



**National Travel and Tourism Office:
International Visitation to and from 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.¹

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

U.S. and Global Inbound Travel:

In 2019, with 79.3 million international arrivals, the United States accounted for 5.4% total international visitors globally, which placed the United States as the third most-visited country in the world, behind France and Spain. Collectively, the top 10 destination countries of international travel accounted for 41% of global arrivals in 2019 (See Table 1).

Compared to 2014 and 2009, France remained the top destination visited globally by international travelers in 2019, while Spain increased its ranking by 1 spot and the United States' ranking fell by 1 spot. Mexico and Thailand also increased in ranking while Germany and the United Kingdom also lost ranking in 2019 compared to 2014 and 2009.

International Visitation in 2019:

U.S. Inbound Arrivals 2019: **79.3 Million**
Top International Arrival Market: Canada
Top Overseas Arrival Market: U.K.

Outbound Departures 2019: **99.7 Million**
Top International Outbound Market: Mexico
Top Overseas Outbound Market: U.K.

U.S. Share of Global International Arrivals: **5.4%**
U.S. Rank of Global International Inbound Arrivals: 3rd (after France and Spain)

Table 1: Global International Tourist Arrivals By Country of Destination

	Country	Arrivals	Share	Change in 2019 Rank	
				From 2014	From 2009
	World	1,460,000,000	100%		
1	France	89,400,000	6.1%	--	--
2	Spain	83,700,000	5.7%	↑+1	↑+1
3	United States	79,300,000	5.4%	↓-1	↓-1
4	China	65,700,000	4.5%	--	--
5	Italy	64,500,000	4.4%	--	--
6	Turkey	51,200,000	3.5%	--	↑+1
7	Mexico	45,000,000	3.1%	↑+3	↑+3
8	Thailand	39,800,000	2.7%	↑+45	↑+41
9	Germany	39,600,000	2.7%	↓-2	↓-1
10	United Kingdom	37,500,000	2.6%	↓-2	↓-4

Source: UNWTO

¹ United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)

Arrivals to the United States

International Arrivals:

In 2019, international arrivals to the United States totaled 79.3 million. Arrivals in 2019 declined 0.6%, or -489,651 arrivals from the prior year. From 2014 to 2019, arrivals increased 5.1%, or +3.9 million. But from 2009 to 2019, arrivals increased 43.8%, or +24.2 million.

In 2019, 49% of international arrivals to the United States were from Canada and Mexico, while 51% were from the rest of the world, or overseas (see Chart 1). Since 2015, visitors from overseas have accounted for roughly half of total arrivals. From 2000 to 2014, overseas visitors accounted for 44.8% of arrivals to the United States, while arrivals from Canada and Mexico accounted for 55.2%.

While Canada and Mexico have retained the No 1 and No 2 rankings of international visitor arrivals consistently since 2000, the rankings of overseas inbound markets have changed over time.

Overseas Arrivals to the United States:

Over the past decade, the top 10 countries have consistently accounted for nearly 60 percent of all overseas arrivals to the United States. However, many of the rankings within the top 10 countries have changed (see Table 2).

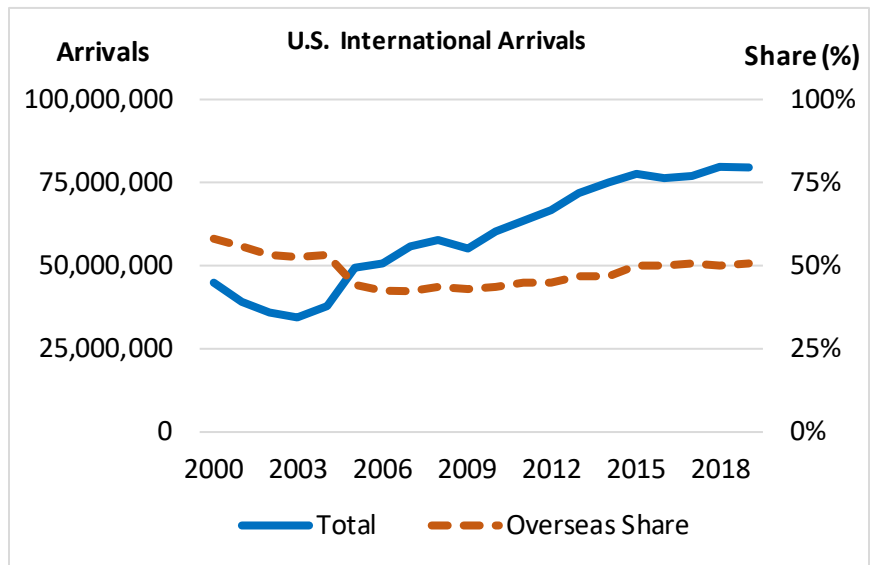
From 2014 to 2019:

