

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 - February 28, 2015) compared to the same time period for Fiscal Year 2014.

Sector	Fiscal Year 2014	Fiscal Year 2015	% Change
Big Bend Sector	89	142	60%
Del Rio Sector	1,036	543	-48%
El Centro Sector	200	194	-3%
El Paso Sector	383	434	13%
Laredo Sector	1,337	914	-32%
Rio Grande Sector	14,043	7,342	-48%
San Diego Sector	299	397	33%
Tucson Sector	3,880	2,331	-40%
Yuma Sector	136	212	56%
Southwest	21,403	12,509	-42%

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

Comparisons below reflect Fiscal Year 2015 to date (October 1, 2014 - February 28, 2015) compared to the same time period for Fiscal Year 2014.

Sector	Fiscal Year 2014	Fiscal Year 2015	% Change
Big Bend Sector	36	115	219%
Del Rio Sector	997	447	-55%
El Centro Sector	195	199	2%
El Paso Sector	157	134	-15%
Laredo Sector	1,028	537	-48%
Rio Grande Sector	9,444	7,838	-17%
San Diego Sector	685	681	-1%
Tucson Sector	1,393	943	-32%
Yuma Sector	143	239	67%
Southwest Border Total	14,078	11,133	-21%

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 - February 28, 2015)

Sector	FY2015
Rio Grande Valley	34,138
Southwest Border	47,661

Unaccompanied Alien Children Encountered by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Years 2009-2014; Fiscal Year 2015 to date (October 1, 2014 - February 28, 2015)

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	2,209
Guatemala	1,115	1,517	1,565	3,835	8,068	17,057	4,381
Honduras	968	1,017	974	2,997	6,747	18,244	1,181
Mexico	16,114	13,724	11,768	13,974	17,240	15,634	4,502

Family Unit Apprehensions Encountered by Fiscal Year*

Fiscal Year 2015 to date (October 1, 2014 - February 28, 2015)

Country	FY 2015
El Salvador	2,683
Guatemala	3,691
Honduras	2,585
Mexico	1,827

***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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