



U.S. Department of Justice
Executive Office for Immigration Review

FY 2015 Statistics Yearbook

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Immigration Courts: Total Matters Received and Completed

When the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) charges an alien with a violation of immigration law by issuing a charging document, typically either a Notice to Appear (NTA) or a Notice of Referral to Immigration Judge, the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) obtains jurisdiction over the case. EOIR has oversight over the immigration courts nationwide, and the Board of Immigration Appeals, which has appellate review over immigration judge decisions. Once EOIR has either ordered an alien removed, or granted relief or protection from removal, DHS is responsible for effectuating that alien's physical removal or providing that alien evidence of their immigration status.

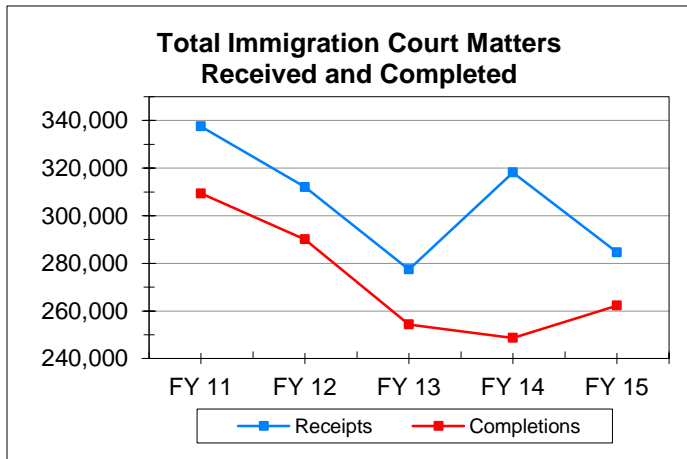
In immigration court, aliens appear before an immigration judge (IJ) and either contest or concede the charges against them. In some instances, the immigration judge adjourns the case and sets a continuance date. The alien may file an application for relief or protection and, after hearing the merits of the case, the immigration judge renders a decision, either ordering the alien removed, or granting relief or protection from removal. If the immigration judge decides that DHS has not established removability, the immigration judge may terminate the case.

Immigration judges also consider matters such as bonds and motions.

- An immigration judge holds bond redetermination hearings when an alien in custody seeks release on their own recognizance, or seeks a reduction in the amount of bond previously set by DHS. In its data, EOIR does not include bond redetermination hearings that occur before EOIR receives the charging document from DHS.
- Either the alien or DHS may request by motion that a case an immigration judge previously heard be reopened, reconsidered, or recalendar.

For the purposes of this Yearbook, the term "immigration court matters" includes cases (deportation, exclusion, removal, credible fear review, reasonable fear review, claimed status review, asylum only, rescission, continued detention review, Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act, and withholding only); bond redeterminations; and motions to reopen, reconsider, or recalendar. "Immigration court receipts" are defined as the total number of charging documents; bond redeterminations; and motions to reopen, reconsider, or recalendar that the immigration courts received during the reporting period. "Immigration court completions" include immigration judge decisions and other completions (such as administrative closings) on cases, bond redeterminations, and motions that immigration judges did not grant.

Figure 1



	Receipts	Completions
FY 11	337,522	309,380
FY 12	312,085	290,090
FY 13	277,469	254,341
FY 14	318,197	248,689
FY 15	284,667	262,293

As shown in Figure 1, the number of matters the immigration courts received decreased by 16 percent between Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 and FY 2015 and has decreased by 11 percent in the last fiscal year. The number of matters the immigration courts completed decreased by 15 percent from FY 2011 to FY 2015.

While some courts showed decreases in receipts from FY 2014 levels, others showed increases in receipts. In Table 1 (page A3), courts with increases in receipts of 25 percent or more are highlighted in blue and courts with decreases of 25 percent or more are highlighted in red. The immigration court in Seattle, WA, showed the largest (100 percent) increase in receipts. The immigration court in Harlingen, TX, showed the largest (79 percent) decrease. Table 1A (page A4) identifies receipts for FY 2015 by type of matter.

Table 2 (page A5) provides a comparison of FY 2014 and FY 2015 completions by immigration court. Courts with increases in completions of 25 percent or more are highlighted in blue, and those with decreases of 25 percent or more are highlighted in red. New Orleans, LA, showed the largest (217 percent) increase in completions. Saipan, CNMI, showed the largest (37 percent) decrease. Table 2A (page A6) identifies completions for FY 2015 by type of matter.

Table 1 - Total Immigration Court Matters Received by Court for FY 2014 and FY 2015

Immigration Court	FY 2014	FY 2015	Rate of Change
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	7,018	6,490	-8%
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	10,317	7,585	-26%
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	5,117	4,616	-10%
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	5,163	7,086	37%
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	2,709	2,418	-11%
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	3,126	2,925	-6%
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	5,713	6,211	9%
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	1,315	414	-69%
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	5,351	4,651	-13%
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	11,322	10,103	-11%
CLEVELAND, OHIO	3,119	2,667	-14%
DALLAS, TEXAS	8,940	9,356	5%
DENVER, COLORADO	6,127	6,550	7%
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	3,724	2,299	-38%
EAST MESA, CALIFORNIA	2,816	2,796	-1%
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	4,740	3,984	-16%
EL PASO, TEXAS	3,005	1,394	-54%
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	4,925	3,128	-36%
ELOY, ARIZONA	7,840	8,290	6%
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	174	118	-32%
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	6,037	4,741	-21%
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	492	631	28%
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	10,628	2,272	-79%
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	1,375	1,308	-5%
HONOLULU, HAWAII	384	393	2%
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	13,441	8,450	-37%
HOUSTON, TEXAS	14,488	7,796	-46%
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	1,904	2,761	45%
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	2,630	2,462	-6%
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	9,498	6,156	-35%
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	2,290	2,148	-6%
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	19,961	18,105	-9%
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	9,825	6,063	-38%
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	3,327	3,594	8%
MIAMI, FLORIDA	9,026	13,461	49%
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	2,011	2,674	33%
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	17,869	17,666	-1%
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	6,154	6,231	1%
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	7,239	8,373	16%
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	2,492	2,546	2%
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	4,100	4,140	1%
PEARSALL, TEXAS	8,285	10,075	22%
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	2,152	2,209	3%
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	3,159	2,202	-30%
PORTLAND, OREGON	1,070	1,498	40%
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	37	19	-49%
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	1,942	1,712	-12%
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	15,092	12,515	-17%
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	2,148	2,576	20%
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	12,729	14,126	11%
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	1,593	3,190	100%
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	6,718	5,890	-12%
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	6,750	5,732	-15%
TUCSON, ARIZONA	698	592	-15%
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	287	211	-26%
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	2,866	2,503	-13%
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	4,939	4,565	-8%
TOTAL	318,197	284,667	-11%

Table 1A - Total Immigration Court Receipts by Court and Type of Matter for FY 2015

Immigration Court	New NTAs	Bonds	Motions	Total Matters
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	3,325	3,121	44	6,490
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	5,781	1,052	752	7,585
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	3,684	439	493	4,616
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	5,775	624	687	7,086
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	1,269	1,125	24	2,418
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	1,807	459	659	2,925
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	3,946	938	1,327	6,211
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	251	1	162	414
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	3,933	306	412	4,651
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	7,160	2,107	836	10,103
CLEVELAND, OHIO	1,936	488	243	2,667
DALLAS, TEXAS	7,804	835	717	9,356
DENVER, COLORADO	3,993	2,244	313	6,550
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	1,456	695	148	2,299
EAST MESA, CALIFORNIA	1,747	1,017	32	2,796
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	2,927	998	59	3,984
EL PASO, TEXAS	1,116	89	189	1,394
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	1,733	1,353	42	3,128
ELOY, ARIZONA	4,174	4,056	60	8,290
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	104	0	14	118
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	2,777	1,941	23	4,741
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	486	46	99	631
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	1,507	2	763	2,272
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	941	151	216	1,308
HONOLULU, HAWAII	231	99	63	393
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	5,808	2,511	131	8,450
HOUSTON, TEXAS	7,071	2	723	7,796
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	1,750	962	49	2,761
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	1,814	405	243	2,462
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	3,522	2,523	111	6,156
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	1,502	405	241	2,148
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	13,547	1,802	2,756	18,105
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	3,859	2,156	48	6,063
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	3,159	7	428	3,594
MIAMI, FLORIDA	9,489	2,077	1,895	13,461
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	2,469	0	205	2,674
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	15,150	0	2,516	17,666
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	4,416	1,066	749	6,231
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	4,700	3,611	62	8,373
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	1,672	392	482	2,546
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	3,064	259	817	4,140
PEARSALL, TEXAS	5,798	4,244	33	10,075
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	1,863	1	345	2,209
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	1,727	0	475	2,202
PORTLAND, OREGON	1,237	23	238	1,498
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	15	0	4	19
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	1,043	515	154	1,712
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	8,036	3,619	860	12,515
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	2,118	34	424	2,576
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	10,730	1,620	1,776	14,126
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	2,739	0	451	3,190
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	4,209	1,599	82	5,890
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	2,914	2,763	55	5,732
TUCSON, ARIZONA	533	0	59	592
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	191	2	18	211
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	1,057	1,360	86	2,503
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	2,469	1,950	146	4,565
TOTAL	199,534	60,094	25,039	284,667

Table 2 - Total Immigration Court Matters Completed by Court for FY 2014 and FY 2015

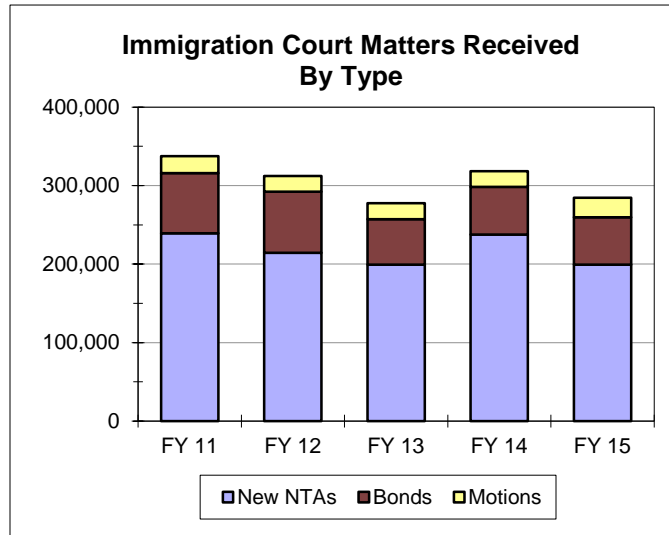
Immigration Court	FY 2014	FY 2015	Rate of Change
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	6,092	5,458	-10%
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	5,941	7,104	20%
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	4,599	7,357	60%
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	4,356	5,160	18%
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	1,671	1,641	-2%
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	2,965	2,948	-1%
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	5,373	5,722	6%
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	844	1,017	20%
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	5,759	5,645	-2%
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	8,916	8,412	-6%
CLEVELAND, OHIO	2,761	2,701	-2%
DALLAS, TEXAS	8,148	10,467	28%
DENVER, COLORADO	4,693	4,810	2%
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	2,829	2,448	-13%
EAST MESA, CALIFORNIA	1,765	1,922	9%
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	3,932	3,134	-20%
EL PASO, TEXAS	2,595	2,477	-5%
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	2,658	2,048	-23%
ELOY, ARIZONA	5,171	6,181	20%
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	152	126	-17%
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	3,636	2,929	-19%
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	395	371	-6%
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	2,625	2,925	11%
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	1,385	1,862	34%
HONOLULU, HAWAII	455	547	20%
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	10,409	7,137	-31%
HOUSTON, TEXAS	3,044	6,235	105%
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	1,466	1,767	21%
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	2,578	2,169	-16%
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	7,156	4,804	-33%
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	2,341	2,473	6%
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	20,810	22,934	10%
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	6,457	4,466	-31%
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	3,070	4,089	33%
MIAMI, FLORIDA	8,866	11,123	25%
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	1,046	3,319	217%
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	16,805	18,036	7%
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	4,897	4,547	-7%
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	5,881	6,455	10%
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	3,032	2,898	-4%
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	5,097	5,845	15%
PEARSALL, TEXAS	5,408	6,393	18%
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	2,169	2,580	19%
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	3,893	4,139	6%
PORTLAND, OREGON	1,508	1,432	-5%
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	62	39	-37%
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	1,665	1,907	15%
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	7,171	7,685	7%
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	2,626	2,382	-9%
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	10,341	12,299	19%
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	2,454	2,444	0%
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	6,281	5,501	-12%
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	5,170	4,166	-19%
TUCSON, ARIZONA	1,188	1,340	13%
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	287	198	-31%
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	2,530	2,319	-8%
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	3,265	3,760	15%
TOTAL	248,689	262,293	5%

Table 2A - Total Immigration Court Matters Completed by Court and Type of Matter for FY 2015

Immigration Court	Initial Case Completions	Subsequent Case Completions	Bonds	Motions (Not Granted)	Total Matters
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	2,137	120	3,175	26	5,458
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	5,461	495	1,048	100	7,104
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	6,390	380	429	158	7,357
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	3,965	455	624	116	5,160
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	522	40	1,068	11	1,641
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	2,147	299	452	50	2,948
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	3,735	966	934	87	5,722
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	892	91	1	33	1,017
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	4,949	328	304	64	5,645
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	5,587	587	2,105	133	8,412
CLEVELAND, OHIO	1,989	184	477	51	2,701
DALLAS, TEXAS	9,037	398	799	233	10,467
DENVER, COLORADO	2,204	235	2,335	36	4,810
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	1,545	132	716	55	2,448
EAST MESA, CALIFORNIA	856	58	993	15	1,922
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	2,084	53	978	19	3,134
EL PASO, TEXAS	2,212	125	90	50	2,477
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	717	23	1,299	9	2,048
ELOY, ARIZONA	2,082	92	3,976	31	6,181
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	108	13	0	5	126
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	1,089	37	1,792	11	2,929
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	259	60	45	7	371
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	2,447	159	1	318	2,925
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	1,512	161	155	34	1,862
HONOLULU, HAWAII	381	59	97	10	547
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	4,427	149	2,525	36	7,137
HOUSTON, TEXAS	5,852	229	1	153	6,235
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	732	35	969	31	1,767
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	1,575	167	372	55	2,169
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	2,243	121	2,394	46	4,804
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	1,848	178	405	42	2,473
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	18,571	2,132	1,774	457	22,934
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	2,231	47	2,165	23	4,466
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	3,671	333	7	78	4,089
MIAMI, FLORIDA	7,819	1,024	2,050	230	11,123
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	3,167	128	0	24	3,319
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	15,334	2,395	0	307	18,036
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	2,962	475	1,026	84	4,547
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	2,822	76	3,525	32	6,455
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	2,130	350	388	30	2,898
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	4,813	658	263	111	5,845
PEARSALL, TEXAS	2,264	40	4,081	8	6,393
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	2,234	312	1	33	2,580
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	3,834	279	0	26	4,139
PORTLAND, OREGON	1,211	182	22	17	1,432
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	26	13	0	0	39
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	1,251	122	487	47	1,907
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	3,359	331	3,769	226	7,685
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	2,031	202	34	115	2,382
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	9,592	1,027	1,592	88	12,299
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	2,115	221	0	108	2,444
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	3,789	106	1,559	47	5,501
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	1,561	78	2,512	15	4,166
TUCSON, ARIZONA	1,262	63	0	15	1,340
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	179	10	2	7	198
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	759	110	1,422	28	2,319
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	1,604	169	1,940	47	3,760
TOTAL	181,575	17,312	59,178	4,228	262,293

Figure 2 provides information on the type of matters the immigration courts receive. Cases (new NTAs) formulate the bulk of the courts' work; the courts also process significant numbers of bonds and motions to reopen, reconsider, and recalendar.

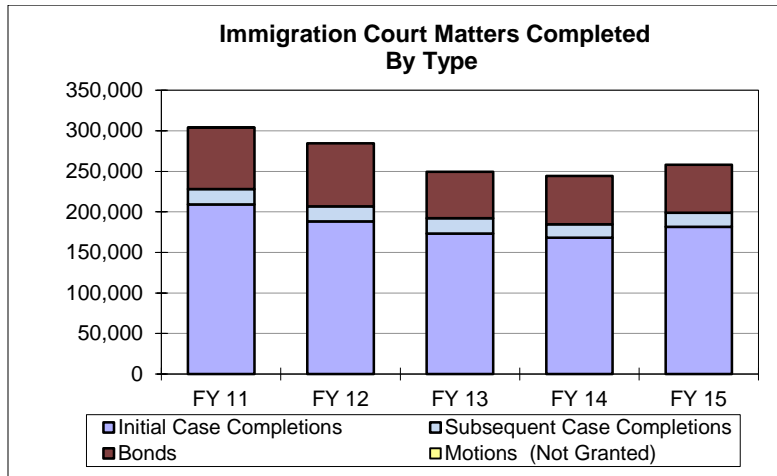
Figure 2



Immigration Court Matters Received				
	New NTAs	Bonds	Motions	Total
FY 11	239,298	76,798	21,426	337,522
FY 12	214,350	78,001	19,734	312,085
FY 13	199,398	57,687	20,384	277,469
FY 14	237,839	60,486	19,872	318,197
FY 15	199,534	60,094	25,039	284,667

Figure 3 provides information on the type of matters the immigration courts completed.

Figure 3



Immigration Court Matters Completed					
	Initial Case Completions	Subsequent Case Completions	Bonds	Motions (Not Granted)	Total
FY 11	209,293	18,736	75,723	5,628	309,380
FY 12	188,223	18,401	78,080	5,386	290,090
FY 13	173,176	19,088	57,325	4,752	254,341
FY 14	168,140	16,597	59,590	4,362	248,689
FY 15	181,575	17,312	59,178	4,228	262,293

Immigration Courts: Cases Received and Completed by Type

Until April 1, 1997, the two major types of cases adjudicated by immigration courts were exclusion and deportation cases. Individuals who the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) charged as excludable were placed in exclusion proceedings. Exclusion cases generally involved a person who tried to enter the United States, but was stopped at the point of entry because INS found the person to be inadmissible. Deportation cases usually arose when INS alleged that an alien had entered the country illegally, or had entered legally, but then violated one or more conditions of their visa.

