



## National Travel and Tourism Office: International Visitation to and from the United States

### Arrivals to the United States

#### Key Terms:

*An International Visitor:* A person who stays, or intends to stay, for at least one night and less than one year in a country of which he or she is not a resident for the purpose of business, pleasure or education.<sup>1</sup>

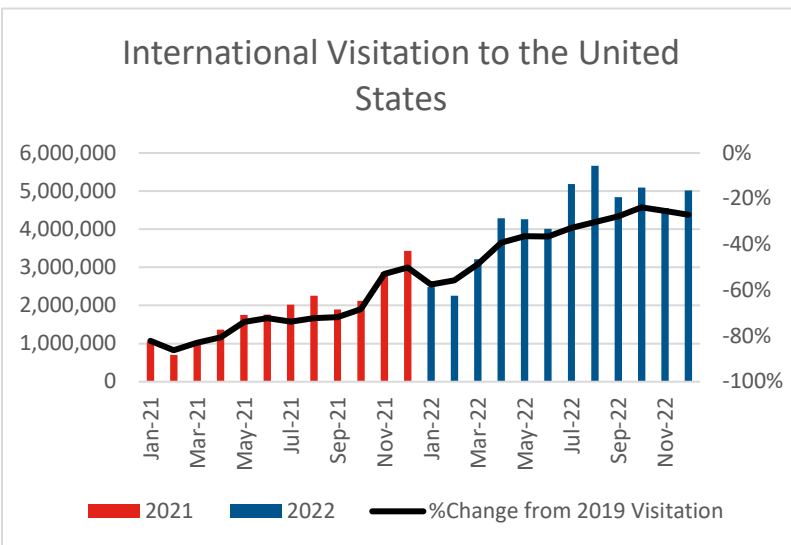
International arrivals do not include temporary workers; artists, athletes, or entertainers; trainees or intracompany transferees; or participants in international cultural exchange programs.

#### U.S. Regional International Visitation:

The COVID-19 Pandemic has had a significant impact on international visitation to and from the United States as well as on international travel globally. As the gravity of the pandemic emerged, the Federal Government initiated a set of policies to limit international travel to and from the United States to slow the spread of COVID-19. On November 8, 2021, the U.S. government ended these travel restrictions.

In 2022, visitation from every region increased, with the largest number coming from Western Europe (10,341,306 visitors), followed by South America (4,213,711), and Asia (4,123,899), respectively. The regions with the highest percentage increase from 2021 were Oceania (+1084.7%), Western Europe (509.2%), and Asia (219.8%).

**Chart 1: 2021-2022 Monthly U.S. International Arrivals**



(NTTO) /ADIS/I-94 Program

#### International Visitation in 2022:

U.S. Inbound Arrivals: **50.9 million** +128.3% from 22.3 million 2021 and -36% from 79.4 million in 2019.

Top International Arrivals Market: Canada  
Top Overseas Arrivals Market: United Kingdom

U.S. Outbound Departures: **80.7 million**, +65.7% from 48.7 million in 2021 and -18.7% from 99.3 million in 2019.

Top International Outbound Market: Mexico  
Top Overseas Outbound Regional Market: Europe

Since April 2022, international travel volume has been over 4 million monthly, the highest since February 2020 (see Chart 1).

Total overseas volume increased 161.1% in 2022 with 23,952,957 visitors. Business, pleasure, and student visas all increased in 2022 with pleasure visas accounting for 20.3 million visitors. Western Europe had the biggest share of pleasure visas with 43.6%. Student visas totaled 1,052,499, a +42.4% increase from 2021, and Asia accounted for 55.8% of all student visas.

