



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

# **FY 2016 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, which permits the alien to remain in the United States.

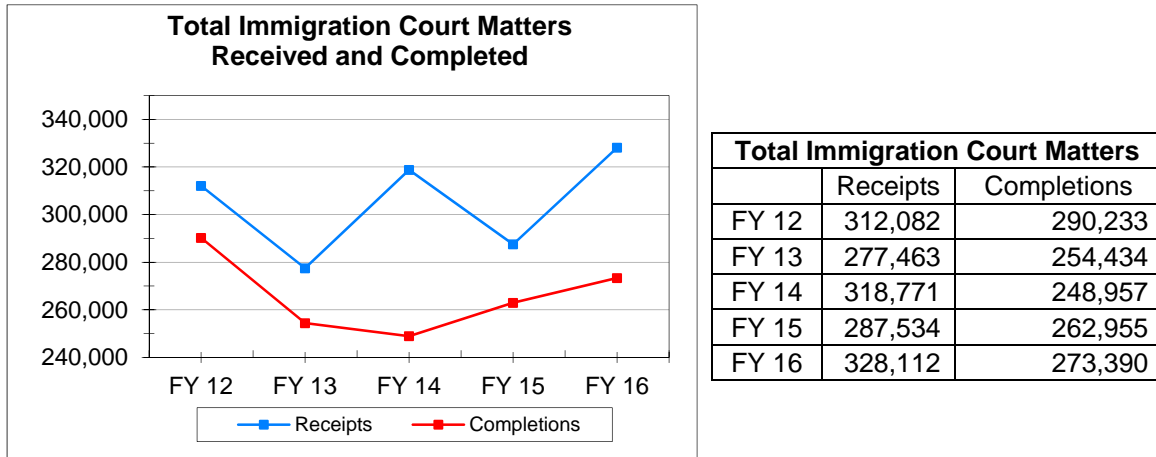
In immigration court, aliens appear before an immigration judge and either contest or concede the charges against them. In some instances, the immigration judge adjourns the case and sets a continuance date. The alien may file an application for relief or protection and, after hearing the merits of the 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.
- Either the alien or DHS may request by motion that a case an immigration judge previously heard be reopened, reconsidered, or recalendared.

For the purposes of this Statistics 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 to reopen, reconsider, or recalendar that immigration judges did not grant.

Figure 1



As shown in Figure 1, the number of matters the immigration courts received increased by 14 percent between Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 and FY 2016. The number of matters the immigration courts completed increased by 4 percent from FY 2015 to FY 2016.

While some courts showed decreases in receipts from FY 2015 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 Atlanta, GA, showed the largest (86 percent) increase in receipts. The immigration court in Guaynabo (San Juan), Puerto Rico, showed the largest (60 percent) decrease. Table 1A (page A4) identifies receipts for FY 2016 by type of matter.

Table 2 (page A5) provides a comparison of FY 2015 and FY 2016 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. Elizabeth, NJ, showed the largest (95 percent) increase in completions. Denver, CO, showed the largest (61 percent) decrease. Table 2A (page A6) identifies completions for FY 2016 by type of matter.

**Table 1 - Total Immigration Court Matters Received by Court for FY 2015 and FY 2016**

Immigration Court	FY 2015	FY 2016	Rate of Change
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	6,500	8,009	23%
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	8,971	13,530	51%
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	4,633	8,622	86%
AURORA, COLORADO	2,705	3,283	21%
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	7,193	8,818	23%
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	2,419	3,104	28%
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	2,923	3,312	13%
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	6,265	7,513	20%
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	416	534	28%
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	4,653	5,664	22%
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	10,100	10,020	-1%
CLEVELAND, OHIO	2,768	2,996	8%
DALLAS, TEXAS	9,361	11,764	26%
DENVER, COLORADO	3,847	1,837	-52%
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	2,302	2,825	23%
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	3,983	4,429	11%
EL PASO, TEXAS	1,397	1,510	8%
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	3,129	5,666	81%
ELOY, ARIZONA	8,289	7,479	-10%
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	118	170	44%
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	4,739	5,706	20%
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	631	252	-60%
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	2,274	3,554	56%
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	1,307	1,607	23%
HONOLULU, HAWAII	395	418	6%
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	8,450	11,674	38%
HOUSTON, TEXAS	7,806	13,064	67%
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	2,760	4,015	45%
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	2,459	3,435	40%
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	6,157	7,235	18%
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	2,151	3,251	51%
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	18,243	21,132	16%
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	6,063	4,578	-24%
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	3,614	6,497	80%
MIAMI, FLORIDA	13,478	13,288	-1%
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	2,677	3,880	45%
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	17,859	18,457	3%
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	6,948	5,121	-26%
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	8,372	9,591	15%
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	2,547	3,065	20%
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	4,143	5,286	28%
OTAY MESA, CALIFORNIA	2,796	3,521	26%
PEARSALL, TEXAS	10,074	7,553	-25%
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	2,210	3,038	37%
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	2,203	2,721	24%
PORTLAND, OREGON	1,499	1,565	4%
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	19	21	11%
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	1,712	2,073	21%
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	12,530	8,059	-36%
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	2,637	2,749	4%
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	14,126	17,513	24%
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	3,193	2,718	-15%
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	5,890	4,522	-23%
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	5,727	6,998	22%
TUCSON, ARIZONA	592	680	15%
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	211	300	42%
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	2,504	3,188	27%
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	4,566	4,702	3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>287,534</b>	<b>328,112</b>	<b>14%</b>

**Table 1A - Total Immigration Court Receipts by Court and Type of Matter for FY 2016**

Immigration Court	New NTAs	Bonds	Motions	Total Matters
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	4,277	3,680	52	8,009
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	10,990	1,101	1,439	13,530
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	6,914	971	737	8,622
AURORA, COLORADO	1,828	1,424	31	3,283
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	7,453	661	704	8,818
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	1,547	1,540	17	3,104
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	2,064	763	485	3,312
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	4,787	1,320	1,406	7,513
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	393	0	141	534
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	4,955	246	463	5,664
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	6,997	2,297	726	10,020
CLEVELAND, OHIO	2,225	507	264	2,996
DALLAS, TEXAS	9,919	1,159	686	11,764
DENVER, COLORADO	1,564	1	272	1,837
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	1,795	856	174	2,825
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	3,169	1,214	46	4,429
EL PASO, TEXAS	1,206	86	218	1,510
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	3,029	2,594	43	5,666
ELOY, ARIZONA	3,645	3,768	66	7,479
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	151	0	19	170
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	3,412	2,265	29	5,706
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	150	15	87	252
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	2,757	3	794	3,554
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	1,194	187	226	1,607
HONOLULU, HAWAII	277	89	52	418
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	8,643	2,887	144	11,674
HOUSTON, TEXAS	12,184	1	879	13,064
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	1,943	2,020	52	4,015
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	2,528	620	287	3,435
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	4,361	2,760	114	7,235
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	2,210	731	310	3,251
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	15,218	2,614	3,300	21,132
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	3,244	1,291	43	4,578
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	5,833	11	653	6,497
MIAMI, FLORIDA	10,309	884	2,095	13,288
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	3,588	0	292	3,880
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	15,757	2	2,698	18,457
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	4,313	4	804	5,121
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	5,008	4,524	59	9,591
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	2,294	373	398	3,065
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	3,977	327	982	5,286
OTAY MESA, CALIFORNIA	1,920	1,567	34	3,521
PEARSALL, TEXAS	5,157	2,364	32	7,553
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	2,643	0	395	3,038
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	2,165	1	555	2,721
PORTLAND, OREGON	1,246	69	250	1,565
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	9	1	11	21
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	1,311	646	116	2,073
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	6,445	659	955	8,059
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	2,322	9	418	2,749
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	12,491	3,268	1,754	17,513
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	2,231	0	487	2,718
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	3,111	1,339	72	4,522
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	3,364	3,594	40	6,998
TUCSON, ARIZONA	592	0	88	680
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	282	0	18	300
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	1,183	1,920	85	3,188
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	2,420	2,157	125	4,702
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>237,000</b>	<b>63,390</b>	<b>27,722</b>	<b>328,112</b>



**Table 2 - Total Immigration Court Matters Completed by Court for FY 2015 and FY 2016**

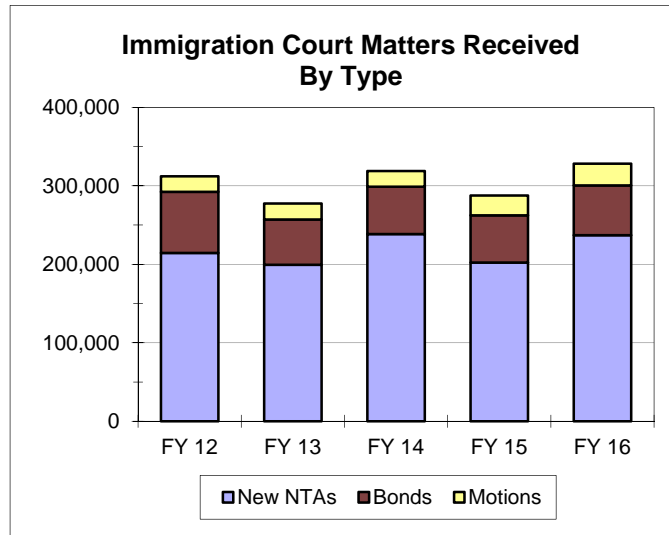
Immigration Court	FY 2015	FY 2016	Rate of Change
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	5,460	5,609	3%
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	7,140	9,658	35%
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	7,383	9,621	30%
AURORA, COLORADO	2,021	2,372	17%
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	5,181	5,883	14%
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	1,643	2,034	24%
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	2,956	2,767	-6%
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	5,737	6,310	10%
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	1,015	1,017	0%
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	5,647	5,226	-7%
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	8,427	6,635	-21%
CLEVELAND, OHIO	2,724	3,121	15%
DALLAS, TEXAS	10,529	9,451	-10%
DENVER, COLORADO	2,797	1,095	-61%
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	2,448	3,103	27%
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	3,136	3,243	3%
EL PASO, TEXAS	2,482	2,020	-19%
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	2,050	4,000	95%
ELOY, ARIZONA	6,187	5,641	-9%
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	126	131	4%
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	2,931	3,530	20%
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	370	255	-31%
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	2,925	2,658	-9%
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	1,862	1,627	-13%
HONOLULU, HAWAII	549	556	1%
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	7,154	7,377	3%
HOUSTON, TEXAS	6,242	6,416	3%
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	1,769	2,500	41%
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	2,206	2,954	34%
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	4,810	5,580	16%
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	2,480	4,059	64%
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	23,030	25,403	10%
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	4,474	3,107	-31%
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	4,094	6,230	52%
MIAMI, FLORIDA	11,152	10,319	-7%
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	3,327	3,822	15%
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	18,041	20,559	14%
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	4,623	4,375	-5%
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	6,461	7,260	12%
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	2,917	2,143	-27%
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	5,863	4,325	-26%
OTAY MESA, CALIFORNIA	1,922	2,282	19%
PEARSALL, TEXAS	6,441	4,393	-32%
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	2,582	2,885	12%
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	4,141	4,575	10%
PORTLAND, OREGON	1,431	1,337	-7%
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	39	21	-46%
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	1,912	1,702	-11%
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	7,684	5,394	-30%
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	2,379	2,093	-12%
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	12,305	14,581	18%
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	2,451	3,077	26%
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	5,500	4,072	-26%
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	4,172	5,481	31%
TUCSON, ARIZONA	1,339	928	-31%
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	198	210	6%
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	2,330	2,566	10%
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	3,760	3,801	1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>262,955</b>	<b>273,390</b>	<b>4%</b>

**Table 2A - Total Immigration Court Matters Completed by Court and Type of Matter for FY 2016**

Immigration Court	Initial Case Completions	Subsequent Case Completions	Bonds	Motions (Not Granted)	Total Matters
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	2,040	102	3,439	28	5,609
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	7,755	710	1,076	117	9,658
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	7,880	587	903	251	9,621
AURORA, COLORADO	965	29	1,369	9	2,372
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	4,567	578	644	94	5,883
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	509	38	1,483	4	2,034
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	1,668	295	767	37	2,767
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	3,741	1,176	1,300	93	6,310
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	884	103	0	30	1,017
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	4,493	352	241	140	5,226
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	3,726	574	2,242	93	6,635
CLEVELAND, OHIO	2,325	272	493	31	3,121
DALLAS, TEXAS	7,657	488	1,134	172	9,451
DENVER, COLORADO	885	191	2	17	1,095
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	2,031	184	854	34	3,103
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	1,974	34	1,203	32	3,243
EL PASO, TEXAS	1,743	122	82	73	2,020
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	1,379	59	2,547	15	4,000
ELOY, ARIZONA	1,824	90	3,691	36	5,641
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	119	7	0	5	131
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	1,252	30	2,241	7	3,530
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	158	69	14	14	255
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	2,190	161	2	305	2,658
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	1,202	218	184	23	1,627
HONOLULU, HAWAII	396	62	89	9	556
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	4,360	163	2,819	35	7,377
HOUSTON, TEXAS	5,848	442	1	125	6,416
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	464	20	1,990	26	2,500
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	2,047	224	636	47	2,954
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	2,544	121	2,860	55	5,580
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	2,931	357	699	72	4,059
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	19,731	2,701	2,486	485	25,403
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	1,764	38	1,283	22	3,107
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	5,642	518	10	60	6,230
MIAMI, FLORIDA	7,776	1,347	898	298	10,319
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	3,592	196	0	34	3,822
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	17,547	2,715	2	295	20,559
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	3,489	725	58	103	4,375
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	2,646	93	4,488	33	7,260
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	1,440	309	361	33	2,143
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	3,347	538	322	118	4,325
OTAY MESA, CALIFORNIA	757	57	1,457	11	2,282
PEARSALL, TEXAS	1,974	38	2,380	1	4,393
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	2,485	365	0	35	2,885
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	4,162	383	0	30	4,575
PORTLAND, OREGON	1,092	164	70	11	1,337
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	7	11	1	2	21
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	928	119	630	25	1,702
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	4,058	369	678	289	5,394
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	1,822	173	7	91	2,093
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	10,308	1,075	3,071	127	14,581
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	2,647	322	0	108	3,077
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	2,653	109	1,267	43	4,072
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	1,815	69	3,592	5	5,481
TUCSON, ARIZONA	844	64	0	20	928
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	187	16	0	7	210
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	703	86	1,754	23	2,566
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	1,461	151	2,156	33	3,801
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>186,434</b>	<b>20,609</b>	<b>61,976</b>	<b>4,371</b>	<b>273,390</b>

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.