Provisions of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 established six new types of cases: removal, credible fear review, reasonable fear review, claimed status review, asylum only, and withholding only. Additional types of cases include: rescission, continued detention review, and Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act (NACARA).

Table 3 shows all types of cases that the immigration courts received between Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 and FY 2015. Deportation and exclusion case types are no longer reported on this page as they were replaced by removal cases due to the changes in the law noted above.

Table 3 - Immigration Court Cases Received by Case Type

Type of Case	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Removal	236,604	211,285	193,660	226,042	187,005
Credible Fear	885	739	1,770	6,498	6,629
Reasonable Fear	441	815	1,159	1,777	2,587
Claimed Status	26	37	31	22	21
Asylum Only	403	356	395	294	255
Rescission	49	25	47	31	46
Continued Detention Review	5	2	0	3	2
NACARA	1	0	2	4	1
Withholding Only	884	1,091	2,334	3,168	2,988
Total	239,298	214,350	199,398	237,839	199,534

Table 4 shows all types of the immigration courts' initial case completions for the period FY 2011 to FY 2015. Note that initial case completions reflect immigration judge decisions and other completions. As shown in Tab C, other completions accounted for 23 percent of the cases completed in FY 2015.

Table 4 - Immigration Court Initial Case Completions by Case Type

Type of Case	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Deportation	669	639	698	531	570
Exclusion	61	54	54	36	57
Removal	206,038	184,847	167,753	156,470	169,043
Credible Fear	893	707	1,727	6,351	6,630
Reasonable Fear	443	775	1,139	1,712	2,570
Claimed Status	28	35	32	23	19
Asylum Only	423	366	381	360	294
Rescission	46	36	39	34	30
Continued Detention Review	3	2	2	2	3
NACARA	8	2	3	1	2
Withholding Only	681	760	1,348	2,620	2,357
Total	209,293	188,223	173,176	168,140	181,575

Table 4A shows all types of the immigration courts' subsequent case completions for the period FY 2011 to FY 2015.

Table 4A - Immigration Court Subsequent Case Completions by Case Type

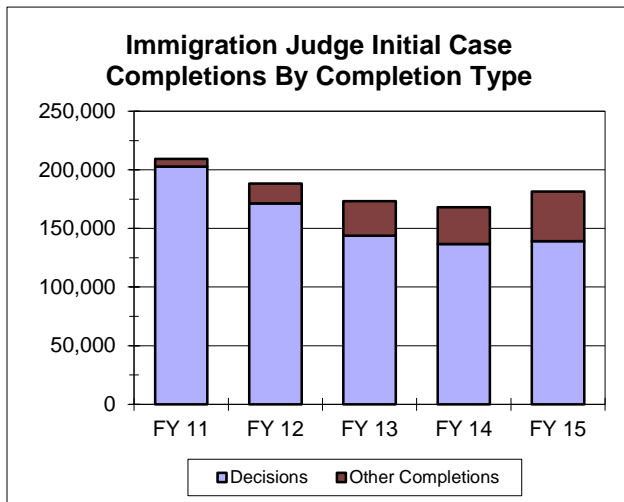
Type of Case	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Deportation	1,972	1,668	1,833	1,420	1,192
Exclusion	204	149	175	121	89
Removal	16,427	16,455	16,947	14,899	15,858
Credible Fear Review	0	0	0	0	0
Reasonable Fear Review	0	0	0	0	0
Claimed Status	2	0	1	0	0
Asylum Only	94	68	74	71	53
Rescission	4	2	3	2	2
Continued Detention Review	0	0	0	0	0
NACARA	2	0	5	1	0
Withholding Only	31	59	50	83	118
Total	18,736	18,401	19,088	16,597	17,312

Immigration Courts: Case Completions by Disposition

After a hearing, the immigration judge either renders an oral decision or reserves the decision and issues a decision at a later date. In rendering a decision, the immigration judge may order the alien removed from the United States, grant some form of relief, or terminate the case. In addition to decisions, there are other possible case outcomes which are reported here as other completions such as administrative closures.

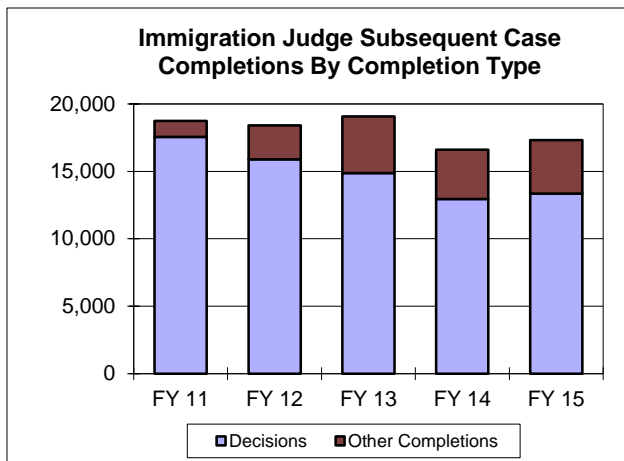
Figure 4 and Figure 4A provide a breakdown of initial case completions and subsequent case completions from Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 to FY 2015 by type of completion – either through an immigration judge decision or through another type of completion.

Figure 4



	Decisions	Other Completions	Total
FY 11	202,716	6,577	209,293
FY 12	171,494	16,729	188,223
FY 13	143,790	29,386	173,176
FY 14	136,652	31,488	168,140
FY 15	139,048	42,527	181,575

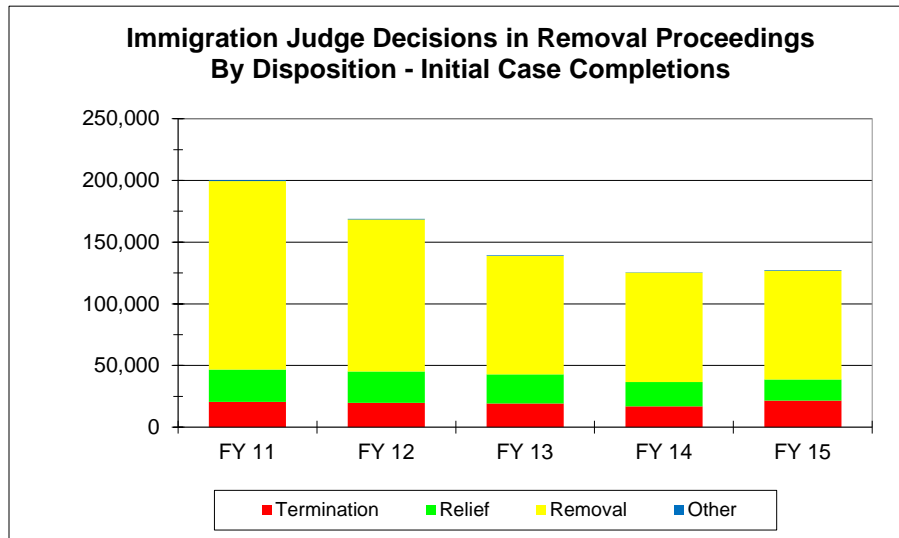
Figure 4A



	Decisions	Other Completions	Total
FY 11	17,557	1,179	18,736
FY 12	15,891	2,510	18,401
FY 13	14,882	4,206	19,088
FY 14	12,942	3,655	16,597
FY 15	13,364	3,948	17,312

Figure 5 provides a breakdown of removal proceeding immigration judge decisions by disposition on initial case completions for FY 2011 to FY 2015. Immigration judges first decide whether or not the charges against an alien should be sustained. If the charges are not sustained or if the alien has established eligibility for citizenship, the judge terminates the case. If the charges are sustained, the judge decides whether to order the alien removed from the United States or to grant relief. In some cases, the immigration judge may permit the alien to depart the United States voluntarily. Orders of voluntary departure are counted as removals.

Figure 5



Immigration Judge Decisions in Removal Proceedings By Disposition - Initial Case Completions					
	Termination	Relief	Removal	Other	Total
FY 11	20,496	26,194	152,861	674	200,225
FY 12	19,656	25,568	123,126	505	168,855
FY 13	19,119	23,738	95,838	531	139,226
FY 14	17,031	19,660	88,559	397	125,647
FY 15	21,546	17,211	88,128	460	127,345

Cases may also be presented before immigration judges to review decisions by asylum officers on credible or reasonable fear. These cases are not yet in removal proceedings. Table 5 & 5A provide a breakdown of credible fear review decisions and reasonable fear review decisions by disposition on initial case completions for FY 2011 to FY 2015.

Table 5

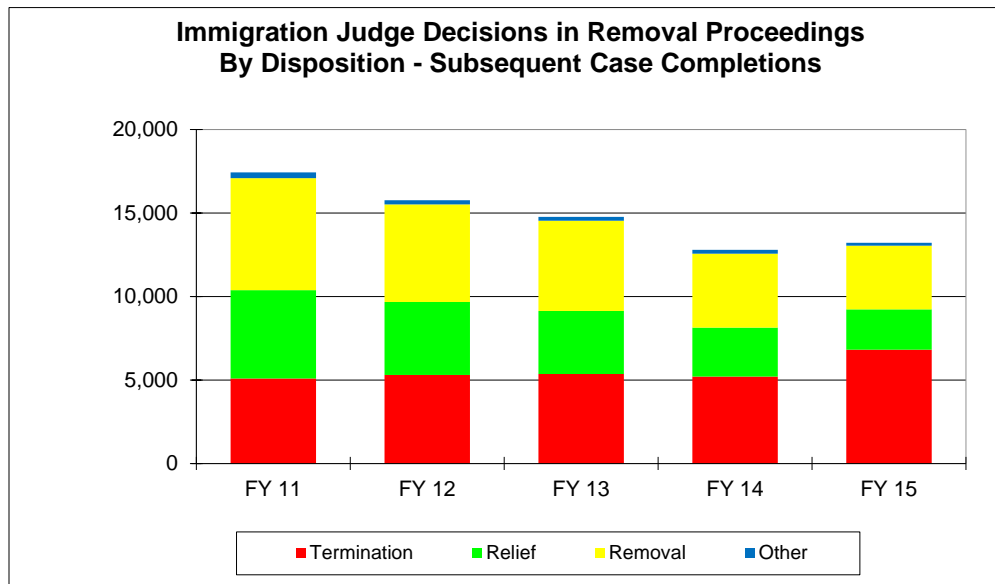
Credible Fear Review Decisions by Disposition – Initial Case Completions							
	Affirmed - DHS Decision and no Credible Fear	Vacated - DHS Decision and Found Credible Fear	Other	Administrative Closing - Other	Other Administrative Completion	PD Administrative Closure	Total
FY 11	774	110	7	1	1	0	893
FY 12	617	81	9	0	0	0	707
FY 13	1,503	206	17	1	0	0	1,727
FY 14	5,228	1,055	67	0	1	0	6,351
FY 15	5,221	1,344	60	3	1	1	6,630

Table 5A

Reasonable Fear Review Decisions by Disposition – Initial Case Completions							
	Affirmed - DHS Decision and No Reasonable Fear	Vacated - DHS Decision and Found Reasonable Fear	Other	Administrative Closing - Other	Other Administrative Completion	PD Administrative Closure	Total
FY 11	363	67	13	0	0	0	443
FY 12	612	148	14	1	0	0	775
FY 13	979	130	27	1	2	0	1,139
FY 14	1,440	229	38	3	2	0	1,712
FY 15	2,057	449	55	6	1	2	2,570

Figure 5A provides a breakdown of removal proceeding immigration judge decisions by disposition on subsequent case completions for FY 2011 to FY 2015.

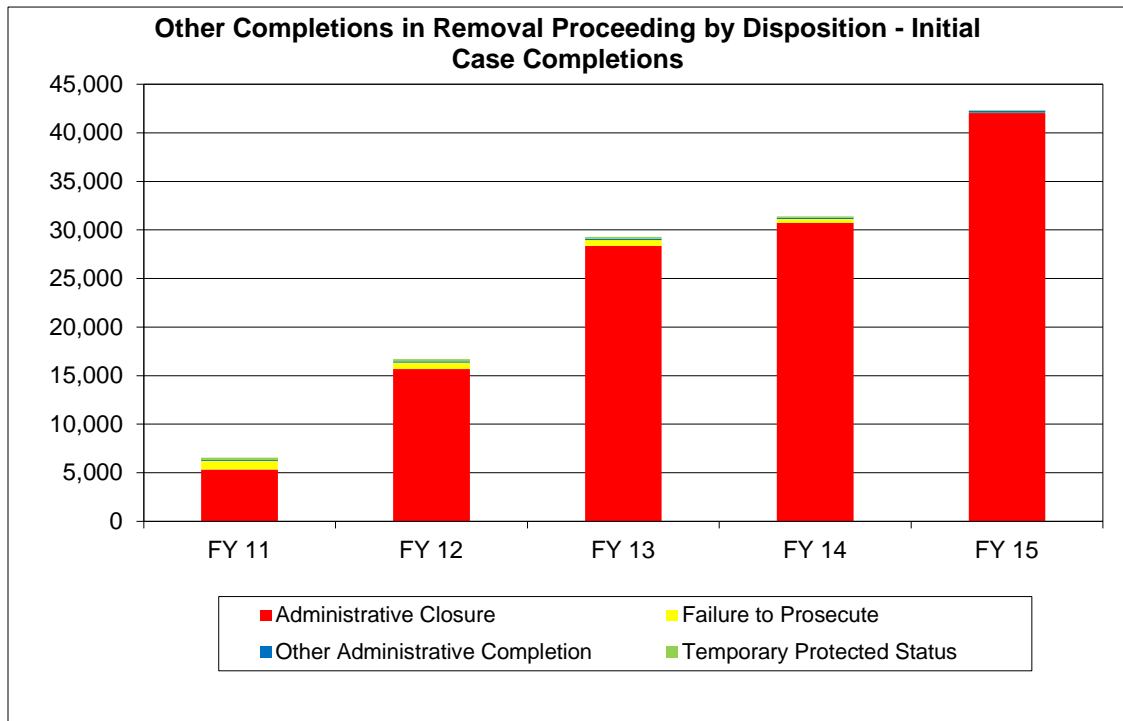
Figure 5A



	Termination	Relief	Removal	Other	Total
FY 11	5,086	5,300	6,701	346	17,433
FY 12	5,305	4,361	5,850	255	15,771
FY 13	5,350	3,790	5,407	218	14,765
FY 14	5,211	2,934	4,420	239	12,804
FY 15	6,824	2,415	3,806	167	13,212

Figure 6 provides a breakdown of removal proceeding other completions by disposition on initial case completions for FY 2011 to FY 2015. Cases that are not decided on their merits are classified as other completions. The increase in the number of other completions over the last five fiscal years is largely due to an increase in the number of administratively closed cases.

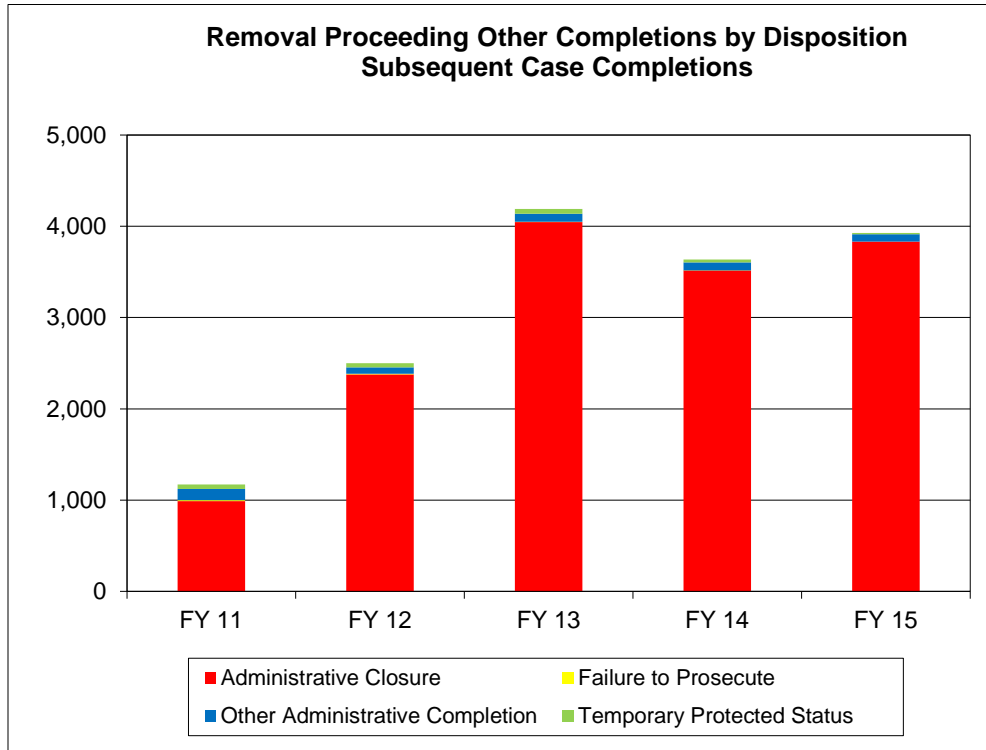
Figure 6



Other Completions in Removal Proceeding by Disposition - Initial Case Completions					
	Administrative Closure	Failure to Prosecute	Other Administrative Completion	Temporary Protected Status	Total
FY 11	5,339	869	97	238	6,543
FY 12	15,686	660	106	233	16,685
FY 13	28,363	596	143	177	29,279
FY 14	30,731	414	127	118	31,390
FY 15	42,025	49	192	59	42,325

Figure 6A provides a breakdown of removal proceeding other completions by disposition on subsequent case completions for FY 2011 to FY 2015. These also showed an increase in administrative closures over the five-year time period.

