chile and Singapore Free Trade Agreement aliens |
| H-1C..... | Nurses under the Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas Act of 1999 |
| H-2A..... | Seasonal agricultural workers |
| H-2B..... | Seasonal nonagricultural workers |
| HR..... | Returning H-2B workers |
| H-3..... | Industrial trainees |
| H-4..... | Spouses and children of H-1, H-2, or H-3 |
| O-1..... | Temporary workers with extraordinary ability/achievement in the sciences, arts, education, business, or athletics |
| O-2..... | Temporary workers accompanying and assisting O-1 |
| O-3..... | Spouses and children of O-1 and O-2 |
| P-1..... | Temporary workers – internationally recognized athletes or entertainers for a specific competition or performance |
| P-2..... | Temporary workers – artists or entertainers under reciprocal exchange programs with a similar organization of a foreign state |
| P-3..... | Temporary workers – artists or entertainers under culturally unique programs |
| P-4..... | Spouses and children of P-1, P-2, or P-3 |
| Q-1..... | Temporary workers in international cultural exchange programs |
| R-1..... | Temporary workers in religious occupations |
| R-2..... | Spouses and children of R-1 |
| TN..... | North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) professional workers |
| TD..... | Spouses and children of TN |
| Representatives of foreign information media | |
| I-1..... | Representatives of foreign information media and spouses and children |
| Exchange visitors | |
| J-1..... | Exchange visitors |
| J-2..... | Spouses and children of J-1 |
| Intracompany transferees | |
| L-1..... | Intracompany transferees |
| L-2..... | Spouses and children of L-1 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Appendix A.

Nonimmigrant Classes of Admission - Continued

| Class | Description |
|--|---|
| Irish Peace Process Cultural Training Program | |
| Q-2 | Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program aliens |
| Q-3 | Spouses and children of Q-2 |
| Foreign government officials | |
| A-1 | Ambassadors, public ministers, career diplomatic or consular officers and spouses and children |
| A-2 | Other foreign government officials or employees and spouses and children |
| A-3 | Attendants, servants, or personal employees of A-1 and A-2 and spouses and children |
| Representatives of international organizations | |
| G-1 | Principal resident representatives of recognized foreign member governments to international organizations, staff, and spouses and children |
| G-2 | Temporary representatives of recognized foreign member governments to international organizations and spouses and children |
| G-3 | Representatives of unrecognized or nonmember foreign governments to international organizations and spouses and children |
| G-4 | Officers or employees of unrecognized international organizations and spouses and children |
| G-5 | Attendants, servants, or personal employees of G-1, G-2, G-3, or G-4 and spouses and children |
| NATO officials | |
| N-1 to N-7 | North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) aliens, spouses, and children |
| Other categories | |
| BE | Bering Strait Agreement aliens |
| K-1 | Alien fiancés(ees) of U.S. citizens |
| K-2 | Children of fiancés(ees) of U.S. citizens |
| K-3 | Alien spouses of U.S. citizens |
| K-4 | Alien children of U.S. citizens |
| N-8 | Parents of international organization special immigrants |
| N-9 | Children of N-8 or international organization special immigrants |
| T-1 to T-5 | Victims of a severe form of trafficking and spouses, children, parents, and siblings |
| U-1 to U-4 | Aliens suffering physical or mental abuse as victims of criminal activity and spouses, children, and parents |
| V-1 to V-3 | Spouses and children of a lawful permanent residents who has been waiting three years or more for immigrant visas and dependents |

¹ C-4 transit without visas were suspended as of 8/2/2003.
Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security