

# U.S. Nonimmigrant Admissions: 2022

ALICIA WARD

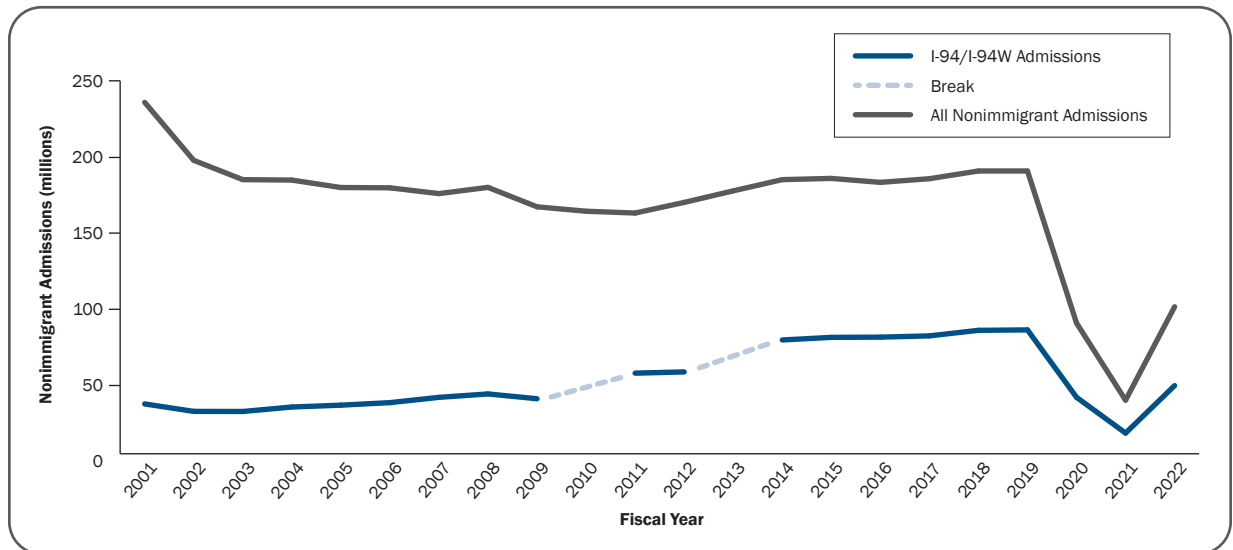
Nonimmigrants are foreign nationals with permanent residence outside the United States who are granted temporary admission to the United States for a specific purpose, including temporary visits for business or pleasure, academic or vocational study, temporary employment, and to act as a representative of a foreign government or international organization. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) collects information regarding nonimmigrant admissions at ports of entry (POEs) and from DHS Form I-94/I-94W.<sup>1</sup> The 2022 U.S. Nonimmigrant Admissions Annual Flow Report, authored by the Office of Homeland Security Statistics (OHSS), presents workload information on total nonimmigrant admissions and detailed data gathered from I-94 arrival records on the number and characteristics of nonimmigrant admissions to the United States in Fiscal Year 2022.<sup>2, 3, 4, 5</sup>

## SUMMARY

In 2022, DHS granted an estimated 97 million nonimmigrant admissions to the United States (Figure 1).<sup>6</sup> These included 45 million admissions of nonimmigrants who were issued Form I-94—the primary focus of this report.<sup>7</sup> Nonimmigrant admissions in 2022 increased 174 percent from 2021. This large increase in nonimmigrant admissions reflects policy changes resulting from the global pandemic.<sup>8</sup> Of the nearly 45 million I-94 admissions,

Figure 1.

