

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

Southwest Border Unaccompanied Alien Children

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 - June 30, 2015) compared to the same time period for Fiscal Year 2014.

Sector	Fiscal Year 2014	Fiscal Year 2015	% Change
Big Bend Sector	178	410	130%
Del Rio Sector	2,781	1,479	-47%
El Centro Sector	485	444	-8%
El Paso Sector	794	1,056	33%
Laredo Sector	3,128	1,778	-43%
Rio Grande Sector	42,146	15,613	-63%
San Diego Sector	729	790	8%
Tucson Sector	6,942	4,516	-35%
Yuma Sector	295	599	103%
Southwest			

Border Total	57,478	26,685	-54%
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Southwest Border Family Unit Apprehensions*

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

Sector	Fiscal Year 2014	Fiscal Year 2015	% Change
Big Bend Sector	82	285	248%
Del Rio Sector	4,199	1,299	-69%
El Centro Sector	432	425	-2%
El Paso Sector	419	613	46%
Laredo Sector	2,987	923	-69%
Rio Grande Sector	42,363	17,179	-59%
San Diego Sector	1,361	1,248	-8%
Tucson Sector	3,116	2,082	-33%
Yuma Sector	484	847	75%
Southwest Border Total	55,443	24,901	-55%

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 - June 30, 2015)

Sector	FY2015
Rio Grande Valley	68,574
Southwest Border	99,580

Unaccompanied Alien Children Encountered by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Years 2009-2014; Fiscal Year 2015 to date (October 1, 2014 - June 30, 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	5,478
Guatemala	1,115	1,517	1,565	3,835	8,068	17,057	9,349
Honduras	968	1,017	974	2,997	6,747	18,244	3,147
Mexico	16,114	13,724	11,768	13,974	17,240	15,634	8,302

Family Unit Apprehensions Encountered by Fiscal Year*

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

Country	FY 2015
El Salvador	6,184
Guatemala	8,193
Honduras	6,575
Mexico	3,162

***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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