

Immigration Enforcement Actions: 2012

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Each year, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) undertakes immigration enforcement actions involving hundreds of thousands of foreign nationals. These actions include the apprehension or arrest, detention, return, and removal from the United States of foreign nationals who are removable under U.S. immigration law (see Box 1). Foreign nationals may be removable from the United States for violations including illegally entering the United States, failing to abide by the terms and conditions of admission, or engaging in violent crimes, document and benefit fraud, terrorist activity, or drug smuggling. Primary responsibility for the enforcement of immigration law within DHS rests with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). CBP is generally responsible for immigration enforcement at and between the ports of entry and ICE is generally responsible for interior enforcement. USCIS is generally responsible for overseeing the adjudication of immigration benefit applications (see **APPENDIX**).

This Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS) Annual Report presents information on foreign nationals found inadmissible, apprehended, arrested, detained, returned, or removed during 2012.¹ Key findings in this report include:

- CBP determined 194,000 foreign nationals were inadmissible.
- DHS apprehended 643,000 foreign nationals; 70 percent were citizens of Mexico.
- ICE detained approximately 478,000 foreign nationals, an all-time high.
- 230,000 foreign nationals were returned to their home countries without a removal order.
- DHS removed 419,000 foreign nationals from the United States.² The leading countries of origin for those removed were Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador.
- Expedited removal orders accounted for 163,000, or 39 percent, of all removals.
- Reinstatements of final orders accounted for 149,000, or 36 percent, of all removals.
- ICE removed 199,000 known criminal aliens from the United States, an all-time high.³

¹ In this report, years refer to fiscal years (October 1 to September 30).

² Includes removals, counted in the year the events occurred, by both ICE and CBP. Removals and returns are reported separately.

³ Refers to persons removed who have a prior criminal conviction.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS PROCESS

Inspection Process

CBP officers within the Office of Field Operations (OFO) determine the admissibility of aliens who are applying for admission to the United States at designated ports of entry. Applicants for admission determined to be inadmissible may be permitted to voluntarily withdraw their application for admission and return to their home country, processed for expedited removal or referred to an immigration judge for removal proceedings. CBP officers may transfer aliens issued a charging document to ICE for detention and custody determinations. An expedited removal order issued by a DHS officer is equivalent to a removal order issued by an immigration judge.

Apprehension Process

Aliens who enter without inspection between ports of entry and are apprehended by U.S. Border Patrol (BP) of CBP may be removed, permitted to return to their country, or issued a Notice to Appear (NTA) before the immigration court. Aliens issued a charging document are either transferred to ICE for detention pending a hearing or released on their own recognizance.

Aliens unlawfully present in the United States and those lawfully present who are subject to removal may be identified and apprehended by ICE within the interior of the United States. The agency's two primary operating components are Homeland Security Investigations



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(HSI) and Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO). ICE may identify aliens in violation of their status for removal while they are incarcerated, during worksite enforcement operations, or through other means. Aliens apprehended by ICE are generally subject to the same consequences as aliens who are apprehended by U.S. Border Patrol.

Benefit Denial

USCIS has authority to issue an NTA or otherwise refer an alien for removal proceedings upon determining an application is not approvable. USCIS will also issue an NTA when required by statute or regulation, e.g., termination of conditional permanent resident status, termination of refugee status, or positive credible fear claims.

Detention Process

Following arrest or transfer of custody from CBP, ICE ERO makes custody redeterminations, which may result in detention or release on bond, orders of supervision, or orders of recognizance. If an alien is ordered removed, the alien may be detained pending repatriation.

Removal Process

Removal proceedings include the administrative process that leads to the removal of an alien pursuant to sections 237 or 212 of the INA.

The three most common dispositions for aliens found within the United States, including between the ports of entry, are returns, expedited removals, and reinstatements of final orders.

Return. Certain apprehended aliens who appear to be inadmissible or deportable may be offered the opportunity to return to their home country in lieu of formal removal proceedings before an immigration judge. Generally, aliens waive their right to a hearing, remain in custody, and, if applicable, agree to return under supervision. Some aliens apprehended within the United States may agree to voluntarily depart and pay the expense of departing. These departures may be granted by an immigration judge, during an immigration hearing or prior to an immigration hearing by certain DHS officials.

