

Migrant Protection Protocols Cohort Report
May 2022

Office of Immigration Statistics



**Homeland
Security**

Summary

This report describes Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP) processing and outcomes for noncitizens enrolled in MPP from December 6, 2021 – April 30, 2022. The report summarizes information on enrollee nationalities, fear claims, vaccinations, and processing outcomes (returns to Mexico or disenrollments) by month of MPP enrollment; see the appendix for detailed data tables.¹ This report will be updated regularly to include information about individuals enrolled in future months along with updated information about earlier enrollees as they move through additional stages of the MPP process.

Overview of MPP

Under MPP, certain noncitizens encountered at the Southwest Border await their removal proceedings in Mexico rather than in the United States. Noncitizens placed in MPP pass through the main steps outlined below (Figure 1).

Figure 1. MPP Process Flow



- 1) **Enrollment.** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) selects non-citizens who are subject to MPP for enrollment. To be eligible for MPP, a person arriving on land must be apprehended at the Southwest Border and hold citizenship from a non-Mexico Western Hemisphere country. Single adults and family units may be processed into MPP.
- 2) **Fear screening.** CBP affirmatively screens all enrollees for fear of return to Mexico. If an enrollee asserts a fear of return, the enrollee is provided a 24-hour consultation period to consult, by phone or video-teleconference, with a legal representative. The enrollee may waive this consultation period if they wish to be interviewed sooner. Following this period, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) asylum officers complete a non-refoulement interview (NRI) by phone. A legal representative or consultant may participate in the NRI with the enrollee.
- 3) **Disenrollment or return to Mexico.** If an enrollee is found to have a reasonable possibility of persecution or torture in Mexico (positive fear finding), or if an enrollee is found to have a particular vulnerability that make them ineligible for MPP, the individual is disenrolled from MPP. Disenrollees are referred to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) for a custody determination. If an enrollee does not claim fear or claims fear and has a negative fear finding and is not otherwise disenrolled due to one of the vulnerabilities articulated in

Enrollees identified as having **particular vulnerabilities**—including those associated with known mental and physical health issues, advanced age, or sexual orientation or gender identity—are not enrolled in MPP. **Unaccompanied children** are never processed into MPP. Those initially enrolled in MPP who are subsequently identified as having a particular vulnerability will be disenrolled from MPP.

¹ This report is based on Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS) analysis of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), and Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (CWMD) data. All data are as of May 3, 2022.

policy guidance, the enrollee is returned to Mexico through a port of entry (POE). DHS offers a COVID-19 vaccination prior to enrollees' return to Mexico. The enrollee then waits in Mexico for their removal proceeding.

- 4) **EOIR hearings.** MPP enrollees returned to Mexico are placed on an Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) docket specific to MPP. Removal proceedings typically involve multiple court appearances. If multiple hearings are required, an individual is returned to Mexico to await a subsequent hearing, and therefore will repeat the return and re-entry process multiple times until the removal proceedings are completed.
- 5) **Re-entry.** The day that an enrollee is due to appear in court, they present themselves at a designated POE where they undergo medical clearance. Proof of COVID-19 vaccination and negative COVID-test are required for re-entry into the United States.
- 6) **Continued Fear and Vulnerability Consideration.** Enrollees may claim fear of return to Mexico any time they are in the United States. If an enrollee claims fear, the individual will be given adequate time to consult with a legal representative. Enrollees who claim or develop particular vulnerabilities are also entitled to a consideration of their claims when in the United States.
- 7) **Case outcomes.** MPP enrollees may go through several iterations of re-entry into the United States, EOIR immigration court hearings, fear screenings, and returns to Mexico until EOIR makes a final determination in their case. A final determination will either confer relief or protection from removal in the form of asylum, withholding of removal, or deferral of removal or result in an order of removal to their country of citizenship.

[MPP Enrollments and Outcomes](#)

A total of 5,014 non-citizens were enrolled in MPP December 6, 2021 – April 30, 2022, including 1,444 enrollments in March and 2,005 enrollments in April. During the same period, 2,914 non-citizens were returned to Mexico following initial enrollments, including 918 returns in March and 1,099 returns in April.

Table 1.
MPP Enrollments, Disenrollments, and Returns

	December	January	February	March	April	Total
Initial MPP Enrollments	273	398	894	1,444	2,005	5,014
El Paso Sector	273	131	230	272	466	1,372
San Diego Sector	0	140	189	215	150	694
Rio Grande Valley Sector	0	127	458	745	1,083	2,413
Laredo Sector	0	0	17	212	306	535
Initial Enrollment: Returns to Mexico	207	207	483	918	1,099	2,914
El Paso Sector	207	79	158	176	280	900
San Diego Sector	0	108	114	123	88	433
Rio Grande Valley Sector	0	20	211	489	547	1,267
Laredo Sector	0	0	0	130	184	314
Initial Enrollment: Disenrollments	63	93	336	514	599	1,605
El Paso Sector	63	36	65	102	132	398
San Diego Sector	0	12	57	121	59	249
Rio Grande Valley Sector	0	45	214	217	374	850
Laredo Sector	0	0	0	74	34	108