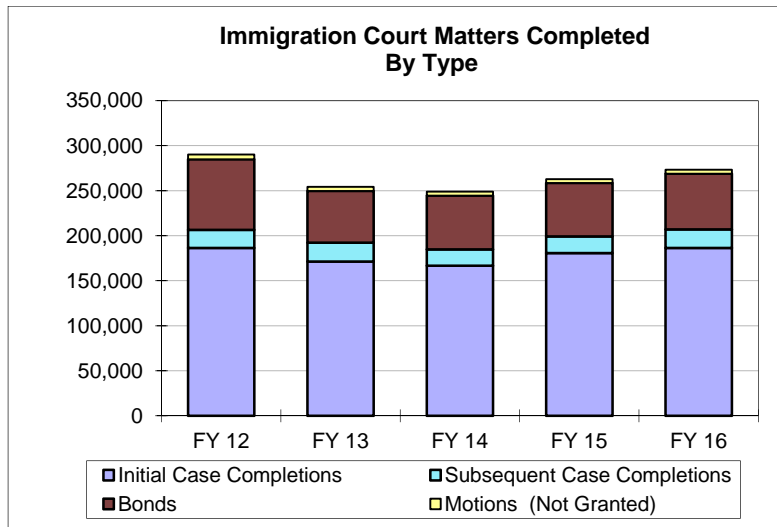
**Figure 2**



<b>Immigration Court Matters Received</b>				
	New NTAs	Bonds	Motions	Total
FY 12	214,354	77,993	19,735	312,082
FY 13	199,409	57,684	20,370	277,463
FY 14	238,412	60,481	19,878	318,771
FY 15	202,268	60,086	25,180	287,534
FY 16	237,000	63,390	27,722	328,112

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

**Figure 3**



<b>Immigration Court Matters Completed</b>					
	Initial Case Completions	Subsequent Case Completions	Bonds	Motions (Not Granted)	Total
FY 12	186,410	20,215	78,221	5,387	290,233
FY 13	171,395	20,897	57,385	4,757	254,434
FY 14	166,820	18,047	59,717	4,373	248,957
FY 15	180,792	18,540	59,379	4,244	262,955
FY 16	186,434	20,609	61,976	4,371	273,390

## 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) 2012 and FY 2016. 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 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Removal	211,289	193,677	226,600	189,634	223,498
Credible Fear	739	1,770	6,508	6,643	7,469
Reasonable Fear	815	1,157	1,778	2,609	2,522
Claimed Status	37	31	22	21	11
Asylum Only	356	395	294	257	221
Rescission	25	46	31	45	29
Continued Detention Review	2	0	3	2	1
NACARA	0	2	4	1	0
Withholding Only	1,091	2,331	3,172	3,056	3,249
<b>Total</b>	<b>214,354</b>	<b>199,409</b>	<b>238,412</b>	<b>202,268</b>	<b>237,000</b>

Table 4 shows all types of the immigration courts' initial case completions for the period FY 2012 to FY 2016. Note that initial case completions reflect immigration judge decisions and other completions. As shown in Tab C, other completions accounted for 26 percent of the cases completed in FY 2016.

**Table 4 - Immigration Court Initial Case Completions by Case Type**

Type of Case	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Deportation	309	388	312	402	483
Exclusion	47	41	28	45	42
Removal	183,383	166,301	155,384	168,449	172,817
Credible Fear	707	1,727	6,354	6,629	7,488
Reasonable Fear	775	1,139	1,713	2,567	2,536
Claimed Status	35	32	23	19	14
Asylum Only	355	378	352	292	287
Rescission	36	38	33	29	32
Continued Detention Review	2	2	2	3	2
NACARA	1	2	1	2	1
Withholding Only	760	1,347	2,618	2,355	2,732
<b>Total</b>	<b>186,410</b>	<b>171,395</b>	<b>166,820</b>	<b>180,792</b>	<b>186,434</b>

Table 4A shows all types of the immigration courts' subsequent case completions for the period FY 2012 to FY 2016.

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

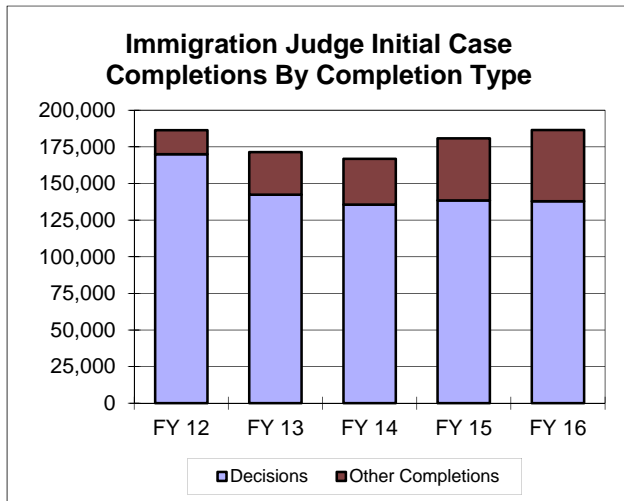
Type of Case	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Deportation	1,998	2,148	1,637	1,373	1,353
Exclusion	156	188	128	101	85
Removal	17,920	18,422	16,114	16,886	18,982
Credible Fear Review	0	0	0	2	0
Reasonable Fear Review	0	0	0	0	2
Claimed Status	0	1	0	0	1
Asylum Only	79	77	80	55	51
Rescission	2	4	2	3	2
Continued Detention Review	0	0	0	0	0
NACARA	1	6	1	0	1
Withholding Only	59	51	85	120	132
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,215</b>	<b>20,897</b>	<b>18,047</b>	<b>18,540</b>	<b>20,609</b>

## Immigration Courts: Case Completions by Disposition

After one or more hearings, 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.

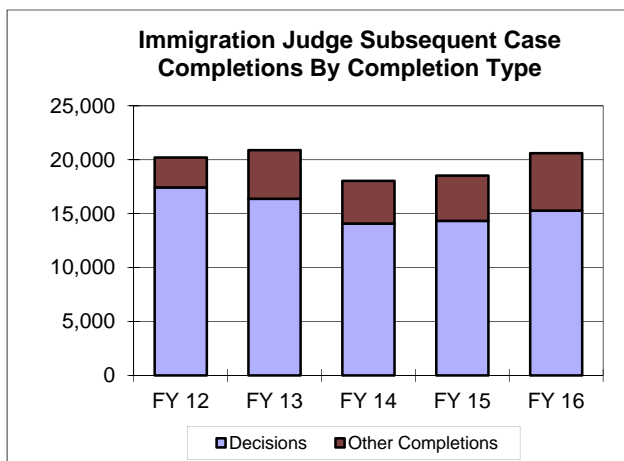
Figure 4 and Figure 4A provide a breakdown of initial case completions and subsequent case completions from Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 to FY 2016 by type of completion – either through an immigration judge decision or through another type of completion.

**Figure 4**



	Decisions	Other Completions	Total
FY 12	169,944	16,466	186,410
FY 13	142,315	29,080	171,395
FY 14	135,587	31,233	166,820
FY 15	138,410	42,382	180,792
FY 16	137,875	48,559	186,434

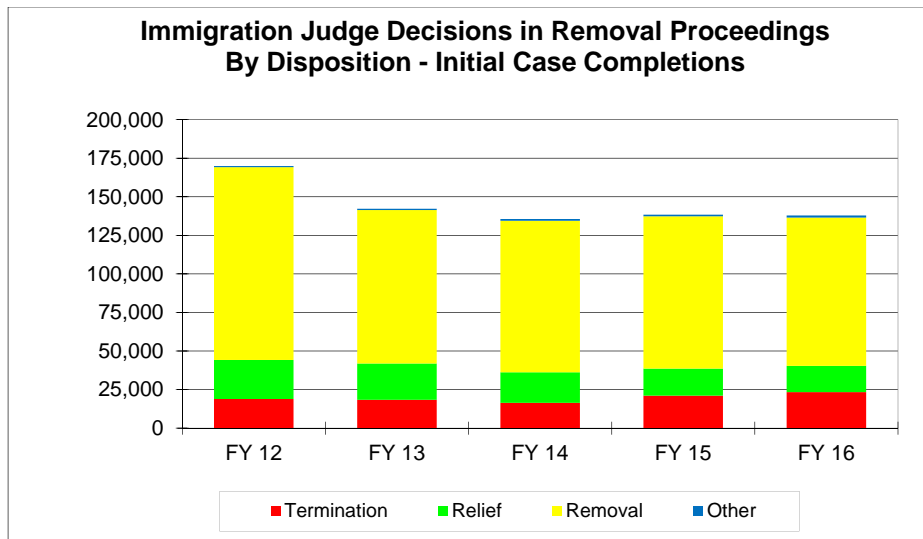
**Figure 4A**



	Decisions	Other Completions	Total
FY 12	17,435	2,780	20,215
FY 13	16,377	4,520	20,897
FY 14	14,089	3,958	18,047
FY 15	14,338	4,202	18,540
FY 16	15,279	5,330	20,609

Figure 5 provides a breakdown of removal proceeding immigration judge decisions by disposition on initial case completions for FY 2012 to FY 2016. 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**



	Termination	Relief	Removal	Other	Total
FY 12	18,912	25,280	125,029	723	169,944
FY 13	18,406	23,531	99,459	919	142,315
FY 14	16,431	19,786	98,263	1,107	135,587
FY 15	21,086	17,512	98,776	1,036	138,410
FY 16	23,341	17,018	96,186	1,330	137,875



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 2012 to FY 2016.

**Table 5**

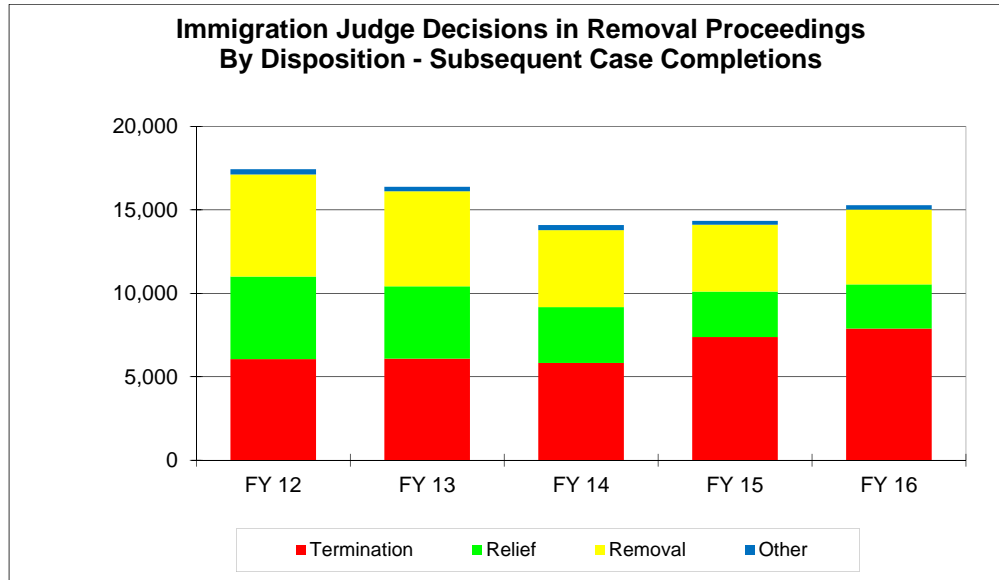
<b>Credible Fear Review Decisions by Disposition - Initial Case Completions</b>							
	Affirmed - DHS Decision and no Credible Fear	Vacated - DHS Decision and Found Credible Fear	Other	Administrative Closing - Other	Other Administrative Completion	PD Administrative Closure	Total
FY 12	617	81	9	0	0	0	707
FY 13	1,503	206	17	1	0	0	1,727
FY 14	5,232	1,055	66	0	1	0	6,354
FY 15	5,217	1,347	60	3	1	1	6,629
FY 16	5,329	2,086	70	1	1	1	7,488

**Table 5A**

<b>Reasonable Fear Review Decisions by Disposition - Initial Case Completions</b>							
	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 12	612	148	14	1	0	0	775
FY 13	978	131	27	1	2	0	1,139
FY 14	1,440	230	38	3	2	0	1,713
FY 15	2,054	449	55	6	1	2	2,567
FY 16	1,911	567	52	2	4	0	2,536

Figure 5A provides a breakdown of removal proceeding immigration judge decisions by disposition on subsequent case completions for FY 2012 to FY 2016.

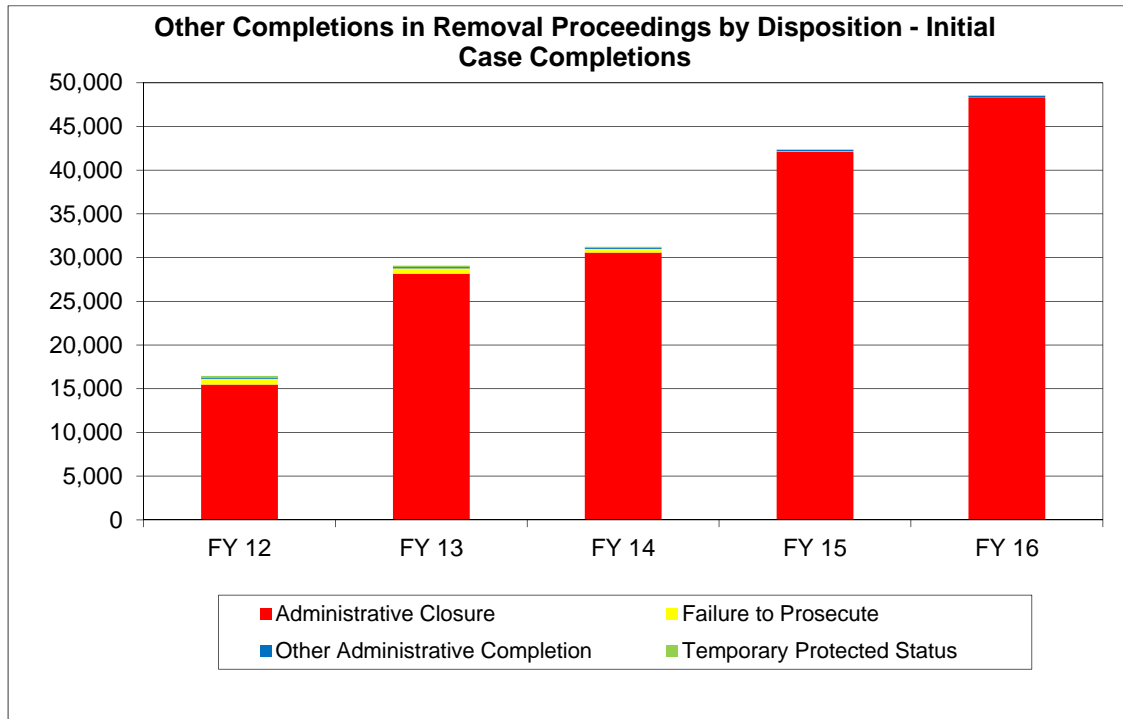
**Figure 5A**



Immigration Judge Decisions in Removal Proceedings by Disposition - Subsequent Case Completions					
	Termination	Relief	Removal	Other	Total
FY 12	6,062	4,946	6,113	314	17,435
FY 13	6,090	4,332	5,690	265	16,377
FY 14	5,830	3,341	4,614	304	14,089
FY 15	7,377	2,727	4,006	228	14,338
FY 16	7,890	2,645	4,481	263	15,279

Figure 6 provides a breakdown of other completions in removal proceedings by disposition on initial case completions for FY 2012 to FY 2016. 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 resulted from an increased number of administrative closures.