Nonimmigrant Admissions: Fiscal Years 2001 to 2022

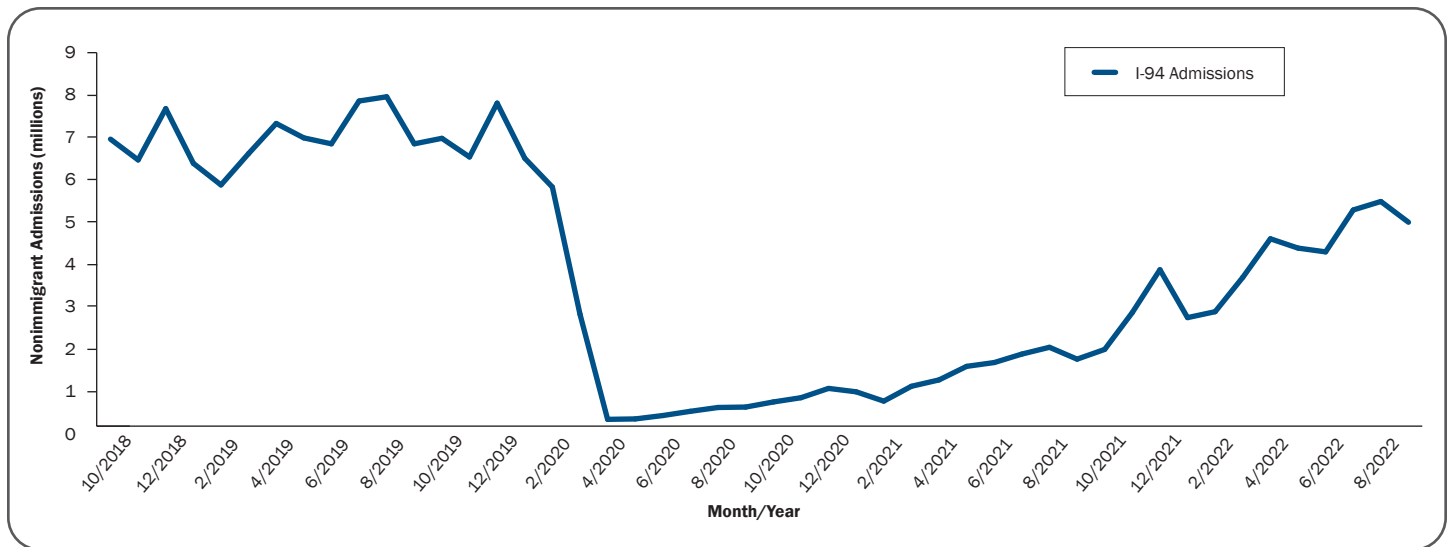


Notes: There are two major breaks in I-94 data. Beginning in 2010, changes in the recording of admissions at land ports increased I-94 admission counts. Beginning in 2013, I-94 automation at air and sea ports increased the number of admissions recorded in I-94 data.  
Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

<sup>1</sup> All references to Form I-94, *Arrival Record*, include Form I-94W, *Visa Waiver Arrival Record*, where applicable. The I-94 form is also named the *Departure Record*.  
<sup>2</sup> This report was prepared by the OHSS, which replaced the Office of Immigration Statistics in September 2023. The OHSS’s mission is to provide quality assurance and governance of Department-wide statistical data, support data-driven decision-making, and improve the efficiency and transparency of statistical reporting. The DHS Statistical Official heads OHSS.  
<sup>3</sup> This report includes OHSS’s analysis of relevant statutes, policy, and processes to provide background and context for DHS statistical data. The report has been reviewed for accuracy by relevant DHS Components.  
<sup>4</sup> In this report, years refer to fiscal years, which run from October 1 to September 30. Fiscal Year 2022 ran from October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022.  
<sup>5</sup> Additional context may be found in the 2022 *Yearbook of Immigration Statistics*, available at <https://www.dhs.gov/ohss/topics/immigration/yearbook>, and other OHSS and legacy Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS) reports. Not all numbers reported are contained in this report’s tables.  
<sup>6</sup> Workload estimates based on U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Operations Management Reporting, Fiscal Year 2022.  
<sup>7</sup> I-94 data do not describe all nonimmigrant admissions because certain visitors are not required to fill out an I-94 form, including all sea and air crew admissions (D1 and D2 visas) and a large share of Mexican and Canadian business and tourist travelers, as discussed elsewhere in this report. Current DHS data systems limit this report to the I-94 population, but OHSS is working to describe characteristics of all nonimmigrant admissions in future reports.  
<sup>8</sup> Information on global pandemic travel restrictions is available at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/10/25/a-proclamation-on-advancing-the-safe-resumption-of-global-travel-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/>.

Figure 2.

I-94 Nonimmigrant Admissions by Month: Fiscal Years 2019 to 2022



Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics..

87 percent were temporary visitors for business and pleasure, 7.0 percent were temporary workers and their families, and 2.8 percent were students and their families (Table 1). The five leading countries of citizenship for I-94 admissions were Mexico (30 percent), Canada (15 percent), the United Kingdom (6.9 percent), India (4.0 percent), and France (3.3 percent) (Table 2). In 2021, Mexico, Canada, Colombia, India, and the Dominican Republic were the five leading countries of citizenship.

### NONIMMIGRANT DEFINITION, PROCESS, AND REQUIREMENTS

#### Defining “Nonimmigrant”

Nonimmigrants are foreign nationals admitted temporarily to the United States within classes of admission defined in section

101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).<sup>9</sup> Examples of nonimmigrant classes of admission include temporary visitors for pleasure and for business, temporary workers, academic and vocational students, treaty traders and investors, foreign nationals in transit, exchange visitors, foreign government officials, athletes and entertainers, and victims of certain crimes. Unlike individuals granted lawful permanent residence (LPR), or “green card” status, nonimmigrants are authorized to enter the country for specific purposes and limited periods of time. Nonimmigrants’ duration of stay and the scope of their lawful activities, such as employment, travel, and accompaniment by dependents, are governed by their respective classes of admission.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>9</sup> Three nonimmigrant classes are authorized in sections other than INA § 101(a)(15). They include: (1) North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) nonimmigrants; (2) 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; and (3) The Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Concerning Mutual Visits by Inhabitants of the Bering Straits Region.

<sup>10</sup> Information relating to duration of stay can be found at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/visa-expiration-date.html>.