Expedited Removal. DHS officers and agents may order the expedited removal of certain aliens who are inadmissible because they do not possess valid entry documents or are inadmissible for fraud or misrepresentation of material fact. Aliens placed in expedited removal proceedings are generally not placed in immigration proceedings before an immigration judge but have the opportunity to seek asylum or may claim to have legal status in the United States.

Reinstatement of Final Removal Orders. Section 241(a)(5) of the INA permits DHS to reinstate final removal orders, without further hearing or review, for aliens who were removed or departed voluntarily under an order of removal and who illegally re-entered the United States.

Aliens not immediately returned or processed for removal by a DHS officer may be issued an NTA for an immigration hearing and may be transferred to ICE for a custody determination, which may result in detention or release on bond, orders of supervision, or orders of recognizance. Removal hearings before an immigration court may result in a variety of outcomes including an order of removal; a grant of voluntary departure at the alien's expense (considered a

BOX 1.

Definitions of Immigration Enforcement Terms

Administrative Removal: The removal of an alien not admitted for permanent residence, or of an alien admitted for permanent residence on a conditional basis pursuant to section 216 of the INA, under a DHS order based on the determination that the individual has been convicted of an aggravated felony (INA § 238(b)(1)). The alien may be removed without a hearing before an immigration judge.

Alien: A person who is not a citizen or national of the United States (Note that for purposes of this report, alien and foreign national are used interchangeably).

Deportable Alien: An alien in and admitted into the United States but who is subject to removal under INA § 237(a).

Detention: The physical custody of an alien in order to hold him/her, pending a determination on whether the alien is to be removed from the United States or awaiting return transportation to his/her country of citizenship, after a final order of removal has been entered.

Expedited Removal: The removal without a hearing before an immigration judge of an alien arriving in the United States who is inadmissible because the individual does not possess valid entry documents or is inadmissible for fraud or misrepresentation of material fact; or the removal of an alien who has not been admitted or paroled in the United States and who has not affirmatively shown to the satisfaction of an immigration officer, that the alien had been physically present in the United States for the immediately preceding 2-year period (INA § 235(b)(1)(A)).

Inadmissible Alien: An alien who is ineligible to receive a visa and ineligible to be admitted to the United States, according to the provisions of INA § 212(a).

Reinstatement of Final Removal Orders: The removal of an alien on the reinstatement of a prior removal order, where the alien departed the United States under an order of removal and illegally re-entered the United States (INA § 241(a)(5)). The alien may be removed without a hearing before an immigration judge.

Removable Alien: An alien who is inadmissible or deportable (INA § 240(e)(2)).

Removal: The compulsory and confirmed movement of an inadmissible or deportable alien out of the United States based on an order of removal. An alien who is removed has administrative or criminal consequences placed on subsequent reentry.

Return: The confirmed movement of an inadmissible or deportable alien out of the United States not based on an order of removal.

“return”); a grant of certain forms of relief or protection from removal, which could include adjustment to lawful permanent resident status; or termination of proceedings. Decisions of immigration judges can be appealed to the Board of Immigration Appeals.

The penalties associated with removal include not only the removal itself but also possible fines, imprisonment for up to ten years for those who fail to appear at hearings or who fail to depart, and a bar to future legal entry.⁴ The imposition and extent of these penalties depend upon the individual circumstances of the case.

⁴The bar is permanent for aggravated felons and up to 20 years for certain other aliens.

DATA⁵

Apprehension and inadmissible data are collected in the Enforcement Integrated Database (EID) using Form I-213, Seized Asset and Case Tracking System (SEACATS), and ICE Integrated Decision Support (IIDS) system. Data on individuals detained are collected through the ICE ENFORCE Alien Detention Module (EADM) and the ENFORCE Alien Removal Module (EARM). Data on USCIS NTAs are collected using a NTA Reporting Template and the USCIS NTA Database. Data on individuals removed or returned are collected through both EARM and EID.

The data on enforcement actions (e.g., inadmissible aliens, apprehensions, NTAs, and removals) relate to events. For example, an alien may be apprehended more than once, and each apprehension counts as a separate record. Removals and returns are reported separately and counted in the years the events occurred. Data appearing for a given year may change in subsequent years due to updating of the data series.⁶

TRENDS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Apprehensions

DHS made 643,474 apprehensions in 2012 (see Figure 1). The U.S. Border Patrol was responsible for 364,768 or 57 percent (see Table 1). Ninety-eight percent of Border Patrol apprehensions occurred along

⁵ CBP data (apprehensions, inadmissibles, removals, and returns) are current as of November 2012. ICE ERO apprehension data are current as of October 2012. ICE HSI data are current as of October 2012. ICE removal and return data are current as of February 2013. USCIS NTA data current as of October 2012.