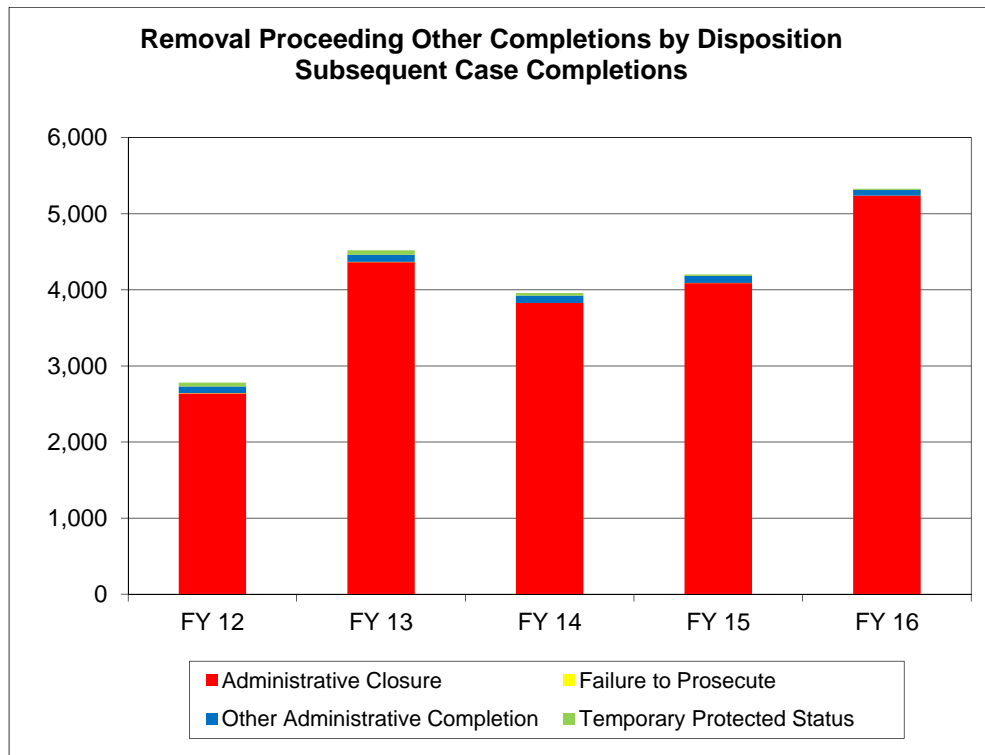
Figure 6



	Administrative Closure	Failure to Prosecute	Other Administrative Completion	Temporary Protected Status	Total
FY 12	15,477	660	99	230	16,466
FY 13	28,168	599	141	172	29,080
FY 14	30,574	422	120	117	31,233
FY 15	42,109	50	168	55	42,382
FY 16	48,285	16	211	47	48,559

Figure 6A provides a breakdown of other completions in removal proceedings by disposition on subsequent case completions for FY 2012 to FY 2016. These also showed an increase in administrative closures over the five-year time period.

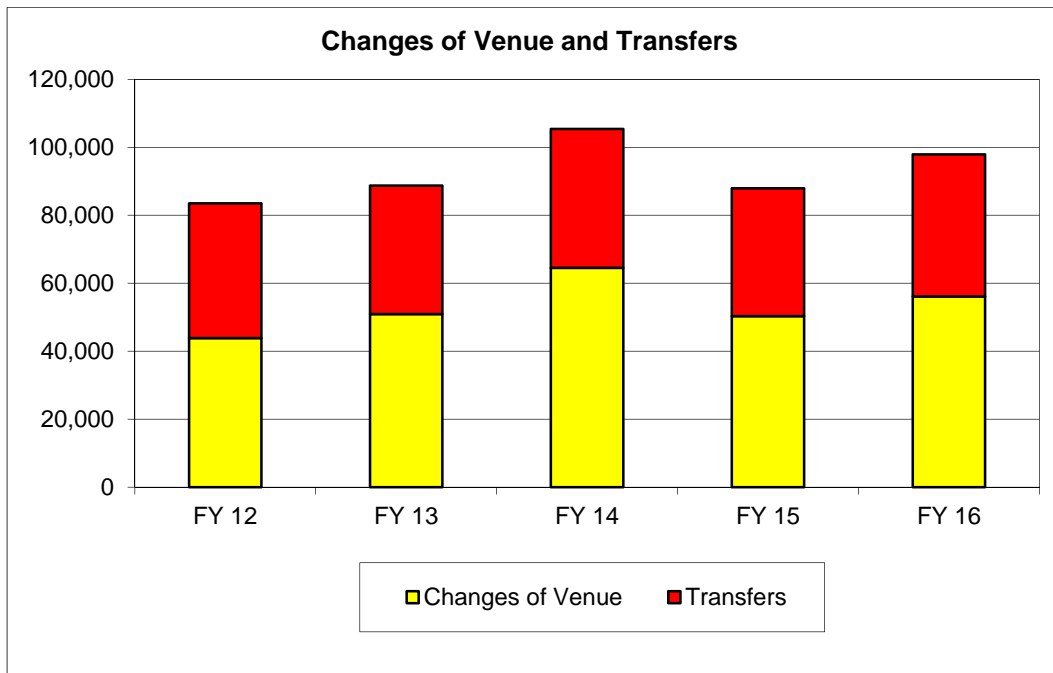
**Figure 6A**



<b>Removal Proceeding Other Completions by Disposition - Subsequent Case Completions</b>					
	Administrative Closure	Failure to Prosecute	Other Administrative Completion	Temporary Protected Status	Total
FY 12	2,640	5	85	50	2,780
FY 13	4,365	4	91	60	4,520
FY 14	3,828	1	95	34	3,958
FY 15	4,088	2	94	18	4,202
FY 16	5,239	0	76	15	5,330

Figure 7 provides information on the number of cases transferred to a different hearing location or granted a change of venue for FY 2012 to FY 2016. The number of changes of venue has increased by 28 percent in the last five years, and the number of transfers has increased by five percent in that same period.

**Figure 7**



<b>Changes of Venue and Transfers</b>			
	Changes of Venue	Transfers	Total
FY 12	43,882	39,636	83,518
FY 13	50,911	37,817	88,728
FY 14	64,524	40,883	105,407
FY 15	50,298	37,640	87,938
FY 16	56,114	41,795	97,909

Table 5B provides a breakdown of cases, by immigration court for FY 2016, for which an immigration judge granted a motion to change venue or a motion to transfer.

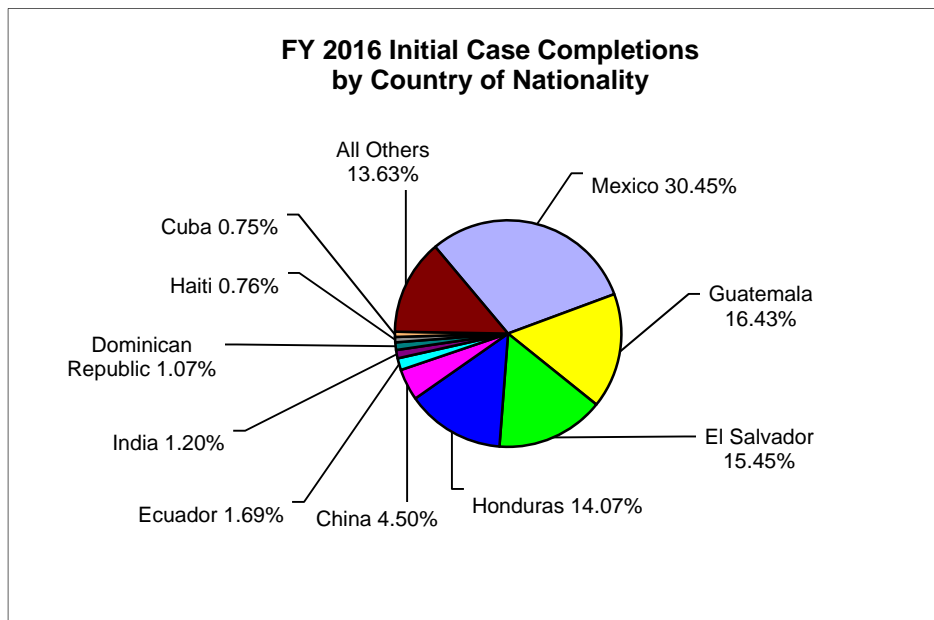
**Table 5B – FY 2016 Changes of Venue and Transfers**

Immigration Court	Changes of Venue	Transfers	Total
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	2,237	48	2,285
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	1,752	2,732	4,484
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	633	410	1,043
AURORA, COLORADO	320	911	1,231
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	951	40	991
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	733	318	1,051
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	220	676	896
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	582	700	1,282
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	791	58	849
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	552	48	600
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	1,392	1,927	3,319
CLEVELAND, OHIO	234	279	513
DALLAS, TEXAS	557	1,994	2,551
DENVER, COLORADO	514	47	561
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	199	624	823
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	24	1,031	1,055
EL PASO, TEXAS	862	152	1,014
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	59	2,126	2,185
ELOY, ARIZONA	2,079	24	2,103
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	31	29	60
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	2,229	15	2,244
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	108	17	125
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	3,726	165	3,891
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	213	443	656
HONOLULU, HAWAII	14	33	47
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	58	5,068	5,126
HOUSTON, TEXAS	4,355	476	4,831
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	455	1,711	2,166
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	319	419	738
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	1,999	22	2,021
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	276	454	730
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	3,463	1,445	4,908
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	25	1,607	1,632
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	497	883	1,380
MIAMI, FLORIDA	2,099	104	2,203
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	2,506	83	2,589
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	2,270	116	2,386
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	2,162	346	2,508
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	1,100	1,561	2,661
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	161	353	514
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	397	139	536
OTAY MESA, CALIFORNIA	214	899	1,113
PEARSALL, TEXAS	364	4,098	4,462
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	460	271	731
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	1,304	29	1,333
PORTLAND, OREGON	306	67	373
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	0	1	1
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	112	328	440
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	3,594	2,487	6,081
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	1,435	132	1,567
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	1,497	2,911	4,408
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	422	1	423
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	355	1	356
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	1,629	0	1,629
TUCSON, ARIZONA	126	6	132
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	66	31	97
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	34	698	732
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	1,042	201	1,243
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>56,114</b>	<b>41,795</b>	<b>97,909</b>

## Immigration Courts: Initial Case Completions by Country of Nationality

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2016, the top 10 nationalities accounted for approximately 86 percent of all initial case completions, as shown in Figure 8. A total of 209 nationalities are reported in the FY 2016 immigration judge initial case completions. Mexico and Central American countries are consistently among the predominant nationalities of these completions.

**Figure 8**



<b>FY 2016 Initial Case Completions by Country of Nationality</b>		
Country of Nationality	Initial Case Completions	% of Total
Mexico	56,776	30.45%
Guatemala	30,639	16.43%
El Salvador	28,799	15.45%
Honduras	26,226	14.07%
China	8,392	4.50%
Ecuador	3,148	1.69%
India	2,238	1.20%
Dominican Republic	1,996	1.07%
Haiti	1,420	0.76%
Cuba	1,390	0.75%
All Others	25,410	13.63%
<b>Total</b>	<b>186,434</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 6 provides information on the top 25 nationalities for initial case completions each year for FY 2012 through FY 2016. During the five-year period, nine of the top 10 nationalities were: Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, China, India, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, and Cuba.

**Table 6 - Initial Case Completions by Country of Nationality  
Top 25 Nationalities: FY 2012 - FY 2016**

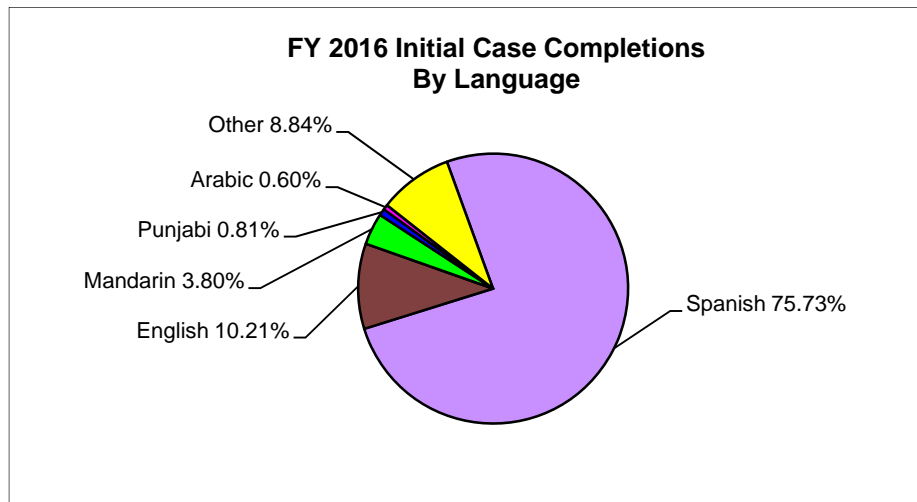
Rank	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
1	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico
2	Guatemala	Guatemala	El Salvador	Honduras	Guatemala
3	El Salvador	El Salvador	Guatemala	Guatemala	El Salvador
4	Honduras	Honduras	Honduras	El Salvador	Honduras
5	China	China	China	China	China
6	Dominican Republic	Cuba	Ecuador	Ecuador	Ecuador
7	Cuba	Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	India	India
8	India	Ecuador	Cuba	Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic
9	Jamaica	Jamaica	India	Haiti	Haiti
10	Ecuador	India	Jamaica	Cuba	Cuba
11	Colombia	Colombia	Colombia	Jamaica	Brazil
12	Brazil	Philippines	Haiti	Colombia	Colombia
13	Haiti	Brazil	Peru	Brazil	Jamaica
14	Philippines	Haiti	Philippines	Nicaragua	Nicaragua
15	Peru	Peru	Brazil	Peru	Peru
16	Nicaragua	Nicaragua	Nicaragua	Philippines	Philippines
17	Nigeria	Pakistan	Nigeria	Somalia	Ghana
18	Pakistan	Nigeria	Nepal	Nepal	Somalia
19	Ghana	Kenya	Pakistan	Nigeria	Nepal
20	South Korea	Russia	Ethiopia	Bangladesh	Nigeria
21	Venezuela	Venezuela	Kenya	Pakistan	Pakistan
22	Kenya	Ghana	Venezuela	Ghana	Bangladesh
23	Russia	Korea	Russia	Russia	Romania
24	Canada	Nepal	Egypt	Ethiopia	Egypt
25	Trinidad and Tobago	Canada	Vietnam	Romania	Russia



## Immigration Courts: Initial Case Completions by Language

Figure 9 shows a breakdown of Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 initial case completions by language. Out of 258 languages from the initial case completions in FY 2016, the top five languages – Spanish, English, Mandarin, Punjabi, and Arabic – accounted for approximately 91 percent of these initial case completions.

**Figure 9**



<b>FY 2016 Initial Case Completions by Language</b>		
Language	Cases	% of Total
Spanish	141,194	75.73%
English	19,041	10.21%
Mandarin	7,091	3.80%
Punjabi	1,503	0.81%
Arabic	1,115	0.60%
Other	16,490	8.84%
<b>Total</b>	<b>186,434</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Table 7 provides information on the top 25 languages each year for FY 2012 through FY 2016. For the five-year period, eight of the top 10 languages were: Spanish, English, Mandarin, Creole, Russian, Arabic, Portuguese, and Punjabi.