#### Nonimmigrant Admissions vs. Estimated Nonimmigrant Individuals vs. Nonimmigrant Visas Issued

This report covers admission events in 2022, not the number of individuals who entered the United States, nor the number of visas issued. Many nonimmigrants are admitted to the United States more than once in a year, and each admission is recorded separately and issued a new I-94 document at arrival. As a result, the count of admission events exceeds the number of individuals arriving. For more information on unique arrivals, see OIS Fact Sheet, *Nonimmigrant Admissions and Estimated Nonimmigrant Individuals: 2016*.<sup>11</sup> Admission events also differ from the number of nonimmigrant visas issued by the U.S. Department of State (DOS), for reasons such as: (1) a citizen or national from a country participating in the U.S. Visa Waiver Program (VWP) may travel to the United States for business or tourism for stays of up to 90 days without a visa; (2) a visa recipient may be admitted to the United States more than once on each visa, as is the case with many nonimmigrants; (3) a visa recipient may decide not to travel to the United States or decide to travel during the following year (subject to the validity of the visa); or (4) an individual arriving with a visa is determined to be inadmissible to the United States upon arrival.

<sup>11</sup> OHSS plans to update the factsheet in fiscal year 2024; the current factsheet is available at <https://www.dhs.gov/ohss/topics/immigration/nonimmigrant>.

Table 1.

## Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Class of Admission: Fiscal Years 2020 to 2022

Class of admission	2020		2021		2022	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total I-94 admissions <sup>1</sup>	37,176,105	100.0	13,623,118	100.0	44,897,662	100.0
Temporary workers and families	2,572,815	6.9	1,843,944	13.5	3,176,965	6.7
Temporary workers and trainees	1,791,758	4.8	1,448,739	10.6	2,335,451	5.2
CNMI-only transitional workers (CW1)	984	0.0	374	0.0	987	0.0
Workers in specialty occupations (H1B)	368,440	1.0	148,603	1.1	425,126	0.9
Chile and Singapore Free Trade Agreement aliens (H1B1)	631	0.0	373	0.0	1,306	0.0
Registered nurses participating in the Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas (H1C)	11	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Agricultural workers (H2A)	510,343	1.4	586,992	4.3	684,002	1.5
Nonagricultural workers and returning H2B workers (H2B, H2R) <sup>2</sup>	86,739	0.2	123,071	0.9	152,716	0.3
Trainees (H3)	820	0.0	400	0.0	950	0.0
Workers with extraordinary ability or achievement and their assistants (O1, O2)	79,089	0.2	34,907	0.3	118,420	0.3
Internationally recognized athletes or entertainers (P1)	54,816	0.1	37,213	0.3	89,600	0.2
Artists or entertainers in reciprocal exchange or culturally unique programs (P2, P3)	13,337	0.0	2,814	0.0	16,578	0.0
Workers in international cultural exchange programs (Q1)	1,555	0.0	102	0.0	821	0.0
Workers in religious occupations (R1)	7,015	0.0	4,374	0.0	8,121	0.0
North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) professional workers (TN)	485,948	1.3	385,869	2.8	550,399	1.2
Spouses and children of temporary workers and trainees (CW2, H4, O3, P4, R2, TD)	182,030	0.5	123,647	0.9	286,425	0.6
Intracompany transferees	470,641	1.3	182,379	1.3	478,352	0.7
Intracompany transferees (L1)	336,676	0.9	116,120	0.9	305,520	0.7
Spouses and children of intracompany transferees (L2) <sup>3</sup>	133,965	0.4	66,259	0.5	172,832	0.1
Treaty traders and investors and spouses and children (E1 to E3) <sup>4</sup>	291,588	0.8	200,672	1.5	337,888	0.7
Representatives of foreign media and spouses and children (I1)	18,828	0.1	12,154	0.1	25,274	0.1
Students	918,442	2.5	798,977	5.9	1,264,285	2.8
Academic students (F1)	876,157	2.4	758,458	5.6	1,199,088	2.7
Vocational students (M1)	9,454	0.0	7,872	0.1	9,892	0.0
Spouses and children of academic and vocational students (F2, M2)	32,831	0.1	32,647	0.2	55,305	0.1
Exchange visitors	226,474	0.60	174,412	1.30	432,432	1.00
Exchange visitors (J1)	195,459	0.5	151,257	1.1	384,707	0.9
Spouses and children of exchange visitors (J2)	31,015	0.1	23,155	0.2	47,725	0.1
Diplomats and other representatives	218,895	0.6	161,041	1.2	331,226	0.7
Ambassadors, public ministers, career diplomats, consular officers, other foreign government officials and their spouses, children, and attendants (A1 to A3)	106,451	0.3	87,679	0.6	169,588	0.4
Representatives to international organizations and their spouses, children, and attendants (G1 to G5)	82,939	0.2	50,760	0.4	112,424	0.3
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) officials, spouses, and children (N1 to N7)	29,505	0.1	22,602	0.2	49,214	0.1
Temporary visitors for pleasure	28,731,613	77.3	9,055,378	66.5	34,945,932	77.8
Temporary visitors for pleasure (B2)	20,175,009	54.3	8,169,825	60	24,516,995	54.6
Visa Waiver Program - temporary visitors for pleasure (WT)	7,991,484	21.5	883,556	6.5	10,298,435	22.9
Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program - temporary visitors for pleasure to Guam or Northern Mariana Islands (GMT)	565,120	1.5	1,997	0.0	130,502	0.3
Temporary visitors for business	4,209,153	11.3	1,346,208	9.9	4,234,792	9.4
Temporary visitors for business (B1)	2,825,830	7.6	1,223,567	9	3,037,742	6.8
Visa Waiver Program - temporary visitors for business (WB)	1,381,838	3.7	122,576	0.9	1,196,519	2.7
Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program - temporary visitors for business to Guam or Northern Mariana Islands (GMB)	1,485	0.0	65	0.0	531	0.0
Transit aliens	252,201	0.7	211,283	1.6	447,494	1.0
Aliens in continuous and immediate transit through the United States (C1)	245,463	0.7	207,307	1.5	440,444	1.0
Aliens in transit to the United Nations (C2)	595	0.0	132	0.0	189	0.0
Foreign government officials, their spouses, children, and attendants in transit (C3)	6,143	0.0	3,844	0.0	6,861	0.0
Commuter Students	2753	0.0	514	0.0	999	0.0
Canadian or Mexican national academic commuter students (F3)	2753	0.0	514	0.0	999	0.0
Alien fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens and children	22,708	0.1	18,974	0.1	25,679	0.1
Fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens (K1)	19,957	0.1	16,643	0.1	22,255	0.0
Children of K1 (K2)	2,751	0.0	2,331	0.0	3,424	0.0
Alien spouses of U.S. citizens and children, immigrant visa pending	16	0.0	0	0.0	9	0.0
Spouses of U.S. citizens, visa pending (K3)	9	0.0	0	0.0	D	D
Children of U.S. citizens, visa pending (K4)	7	0.0	0	0.0	D	D
Alien spouses of U.S. permanent residents and children, immigrant visa pending	6	0.0	D	D	0	0.0
Spouses of permanent residents, visa pending (V1)	D	D	D	D	0	0.0
Children of permanent residents, visa pending (V2)	D	D	0	0.0	0	0.0
Dependents of V1 or V2, visa pending (V3)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other <sup>5</sup>	31	0.0	31	0.0	58	0.0
Unknown	20,998	0.1	12,355	0.1	37,791	0.4