- The United Kingdom, Japan, and Italy maintained their rankings.
- China (PRC), South Korea, and India rose up the rankings while Brazil, Germany, France and Australia fell.
- The biggest gain was South Korea (+3) and the biggest fall was Brazil (-2).

From 2009 to 2019:

- The United Kingdom, Japan, and Brazil maintained their rankings.
- China (PRC), South Korea, and India rose up the rankings while Germany, Australia, and Italy fell.
- The biggest gain was China (PRC) (+9 and into the top 10) and the biggest fall was Spain (-5 and out of the top 10 to No. 14).

Chart 1: U.S. International Arrivals



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

Table 2: 2019 U.S. Arrivals:

	Total International	79,256,267	Overseas Visitation	
	Canada	20,723,322	Change in 2019 Rank	
	Mexico	18,139,599		
	Total Overseas	40,393,346	From 2014	From 2009
1	United Kingdom	4,779,997	--	--
2	Japan	3,752,980	--	--
3	China, PRC*	2,829,970	↑ +1	↑ +9
4	South Korea	2,298,279	↑ +3	↑ +3
5	Brazil	2,104,617	↓ -2	--
6	Germany	2,063,767	↓ -1	↓ -3
7	France	1,843,782	↓ -1	↓ -3
8	India	1,473,517	↑ +1	↑ +2
9	Australia	1,319,238	↓ -1	↓ -1
10	Italy	1,086,026	--	↓ -4

*excludes Hong Kong

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

Departures from the United States

International Departures:

In 2019, international visitor departures from the U.S. totaled 99.7 million. Departures in 2019 increased 7.7%, or +6.7 million from the prior year. Over the last five years (2014-2019), departures increased 46%, or +31.6 million, and over the past 10 years (2009-2019) arrivals increased 61%, or +37.6 million.

In 2019, 55.1% of international visitor departures from the U.S. were to Canada and Mexico and 44.9% was to the rest of the world, or overseas. These shares have been largely consistent over the past two decades (see Chart 2).

While Mexico and Canada have retained the No 1 and No 2 rankings of U.S. international visitor departures consistently since 2000, the rankings of overseas outbound markets have changed over time.

Overseas Departures:

The top 10 overseas inbound markets have consistently accounted for more than half of all U.S. departures to overseas countries over the past decade. However, many of the rankings within the top 10 have changed (see Table 3).

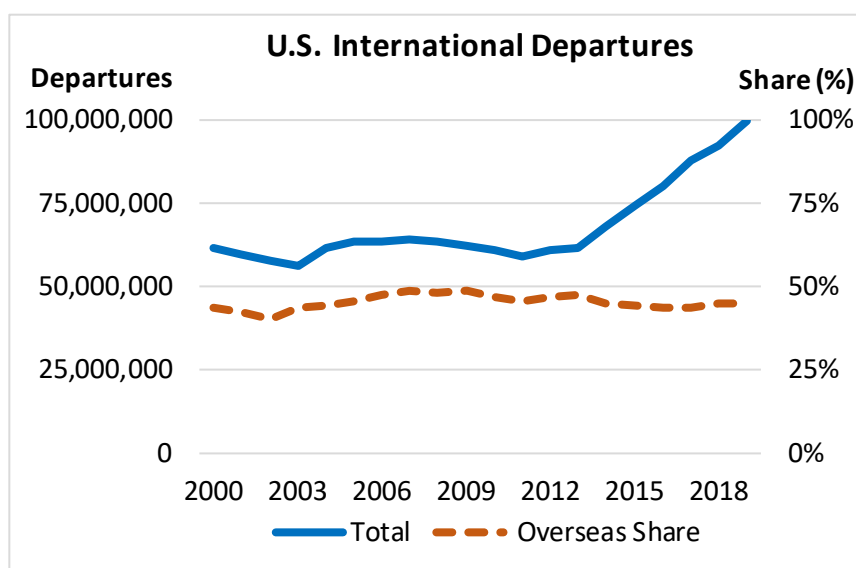
From 2014 to 2019:

