



BORDER BRIEF

U.S. HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

CHAIRMAN MARK E. GREEN, MD | SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MICHAEL GUEST

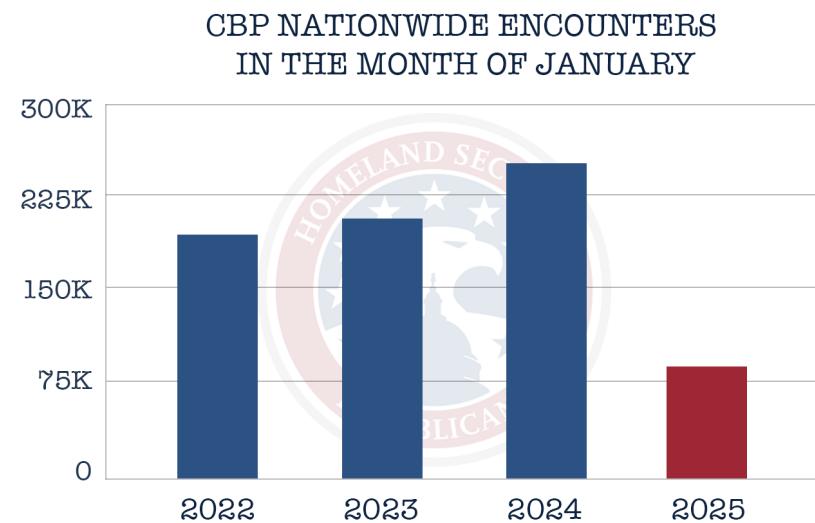
January Border Encounter Numbers Reveal the “Trump Effect”

JAN. FY2025 SWB
ENCOUNTERS
61,465

JAN. FY2024 SWB
ENCOUNTERS
176,195

JAN. FY2023 SWB
ENCOUNTERS
157,358

- U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) recorded **81,792** encounters nationwide in January, including **61,465** at the Southwest border. The plummeting numbers mark a new era for border security under the Trump administration.
- Southwest border encounters in January **decreased** by 36% from December encounters (96,035).
- Apprehensions between ports of entry at the Southwest border decreased 38%—from **47,316** in December 2024 to **29,116** this past month.
- CBP data reveals that both **nationwide** and **Southwest** monthly border encounters **sharply dropped** in the first 11 days of the Trump administration. From January 21 through January 31, 2025, U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) apprehensions **dropped 85%** compared to the same period in 2024.
- The number of known gotaways has **plummeted more than 90%** since the Trump administration came to office. **At the beginning of February, the average number of daily known gotaways dropped to only 132.** In comparison, the Biden-Harris administration recorded an average of more than **1,800 per day** in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023.
- Of the 81,792 nationwide encounters in January, **37% of apprehensions occurred between ports of entry (31,139).** As these numbers continue to drop, the Trump administration has ended the Biden administration’s use of **catch-and-release through CBP**, making it clear that **illegal immigration will not be tolerated.**
- Encounters **at ports of entry along the Southwest border dropped 93% in the 11 days after January 20** compared with the 11 days prior.
- On **January 20**, the Trump administration ended the Biden-Harris administration’s **unlawful use of CBP One.** The Trump administration also **terminated all categorical parole programs**, including the Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan, and Venezuelan (CHNV) parole program.
- Through both CBP One and CHNV, the previous administration released **1.5 million inadmissible aliens** into the interior on parole.





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The Northern Border Crisis Cools

JAN. FY2025 NB
ENCOUNTERS

5,144

JAN. FY2024 NB
ENCOUNTERS

15,916

JAN. FY2023 NB
ENCOUNTERS

13,126

- CBP encounters of inadmissible aliens at the Northern border **dropped 68%** in January 2025 compared to January 2024. This comes as the Trump administration has highlighted a need for better Northern border security.

The Trump Administration is Restoring Public Safety

- On his first day in office, President Trump **declared a national emergency at the Southwest border** and began the process of **designating cartels as Foreign Terrorist Organizations**.
- Since December, the number of Chinese nationals apprehended illegally crossing the Southwest border has **dropped 42%**.
- **The Trump administration is continuing to prioritize Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)**, which has so far carried out targeted operations to arrest, detain, and deport criminal aliens. According to border czar Tom Homan, **more than 14,000 aliens were arrested by ICE in the first month of the administration**.
- At the Southwest border in January, CBP **encountered 3,224 unaccompanied alien children (UACs)**—a 52% drop from the previous month.
- **13 illegal aliens on the terrorist watchlist** have been apprehended since the start of FY2025. So far, **none** have been encountered at the Northern border.
- The Trump administration has gained cooperation in border security efforts from Mexico, **which has stationed 10,000 soldiers at its northern border**. Venezuela **has agreed to take back deported violent criminals**.
- The Trump administration is **expanding surveillance operations at the Southwest border to combat dangerous cartels. ICE is spearheading efforts** in various cities to arrest dangerous Latin American gang members, **such as affiliates involved with Tren de Aragua**.
- The Trump administration is utilizing a whole-of-government approach to border security by **sending both the National Guard, Army Reserves, and Marines** to assist at the Southwest border. In addition, the Coast Guard is conducting **frequent alien expulsion flight operations** in conjunction with the Department of Defense.