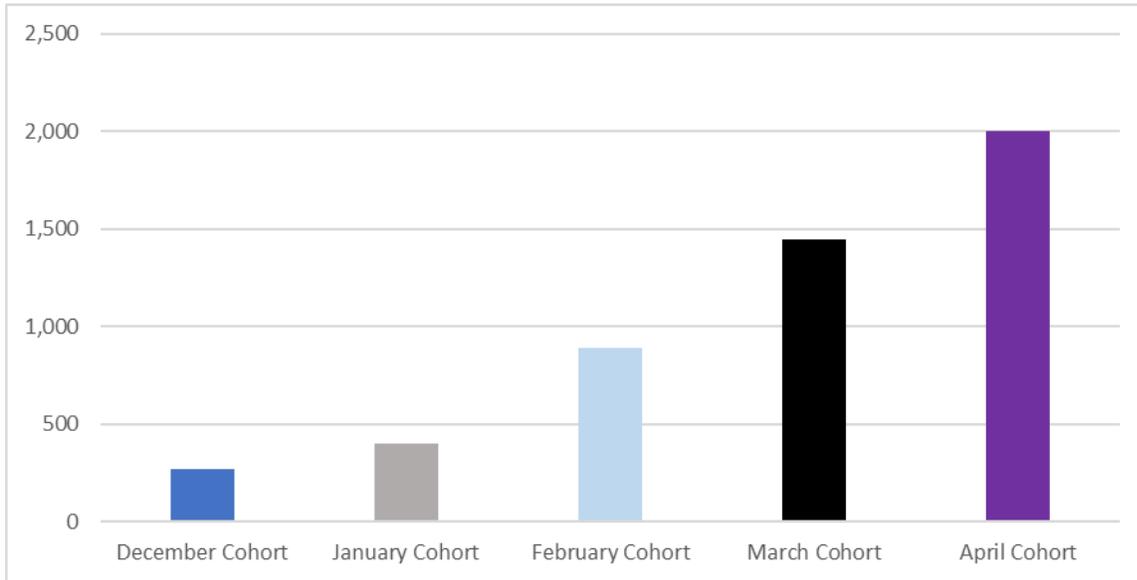
Notes: Data include total MPP-related events by event date (i.e., not cohort reporting). Data include five people whose CBP enrollment records were deleted; they have been assigned to sectors and enrollment dates based on other information in their case histories. All data are current as of May 3, 2022. Initial enrollment disenrollments include persons disenrolled upon re-encounter before their first court hearing; in these cases, re-encounters are counted as both a return and disenrollment.

Source: DHS Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS) analysis of CBP data.

Cohort Reporting Methodology

Table 1 reports on the aggregate total of all MPP events (enrollments, returns, and disenrollments) that took place December 2021 through April 2022. The remainder of this report focuses on monthly cohort reporting by linking person-level records from U.S. Border Patrol (USBP), Office of Field Operations (OFO), USCIS, and the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (CWMD) Program. This report describes the processing and outcomes for each of five monthly cohorts December 2021 through April 2022 (and for certain subsets of these cohorts) at each stage of the MPP process (initial enrollment, fear claim, re-entry, etc.), whenever these subsequent events occur. For example, many people in the December enrollment cohort made fear claims and/or re-entered for EOIR hearings in January, February, March, and April; those fear claims and re-entries are linked to the December cohort. This style of reporting provides insight into specific program outcomes as discrete groups of people move from point to point in the MPP process, rather than combining events for people at many different stages of the process.

Figure 2.
Initial Enrollments by Cohort



Notes: Cohorts are defined by month of enrollment. December cohort includes individuals enrolled in MPP Dec. 6 - Dec. 31, 2021; all other cohorts include individuals enrolled in MPP throughout the 2022 calendar month. Data valid as of May 3, 2022.

Source: OIS analysis of CBP data.