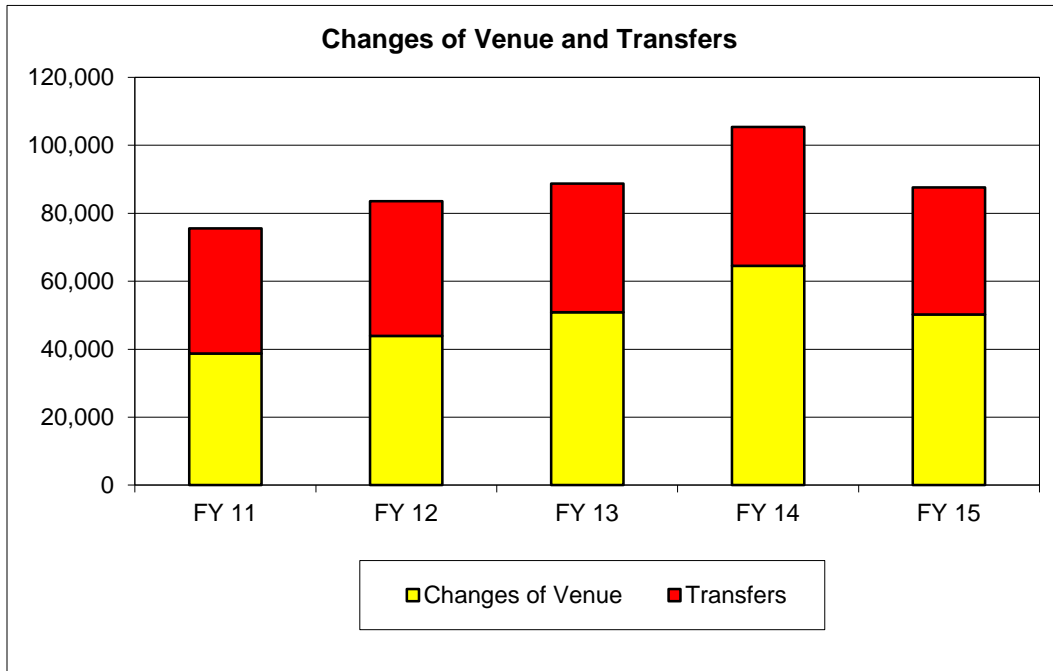
Figure 6A



Removal Proceeding Other Completions by Disposition - Subsequent Case Completions					
	Administrative Closure	Failure to Prosecute	Other Administrative Completion	Temporary Protected Status	Total
FY 11	988	11	122	49	1,170
FY 12	2,378	5	72	46	2,501
FY 13	4,046	4	85	55	4,190
FY 14	3,515	1	87	33	3,636
FY 15	3,831	0	82	14	3,927

Figure 7 provides information on the number of cases transferred to a different hearing location or granted a change of venue for FY 2011 to FY 2015. The number of changes of venue increased by 30 percent in the last five years, and the number of transfers increased by two percent in that same period.

Figure 7



	Changes of Venue	Transfers	Total
FY 11	38,733	36,784	75,517
FY 12	43,882	39,636	83,518
FY 13	50,911	37,817	88,728
FY 14	64,522	40,862	105,384
FY 15	50,244	37,344	87,588

Table 5B provides a breakdown of cases, by immigration court for FY 2015, for which an immigration judge granted a motion to change venue or transfers a case.

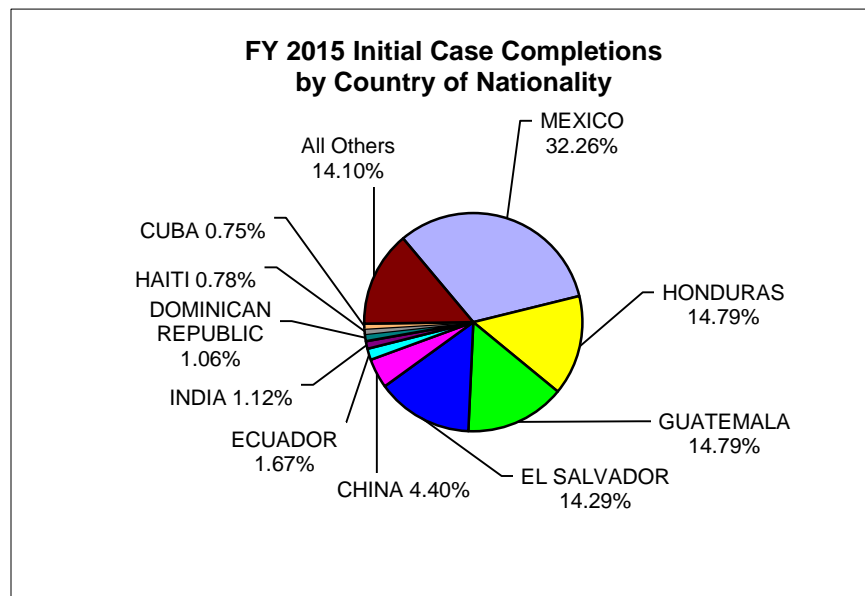
Table 5B – FY 2015 Changes of Venue and Transfers

Immigration Court	Changes of Venue	Transfers	Total
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	1,272	84	1,356
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	899	3,353	4,252
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	492	310	802
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	587	19	606
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	334	483	817
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	277	381	658
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	325	913	1,238
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	921	58	979
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	480	85	565
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	1,781	1,845	3,626
CLEVELAND, OHIO	250	347	597
DALLAS, TEXAS	474	1,896	2,370
DENVER, COLORADO	2,001	927	2,928
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	200	329	529
EAST MESA, CALIFORNIA	309	662	971
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	75	729	804
EL PASO, TEXAS	973	130	1,103
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	137	1,173	1,310
ELOY, ARIZONA	2,360	1	2,361
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	31	18	49
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	1,592	30	1,622
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	353	6	359
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	5,387	127	5,514
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	146	303	449
HONOLULU, HAWAII	14	18	32
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	24	2,720	2,744
HOUSTON, TEXAS	2,012	402	2,414
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	191	1,253	1,444
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	171	349	520
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	1,238	16	1,254
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	169	159	328
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	2,601	1,272	3,873
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	12	1,967	1,979
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	422	730	1,152
MIAMI, FLORIDA	2,901	225	3,126
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	2,696	136	2,832
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	1,402	129	1,531
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	643	887	1,530
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	250	1,818	2,068
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	178	449	627
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	474	121	595
PEARSALL, TEXAS	355	2,516	2,871
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	330	307	637
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	907	64	971
PORTLAND, OREGON	169	111	280
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	0	0	0
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	153	256	409
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	5,386	4,859	10,245
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	903	92	995
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	1,649	1,608	3,257
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	409	2	411
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	424	0	424
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	1,192	0	1,192
TUCSON, ARIZONA	153	11	164
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	52	17	69
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	16	478	494
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	1,092	163	1,255
TOTAL	50,244	37,344	87,588

Immigration Courts: Initial Case Completions by Country of Nationality

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, the top 10 nationalities accounted for approximately 86 percent of all initial case completions, as shown in Figure 8. A total of 215 nationalities are reported in the FY 2015 immigration judge initial case completions. Mexico and Central American countries are consistently among the predominant nationalities of these completions.

Figure 8



FY 2015 Initial Case Completions by Country of Nationality		
Country of Nationality	Initial Case Completions	% of Total
MEXICO	58,571	32.26%
HONDURAS	26,853	14.79%
GUATEMALA	26,851	14.79%
EL SALVADOR	25,951	14.29%
CHINA	7,981	4.40%
ECUADOR	3,024	1.67%
INDIA	2,039	1.12%
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	1,929	1.06%
HAITI	1,423	0.78%
CUBA	1,353	0.75%
All Others	25,600	14.10%
Total	181,575	100%

Table 6 provides information on the top 25 nationalities for initial case completions each year for FY 2011 through FY 2015. During the five-year period, eight of the top 10 nationalities were: Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, China, India, Dominican Republic, and Cuba.

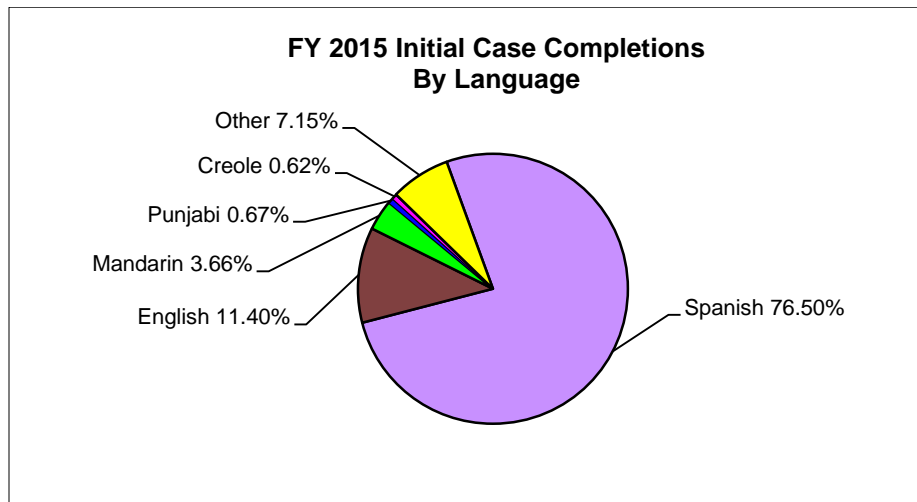
**Table 6 - Initial Case Completions by Country of Nationality
Top 25 Nationalities: FY 2011 - FY 2015**

Rank	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
1	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico
2	Guatemala	Guatemala	Guatemala	El Salvador	Honduras
3	El Salvador	El Salvador	El Salvador	Guatemala	Guatemala
4	Honduras	Honduras	Honduras	Honduras	El Salvador
5	China	China	China	China	China
6	Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	Cuba	Ecuador	Ecuador
7	Cuba	Cuba	Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	India
8	Jamaica	India	Ecuador	Cuba	Dominican Republic
9	Colombia	Jamaica	India	India	Haiti
10	India	Colombia	Jamaica	Jamaica	Cuba
11	Haiti	Ecuador	Colombia	Colombia	Jamaica
12	Brazil	Haiti	Philippines	Haiti	Colombia
13	Ecuador	Brazil	Brazil	Peru	Brazil
14	Philippines	Philippines	Haiti	Philippines	Peru
15	Peru	Peru	Peru	Brazil	Nicaragua
16	Nicaragua	Nicaragua	Nicaragua	Nicaragua	Philippines
17	Venezuela	Nigeria	Pakistan	Nigeria	Somalia
18	Ghana	Pakistan	Nigeria	Nepal	Nepal
19	Nigeria	Ghana	Venezuela	Pakistan	Nigeria
20	Canada	Venezuela	Kenya	Venezuela	Bangladesh
21	Pakistan	South Korea	Russia	Ethiopia	Pakistan
22	Russia	Russia	Ghana	Egypt	Ghana
23	South Korea	Kenya	Nepal	Kenya	Ethiopia
24	Trinidad And Tobago	Canada	South Korea	Russia	Russia
25	Kenya	Trinidad And Tobago	Ethiopia	Vietnam	Venezuela

Immigration Courts: Initial Case Completions by Language

Figure 9 shows a breakdown of Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 initial case completions by language. Out of 258 languages from the initial case completions in FY 2015, the top five languages – Spanish, English, Mandarin, Punjabi, and Creole – accounted for approximately 93 percent of these initial case completions.

Figure 9



FY 2015 Initial Case Completions by Language		
Language	Cases	% of Total
Spanish	137,851	76.50%
English	20,539	11.40%
Mandarin	6,592	3.66%
Punjabi	1,199	0.67%
Creole	1,115	0.62%
Other	12,890	7.15%
Total	180,186	100.00%

Table 7 provides information on the top 25 languages each year for FY 2011 through FY 2015. For the five-year period, seven languages remained in the top 10 each year. These languages were: Spanish, English, Mandarin, Creole, Russian, Arabic, and Portuguese.

**Table 7 – Initial Case Completions by Language
Top 25 Languages: FY 2011 – FY 2015**

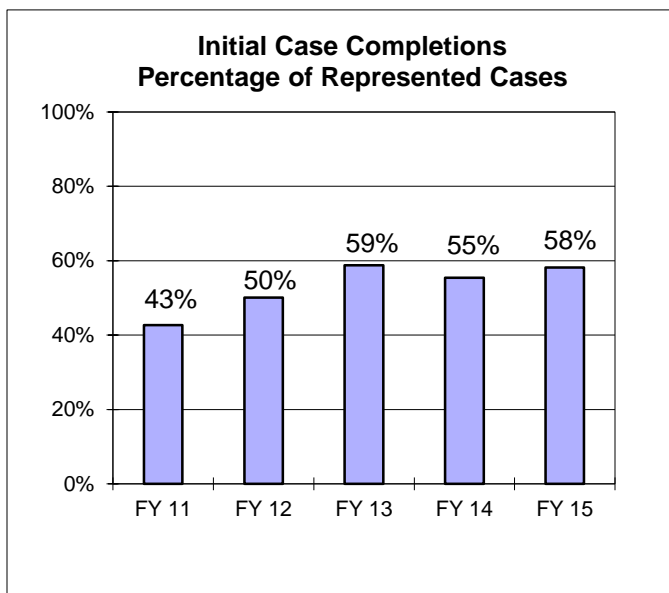
Rank	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
1	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish
2	English	English	English	English	English
3	Mandarin	Mandarin	Mandarin	Mandarin	Mandarin
4	Russian	Russian	Russian	Arabic	Punjabi
5	Creole	Arabic	Arabic	Russian	Creole
6	Portuguese	Creole	Portuguese	Punjabi	Russian
7	Arabic	Portuguese	Creole	Creole	Arabic
8	French	French	Punjabi	Portuguese	Portuguese
9	Korean	Korean	French	French	Mam
10	Foo Chow	Foo Chow	Korean	Korean	Somali
11	Punjabi	Punjabi	Foo Chow	Nepali	Quiche
12	Tigrigna - Eritrean	Gujarati	Nepali	Foo Chow	French
13	Amharic	Nepali	Amharic	Somali	Nepali
14	Gujarati	Amharic	Indonesian	Amharic	Bengali
15	Indonesian	Indonesian	Tagalog	Indonesian	Foo Chow
16	Nepali	Vietnamese	Romanian-Moldovan	Mam	Korean
17	Vietnamese	Tagalog	Vietnamese	Quiche	Indonesian
18	Tagalog	Tigrigna - Eritrean	Gujarati	Vietnamese	Konjobal
19	Armenian	Urdu	Urdu	Gujarati	Amharic
20	Polish	Armenian	Armenian	Tagalog	Armenian
21	Somali	Tamil	Albanian	Albanian	Gujarati
22	Albanian	Romanian-Moldovan	Tigrigna - Eritrean	Urdu	Vietnamese
23	Tamil	Albanian	Somali	Bengali	Albanian
24	Urdu	Somali	Polish	Armenian	Romanian-Moldovan
25	Romanian-Moldovan	Polish	Quiche	Konjobal	Urdu

Immigration Courts: Initial Case Completions by Representation Status

An attorney or other representative whom the Board of Immigration Appeals has fully accredited as well as reputable individuals or law students or graduates under the direct supervision of an attorney with the permission of the immigration judge may represent individuals in proceedings before an immigration judge. Many individuals who appear before EOIR are indigent and cannot afford a private attorney. EOIR provides lists of pro bono service providers and maintains a list of fully-accredited representatives who may be able and willing to assist indigent aliens in immigration proceedings. EOIR also is implementing a policy in which EOIR provides, among other procedural protections, representatives for unrepresented immigration detainees whom an immigration judge determines have serious mental disorders that render them mentally incompetent to represent themselves in immigration proceedings. In addition, EOIR funds three efforts to provide legal representation to certain unaccompanied alien children. These efforts are the justice AmeriCorps program (in partnership with the Corporation for National and Community Service), and two smaller pilot innovation projects serving children appearing before the Baltimore and Memphis Immigration Courts.

As shown in Figure 10, the percentage of represented aliens has increased over the last five years, increasing from 43 percent in Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 to 58 percent in FY 2015. This data shows if an alien was represented at any point during the proceeding.

Figure 10



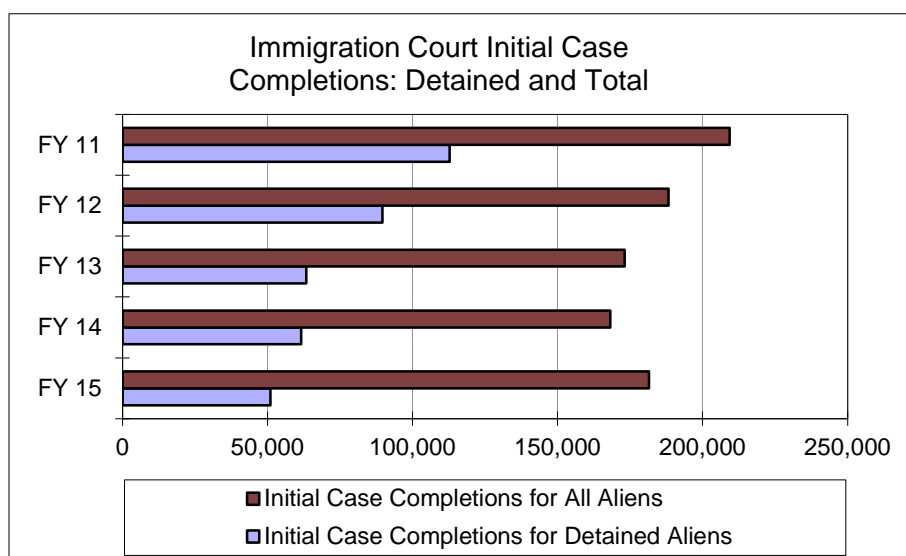
	Represented	Unrepresented	Total
FY 11	89,382	119,911	209,293
FY 12	94,280	93,943	188,223
FY 13	101,725	71,451	173,176
FY 14	93,126	75,014	168,140
FY 15	105,619	75,956	181,575

Immigration Courts: Initial Case Completions for Detained Cases

Detention locations include Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Service Processing Centers (SPC), DHS contract detention facilities, state and local government facilities, and Bureau of Prisons institutions. For the purpose of this Yearbook, Institutional Hearing Program (IHP) cases are considered detained cases. See Tab H.

