

Nonimmigrant Admissions to the United States: 2011

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Nonimmigrants are foreign nationals granted temporary entry into the United States. The major purposes for which nonimmigrant admission may be authorized include 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 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) collects information on the characteristics of certain nonimmigrant admissions from I-94 arrival records (see Box 1). This Office of Immigration Statistics Annual Flow Report presents information gathered from I-94s on the number and characteristics of nonimmigrant admissions to the United States in 2011.¹

Box 1.

Note on recent changes to I-94 admission data

I-94 admissions in 2010 and 2011 were greater than in previous years due to land admission counting changes. By March 2010, the Department of Homeland Security completed updates to computer systems so that nearly all I-94 land admissions—initial and subsequent entries of an individual—were recorded. Previously, at land ports, typically only the initial admission was counted.

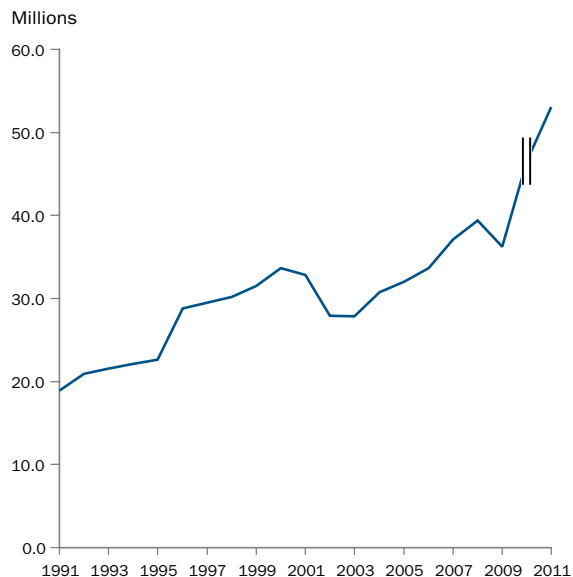
During 2011, there were 159 million nonimmigrant admissions to the United States according to DHS workload estimates.² These admissions included tourists and business travelers from Canada, Mexican nationals with Border Crossing Cards, and I-94 admissions.³ I-94 admissions accounted for 33 percent (53.1 million) of the total admissions (see Figure 1). The majority (87 percent) of I-94 admissions were temporary visitors for business and pleasure, while 6.4 percent were temporary workers and families and 3.4 percent were students. The leading countries of citizenship for I-94 admissions were Mexico, the United Kingdom, and Japan.

DEFINING “NONIMMIGRANT”

Nonimmigrants are aliens whose classes of admission are specified in Section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). Examples of nonimmigrant classes of admission include foreign government officials; temporary visitors for business and pleasure; aliens in transit; treaty traders and investors; academic and vocational students; temporary workers; exchange

¹ In this report, years refer to fiscal years (October 1 to September 30).
² U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Operations Management Reporting, Fiscal Year 2011.
³ For this report, I-94 admissions refer to admissions documented with paper Form I-94/I-94Ws and electronic I-94Ws.

Figure 1.
Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only): 1991 to 2011



Note: Major changes in the counting of land border entries affected 2010 and 2011 admission numbers.
 Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Fiscal Years 1991 to 2011.



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visitors; athletes and entertainers; victims of certain crimes; and family members of U.S. citizens, legal permanent residents, and special immigrants. Maximum duration of stay is determined by class of admission. A person granted lawful permanent resident status⁴ is authorized to live, work, and study in the U.S. permanently; conversely, a nonimmigrant is in a temporary status for a specific purpose and whose activities, such as employment, travel, and accompaniment by dependents, are prescribed by his or her class of admission.

THE NONIMMIGRANT ADMISSIONS PROCESS

Defining “Admissions”

In this report, nonimmigrant admissions refer to number of events (i.e., entries into the U.S.) rather than individuals. More than one entry on the same day is counted as one admission. Admission numbers presented in this report will differ from the number of Department of State visa issuances, which includes all visas that were issued regardless of whether the foreign national entered the United States.