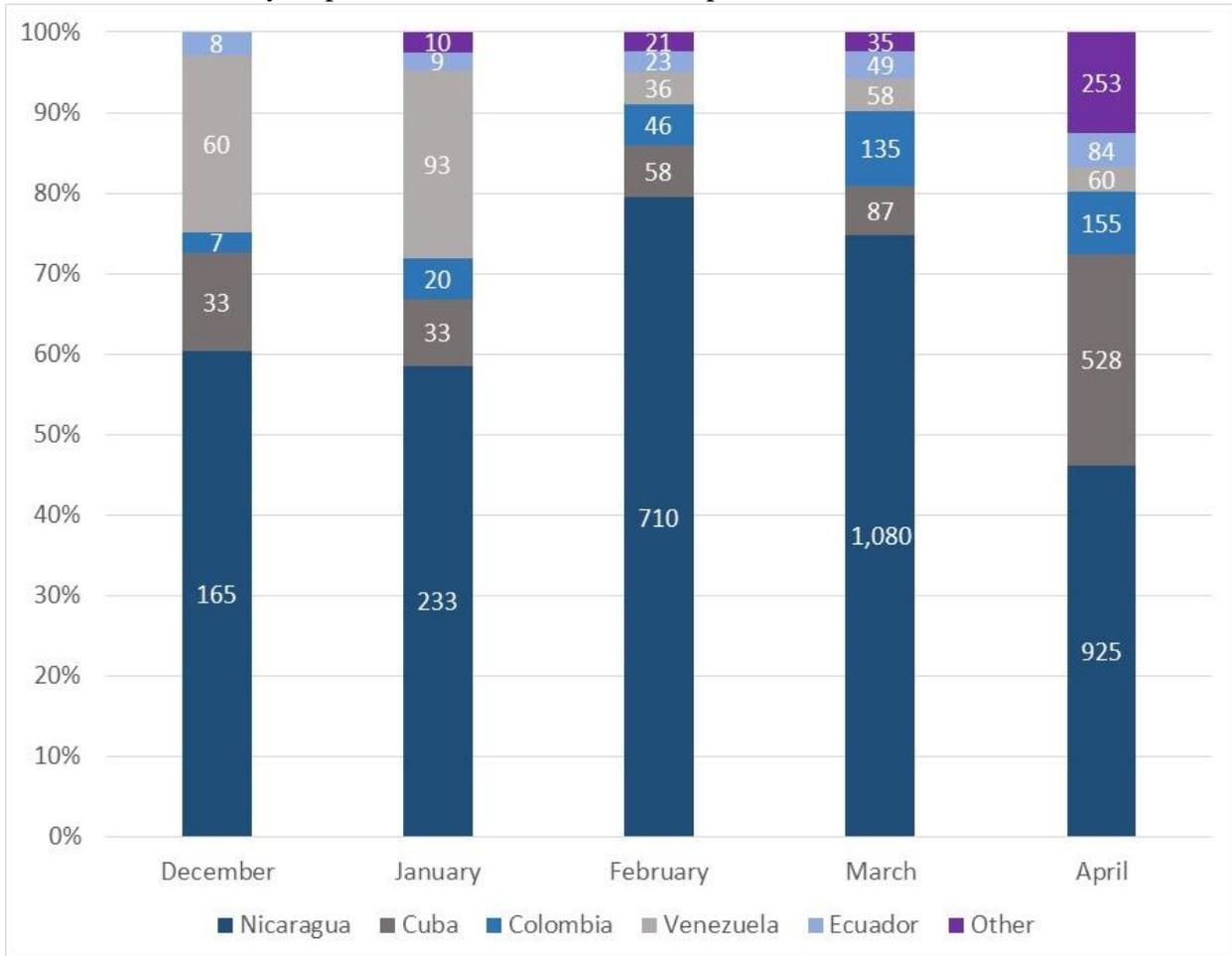
Initial Enrollments

A total of 2,005 noncitizens were enrolled in MPP in April, up from 1,444 in March (Figure 2). From December 6, 2021 through the end of April 30, 2022, a total of 5,014 persons were enrolled in the program.

Persons from Nicaragua have accounted for 62 percent of all enrollments to date, followed by Cubans (15 percent) and Colombians (7 percent). In April, the month with the largest number of enrollments, Nicaragua, Cuba, and Colombia accounted for 46 percent, 26 percent, and 8 percent of initial enrollments, respectively (Figure 3).

Figure 3.

