

# Nonimmigrant Admissions to the United States: 2009

RANDALL MONGER AND MACREADIE BARR

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, those recorded on the I-94 Arrival/Departure Record. This Office of Immigration Statistics *Annual Flow Report* presents information gathered from the I-94 on the number and characteristics of nonimmigrant admissions to the United States in 2009.<sup>1</sup>

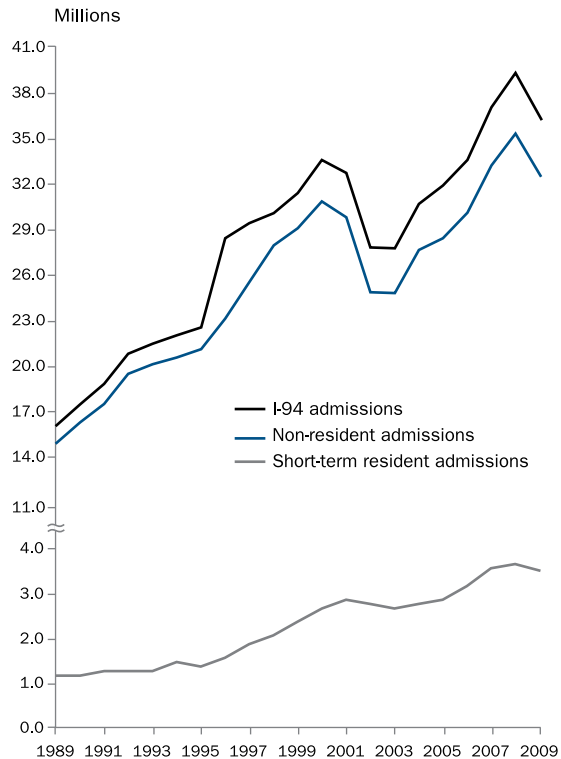
During 2009, there were 163 million nonimmigrant admissions to the United States according to DHS workload estimates.<sup>2</sup> These included tourists and business travelers from Canada, Mexican nationals with Border Crossing Cards, and all admissions requiring the submission of an I-94 form. I-94 admissions accounted for 22 percent (36 million) of the total admissions. The majority (90 percent) of I-94 admissions were short-term visitors, such as tourists and business travelers, while the remaining 10 percent (3.4 million) were temporary residents characterized by a longer duration of stay, such as specialty workers, students, and nurses (see Figure 1 and Table 1). 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 or pleasure; aliens in transit; treaty traders and investors; academic and vocational students; temporary workers; exchange visitors; athletes and entertainers; victims of certain crimes; and family members of U.S. citizens, LPRs, and special immigrants. Maximum duration of stay is determined by class of admission. A person granted lawful permanent resident status<sup>3</sup> is authorized to live, work, and

study in the U.S. permanently; conversely, a nonimmigrant is in a temporary status as a visitor or short-term resident for a specific purpose and whose activities,

Figure 1.  
Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 Only):  
1989 to 2009



Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Fiscal Years 1989 to 2009.

<sup>1</sup> In this report, years refer to fiscal years (October 1 to September 30).  
<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Operations Management Reporting, Fiscal Year 2009.  
<sup>3</sup> Commonly referred to as a legal permanent resident (LPR) or “green card recipient.”



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 persons. As such, one nonimmigrant may enter the U.S. more than once, and each entry would count as a separate admission record. 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 an I-94 form 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 the I-94 requirement.<sup>4</sup>

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.

### I-94 Arrival/Departure Record Admissions

An I-94 form is required for all nonimmigrants entering the United States except the Canadian and Mexican citizens (and NATO officials) described above. The remainder of this report will focus on 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 *Nonimmigrant Visa Application*, Form DS-156, must be completed and signed 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

<sup>4</sup>North 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.

Border Protection (CBP) officer determines whether the nonimmigrant may enter the U.S. and the permitted duration of stay. Foreign nationals with a nonimmigrant visa must complete the I-94 form.

### 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 effective January 2009, obtain approval from the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA). ESTA is an Internet-based system that determines the preliminary eligibility of visitors to be admitted under the VWP prior to their embarking on trips to the United States. 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. Those entering under the VWP must complete the I-94W form.<sup>5</sup>

At the beginning of Fiscal Year 2009, 27 countries participated in the Visa Waiver Program: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. Effective November 17, 2008, the VWP was expanded to include the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, South Korea, and Slovakia, and effective December 30, 2008, Malta was added to the program.<sup>6</sup>

### Classes of Admission

For the purpose of this report, nonimmigrant classes of admission are grouped into the following broad categories based on grounds for admission into the United States and expected duration of stay: “short-term resident” (herein referred to as residents), “non-resident,” and “expected long-term resident.” This categorization differentiates nonimmigrants who live in the United States while working or studying from other nonimmigrants. The former are usually considered U.S. residents for purposes of official population enumeration. Resident nonimmigrant classes of admission include temporary workers and

<sup>5</sup>The I-94W is scheduled to be discontinued in 2010; ESTA registration will replace the I-94W requirement.