Figure 11 provides a comparison of detained initial case completions to total initial case completions. The number of initial cases completed for detained aliens decreased 55 percent from Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 to FY 2015.

Figure 11



Immigration Court Initial Case Completions for Detained Aliens (Including IHP)			
	Initial Case Completions for Detained Aliens	Initial Case Completions for All Aliens	Percent Detained
FY 11	112,787	209,293	54%
FY 12	89,621	188,223	48%
FY 13	63,331	173,176	37%
FY 14	61,590	168,140	37%
FY 15	51,005	181,575	28%

Table 8 provides information, by immigration court, on FY 2015 detained completions. The following immigration courts each completed more than 3,000 detained initial cases in FY 2014: Dallas, Houston SPC, and Stewart Detention Facility. Immigration courts in three border states – Texas, Arizona, and California – accounted for 51 percent of the detained completions in FY 2015. Courts in those three states are highlighted in blue in Table 8.

Table 8 - FY 2015 Immigration Court Initial Case Completions for Detained Cases

Immigration Court	Completions
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	2,125
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	1,051
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	677
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	416
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	515
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	445
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	471
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	10
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	1,505
CLEVELAND, OHIO	469
DALLAS, TEXAS	3,355
DENVER, COLORADO	1,188
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	660
EAST MESA, CALIFORNIA	839
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	2,084
EL PASO, TEXAS	221
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	700
ELOY, ARIZONA	2,032
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	108
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	1,088
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	44
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	148
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	227
HONOLULU, HAWAII	99
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	4,424
HOUSTON, TEXAS	88
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	688
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	305
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	2,224
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	569
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	1,210
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	2,222
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	10
MIAMI, FLORIDA	560
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	8
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	686
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	2,811
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	336
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	307
PEARSALL, TEXAS	2,264
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	4
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	76
PORTLAND, OREGON	69
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	556
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	1,674
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	50
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	1,171
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	3,766
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	1,546
TUCSON, ARIZONA	412
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	179
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	714
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	1,599
TOTAL	51,005

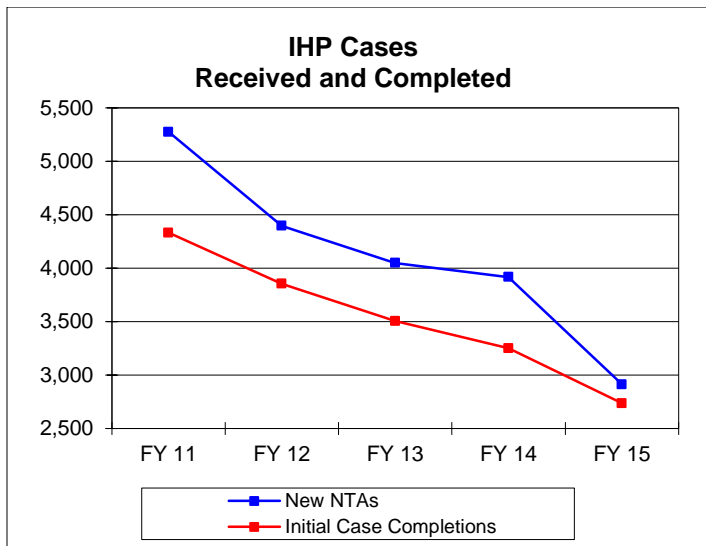
■ Immigration Courts in U.S./Mexico Border States

Immigration Courts: Institutional Hearing Program Cases Received and Completed

The Institutional Hearing Program (IHP) is a cooperative effort between EOIR; the Department of Homeland Security (DHS); and various federal, state, and municipal corrections agencies. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, DHS filed charging documents with the immigration courts for incarcerated aliens in 58 different institutions. Immigration judges and court staff either travel to these institutions to conduct IHP hearings or the immigration judges conduct the hearings by video teleconference.

Figure 12 provides information on IHP receipts and completions for FY 2011 to FY 2015. IHP receipts declined by 45 percent from FY 2011 to FY 2015.

Figure 12



	New NTAs	Initial Case Completions
FY 11	5,276	4,332
FY 12	4,396	3,854
FY 13	4,049	3,506
FY 14	3,918	3,251
FY 15	2,913	2,736

Table 9 provides a breakdown of IHP initial case completions by disposition. IHP completions declined by 37 percent between FY 2011 and FY 2015.

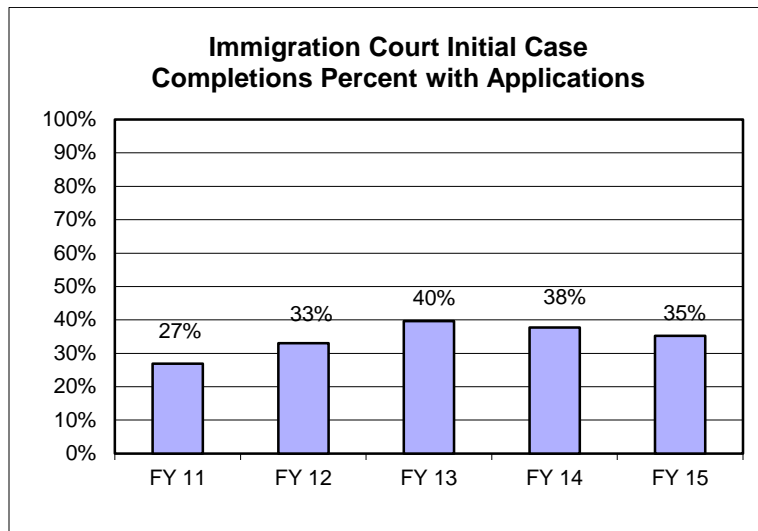
Table 9 - IHP Initial Case Completions by Disposition

	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Total Decisions in IHP Cases	4,228	3,764	3,312	3,119	2,640
<i>Removal</i>	4,102	3,645	3,208	3,014	2,507
<i>Termination</i>	98	80	80	83	90
<i>Relief</i>	26	31	20	21	39
<i>Other</i>	2	8	4	1	4
Other Completions	104	90	194	132	96
Total Completions	4,332	3,854	3,506	3,251	2,736

Immigration Courts: Initial Case Completions with Applications for Relief

Figure 13 provides information on the percent of initial case completions in which the alien filed an application for relief. For the purpose of this Yearbook, voluntary departure (Tab O) is not considered an application for relief.

Figure 13



Initial Case Completions with and without Applications for Relief					
	with Applications	Percent with Applications	without Applications	Percent without Applications	Total
FY 11	56,338	27%	152,955	73%	209,293
FY 12	62,210	33%	126,013	67%	188,223
FY 13	68,625	40%	104,551	60%	173,176
FY 14	63,464	38%	104,676	62%	168,140
FY 15	63,929	35%	117,646	65%	181,575

Table 10 shows the number and percentage of initial case completions with applications for relief at each immigration court in Fiscal Year (FY) 2015. Courts in which 15 percent or less of the completions involved applications for relief are shown in red. Courts in which 50 percent or more of the completions involved applications for relief are shown in blue.

Table 10 - FY 2015 Immigration Court Initial Case Completions with Applications for Relief

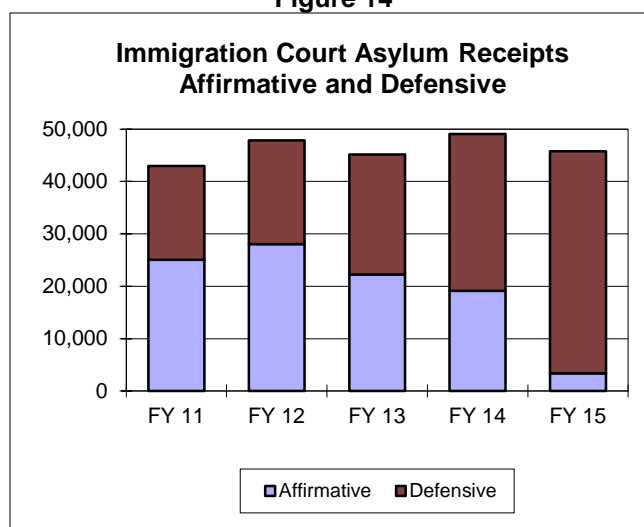
Immigration Court	Initial Case Completions	# of Completions with Applications	Percent with Applications
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	2,137	659	31%
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	5,461	2,082	38%
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	6,390	1,563	24%
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	3,965	1,065	27%
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	522	166	32%
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	2,147	745	35%
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	3,735	1,593	43%
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	892	172	19%
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	4,949	709	14%
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	5,587	1,493	27%
CLEVELAND, OHIO	1,989	797	40%
DALLAS, TEXAS	9,037	1,062	12%
DENVER, COLORADO	2,204	732	33%
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	1,545	666	43%
EAST MESA, CALIFORNIA	856	222	26%
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	2,084	335	16%
EL PASO, TEXAS	2,212	725	33%
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	717	304	42%
ELOY, ARIZONA	2,082	410	20%
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	108	27	25%
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	1,089	241	22%
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	259	114	44%
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	2,447	393	16%
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	1,512	581	38%
HONOLULU, HAWAII	381	257	67%
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	4,427	888	20%
HOUSTON, TEXAS	5,852	805	14%
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	732	136	19%
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	1,575	485	31%
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	2,243	685	31%
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	1,848	733	40%
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	18,571	10,987	59%
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	2,231	970	43%
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	3,671	741	20%
MIAMI, FLORIDA	7,819	2,565	33%
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	3,167	623	20%
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	15,334	10,132	66%
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	2,962	1,007	34%
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	2,822	339	12%
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	2,130	991	47%
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	4,813	1,908	40%
PEARSALL, TEXAS	2,264	630	28%
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	2,234	961	43%
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	3,834	2,025	53%
PORTLAND, OREGON	1,211	672	55%
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	26	5	19%
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	1,251	430	34%
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	3,359	571	17%
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	2,031	729	36%
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	9,592	3,378	35%
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	2,115	962	45%
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	3,789	487	13%
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	1,561	639	41%
TUCSON, ARIZONA	1,262	373	30%
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	179	48	27%
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	759	300	40%
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	1,604	611	38%
TOTAL	181,575	63,929	35%

Immigration Courts: Asylum Cases Received and Completed

There are two types of asylum processes – defensive and affirmative. The defensive asylum process applies to aliens who appear before EOIR and who request asylum before an immigration judge. The process is called “defensive” because it can provide relief from being removed from the United States. The affirmative asylum process applies to aliens who initially file an asylum application with the Department of Homeland Security’s U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

For the purpose of this Yearbook, asylum receipts are based on the initial asylum application received date and asylum completions are based on the initial case completion. Figure 14 shows the affirmative and defensive asylum receipts at the immigration courts for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 to FY 2015. Affirmative asylum receipts have fallen sharply (82 percent) from FY 2014 to FY 2015.

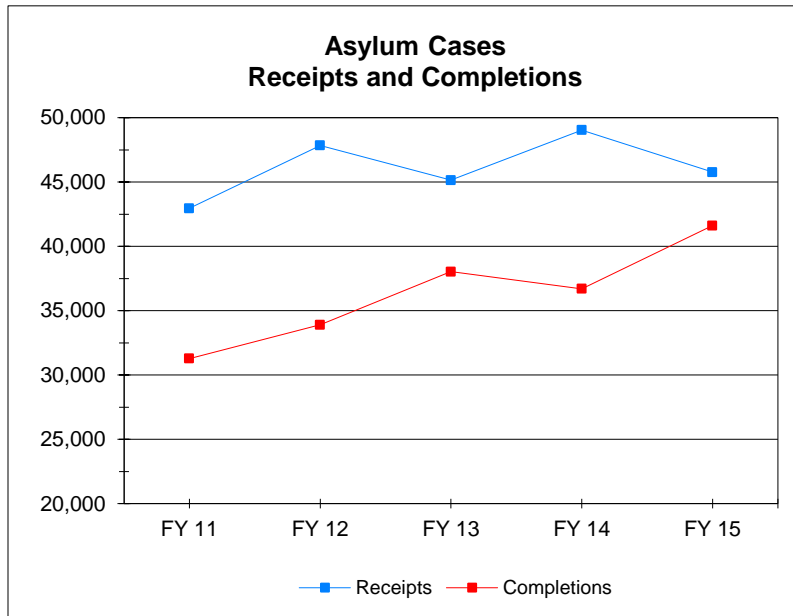
Figure 14



Immigration Court Asylum Receipts			
	Affirmative	Defensive	Total
FY 11	25,042	17,916	42,958
FY 12	28,058	19,779	47,837
FY 13	22,263	22,885	45,148
FY 14	19,114	29,917	49,031
FY 15	3,379	42,391	45,770

As shown in Figure 15, asylum receipts increased by 7 percent and asylum completions increased by 33 percent from FY 2011 to FY 2015. In the last year although in the last year asylum completions increased by 13 percent and asylum receipts decreased by 7 percent.

Figure 15



Asylum Receipts and Completions		
	Receipts	Completions
FY 11	42,958	31,278
FY 12	47,837	33,898
FY 13	45,148	38,033
FY 14	49,031	36,699
FY 15	45,770	41,615

Table 11 provides information on FY 2015 asylum completions by immigration court. In FY 2015, the New York, NY; Los Angeles, CA; San Francisco, CA; Arlington, VA; Miami, FL; and Orlando, FL, immigration courts accounted for 58 percent of the asylum completions.

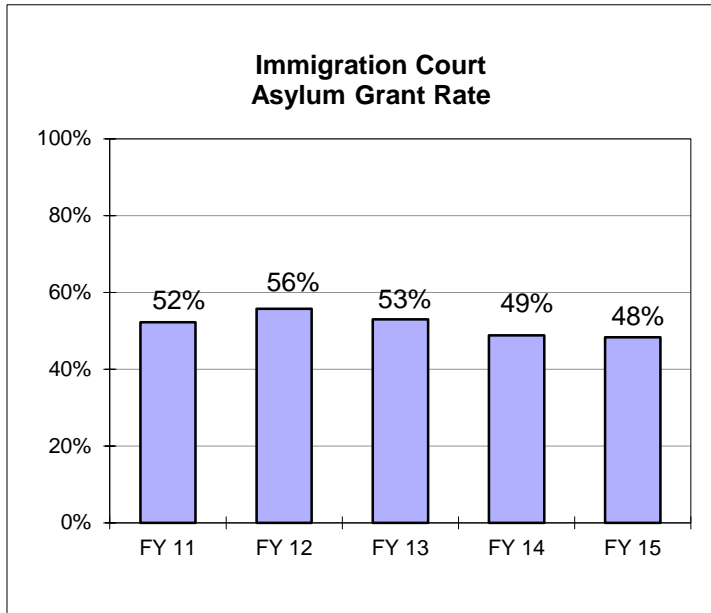
Table 11 - Asylum Completions by Court for FY 2015

Immigration Court	Completions
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	498
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	1,601
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	668
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	768
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	87
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	438
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	835
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	56
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	381
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	504
CLEVELAND, OHIO	490
DALLAS, TEXAS	499
DENVER, COLORADO	364
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	274
EAST MESA, CALIFORNIA	157
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	233
EL PASO, TEXAS	256
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	244
ELOY, ARIZONA	200
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	5
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	154
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	26
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	194
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	424
HONOLULU, HAWAII	226
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	250
HOUSTON, TEXAS	618
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	97
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	232
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	394
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	422
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	8,610
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	603
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	305
MIAMI, FLORIDA	1,419
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	410
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	9,091
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	624
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	171
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	595
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	1,175
PEARSALL, TEXAS	311
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	629
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	634
PORTLAND, OREGON	463
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	0
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	143
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	366
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	358
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	2,204
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	730
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	200
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	383
TUCSON, ARIZONA	186
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	4
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	88
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	318
TOTAL	41,615

Immigration Courts: Asylum Cases Completed by Disposition

Figure 16 provides the asylum grant rate for the past five years. The grant rate is calculated as a percentage of asylum claims decided on the merits. The grant rate decreased from Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 (52 percent) to FY 2015 (48 percent), and has fallen the past three years.

Figure 16



Asylum Grant Rate			
	Grants	Denials	Grant Rate
FY 11	10,138	9,280	52%
FY 12	10,718	8,504	56%
FY 13	9,946	8,828	53%
FY 14	8,791	9,227	49%
FY 15	8,246	8,833	48%

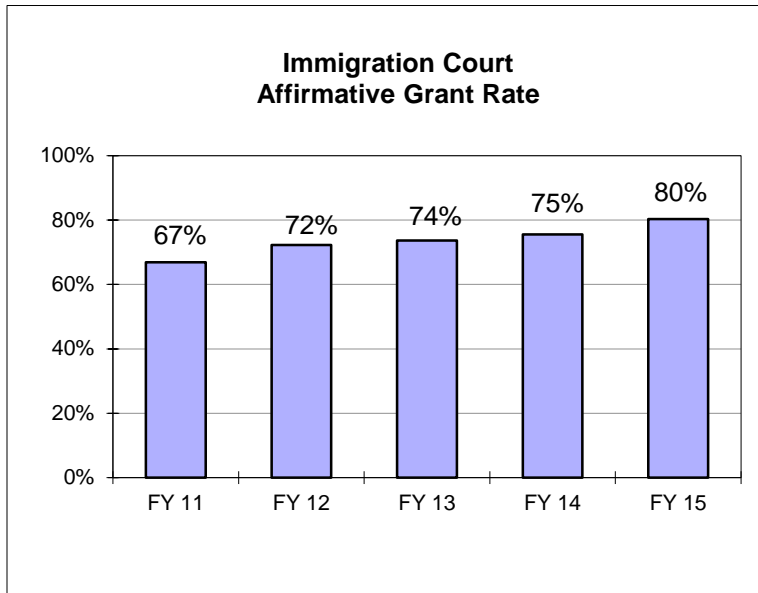
Table 12 provides information on the FY 2015 asylum grant rate for each individual immigration court.