- The United Kingdom and France maintained their rankings.
- The rankings of Dominican Republic, Germany, Jamaica and China fell, while the rankings of Italy, Spain, Japan and the Netherlands increased.
- The biggest fall was China (-3). The biggest gain was Japan and the Netherlands (+3), both increased into the top 10.

From 2009 to 2019:

- The United Kingdom, Jamaica and China maintained their rankings.
- Italy the Dominican Republic, Spain, and the Netherlands rose up the rankings, while France, Germany and Japan fell.
- The biggest gain was Spain (+4) and the biggest fall was Japan (-4).

Chart 2: U.S. International Departures



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

Table 3: 2019 U.S. Departures

	Total International	99,744,820	Overseas Visitation	
	Mexico	39,942,000	Change in 2019 Rank	
	Canada	14,994,000	From 2014	From 2009
	Total Overseas	44,808,427		
1	United Kingdom	3,943,000	--	--
2	Italy	3,181,000	↑+2	↑+1
3	France	3,137,000	--	↓-1
4	Dominican Republic	2,957,000	↓-2	↑+2
5	Spain	2,240,000	↑+2	↑+4
6	Germany	2,196,000	↓-1	↓-2
7	Jamaica	1,927,000	↓-1	--
8	China*	1,568,000	↓-3	--
9	Japan	1,389,000	↑+3	↓-4
10	Netherlands	1,344,000	↑+3	↑+3

*excludes Hong Kong

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

Outbound vs. Inbound

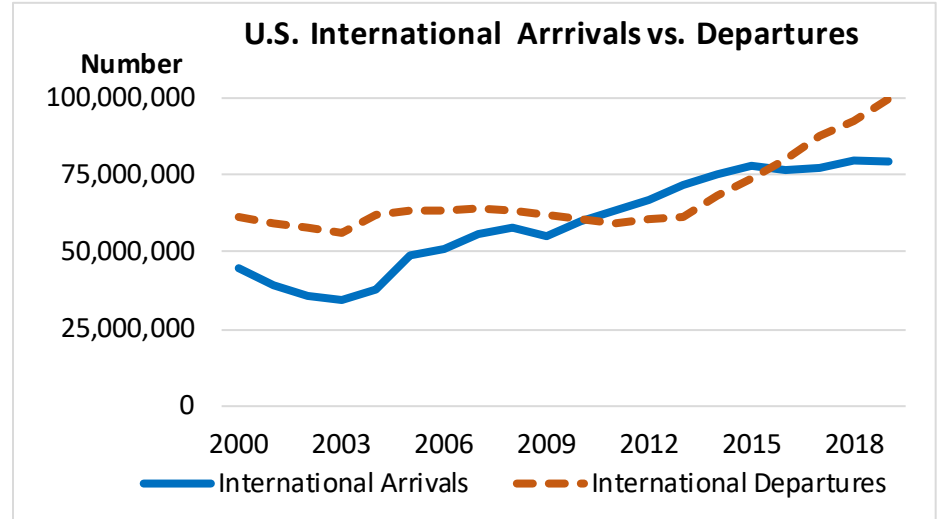
U.S. International Visitation:

From 2000 to 2019, international inbound arrivals to the U.S. increased 54.4% while U.S. international outbound departures increased 62.6%.

From 2000 to 2013, international inbound arrivals to the U.S. increased 40% while U.S. international outbound departures increased 0%.

From 2013 to 2019, international inbound arrivals to the U.S. increased 11% while U.S. international outbound departures increased 63% (see Chart 3).

Chart 3: U.S. International Arrivals vs. Departures



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, ITA, I&A, National Travel and Tourism Office (NTTO) ADIS/I-94 Program and APIS/I-92 Program

If you have questions or would like more information regarding the data in this fact sheet, please contact Christina Gay (Christina.Gay@trade.gov)