<sup>6</sup>A similar visa-free entry program exists for nationals of certain countries seeking admission to Guam only—the Guam Visa Waiver Program. In addition to the 35 countries included in the Visa Waiver Program, 8 more countries were included in the GVWP during 2009: Indonesia, Malaysia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Taiwan, and Vanuatu. GVWP admissions are typically processed through Agaña, Guam.

trainees, students, treaty traders and investors, intracompany transferees, representatives of foreign media, exchange visitors, and others (see Appendix A). Non-resident nonimmigrant classes of admission include temporary visitors for business or pleasure, foreign nationals in transit through the United States, and commuter students. The expected long-term resident category includes fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens and their children and victims of trafficking and abuse. The majority of foreign nationals admitted in expected long-term classes are expected to apply for and to be granted lawful permanent resident status.

## DATA

The data in this report were obtained from TECS of CBP which compiles and maintains information collected from nonimmigrants on the I-94 Arrival/Departure Record. Information collected on the I-94 form includes arrival and departure dates, port of entry, class of admission, country of citizenship, state of destination, age, and gender.

## TRENDS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF NONIMMIGRANT ADMISSIONS

Between 2008 and 2009, I-94 admissions decreased 8 percent from 39.4 million to 36.2 million—the first year-to-year decrease in 5 years. Although nonimmigrant admissions declined after September 11, 2001, entries recovered to pre-2001 levels by 2006, reaching a record level in 2008. During the 20-year period from 1989 to 2009, the annual number of I-94 admissions more than doubled from 16 million to 36 million.

As outlined under the section titled “Classes of Admission,” I-94 admissions have been divided into resident, non-resident, and expected long-term resident categories. Residents accounted for between 9 and 10 percent of I-94 admissions in each year from 2007 to 2009 (see Table 1). During this period, non-residents represented 90 percent of annual I-94 admissions, while expected long-term residents accounted for only two-tenths of a percent. Resident and non-resident admissions are discussed separately below; the expected long-term resident category is not included because of low admission numbers.

Table 1.

**Nonimmigrant Admissions (I-94 only) by Category of Admission: Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009**

Category of admission	2009		2008		2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	36,231,554	100.0	39,381,928	100.0	37,149,651	100.0
Non-residents	32,544,098	89.8	35,434,175	90.0	33,301,754	89.6
Temporary visitors for pleasure	27,800,027	76.7	29,442,168	74.8	27,486,177	74.0
Temporary visitors for business	4,390,888	12.1	5,603,668	14.2	5,418,884	14.6
Transit aliens	346,695	1.0	387,237	1.0	396,383	1.1
Commuter students	6,488	-	1,102	-	310	-
Short-term residents	3,438,276	9.5	3,688,167	9.4	3,566,367	9.6
Temporary workers and families	1,703,697	4.7	1,949,695	5.0	1,932,075	5.2
Students	951,964	2.6	917,373	2.3	841,673	2.3
Exchange visitors	459,408	1.3	506,138	1.3	489,286	1.3
Diplomats and other representatives	323,183	0.9	314,920	0.8	303,290	0.8
Other	24	-	41	-	43	-
Expected long-term residents	53,019	0.1	59,097	0.2	76,158	0.2
Alien fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens and children	32,009	0.1	34,863	0.1	38,507	0.1
Alien spouses of U.S. citizens and children, immigrant visa pending	15,515	-	15,694	-	18,495	-
Alien spouses of U.S. permanent residents and children, immigrant visa pending	5,445	-	8,478	-	19,099	0.1
Other	50	-	62	-	57	-
Unknown	196,161	0.5	200,489	0.5	205,372	0.6

- Represents zero or rounds to 0.0.

Note: Excludes the majority of short-term admissions from Canada and Mexico. See Appendix A for classes included in each category.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009.

Table 2.