**Table 7 – Initial Case Completions by Language  
Top 25 Languages: FY 2012 – FY 2016**

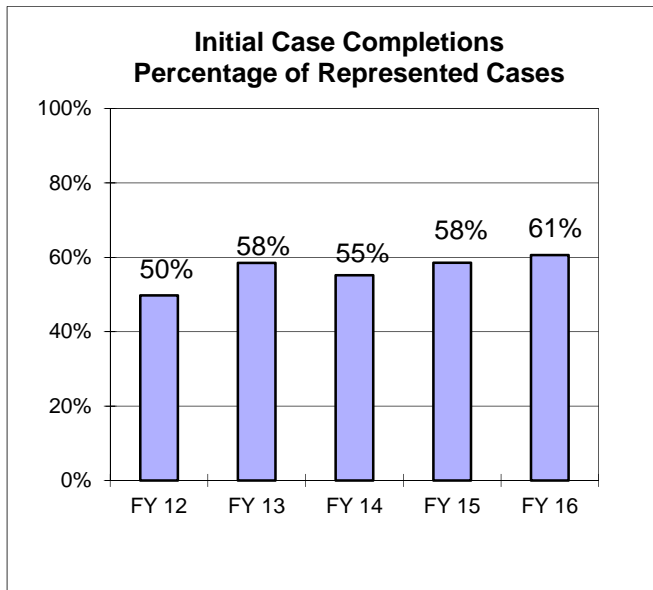
Rank	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
1	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish
2	English	English	English	English	English
3	Mandarin	Mandarin	Mandarin	Mandarin	Mandarin
4	Russian	Russian	Arabic	Punjabi	Punjabi
5	Arabic	Arabic	Russian	Creole	Arabic
6	Creole	Portuguese	Punjabi	Russian	Creole
7	Portuguese	Creole	Creole	Arabic	Russian
8	French	Punjabi	Portuguese	Portuguese	Portuguese
9	Korean	French	French	Mam	Mam
10	Punjabi	Korean	Korean	Somali	Quiche
11	Gujarati	Foo Chow	Nepali	Quiche	French
12	Foo Chow	Nepali	Foo Chow	French	Somali
13	Nepali	Amharic	Somali	Nepali	Nepali
14	Amharic	Tagalog	Amharic	Bengali	Bengali
15	Vietnamese	Indonesian	Mam	Foo Chow	Foo Chow
16	Indonesian	Romanian-Moldovan	Indonesian	Korean	Korean
17	Tagalog	Vietnamese	Quiche	Konjobal	Konjobal
18	Tigrigna - Eritrean	Gujarati	Gujarati	Indonesian	Albanian
19	Urdu	Urdu	Vietnamese	Amharic	Romanian-Moldovan
20	Tamil	Armenian	Tagalog	Gujarati	Amharic
21	Armenian	Albanian	Urdu	Vietnamese	Armenian
22	Romanian-Moldovan	Tigrigna - Eritrean	Albanian	Armenian	Tigrigna - Eritrean
23	Somali	Somali	Armenian	Romanian-Moldovan	Urdu
24	Polish	Quiche	Bengali	Albanian	Indonesian
25	Albanian	Polish	Konjobal	Urdu	Gujarati

## Immigration Courts: Initial Case Completions by Representation Status

An attorney or other representative who is fully accredited by the Department of Justice 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.

As shown in Figure 10, the percentage of represented aliens has increased over the last five years, increasing from 50 percent in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 to 61 percent in FY 2016.

**Figure 10**



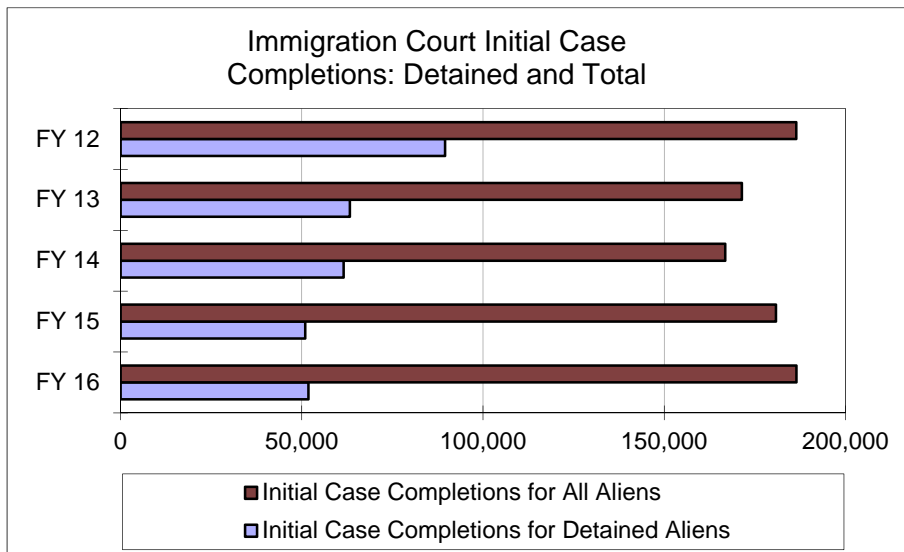
	Represented	Unrepresented	Total
FY 12	92,694	93,716	186,410
FY 13	100,233	71,162	171,395
FY 14	92,051	74,769	166,820
FY 15	105,761	75,031	180,792
FY 16	112,910	73,524	186,434

## 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 jails, and Bureau of Prisons institutions. For the purpose of this Statistics 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 42 percent from Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 to FY 2016.

**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 12	89,543	186,410	48%
FY 13	63,260	171,395	37%
FY 14	61,542	166,820	37%
FY 15	50,959	180,792	28%
FY 16	51,849	186,434	28%

Table 8 provides information, by immigration court, on FY 2016 detained completions. The following immigration courts each completed more than 3,000 detained initial cases in FY 2016: Dallas and Houston SPC. Immigration courts in three border states – Texas, Arizona, and California – accounted for 51 percent of the detained completions in FY 2016. Courts in those three states are highlighted in blue.

**Table 8 - FY 2016 Immigration Court Initial Case Completions for Detained Cases**

Immigration Court	Completions
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	2,029
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	1,134
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	1,364
AURORA, COLORADO	955
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	441
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	505
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	508
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	668
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	3
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	1,474
CLEVELAND, OHIO	416
DALLAS, TEXAS	3,501
DENVER, COLORADO	1
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	741
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	1,973
EL PASO, TEXAS	234
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	1,368
ELOY, ARIZONA	1,814
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	119
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	1,252
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	16
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	136
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	212
HONOLULU, HAWAII	90
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	4,357
HOUSTON, TEXAS	77
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	400
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	437
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	2,534
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	598
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	1,510
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	1,757
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	2
MIAMI, FLORIDA	1,435
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	1
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	25
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	2,628
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	348
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	303
OTAY MESA, CALIFORNIA	740
PEARSALL, TEXAS	1,970
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	10
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	117
PORTLAND, OREGON	20
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	524
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	2,269
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	20
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	1,698
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	1
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	2,640
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	1,807
TUCSON, ARIZONA	347
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	187
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	676
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	1,457
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>51,849</b>

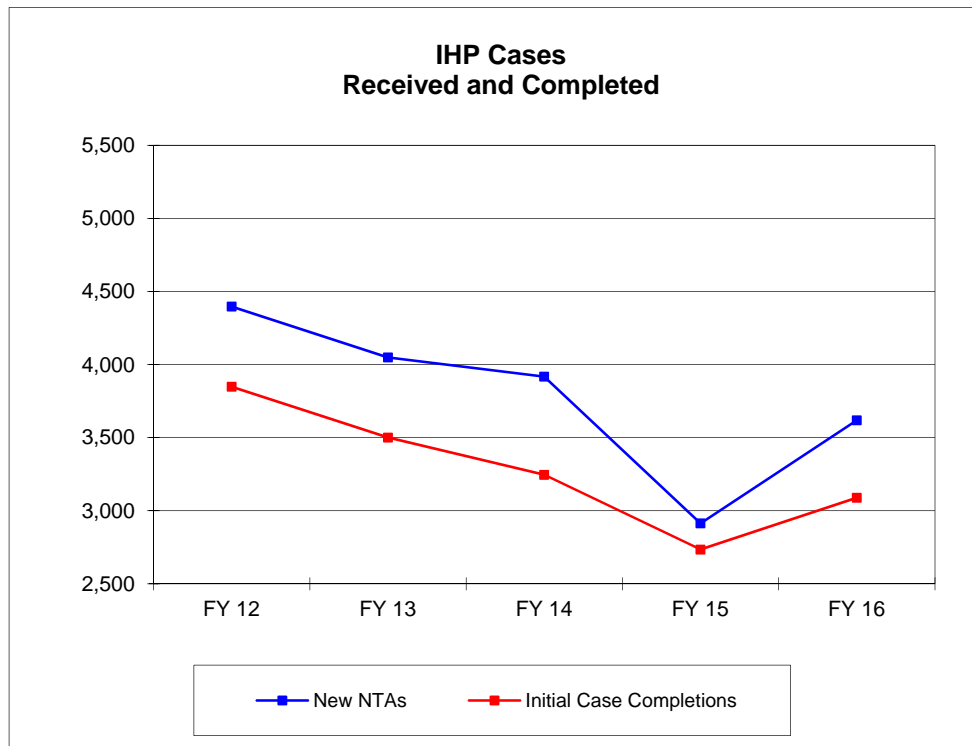
■ Immigration Courts in U.S./Mexico Border States

## 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 2012 to FY 2016. IHP receipts declined by 18 percent from FY 2012 to FY 2016.

**Figure 12**



IHP Cases Received and Completed		
	New NTAs	Initial Case Completions
FY 12	4,397	3,849
FY 13	4,049	3,501
FY 14	3,918	3,246
FY 15	2,914	2,735
FY 16	3,619	3,089

Table 9 provides a breakdown of IHP initial case completions by disposition. IHP completions declined by 20 percent between FY 2012 and FY 2016, and the majority of that change came in removal decisions.

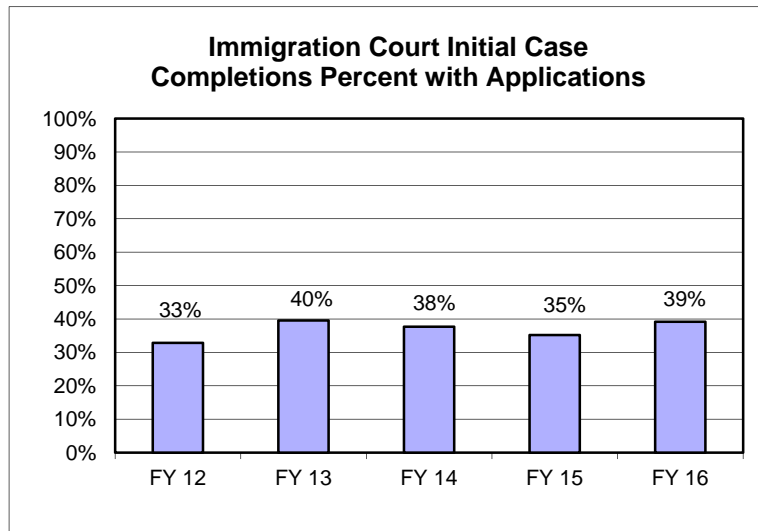
**Table 9 - IHP Initial Case Completions by Disposition**

	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Total Decisions in IHP Cases	3,761	3,307	3,116	2,640	2,934
<i>Removal</i>	3,642	3,206	3,011	2,507	2,705
<i>Termination</i>	80	77	83	90	96
<i>Relief</i>	31	20	21	39	118
<i>Other</i>	8	4	1	4	15
Other Completions	88	194	130	95	155
Total Completions	3,849	3,501	3,246	2,735	3,089

## 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 Statistics 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 12	61,254	33%	125,156	67%	186,410
FY 13	67,773	40%	103,622	60%	171,395
FY 14	62,852	38%	103,968	62%	166,820
FY 15	63,618	35%	117,174	65%	180,792
FY 16	72,980	39%	113,454	61%	186,434

Table 10 shows the number and percentage of initial case completions with applications for relief at each immigration court in Fiscal Year (FY) 2016. 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 2016 Immigration Court Initial Case Completions with Applications for Relief**

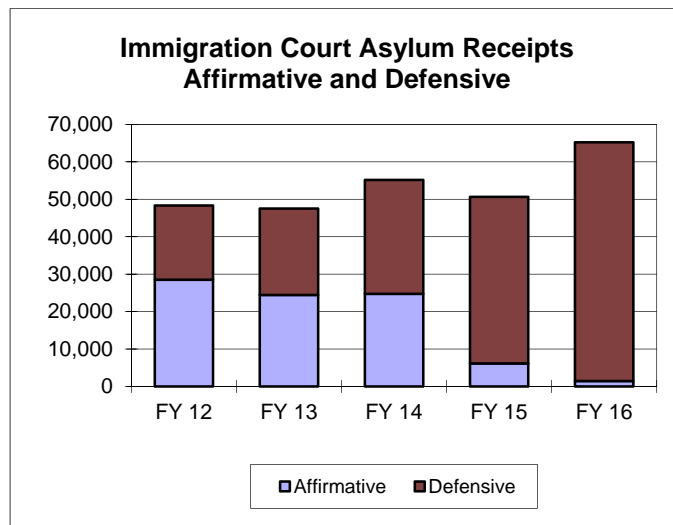
Immigration Court	Initial Case Completions	# of Completions With Applications	Percent With Applications
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	2,040	676	33%
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	7,755	3,145	41%
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	7,880	2,100	27%
AURORA, COLORADO	965	309	32%
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	4,567	1,332	29%
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	509	163	32%
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	1,668	618	37%
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	3,741	1,721	46%
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	884	213	24%
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	4,493	778	17%
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	3,726	1,115	30%
CLEVELAND, OHIO	2,325	1,066	46%
DALLAS, TEXAS	7,657	1,202	16%
DENVER, COLORADO	885	373	42%
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	2,031	1,188	58%
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	1,974	276	14%
EL PASO, TEXAS	1,743	521	30%
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	1,379	555	40%
ELOY, ARIZONA	1,824	343	19%
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	119	26	22%
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	1,252	196	16%
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	158	78	49%
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	2,190	588	27%
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	1,202	614	51%
HONOLULU, HAWAII	396	289	73%
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	4,360	1,011	23%
HOUSTON, TEXAS	5,848	2,263	39%
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	464	144	31%
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	2,047	725	35%
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	2,544	1,001	39%
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	2,931	1,517	52%
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	19,731	11,431	58%
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	1,764	706	40%
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	5,642	1,356	24%
MIAMI, FLORIDA	7,776	2,259	29%
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	3,592	855	24%
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	17,547	11,881	68%
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	3,489	1,312	38%
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	2,646	400	15%
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	1,440	629	44%
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	3,347	1,408	42%
OTAY MESA, CALIFORNIA	757	204	27%
PEARSALL, TEXAS	1,974	602	30%
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	2,485	1,105	44%
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	4,162	2,314	56%
PORTLAND, OREGON	1,092	703	64%
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	7	0	0%
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	928	316	34%
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	4,058	771	19%
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	1,822	588	32%
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	10,308	4,179	41%
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	2,647	1,451	55%
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	2,653	528	20%
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	1,815	716	39%
TUCSON, ARIZONA	844	273	32%
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	187	42	22%
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	703	314	45%
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	1,461	491	34%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>186,434</b>	<b>72,980</b>	<b>39%</b>

## 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 Statistics 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) 2012 to FY 2016. Affirmative asylum receipts have fallen sharply (95 percent) from FY 2012 to FY 2016. Defensive asylum receipts have increased significantly (221 percent) from FY 2012 to FY 2016.