<sup>1</sup> United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)

### International Arrivals:

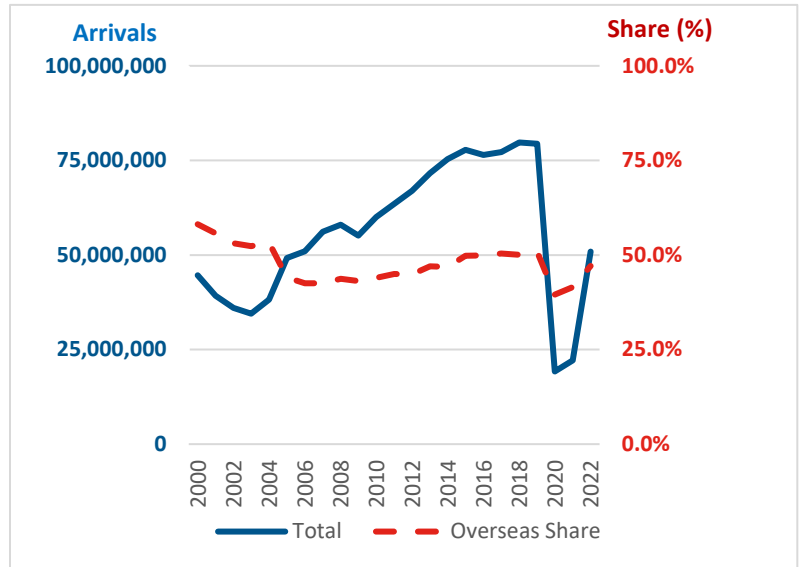
In 2022, international arrivals to the United States totaled 50.9 million. This was +128.3% from 2021 (22.3 million) and -36% from 2019 (79.4 million). In 2022, 53% of international arrivals to the United States were from Canada and Mexico, while 47% were from the rest of the world, or overseas (see Chart 2).

### Top 10 Arrivals to the United States:

In 2022, Canada (14.4 million) supplanted Mexico (12.5 million) as the top source market of international visitor arrivals to the United States. Canadian arrivals rose (+468.7%) while Mexican arrivals rose (+18.5%) from 2021. As a result of this rapid increase, Canadian visitation rose from 12% of 2019 visitor volume in 2021 to 69% in 2022 of 2019 visitor volume. (See Table 1).

Of the top 10 arrivals markets in 2022, the top three remained the same as in 2019. Asia had 4 countries in the top 10 in 2019, but Japan and China fell to the rank of 13 and 20, respectively in 2022. Colombia and Spain were the only 2 top-10 countries in 2022 that were not in the top 10 in 2019. The United Kingdom led the top 10 in percentage change from 2022 with +652% (see Table 1).

Chart 2: U.S. International Arrivals



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce/ITA/I&A/National Travel and Tourism Office (NTTO)/ADIS/I-94 Program

Table 1: 2022 US Arrivals

	Country	Arrivals	Share	Change from 2021	Change from 2019	Change in 2022 Rank
	Total	50,869,685	100%	128%	-36%	<b>From 2019</b>
1	Canada	14,382,227	28%	469%	-31%	↔
2	Mexico	12,534,501	25%	19%	-32%	↔
3	United Kingdom	3,466,107	7%	652%	-27%	↔
4	Germany	1,481,008	3%	494%	-28%	↑ +4
5	France	1,317,882	3%	494%	-29%	↑ +4
6	India	1,256,915	2%	190%	-15%	↑ +4
7	Brazil	1,224,974	2%	412%	-42%	↔
8	Colombia	943,819	2%	-11%	0%	↑ +5
9	South Korea	919,796	2%	354%	-60%	↓ -3
10	Spain	773,421	2%	324%	-18%	↑ +4