⁶ ICE ERO 2008–2010 apprehensions data were revised beginning with the 2011 Immigration Enforcement Actions report.

Table 1.

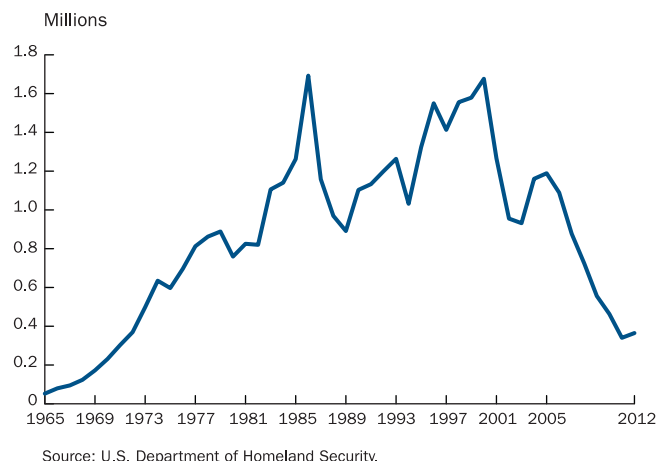
Apprehensions by Program and Country of Nationality: Fiscal Years 2010 to 2012

(Countries ranked by 2012 apprehensions)

Program and country of nationality	2012		2011		2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
PROGRAM						
Total	643,474	100.0	641,601	100.0	752,307	100.0
U.S. Border Patrol	364,768	56.7	340,252	53.0	463,382	61.6
Southwest sectors (sub-total)	356,873	55.5	327,577	51.1	447,731	59.5
ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations	262,769	40.8	285,088	44.4	270,635	36.0
ICE Homeland Security Investigations	15,937	2.5	16,261	2.5	18,290	2.4
COUNTRY OF NATIONALITY						
Total	643,474	100.0	641,601	100.0	752,307	100.0
Mexico	448,697	69.7	489,530	76.3	597,997	79.5
Guatemala	55,307	8.6	39,153	6.1	36,228	4.8
Honduras	48,984	7.6	29,120	4.5	29,939	4.0
El Salvador	37,197	5.8	25,592	4.0	27,539	3.7
Dominican Republic	4,514	0.7	4,405	0.7	5,241	0.7
Ecuador	4,324	0.7	3,237	0.5	3,819	0.5
Cuba	4,041	0.6	4,690	0.7	3,947	0.5
Jamaica	2,608	0.4	2,755	0.4	2,965	0.4
Nicaragua	2,413	0.4	2,150	0.3	2,417	0.3
Brazil	2,346	0.4	3,106	0.5	3,421	0.5
All other countries, including unknown	33,043	5.1	37,863	5.9	38,794	5.2

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Enforcement Integrated Database (EID); Seized Asset and Case Tracking System (SEACATS); and ICE Integrated Decision Support (IIDS) System; CBP Border Patrol data for 2012 are current as of November 2012, 2011 are current as of December 2011, 2010 are current as of December 2010; ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations data for 2012 are current as of October 2012, 2011 are current as of January 2012, 2010 are current as of January 2011; Homeland Security Investigations data for 2012 are current as of October 2012, 2011 and 2010 are current as of June 2012.

Figure 1.
Apprehensions by the U.S. Border Patrol: Fiscal Years 1965 to 2012



the Southwest border. ICE ERO made 262,769 administrative arrests and ICE HSI made 15,937 administrative arrests.⁷

Nationality of Apprehended Aliens. Mexican nationals accounted for 70 percent of all aliens apprehended in 2012. The next leading countries were Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. These four countries accounted for 92 percent of all apprehensions. Non-Mexican aliens accounted for 27 percent of all Border Patrol apprehensions in 2012, up from 16 percent in 2011.

⁷ An administrative arrest refers to the arrest of an alien who is charged with an immigration violation. Administrative arrests are included in the DHS apprehension totals.