Eligibility

In order to qualify for admission in a nonimmigrant status, a foreign national must meet all of the following criteria: provide evidence that the visit will be temporary, agree to depart at the end of the authorized stay, possess a valid passport, maintain a foreign residence (in most cases), be able to provide proof of financial support, be admissible to the U.S. or have been granted a waiver for any grounds of inadmissibility, and abide by the terms and conditions of admission.

Documentary Requirements

Applicants for nonimmigrant admission are required to complete a paper Form I-94/I-94W or Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA)⁵ registration to enter the United States. However, Mexican nationals with Border Crossing Cards (when traveling within the border zone for a limited duration) and tourists and business travelers from Canada are generally exempt from these requirements.⁶

The Border Crossing Card (BCC) or “laser visa” issued to Mexican nationals is a machine-readable card that is valid for 10 years and contains a biometric indicator, such as a fingerprint. Applicants for a BCC must meet the same qualifications as applicants for a B1/B2 visa (temporary visitor for business or pleasure), have a valid Mexican passport, and demonstrate that they have ties to Mexico that would compel them to return.

⁴Commonly referred to as a legal permanent resident (LPR) or “green card recipient.”

⁵ESTA is an internet-based system that determines the preliminary eligibility of visitors to be admitted under the Visa Waiver Program prior to their embarking on trips to the United States. ESTA registration must be renewed every two years or when a visitor's passport expires, whichever occurs earlier.

⁶North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) officials (seeking N1-N5 nonimmigrant classification) are not required to submit an I-94 but may do so to document their admissions.

I-94 Admissions

Visa Required

If a visa is necessary for entry, the foreign national must apply at a U.S. embassy or consulate. The Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application, Form DS-160, or the Nonimmigrant Visa Application, Form DS-156, must be submitted for all applicants; further, an interview is required for all applicants aged 14 to 79 years. Possession of a visa allows a foreign national to travel to a U.S. port of entry but does not guarantee admission. A U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officer determines if the nonimmigrant may enter the U.S. and the permitted duration of stay. Foreign nationals with a nonimmigrant visa must complete the paper Form I-94.

Visa Waiver Program

The Visa Waiver Program (VWP) allows nationals from participating countries to travel to the United States as tourists or business travelers without a visa for a period not to exceed 90 days. It was established, initially as a pilot program, in 1986 with the intent to eliminate barriers to travel, to facilitate tourism, and to promote better relations with U.S. allies. Qualified nationals of VWP-participating countries must possess a security-enhanced passport valid for six months beyond their expected stay; travel on an approved carrier and possess a return trip ticket if arriving by air or sea; demonstrate both intent to stay 90 days or less and sufficient funds to support themselves during their stay; and obtain approval from ESTA. At air and sea ports, an electronic I-94W record is created upon admission for ESTA-registered VWP entrants; at land ports, the paper Form I-94W is required. Nationals of VWP countries must obtain a visa if they are traveling to the U.S. for a purpose other than tourism or business or if their stay will exceed 90 days.

During 2011, 36 countries participated in the Visa Waiver Program: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, South Korea, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

The Guam-Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands Visa Waiver Program (GCVWP) permits nationals of participating countries to be admitted to Guam or the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI) without a visa. Admissions under the GCVWP may not exceed 45 days in Guam or CNMI. In 2011, Australia, Brunei, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom were included in the GCVWP.⁷

⁷On November 28, 2009, the GCVWP replaced the Guam Visa Waiver Program (GVWP) which permitted nationals of participating countries to be admitted to Guam without a visa. Australia, Brunei, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, South Korea, Singapore, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, and Vanuatu were included in the GVWP when it ended.

DATA

The data in this report were obtained from TECS, a computer system used by CBP, which compiles and maintains information collected from nonimmigrants on the paper Form I-94/I-94W and electronic I-94W. Information collected from these I-94 records includes arrival and departure dates, port of entry, class of admission, country of citizenship, state of destination, age, and gender.