D Data withheld to limit disclosure.

<sup>1</sup> Excludes sea and air crew admissions (D1 and D2 visas).<sup>2</sup> Issuances of H2R (returning H2B workers not subject to annual numerical limits) ceased at the end of 2007.<sup>3</sup> On January 27, 2022 two new classes of admission were approved (L2S and L2Y) to differentiate between spouses and children of the principal applicant L1. The original L2 class has been retired. Previous years show spouses and children of principal applicants as L2; use of L2S and L2Y starts in 2022.<sup>4</sup> New classes of admission were approved January 27, 2022 to differentiate spouses and children from principal applicants for classes of admission E1, E2, and E3. Spouses and children of principal applicants are included in visas E1, E2, and E3 for years prior to 2022.<sup>5</sup> Other includes Q2, Q3, N8, N9.

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

## I-94 Nonimmigrants

The remainder of this report focuses exclusively on nonimmigrants who fill out paper and electronic I-94s, which CBP collects from most classes of nonimmigrants arriving in the United States. Information collected from these I-94 records includes arrival and departure dates, POE, class of admission, country of citizenship, state of destination, age, and sex. I-94 data do not describe all nonimmigrant admissions because certain visitors are not required to fill out an I-94 form—including the majority of short-term visitors from Mexico and Canada. Specific information regarding the I-94 form is located at the end of this report.

### Process

Individuals seeking to travel to the United States as a nonimmigrant can apply for a visa through U.S. embassies or consulates, or they may travel to the United States without a visa under the VWP if they are a citizen or national of one of the currently 40 participating countries and meet eligibility requirements for traveling under that program.<sup>12</sup> When arriving in the United States at a POE, an applicant for admission in nonimmigrant status has the burden of satisfying the inspecting officer that they are admissible to the United States and qualify for the intended nonimmigrant class of admission. Such individuals must show valid travel documents as part of the inspection process. CBP officers conduct arrival inspections and make admissibility determinations at the POEs.

### Eligibility

To be admitted in a nonimmigrant status, a foreign national generally must:

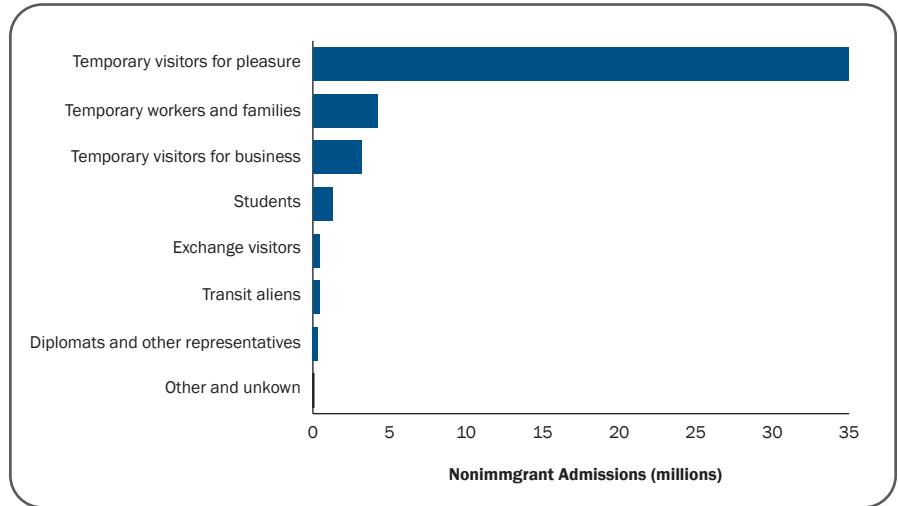
1. establish that the visit will be temporary;
2. agree to depart at the end of the authorized stay;
3. possess a valid passport;
4. maintain a foreign residence (in most cases);
5. be admissible to the United States or have been granted a waiver for any grounds of inadmissibility; and
6. agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the relevant class of admission, including establishing that the purpose of their travel falls within the relevant class of admission.