Initial Enrollments by Top Five Countries of Citizenship and Other



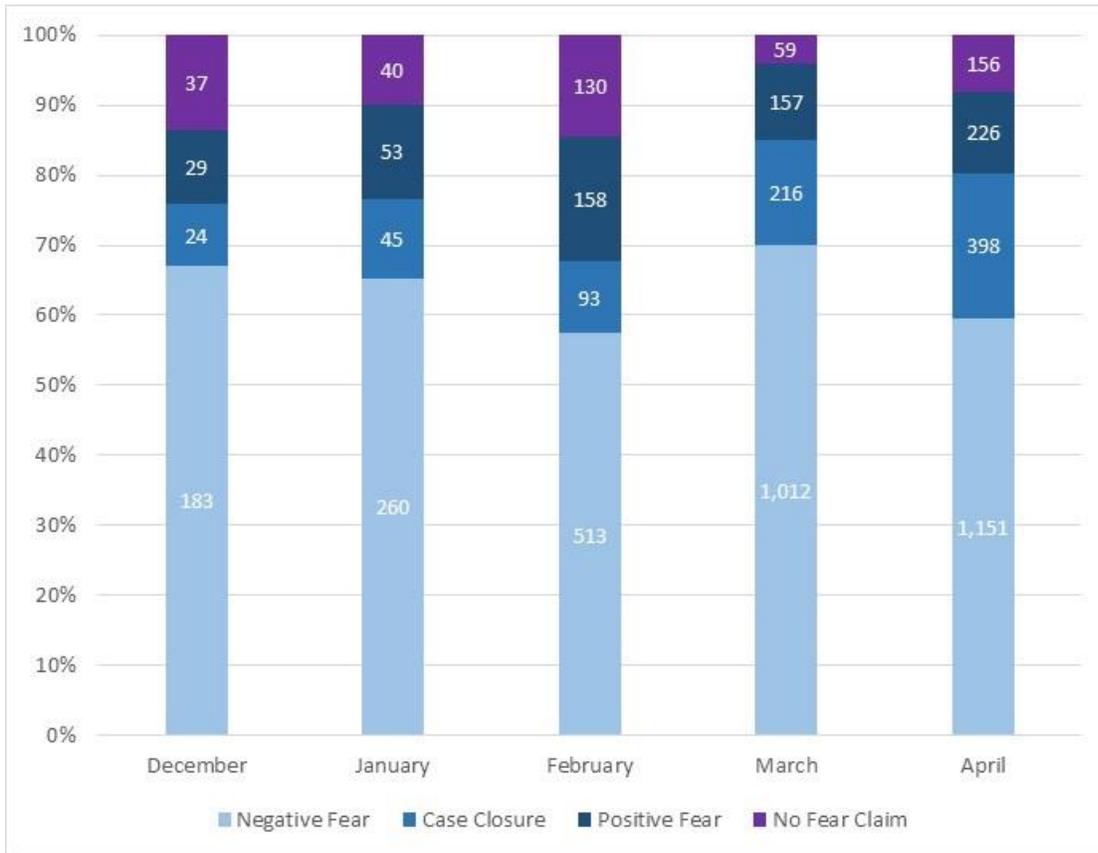
Notes: Cohorts are defined by month of enrollment; enrollments began December 6, 2021. This figure is limited to the top five countries of citizenship; comprehensive country of citizenship data are available in the appendix. The size of each color segment indicates proportion of each cohort, while the numbers within each segment indicate the count. Data valid as of May 3, 2022.

Source: OIS analysis of CBP data.

Following their initial enrollments, 92 percent of April enrollees claimed fear (1,849 fear claims out of 2,005 enrollments), compared to 96 percent of March enrollees. For the April cohort, 62 percent of fear claims following initial enrollments resulted in negative fear decisions, slightly lower than the average for the full December – April period (68 percent) (Figure 4).

Figure 4.

Initial Enrollments: Fear Claim Results



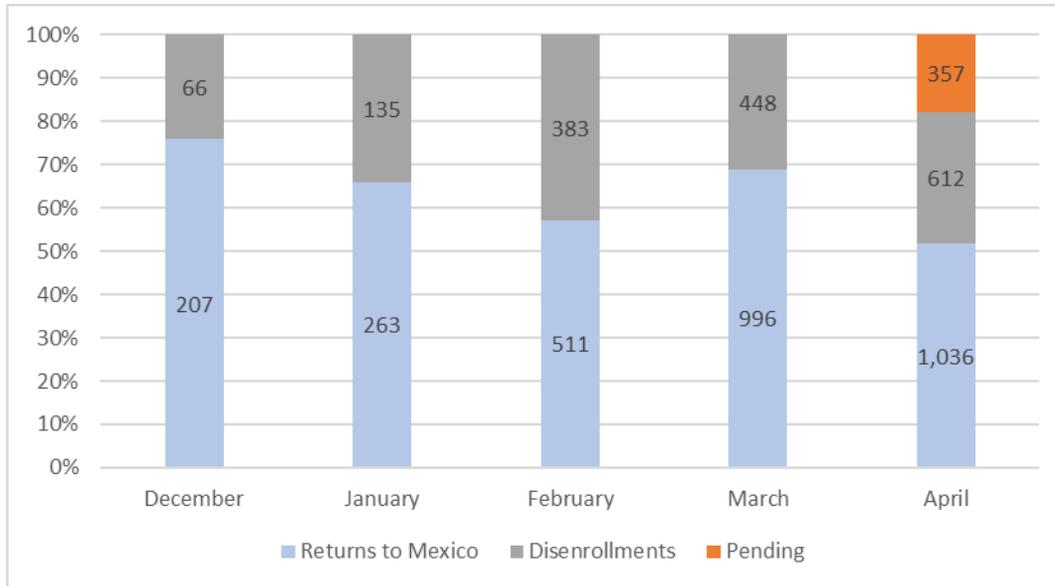
Notes: Cohorts are defined by month of enrollment; enrollments began December 6, 2021. Data are limited to events occurring following initial enrollment. The size of each color segment indicates proportion of each cohort, while the numbers within each segment indicate the count. Data are valid as of May 3, 2022.

Source: OIS analysis of USCIS data.

As of May 3, 52 percent of the April cohort had been returned to Mexico, with 31 percent disenrolled and 18 percent of cases still pending.² This compares to 69 percent of the March cohort returned to Mexico and 31 percent disenrolled (Figure 5).