Caution should be exercised when interpreting recent trends in I-94 admissions because of the counting changes described in Box 1. The changes affected admission counts for all countries of citizenship, classes of admission, and states of destination but had the most impact on Mexican and Canadian admissions. The precise impact of the counting changes is unknown but may be better understood by examining trends in the number of individuals admitted (see Mathews, 2012).

CHARACTERISTICS OF I-94 NONIMMIGRANT ADMISSIONS

In 2011, there were 53.1 million I-94 admissions to the United States. The number of I-94 admissions recorded in 2011 was substantially larger than in 2010 (46.5 million) because 2011 was the first full year in which nearly all land admissions were recorded. Land admission counts during the first five months of 2011 (after counting changes) were 190 percent greater than land admissions during the same months of 2010 (before full implementation of counting changes) (see Table 1).

Class of Admission

The leading categories of admission in 2011 were temporary visitors for pleasure (76 percent), temporary visitors for business (11 percent), temporary workers and families (6.4 percent), and students (3.4 percent) (see Table 2). Owing largely to land port counting changes, admission counts for temporary visitors for pleasure, temporary visitors for business, and temporary workers and families increased from 2009 to 2010 and again from 2010 to 2011. Greater numbers of Mexican B1 and B2 admissions and Canadian TN, L1, and H1B admissions were recorded at the land border after the counting changes were implemented (see Table 3).

Country of Citizenship

The leading countries of citizenship for nonimmigrant admissions to the United States in 2011 were Mexico (32 percent), the United Kingdom (8.6 percent), Japan (7.1 percent), Germany (4.1 percent), Canada (3.5 percent), France (3.5 percent), Brazil (2.9 percent), South Korea (2.8 percent), China (2.6 percent), Australia (2.3 percent) (see Table 4). These ten countries accounted for approximately 69 percent of nonimmigrant admissions to the United States. Admissions of Mexican and Canadian nationals were greater in 2010 than in 2009 and in 2011 than 2010 as a result of land admissions counting changes.

Table 1.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Month of Arrival and Mode of Travel: Fiscal Years 2010 to 2011

Month of arrival	Land Admissions		Non-Land Admissions	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
Total	19,150,600	14,538,246	33,931,686	31,933,270
October	1,741,880	465,807	2,923,573	2,658,042
November	1,713,739	473,477	2,402,573	2,225,550
December	2,178,463	707,614	2,870,477	2,770,389
January	1,632,359	426,548	2,469,631	2,320,914
February	1,360,213	901,388	2,126,528	2,060,100
March	1,440,545	1,456,223	2,427,706	2,567,164
April	1,551,947	1,462,512	2,900,001	2,367,889
May	1,363,903	1,523,444	2,784,864	2,717,462
June	1,370,378	1,511,887	2,963,465	2,805,820
July	1,757,530	1,960,793	3,553,382	3,358,060
August	1,637,827	1,935,524	3,425,760	3,204,107
September	1,401,816	1,713,029	3,083,726	2,877,773

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection, TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2010 to 2011.

Table 2.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Class of Admission: Fiscal Years 2009 to 2011

