

UNITED STATES IS COLLECTING 10 FINGERPRINTS FROM INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS AT MAJOR U.S. PORTS OF ENTRY

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has upgraded its biometric collection technology to more quickly and accurately identify international travelers. This upgrade includes using new, faster fingerprint scanners to collect additional fingerprints from international travelers when they enter the United States.

The new fingerprint scanners are being used at all major U.S. ports of entry, and most travelers who experience US-VISIT procedures will use the new fingerprint scanners when they enter the United States.



U.S. Department of Homeland Security officers use digital fingerprint scanners to collect up to 10 fingerprints from international travelers in order to identify them efficiently during the entry process.

For more than five years, Department of State consular officers and DHS Customs and Border Protection officers have been collecting biometrics—digital fingerprints and a photograph—from all non-U.S. citizens between the ages of 14 and 79, with some [exceptions](#), when they apply for visas or arrive at [U.S. ports of entry](#).

Biometrics protect our citizens and visitors because they help stop fraud. Unlike names and dates of birth, which can be changed, biometrics are unique and are virtually impossible to forge. For travelers, collecting fingerprints helps protect their identities in the event their travel documents are lost or stolen. For the U.S. government, collecting biometrics helps prevent people from using fraudulent documents to enter the country illegally. And, because biometric procedures are fast and convenient, they also help DHS's [US-VISIT program](#) expedite travel for the millions of legitimate international visitors who come to the United States each year.