<sup>12</sup>A full list of VWP countries and requirements is available at <https://www.dhs.gov/visa-waiver-program-requirements>.

Figure 3.

### Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Class of Admission: Fiscal Year 2022

(Ranked by Class of Admission Group)



Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

Table 2.

### Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Country of Citizenship: Fiscal Years 2020 to 2022

(Ranked by 2022 nonimmigrant admissions)

Country of citizenship	2020		2021		2022	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	37,176,105	100.0	13,623,118	100.0	44,897,662	100
Mexico	11,004,919	29.6	4,551,988	33.4	13,644,287	30.4
Canada	6,737,778	18.1	1,512,473	11.1	6,903,580	15.4
United Kingdom	2,169,835	5.8	212,084	1.6	3,090,439	6.9
India	1,059,774	2.9	540,303	4.0	1,793,061	4.0
France	966,849	2.6	127,069	0.9	1,469,979	3.3
Germany	941,831	2.5	144,766	1.1	1,404,348	3.1
Colombia	466,993	1.3	915,230	6.7	1,124,998	2.5
Brazil	1,079,508	2.9	122,941	0.9	1,063,680	2.4
Spain	507,711	1.4	185,244	1.4	885,632	2.0
Italy	563,266	1.5	145,088	1.1	865,392	1.9
Other, including unknown	11,677,641	31.4	5,165,932	37.9	12,652,266	28.1

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

In general, nonimmigrants must acquire a visa or other form of authorization abroad prior to traveling to the United States, with the specific requirements determined by a foreign national's country of citizenship<sup>13</sup> and the conditions of their visit. Yet possession of a valid travel document does not guarantee admission: CBP officers at POEs make the final determination whether a nonimmigrant is admitted to the United States and the authorized duration of stay.

<sup>13</sup>Presidential Proclamation 9645, issued on September 24, 2017 and upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court on June 26, 2019, limited the types of nonimmigrant visas that may be issued to nationals of Chad, Iran, Libya, North Korea, Syria, Venezuela, and Yemen. Restrictions on Chad were lifted on April 10, 2019. Presidential Proclamation 10141, issued on January 20, 2021, ended the travel restrictions under Presidential Proclamation 9645. See <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/presidential-proclamation-archive/presidential-proclamation9645.html>.

## Document Requirements

Most classes of nonimmigrants are required to obtain a visa to enter the United States. In these cases, foreign nationals must fill out a Form DS-160, *Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application*, or a Form DS-156, *Nonimmigrant Visa Application*. In addition, applicants aged 14 to 79 years generally are required to visit a U.S. embassy or consulate and be interviewed by a consular official.<sup>14</sup>

**U.S. Visa Waiver Program.** The VWP, administered by DHS in consultation with DOS, permits citizens or nationals of designated participating countries to travel to the United States as tourists or business travelers without a visa for periods not to exceed 90 days. There are currently 40 countries participating in the VWP. Qualified citizens or 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, and obtain travel authorization through the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA). VWP travelers also waive their right to contest an immigration officer's determination of admissibility as well as their right to contest removal, other than on the basis of an application for asylum and related protections. Citizens or nationals of participating VWP countries traveling to the United States for a purpose other than tourism or business or whose stay will exceed 90 days must obtain a visa.<sup>15</sup>

**Mexican Tourist and Business Admissions.** Mexican citizens residing in Mexico who meet the requirements for a B1/B2 visa (temporary visitor for business or pleasure), who have a valid Mexican passport, and who demonstrate that they will return to Mexico upon completion of their stay 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.<sup>16</sup> Stand-alone BCC cards authorize travel for up to 30 days within the U.S.-Mexico border region,<sup>17</sup> or BCCs may be used in combination with a Mexican passport as a regular B1/B2 visa for admission for up to 180 days anywhere in the United States. Mexican nationals also may apply for regular B1/B2 visas, which are affixed to their passports. Most Mexican nationals remaining in the border zone are not required to fill out an I-94 and are excluded from this report's data tables, as described in detail below.

**Canadian Tourist and Business Admissions.** Temporary Canadian visitors for business or pleasure to the United States are required to possess a valid Canadian passport or other Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative-approved form of identification, but generally are not required to obtain a visa or apply for travel authorization through ESTA or to fill out I-94s. They are excluded from this report's data tables.