Class of admission	2011		2010		2009	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	53,082,286	100.0	46,471,516	100.0	36,231,554	100.0
Temporary workers and families	3,385,775	6.4	2,816,525	6.1	1,703,697	4.7
Temporary workers and trainees	2,092,028	3.9	1,682,132	3.6	936,272	2.6
Workers in specialty occupations (H1B)	494,565	0.9	454,763	1.0	339,243	0.9
Chile and Singapore Free Trade Agreement (H1B1)	30	-	163	-	213	-
Registered nurses participating in the Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas Act (H1C)	124	-	295	-	231	-
Seasonal agricultural workers (H2A)	188,411	0.4	139,406	0.3	149,763	0.4
Seasonal nonagricultural workers and returning H2B workers (H2B,H2R)	79,862	0.2	69,499	0.1	56,543	0.2
Trainees (H3)	3,279	-	3,078	-	4,168	-
Workers with extraordinary ability or achievement and their assistants (O1, O2)	67,724	0.1	63,984	0.1	58,566	0.2
Internationally recognized athletes or entertainers (P1)	84,545	0.2	72,917	0.2	54,432	0.2
Artists or entertainers in reciprocal exchange or culturally unique programs (P2, P3)	22,660	-	20,882	-	15,469	-
Workers in international cultural exchange programs (Q1)	2,331	-	2,430	-	2,555	-
Workers in religious occupations (R1)	19,683	-	21,043	-	17,362	-
North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) professional workers (TN)	899,455	1.7	634,121	1.4	99,018	0.3
Spouses and children of temporary workers and trainees (H4, O3, P4, R2, TD)	229,359	0.4	199,551	0.4	138,709	0.4
Intracompany transferees	788,187	1.5	702,460	1.5	493,992	1.4
Intracompany transferees (L1)	562,776	1.1	502,732	1.1	333,386	0.9
Spouses and children of intracompany transferees (L2)	225,411	0.4	199,728	0.4	160,606	0.4
Treaty traders and investors and spouses and children (E1 to E3)	454,101	0.9	383,700	0.8	229,301	0.6
Representatives of foreign media and their spouses and children (I1)	51,459	0.1	48,233	0.1	44,132	0.1
Students	1,788,962	3.4	1,595,078	3.4	951,964	2.6
Academic students (F1)	1,702,730	3.2	1,514,783	3.3	895,392	2.5
Vocational students (M1)	18,824	-	17,641	-	14,632	-
Spouses and children of academic and vocational students (F2, M2)	67,408	0.1	62,654	0.1	41,940	0.1
Exchange visitors	526,931	1.0	543,335	1.2	459,408	1.3
Exchange visitors (J1)	469,993	0.9	484,740	1.0	413,150	1.1
Spouses and children of exchange visitors (J2)	56,938	0.1	58,595	0.1	46,258	0.1
Diplomats and other representatives	377,830	0.7	380,241	0.8	323,183	0.9
Ambassadors, public ministers, career diplomats, consular officers, other foreign government officials and their spouses, children, and attendants (A1 to A3)	215,186	0.4	214,111	0.5	175,119	0.5
Representatives to international organizations and their spouses, children, and attendants (G1 to G5)	139,378	0.3	141,492	0.3	127,584	0.4
NATO officials and their families (N1 to N7)	23,266	-	24,638	0.1	20,480	0.1
Temporary visitors for pleasure	40,578,964	76.4	35,131,310	75.6	27,800,027	76.7
Temporary visitors for pleasure (B2)	23,806,138	44.8	19,144,042	41.2	12,680,504	35.0
Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for pleasure (WT)	15,706,067	29.6	14,821,569	31.9	14,272,553	39.4
Guam Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for pleasure to Guam (GT)	X	X	120,544	0.3	846,970	2.3
Guam – CNMI Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for pleasure to Guam or Northern Mariana Islands (GMT)	1,066,759	2.0	1,045,155	2.2	X	X
Temporary visitors for business	5,694,809	10.7	5,205,980	11.2	4,390,888	12.1
Temporary visitors for business (B1)	3,055,932	5.8	2,944,397	6.3	2,408,092	6.6
Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for business (WB)	2,635,472	5.0	2,256,611	4.9	1,977,361	5.5
Guam Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for business to Guam (GB)	X	X	904	-	5,435	-
Guam – CNMI Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for business to Guam or Northern Mariana Islands (GMB)	3,405	-	4,068	-	X	X
Transit aliens	322,499	0.6	327,584	0.7	346,695	1.0
Aliens in continuous and immediate transit through the United States (C1)	296,636	0.6	304,023	0.7	326,704	0.9
Aliens in transit to the United Nations (C2)	4,397	-	2,987	-	2,613	-
Foreign government officials, their spouses, children, and attendants in transit (C3)	21,466	-	20,574	-	17,378	-
Commuter Students	108,894	0.2	53,711	0.1	6,488	-
Canadian or Mexican national academic commuter students (F3)	108,892	0.2	53,711	0.1	6,488	-
Canadian or Mexican national vocational commuter students (M3)	D	-	-	-	-	-
Alien fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens and children	27,700	0.1	34,893	0.1	32,009	0.1
Fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens (K1)	24,112	-	30,445	0.1	27,754	0.1
Children of K1 (K2)	3,588	-	4,448	-	4,255	-
Alien spouses of U.S. citizens and children, immigrant visa pending	20,977	-	30,172	0.1	15,515	-
Spouses of U.S. citizens, visa pending (K3)	17,874	-	25,615	0.1	12,937	-
Children of U.S. citizens, visa pending (K4)	3,103	-	4,557	-	2,578	-
Alien spouses of U.S. permanent residents and children, immigrant visa pending	9,122	-	8,638	-	5,445	-
Spouses of permanent residents, visa pending (V1)	3,659	-	3,620	-	2,482	-
Children of permanent residents, visa pending (V2)	2,546	-	2,206	-	1,424	-
Dependents of V1 or V2, visa pending (V3)	2,917	-	2,812	-	1,539	-
Other	93	-	92	-	74	-
Unknown	239,730	0.5	343,957	0.7	196,161	0.5