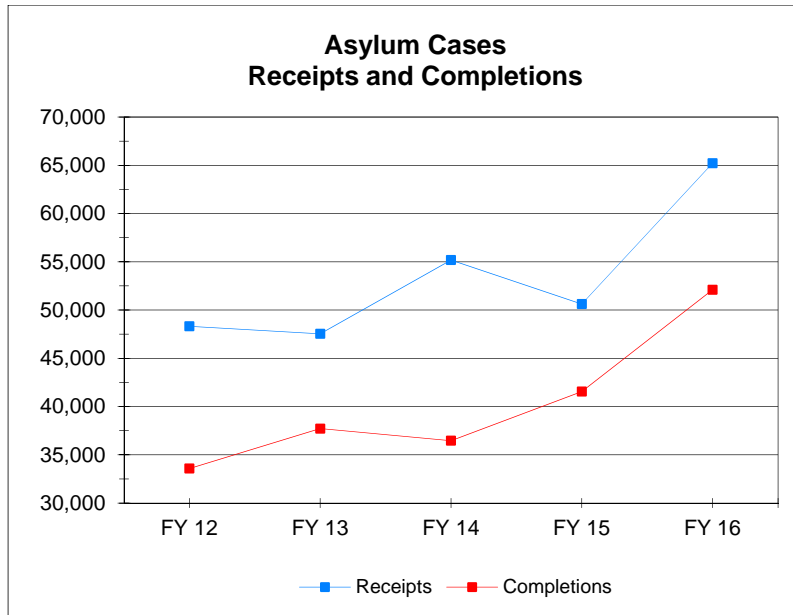
**Figure 14**



Immigration Court Asylum Receipts			
	Affirmative	Defensive	Total
FY 12	28,482	19,839	48,321
FY 13	24,447	23,087	47,534
FY 14	24,727	30,457	55,184
FY 15	6,144	44,475	50,619
FY 16	1,445	63,773	65,218

As shown in Figure 15, asylum receipts increased by 35 percent and asylum completions increased by 55 percent from FY 2012 to FY 2016. In the last year both asylum receipts and completions showed increases (29 and 25 percent respectively).

**Figure 15**



<b>Asylum Receipts and Completions</b>		
	Receipts	Completions
FY 12	48,321	33,576
FY 13	47,534	37,717
FY 14	55,184	36,464
FY 15	50,619	41,549
FY 16	65,218	52,109

Table 11 provides information on FY 2016 asylum completions by immigration court. In FY 2016, the New York, NY; Los Angeles, CA; San Francisco, CA; and Arlington, VA, immigration courts accounted for 50 percent of the asylum completions.

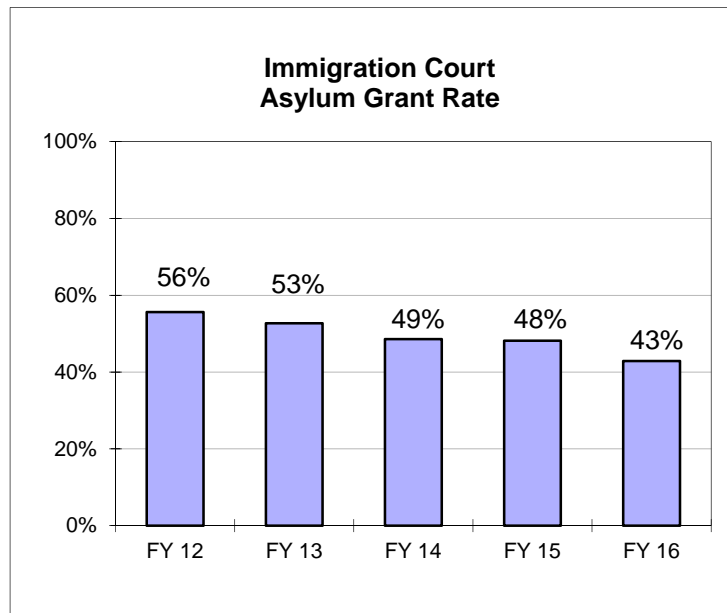
**Table 11 - Asylum Completions by Court for FY 2016**

Immigration Court	Completions
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	563
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	2,691
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	1,163
AURORA, COLORADO	184
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	1,011
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	99
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	329
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	921
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	52
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	516
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	475
CLEVELAND, OHIO	719
DALLAS, TEXAS	658
DENVER, COLORADO	232
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	495
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	189
EL PASO, TEXAS	215
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	390
ELOY, ARIZONA	185
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	7
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	103
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	22
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	298
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	491
HONOLULU, HAWAII	260
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	304
HOUSTON, TEXAS	2,054
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	107
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	411
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	728
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	1,017
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	9,334
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	350
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	828
MIAMI, FLORIDA	1,334
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	666
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	10,966
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	866
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	204
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	372
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	1,068
OTAY MESA, CALIFORNIA	139
PEARSALL, TEXAS	241
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	752
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	802
PORTLAND, OREGON	588
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	0
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	143
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	590
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	359
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	3,111
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	1,236
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	322
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	499
TUCSON, ARIZONA	123
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	9
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	73
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	245
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>52,109</b>

## 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) 2012 (56 percent) to FY 2016 (43 percent), and has fallen each year during the five year period.

**Figure 16**



<b>Asylum Grant Rate</b>			
	Grants	Denials	Grant Rate
FY 12	10,575	8,444	56%
FY 13	9,767	8,777	53%
FY 14	8,672	9,191	49%
FY 15	8,184	8,816	48%
FY 16	8,726	11,643	43%

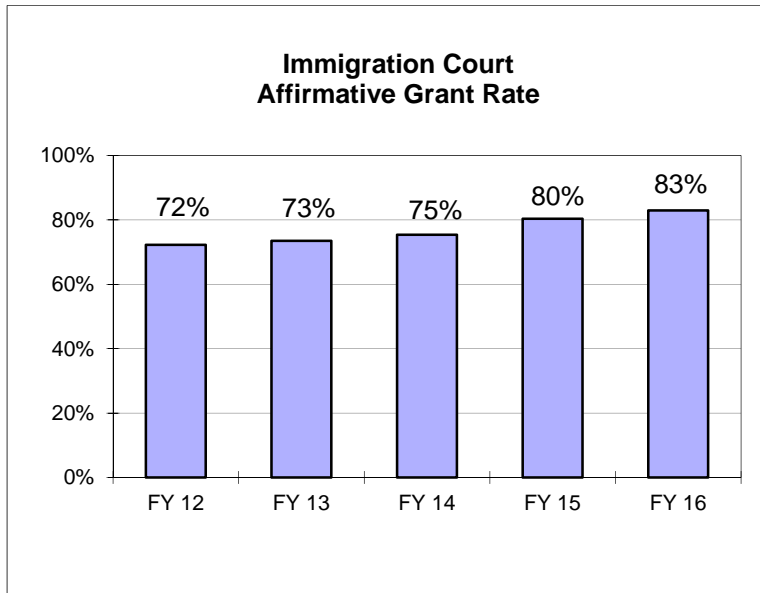
Table 12 provides information on the FY 2016 asylum grant rate for each individual immigration court.

**Table 12 – FY 2016 Asylum Grant Rate by Immigration Court**

Immigration Court	Grants	Denials	Grant Rate
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	50	383	12%
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	342	210	62%
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	14	590	2%
AURORA, COLORADO	37	120	24%
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	246	144	63%
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	14	64	18%
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	42	142	23%
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	197	57	78%
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	0	10	0%
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	49	240	17%
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	101	146	41%
CLEVELAND, OHIO	38	136	22%
DALLAS, TEXAS	37	346	10%
DENVER, COLORADO	58	44	57%
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	29	221	12%
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	3	130	2%
EL PASO, TEXAS	2	33	6%
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	135	172	44%
ELOY, ARIZONA	12	95	11%
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	0	6	0%
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	3	60	5%
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	1	1	50%
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	22	26	46%
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	84	112	43%
HONOLULU, HAWAII	202	42	83%
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	24	201	11%
HOUSTON, TEXAS	147	1,529	9%
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	10	61	14%
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	38	84	31%
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	33	465	7%
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	10	223	4%
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	326	1,124	22%
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	26	273	9%
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	105	292	26%
MIAMI, FLORIDA	73	226	24%
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	29	77	27%
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	4,125	708	85%
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	85	43	66%
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	5	155	3%
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	20	47	30%
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	71	332	18%
OTAY MESA, CALIFORNIA	29	76	28%
PEARSALL, TEXAS	65	141	32%
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	90	47	66%
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	29	13	69%
PORTLAND, OREGON	145	147	50%
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	0	0	0%
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	2	27	7%
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	83	301	22%
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	47	64	42%
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	939	324	74%
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	267	462	37%
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	16	226	7%
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	107	194	36%
TUCSON, ARIZONA	16	46	26%
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	0	7	0%
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	11	26	30%
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	35	172	17%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,726</b>	<b>11,643</b>	<b>43%</b>

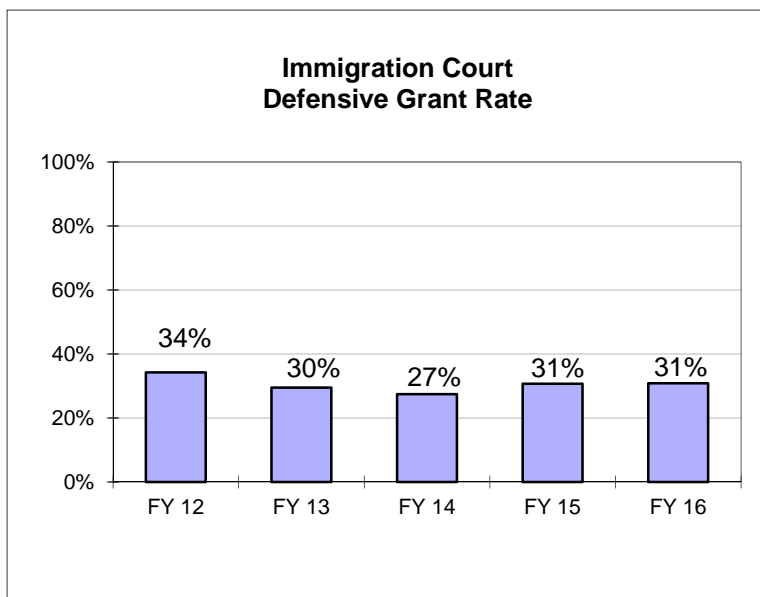
Figures 17 and 18 show the grant rates for affirmative and defensive asylum claims.

**Figure 17**



	Grants	Denials	Grant Rate
FY 12	7,721	2,964	72%
FY 13	7,175	2,589	73%
FY 14	5,925	1,937	75%
FY 15	4,794	1,172	80%
FY 16	3,890	801	83%

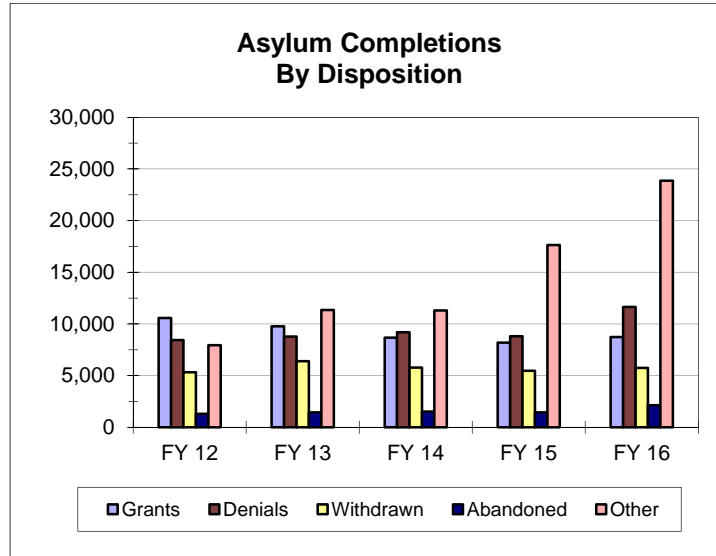
**Figure 18**



	Grants	Denials	Grant Rate
FY 12	2,854	5,480	34%
FY 13	2,592	6,188	30%
FY 14	2,747	7,254	27%
FY 15	3,390	7,644	31%
FY 16	4,836	10,842	31%

Figure 19 illustrates all asylum initial case completions broken out by disposition. The number of asylum grants has decreased by 17 percent since FY 2012 while the number of denials has increased by 38 percent since FY 2012.

Figure 19

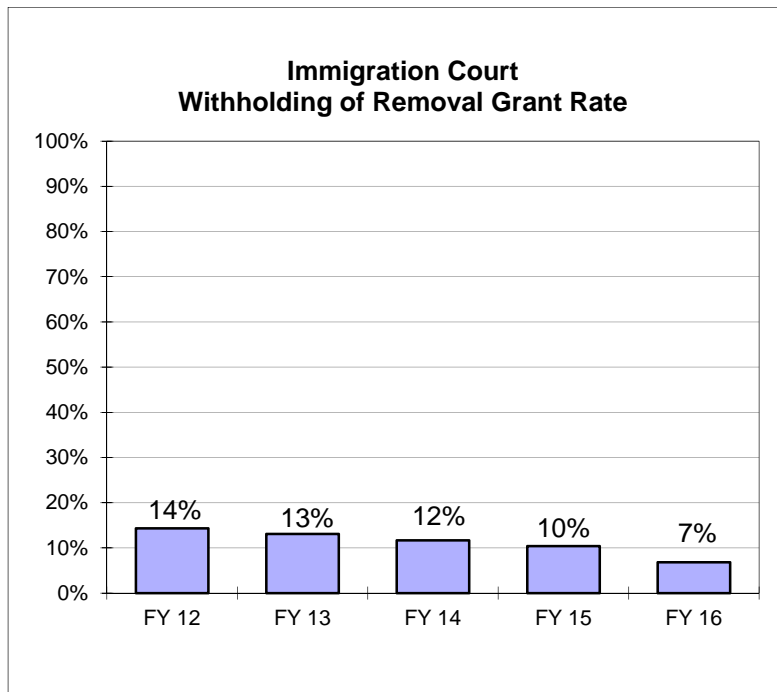


Asylum Completions by Disposition						
	Grants	Denials	Withdrawn	Abandoned	Other	Total
FY 12	10,575	8,444	5,323	1,294	7,940	33,576
FY 13	9,767	8,777	6,392	1,436	11,345	37,717
FY 14	8,672	9,191	5,782	1,517	11,302	36,464
FY 15	8,184	8,816	5,465	1,443	17,641	41,549
FY 16	8,726	11,643	5,739	2,133	23,868	52,109



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.

