



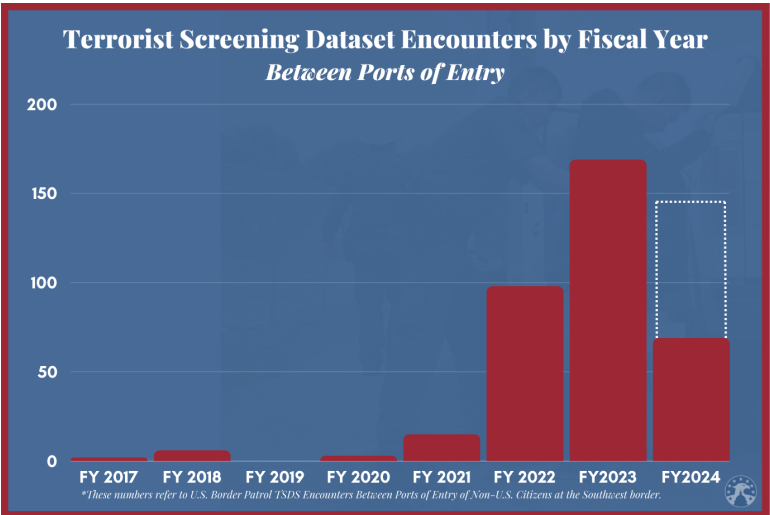
# Border Encounters Officially Hit 9 Million Nationwide on Secretary Mayorkas' Watch

FEB FY2024 SWB ENCOUNTERS  
**189,922**

FEB FY2023 SWB ENCOUNTERS  
**156,630**

FEB FY2022 SWB ENCOUNTERS  
**166,010**

- U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) recorded **256,094 encounters nationwide** in February, including **189,922 at the Southwest border (SWB)**—the worst February in decades.
- Nationwide encounters increased **19% compared to February of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 and 121% compared to Feb. FY21**. SWB encounters increased **21% compared to FY23 and 87% compared to February FY21**.
- Since President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas took office, there have been **9 million encounters nationwide** and over **7.4 million encounters at the Southwest border**.
- Last month was the **worst February in decades** for encounters by **the Office of Field Operations (OFO) at the Southwest border (49,278)**. Nationwide OFO encounters in February (113,987) **increased 542% compared to February FY21**—the first full month of the Biden administration.
- Additionally, over **1.8 million known gotaways have evaded U.S. Border Patrol under this administration**. In **testimony before the Committee** last year, then-chief of U.S. Border Patrol (USBP), Raul Ortiz, said the total number of **gotaways could be undercounted by as much as 20%**.
- **Southwest border encounters of illegal aliens by USBP between ports of entry (140,644) increased 8% from February FY23**.
- At the SW border in February 2024, CBP encountered **114,297 single adults, 65,141 family unit individuals, and 10,362 unaccompanied children**.
- **42,100 inadmissible aliens were processed by OFO with CBP One app appointments in February**. Since January 2023, **501,000 individuals have scheduled appointments with the app. 95.8 percent of all inadmissible aliens** who scheduled appointments through the app from January-September 2023 were ultimately issued a "Notice to Appear" and **released into the United States on parole**.
- **Since the program began, 386,000 Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans have been mass paroled** under the administration's CHNV parole program at ports of entry nationwide.
- **In February 2024, 11 more individuals whose names appear on the terrorist watchlist** were stopped trying to cross the U.S.-Mexico border between ports of entry. **Since FY21, 351 of these individuals have been caught crossing our Southwest border illegally**.





CHAIRMAN MARK E. GREEN, MD

## BORDER CRISIS STARTLING STATS

### Secretary Mayorkas Endangers Americans With Catch-and-Release, Unlawful Mass Parole

- So far this fiscal year, **CBP has arrested 14,949 aliens with criminal convictions or outstanding warrants nationwide**, including 195 known gang members, 30 of those being MS-13 members.
- In February, **CBP**, including **Air and Marine Operations (AMO)**, seized 1,185 pounds of fentanyl coming across the Southwest border, bringing the total for the fiscal year to 8,112 pounds—enough to kill nearly 2 billion people.
  - Federal officials estimate they are only able to **seize 5-10% of the fentanyl** smuggled across the Southwest border.
- So far in FY24, **22,292 Chinese nationals have been encountered at the Southwest border**. Encounters of Chinese nationals this fiscal year have **increased 924% compared to all of FY22**.
- On February 22, Venezuelan national Jose Antonio Ibarra was arrested and **charged with the murder** of 22-year-old Athens, Georgia, student Laken Riley. Ibarra entered the country illegally in September 2022 and was **subsequently released** by CBP into the interior.
  - The Committee **has requested copies of Ibarra's "A-file,"** which contains the complete record of an inadmissible alien's interactions with DHS law enforcement, including CBP, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). **DHS has still not provided any documentation.**
- In February, encounters increased in California following **enforcement efforts** by the State of Texas. **On February 23-24, inadmissible aliens who illegally crossed the San Diego Sector were mass-released in San Ysidro, California.**
  - Many of these aliens were assigned **ankle monitors** as part of ICE's Alternatives to Detention (ATD) program and were **then offered rides to the airport by Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).**
- According to **CBP data**, more Chinese nationals have crossed the San Diego Sector illegally this fiscal year than Mexican nationals.

### Worst February on Record for Northern Border Encounters

FEB FY2024 NB  
ENCOUNTERS

**14,571**

FEB FY2023 NB  
ENCOUNTERS

**13,052**

FEB FY2022 NB  
ENCOUNTERS

**6,194**

- Encounters at the northern border in February FY24 **increased 135% compared to February FY22 and increased 11% compared to the previous February.**
- Last month, encounters along the busiest sector of the northern border, **the Swanton Sector**, **increased 107% compared to the previous February and more than 5,000% compared to Feb. FY21.**