X Not applicable.

- Represents zero or rounds to 0.0.

D Data withheld to limit disclosure.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2009 to 2011.

Table 3.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Mode of Travel, Selected Country of Citizenship, and Selected Class of Admission: Fiscal Years 2009 to 2011

Class of admission	Land Admissions			Non-Land Admissions		
	2011	2010	2009	2011	2010	2009
Total	19,150,600	14,538,246	6,298,259	33,931,686	31,933,270	29,933,295
Canada						
Total Canada	1,749,884	1,310,916	159,525	118,295	118,024	132,117
Workers in specialty occupations (H1B)	70,586	55,197	6,099	17,650	17,762	16,057
North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) professional workers (TN)	794,836	553,834	52,031	20,323	19,841	25,762
Intracompany transferees (L1)	131,637	98,494	7,508	12,579	11,238	10,725
Treaty traders and investors and spouses and children (E1 to E3)	46,460	31,453	2,306	3,959	3,723	3,808
Academic students (F1)	364,493	278,851	25,596	15,141	14,601	14,699
Exchange visitors (J1)	27,167	26,293	4,082	3,951	3,408	3,532
Temporary visitors for pleasure (B2)	94,512	73,347	22,628	13,224	13,475	15,739
Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for pleasure (WT)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Temporary visitors for business (B1)	37,514	28,648	10,077	5,109	5,845	6,759
Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for business (WB)	X	X	X	X	X	X
All other classes of admission*	182,679	164,799	29,198	26,359	28,131	35,036
Mexico						
Total Mexico	14,788,895	10,908,618	4,794,510	2,263,664	2,009,170	1,806,549
Workers in specialty occupations (H1B)	24,726	17,876	2,924	12,849	12,696	11,428
North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) professional workers (TN)	70,056	48,747	8,924	14,240	11,699	12,301
Intracompany transferees (L1)	47,177	35,889	5,777	14,978	13,761	14,476
Treaty traders and investors and spouses and children (E1 to E3)	129,582	89,060	12,709	11,054	9,231	8,777
Academic students (F1)	318,228	277,337	57,185	20,081	17,827	16,312
Exchange visitors (J1)	19,832	18,854	4,885	8,263	7,927	7,504
Temporary visitors for pleasure (B2)	12,884,148	9,470,250	4,210,932	1,789,581	1,540,249	1,379,713
Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for pleasure (WT)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Temporary visitors for business (B1)	743,764	549,958	263,158	332,727	338,411	302,495
Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for business (WB)	X	X	X	X	X	X
All other classes of admission*	551,382	400,647	228,016	59,891	57,369	53,543
All other countries*						
Total other countries	2,611,821	2,318,712	1,344,224	31,549,727	29,806,076	27,994,629
Workers in specialty occupations (H1B)	48,425	43,298	10,076	320,329	307,934	292,659
North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) professional workers (TN)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Intracompany transferees (L1)	64,361	57,080	13,234	292,044	286,270	281,666
Treaty traders and investors and spouses and children (E1 to E3)	77,737	66,810	14,478	185,309	183,423	187,223
Academic students (F1)	71,943	100,048	22,912	912,844	826,119	758,688
Exchange visitors (J1)	27,164	43,345	11,996	383,616	384,913	381,151
Temporary visitors for pleasure (B2)	916,798	769,343	385,909	8,107,875	7,277,378	6,665,583
Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for pleasure (WT)	1,149,129	967,873	793,569	14,556,938	13,853,696	13,478,984
Temporary visitors for business (B1)	70,542	71,724	36,132	1,866,276	1,949,811	1,789,471
Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for business (WB)	55,777	46,253	31,094	2,579,695	2,210,358	1,946,267
All other classes of admission*	129,945	152,938	24,824	2,344,801	2,526,174	2,212,937