Figure 5.

Initial Enrollments: MPP Outcomes



Notes: Cohorts are defined by month of enrollment; enrollments began December 6, 2021. Data are limited to events occurring following initial enrollment based on data available as of May 3, 2022. Pending category includes cases with incomplete data available and cases of people who remain in custody pending disenrollment or return. The size of each color segment indicates proportion of each cohort, while the numbers within each segment indicate the count.

Source: OIS analysis of CBP data.

² Pending cases include cases with incomplete data available and cases of people who remain in custody pending disenrollment or return.

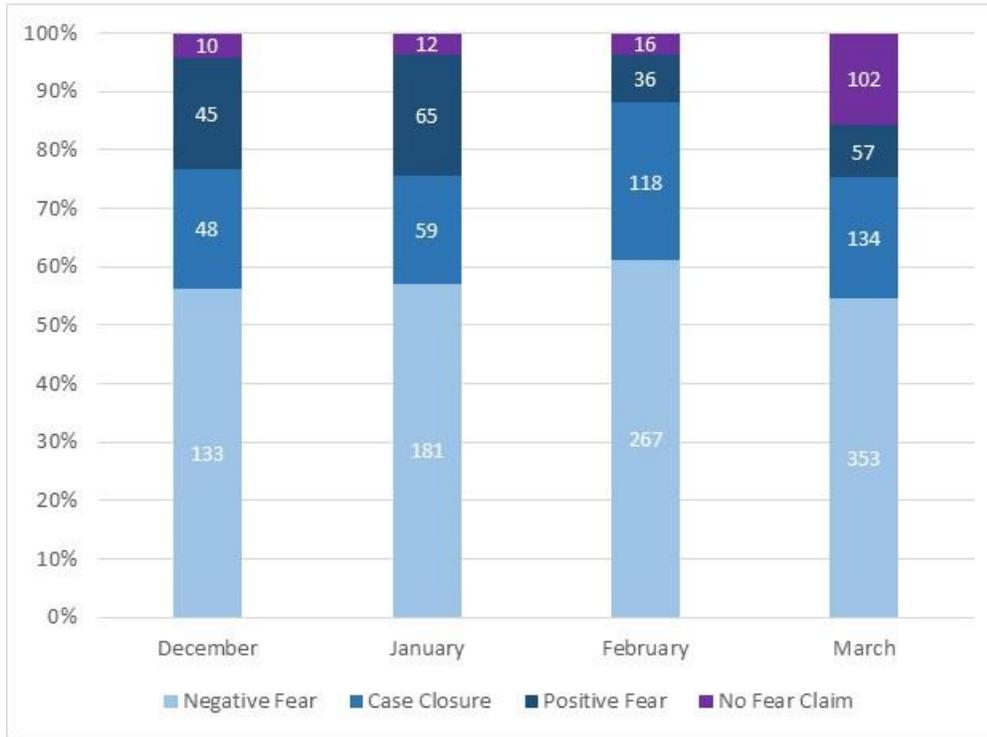
Re-Entries for EOIR Hearings

As of May 3, among enrollees who had been returned to Mexico, 76 percent (157 people) of the December cohort re-entered at least once for an EOIR hearing, compared to 79 percent (208 people) of the January cohort, 63 percent (320 people) of the February cohort, 60 percent of the March cohort (600 people), and 4 percent (43 people) of the April cohort—though March and April re-entry numbers are not final since many re-entries are scheduled to occur after the date of this report. Between the December, January, February, and March cohorts, 35 percent of returnees have re-entered more than one time.

The proportion of re-entering people that claimed fear was 95 percent of the February cohort, 83 percent of the March cohort, and 51 percent of the April cohort. In part, percentages are higher among earlier cohorts because these cohorts have experienced a higher number of re-entries and therefore more opportunities for people to claim fear at least once. It is too early to make conclusions about the fear claims among the April cohort re-entries. More than one fear claim was made following re-entry by 104 people among the February cohort, and 57 people among the March cohort. Over half of fear claims following re-entry resulted in negative fear decisions, including 63 percent for the February cohort, and 64 percent for the March cohort. Just 7 percent of post-re-entry fear claims for the February cohort and 8 percent for the March cohort thus far have resulted in positive fear determinations, compared to 17 percent for the December cohort and 18 percent for the January cohort who have had more time to be exposed to more risk in Mexico (Figure 5).

Figure 6.