Southwest Border Apprehensions. Apprehensions by the U.S. Border Patrol along the Southwest border increased 8.9 percent from 327,577 in 2011 to 356,873 in 2012. In 2012, there were more apprehensions in the Tucson, AZ sector than in any other sector (120,000) (see Table 2). Rio Grande Valley had the second highest number of apprehensions (97,762) as well as the highest increase in apprehensions between 2011 and 2012 (38,519 or 65 percent). The next leading sectors in 2012 were Laredo (44,872), San Diego (28,461), El Centro (23,916), and Del Rio (21,720).

Inadmissible Aliens

CBP Office of Field Operations (OFO) determined 193,606 foreign nationals arriving at a port of entry were inadmissible in 2012, down 8.8 percent from 212,234 in 2011 (See Table 3). Fifty-two percent of all inadmissible aliens were processed at land ports, followed by 27 percent at sea ports, and 21 percent at airports.

Nationality of Inadmissible Aliens. Mexican nationals accounted for 30 percent of inadmissible aliens, followed by Canada (16 percent) and the Philippines (12 percent). These three countries accounted for 58 percent of all inadmissible aliens in 2012.

Notices to Appear

DHS issued 233,958 NTAs in 2012, down from 250,127 in 2011 (see Table 4). The majority of NTAs in 2012 were issued by ICE ERO (140,707 or 60 percent), down from 156,208 in 2011. The remainder of NTAs were issued by USCIS (40,049 or 17 percent), BP (31,506 or 13 percent) and OFO (21,696 or 9.3 percent).

Table 2.

Apprehensions by U.S. Border Patrol Sector: Fiscal Years 2010 to 2012

(Sectors ranked by 2012 apprehensions)

Border Patrol sector	2012		2011		2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	364,768	100.0	340,252	100.0	463,382	100.0
Southwest sectors	356,873	97.8	327,577	96.3	447,731	96.6
Tucson, AZ	120,000	32.9	123,285	36.2	212,202	45.8
Rio Grande Valley, TX	97,762	26.8	59,243	17.4	59,766	12.9
Laredo, TX	44,872	12.3	36,053	10.6	35,287	7.6
San Diego, CA	28,461	7.8	42,447	12.5	68,565	14.8
El Centro, CA	23,916	6.6	30,191	8.9	32,562	7.0
Del Rio, TX	21,720	6.0	16,144	4.7	14,694	3.2
El Paso, TX	9,678	2.7	10,345	3.0	12,251	2.6
Yuma, AZ	6,500	1.8	5,833	1.7	7,116	1.5
Big Bend, TX*	3,964	1.1	4,036	1.2	5,288	1.1
All other sectors	7,895	2.2	12,675	3.7	15,651	3.4

* Formerly known as Marfa, TX.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) U.S. Border Patrol (BP), Enforcement Integrated Database (EID), November 2012.

Table 3.

Aliens Determined Inadmissible by Mode of Travel, Country of Citizenship, and Field Office: Fiscal Years 2010 to 2012

(Ranked by 2012 inadmissible aliens)

Characteristic	2012		2011		2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
MODE OF TRAVEL						
Total	193,606	100.0	212,234	100.0	229,403	100.0
Land	100,341	51.8	107,205	50.5	116,970	51.0
Sea	52,509	27.1	66,227	31.2	68,238	29.7
Air	40,756	21.1	38,802	18.3	44,195	19.3
COUNTRY						
Total	193,606	100.0	212,234	100.0	229,403	100.0
Mexico	58,658	30.3	67,410	31.8	75,464	32.9
Canada	30,731	15.9	32,141	15.1	33,148	14.4
Philippines	22,486	11.6	25,197	11.9	22,917	10.0
China, People's Republic	12,888	6.7	16,931	8.0	17,173	7.5
Cuba	12,253	6.3	7,759	3.7	7,442	3.2
India	6,907	3.6	5,983	2.8	6,577	2.9
Ukraine	2,928	1.5	4,359	2.1	4,657	2.0
Russia	2,848	1.5	3,905	1.8	3,676	1.6
Burma	2,410	1.2	2,642	1.2	4,043	1.8
United Kingdom	1,925	1.0	2,093	1.0	2,549	1.1
All other countries, including unknown	39,572	20.4	43,814	20.6	51,757	22.6
FIELD OFFICE						
Total	193,606	100.0	212,234	100.0	229,403	100.0
Laredo, TX	28,005	14.5	25,790	12.2	24,441	10.7
San Diego, CA	26,889	13.9	33,719	15.9	40,014	17.4
New Orleans, LA	20,204	10.4	20,855	9.8	19,162	8.4
Buffalo, NY	14,050	7.3	15,712	7.4	17,763	7.7
Houston, TX	12,706	6.6	19,528	9.2	18,963	8.3
Seattle, WA	10,529	5.4	10,650	5.0	10,738	4.7
San Francisco, CA	9,832	5.1	6,954	3.3	6,279	2.7
Pre-Clearance*	8,559	4.4	8,586	4.0	9,539	4.2
Atlanta, GA	7,984	4.1	8,726	4.1	9,163	4.0
Tucson, AZ	7,612	3.9	7,951	3.7	8,735	3.8
All other field offices, including unknown	47,236	24.4	53,763	25.3	64,606	28.2