Table 12 – FY 2015 Asylum Grant Rate by Immigration Court

Immigration Court	Grants	Denials	Grant Rate
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	42	361	10%
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	230	133	63%
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	5	239	2%
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	193	254	43%
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	7	58	11%
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	60	161	27%
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	173	59	75%
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	3	9	25%
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	21	146	13%
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	118	142	45%
CLEVELAND, OHIO	31	98	24%
DALLAS, TEXAS	24	255	9%
DENVER, COLORADO	103	120	46%
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	15	90	14%
EAST MESA, CALIFORNIA	12	105	10%
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	6	165	4%
EL PASO, TEXAS	9	55	14%
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	132	92	59%
ELOY, ARIZONA	11	115	9%
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	0	5	0%
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	6	93	6%
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	0	1	0%
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	11	29	28%
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	31	96	24%
HONOLULU, HAWAII	162	37	81%
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	13	178	7%
HOUSTON, TEXAS	32	309	9%
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	17	50	25%
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	37	80	32%
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	17	219	7%
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	3	102	3%
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	442	1,210	27%
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	138	408	25%
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	63	50	56%
MIAMI, FLORIDA	160	344	32%
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	22	39	36%
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	4,423	847	84%
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	32	34	48%
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	7	129	5%
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	29	89	25%
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	97	191	34%
PEARSALL, TEXAS	75	184	29%
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	67	51	57%
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	37	13	74%
PORTLAND, OREGON	68	80	46%
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	0	0	0%
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	15	36	29%
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	67	232	22%
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	71	50	59%
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	596	206	74%
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	131	228	36%
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	6	112	5%
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	92	168	35%
TUCSON, ARIZONA	24	48	33%
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	0	4	0%
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	8	45	15%
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	52	179	23%
TOTAL	8,246	8,833	48%

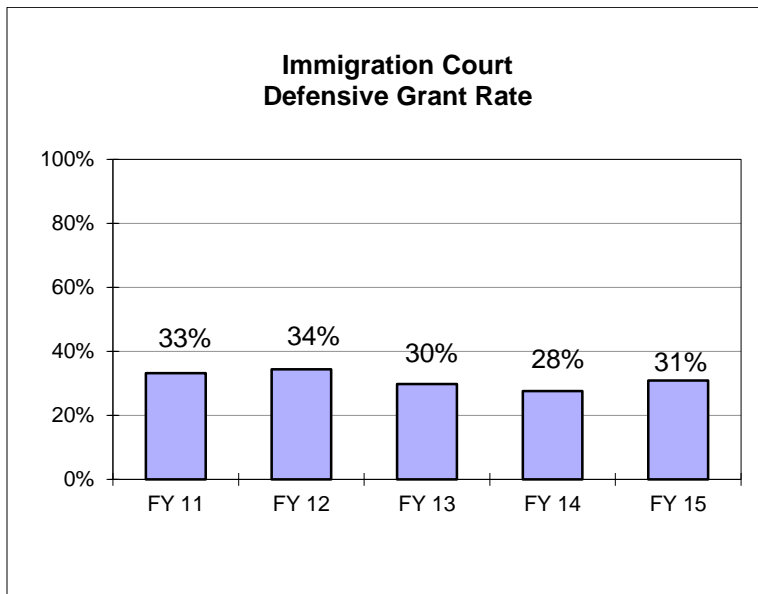
Figures 17 and 18 show the grant rates for affirmative and defensive asylum claims.

Figure 17



	Grants	Denials	Grant Rate
FY 11	7,319	3,618	67%
FY 12	7,827	3,002	72%
FY 13	7,314	2,619	74%
FY 14	6,011	1,951	75%
FY 15	4,833	1,185	80%

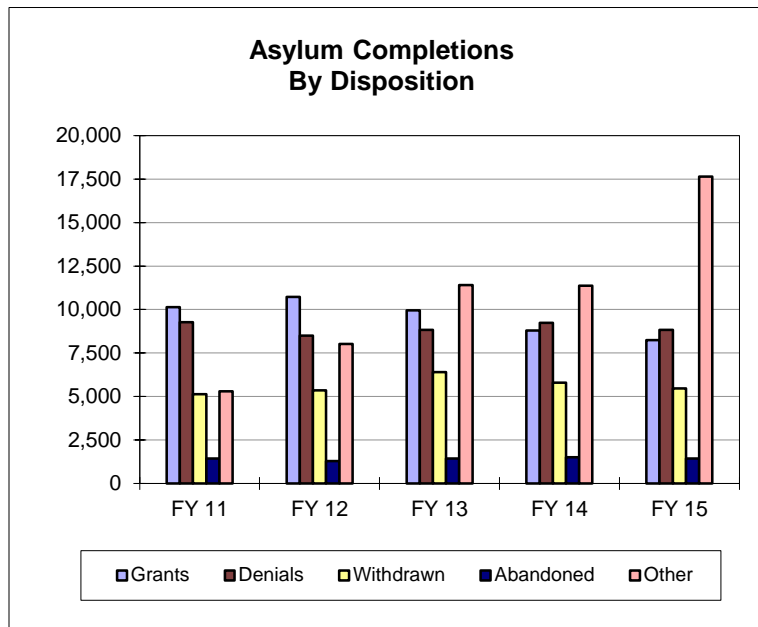
Figure 18



	Grants	Denials	Grant Rate
FY 11	2,819	5,662	33%
FY 12	2,891	5,502	34%
FY 13	2,632	6,209	30%
FY 14	2,780	7,276	28%
FY 15	3,413	7,648	31%

Figure 19 illustrates all asylum initial case completions broken out by disposition. The number of asylum grants decreased by 19 percent since FY 2011.

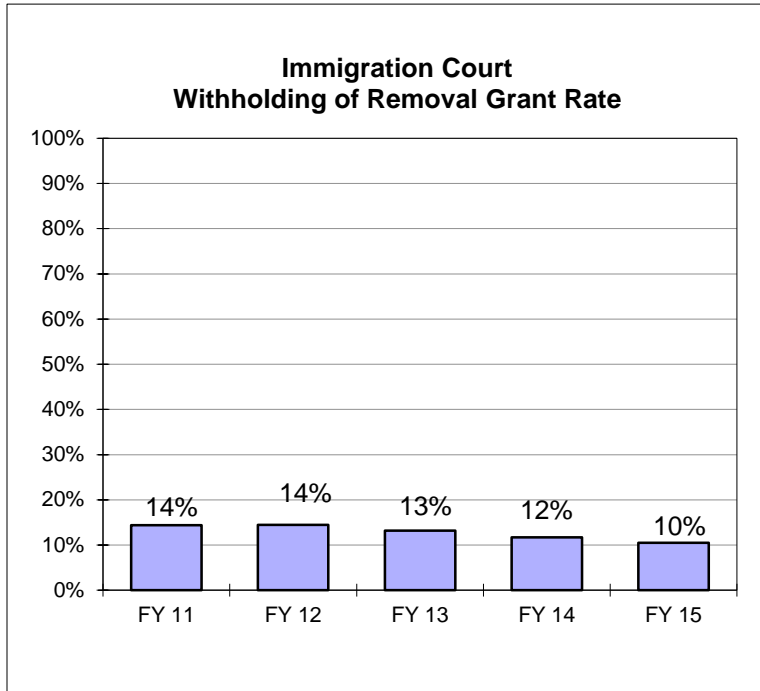
Figure 19



Asylum Completions by Disposition						
	Grants	Denials	Withdrawn	Abandoned	Other	Total
FY 11	10,138	9,280	5,136	1,430	5,294	31,278
FY 12	10,718	8,504	5,356	1,297	8,023	33,898
FY 13	9,946	8,828	6,411	1,439	11,409	38,033
FY 14	8,791	9,227	5,800	1,515	11,366	36,699
FY 15	8,246	8,833	5,466	1,435	17,635	41,615

An applicant for asylum also is an applicant for withholding of removal under section 241(b)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). Figure 20 depicts the withholding of removal grant rate under section 241(b)(3) of the INA. Cases that had grants for both asylum and withholding were omitted from the withholding of removal grant rate because they have previously been counted as an asylum grant.

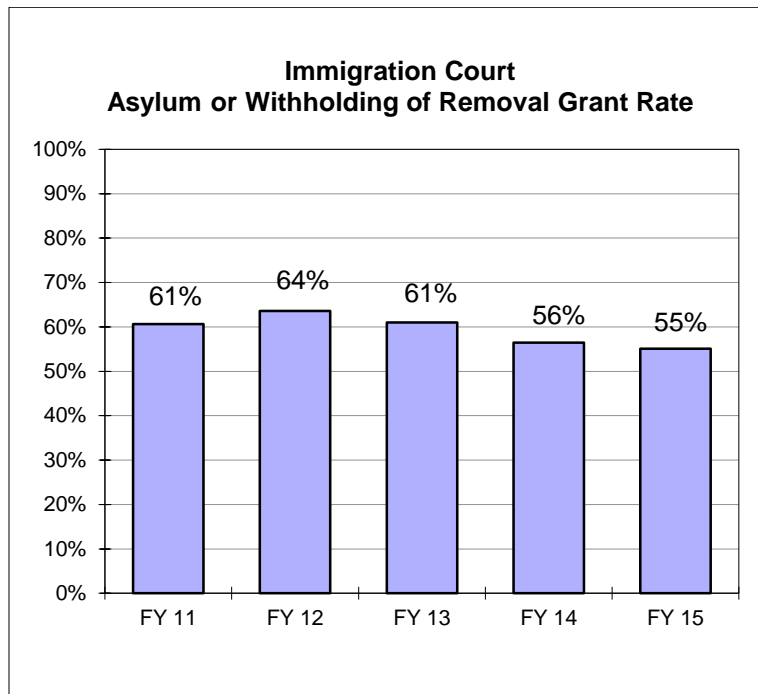
Figure 20



	Grants	Denials	Grant Rate
FY 11	1,670	9,943	14%
FY 12	1,552	9,204	14%
FY 13	1,518	9,986	13%
FY 14	1,468	11,059	12%
FY 15	1,199	10,234	10%

Figure 21 shows the percentage of cases in which asylum or withholding of removal was granted. The overall grant rate from FY 2011 to FY 2015 has decreased from 61 percent to 55 percent. The number of cases which result in asylum grants and withholding grants decreased by 20 percent from FY 2011 to FY 2015. For the same time period the number of denials for these cases remained largely unchanged.

Figure 21

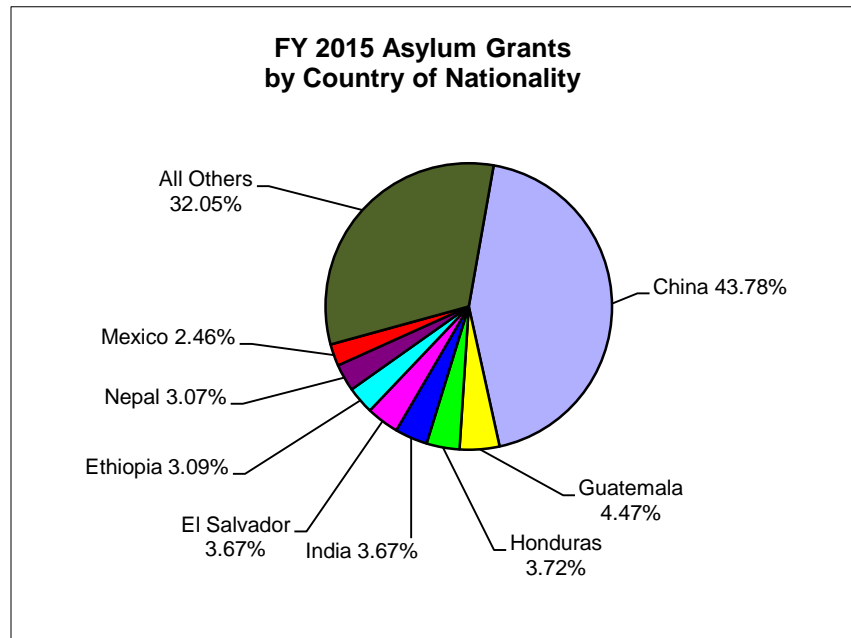


Immigration Court Asylum or Withholding of Removal Grant Rate				
	Asylum Grants	Withholding of Removal Grants	Denials of Both Asylum and Withholding of Removal	Grant Rate
FY 11	10,138	1,670	7,656	61%
FY 12	10,718	1,552	7,022	64%
FY 13	9,946	1,518	7,324	61%
FY 14	8,791	1,468	7,915	56%
FY 15	8,246	1,199	7,696	55%

Immigration Courts: Asylum Grants by Country of Nationality

Figure 22 displays the top 10 nationalities granted asylum in Fiscal Year (FY) 2015. In FY 2015 the top 10 nationalities accounted for 72 percent of all asylum grants. China accounted for 44 percent of all asylum grants. A total of 134 nationalities were represented among individuals granted asylum in FY 2015.

Figure 22



FY 2015 Asylum Grants by Country of Nationality		
Country of Nationality	Completions	% of Total
China	3,610	43.78%
Guatemala	369	4.47%
Honduras	307	3.72%
India	303	3.67%
El Salvador	303	3.67%
Ethiopia	255	3.09%
Nepal	253	3.07%
Mexico	203	2.46%
All Others	2,643	32.05%
Total	8,246	100%

Table 13 provides information on the top nationalities granted asylum for the period FY 2011 to FY 2015. For each of the five years, five of the top 10 countries from which aliens were granted asylum were represented: China, India, Ethiopia, Nepal, and the Soviet Union.

**Table 13 - Asylum Grants by Country of Nationality
Top 25 Nationalities: FY 2011 - FY 2015**

Rank	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
1	China	China	China	China	China
2	Eritrea	Ethiopia	Ethiopia	India	Guatemala
3	Ethiopia	Nepal	Nepal	Ethiopia	Honduras
4	Nepal	Eritrea	India	Nepal	India
5	Egypt	Egypt	Egypt	Egypt	El Salvador
6	Soviet Union	Soviet Union	Soviet Union	Soviet Union	Ethiopia
7	India	India	Eritrea	El Salvador	Nepal
8	Somalia	Guatemala	Russia	Guatemala	Mexico
9	Colombia	El Salvador	El Salvador	Eritrea	Soviet Union
10	Russia	Pakistan	Mexico	Honduras	Somalia
11	Cameroon	Cameroon	Guatemala	Mexico	Egypt
12	Venezuela	Russia	Cameroon	Somalia	Eritrea
13	Guatemala	Guinea	Pakistan	Russia	Syria
14	Guinea	Venezuela	Guinea	Cameroon	Russia
15	El Salvador	Mexico	Sri Lanka	Pakistan	Bangladesh
16	Pakistan	Sri Lanka	Honduras	Venezuela	Cameroon
17	Armenia	Colombia	Somalia	Iraq	Albania
18	Albania	Indonesia	Venezuela	Sri Lanka	Nigeria
19	Iraq	Iraq	Indonesia	Gambia	Haiti
20	Sri Lanka	Iran	Mali	Albania	Colombia
21	Indonesia	Somalia	Gambia	Syria	Gambia
22	Mexico	Moldavia (Moldova)	Colombia	Colombia	Pakistan
23	Iran	Honduras	Albania	Guinea	Iraq
24	Kenya	Gambia	Moldavia (Moldova)	Moldavia (Moldova)	Burkina Faso
25	Mali	Armenia	Bangladesh	Burkina Faso	Sri Lanka

Immigration Courts: Convention Against Torture

In 1999, the Department of Justice implemented regulations regarding the Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Convention Against Torture or CAT). There are two forms of protection under the 1999 regulations:

- Withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture may be granted to an alien who establishes that they would be tortured in the proposed country of removal.
- Deferral of removal may be available to aliens who are not eligible for withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture, but provides less protection against removal as the protection can be more easily and quickly terminated if it becomes possible to remove the alien.

As shown in Table 14, the immigration courts adjudicated 30,116 CAT applications during Fiscal Year (FY) 2015. Of those, immigration judges granted 625 CAT applications, and the majority of those grants were withholding.

Table 14 - FY 2015 Convention Against Torture Cases by Disposition

Granted			Denied	Other	Withdrawn	Abandoned	Total
Withholding	Deferral	Total					
504	121	625	9,858	13,864	5,027	742	30,116

Table 15 shows a breakdown of CAT completions by immigration courts. The New York City, NY; Los Angeles, CA; San Francisco, CA; Miami, FL; Arlington, VA: and Orlando, FL, immigration courts combined completed approximately 52 percent of the total FY 2015 CAT cases.

Table 15 - FY 2015 Convention Against Torture Completions by Court

Immigration Court	Completions
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	538
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	1,207
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	389
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	591
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	118
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	371
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	459
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	47
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	351
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	338
CLEVELAND, OHIO	409
DALLAS, TEXAS	364
DENVER, COLORADO	354
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	361
EAST MESA, CALIFORNIA	190
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	238
EL PASO, TEXAS	65
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	270
ELOY, ARIZONA	263
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	23
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	187
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	26
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	84
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	313
HONOLULU, HAWAII	138
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	463
HOUSTON, TEXAS	314
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	95
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	138
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	451
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	293
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	4,645
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	665
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	223
MIAMI, FLORIDA	1,394
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	236
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	5,255
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	425
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	241
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	147
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	1,080
PEARSALL, TEXAS	406
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	451
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	88
PORTLAND, OREGON	420
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	5
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	87
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	398
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	312
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	2,035
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	687
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	156
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	562
TUCSON, ARIZONA	50
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	33
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	166
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	501
TOTAL	30,116

Immigration Courts: Applications for Relief other than Asylum

Table 16 reflects grants of relief other than asylum during the period Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 to FY 2015.

Table 16 – Grants of Relief*
Adjustment of Status; 212(c) Waivers; Suspension of Deportation; and Cancellation of Removal

	Relief Granted to Lawful Permanent Residents		Relief Granted to Non-Lawful Permanent Residents				
	Relief Granted Under Section 212(c)	Cancellation of Removal	Not Subject to Annual Cap of 4,000 Grants			Subject to Annual Cap of 4,000 Grants	
			Adjustment of Status to LPR	Suspension of Deportation	Cancellation of Removal	Suspension of Deportation	Cancellation of Removal
FY 2011	725	3,631	5,866	20	292	1	3,301
FY 2012	658	3,551	4,709	13	279	0	3,508
FY 2013	549	3,543	3,873	15	283	0	3,628
FY 2014	453	2,922	2,440	22	230	1	3,504
FY 2015	344	2,348	1,538	14	235	0	3,540

* Grants of Relief are based on the initial case completion.