Re-Entries: Fear Claim Results

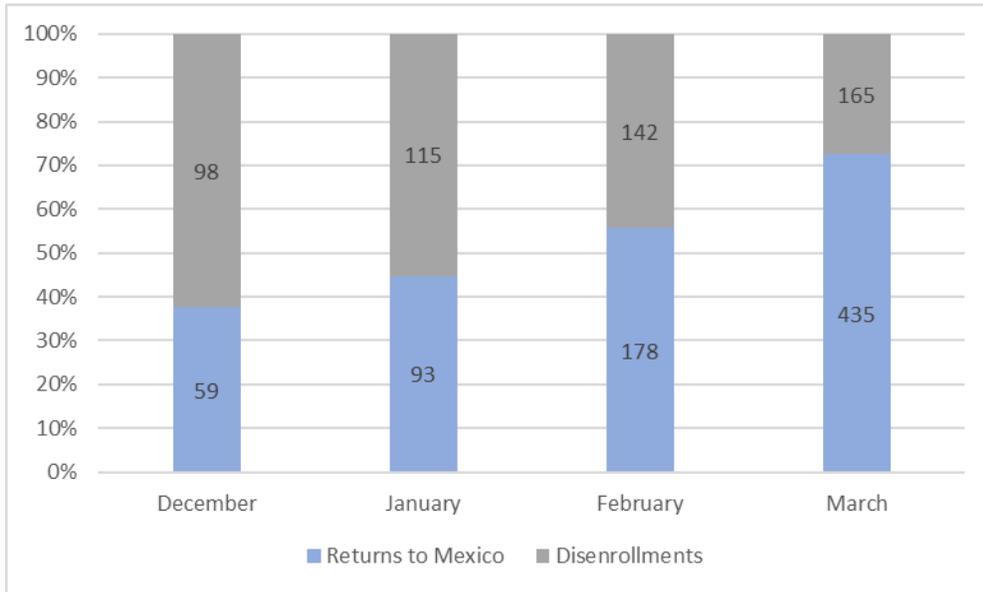


Notes: Cohorts are defined by month of enrollment; enrollments began December 6, 2021. Data are limited to events occurring following return to Mexico and subsequent re-entry to the United States. Data include case closures for people with no interviews. The size of each color segment indicates the proportion of each cohort, while numbers within each segment indicate the count. Data valid as of May 3, 2022.

Source: OIS analysis of USCIS data.

As of May 3, almost half (44 percent) of February cohort re-entries had been disenrolled. Only 28 percent of March cohort re-entries thus far had been disenrolled, with 73 percent returned to Mexico. Since enrollees may be disenrolled any time they re-enter the United States, the proportion of re-entries that has been disenrolled is naturally higher for earlier cohorts, whose members have re-entered more times (Figure 7).

Figure 7:
Re-Entries: MPP Outcomes



Notes: Cohorts are defined by month of enrollment; enrollments began December 6, 2021. Data are limited to events occurring following return to Mexico and subsequent re-entry to the United States. The size of each color segment indicates the proportion of each cohort, while numbers within each segment indicate the count. Data valid as of May 3, 2022.

Source: OIS analysis of CBP data.

Appendix: Data Tables

Table A1.
Initial Enrollments by Enrollment Cohort

	December Cohort	January Cohort	February Cohort	March Cohort	April Cohort
Initial Enrollments by Sector and Citizenship	273	398	894	1,444	2,005
El Paso Sector	273	131	230	272	466
Bolivia	0	0	0	0	1
Chile	0	0	0	0	1
Colombia	7	1	17	29	21
Costa Rica	0	1	0	0	0
Cuba	33	32	40	25	171
Dominican Republic	0	0	0	0	1
Ecuador	8	9	22	46	80
El Salvador	0	0	0	0	5
Guatemala	0	0	1	0	59
Honduras	0	0	0	0	14
Nicaragua	165	79	147	146	88
Peru	0	3	2	12	19
Venezuela	60	6	1	14	6
San Diego Sector	0	140	189	215	150
Colombia	0	19	29	105	85
Cuba	0	1	12	9	13
Dominican Republic	0	1	1	1	0
Ecuador	0	0	1	3	0
Nicaragua	0	85	124	69	43
Peru	0	5	16	21	9
Venezuela	0	29	6	7	0
Rio Grande Valley Sector	0	127	458	745	1,083
Colombia	0	0	0	1	12
Cuba	0	0	0	7	310
Dominican Republic	0	0	0	0	1
Honduras	0	0	0	0	1
Nicaragua	0	69	429	714	711
Peru	0	0	0	0	2
Venezuela	0	58	29	23	46
Laredo Sector	0	0	17	212	306
Belize	0	0	0	0	1
Colombia	0	0	0	0	37
Cuba	0	0	6	46	34
Dominican Republic	0	0	1	0	5
Ecuador	0	0	0	0	4
El Salvador	0	0	0	0	9
Guatemala	0	0	0	0	46
Honduras	0	0	0	1	60
Nicaragua	0	0	10	151	83
Peru	0	0	0	0	19
Venezuela	0	0	0	14	8
Initial Enrollments by Sex	273	399	896	1,444	2,005
Female	1	3	115	275	337
Male	272	395	779	1,169	1,668
Number of Fear Claims Received	236	358	764	1,385	1,849
0 Fear claims per person	37	40	130	59	156
1 Fear claim per person	236	358	764	1,385	1,849
Fear Claim Results by Attorney or Consultant Present	236	358	764	1,385	1,849
Positive Fear Findings	29	53	158	157	226
Attorney or consultant present	4	1	6	5	10
No attorney or consultant present	25	52	152	152	216
Negative Fear Findings	183	260	513	1,012	1,151
Attorney or consultant present	6	7	6	10	14
No attorney or consultant present	177	253	507	1002	1137
Case Closures	24	45	93	216	398
Attorney or consultant present	0	1	0	0	3
No attorney or consultant present	24	44	93	216	395
Pending Completion	0	0	0	0	74

See notes at end of table.