* Refers to field offices abroad.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection, Office of Field Operations, Enforcement Integrated Database (EID), October 2012.

Table 4.

Notices to Appear Issued by Homeland Security Office: Fiscal Years 2010 to 2012

(Ranked by 2012 notices to appear)

Homeland Security office	2012		2011		2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	233,958	100.0	250,127	100.0	260,143	100.0
ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations	140,707	60.1	156,208	62.5	152,345	58.6
United States Citizenship and Immigration Services	40,049	17.1	44,638	17.8	53,820	20.7
CBP Border Patrol	31,506	13.5	31,739	12.7	34,986	13.4
Office of Field Operations	21,696	9.3	17,542	7.0	18,992	7.3

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection, Border Patrol, Enforcement Integrated Database (EID), November 2012; ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations, ICE Integrated Decision Support (IIDS) System, October 2012; Office of Field Operations, Enforcement Integrated Database (EID), October 2012, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Performance Reporting Tool (PRT), October 2012.

Detentions

ICE detained an all-time high of 477,523 aliens during 2012, an increase of 11 percent from 2011 (See Table 5). Mexican nationals accounted for 64 percent of total detainees. The next leading countries were Guatemala (11 percent), Honduras (8.5 percent) and El Salvador (6.6 percent). These four countries accounted for 90 percent of all detainees in 2012.

Removals and Returns

Total Removals. The number of removals increased from 388,409 in 2011 to an all-time high of 419,384 in 2012 (see Table 6 and Figure 2). Mexican nationals accounted for 73 percent of all aliens removed in 2012. The next leading countries were Guatemala (9.2 percent), Honduras (7.5 percent) and El Salvador (4.5 percent). These four countries accounted for 94 percent of all removals in 2012 (see Table 7).

Expedited Removals. Expedited removals represented 39 percent of all removals in 2012, up from 31 percent in 2011 but down from an all-time high of 49 percent in 1999. Aliens from Mexico accounted for 77 percent of expedited removals in 2012. The next leading countries were Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. Nationals from these four countries accounted for 97 percent of all expedited removals in 2012.

Reinstatements. Reinstatements of previous removal orders accounted for 36 percent of all removals in 2012. The number of removals based on a reinstatement of final orders increased every year between 2005 and 2012. In 2012, aliens from Mexico accounted for 78 percent of all reinstatements. Other leading countries

Table 5.

Initial Admissions to ICE Detention Facilities by Country of Nationality: Fiscal Years 2010 to 2012

(Ranked by 2012 detention admissions)

Country of nationality	2012		2011		2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	477,523	100.0	429,247	100.0	363,064	100.0
Mexico	307,523	64.4	288,581	67.2	219,858	60.6
Guatemala	50,723	10.6	38,450	9.0	35,744	9.8
Honduras	40,469	8.5	26,416	6.2	27,879	7.7
El Salvador	31,286	6.6	23,792	5.5	25,589	7.0
Dominican Republic	4,265	0.9	4,201	1.0	5,003	1.4
Ecuador	3,856	0.8	2,957	0.7	3,635	1.0
Jamaica	2,365	0.5	2,597	0.6	2,636	0.7
Nicaragua	2,131	0.4	2,015	0.5	2,364	0.7
Cuba	2,090	0.4	2,358	0.5	2,423	0.7
China, People's Republic	2,022	0.4	2,347	0.5	2,407	0.7
All other countries, including unknown	30,793	6.4	35,533	8.3	35,526	9.8

Note: Excludes Office of Refugee Resettlement and Mexican Interior Repatriation Program facilities.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, ENFORCE Alien Detention Module (EADM), October 2012.

Table 6.