X Not applicable.

* Includes unknown.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2009 to 2011.

Table 4.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Country of Citizenship: Fiscal Years 2009 to 2011

Country of citizenship	2011		2010		2009	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	53,082,286	100.0	46,471,516	100.0	36,231,554	100.0
Mexico	17,052,559	32.1	12,917,788	27.8	6,601,059	18.2
United Kingdom	4,547,728	8.6	4,539,433	9.8	4,713,284	13.0
Japan	3,777,643	7.1	3,831,174	8.2	3,368,590	9.3
Germany	2,182,441	4.1	2,076,216	4.5	2,023,971	5.6
Canada	1,868,179	3.5	1,428,940	3.1	291,642	0.8
France	1,845,227	3.5	1,696,770	3.7	1,683,372	4.6
Brazil	1,539,015	2.9	1,233,457	2.7	959,448	2.6
Korea, South	1,460,972	2.8	1,332,387	2.9	906,006	2.5
China	1,364,078	2.6	1,038,279	2.2	729,931	2.0
Australia	1,246,091	2.3	1,037,683	2.2	834,000	2.3
Other	15,698,851	29.6	14,773,452	31.8	13,825,663	38.2
Unknown	499,502	0.9	565,937	1.2	294,588	0.8

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2009 to 2011.

Port of Entry

The leading 20 ports of entry represented 69 percent of nonimmigrant admissions in 2011 (see Table 5). About half of all nonimmigrants were admitted through the following ports of entry: New York (10 percent), Miami (8.9 percent), Los Angeles (7 percent), San Ysidro (5.2 percent), Newark (4.1 percent), San Francisco (3.3 percent), Chicago (3 percent), Honolulu (3 percent), Houston (2.7 percent), and Atlanta (2.6 percent). Due to more complete counting at the land borders, the distribution of entries by leading ports changed between 2009 and 2011. In 2009, four land ports (San Ysidro, CA; Otay Mesa, CA; Juarez-Lincoln Bridge, TX; and Calexico, CA) were among the twenty leading ports of entry; in 2011, seven land ports (the ports previously mentioned; plus Nogales, AZ; Bridge of the Americas, TX; and Laredo, TX) were in the leading twenty.

State of Destination

The most frequent states of destination for I-94 nonimmigrant admissions in 2011 were California (19 percent), Florida (13 percent), Texas (12 percent), and New York (12 percent) (see Table 6). These four states represented the destinations of 56 percent of foreign nationals admitted.

Age and Gender

In 2011, 62 percent of I-94 admissions were accounted for by individuals aged 25 to 54, and 52 percent of nonimmigrant admissions were male (see Table 7). Age and gender distributions remained relatively unchanged between 2009 and 2011.