Immigration Courts: Voluntary Departure

For the purpose of the Yearbook, voluntary departure is considered a form of removal, and not a type of relief. Immigration judge removal decisions on cases include grants of voluntary departure. Table 17 shows the percentage of removal orders that are grants of voluntary departure.

Table 17
Initial Case Completions
IJ Removal Decisions Compared to Voluntary Departure Decisions

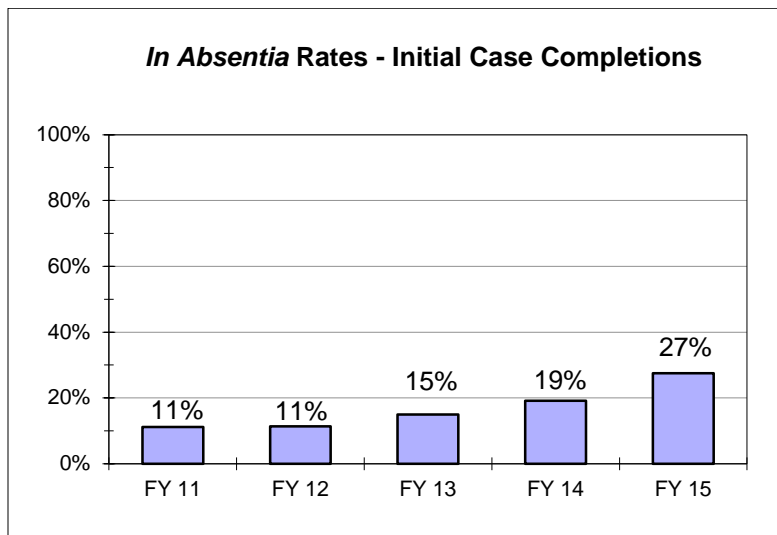
	Total Removal Decisions	Voluntary Departure Decisions	Percent Voluntary Departure Decisions
FY 11	154,774	28,615	18%
FY 12	125,244	25,195	20%
FY 13	99,677	18,382	18%
FY 14	98,346	14,928	15%
FY 15	98,705	11,610	12%

Immigration Courts: In Absentia Orders

When an alien fails to appear for a hearing, the immigration judge may conduct a hearing in the alien's absence (*in absentia*).

Figure 23 compares immigration judge decisions on the initial case completion and *in absentia* orders. Of the immigration judge decisions rendered in Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, 27 percent involved *in absentia* orders. The increase of in absentia orders by 69 percent from FY 2011 to FY 2015 and the decrease of immigration judge decisions by 31 percent in the same five-year time period caused the in absentia rate to reach a five year high of 27 percent.

Figure 23

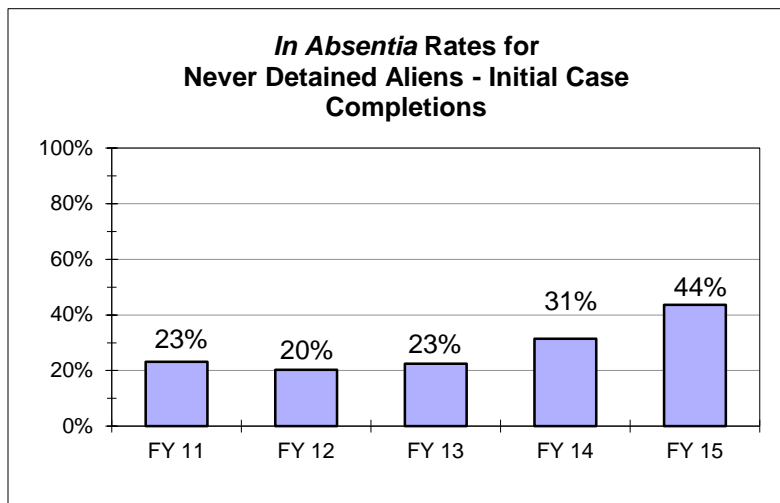


	<i>In Absentia</i> Orders	IJ Decisions	<i>In Absentia</i> Rate
FY 11	22,564	202,716	11%
FY 12	19,495	171,494	11%
FY 13	21,539	143,790	15%
FY 14	26,132	136,652	19%
FY 15	38,229	139,048	27%

The following figures show EOIR data on *in absentia* rates for never detained aliens, aliens released on bond or recognizance, and non-detained aliens (never detained and released).

Figure 24 shows a comparison of the number of *in absentia* orders with the number of immigration judge decisions on the initial case completion for aliens who have never been detained. From FY 2011 to FY 2015 the number of *in absentia* orders for never detained aliens increased by 71 percent while the number of immigration judge decisions for those aliens decreased by nine percent in the same time period.

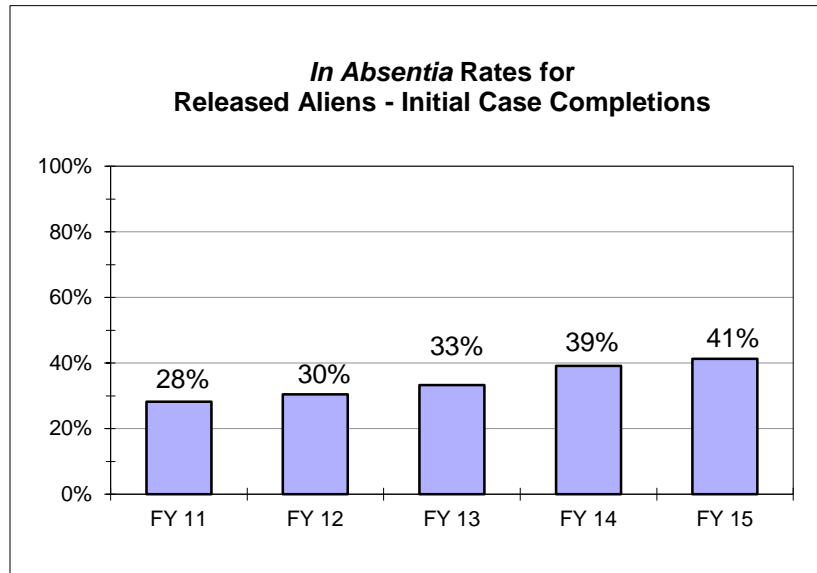
Figure 24



	<i>In Absentia</i> Orders	IJ Decisions	<i>In Absentia</i> Rate
FY 11	15,707	67,859	23%
FY 12	11,713	57,816	20%
FY 13	12,090	53,678	23%
FY 14	15,355	48,771	31%
FY 15	26,833	61,425	44%

In absentia orders for aliens released on bond or on their own recognizance are shown in Figure 25. From FY 2011 to FY 2015 the number of *in absentia* orders for aliens released on bond or on their own recognizance increased by 73 percent while the number of immigration judge decisions for those aliens increased by 18 percent.

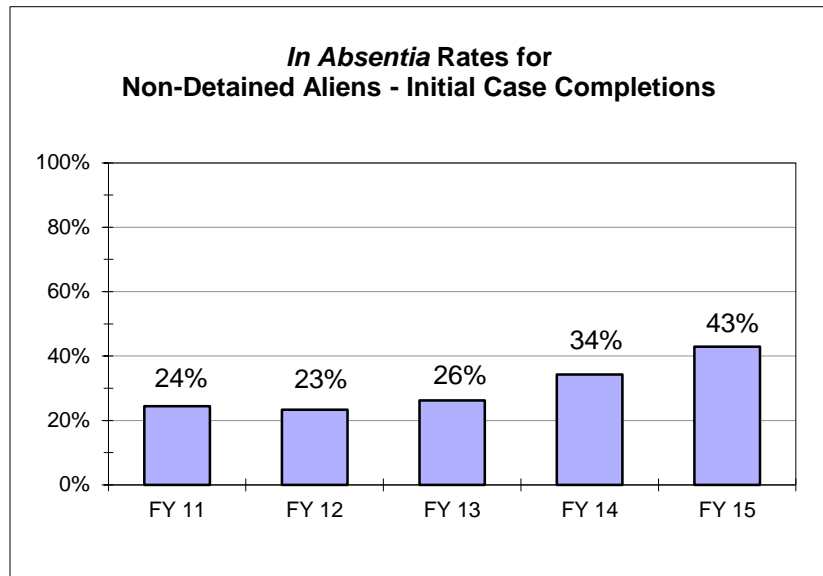
Figure 25



<i>In Absentia</i> Rates for Released Aliens - Initial Case Completions			
	<i>In Absentia</i> Orders	IJ Decisions	<i>In Absentia</i> Rate
FY 11	6,557	23,224	28%
FY 12	7,699	25,258	30%
FY 13	9,358	28,091	33%
FY 14	10,658	27,262	39%
FY 15	11,325	27,443	41%

In absentia orders for non-detained aliens (which includes both never detained and released aliens) are shown in Figure 26. From FY 2011 to FY 2015 the number of *in absentia* orders for aliens who are not currently detained increased by 71 percent while the number of immigration judge decisions for those aliens decreased by two percent.

Figure 26



<i>In Absentia</i> Rates for Non-Detained Aliens - Initial Case Completions			
	<i>In Absentia</i> Orders	IJ Decisions	<i>In Absentia</i> Rate
FY 11	22,264	91,083	24%
FY 12	19,412	83,074	23%
FY 13	21,448	81,769	26%
FY 14	26,013	76,033	34%
FY 15	38,158	88,868	43%

Board of Immigration Appeals: Total Cases Received and Completed

The majority of cases the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) reviews arise from decisions immigration judges make in removal, deportation, or exclusion cases. These types of cases are listed below. For purposes of this Statistics Yearbook, these types of cases are referred to as appeals from immigration judge decisions.

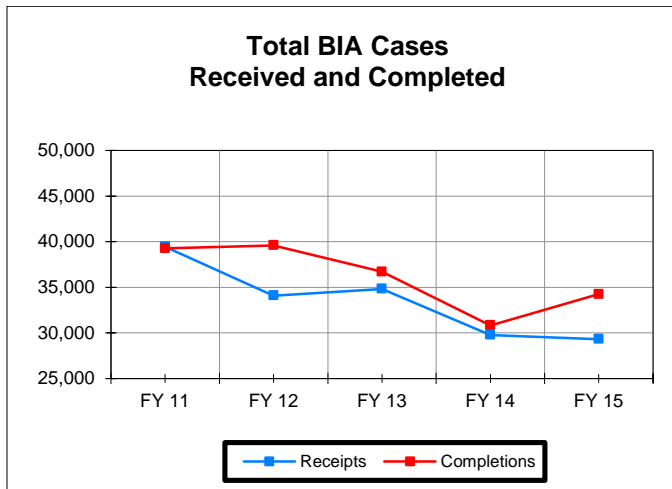
- Case appeals from the decisions of immigration judges in removal, deportation, and exclusion cases at the court level;
- Appeals filed from the decisions of immigration judges on motions to reopen;
- Motions to reopen and/or reconsider filed in cases already decided by the BIA;
- Appeals pertaining to bond, parole, or detention;
- Interlocutory appeals relating to important jurisdictional questions regarding the administration of the immigration laws or recurring problems in the handling of cases by immigration judges; and
- Cases (or appeals) remanded from the Federal Court.

The BIA also has jurisdiction to review appeals arising from certain decisions that Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials render. These types of appeals are listed below. For purposes of this Statistics Yearbook, appeals from these DHS decisions are referred to as DHS decision appeals.

- Family-based visa petitions adjudicated by DHS district directors or regional service center directors;
- Waivers of inadmissibility for non-immigrants under § 212(d)(3)(A)(ii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act; and
- Fines and penalties imposed upon carriers for violations of immigration laws.

Figure 27 provides total BIA cases received and completed for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 to FY 2015. BIA receipts have decreased by 26 percent during this time period while BIA completions have decreased by 13 percent. However, between FY 2014 and FY 2015 completions increased by 11 percent while receipts only showed a slight decrease.

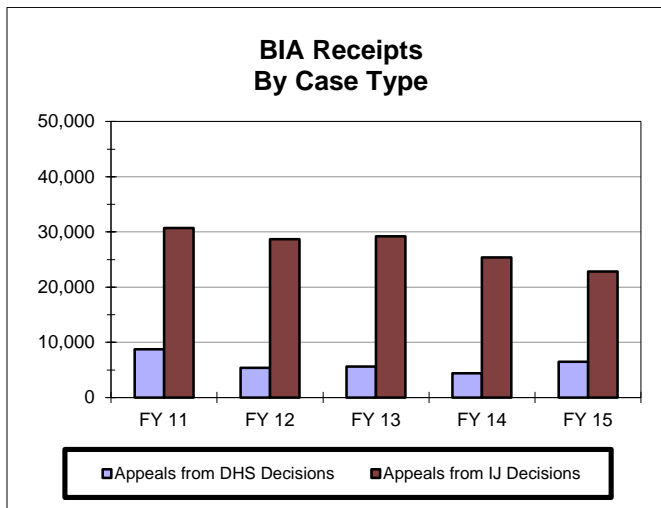
Figure 27



Total BIA Cases		
	Receipts	Completions
FY 11	39,452	39,256
FY 12	34,087	39,594
FY 13	34,808	36,689
FY 14	29,759	30,823
FY 15	29,313	34,244

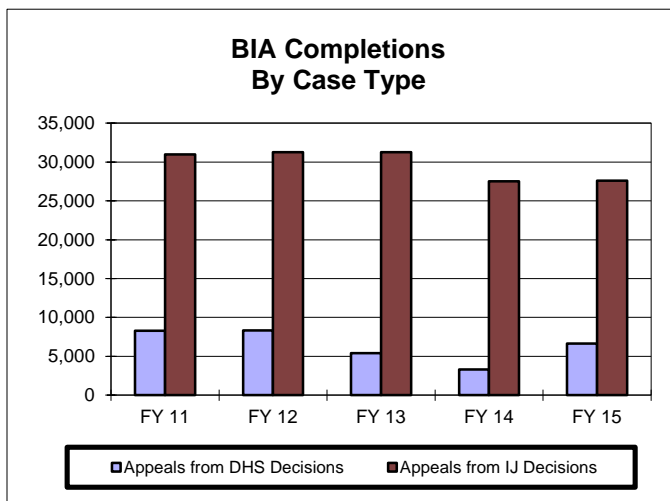
Figures 28 and 29 provide information on the types of cases the BIA receives and completes. Appeals from immigration judge decisions make up the bulk of the BIA's work. Receipts of appeals from immigration judge decisions decreased by 10 percent from FY 2014 to FY 2015, while receipts of appeals from DHS decisions increased by 47 percent. Completions of appeals from immigration judge decisions remained relatively unchanged from FY 2014 to FY 2015, while completions of appeals from DHS decisions increased by 102 percent for the same time period.

Figure 28



	Appeals from DHS Decisions	Appeals from IJ Decisions	Total Appeals
FY 11	8,721	30,731	39,452
FY 12	5,392	28,695	34,087
FY 13	5,600	29,208	34,808
FY 14	4,398	25,361	29,759
FY 15	6,481	22,832	29,313

Figure 29



	Appeals from DHS Decisions	Appeals from IJ Decisions	Total Appeals
FY 11	8,300	30,956	39,256
FY 12	8,319	31,275	39,594
FY 13	5,412	31,277	36,689
FY 14	3,294	27,529	30,823
FY 15	6,641	27,603	34,244

Board of Immigration Appeals: Cases Received and Completed by Type

The Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) has jurisdiction over certain types of cases arising from immigration judge decisions. For more information, refer to Page Q1. For purposes of this Statistics Yearbook, these types of cases are referred to as appeals from immigration judge decisions.

The BIA also has jurisdiction to review appeals arising from certain decisions that Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials render. These types of appeals are listed at Page Q1. For purposes of this Statistics Yearbook, appeals from these DHS decisions are referred to as DHS decision appeals.

As shown in Table 18 and Table 19, the majority of appeals from immigration judge decisions are from case appeals and the majority of appeals from DHS decisions are from visa petitions.

Table 18 provides a breakdown of the types of cases the BIA received between Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 and FY 2015.

Table 18 - BIA Receipts by Type

	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Total Appeals from IJ Decisions	30,731	28,695	29,208	25,361	22,832
Case Appeal	17,096	15,856	16,493	13,552	11,445
Appeal of IJ Motion to Reopen	2,088	1,943	1,639	1,516	1,452
Motion to Reopen/Reconsider-BIA	9,097	8,246	7,692	6,692	5,908
Bond Appeal	1,305	1,594	1,816	2,091	2,249
Bond MTR	22	34	28	32	51
Interlocutory Appeal	199	192	209	163	240
Federal Court Remand	924	830	1,331	1,314	1,487
Continued Detention Review	0	0	0	0	0
Zero Bond Appeal	0	0	0	1	0
Total Appeals from DHS Decisions	8,721	5,392	5,600	4,398	6,481
Decisions on Visa Petitions	8,701	5,349	5,541	4,346	6,436
212(d)(3)(A)(ii) Waiver Decisions	19	40	55	49	45
Decisions on Fines and Penalties	1	3	4	3	0
Grand Total	39,452	34,087	34,808	29,759	29,313

Table 19 provides a breakdown of the types of cases completed by the BIA between FY 2011 and FY 2015.

