

Southwest Border Unaccompanied Alien Children | U.S. Customs and Border Protection

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Beginning last year and specifically in the last few months, CBP has seen an overall increase in the apprehension of Unaccompanied Alien Children from Central America at the Southwest Border, specifically in the Rio Grande Valley. While overall border apprehensions have only slightly increased during this time period, and remain at historic lows, the apprehension and processing of these children present unique operational challenges for CBP and HHS. Addressing the rising flow of unaccompanied alien children crossing our southwest border is an important priority of this Administration and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and [Secretary Johnson has already taken a number of steps to address this situation.](#)

Southwest Border Unaccompanied Alien Children (0-17 yr old) Apprehensions

Comparisons below reflect Fiscal Year 2015 to date (October 1, 2014 - November 30, 2014) compared to the same time period for Fiscal Year 2014.

Sector	Fiscal Year 2014	Fiscal Year 2015	% Change
Big Bend Sector	28	37	32%
Del Rio Sector	393	216	-45%
El Centro Sector	82	62	-24%
El Paso Sector	158	165	4%
Laredo Sector	571	400	-30%
Rio Grande Sector	5,461	3,222	-41%
San Diego Sector	106	131	24%
Tucson Sector	1690	858	-49%
Yuma Sector	36	52	44%
Southwest	8,525	5,143	-40%

Border Total**Southwest Border Family Unit Apprehensions***

Comparisons below reflect Fiscal Year 2015 to date (October 1, 2014 - November 30, 2014) compared to the same time period for Fiscal Year 2014.

Sector	Fiscal Year 2014	Fiscal Year 2015	% Change
Big Bend Sector	5	45	>500%
Del Rio Sector	322	162	-50%
El Centro Sector	58	63	9%
El Paso Sector	53	48	-9%
Laredo Sector	340	248	-27%
Rio Grande Sector	3,425	3,363	-2%
San Diego Sector	300	240	-20%
Tucson Sector	669	346	-48%
Yuma Sector	28	60	114%
Southwest Border Total	5,200	4,575	-12%

U.S. Border Patrol Southwest Border and Rio Grande Valley Sector Other Than Mexicans

Comparisons below reflect Fiscal Year 2015 to date (October 1, 2014 - November 30, 2014)

Sector	FY2015
Rio Grande Valley	15,225
Southwest Border	20,242

Unaccompanied Alien Children Encountered by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Years 2009-2014; Fiscal Year 2015 to date (October 1, 2014 - November 30, 2014)

Country	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
El Salvador	1,221	1,910	1,394	3,314	5,990	16,404	1,115
Guatemala	1,115	1,517	1,565	3,835	8,068	17,057	1,495
Honduras	968	1,017	974	2,997	6,747	18,244	506
Mexico	16,114	13,724	11,768	13,974	17,240	15,634	1,921

Family Unit Apprehensions Encountered by Fiscal Year*

Fiscal Year 2015 to date (October 1, 2014 - November 30, 2014)

Country	FY 2015
El Salvador	1,262
Guatemala	1,406
Honduras	1,004
Mexico	756

***Note:** (Family Unit represents the number of individuals (either a child under 18 years old, parent or legal guardian) apprehended with a family member by the U.S. Border Patrol.)

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