Table 5.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Port of Entry: Fiscal Years 2009 to 2011

Port of entry	2011		2010		2009	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	53,082,286	100.0	46,471,516	100.0	36,231,554	100.0
New York, NY	5,344,781	10.1	5,119,971	11.0	4,893,526	13.5
Miami, FL	4,712,293	8.9	4,277,515	9.2	4,148,134	11.4
Los Angeles, CA	3,734,815	7.0	3,420,098	7.4	3,128,072	8.6
San Ysidro, CA	2,781,270	5.2	1,862,181	4.0	818,201	2.3
Newark, NJ	2,181,506	4.1	2,260,006	4.9	2,155,169	5.9
San Francisco, CA	1,777,202	3.3	1,634,512	3.5	1,536,106	4.2
Chicago, IL	1,596,960	3.0	1,567,273	3.4	1,507,469	4.2
Honolulu, HI	1,581,719	3.0	1,456,867	3.1	1,301,172	3.6
Houston, TX	1,425,534	2.7	1,291,591	2.8	1,129,056	3.1
Atlanta, GA	1,397,240	2.6	1,341,807	2.9	1,411,368	3.9
Juarez-Lincoln Bridge, TX	1,273,830	2.4	905,928	1.9	457,376	1.3
Otay Mesa, CA	1,215,475	2.3	1,000,424	2.2	524,899	1.4
Washington, DC	1,127,737	2.1	1,124,523	2.4	1,095,936	3.0
Agana, GU	1,083,381	2.0	1,152,925	2.5	1,032,255	2.8
Nogales, AZ	1,056,990	2.0	847,218	1.8	437,850	1.2
Orlando, FL	924,684	1.7	928,145	2.0	860,652	2.4
Bridge of the Americas, TX	880,325	1.7	741,650	1.6	244,564	0.7
Dallas, TX	795,472	1.5	684,861	1.5	634,135	1.8
Laredo, TX	751,210	1.4	533,893	1.1	175,392	0.5
Calexico, CA	748,371	1.4	647,442	1.4	447,141	1.2
Other	16,504,191	31.1	13,611,305	29.3	8,250,074	22.8
Unknown	187,300	0.4	61,381	0.1	43,007	0.1

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2009 to 2011.

Table 6.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by State of Destination: Fiscal Years 2009 to 2011

State of destination	2011		2010		2009	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	53,082,286	100.0	46,471,516	100.0	36,231,554	100.0
California	10,306,971	19.4	8,251,404	17.8	5,834,364	16.1
Florida	6,690,019	12.6	6,064,266	13.0	5,538,668	15.3
Texas	6,559,787	12.4	4,739,265	10.2	2,601,837	7.2
New York	6,226,198	11.7	5,722,492	12.3	4,672,808	12.9
Arizona	1,800,715	3.4	1,494,581	3.2	915,169	2.5
Nevada	1,729,040	3.3	1,481,485	3.2	1,089,367	3.0
Hawaii	1,666,432	3.1	1,568,684	3.4	1,356,835	3.7
Michigan	1,338,947	2.5	999,172	2.2	342,745	0.9
Washington	1,158,160	2.2	895,444	1.9	658,957	1.8
Illinois	979,740	1.8	873,547	1.9	783,554	2.2
Other	9,787,909	18.4	9,082,064	19.5	7,557,160	20.9
Unknown	4,838,368	9.1	5,299,112	11.4	4,880,090	13.5

Note: Caution should be exercised when comparing 2011 and 2010 state of destination distribution with previous years because of a change in the data extraction process during 2010.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2009 to 2011.

Table 7.

Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Age and Gender: Fiscal Years 2009 to 2011

Characteristic	2011		2010		2009	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
AGE						
Total	53,082,286	100.0	46,471,516	100.0	36,231,554	100.0
Under 18 years	5,771,094	10.9	4,898,300	10.5	3,827,259	10.6
18 to 24 years	4,910,932	9.3	4,413,891	9.5	3,606,833	10.0
25 to 34 years	11,402,173	21.5	10,192,941	21.9	8,122,114	22.4
35 to 44 years	11,844,788	22.3	10,231,864	22.0	7,583,877	20.9
45 to 54 years	9,422,045	17.7	8,100,205	17.4	6,083,712	16.8
55 to 64 years	6,003,548	11.3	5,306,174	11.4	4,274,540	11.8
65 years and over	3,623,230	6.8	3,225,188	6.9	2,683,064	7.4
Unknown	104,476	0.2	102,953	0.2	50,155	0.1
GENDER						
Total	53,082,286	100.0	46,471,516	100.0	36,231,554	100.0
Male	27,385,129	51.6	23,828,461	51.3	18,563,229	51.2
Female	24,867,990	46.8	21,537,205	46.3	16,844,114	46.5
Unknown	829,167	1.6	1,105,850	2.4	824,211	2.3

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2009 to 2011.