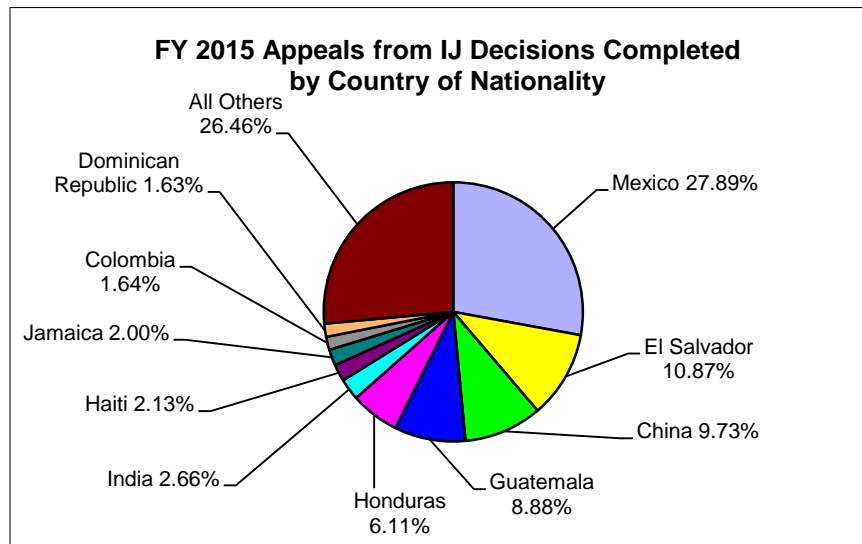
Table 19 - BIA Completions by Type

	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Total Appeals from IJ Decisions	30,956	31,275	31,277	27,529	27,603
Case Appeal	16,629	17,459	17,933	15,775	15,476
Appeal of IJ Motion to Reopen	2,065	2,040	1,839	1,691	1,658
Motion to Reopen/Reconsider-BIA	9,630	9,191	8,603	6,394	6,427
Bond Appeal	1,241	1,554	1,700	1,990	2,220
Bond MTR	27	35	24	35	47
Interlocutory Appeal	186	225	194	169	216
Federal Court Remand	1,178	771	984	1,474	1,559
Continued Detention Review	0	0	0	0	0
Zero Bond Appeal	0	0	0	1	0
Total Appeals from DHS Decisions	8,300	8,319	5,412	3,294	6,641
Decisions on Visa Petitions	8,280	8,288	5,349	3,267	6,573
212(d)(3)(A)(ii) Waiver Decisions	18	29	60	25	65
Decisions on Fines and Penalties	2	2	3	2	3
Grand Total	39,256	39,594	36,689	30,823	34,244

Board of Immigration Appeals: Appeals from Immigration Judge Decisions Completed by Country of Nationality

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) completions of appeals from immigration judge decisions involved a total of 182 nationalities. Figure 30 provides information on the top 10 nationalities that accounted for 74 percent of completions in FY 2015.

Figure 30



Country of Nationality	Completions	% of Total
Mexico	7,698	27.89%
El Salvador	3,001	10.87%
China	2,687	9.73%
Guatemala	2,452	8.88%
Honduras	1,686	6.11%
India	735	2.66%
Haiti	588	2.13%
Jamaica	551	2.00%
Colombia	452	1.64%
Dominican Republic	450	1.63%
All Others	7,303	26.46%
Total	27,603	100.00%

Table 20 compares the predominant countries for completed immigration judge appeals for FY 2011 to FY 2015. For the five-year period, nine countries ranked among the top 10: Mexico, El Salvador, China, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Jamaica, Colombia, and Dominican Republic.

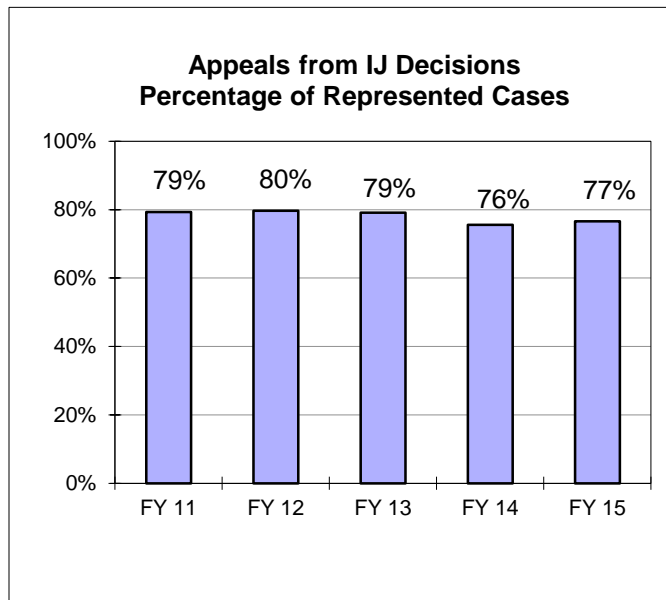
**Table 20 - BIA - Appeals from IJ Decisions Completed by Country of Nationality
Top 25 Nationalities: FY 2011 - FY 2015**

Rank	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
1	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico
2	China	China	China	China	El Salvador
3	El Salvador	El Salvador	El Salvador	El Salvador	China
4	Guatemala	Guatemala	Guatemala	Guatemala	Guatemala
5	Colombia	Honduras	Honduras	Honduras	Honduras
6	Honduras	Colombia	India	India	India
7	India	India	Colombia	Jamaica	Haiti
8	Jamaica	Jamaica	Jamaica	Colombia	Jamaica
9	Indonesia	Dominican Republic	Indonesia	Haiti	Colombia
10	Dominican Republic	Indonesia	Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic
11	Venezuela	Haiti	Haiti	Brazil	Brazil
12	Peru	Nigeria	Brazil	Indonesia	Nigeria
13	Haiti	Peru	Pakistan	Nigeria	Ecuador
14	Pakistan	Ecuador	Nigeria	Peru	Philippines
15	Philippines	Philippines	Venezuela	Pakistan	Peru
16	Armenia	Pakistan	Philippines	Ecuador	Indonesia
17	Nigeria	Brazil	Ecuador	Philippines	Nicaragua
18	Albania	Venezuela	Peru	Kenya	Bangladesh
19	Brazil	Albania	Kenya	Venezuela	Pakistan
20	Ecuador	Nicaragua	Nicaragua	Nicaragua	Nepal
21	Nicaragua	Kenya	Armenia	Ghana	Kenya
22	Cuba	Armenia	Nepal	Russia	Armenia
23	Russia	Ghana	Albania	Nepal	Venezuela
24	Kenya	Russia	Russia	Albania	Russia
25	Ghana	Ethiopia	Ghana	Armenia	Ghana

Board of Immigration Appeals: Appeals from Immigration Judge Decisions Completed by Representation Status

As shown in Figure 31, the representation rate before the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) decreased from Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 to FY 2014. There was a one percent increase from FY 2014 to FY 2015. FY 2012, in which 80 percent of appellate cases the BIA completed involved a represented alien, had the highest representation rate of the past five fiscal years. Only appeals from immigration judge decisions are included in these statistics.

Figure 31



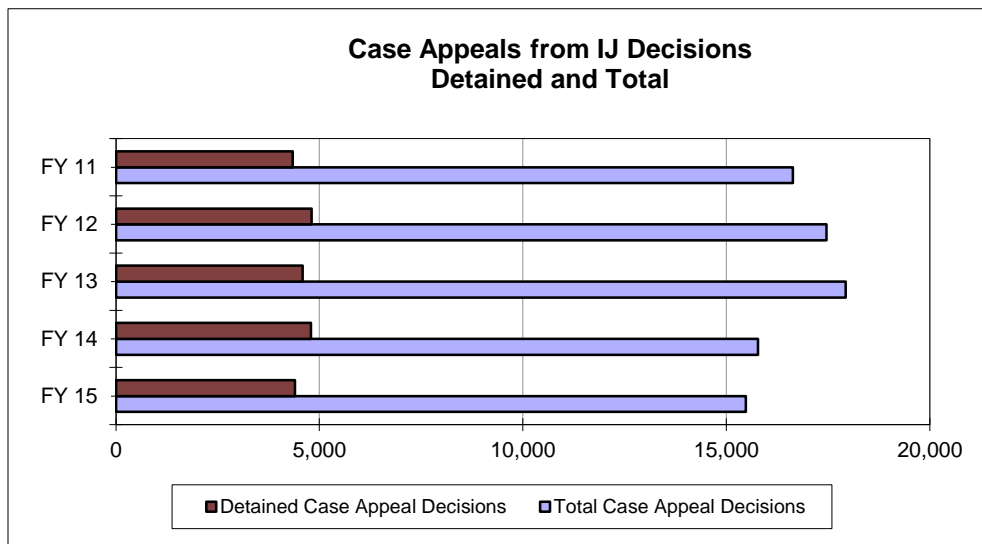
Represented Before the BIA			
	Represented	Unrepresented	Total
FY 11	24,553	6,403	30,956
FY 12	24,915	6,360	31,275
FY 13	24,756	6,521	31,277
FY 14	20,804	6,725	27,529
FY 15	21,127	6,476	27,603

Board of Immigration Appeals: Case Appeals from Immigration Judge Decisions Completed for Detained Cases

The Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) handles detained cases (including aliens in the Institutional Hearing Program (IHP)) as priority cases.

Figure 32 depicts the number of case appeal decisions between Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 and FY 2015 along with the number of case appeal decisions that involved detainees. The figures for detained appeal decisions also include IHP cases. The percent of detained appeals decisions increased by two percent from FY 2011 to FY 2015 while the total number of case appeal decisions decreased by seven percent for the same time period.

Figure 32



Detained Case Appeals from IJ Decisions (Including IHP)			
	Detained Case Appeal Decisions	Total Case Appeal Decisions	Percent Detained
FY 11	4,343	16,629	26%
FY 12	4,805	17,459	28%
FY 13	4,589	17,933	26%
FY 14	4,796	15,775	30%
FY 15	4,398	15,476	28%

Table 21 shows a breakdown of total detained case appeals completed by the BIA, and of those, the number of respondents who were serving sentences at an IHP location. In FY 2015, seven percent of detained BIA completions involved aliens whose removal orders had been issued prior to their release from a federal, state, or municipal corrections facility, down from nine percent in FY 2011. The number of IHP completions declined by 21 percent from FY 2011 to FY 2015 while the number of detained completions has increased by one percent for the same time period.

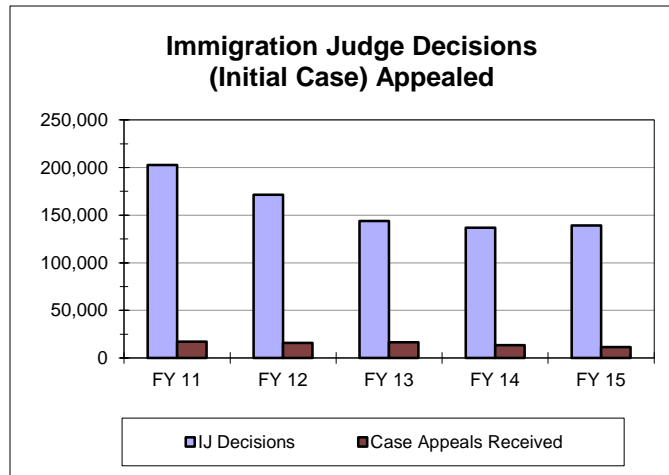
Table 21
Breakdown of BIA Completions of Detained Case Appeals from IJ Decisions

	Total Detained Completions	IHP Completions	Percent IHP Completions
FY 2011	4,343	370	9%
FY 2012	4,805	339	7%
FY 2013	4,589	300	7%
FY 2014	4,796	275	6%
FY 2015	4,398	292	7%

Immigration Courts and Board of Immigration Appeals: Immigration Judge Decisions (Initial Case) Appealed

Parties appeal a relatively small percentage of immigration judge decisions to the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA). Figure 33 compares immigration judge initial case decisions with the number of case appeals the BIA received for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 through FY 2015. While the percentage of IJ decisions being appealed has returned to FY 2011 levels, the number of case appeals received by the BIA has declined by 33 percent over the same period.

Figure 33



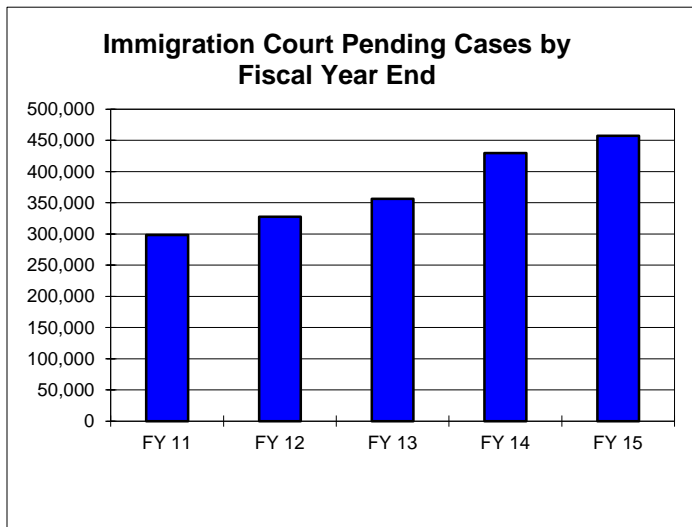
IJ Decisions (Initial Case) Appealed			
	IJ Decisions	Case Appeals Received	Percent Appealed
FY 11	202,716	17,096	8%
FY 12	171,494	15,856	9%
FY 13	143,790	16,493	11%
FY 14	136,652	13,552	10%
FY 15	139,048	11,445	8%

Immigration Courts and Board of Immigration Appeals: Pending Caseload

As in any court system, EOIR's workload depends on the number of matters filed before it. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) determines EOIR's initial caseload by filing charging documents that allege that an alien has violated immigration law. The parties determine the nature and number of the cases and the number of appeals from immigration judge decisions. In addition, changes to the immigration laws or regulations, and DHS policies and budgeting, have a substantial impact on EOIR's workload.

Figure 34 presents information on the pending cases in the immigration courts at the end of each year Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 to FY 2015. The number of pending immigration court cases has grown by 53 percent since the end of FY 2011, and by six percent since the end of FY 2014.

Figure 34



End Of	Pending
FY 11	298,171
FY 12	327,648
FY 13	356,329
FY 14	429,844
FY 15	457,106

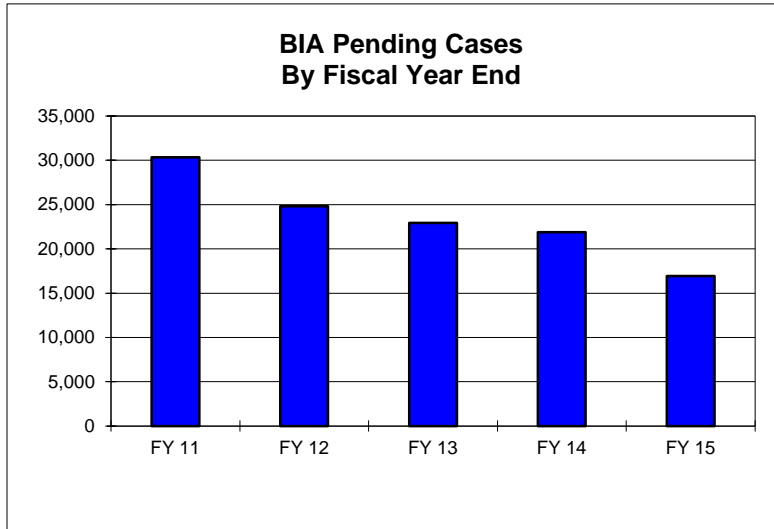
Table 22 shows information on the number of pending cases by immigration court as of the end of FY 2015.

Table 22 - Immigration Court Pending Cases as of September 30, 2015

Immigration Court	Pending Cases as of 9/30/2015
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	975
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	22,814
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	12,554
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	12,285
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	185
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	3,558
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	12,687
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	2,343
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	5,298
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	19,632
CLEVELAND, OHIO	5,950
DALLAS, TEXAS	7,762
DENVER, COLORADO	8,881
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	3,878
EAST MESA, CALIFORNIA	478
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	473
EL PASO, TEXAS	5,855
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	557
ELOY, ARIZONA	1,170
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	110
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	732
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	176
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	5,197
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	2,020
HONOLULU, HAWAII	259
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	1,091
HOUSTON, TEXAS	33,355
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	2,460
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	4,290
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	800
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	4,021
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	50,842
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	220
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	9,403
MIAMI, FLORIDA	20,541
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	7,079
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	62,314
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	23,666
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	653
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	5,311
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	5,096
PEARSALL, TEXAS	1,793
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	5,726
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	9,865
PORTLAND, OREGON	3,123
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	5
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	1,528
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	23,131
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	3,197
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	31,321
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	6,590
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	505
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	1,151
TUCSON, ARIZONA	1,099
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	126
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	553
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	422
TOTAL	457,106

Figure 35 depicts the Board of Immigration Appeals' (BIA) pending caseload. The BIA's pending caseload decreased 44 percent from FY 2011 to FY 2015 and has declined each year since FY 2011.

Figure 35



BIA Pending Cases	
End Of	Pending
FY 11	30,329
FY 12	24,822
FY 13	22,941
FY 14	21,877
FY 15	16,945

Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer: Total Cases Received and Completed

The Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer (OCAHO) is headed by the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer, who is responsible for the general supervision of administrative law judges (ALJs), management of OCAHO and review of ALJ decisions relating to illegal hiring, employment eligibility verification violations and document fraud. OCAHO's ALJs hear cases and adjudicate issues arising under provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) relating to:

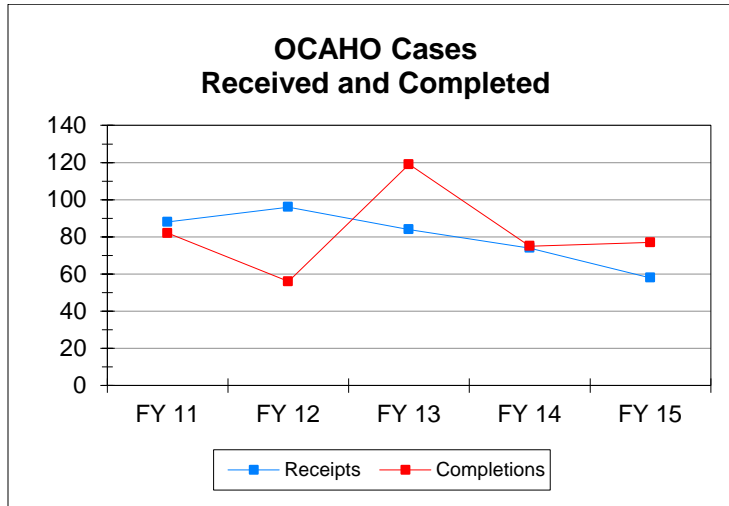
- Knowingly hiring, recruiting or referring for a fee unauthorized aliens, or the continued employment of unauthorized aliens, failure to comply with employment eligibility verification requirements, and/or requiring indemnity bonds from employees in violation of section 274A of the INA (employer sanctions provisions);
- Unfair immigration-related employment practices in violation of section 274B of the INA (anti-discrimination provisions); and
- Immigration-related document fraud in violation of section 274C of the INA (document fraud provisions).