Table A1 (continued)

	December Cohort	January Cohort	February Cohort	March Cohort	April Cohort
Fear Claims Received by Sector and Claim Result	236	358	764	1,385	1,849
El Paso Sector	236	130	229	268	427
Positive Fear Findings	29	27	30	27	32
Negative Fear Findings	183	91	168	183	264
Case Closures	24	12	31	58	129
Pending Completion	0	0	0	0	2
San Diego Sector	0	130	185	203	146
Positive Fear Findings	0	13	63	50	38
Negative Fear Findings	0	111	116	116	89
Case Closures	0	6	6	37	19
Pending Completion	0	0	0	0	0
Rio Grande Valley Sector	0	98	335	705	975
Positive Fear Findings	0	13	61	48	128
Negative Fear Findings	0	58	218	565	575
Case Closures	0	27	56	92	200
Pending Completion	0	0	0	0	72
Laredo Sector	0	0	15	209	301
Positive Fear Findings	0	0	4	32	28
Negative Fear Findings	0	0	11	148	223
Case Closures	0	0	0	29	50
Pending Completion	0	0	0	0	0
Vaccines Administered	192	253	444	631	662
MPP Outcomes by Fear Claim Results	273	398	894	1,444	2,005
Returns to Mexico	207	263	511	996	1,036
No Fear Claim	34	12	6	5	29
Positive Fear Findings	5	1	0	2	0
Negative Fear Finding	166	250	505	989	1,001
Case Closures	2	0	0	0	6
Disenrollments	66	135	383	448	612
No Fear Claim	3	28	124	54	68
Positive Fear Finding	24	52	158	155	194
Negative Fear Finding	17	10	8	23	64
Case Closures	22	45	93	216	286
Pending	0	0	0	0	357
No Fear Claim	0	0	0	0	59
Positive Fear Finding	0	0	0	0	32
Negative Fear Finding	0	0	0	0	86
Case Closures	0	0	0	0	106
Pending NRI Completion	0	0	0	0	74
MPP Outcomes by Sector	273	398	894	1,444	2,005
El Paso Sector	273	131	230	272	466
Disenrollments	66	41	64	92	125
Returns	207	90	166	180	272
Pending	0	0	0	0	69
San Diego Sector	0	140	189	215	150
Disenrollments	0	24	71	98	58
Returns	0	116	118	117	86
Pending	0	0	0	0	6
Rio Grande Valley Sector	0	127	458	745	1083
Disenrollments	0	70	242	181	406
Returns	0	57	216	564	474
Pending	0	0	0	0	203
Laredo Sector	0	0	17	212	306
Disenrollments	0	0	6	77	23
Returns	0	0	11	135	204
Pending	0	0	0	0	79

Notes: Columns report MPP events by initial enrollment date (i.e., cohort reporting). December enrollments began Dec. 6, 2021. All data on this tab as of May 3, 2022. People with multiple fear claims during initial enrollment are counted once in tables summarizing fear claims received. NRI results include people with no interviews. Data include five people whose CBP enrollment records were deleted; they have been assigned to sectors and enrollment dates based on other information in their case histories. Outcome pending category includes cases with incomplete outcome data and cases of people who remain in custody pending disenrollment or return. Re-encounters are not included in the above tabulations.

Source: OIS analysis of CBP, USCIS, and CWMD data.