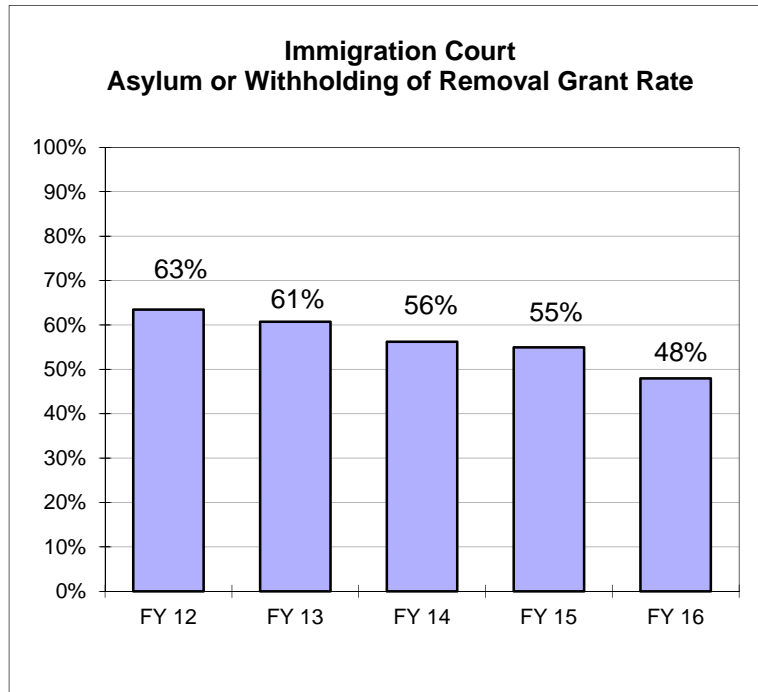
**Figure 20**



<b>Immigration Court Withholding of Removal Grant Rate</b>			
	Grants	Denials	Grant Rate
FY 12	1,527	9,144	14%
FY 13	1,493	9,927	13%
FY 14	1,453	11,016	12%
FY 15	1,184	10,218	10%
FY 16	969	13,248	7%

Figure 21 shows the percentage of cases in which asylum or withholding of removal was granted. The overall grant rate from FY 2012 to FY 2016 has decreased from 63 percent to 48 percent. The number of cases which result in asylum grants and withholding grants decreased by 20 percent from FY 2012 to FY 2016. For the same time period the number of denials increased by 51 percent.

**Figure 21**

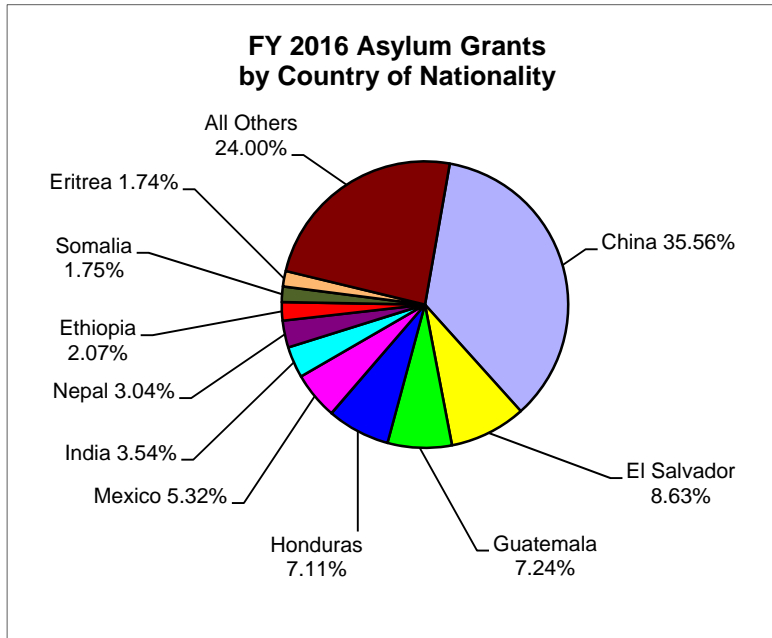


<b>Immigration Court Asylum or Withholding of Removal Grant Rate</b>				
	Asylum Grants	Withholding of Removal Grants	Denials of Both Asylum and Withholding of Removal	Grant Rate
FY 12	10,575	1,527	6,978	63%
FY 13	9,767	1,493	7,293	61%
FY 14	8,672	1,453	7,888	56%
FY 15	8,184	1,184	7,685	55%
FY 16	8,726	969	10,533	48%

## Immigration Courts: Asylum Grants by Country of Nationality

Figure 22 displays the top 10 nationalities granted asylum in Fiscal Year (FY) 2016. In FY 2016 the top 10 nationalities accounted for 76 percent of all asylum grants. China accounted for 36 percent of all asylum grants. A total of 111 nationalities were represented among individuals granted asylum in FY 2016.

**Figure 22**



FY 2016 Asylum Grants by Country of Nationality		
Country of Nationality	Completions	% of Total
China	3,103	35.56%
El Salvador	753	8.63%
Guatemala	632	7.24%
Honduras	620	7.11%
Mexico	464	5.32%
India	309	3.54%
Nepal	265	3.04%
Ethiopia	181	2.07%
Somalia	153	1.75%
Eritrea	152	1.74%
All Others	2,094	24.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,726</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 13 provides information on the top nationalities granted asylum for the period FY 2012 to FY 2016. For each of the five years, five of the top 10 countries from which aliens were granted asylum were represented: China, El Salvador, Ethiopia, India, and Nepal.

**Table 13 - Asylum Grants by Country of Nationality  
Top 25 Nationalities: FY 2012 - FY 2016**

Rank	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
1	China	China	China	China	China
2	Ethiopia	Ethiopia	India	Guatemala	El Salvador
3	Nepal	Nepal	Ethiopia	Honduras	Guatemala
4	Eritrea	India	Nepal	El Salvador	Honduras
5	Egypt	Egypt	Egypt	India	Mexico
6	Soviet Union	Eritrea	El Salvador	Nepal	India
7	India	Soviet Union	Guatemala	Ethiopia	Nepal
8	Guatemala	Russia	Eritrea	Mexico	Ethiopia
9	El Salvador	El Salvador	Soviet Union	Somalia	Somalia
10	Russia	Mexico	Honduras	Soviet Union	Eritrea
11	Pakistan	Guatemala	Mexico	Egypt	Egypt
12	Cameroon	Cameroon	Somalia	Eritrea	Soviet Union
13	Guinea	Pakistan	Russia	Syria	Cameroon
14	Mexico	Sri Lanka	Cameroon	Russia	Albania
15	Sri Lanka	Honduras	Venezuela	Cameroon	Bangladesh
16	Venezuela	Guinea	Pakistan	Bangladesh	Russia
17	Indonesia	Somalia	Iraq	Albania	Syria
18	Colombia	Venezuela	Sri Lanka	Nigeria	Burkina Faso
19	Iraq	Indonesia	Gambia	Haiti	Pakistan
20	Moldavia (Moldova)	Gambia	Moldavia (Moldova)	Colombia	Ghana
21	Iran	Mali	Albania	Iraq	Nigeria
22	Somalia	Moldavia (Moldova)	Colombia	Gambia	Iran
23	Honduras	Colombia	Syria	Pakistan	Guinea
24	Armenia	Bangladesh	Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso	Kirghizia (Kyrgyzstan)
25	Gambia	Albania	Iran	Kirghizia (Kyrgyzstan)	Ukraine

## 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 37,060 CAT applications during Fiscal Year (FY) 2016. Of those, immigration judges granted 621 CAT applications, and the majority of those grants were withholding.

**Table 14 - FY 2016 Convention Against Torture Cases by Disposition**

Granted			Denied	Other	Withdrawn	Abandoned	Total
Withholding	Deferral	Total					
481	140	621	12,323	17,838	5,185	1,093	37,060

Table 15 shows a breakdown of CAT completions by immigration courts. The New York City, NY; Los Angeles, CA; San Francisco, CA; Arlington, VA; Miami, FL; Houston, TX; and Seattle, WA, immigration courts combined completed approximately 52 percent of the total FY 2016 CAT cases.

**Table 15 - FY 2016 Convention Against Torture Completions by Court**

Immigration Court	Completions
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	588
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	2,109
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	853
AURORA, COLORADO	204
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	709
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	132
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	296
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	534
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	48
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	442
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	318
CLEVELAND, OHIO	569
DALLAS, TEXAS	518
DENVER, COLORADO	155
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	574
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	203
EL PASO, TEXAS	63
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	409
ELOY, ARIZONA	224
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	19
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	164
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	21
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	180
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	391
HONOLULU, HAWAII	178
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	612
HOUSTON, TEXAS	1,268
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	119
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	221
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	684
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	665
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	4,731
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	434
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	550
MIAMI, FLORIDA	1,306
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	344
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	5,994
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	446
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	270
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	99
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	966
OTAY MESA, CALIFORNIA	160
PEARSALL, TEXAS	436
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	544
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	215
PORTLAND, OREGON	518
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	92
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	545
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	303
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	2,901
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	1,098
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	322
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	624
TUCSON, ARIZONA	44
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	32
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	205
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	411
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37,060</b>

## Immigration Courts: Applications for Relief other than Asylum

Table 16 reflects grants of relief other than asylum during the period Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 to FY 2016.

**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 2012	648	3,527	4,465	9	275	0	3,438
FY 2013	537	3,524	3,683	9	281	0	3,588
FY 2014	447	2,907	2,316	12	230	1	3,474
FY 2015	335	2,334	1,466	9	234	0	3,510
FY 2016	306	2,056	1,190	4	202	0	3,358

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

## Immigration Courts: Voluntary Departure

For the purpose of the Statistics 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 12	125,029	25,151	20%
FY 13	99,459	18,352	18%
FY 14	98,263	14,915	15%
FY 15	98,776	11,620	12%
FY 16	96,186	11,512	12%

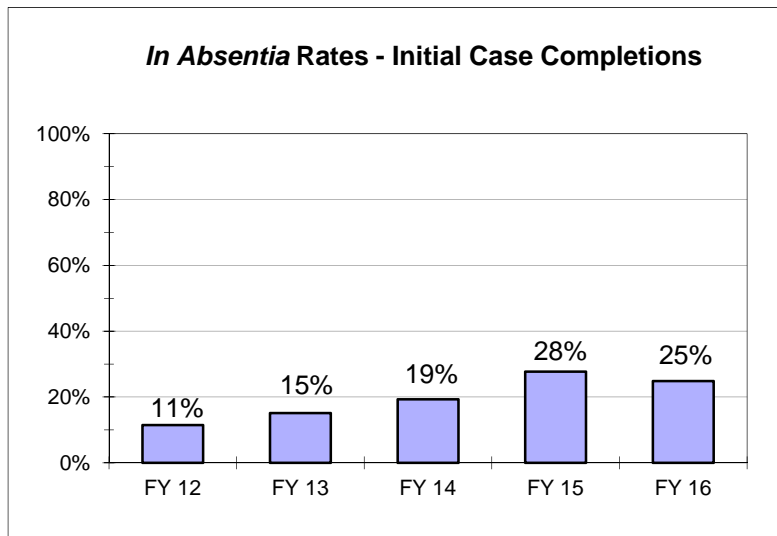


## Immigration Courts: In Absentia Orders

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) 2016, 25 percent involved *in absentia* orders. The *In Absentia* rate dramatically increased from FY 2012 (11 percent) to FY 2015 (28 percent) but has shown a slight decline from FY 2015 to FY 2016 (25 percent).

**Figure 23**

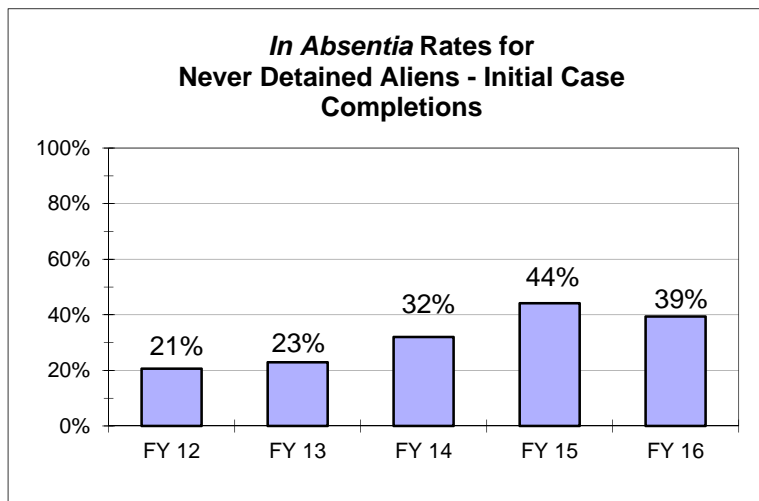


	<i>In Absentia</i> Orders	IJ Decisions	<i>In Absentia</i> Rate
FY 12	19,449	169,944	11%
FY 13	21,493	142,315	15%
FY 14	26,131	135,587	19%
FY 15	38,329	138,410	28%
FY 16	34,268	137,875	25%

The following figures show EOIR data on *in absentia* rates for non-detained aliens which include never detained aliens and aliens released on bond or own recognizance.

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 2012 to FY 2016 the number of *in absentia* orders for never detained aliens increased by 110 percent while the number of immigration judge decisions for those aliens increased by only 10 percent in the same time period.

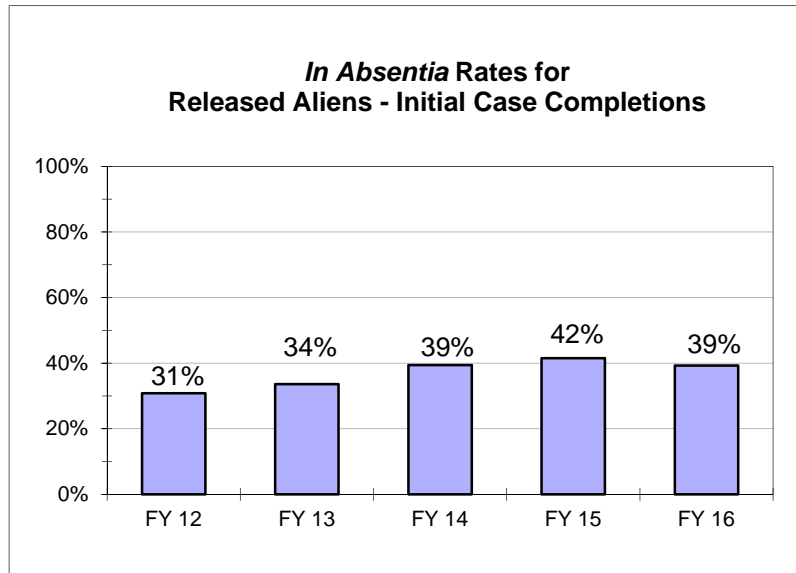
**Figure 24**



	<i>In Absentia</i> Orders	IJ Decisions	<i>In Absentia</i> Rate
FY 12	11,676	56,648	21%
FY 13	12,053	52,555	23%
FY 14	15,357	47,970	32%
FY 15	26,912	60,938	44%
FY 16	24,471	62,117	39%

*In absentia* orders for aliens released on bond or on their own recognizance are shown in Figure 25. From FY 2012 to FY 2015 the number of *in absentia* orders for aliens released on bond or on their own recognizance increased. There has been a slight decrease (14 percent) of *in absentia* orders from FY 2015 to FY 2016.