## Short-term Resident Nonimmigrant Admissions by Class of Admission: Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009

Class of admission	2009		2008		2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	3,438,276	100.0	3,688,167	100.0	3,566,367	100.0
Temporary workers and families	1,703,697	49.6	1,949,695	52.9	1,932,075	54.2
Temporary workers and trainees	936,272	27.2	1,101,938	29.9	1,118,138	31.4
Workers in specialty occupations (H1B)	339,243	9.9	409,619	11.1	461,730	12.9
Chile and Singapore Free Trade Agreement (H1B1)	213	—	153	—	170	—
Registered nurses participating in the Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas (H1C)	231	—	170	—	49	—
Seasonal agricultural workers (H2A)*	149,763	4.4	173,103	4.7	87,316	2.4
Seasonal nonagricultural workers and returning H2B workers (H2B,H2R)	56,543	1.6	109,621	3.0	154,895	4.3
Trainees (H3)	4,168	0.1	6,156	0.2	5,540	0.2
Workers with extraordinary ability or achievement and their assistants (O1,O2)	58,566	1.7	53,735	1.5	46,533	1.3
Internationally recognized athletes or entertainers (P1)	54,432	1.6	57,030	1.5	53,050	1.5
Artists or entertainers in reciprocal exchange or culturally unique programs (P2,P3)	15,469	0.4	17,125	0.5	16,735	0.5
Workers in international cultural exchange programs (Q1)	2,555	0.1	3,231	0.1	2,412	0.1
Workers in religious occupations (R1)	17,362	0.5	25,106	0.7	25,162	0.7
North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) professional workers (TN)	99,018	2.9	88,382	2.4	85,142	2.4
Spouses and children of temporary workers and trainees (H4,O3,P4,R2,TD)	138,709	4.0	158,507	4.3	179,404	5.0
Intracompany transferees	493,992	14.4	558,485	15.1	531,073	14.9
Intracompany transferees (L1)	333,386	9.7	382,776	10.4	363,536	10.2
Spouses and children of intracompany transferees (L2)	160,606	4.7	175,709	4.8	167,537	4.7
Treaty traders and investors and spouses and children (E1 to E3)	229,301	6.7	243,386	6.6	238,936	6.7
Representatives of foreign media and spouses and children (I1)	44,132	1.3	45,886	1.2	43,928	1.2
Students	951,964	27.7	917,373	24.9	841,673	23.6
Academic students (F1)	895,392	26.0	859,169	23.3	787,756	22.1
Vocational students (M1)	14,632	0.4	15,496	0.4	13,073	0.4
Spouses and children of academic and vocational students (F2,M2)	41,940	1.2	42,708	1.2	40,844	1.1
Exchange visitors	459,408	13.4	506,138	13.7	489,286	13.7
Exchange visitors (J1)	413,150	12.0	459,126	12.4	443,482	12.4
Spouses and children of exchange visitors (J2)	46,258	1.3	47,012	1.3	45,804	1.3
Diplomats and other representatives	323,183	9.4	314,920	8.5	303,290	8.5
Ambassadors, public ministers, career diplomats, consular officers, other foreign government officials and their spouses, children, and attendants (A1 to A3)	175,119	5.1	169,267	4.6	163,476	4.6
Representatives to international organizations and their spouses, children, and attendants (G1 to G5)	127,584	3.7	125,669	3.4	120,926	3.4
NATO officials and their families (N1 to N7)	20,480	0.6	19,984	0.5	18,888	0.5
Other	24	—	41	—	43	—

— Represents zero or rounds to 0.0.

\* The increase in H2A admissions between 2007 and 2008 may be due to more complete recording of pedestrian admissions along the Southwest border.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009.

## SHORT-TERM RESIDENT ADMISSIONS

Resident nonimmigrant admissions decreased 6.8 percent from 3.7 million in 2008 to 3.4 million in 2009 (see Figure 1). Admissions of nonimmigrant residents had increased each year between 2003 and 2008 after a post-2001 decline. From 1989 to 2009, the annual number of resident nonimmigrant admissions increased by almost threefold.

### Class of Admission

The leading resident nonimmigrant categories in 2009 were temporary workers and families (50 percent) and students (28 percent) (see Table 2). These two categories accounted for over three-quarters of resident admissions. This composition remained relatively unchanged from 2007 to 2009.

Admissions of temporary workers and families declined 13 percent from 2008 to 2009. H1B admissions decreased 17 percent from 409,619 in 2008 to 339,243 in 2009. Entries of seasonal nonagricultural workers (H2B and H2R) declined 48 percent from 109,621 in 2008 to 56,543 in 2009.<sup>7</sup> Student admissions rose 3.8 percent from 2008 to 2009, reflecting an increase in academic student entries (F1). Entries of intracompany transferees (L1) fell 13 percent from 2008 to 2009, and exchange visitor admissions (J1) decreased 10 percent during the same period.