Trends in Total Removals, Expedited Removals, and Reinstatements of Final Removal Orders: Fiscal Years 2010 to 2012

Removals	2012		2011		2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	419,384	100.0	388,409	100.0	383,031	100.0
Expedited Removals	163,498	39.0	122,320	31.5	109,867	28.7
Reinstatements	149,202	35.6	125,975	32.4	123,489	32.2
All other removals	106,684	25.4	140,114	36.1	149,675	39.1

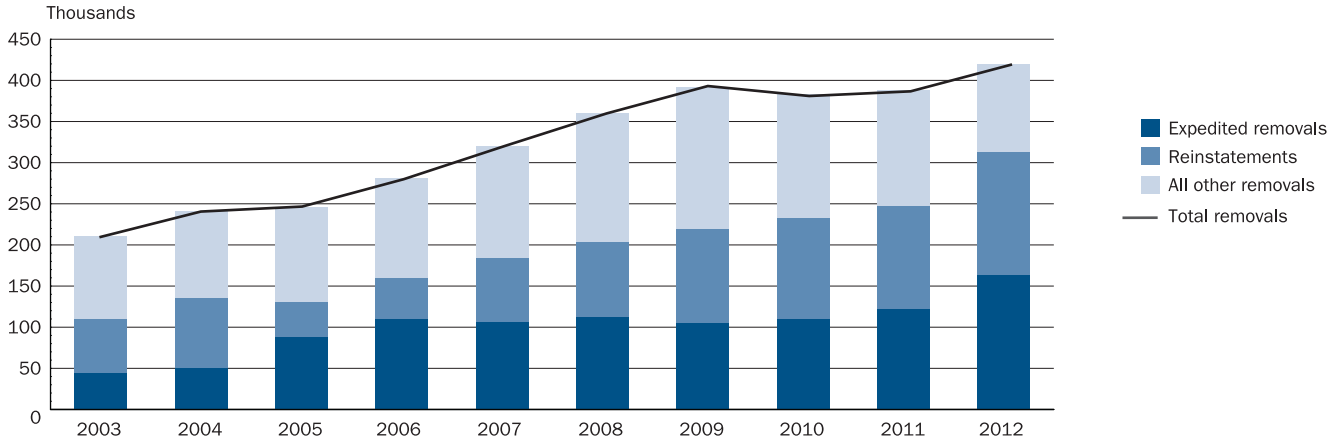
Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, ENFORCE Alien Removal Module (EARM), February 2013, Enforcement Integrated Database (EID), November 2012.

included Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador. These four countries accounted for 98 percent of all reinstatements in 2012.

Criminal Activity. Approximately 199,000 aliens removed in 2012 had a prior criminal conviction.⁸ The most common categories of crime were immigration-related offenses, criminal traffic offenses, and dangerous drugs. Immigration-related offenses increased 26 percent from 2011 to 2012. These three leading categories accounted for 68 percent of all criminal alien removals in 2012 (see Table 8).

⁸ Excludes criminals removed by CBP; CBP EID data do not identify if aliens removed were criminals.

Figure 2.
Total Removals, Expedited Removals and Reinstatements: Fiscal Years 2003 to 2012



Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Table 7.
Aliens Removed by Criminal Status and Country of Nationality: Fiscal Years 2010 to 2012
(Ranked by 2012 aliens removed)

Country of nationality	2012			2011			2010		
	Total	Criminal*	Non-Criminal	Total	Criminal*	Non-Criminal	Total	Criminal*	Non-Criminal
Total	419,384	199,445	219,939	388,409	188,964	199,445	383,031	169,656	213,375
Mexico	306,870	151,018	155,852	289,347	145,133	144,214	273,915	128,396	145,519
Guatemala	38,677	13,459	25,218	30,343	11,718	18,625	29,710	9,432	20,278
Honduras	31,515	13,785	17,730	22,028	10,825	11,203	25,121	10,420	14,701
El Salvador	18,677	8,640	10,037	17,381	8,507	8,874	20,347	8,368	11,979
Dominican Republic	2,833	2,168	665	2,893	2,142	751	3,371	2,241	1,130
Brazil	2,256	421	1,835	3,350	550	2,800	3,533	487	3,046
Ecuador	1,720	702	1,018	1,716	704	1,012	2,385	692	1,693
Colombia	1,499	1,043	456	1,900	1,048	852	2,403	1,241	1,162
Nicaragua	1,373	725	648	1,502	696	806	1,903	804	1,099
Jamaica	1,311	1,147	164	1,475	1,225	250	1,483	1,169	314
All other countries, including unknown . .	12,653	6,337	6,316	16,474	6,416	10,058	18,860	6,406	12,454

* Refers to persons removed who have a prior criminal conviction.