REFERENCES

Mathews, Megan, 2012. “The Impact of Counting Changes on Nonimmigrant Admissions: Preliminary Findings,” Office of Immigration Statistics, Policy Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/statistics/publications/ois_ni_individuals_fs.pdf

Appendix A.

Nonimmigrant Classes of Admission

Class	Description
Temporary Workers and Families	
Temporary workers and trainees	
H1B	Workers in specialty occupations
H1B1	Chile and Singapore Free Trade Agreement aliens
H1C	Registered nurses participating in the Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas
H2A	Seasonal agricultural workers
H2B	Seasonal nonagricultural workers
H2R	Returning H2B workers
H3	Trainees
H4	Spouses and children of H1, H2, or H3
O1	Workers with extraordinary ability or achievement
O2	Workers accompanying and assisting in performance of O1 workers
O3	Spouses and children of O1 and O2
P1.	Internationally recognized athletes or entertainers
P2.	Artists or entertainers in reciprocal exchange programs
P3.	Artists or entertainers in culturally unique programs
P4.	Spouses and children of P1, P2, or P3
Q1	Workers in international cultural exchange programs
R1	Workers in religious occupations
R2	Spouses and children of R1
TN.	North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) professional workers
TD.	Spouses and children of TN
Intracompany transferees	
L1.	Intracompany transferees
L2.	Spouses and children of L1
Treaty traders and investors	
E1.	Treaty traders and their spouses and children
E2.	Treaty investors and their spouses and children
E3.	Australian Free Trade Agreement principals, spouses and children
Representatives of foreign information media	
I1	Representatives of foreign information media and spouses and children
Students	
F1.	Academic students
F2.	Spouses and children of F1
M1	Vocational students
M2	Spouses and children of M1
Exchange visitors	
J1.	Exchange visitors
J2.	Spouses and children of J1
Diplomats and other representatives	
A1.	Ambassadors, public ministers, career diplomatic or consular officers and their families
A2.	Other foreign government officials or employees and their families
A3.	Attendants, servants, or personal employees of A1 and A2 and their families
G1	Principals of recognized foreign governments
G2	Other representatives of recognized foreign governments
G3	Representatives of nonrecognized or nonmember foreign governments
G4	International organization officers or employees
G5	Attendants, servants, or personal employees of representatives
N1 to N7	North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) officials, spouses, and children
Temporary visitors for pleasure	
B2	Temporary visitors for pleasure
WT	Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for pleasure
GT.	Guam Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for pleasure to Guam
GMT	Guam-CNMI – temporary visitors for pleasure to Guam or Northern Mariana Islands
Temporary visitors for business	
B1	Temporary visitors for business
WB	Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for business
GB	Guam Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for business to Guam
GMB	Guam-CNMI – temporary visitors for business to Guam or Northern Mariana Islands

Appendix A.

Nonimmigrant Classes of Admission (continued)

Class	Description
Transit aliens	
C1	Aliens in continuous and immediate transit through the United States
C2	Aliens in transit to the United Nations
C3	Foreign government officials, their spouses, children, and attendants in transit
Commuter Students	
F3	Canadian or Mexican national academic commuter students
M3	Canadian or Mexican national vocational commuter students
Alien Fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens	
K1	Fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens
K2	Children of K1
Legal Immigration Family Equity (LIFE) Act	
K3	Spouses of U.S. citizens, immigrant visa pending
K4	Children of K3, immigrant visa pending
V1 to V3	Spouses and children of permanent residents, immigrant visa pending
Other	
N8	Parents of international organization special immigrants
N9	Children of N8 or international organization special immigrants
Q2	Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program aliens
Q3	Spouses and children of Q2

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.