<sup>7</sup> Issuances of H2R (returning H2B workers not subject to annual numerical limits) ceased at the end of 2007.

## Country of Citizenship

The leading countries of citizenship for resident nonimmigrant admissions to the United States in 2009 were Mexico (12 percent), India (11 percent), Japan (6.6 percent), Canada (6.4 percent), China (5.8 percent), the United Kingdom (5.6 percent), and South Korea (5.6 percent) (see Table 3). These seven countries accounted for more than 50 percent of resident nonimmigrant admissions to the United States.

From 2008 to 2009, decreases in resident admissions occurred among eight of the ten leading countries of citizenship. The decrease in admissions from Mexico (8.2 percent decrease) was concentrated among seasonal non-agricultural workers (H2B) and seasonal agricultural workers (H2A), while the decrease from India (14 percent decrease) was attributable to workers in specialty occupations (H1B). Declines in admissions from Japan occurred in the following classes of admission: treaty investors, spouses, and children (E2); academic students (F1); and intracompany transferees (L1). Increases in resident nonimmigrant admissions occurred among citizens from China (23 percent increase) and Canada (5.8 percent increase). The increase in admissions from China was largely accounted for by academic students (F1). The increase from Canada was concentrated among admissions of NAFTA professional workers (TN) and academic students (F1).

## Select Classes of Admission by Country of Citizenship

The leading countries of citizenship for H1B admissions in 2009 were India (36 percent), Canada (6.5 percent), the United Kingdom (4.3 percent), and Mexico (4.2 percent) (see Table 4). Nationals from these four countries accounted for 51 percent of H1B admissions. In 2009, leading source countries for L1 entries included India (16 percent), the United Kingdom (13 percent), and Japan (9.9 percent) (see Table 4). Forty percent of L1 admissions were accounted for by nationals of these three countries.

Nearly half of academic student admissions (F1) were nationals of five countries: China (14 percent), South Korea (13 percent), India (9 percent), Mexico (8.2 percent), and Japan (5.6 percent) (see Table 5). Between 2007 and 2009, admissions of Chinese academic students increased, while F1 entries from Japan declined.

Table 3.

### Short-term Resident Nonimmigrant Admissions by Country of Citizenship: Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009

Country of citizenship	2009		2008		2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total . . . . .	3,438,276	100.0	3,688,167	100.0	3,566,367	100.0
Mexico . . . . .	403,793	11.7	440,099	11.9	378,612	10.6
India . . . . .	364,757	10.6	425,826	11.5	403,106	11.3
Japan . . . . .	228,483	6.6	257,401	7.0	268,914	7.5
Canada . . . . .	221,208	6.4	209,125	5.7	209,464	5.9
China . . . . .	201,131	5.8	163,433	4.4	136,886	3.8
United Kingdom . . . . .	193,764	5.6	216,280	5.9	226,262	6.3
Korea, South . . . . .	192,970	5.6	216,648	5.9	211,013	5.9
Germany . . . . .	140,642	4.1	153,396	4.2	151,690	4.3
France . . . . .	113,704	3.3	119,284	3.2	115,309	3.2
Brazil . . . . .	82,780	2.4	88,064	2.4	80,695	2.3
Other . . . . .	1,269,068	36.9	1,378,438	37.4	1,365,421	38.3
Unknown . . . . .	25,976	0.8	20,173	0.5	18,995	0.5

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009.

Table 4.

### H1B and L1 Admissions by Country of Citizenship: Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009

Country of citizenship	2009		2008		2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>H1B Admissions, Workers in Specialty Occupations</b>						
Total . . . . .	339,243	100.0	409,619	100.0	461,730	100.0
India . . . . .	123,002	36.3	154,726	37.8	157,613	34.1
Canada . . . . .	22,156	6.5	23,312	5.7	26,209	5.7
United Kingdom . . . . .	14,610	4.3	19,209	4.7	25,507	5.5
Mexico . . . . .	14,352	4.2	16,382	4.0	18,165	3.9
China . . . . .	12,922	3.8	13,828	3.4	16,628	3.6
Other . . . . .	150,887	44.5	181,073	44.2	216,343	46.9
Unknown . . . . .	1,314	0.4	1,089	0.3	1,265	0.3
<b>L1 Admissions, Intracompany Transferees</b>						
Total . . . . .	333,386	100.0	382,776	100.0	363,536	100.0
India . . . . .	54,556	16.4	63,156	16.5	51,469	14.2
United Kingdom . . . . .	44,033	13.2	52,687	13.8	53,948	14.8
Japan . . . . .	32,860	9.9	37,507	9.8	36,008	9.9
Mexico . . . . .	20,253	6.1	21,714	5.7	21,178	5.8
France . . . . .	18,779	5.6	21,858	5.7	20,141	5.5
Other . . . . .	161,693	48.5	185,255	48.4	180,211	49.6
Unknown . . . . .	1,212	0.4	599	0.2	581	0.2