Table A2.
Re-entries for EOIR Hearings by Enrollment Cohort

	December Cohort	January Cohort	February Cohort	March Cohort	April Cohort
Re-Entries by Sector and Citizenship	157	208	320	600	43
El Paso Sector	157	75	90	40	16
Colombia	2	0	2	2	0
Cuba	19	20	7	3	7
Ecuador	3	2	1	3	0
Nicaragua	101	48	79	28	8
Peru	0	0	0	2	1
Venezuela	32	5	1	2	0
San Diego Sector	0	90	78	88	8
Colombia	0	12	6	43	7
Cuba	0	1	7	2	0
Dominican Republic	0	1	0	0	0
Nicaragua	0	59	55	31	1
Peru	0	0	6	10	0
Venezuela	0	17	4	2	0
Rio Grande Valley Sector	0	43	142	360	14
Cuba	0	0	0	0	1
Nicaragua	0	32	132	352	13
Venezuela	0	11	10	8	0
Laredo Sector	0	0	10	112	5
Cuba	0	0	3	20	3
Dominican Republic	0	0	1	0	0
Nicaragua	0	0	6	84	2
Venezuela	0	0	0	8	0
Re-Entries by Sex	157	208	320	600	43
Female	0	2	44	165	6
Male	157	206	276	435	37
Number of Re-entries	270	363	516	733	43
1 Re-entry Event per person	74	104	176	481	43
2 Re-entry Events per person	55	61	101	105	0
3 Re-entry Events per person	26	37	34	14	0
4 Re-entry Events per person	2	4	9	0	0
5 Re-entry Events per person	0	2	0	0	0
Number of Fear Claims Received	226	305	427	555	22
0 Fear claims per person	10	12	16	102	21
1 Fear claim per person	87	114	200	441	22
2 Fear claims per person	43	55	85	57	0
3 Fear claims per person	15	27	19	0	0
4 Fear claims per person	2	0	0	0	0
Fear Claim Results by Attorney or Consultant Present	226	305	427	555	22
Positive Fear Findings	45	65	36	57	1
Attorney or consultant present	3	16	6	3	0
No attorney or consultant present	42	49	30	54	1
Negative Fear Findings	133	181	267	353	12
Attorney or consultant present	5	13	7	5	1
No attorney or consultant present	128	168	260	348	11
Case Closures	48	59	118	134	9
Attorney or consultant present	2	2	1	7	0
No attorney or consultant present	46	57	117	127	9
Pending	0	0	6	11	0

See notes at end of table.

Table A2 (continued)

	December Cohort	January Cohort	February Cohort	March Cohort	April Cohort
Fear Claims Received by Sector and Claim Result	226	305	427	555	22
El Paso Sector	226	104	121	40	10
Positive Fear Findings	45	16	10	3	0
Negative Fear Findings	133	48	62	15	4
Case Closures	48	40	46	20	6
Pending	0	0	3	2	0
San Diego Sector	0	150	102	87	8
Positive Fear Findings	0	41	13	21	1
Negative Fear Findings	0	98	62	49	5
Case Closures	0	11	26	14	2
Pending	0	0	1	3	0
Rio Grande Valley Sector	0	51	191	317	4
Positive Fear Findings	0	8	10	17	0
Negative Fear Findings	0	35	136	217	3
Case Closures	0	8	43	77	1
Pending	0	0	2	6	0
Laredo Sector	0	0	13	111	0
Positive Fear Findings	0	0	3	16	0
Negative Fear Findings	0	0	7	72	0
Case Closures	0	0	3	23	0
Pending	0	0	0	0	0
Vaccines Administered	130	200	271	368	29
MPP Outcomes by Fear Claim Results	157	208	320	600	43
Returns to Mexico	59	93	178	435	31
No Fear Claim	7	11	11	93	19
Positive Fear Findings	0	9	6	14	0
Negative Fear Finding	50	68	141	294	11
Case Closures	2	5	18	28	1
Pending NRI Completion	0	0	2	6	0
Disenrollments	98	115	142	165	8
No Fear Claim	3	1	5	9	0
Positive Fear Finding	41	51	29	43	0
Negative Fear Finding	13	14	15	5	1
Case Closures	41	49	93	106	7
Pending NRI Completion	0	0	0	2	0
Pending	0	0	0	0	4
No Fear Claim	0	0	0	0	2
Positive Fear Finding	0	0	0	0	1
Negative Fear Finding	0	0	0	0	0
Case Closures	0	0	0	0	1
Pending NRI Completion	0	0	0	0	0
MPP Outcomes by Sector	157	208	320	600	43
El Paso Sector	157	75	90	40	16
Disenrollments	98	59	58	24	6
Returns	59	16	32	16	10
Pending	0	0	0	0	0
San Diego Sector	0	90	78	88	8
Disenrollments	0	47	40	30	1
Returns	0	43	38	58	5
Pending	0	0	0	0	2
Rio Grande Valley Sector	0	43	142	360	14
Disenrollments	0	9	42	89	1
Returns	0	34	100	271	13
Pending	0	0	0	0	0
Laredo Sector	0	0	10	112	5
Disenrollments	0	0	2	22	0
Returns	0	0	8	90	3
Pending	0	0	0	0	2

Notes: Columns report MPP events by initial enrollment date (i.e., cohort reporting). December enrollments began Dec. 6, 2021. All data on this tab as of May 3, 2022. Fear claims are here defined as people claiming fear upon return for court; re-encounter fear claims are not included. People with multiple fear claims are counted multiple times in tables summarizing fear claims received. NRI results include people with no interviews. Outcome pending category includes cases with ongoing NRIs, incomplete outcome data, and cases of people who remain in custody pending disenrollment or return. Data are limited to official re-entries, which are defined as those who were transported to court. Persons returned without being transported to court after being re-encountered, after not passing the medical check, or for other reasons are not counted as re-entries and are excluded from this table.

Source: OIS analysis of CBP, USCIS, and CWMD data.