<sup>14</sup>The Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application and related information are available at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visitor.html>.

<sup>15</sup>See <https://www.dhs.gov/visa-waiver-program> for additional details on the VWP.

<sup>16</sup>Mexican children under 15 years pay a reduced fee for a BCC. BCCs issued for the reduced fee expire on the child's 15th birthday unless the full fee is paid, in which case the child receives a BCC valid for the full 10 years. Visit <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/border-crossing-card.html> for additional information on BCCs.

<sup>17</sup>The current BCC border zone is within 25 miles of the border in California and Texas, within 55 miles of the border in New Mexico, and within 75 miles of the border in Arizona.

## TRENDS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF I-94 NONIMMIGRANT ADMISSIONS

### Historical Trends

The number of I-94 admissions has generally grown over time and increased each year from just over 53 million in 2013 to over 81 million in 2019 (Figure 1). This trend was interrupted during the Coronavirus-2019 (COVID-19) pandemic when travel restrictions, processing shutdowns, and other disruptions impacted foreign nationals living within the United States and prospective travelers. Total I-94 admissions decreased 54 percent from 2019 to 2020 and a further 63 percent from 2020 to 2021, while employment-based admissions decreased 37 percent in 2020 and a further 28 percent in 2021 (Figure 2). As pandemic restrictions eased in 2022, total I-94 admissions increased 230 percent over 2021 to 45 million—though still down 45 percent from their 2019 level; and employment-based admissions increased 72 percent over 2021 to 3.2 million, but still represented a drop of 22 percent compared to 2019 (Figures 1 and 2).

### Class of Admission<sup>18</sup>

The largest major class of admission in 2022 remained temporary visitors for pleasure (tourists), which represented 78 percent of I-94 admissions (Table 1, Figure 3). Tourists include nonimmigrants admitted under the Tourist Visitor Visa (B2), the Visa Waiver Program (WT), and the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program (GMT). Admissions on B2 visas accounted for 55 percent of total admissions, and the Visa Waiver Program for another 23 percent.

Business visitors include nonimmigrants admitted under the Business Visitor Visa (B1), the Visa Waiver Program (WB), and the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program (GMB). Of I-94 admissions in 2022, 9.4 percent were in the temporary visitors for business category, almost the same as 2021 (9.9 percent). B1 visitors made up 6.8 percent of total admissions, down from 9.0 percent in 2021. On the other hand, business visitors under the Visa Waiver program (WB) increased from 0.9 percent in 2021 to 2.7 percent in 2022.

Temporary workers and their families accounted for 7.0 percent of I-94 admissions in 2022. Leading classes of admission among the worker visas were H2A temporary agricultural workers (1.5 percent), TN (NAFTA) professional workers (1.2 percent),<sup>19</sup> H1B temporary workers in specialty occupations (0.9 percent), and L1 intracompany transferees (0.7 percent).<sup>20</sup> Students and their families (F1, M1, F2, and M2 visas) represented 2.8 percent of I-94 admissions, decreasing proportionally by over one half from 5.9 percent in 2021, but representing nearly 465,000 more admissions than the previous fiscal year.<sup>21</sup> Prior to the pandemic, the

<sup>18</sup>For more information and definitions of the various classes of admission mentioned in this report, please visit: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/all-visa-categories.html>.

<sup>19</sup>TN class of admission allows qualified Canadian and Mexican citizens temporary entry into the United States for business activities at a professional level. These include, for example, accountants, engineers, lawyers, pharmacists, scientists, and teachers.

<sup>20</sup>Intra-company transferees include executive, managerial, and specialized personnel entering to continue employment with an office of the same employer, its parent, branch, subsidiary, or affiliate.

<sup>21</sup>For more information on the Nonimmigrant Students and SEVP-Certified Schools COVID-19 Archived Guidance, please visit: <https://www.ice.gov/sevis/schools#nonimmigrant-students-and-sevp-certified-schools-covid-19-archived-guidance>.



three-year average number of admissions of students and their families admitted as nonimmigrants was 1.9 million, compared to the 2020-2022 average of 990,000 admissions.

### Country of Citizenship

While overall I-94 admissions dropped steeply from 2019 to 2021, the extent of the decrease and pace of recovery of I-94 admissions differed substantially by citizenship. Admissions of Colombian nationals, for example, declined by 57 percent from 2019 to 2020, but increased 95 percent between 2021 and 2022, as Colombia was the only country with I-94 admissions exceeding pre-pandemic levels in 2022. Other countries whose I-94 admissions recovered more quickly than the overall average include Canada, Brazil, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom, all of whose I-94 admissions in 2022 were within 50 percent of their 2019 levels.

Overall, the top five leading countries of citizenship for I-94 admissions to the United States in 2022 were Mexico, Canada, the United Kingdom, India, and France, totaling 27 million or 60 percent of total I-94 admissions (Table 2). In comparison, the top five leading countries in 2021 were Mexico, Canada, Colombia, India, and the Dominican Republic, totaling 8 million nonimmigrant admissions or 58 percent of the total. Overall, Mexicans and Canadians accounted for 21 million, or 46 percent, of total I-94 admissions in 2022. I-94 admissions from VWP countries totaled nearly 12 million, or 26 percent of the total.