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009.

Table 5.

### F1 Academic Student Admissions by Country of Citizenship: Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009

Country of citizenship	2009		2008		2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total . . . . .	895,392	100.0	859,169	100.0	787,756	100.0
China . . . . .	125,141	14.0	90,290	10.5	67,303	8.5
Korea, South . . . . .	113,519	12.7	127,185	14.8	117,446	14.9
India . . . . .	80,251	9.0	85,067	9.9	74,276	9.4
Mexico . . . . .	73,497	8.2	54,084	6.3	54,836	7.0
Japan . . . . .	50,067	5.6	58,081	6.8	64,641	8.2
Other . . . . .	444,922	49.7	439,023	51.1	404,520	51.4
Unknown . . . . .	7,995	0.9	5,439	0.6	4,734	0.6

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009.

## State of Destination and Port of Entry

The most frequent destinations of resident nonimmigrant admissions in 2009 were California (14 percent), New York (13 percent), Texas (8.5 percent), and Florida (6.5 percent) (see Table 6). These four states represented the destinations of 42 percent of foreign nationals admitted.

The majority of resident nonimmigrants were admitted through the following ports of entry: New York (16 percent), Chicago (7.8 percent), Los Angeles (7.8 percent), Washington, DC (7 percent), Newark (6.8 percent), and Miami (6.2 percent) (see Table 7). In 2009, these six ports represented over half (52 percent) of resident admissions.

## Age and Gender

In 2009, more than half (54 percent) of resident admissions were accounted for by individuals aged 25 to 44 (see Table 8). Another 24 percent of admissions were by persons aged 18 to 24. The majority (60 percent) of resident nonimmigrant admissions were male (see Table 8).

**Table 6.**

### Short-term Resident Nonimmigrant Admissions by State of Destination: Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009

State of destination	2009		2008		2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total . . . . .	3,438,276	100.0	3,688,167	100.0	3,566,367	100.0
California . . . . .	484,565	14.1	525,788	14.3	510,887	14.3
New York . . . . .	449,933	13.1	490,386	13.3	477,225	13.4
Texas . . . . .	290,928	8.5	292,340	7.9	293,897	8.2
Florida . . . . .	224,512	6.5	262,459	7.1	272,923	7.7
Massachusetts . . . . .	139,534	4.1	145,459	3.9	141,527	4.0
New Jersey . . . . .	132,723	3.9	157,601	4.3	157,535	4.4
Arizona . . . . .	127,492	3.7	152,721	4.1	77,157	2.2
Illinois . . . . .	112,423	3.3	125,994	3.4	122,735	3.4
Michigan . . . . .	111,981	3.3	104,919	2.8	101,397	2.8
Virginia . . . . .	103,990	3.0	113,609	3.1	115,695	3.2
Other . . . . .	1,135,606	33.0	1,248,623	33.9	1,223,962	34.3
Unknown . . . . .	124,589	3.6	68,268	1.9	71,427	2.0

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009.

**Table 7.**

### Short-term Resident Admissions by Port of Entry: Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009

Port of entry	2009		2008		2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total . . . . .	3,438,276	100.0	3,688,167	100.0	3,566,367	100.0
New York, NY . . . . .	554,476	16.1	605,002	16.4	592,907	16.6
Chicago, IL . . . . .	269,315	7.8	289,966	7.9	294,245	8.3
Los Angeles, CA . . . . .	266,627	7.8	300,063	8.1	305,214	8.6
Washington, DC . . . . .	239,251	7.0	229,028	6.2	214,178	6.0
Newark, NJ . . . . .	232,961	6.8	263,718	7.2	238,384	6.7
Miami, FL . . . . .	211,956	6.2	240,484	6.5	258,050	7.2
San Francisco, CA . . . . .	201,170	5.9	216,781	5.9	203,232	5.7
Atlanta, GA . . . . .	173,080	5.0	174,668	4.7	166,283	4.7
Houston, TX . . . . .	145,937	4.2	148,018	4.0	139,344	3.9
Detroit, MI . . . . .	85,417	2.5	115,672	3.1	115,200	3.2
Other . . . . .	1,051,569	30.6	1,091,426	29.6	1,030,104	28.9
Unknown . . . . .	6,517	0.2	13,341	0.4	9,226	0.3

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009.