Note: Excludes criminals removed by Customs and Border Protection (CBP). CBP EID does not identify if aliens removed were criminals.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, ENFORCE Alien Removal Module (EARM), February 2013, Enforcement Integrated Database (EID), November 2012.

Returns. In 2012, 229,968 aliens were returned to their home countries without an order of removal, a decline of 29 percent from 2011 and the lowest number since 1969 (see Table 9). 2012 was the eighth consecutive year in which returns declined. The decrease between 2011 and 2012 is partly due to changes in the issuance of administrative returns by Border Patrol. Sixty-nine percent of returns in 2012 involved Mexican or Canadian aliens, down from 72 percent in 2011. The next leading countries of nationality in 2012 were the Philippines (9.1 percent) and China (5.1 percent).

Enforcement Actions by Age and Sex

Males accounted for the largest proportion of each enforcement action, ranging from 72 percent (inadmissible aliens) to 89 percent (removals) in 2012 (Table 10). The proportion of female aliens was highest in those found inadmissible (27 percent). Nearly half of most immigration actions in 2012 involved aliens under age 30. The same age group represented 35 percent of aliens found inadmissible.

Table 8.**Criminal Aliens Removed by Crime Category: Fiscal Years 2010 to 2012**

(Ranked by 2012 criminal aliens removed)

Crime Category	2012		2011		2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	199,445	100.0	188,964	100.0	169,656	100.0
Immigration*	47,438	23.8	37,606	19.9	31,828	18.8
Criminal Traffic Offenses**	46,038	23.1	43,154	22.8	31,062	18.3
Dangerous Drugs†	42,620	21.4	43,378	23.0	42,890	25.3
Assault	12,962	6.5	12,783	6.8	12,175	7.2
Larceny	5,388	2.7	5,728	3.0	5,459	3.2
Fraudulent Activities	3,849	1.9	4,232	2.2	3,889	2.3
Robbery	3,580	1.8	3,757	2.0	3,646	2.1
Burglary	3,536	1.8	3,808	2.0	4,213	2.5
Sexual Assault	3,349	1.7	3,576	1.9	3,268	1.9
Public Peace‡	2,730	1.4	2,493	1.3	2,240	1.3
All other categories, including unknown	27,955	14.0	28,449	15.1	28,986	17.1

* Including entry and reentry, false claims to citizenship, and alien smuggling.

** Including hit and run and driving under the influence.

† Including the manufacturing, distribution, sale, and possession of illegal drugs.

‡ Including disorderly conduct.

Notes: Data refers to persons removed who have a prior criminal conviction. Excludes criminals removed by Customs and Border Protection (CBP). CBP EID does not identify if aliens removed were criminals.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, ENFORCE Alien Removal Module (EARM), February 2013.

Table 9.**Aliens Returned by Country of Nationality: Fiscal Years 2010 to 2012**

(Ranked by 2012 aliens returned)

Country of nationality	2012		2011		2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	229,968	100.0	322,164	100.0	474,275	100.0
Mexico	131,818	57.3	205,195	63.7	353,892	74.6
Canada	27,038	11.8	28,274	8.8	29,144	6.1
Philippines	20,894	9.1	23,150	7.2	21,413	4.5
China, People's Republic	11,775	5.1	16,234	5.0	16,449	3.5
India	3,255	1.4	4,136	1.3	4,695	1.0
Ukraine	2,588	1.1	4,111	1.3	4,415	0.9
Russia	2,437	1.1	3,512	1.1	3,189	0.7
Burma	2,337	1.0	2,582	0.8	3,951	0.8
Guatemala	2,298	1.0	3,026	0.9	2,314	0.5
United Kingdom	1,351	0.6	1,604	0.5	1,774	0.4
All other countries, including unknown	24,177	10.5	30,340	9.4	33,039	7.0

Note: Returns are the confirmed movement of an inadmissible or deportable alien out of the United States not based on an order of removal.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, ENFORCE Alien Removal Module (EARM), February 2013, Enforcement Integrated Database (EID), November 2012.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about immigration and immigration statistics, visit the Office of Immigration Statistics Web site at www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics.