### Ports of Entry

The 10 largest POEs accounted for almost 22 million I-94 nonimmigrant admissions, almost half (49 percent) of the overall total in 2022 (Table 3). The top five POEs accounted for 34 percent of nonimmigrant admissions: Miami (4.5 million), New York (4.2 million), Toronto, Canada (2.5 million), Los Angeles (2.4 million), and Newark, NJ (1.5 million). Of the top ten POEs, Toronto, Canada and San Ysidro, CA<sup>22</sup> saw the largest increases in admissions compared to 2021, up more than 5- and 11-fold, respectively. Houston, TX and Chicago, IL began to recover to pre-pandemic levels of admissions with 2022 levels

representing a little more than 500,000 and 780,000 fewer admissions than 2019, respectively. The remaining six POEs have yet to see similar rebounds in I-94 nonimmigrant admissions.

### Reported State of Destination<sup>23</sup>

The most frequently reported states of destination for I-94 admissions in 2022 were California (18 percent of the total), Florida (17 percent), Texas (13 percent), New York (11 percent), and Arizona (4.6 percent) (Table 4). These five states were the recorded destinations for 63 percent of the total, or 28 million I-94 admissions in 2022, similar to 2021 when their recorded 8.7 million admissions accounted for 64 percent of the total.

<sup>23</sup>The state of destination is not a required field on an I-94 form, and the state reported may not be that of the nonimmigrants' final destination. Data on nonimmigrant state of destination should therefore be interpreted with caution.

**Table 3.**

#### Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Port of Entry: Fiscal Years 2020 to 2022

(Ranked by 2022 nonimmigrant admissions)

Port of entry	2020		2021		2022	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	37,176,105	100.0	13,623,118	100.0	44,897,662	100
Miami, FL	2,866,240	7.7	2,346,017	17.2	4,503,547	10.0
New York, NY	3,109,094	8.4	1,150,489	8.4	4,229,237	9.4
Toronto, Canada	2,274,627	6.1	470,838	3.5	2,476,077	5.5
Los Angeles, CA	2,216,733	6.0	892,926	6.6	2,417,611	5.4
Newark, NJ	1,035,496	2.8	453,234	3.3	1,530,887	3.4
Houston, TX	941,159	2.5	1,022,867	7.5	1,422,849	3.2
San Francisco, CA	1,132,267	3.0	311,716	2.3	1,375,000	3.1
Boston, MA	1,030,273	2.8	719,661	5.3	1,374,674	3.1
San Ysidro, CA	1,355,297	3.6	115,148	0.8	1,342,503	3.0
Chicago, IL	778,485	2.1	460,120	3.4	1,233,147	2.7

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

**Table 4.**

#### Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by State of Destination: Fiscal Years 2020 to 2022

(Ranked by 2022 nonimmigrant admissions)

State of destination	2020		2021		2022	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	37,176,105	100.0	13,623,118	100.0	44,897,662	100.0
California	7,167,202	19.3	1,859,671	13.7	8,162,885	18.2
Florida	5,835,658	15.7	3,157,503	23.2	7,526,315	16.8
Texas	4,634,077	12.5	2,002,632	14.7	5,766,528	12.8
New York	3,826,288	10.3	1,183,339	8.7	4,889,507	10.9
Arizona	1,615,484	4.3	486,163	3.6	2,044,138	4.6
Nevada	1,276,475	3.4	251,956	1.8	1,462,571	3.3
Illinois	688,509	1.9	341,868	2.5	1,020,578	2.3
New Jersey	603,570	1.6	364,637	2.7	896,883	2.0
Massachusetts	581,584	1.6	232,671	1.7	852,269	1.9
Washington	625,315	1.7	243,103	1.8	829,308	1.8
Other, including unknown	10,321,943	27.7	3,499,575	25.7	11,446,680	25.5

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

<sup>22</sup>Nonimmigrants admitted to the United States through Toronto are admitted via the CBP preclearance program, through which CBP officers conduct the same immigration, customs, and agriculture inspections of international air passengers that are normally performed on arrival in the United States before passenger departures. Preclearance operations currently take place at 15 foreign airports in six different countries, including Toronto and Vancouver in Canada.

**Table 5.**

**Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Age and Sex: Fiscal Years 2020 to 2022**

Age Group	2020			2021			2022		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Total	17,570,000	19,600,000	37,180,000	6,112,397	7,509,504	13,620,000	21,517,256	23,360,660	44,897,662
Under 18 years	1,783,682	1,728,552	3,512,406	607,046	587,993	1,195,182	2,332,649	2,246,654	4,580,154
18 to 24 years	1,654,121	1,602,501	3,256,762	737,749	888,840	1,626,675	2,110,696	2,100,716	4,213,673
25 to 34 years	3,761,300	4,296,383	8,058,082	1,288,613	1,822,061	3,110,932	4,457,429	5,038,931	9,502,933
35 to 44 years	3,136,456	4,305,372	7,442,162	1,065,040	1,653,718	2,719,051	3,733,953	4,920,991	8,659,494
45 to 54 years	2,960,927	3,671,634	6,632,882	972,521	1,293,212	2,265,936	3,597,264	4,274,196	7,874,606
55 to 64 years	2,481,868	2,430,315	4,912,449	810,306	771,137	1,581,574	2,986,039	2,855,009	5,842,616
65 years and over	1,795,299	1,563,692	3,359,333	631,090	492,488	1,123,669	2,298,823	1,923,645	4,223,119
Unknown	964	899	2,029	32	55	99	403	518	1,067