**Table 8.**

### Short-term Resident Nonimmigrant Admissions by Age and Gender: Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009

Age	2009		2008		2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total . . . . .	3,438,276	100.0	3,688,167	100.0	3,566,367	100.0
Under 18 years . . . . .	283,691	8.3	300,021	8.1	297,342	8.3
18 to 24 years . . . . .	824,785	24.0	862,766	23.4	790,955	22.2
25 to 34 years . . . . .	1,181,600	34.4	1,290,337	35.0	1,263,655	35.4
35 to 44 years . . . . .	675,073	19.6	737,357	20.0	730,876	20.5
45 to 54 years . . . . .	327,787	9.5	345,682	9.4	334,716	9.4
55 to 64 years . . . . .	114,563	3.3	120,250	3.3	118,118	3.3
65 years and over . . . . .	24,326	0.7	27,059	0.7	26,257	0.7
Unknown . . . . .	6,451	0.2	4,695	0.1	4,448	0.1
<b>Gender</b>						
Total . . . . .	3,438,276	100.0	3,688,167	100.0	3,566,367	100.0
Male . . . . .	2,066,792	60.1	2,248,999	61.0	2,176,405	61.0
Female . . . . .	1,319,934	38.4	1,399,042	37.9	1,350,849	37.9
Unknown . . . . .	51,550	1.5	40,126	1.1	39,113	1.1

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009.

## NON-RESIDENT ADMISSIONS

Trends in non-resident admissions paralleled trends in both resident admissions and total I-94 admissions. Non-resident admissions decreased 8.2 percent from 35.4 million in 2008 to 32.5 million in 2009 (see Figure 1). After a decline following September 11, 2001, non-resident admissions increased each year between 2003 and 2008, a record year for non-resident entries. These admissions have been on a general upward trend since 1989, doubling over the 20 year period.

### Class of Admission

The leading non-resident nonimmigrant categories in 2009 were temporary visitors for pleasure (85 percent) and temporary visitors for business (14 percent) (see Table 9). These categories accounted for nearly all non-resident admissions. From 2008 to

2009, admissions of temporary visitors for business decreased 22 percent, and admissions of temporary visitors for pleasure declined 5.6 percent.

### Country of Citizenship

In 2009, the leading countries of citizenship for non-resident admissions were Mexico (19 percent), the United Kingdom (14 percent), Japan (10 percent), and Germany (5.8 percent) (see Table 10). These four countries accounted for the citizenship of nearly half of all non-resident admissions.

Among leading countries, the only year-to-year non-resident admission increase was of Brazilian nationals (8.8 percent increase). Notable decreases in non-resident admissions occurred among nationals of the United Kingdom (14 percent decrease) and Japan (14 percent decrease).

**Table 9.**

**Non-resident Nonimmigrant Admissions by Class of Admission: Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009**

Class of admission	2009		2008		2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	32,544,098	100.0	35,434,175	100.0	33,301,754	100.0
Temporary visitors for pleasure	27,800,027	85.4	29,442,168	83.1	27,486,177	82.5
Temporary visitors for pleasure (B2)	12,680,504	39.0	13,371,671	37.7	13,087,974	39.3
Visa Waiver Program—temporary visitors for pleasure (WT)	14,272,553	43.9	15,099,059	42.6	13,469,851	40.4
Guam Visa Waiver Program—temporary visitors for pleasure to Guam (GT)	846,970	2.6	971,438	2.7	928,352	2.8
Temporary visitors for business	4,390,888	13.5	5,603,668	15.8	5,418,884	16.3
Temporary visitors for business (B1)	2,408,092	7.4	3,052,581	8.6	2,928,875	8.8
Visa Waiver Program—temporary visitors for business (WB)	1,977,361	6.1	2,546,322	7.2	2,486,015	7.5
Guam Visa Waiver Program—temporary visitors for business to Guam (GB)	5,435	–	4,765	–	3,994	–
Transit aliens	346,695	1.1	387,237	1.1	396,383	1.2
Aliens in continuous and immediate transit through the United States (C1)	326,704	1.0	365,958	1.0	376,451	1.1
Aliens in transit to the United Nations (C2)	2,613	–	2,646	–	2,914	–
Foreign government officials, their spouses, children, and attendants in transit (C3)	17,378	0.1	18,633	0.1	17,018	0.1
Commuter Students	6,488	–	1,102	–	310	–
Canadian or Mexican national academic commuter students (F3)	6,488	–	1,102	–	307	–
Canadian or Mexican national vocational commuter students (M3)	–	–	–	–	3	–

– Represents zero or rounds to 0.0.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009.