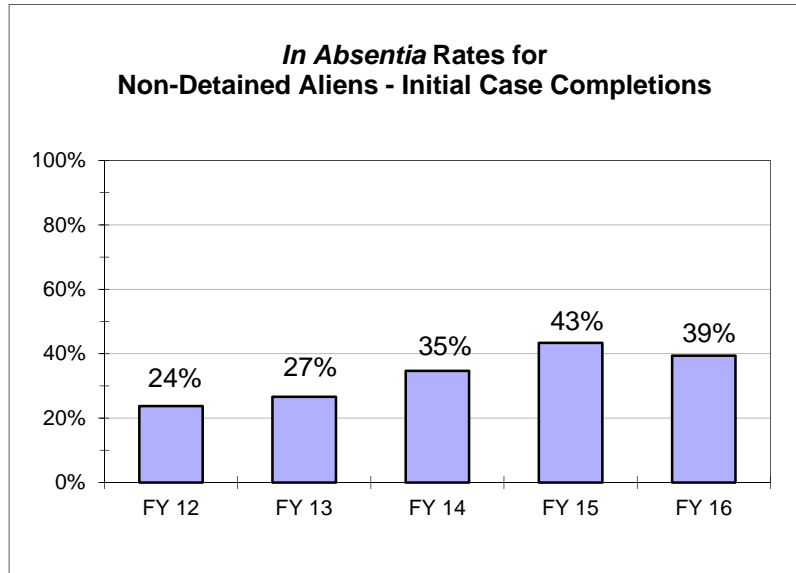
Figure 25



<b><i>In Absentia</i> Rates for Released Aliens - Initial Case Completions</b>			
	<i>In Absentia</i> Orders	IJ Decisions	<i>In Absentia</i> Rate
FY 12	7,689	24,945	31%
FY 13	9,349	27,806	34%
FY 14	10,656	27,037	39%
FY 15	11,346	27,329	42%
FY 16	9,722	24,764	39%

*In absentia* orders for non-detained aliens (which include both never detained and released aliens) are shown in Figure 26. From FY 2012 to FY 2015 the number of *in absentia* orders for aliens who are not currently detained increased by 98 percent while the number of immigration judge decisions for those aliens increased by six percent. From FY 2015 to FY 2016 the number of *in absentia* orders and IJ decisions have both slightly declined.

**Figure 26**



<b><i>In Absentia</i> Rates for Non-Detained Aliens - Initial Case Completions</b>			
	<i>In Absentia</i> Orders	IJ Decisions	<i>In Absentia</i> Rate
FY 12	19,365	81,593	24%
FY 13	21,402	80,361	27%
FY 14	26,013	75,007	35%
FY 15	38,258	88,267	43%
FY 16	34,193	86,881	39%

## **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.

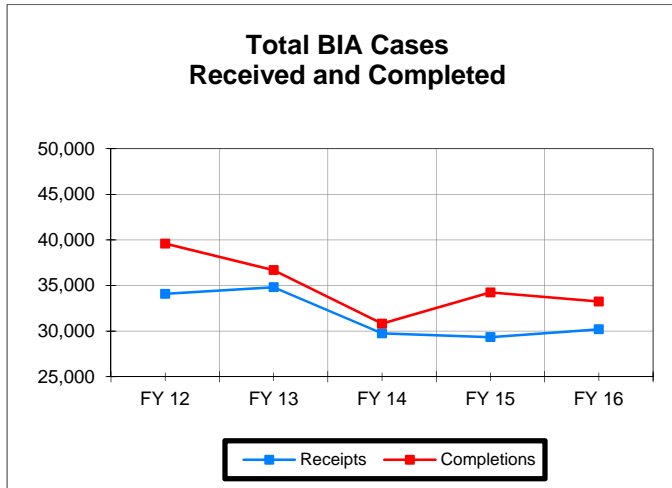
- Case appeals from the decisions of immigration judges in removal, deportation, and exclusion cases at the court level;
- Appeals filed from the decisions of immigration judges on motions to reopen;
- Motions to reopen and/or reconsider filed in cases already decided by the BIA;
- Appeals pertaining 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) 2012 to FY 2016. Between FY 2015 and FY 2016 completions have showed a slight decrease while receipts have showed a slight increase. Although completions slightly decreased between FY 2015 and FY 2016, BIA completions have consistently exceeded receipts the last five years.

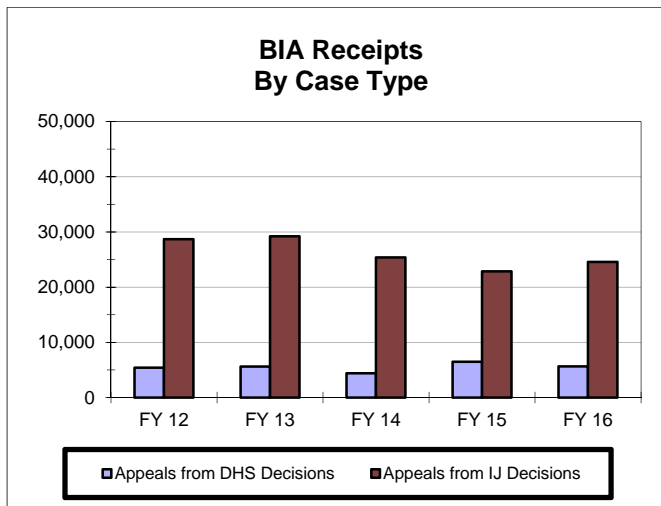
**Figure 27**



Total BIA Cases		
	Receipts	Completions
FY 12	34,087	39,594
FY 13	34,809	36,689
FY 14	29,750	30,822
FY 15	29,341	34,243
FY 16	30,200	33,240

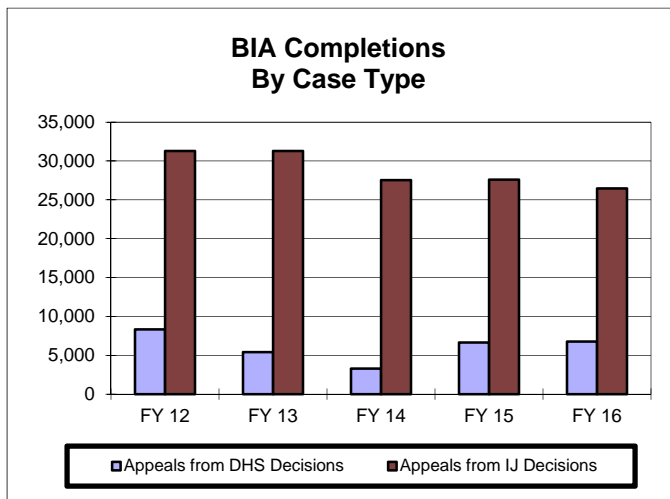
Figures 28 and 29 provide information on the types of cases the BIA receives and completes. Appeals from immigration judge decisions make up the bulk of the BIA's work. Receipts of appeals from immigration judge decisions increased by 7 percent from FY 2015 to FY 2016, while receipts of appeals from DHS decisions have decreased by 13 percent. Completions of appeals from immigration judge decisions and completions of appeals from DHS decisions remained relatively unchanged from FY 2015 to FY 2016.

**Figure 28**



	Appeals from DHS Decisions	Appeals from IJ Decisions	Total Appeals
FY 12	5,392	28,695	34,087
FY 13	5,599	29,210	34,809
FY 14	4,385	25,365	29,750
FY 15	6,480	22,861	29,341
FY 16	5,637	24,563	30,200

**Figure 29**



	Appeals from DHS Decisions	Appeals from IJ Decisions	Total Appeals
FY 12	8,319	31,275	39,594
FY 13	5,412	31,277	36,689
FY 14	3,293	27,529	30,822
FY 15	6,641	27,602	34,243
FY 16	6,767	26,473	33,240

## **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) 2012 and FY 2016.

**Table 18 - BIA Receipts by Type**

	<b>FY 2012</b>	<b>FY 2013</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>
<b>Total Appeals from IJ Decisions</b>	<b>28,695</b>	<b>29,210</b>	<b>25,365</b>	<b>22,861</b>	<b>24,563</b>
Case Appeal	15,856	16,495	13,557	11,470	12,748
Appeal of IJ Motion to Reopen	1,943	1,639	1,516	1,454	1,452
Motion to Reopen/Reconsider-BIA	8,246	7,692	6,691	5,908	5,636
Bond Appeal	1,594	1,816	2,091	2,253	3,002
Bond MTR	34	28	32	52	57
Interlocutory Appeal	192	209	163	240	327
Federal Court Remand	830	1,331	1,314	1,484	1,340
Continued Detention Review	0	0	0	0	1
Zero Bond Appeal	0	0	1	0	0
<b>Total Appeals from DHS Decisions</b>	<b>5,392</b>	<b>5,599</b>	<b>4,385</b>	<b>6,480</b>	<b>5,637</b>
Decisions on Visa Petitions	5,349	5,540	4,333	6,435	5,610
212(d)(3)(A) Waiver Decisions	40	55	49	45	26
Decisions on Fines and Penalties	3	4	3	0	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>34,087</b>	<b>34,809</b>	<b>29,750</b>	<b>29,341</b>	<b>30,200</b>

Table 19 provides a breakdown of the types of cases completed by the BIA between FY 2012 and FY 2016.

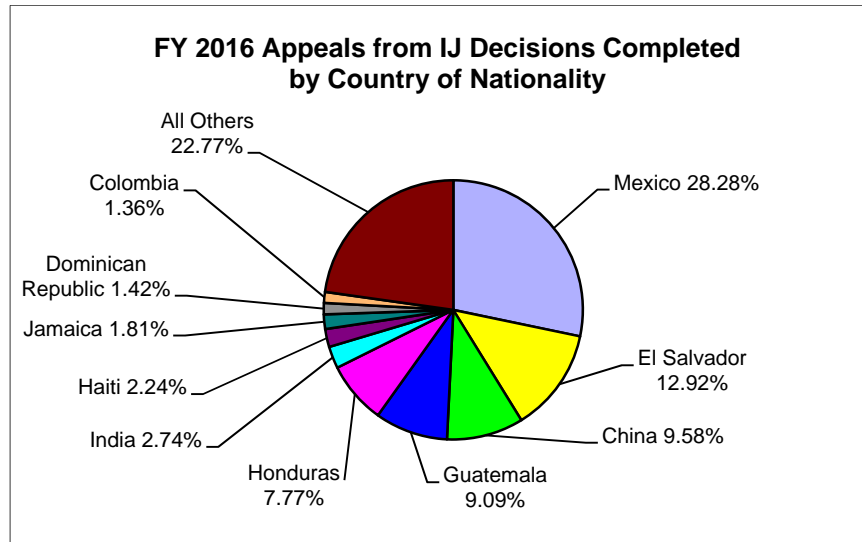
**Table 19 - BIA Completions by Type**

	<b>FY 2012</b>	<b>FY 2013</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>
<b>Total Appeals from IJ Decisions</b>	<b>31,275</b>	<b>31,277</b>	<b>27,529</b>	<b>27,602</b>	<b>26,473</b>
Case Appeal	17,459	17,933	15,775	15,474	14,564
Appeal of IJ Motion to Reopen	2,040	1,839	1,691	1,659	1,630
Motion to Reopen/Reconsider-BIA	9,191	8,603	6,394	6,427	5,586
Bond Appeal	1,554	1,700	1,990	2,220	2,805
Bond MTR	35	24	35	47	45
Interlocutory Appeal	225	194	169	216	286
Federal Court Remand	771	984	1,474	1,559	1,556
Continued Detention Review	0	0	0	0	1
Zero Bond Appeal	0	0	1	0	0
<b>Total Appeals from DHS Decisions</b>	<b>8,319</b>	<b>5,412</b>	<b>3,293</b>	<b>6,641</b>	<b>6,767</b>
Decisions on Visa Petitions	8,288	5,349	3,266	6,573	6,734
212(d)(3)(A) Waiver Decisions	29	60	25	65	33
Decisions on Fines and Penalties	2	3	2	3	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>39,594</b>	<b>36,689</b>	<b>30,822</b>	<b>34,243</b>	<b>33,240</b>

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

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2016, Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) completions of appeals from immigration judge decisions involved a total of 175 nationalities. Figure 30 provides information on the top 10 nationalities that accounted for 77 percent of completions in FY 2016.

**Figure 30**



Country of Nationality	Completions	% of Total
Mexico	7,486	28.28%
El Salvador	3,420	12.92%
China	2,537	9.58%
Guatemala	2,406	9.09%
Honduras	2,058	7.77%
India	725	2.74%
Haiti	594	2.24%
Jamaica	480	1.81%
Dominican Republic	377	1.42%
Colombia	361	1.36%
All Others	6,029	22.77%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,473</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Table 20 compares the predominant countries for completed immigration judge appeals for FY 2012 to FY 2016. For the five-year period, nine countries ranked among the top 10: Mexico, El Salvador, China, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Jamaica, Colombia, and Dominican Republic.

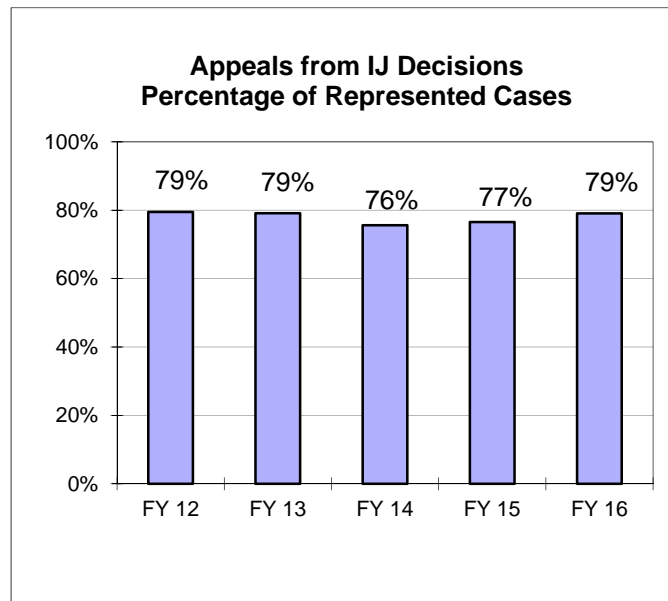
**Table 20 - BIA - Appeals from IJ Decisions Completed by Country of Nationality  
Top 25 Nationalities: FY 2012 - FY 2016**

Rank	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
1	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico
2	China	China	China	El Salvador	El Salvador
3	El Salvador	El Salvador	El Salvador	China	China
4	Guatemala	Guatemala	Guatemala	Guatemala	Guatemala
5	Honduras	Honduras	Honduras	Honduras	Honduras
6	Colombia	India	India	India	India
7	India	Colombia	Jamaica	Haiti	Haiti
8	Jamaica	Jamaica	Colombia	Jamaica	Jamaica
9	Dominican Republic	Indonesia	Haiti	Colombia	Dominican Republic
10	Indonesia	Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	Colombia
11	Haiti	Haiti	Brazil	Brazil	Bangladesh
12	Nigeria	Brazil	Indonesia	Nigeria	Ecuador
13	Peru	Pakistan	Nigeria	Ecuador	Brazil
14	Ecuador	Nigeria	Peru	Philippines	Nigeria
15	Philippines	Venezuela	Pakistan	Peru	Philippines
16	Pakistan	Philippines	Ecuador	Indonesia	Peru
17	Brazil	Ecuador	Philippines	Nicaragua	Indonesia
18	Venezuela	Peru	Kenya	Bangladesh	Armenia
19	Albania	Kenya	Venezuela	Pakistan	Nicaragua
20	Nicaragua	Nicaragua	Nicaragua	Nepal	Ghana
21	Kenya	Armenia	Ghana	Kenya	Nepal
22	Armenia	Nepal	Russia	Armenia	Pakistan
23	Ghana	Albania	Nepal	Venezuela	Venezuela
24	Russia	Russia	Albania	Russia	Kenya
25	Ethiopia	Ghana	Armenia	Ghana	Albania

## 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) has stayed fairly consistent from Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 to FY 2016. The five years ranged from 76% to 79%. Only appeals from immigration judge decisions are included in these statistics.