Table 10.

Enforcement Actions by Age and Sex: Fiscal Year 2012

Characteristic	Apprehensions		Inadmissible Aliens		Notices to Appear*		Removals		Returns	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
AGE										
Total	643,474	100.0	193,606	100.0	193,909	100.0	419,384	100.0	229,968	100.0
Under 18	33,333	5.2	9,418	4.9	15,960	8.2	721	0.2	24,358	10.6
18 to 24	171,112	26.6	28,625	14.8	39,027	20.1	111,644	26.6	47,567	20.7
25-29	132,428	20.6	30,212	15.6	38,691	20.0	91,760	21.9	40,317	17.5
30-34	110,497	17.2	26,910	13.9	32,892	17.0	78,047	18.6	31,994	13.9
35-39	83,346	13.0	25,366	13.1	24,608	12.7	59,997	14.3	26,416	11.5
40-44	51,616	8.0	21,705	11.2	16,545	8.5	37,623	9.0	19,941	8.7
45-49	28,479	4.4	17,895	9.2	10,371	5.3	21,004	5.0	14,821	6.4
50-54	14,239	2.2	13,582	7.0	5,576	2.9	10,786	2.6	10,668	4.6
55-59	6,334	1.0	8,878	4.6	2,856	1.5	4,882	1.2	6,602	2.9
60-64	2,267	0.4	5,278	2.7	1,384	0.7	1,920	0.5	3,488	1.5
65-69	768	0.1	2,854	1.5	625	0.3	661	0.2	1,895	0.8
70-74	274	0.0	1,539	0.8	276	0.1	227	0.1	1,052	0.5
75-79	75	0.0	798	0.4	121	0.1	75	0.0	502	0.2
80 and over	31	0.0	539	0.3	62	0.0	17	0.0	336	0.1
Unknown	8,675	1.3	7	0.0	4,915	2.5	20	0.0	11	0.0
SEX										
Total	643,474	100.0	193,606	100.0	193,909	100.0	419,384	100.0	229,968	100.0
Female	77,991	12.1	53,076	27.4	28,548	14.7	44,613	10.6	38,934	16.9
Male	556,819	86.5	138,772	71.7	165,162	85.2	374,605	89.3	189,908	82.6
Unknown	8,664	1.3	1,758	0.9	199	0.1	166	0.0	1,126	0.5

*Excludes NTAs issued by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Enforcement Integrated Database (EID), ICE Integrated Decision Support System (IIDS), Performance Reporting Tool (PRT), ENFORCE Alien Removal Module (EARM).

APPENDIX

ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM OFFICES

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

Office of Field Operations

CBP’s Office of Field Operations (OFO) is responsible for securing the U.S. border at ports of entry while facilitating lawful trade and travel. CBP officers determine the admissibility of aliens who are applying for admission to the United States at designated ports of entry.

U.S. Border Patrol

The primary mission of CBP’s U.S. Border Patrol is to secure approximately 7,000 miles of international land border with Canada and Mexico and 2,600 miles of coastal border of the United States. Its major objectives are to deter, detect, and interdict the illegal entry of aliens, terrorists, terrorist weapons, and other contraband into the United States. Border Patrol operations are divided into geographic regions referred to as sectors.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

Homeland Security Investigations

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Directorate is a critical asset in the ICE mission, responsible for disrupting and dismantling

transnational criminal threats facing the United States. HSI uses its legal authorities to investigate immigration and customs violations such as human rights violations; narcotics; weapons smuggling and the smuggling of other types of contraband; financial crimes; cyber crimes; human trafficking; child pornography; intellectual property violations; commercial fraud; export violations; and identity and benefit fraud. HSI special agents also conduct national security investigations aimed at protecting critical infrastructure vulnerable to sabotage, attack, or exploitation. In addition to domestic HSI criminal investigations, HSI oversees ICE’s international affairs operations and intelligence functions.

Enforcement and Removal Operations

Officers and agents of ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) serve as the primary enforcement arm within ICE for the identification, apprehension, and removal of illegal aliens from the United States. ERO transports removable aliens, manages aliens in custody or in an alternative detention program, and removes individuals ordered to be deported from the United States.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) oversees lawful immigration to the United States. USCIS provides accurate and useful information to its customers, granting immigration and citizenship benefits, promoting an awareness and understanding of citizenship, and ensuring the integrity of the immigration system.