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

**Age and Sex**

In 2022, 58 percent of I-94 admissions (26 million) were individuals between the ages of 25 and 54, a similar proportion as in 2021 (Table 5, Figure 4). The number of nonimmigrant admissions of those aged 55 to 64 years increased from 1.6 million (12 percent) in 2021 to 5.8 million (13 percent) in 2022. In 2022, 48 percent of I-94 admissions were female, and 52 percent were male. In comparison, 45 percent were female, and 55 percent were male in 2021.

**THE I-94 FORM**

Detailed nonimmigrant data in this report were obtained from CBP’s TECS database, which maintains I-94 information.

In general, Canadians traveling to the United States on B1 business or B2 tourist visas are not required to complete an I-94 form; Canadian nonimmigrants in all other visa classes are required to do so. Mexican tourists and business visitors traveling with a BCC or a Form I-872, American Indian Card, and remaining in the border zone generally are not required to complete an I-94, depending on the length of their visits.<sup>24</sup> These exceptions are significant because Canadian and Mexican tourists and business visitors make up the majority of all nonimmigrant admissions.<sup>25</sup>

Readers should exercise caution when interpreting trends in I-94 admissions because I-94 policies and processing have changed in recent years. Between 2005 and March 2010, DHS completed updates to computer systems at vehicular lanes and pedestrian crossings along the Northern and Southwest Borders to record land admissions that previously were excluded from I-94 data systems. Consequently, the ratio of I-94 admissions to all nonimmigrant admissions in 2010 and 2011 exceeded those in previous years. Beginning in April 2013, CBP automated the I-94 process for nonimmigrants admitted at air and seaports. As part of this automation, CBP began generating electronic I-94s for short-term Canadian tourists and business travelers admitted at air and

<sup>24</sup>Mexicans with BCCs may remain in the border zone for up to 30 days without obtaining an I-94; Mexicans entering with a passport and visa or an I-872 may remain in the border zone for up to 72 hours without obtaining an I-94. Mexicans traveling beyond the border zone, those who will remain beyond the time periods indicated above, and those who seek entry for purposes other than as a temporary visitor for business or pleasure are required to obtain and complete an I-94.

<sup>25</sup>In addition to the Mexican and Canadian exemptions from I-94 requirements, North Atlantic Treaty Organization 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 United States under military orders.

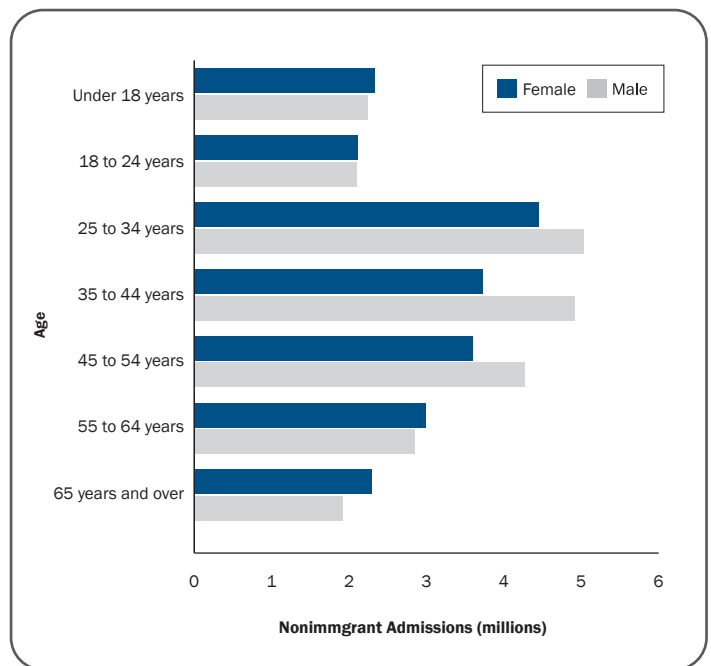
seaports who had previously been exempted from the form—a change resulting in additional increases in I-94 data. (Canadian tourists and business travelers entering at land POEs are still largely excluded from I-94 data.) CBP also implemented a new Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) in 2009 and a new I-94 data-collection system in 2013, through the Automated Passport Control (APC) and Global Entry trusted traveler programs.<sup>26</sup> These updates have resulted in more complete recording of country of citizenship, but less complete recording of country of residence, sex, and state of destination.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Visit the OHSS web page at <http://ohss.dhs.gov>.

**Figure 4.**

**Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Age and Sex: Fiscal Year 2022**



Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

<sup>26</sup>See the ESTA Implementation Timeline at <https://www.cbp.gov/travel/international-visitors/frequently-asked-questions-about-visa-waiver-program-vwp-and-electronic-system-travel>.