**Figure 31**



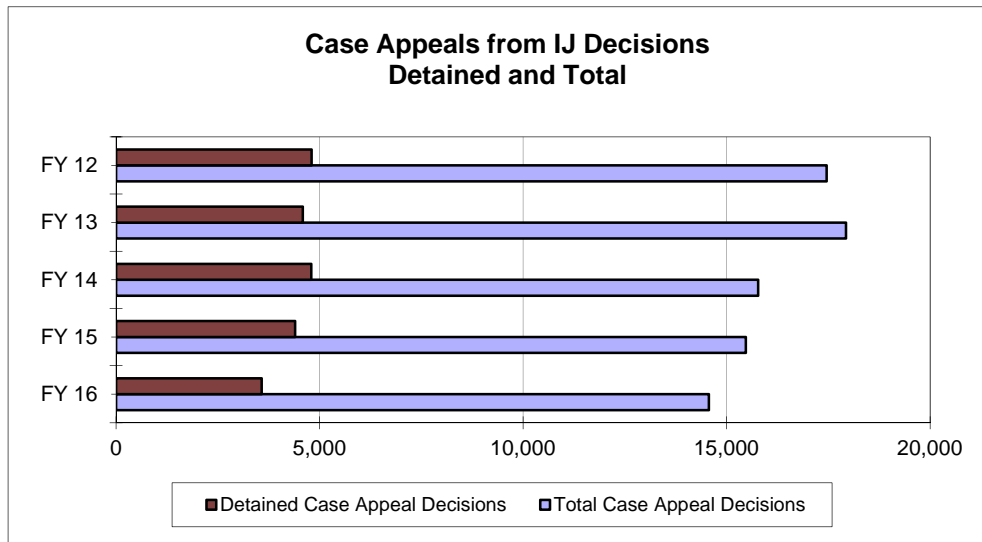
<b>Represented Before the BIA</b>			
	Represented	Unrepresented	Total
FY 12	24,853	6,422	31,275
FY 13	24,742	6,535	31,277
FY 14	20,807	6,722	27,529
FY 15	21,128	6,474	27,602
FY 16	20,928	5,545	26,473

## 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) 2012 and FY 2016 along with the number of case appeal decisions that involved detainees. The figures for detained appeal decisions also include IHP cases. The detained case appeal decisions decreased by 26 percent from FY 2012 to FY 2016 while the total number of case appeal decisions decreased by 17 percent for the same time period.

**Figure 32**



<b>Detained Case Appeals from IJ Decisions (Including IHP)</b>			
	Detained Case Appeal Decisions	Total Case Appeal Decisions	Percent Detained
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	15,474	28%
FY 16	3,578	14,564	25%

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 2016, eight 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, up from seven percent in FY 2012. The number of IHP completions declined by 20 percent from FY 2012 to FY 2016 while the number of detained completions has decreased by 26 percent for the same time period.

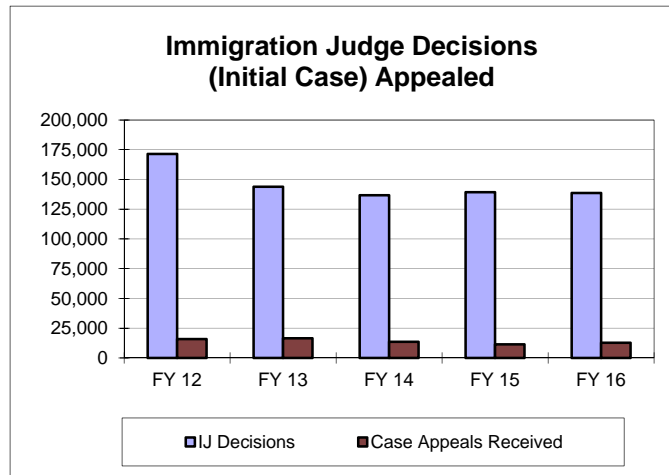
**Table 21**  
**Breakdown of BIA Completions of Detained Case Appeals from IJ Decisions**

	Total Detained Completions	IHP Completions	Percent IHP Completions
FY 2012	4,805	338	7%
FY 2013	4,589	302	7%
FY 2014	4,796	273	6%
FY 2015	4,398	283	6%
FY 2016	3,578	270	8%

## 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) 2012 through FY 2016. While the percentage of IJ decisions being appealed has returned to FY 2012 levels, the number of case appeals received by the BIA has increased compared to FY 2015.

**Figure 33**



IJ Decisions (Initial Case) Appealed			
	IJ Decisions	Case Appeals Received	Percent Appealed
FY 12	171,485	15,856	9%
FY 13	143,807	16,495	11%
FY 14	136,732	13,557	10%
FY 15	139,331	11,470	8%
FY 16	138,669	12,748	9%

## 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) 2012 to FY 2016. The number of pending immigration court cases has grown by 58 percent since the end of FY 2012, and by 13 percent since the end of FY 2015.

**Figure 34**

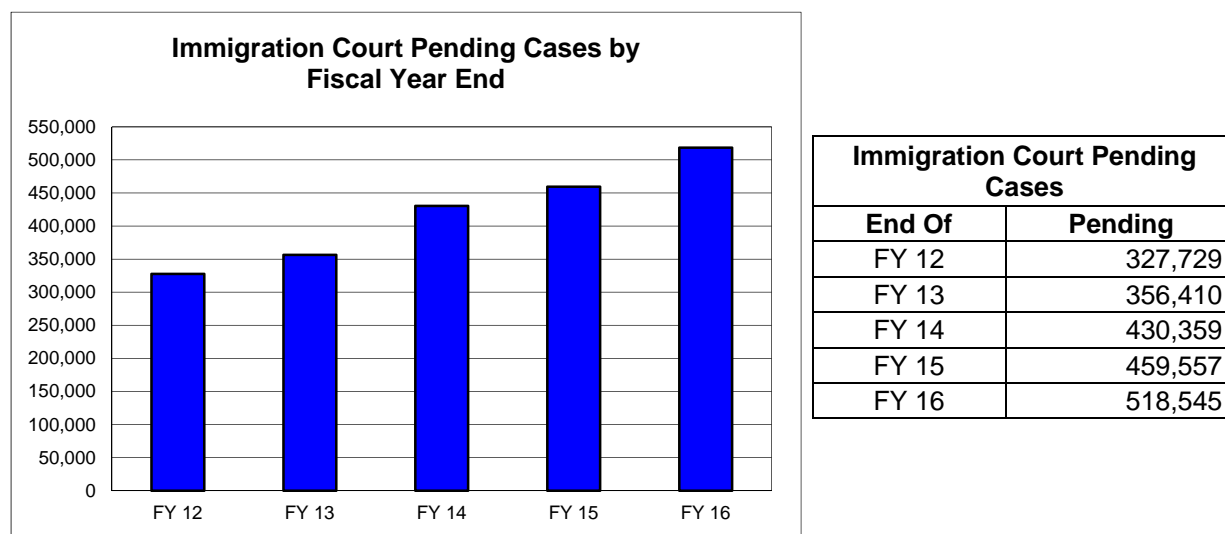


Table 22 shows information on the number of pending cases by immigration court as of the end of FY 2016.

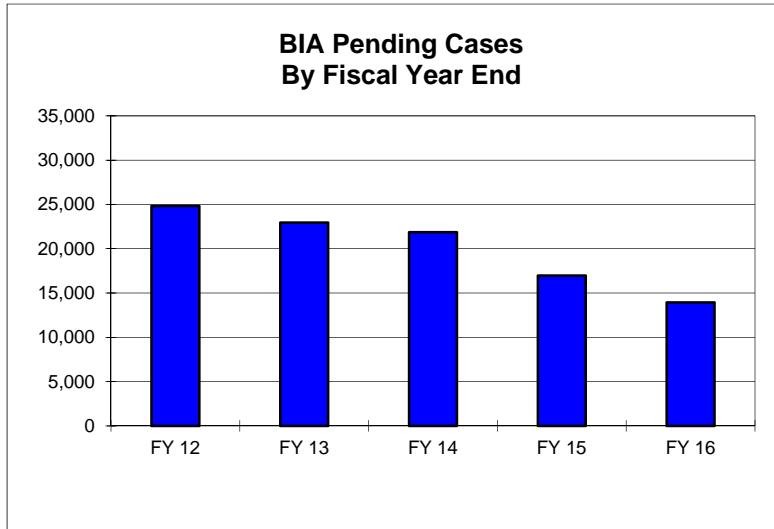


**Table 22 - Immigration Court Pending Cases as of September 30, 2016**

Immigration Court	Pending Cases as of 9/30/2016
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA	1,252
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA	29,802
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	13,277
AURORA, COLORADO	332
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	17,305
BATAVIA SPC, NEW YORK	297
BLOOMINGTON (ST. PAUL), MINNESOTA	4,443
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	15,215
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	1,474
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	6,743
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	23,187
CLEVELAND, OHIO	6,218
DALLAS, TEXAS	11,016
DENVER, COLORADO	10,094
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	3,757
EL PASO SPC, TEXAS	694
EL PASO, TEXAS	5,570
ELIZABETH DETENTION CENTER, NEW JERSEY	693
ELOY, ARIZONA	1,259
FISHKILL - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	127
FLORENCE SPC, ARIZONA	792
GUAYNABO (SAN JUAN), PUERTO RICO	90
HARLINGEN, TEXAS	4,015
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	2,429
HONOLULU, HAWAII	488
HOUSTON SPC, TEXAS	1,422
HOUSTON, TEXAS	42,312
IMPERIAL, CALIFORNIA	3,554
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	4,979
KROME NORTH SPC, FLORIDA	812
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	3,455
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	49,510
LOS FRESNOS (PORT ISABEL SPC), TEXAS	194
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	10,964
MIAMI, FLORIDA	24,370
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	6,814
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK	67,833
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	26,729
OAKDALE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, LOUISIANA	752
OMAHA, NEBRASKA	6,671
ORLANDO, FLORIDA	7,180
OTAY MESA, CALIFORNIA	660
PEARSALL, TEXAS	665
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	6,703
PHOENIX, ARIZONA	7,850
PORTLAND, OREGON	3,782
SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	8
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	2,030
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	27,000
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	3,750
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	36,781
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	7,257
STEWART DETENTION FACILITY, GEORGIA	713
TACOMA, WASHINGTON	1,214
TUCSON, ARIZONA	877
ULSTER - NEW YORK STATE DOC, NEW YORK	181
VARICK SPC, NEW YORK	460
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA	494
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>518,545</b>

Figure 35 depicts the Board of Immigration Appeals' (BIA) pending caseload. The BIA's pending caseload decreased 44 percent from FY 2012 to FY 2016 and has declined each year since FY 2012.

**Figure 35**



<b>BIA Pending Cases</b>	
<b>End Of</b>	<b>Pending</b>
FY 12	24,824
FY 13	22,944
FY 14	21,872
FY 15	16,970
FY 16	13,930

## **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:

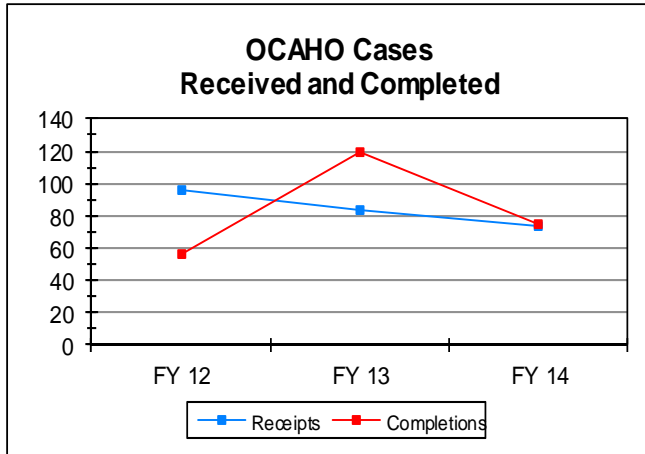
- Knowingly hiring, recruiting or referring for a fee unauthorized aliens, or the continued employment of unauthorized aliens, failure to comply with employment eligibility verification requirements, and/or requiring indemnity bonds from employees in violation of section 274A of the INA (employer sanctions 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 Immigrant and Employee Rights Section 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 in fiscal year (FY) 2015, OCAHO began reporting 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.

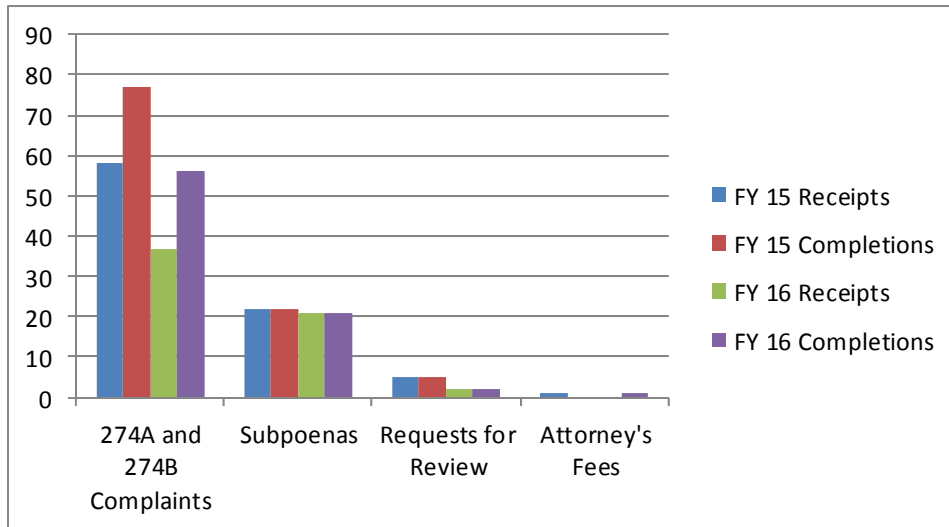
Figure 36 displays the number of case receipts and completions for the three fiscal years prior to OCAHO's change in reporting, while Figure 37 includes receipts and completions for complaints, subpoenas, requests for review, and attorney's fees in FY 2015 and FY 2016. Completions may include cases received in a prior fiscal year.

**Figure 36**



	Receipts	Completions
FY 12	96	56
FY 13	84	119
FY 14	74	75

**Figure 37**



	274A and 274B Complaints	Subpoenas	Requests for Review	Attorney's Fees
FY 15 Receipts	58	22	5	1
FY 15 Completions	77	22	5	0
FY 16 Receipts	37	21	2	0
FY 16 Completions	56	21	2	1

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

## Disclaimer

This Glossary to the FY 2016 Statistics Yearbook of the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) defines terms as they are used in the Statistics 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 Immigrant and Employee Rights Section, 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 Statistics 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 removable alien received the required notice about their removal hearing and failed 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) persons 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 Department of Justice as such under the provisions of 8 C.F.R. section 1292.1, et. seq. *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 sections 274A and 274C 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.*