**Table 10.**

**Non-resident Nonimmigrant Admissions by Country of Citizenship: Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009**

Country of citizenship	2009		2008		2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	32,544,098	100.0	35,434,175	100.0	33,301,754	100.0
Mexico	6,168,774	19.0	6,799,974	19.2	6,978,277	21.0
United Kingdom	4,504,786	13.8	5,245,691	14.8	4,888,077	14.7
Japan	3,138,650	9.6	3,647,282	10.3	3,851,493	11.6
Germany	1,881,944	5.8	1,964,919	5.5	1,686,278	5.1
France	1,563,993	4.8	1,586,159	4.5	1,294,853	3.9
Italy	981,715	3.0	1,031,901	2.9	837,921	2.5
Brazil	869,310	2.7	798,877	2.3	696,962	2.1
Australia	775,885	2.4	806,069	2.3	753,482	2.3
Netherlands	715,023	2.2	785,486	2.2	658,090	2.0
Spain	713,310	2.2	781,871	2.2	609,250	1.8
Other	11,026,473	33.9	11,886,750	33.5	10,968,501	32.9
Unknown	204,235	0.6	99,196	0.3	78,570	0.2

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009.

## State of Destination and Port of Entry

The primary destination states for non-resident admissions in 2009 were California (16 percent), Florida (16 percent), New York (13 percent), and Texas (7.1 percent) (see Table 11). These four states represented the destinations of more than half of non-resident admissions. From 2008 to 2009, many leading destination states experienced year-to-year decreases: New York (17 percent decrease), Illinois (16 percent decrease), Nevada (16 percent decrease), and New Jersey (14 percent decrease). During the same period, admissions to Guam declined 33 percent.

The leading ports of entry for non-resident admissions in 2009 were New York, NY (13 percent), Miami, FL (12 percent), and Los Angeles, CA (8.7 percent) (see Table 12). One-third of non-resident admissions were accounted for by these three ports of entry. Non-resident admissions for the ten leading ports of entry declined between 2008 and 2009. Large decreases in admissions occurred in Chicago, IL (17 percent decrease), San Francisco, CA, (13 percent decrease), and Los Angeles, CA (13 percent decrease).

## Age and Gender

In 2009, 60 percent of non-resident admissions consisted of foreign nationals aged 25 to 54, an additional 21 percent were aged 55 and over, and 11 percent were under the age of 18 (see Table 13). Slightly more than 50 percent of all non-resident admissions were accounted for by males (see Table 13).

**Table 11.**

### Non-resident Nonimmigrant Admissions by State or Territory of Destination: Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009

State or territory of destination	2009		2008		2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total . . . . .	32,544,098	100.0	35,434,175	100.0	33,301,754	100.0
California . . . . .	5,318,495	16.3	6,031,526	17.0	5,703,600	17.1
Florida . . . . .	5,262,240	16.2	5,663,642	16.0	5,088,441	15.3
New York . . . . .	4,199,119	12.9	5,068,048	14.3	4,290,067	12.9
Texas . . . . .	2,298,856	7.1	2,498,049	7.0	2,510,085	7.5
Hawaii . . . . .	1,333,185	4.1	1,492,252	4.2	1,570,786	4.7
Nevada . . . . .	1,066,018	3.3	1,266,055	3.6	1,145,997	3.4
Arizona . . . . .	782,863	2.4	844,779	2.4	851,068	2.6
Guam . . . . .	731,206	2.2	1,097,729	3.1	1,136,430	3.4
New Jersey . . . . .	680,604	2.1	793,265	2.2	719,617	2.2
Illinois . . . . .	665,664	2.0	791,067	2.2	766,826	2.3
Other . . . . .	5,501,284	16.9	6,280,978	17.7	5,975,043	17.9
Unknown . . . . .	4,704,564	14.5	3,606,785	10.2	3,543,794	10.6

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009.