Employer sanctions and document fraud complaints are brought by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Anti-discrimination complaints may be brought by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices or private litigants. All final agency decisions may be appealed to the appropriate federal circuit court of appeals.

In order to more fully and transparently report on its workload and performance, starting with this yearbook, OCAHO will report on receipts and completions pertaining to subpoenas, requests for review, and attorney's fees, in addition to complaints and final decisions under INA Section 274A, INA Section 274B, and INA Section 274C.

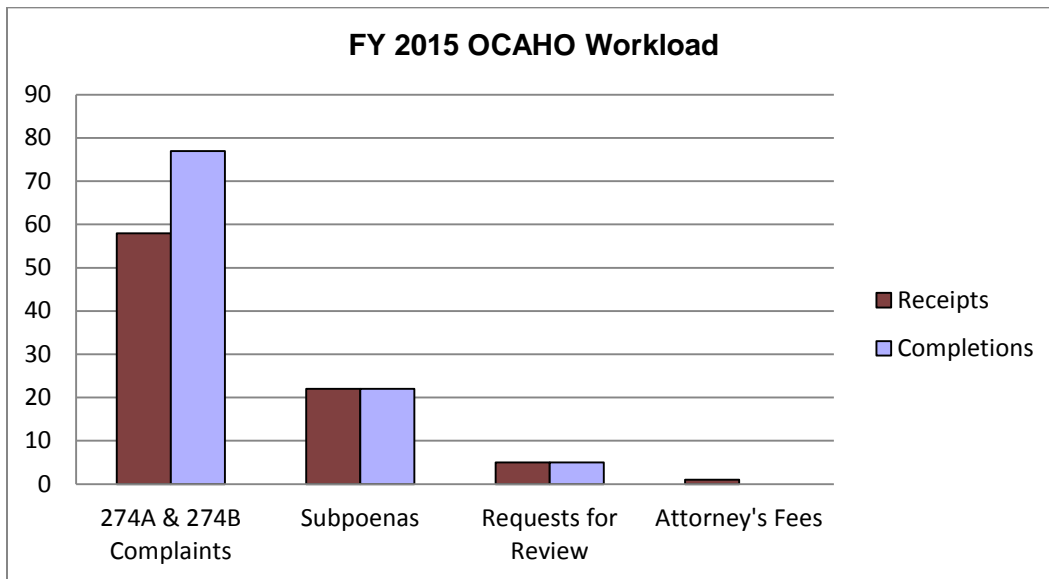
Figure 36 displays the number of case receipts and completions for the preceding five years, while Figure 37 includes receipts and completions for complaints, subpoenas, requests for review, and attorney’s fees in FY 2015. Completions may include cases received in a prior fiscal year.

Figure 36



OCAHO Cases		
	Receipts	Completions
FY 11	88	82
FY 12	96	56
FY 13	84	119
FY 14	74	75
FY 15	58	77

Figure 37



FY 2015 OCAHO Workload		
	Receipts	Completions
274A and 274B Complaints*	58	77
Subpoenas	22	22
Requests for Review	5	5
Attorney's Fees	1	0

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Disclaimer

This Glossary to the FY 2015 Statistics Yearbook of the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) defines terms as they are used in the Yearbook, and is strictly informational in nature. This Glossary is not intended to be a substitute for a careful study of the pertinent laws and regulations. This Glossary does not carry the weight of law or regulation. This Glossary is not intended as legal advice, nor does it extend or limit the jurisdiction of EOIR as established by law and regulation.

A

Abandoned

The disposition of an application for relief if an applicant fails to appear for a court hearing; or fails to provide, without good cause, any required information within the time frame the immigration court allows.

Accredited Representative

A person who is authorized to represent aliens on behalf of a recognized organization before the immigration courts, the Board of Immigration Appeals, and/or the Department of Homeland Security. *See Recognized Organization.*

Adjustment of Status

Relief from deportation, removal, or exclusion for an alien who is eligible for lawful permanent resident status based on a Department of Homeland Security approved visa petition.

Administrative Closure

Temporary removal of a case from an immigration judge's calendar or from the Board of Immigration Appeals' docket.

Administrative Law Judge

A federal agency judge appointed pursuant to the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 3105. Administrative Law Judges in the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer hear cases and adjudicate issues arising under the provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) relating to: 1) knowingly hiring, recruiting or referring for a fee unauthorized aliens, or the continued employment of unauthorized aliens, failure to comply with employment eligibility verification requirements, and requiring indemnity bonds from employees in violation of section 274A of the INA (employer sanctions); 2) unfair immigration-related employment practices in violation of section 274B of the INA; and 3) immigration-related document fraud in violation of section 274C of the INA.

Affirmative Asylum Application

An asylum application initially filed with the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services by an alien not in removal proceedings before the Executive Office for Immigration Review. *See Defensive Asylum Application.*

Appeal

A formal request to the Board of Immigration Appeals in which a party seeks the review of decisions that immigration judges or certain officials of the Department of Homeland Security have rendered.

Application for Relief

An alien's application for relief or protection from removal.

Asylum

Discretionary relief granted to aliens in the United States who establish that they are refugees, not subject to any prohibitions on eligibility, who cannot return to their country of nationality or last habitual residence because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of their race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.

Asylum Grant

An adjudicator's finding that allows an alien to remain in the United States as an asylee and provides certain benefits and derivative asylum status for any eligible spouse or child.

Asylum Only Case

A case type in which certain aliens are only eligible to seek asylum, withholding of removal, and withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture as a form of relief or protection. *See Withholding Only Case.*

B**Board of Immigration Appeals**

The appellate component of the Executive Office for Immigration Review that primarily decides appeals of immigration judge decisions and certain decisions the Department of Homeland Security renders.

Bond

The amount of money that the Department of Homeland Security or an immigration judge sets as a condition to release an alien from detention.

Bond Redetermination Hearing

An immigration court hearing on a request to reevaluate a bond the Department of Homeland Security set. Bond proceedings are separate from other immigration court proceedings.

C**Cancellation of Removal**

Discretionary relief determined during the course of a hearing before an immigration judge. There are two different forms of cancellation of removal: cancellation of removal for certain lawful permanent residents who were admitted more than five years ago, have resided in the United States for seven or more years, and have not been convicted

of an aggravated felony; and cancellation of removal and adjustment of status for certain non-permanent resident aliens who have maintained continuous physical presence in the United States for 10 years and have met all the other statutory requirements for such relief.

Case

Before the immigration courts, a proceeding that begins when the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) files a charging document.

Before the Board of Immigration Appeals, appeals from immigration judges' decisions; appeals from certain DHS decisions; and motions to reopen, reconsider, or reinstate proceedings.

Before the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer, an administrative proceeding that begins when DHS, the Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices, or certain private individuals or entities file a complaint, subpoena request, motion for attorney's fees or request for review.

Change of Venue

Moving of a case from one immigration court to another upon a party's motion.

Claimed Status Review

A case type in which aliens in expedited removal proceedings seek an immigration judge's review of their claim under oath that they are a U.S. citizen; have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence; have been admitted as a refugee; or have been granted asylum, after the Department of Homeland Security determines that they have not proven such claim.

Completions

Before the immigration courts, an immigration judge's determinations. Such determinations are in one of four categories: 1) initial cases; 2) subsequent cases; 3) bonds; and 4) motions that an immigration judge did not grant. *See Initial Case; Subsequent Case.*

Before the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), when the BIA renders a decision in a case.

Before the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer, an Administrative Law Judge's final decision on the merits of a case, a subpoena or a motion for attorney's fees; or the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer's decision on a request for review.

Continuance

The adjournment of a case until a different day or time.

Continued Detention Review

A case type established in response to the 2001 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Zadvydas v. Davis*, in which an immigration judge decides whether an alien should remain in custody.

Convention Against Torture (CAT)

An international human rights agreement the United Nations drafted to combat torture around the world. The United States signed the Convention Against Torture (CAT) in 1988, and ratified it in 1994, issuing implementing regulations in 1999 providing for withholding and deferral of removal protections under CAT. See *Deferral of Removal*; *Withholding of Removal*; *Withholding Only Case*.

Credible Fear Review

A case type in which an immigration judge reviews a Department of Homeland Security asylum officer's decision that an alien subject to removal under INA § 235(a)(2) or (b)(1) failed to establish their claim of fear of persecution or torture.

Custody Status

Whether or not an alien is detained. This Yearbook describes four custody categories: 1) detained; 2) never detained; 3) released; and 4) non-detained. See *Detained*; *Never Detained*; *Released*.

D**Decision**

A determination by the Office of the Chief Immigration Judge, the Board of Immigration Appeals, or the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer.

Defensive Asylum Application

An asylum application initially filed with an immigration court after an alien has been put into removal proceedings. See *Affirmative Asylum Application*.

Deferral of Removal

The Department of Homeland Security's postponement of an alien's removal to the country in which an immigration judge has determined the alien, who is ineligible for any other forms of relief or protection, is likely to be tortured. See *Withholding of Removal*.

Denial

An immigration judge's decision not to grant a party's motion or an alien's application for relief.

Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

Twenty-two different federal departments and agencies combined into a unified, integrated cabinet agency following the enactment of the Homeland Security Act of 2002. Public Law 107-296.

Deportation Case

A case type initiated when the former Immigration and Naturalization Service filed an Order to Show Cause with an immigration court before April 1, 1997. *See Exclusion Case; Removal Case.*

Detained

Custody status of those aliens under the custodial supervision of the Department of Homeland Security or other entities. *See Custody Status.*

Disposition

An immigration judge's ruling on an alien's removability.

E**Exclusion Case**

A case type involving a person who, before April 1, 1997, tried to enter the United States but was stopped at the port of entry because the former Immigration and Naturalization Service found the person to be inadmissible. *See Deportation Case; Removal Case.*

Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR)

Under delegated authority from the Attorney General, the Department of Justice component responsible for interpreting and administering federal immigration laws by conducting immigration court proceedings, appellate reviews, and administrative hearings.

F**Failure to Prosecute**

A situation in which the Department of Homeland Security has not filed a charging document with the immigration court by the time of the first hearing.

Fiscal Year

The 12-month accounting period for the federal government that begins on October 1 and ends on September 30.

G

Grant

An immigration judge's decision to approve a party's motion or an alien's application for relief.

I

Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRIRA)

Public Law Number 104-208.

Immigration and Nationality Act (INA)

Public Law Number 82-414.

Immigration Court

A tribunal within the Executive Office for Immigration Review's Office of the Chief Immigration Judge that conducts immigration proceedings.

Immigration Judge

An attorney whom the Attorney General appoints as an administrative judge within the Executive Office for Immigration Review's Office of the Chief Immigration Judge.

In Absentia Order

An order issued when an immigration judge determines that a Notice to Appear in court comports with the law, the alien is removable, received notice of his or her hearing, and fails to appear. This term derives from the Latin phrase meaning "in the absence of."

Initial Case

The proceeding that begins when the Department of Homeland Security files a charging document with an immigration court and ends when an immigration judge renders a determination. *See Subsequent Case.*

Institutional Hearing Program (IHP)

A cooperative effort between the Executive Office for Immigration Review; the Department of Homeland Security (DHS); and various federal, state, and municipal corrections agencies, to complete cases for incarcerated criminal aliens serving federal or state sentences prior to their release from prison or jail so DHS can remove the aliens with final removal orders upon their release.

Interlocutory Appeal

A party's appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals from a preliminary ruling of an immigration judge before an immigration judge renders a final decision in the case.

L

Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR)

An alien who has been conferred permanent resident status, which enables the alien to remain in the United States indefinitely with certain rights and benefits.

M

Matters Completed

Determinations immigration judges render on: initial cases; subsequent cases; bond redeterminations; and motions to reopen, reconsider, or recalendar that are not granted.

Matters Received

The Department of Homeland Security's filing of charging documents with an immigration court; parties' requests that an immigration judge make bond redeterminations; or parties' requests that an immigration judge rule on motions to reopen, reconsider, or recalendar.

Motion

A formal request from a party to an EOIR adjudication body to carry out an action or make a decision.

Motion to Recalendar

A request in which a party seeks to have their case returned to an active adjudications docket.

Motion to Reconsider

A request in which a party seeks to have a prior decision re-examined based on a possible error in law or fact, or a change in the law that affects the prior decision.

Motion to Reopen

A request in which a party seeks to have a prior, completed case reexamined in order to consider new facts or evidence in the case.

N

Nationality

The status of owing permanent allegiance to a particular nation by origin, birth, or naturalization.

Never Detained

Custody status of those aliens of whom the Executive Office for Immigration Review has no record of the Department of Homeland Security's or other entities' custodial

supervision. *See Custody Status.*

Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act of 1997 (NACARA)
Public Law Number 105-100.

Non-detained

The status of an alien in immigration proceedings who is not in the Department of Homeland Security's or other entities' custody (sum of never detained and released). *See Custody Status.*

Notice to Appear (NTA)

The document (Form I-862) the Department of Homeland Security uses to charge a person with being removable from the United States.

Notice of Intent To Rescind

A document in which the Department of Homeland Security notifies an individual that it intends to revoke permanent resident status. *See Rescission Case.*

O

Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer (OCAHO)

The adjudicating component of the Executive Office for Immigration Review that conducts administrative hearings involving allegations of: 1) knowingly hiring, recruiting or referring for a fee unauthorized aliens, or the continued employment of unauthorized aliens, failure to comply with employment eligibility verification requirements, and requiring indemnity bonds from employees in violation of section 274A of the INA (employer sanctions); 2) unfair immigration-related employment practices in violation of section 274B of the INA; and 3) immigration-related document fraud in violation of section 274C of the INA.

Office of the Chief Immigration Judge (OCIJ)

The adjudicating component of the Executive Office for Immigration Review that includes the immigration courts and the immigration judges.

Other

A decision type that indicates that an immigration judge's decision and the facts of the case do not fall within the list of codes provided in the Executive Office for Immigration Review's computerized case management database.

Other Completion

In the immigration court, the conclusion of a case with one of the following: 1) administrative closure; 2) failure to prosecute; 3) other administrative completion; or 4) temporary protected status.

Other Administrative Completion

In the immigration court, an action, not based on the merits, that results in the conclusion of a case.

P

Pro Bono

A Latin phrase meaning “for the public good.” In a legal context, legal representation performed free of charge.

Pro Se

A Latin phrase meaning “for oneself.” In a legal context, the party represents him or herself in legal proceedings without an attorney or representative.

Proceeding

The legal process conducted before the immigration courts, the Board of Immigration Appeals, and the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer.

R

Reasonable Fear Review

A case type in which an immigration judge reviews a Department of Homeland Security asylum officer’s decision that the alien who is subject to removal under INA §§ 238(b) or 241(a)(5) has not established a reasonable fear of persecution or torture.

Receipts

The number of administrative filings that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) or other entities file with the Executive Office for Immigration Review.

For the immigration courts, receipts include new charging documents that DHS files; bond redetermination requests; and motions to reopen, reconsider, and recalendar.

For the Board of Immigration Appeals, receipts include appeals from immigration judge decisions; federal court remands; motions to reopen, reconsider, and recalendar; and certain appeals of DHS decisions.

For the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer, receipts represent the number of new complaints, subpoena requests, motions for attorney’s fees, and requests for review.

Recognized Organization

A non-profit religious, charitable, social service, or similar organization formally recognized by the Board of Immigration Appeals as such under the provisions of 8 C.F.R. section 292.2. *See Accredited Representative.*

Released

Custody status of those aliens who are no longer detained. *See Custody Status.*

Relief

An immigration judge's decision to grant relief or protection from removal to an otherwise removable alien.

Remand

An action an appellate body takes that sends a case back to a lower court for further proceedings.

Removal Case

A case type that begins when the Department of Homeland Security files a charging document with an immigration court.

Represented

The status of an alien who has an attorney or accredited representative to act as their agent in proceedings before the immigration courts or the Board of Immigration Appeals.

Request for Review

In INA section 274A cases before the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer, a formal request by a party for the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer to review a decision issued by an Administrative Law Judge.

Rescission Case

A case type that is related to revoking an alien's lawful permanent resident status. *See Notice of Intent to Rescind.*

S

Subsequent Case

The proceeding that begins when: 1) the immigration judge grants a motion to reopen, reconsider, or recalendar; or 2) the Board of Immigration Appeals issues a decision to remand and ends when the immigration judge renders a determination. *See Initial Case.*

Suspension of Deportation

Discretionary relief for certain aliens in deportation proceedings who maintained continuous physical presence in the United States for seven years and met the other statutory requirements for such relief. *See Cancellation of Removal; Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRIRA).*

T

Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

A temporary immigration status granted to eligible nationals of a country (or to persons without nationality who last habitually resided in the designated country) that the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security has designated for protection because the country is experiencing an ongoing armed conflict, an environmental disaster, or extraordinary and temporary conditions that prevent a safe return.

Transfer

The Department of Homeland Security's moving of detained aliens between detention facilities or the administrative transfer of an alien's case from one hearing location to another.

Termination

A type of decision by an immigration judge that dismisses the case related to a particular charging document. The alien is not subject to removal relating to the dismissed charging document.

U

Unrepresented

The status of an alien who does not have an attorney or accredited representative to act as their agent in proceedings before the immigration courts or the Board of Immigration Appeals. *See Pro Se.*

V

Voluntary Departure

An order that permits aliens, who are otherwise removable, to depart from the country at their own expense within a designated amount of time in order to avoid a final order of removal.

W

Withdrawal of an Application for Relief

An alien's request to remove an application for relief from the immigration judge's consideration prior to the immigration judge's decision in the alien's case.

Withholding of Removal

A form of protection from being removed from the United States.

Withholding Only Case

A case type in which an alien, who is not entitled to removal proceedings, is eligible only to apply for withholding of removal. *See Asylum Only Case.*