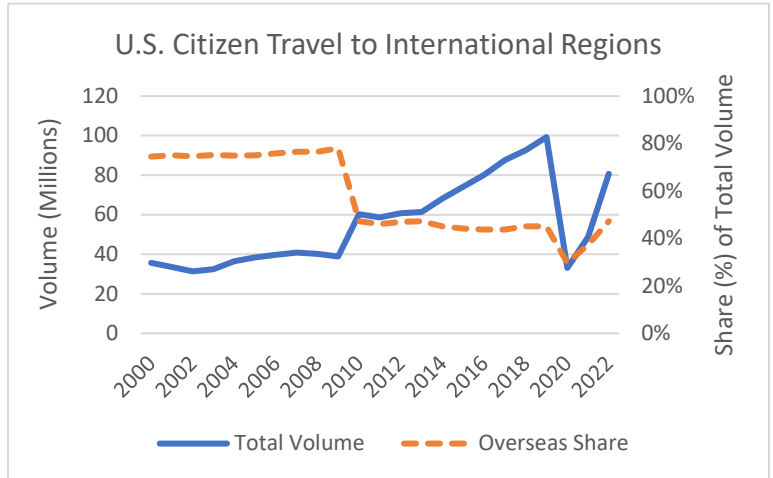
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce/ ITA/ I&A/ National Travel and Tourism Office (NTTO)/ ADIS/I-94 Program

**International Departures:**

In 2022, international departures from the United States totaled 80.7 million. This was +65.7% from 2021 (48.7 million) and -18.7% from 2019 (99.3 million). In 2022, 52.8% of international departures from the United States were to Canada and Mexico, while 47.2% were to the rest of the world, or overseas. This is similar to the overseas share in the few years prior to the pandemic (see Chart 3). In 2021, U.S. departures to overseas destinations accounted for 37.4%.

The top foreign airports that U.S. citizens travelled to in 2022 were Cancun (CUN) 5.319 million, London Heathrow (LHR) 3.376 million, Paris (CDG) 1.968 million, San Jose Cabo (SJD) 1.937 million, and Dominican Republic (PUJ) 1.643 million. This represents a shift towards regional diversification as the top five airports were previously in Mexico or the Caribbean. In 2021, the top foreign airport that U.S. citizens traveled to was Cancun (CUN) 4.508 million. This was followed by San Jose Cabo (SJC) 1.617 million, Dominican Republic (PUJ) 1.116 million, Mexico City (MEX) 1.067 million, and Montego Bay (MBJ) 1.028 million.

**Chart 3: U.S. International Departures**



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce/ITA/I&A/National Travel and Tourism Office (NTTO)/ APIS/I-92 Program

Recovery in 2022 U.S. outbound travel was largely driven by U.S. travelers to Mexico and Europe. In 2022, Mexico was the top international destination for U.S. travelers, unchanged from the last three years. Europe was the second ranked destination (see Table 2). Outbound to Europe surpassed the Caribbean, which had been ranked second in 2021 and 2020 but was third in 2022. Following the Caribbean, Canada was the fourth ranked international destination for U.S. travelers in 2022 (no. 5 in 2021 and no. 3 in 2019), surpassing Central America (no. 4 in 2021 and no. 6 in 2019).

**Table 2: 2022 U.S. Departures**

	Region/Country	Departures	Share	Change from 2021	% of 2019	Change in 2022 Rank
	Total	80,729,713	100.0%	65.7%	81.3%	From 2019
1	Mexico	33,539,994	41.5%	18.1%	85.0%	↔
2	Europe	15,821,521	19.6%	202.0%	83.1%	↔
3	Caribbean	9,207,788	11.4%	43.9%	98.3%	↑+1
4	Canada	9,088,472	11.3%	334.1%	60.6%	↓-1
5	Central America	3,702,099	4.6%	43.2%	107.3%	↑+1
6	Middle East	3,119,507	3.9%	105.8%	122.6%	↑+1
7	Asia	2,653,410	3.3%	323.9%	40.5%	↓-2
8	South America	2,505,999	3.1%	78.8%	107.2%	↔
9	Africa	630,162	0.8%	63.6%	114.1%	↑+1
10	Oceania	460,761	0.6%	626.1%	48.1%	↓-1

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce/ITA/I&A/National Travel and Tourism Office (NTTO)/APIS/I-92 Program

If you have questions or would like more information regarding the data in this fact sheet, please contact Rafael Gabriel ([Rafael.Gabriel@trade.gov](mailto:Rafael.Gabriel@trade.gov)) about arrivals to the United States or Veronica Milosz ([Veronica.Milosz@trade.gov](mailto:Veronica.Milosz@trade.gov)) about departures from the United States.