**Table 12.**

### Non-resident Nonimmigrant Admissions by Port of Entry: Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009

Port of entry	2009		2008		2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total . . . . .	32,544,098	100.0	35,434,175	100.0	33,301,754	100.0
New York, NY . . . . .	4,309,625	13.2	4,629,008	13.1	4,008,426	12.0
Miami, FL . . . . .	3,884,222	11.9	3,948,711	11.1	3,683,012	11.1
Los Angeles, CA . . . . .	2,842,529	8.7	3,261,624	9.2	3,128,031	9.4
Newark, NJ . . . . .	1,910,603	5.9	2,039,448	5.8	1,722,097	5.2
San Francisco, CA . . . . .	1,326,747	4.1	1,528,872	4.3	1,402,755	4.2
Honolulu, HI . . . . .	1,279,882	3.9	1,375,797	3.9	1,493,513	4.5
Atlanta, GA . . . . .	1,228,807	3.8	1,376,402	3.9	1,248,063	3.7
Chicago, IL . . . . .	1,226,859	3.8	1,480,715	4.2	1,419,825	4.3
Agana, GU . . . . .	1,016,672	3.1	1,131,290	3.2	1,179,431	3.5
Houston, TX . . . . .	977,688	3.0	1,078,927	3.0	1,040,405	3.1
Other . . . . .	12,504,714	38.4	13,502,063	38.1	12,924,467	38.8
Unknown . . . . .	35,750	0.1	81,318	0.2	51,729	0.2

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009.

**Table 13.**

### Non-resident Nonimmigrant Admissions by Age and Gender: Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009

Age	2009		2008		2007	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total . . . . .	32,544,098	100.0	35,434,175	100.0	33,301,754	100.0
Under 18 years . . . . .	3,512,588	10.8	3,915,961	11.1	3,697,774	11.1
18 to 24 years . . . . .	2,752,321	8.5	2,854,680	8.1	2,667,267	8.0
25 to 34 years . . . . .	6,879,692	21.1	7,417,159	20.9	7,008,076	21.0
35 to 44 years . . . . .	6,861,222	21.1	7,729,140	21.8	7,294,564	21.9
45 to 54 years . . . . .	5,719,157	17.6	6,251,620	17.6	5,768,270	17.3
55 to 64 years . . . . .	4,135,332	12.7	4,458,913	12.6	4,189,264	12.6
65 years and over . . . . .	2,640,892	8.1	2,768,166	7.8	2,628,329	7.9
Unknown . . . . .	42,894	0.1	38,536	0.1	48,210	0.1
<b>Gender</b>						
Total . . . . .	32,544,098	100.0	35,434,175	100.0	33,301,754	100.0
Male . . . . .	16,390,177	50.4	18,333,371	51.7	17,318,208	52.0
Female . . . . .	15,395,756	47.3	16,411,843	46.3	15,394,391	46.2
Unknown . . . . .	758,165	2.3	688,961	1.9	589,155	1.8

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), TECS, Arrival File, Fiscal Years 2007 to 2009.



**Appendix A.**

**Nonimmigrant Classes of Admission**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Non-residents</b>	
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
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
<b>Transit aliens</b>	
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
<b>Commuter students</b>	
F3. . . . .	Canadian or Mexican national academic commuter students
M3 . . . . .	Canadian or Mexican national vocational commuter students
<b>Short-term Residents</b>	
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
<b>Intracompany transferees</b>	
L1. . . . .	Intracompany transferees
L2. . . . .	Spouses and children of L1
<b>Treaty traders and investors</b>	
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
<b>Representatives of foreign information media</b>	
I1 . . . . .	Representatives of foreign information media and spouses and children
<b>Students</b>	
F1. . . . .	Academic students
F2. . . . .	Spouses and children of F1
M1 . . . . .	Vocational students
M2 . . . . .	Spouses and children of M1
<b>Exchange visitors</b>	
J1. . . . .	Exchange visitors
J2. . . . .	Spouses and children of J1

**Appendix A.**

**Nonimmigrant Classes of Admission**—Continued

<b>Class</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Diplomats and other representatives</b>	
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
<b>Other categories</b>	
Q2 . . . . .	Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program aliens
Q3 . . . . .	Spouses and children of Q2
<b>Expected Long-term Residents</b>	
<b>Legal Immigration Family Equity (LIFE) Act</b>	
K1 . . . . .	Fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens
K2 . . . . .	Children of K1
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
<b>Other categories</b>	
N8 . . . . .	Parents of international organization special immigrants
N9 . . . . .	Children of N8 or international organization special immigrants

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.