

Asylum Processing at the U.S.-Mexico Border: May 2024



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INTRODUCTION

Since November 2018, the Robert Strauss Center for International Security and Law at the University of Texas at Austin has documented asylum processing at ports of entry along the U.S.-Mexico border through quarterly reports. Since their inception, these reports have documented different asylum processing stages over the past five years: 1) initial metering practices and waitlists; 2) a blanket ban on asylum processing under Title 42; 3) Title 42 exception programs; 4) the CBP One application rollout under Title 42 and; 5) the CBP One application process post-Title 42 and walk ups.

The first asylum processing stage began in June 2018, when U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers began informing arriving asylum seekers that U.S. ports of entry were full.¹ Simultaneously, CBP officers only accepted a specified number of asylum seekers each day, in a process known as metering. As metering became standardized at U.S. ports of entry, individuals, civil society groups, and Mexican government officials began forming waitlists to organize waiting asylum seekers in Mexican border cities.

The second asylum processing stage began in March 2020, during the Covid-19 pandemic, when CBP stopped accepting asylum seekers at ports of entry under a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) regulation referred to as Title 42 authority. This authority allowed Border Patrol agents to immediately expel apprehended individuals of certain nationalities, including asylum seekers, to the nearest Mexican city or to their home countries. It also blocked migrants from making asylum claims at U.S. ports of entry.² Under Title 42, many of the waitlists along the border were frozen—meaning that list managers did not allow any new individuals to add their names—and in some cities, they were dissolved.³

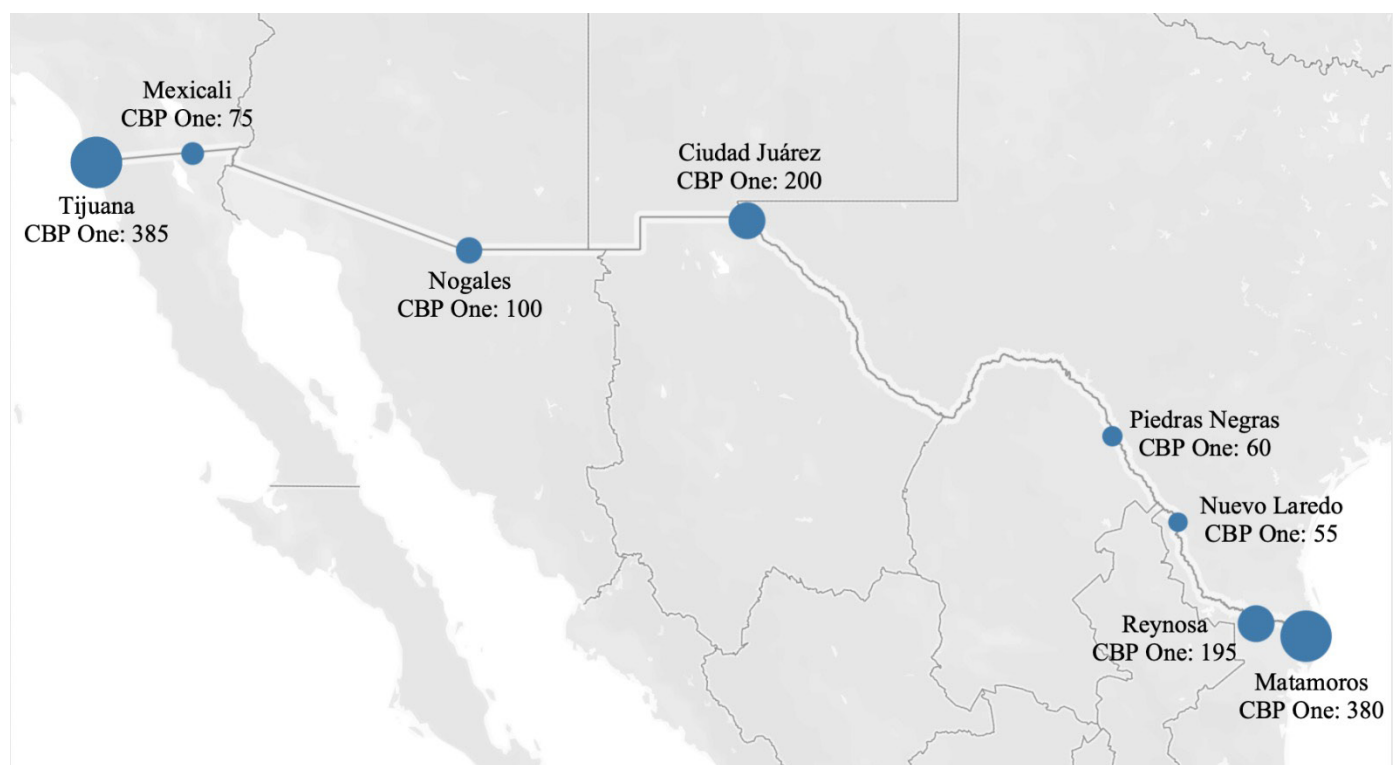
For brief periods in 2021 and then again beginning in April 2022, the United States entered its third stage of asylum processing by allowing Title 42 exceptions along the border. These exceptions allowed vulnerable individuals in Mexican border cities to enter the United States and request asylum. However, the number of vulnerable individuals was larger than the number of Title 42 exception slots, which led to Title 42 exception waitlists in certain cities. These lists were similar to the previous metering waitlists. However, Mexican government entities, civil society organizations, and lawyers all kept different Title 42 exception waitlists, and there were often multiple lists in each city. The Strauss Center's August 2022 and November 2022 asylum processing updates included Title 42 exception waitlists in their official counts of individuals waiting to seek asylum along the border.

On January 12, 2023, CBP implemented a fourth stage of asylum processing along the border when it began requiring that asylum seekers use a mobile application known as “CBP One” to make an appointment at a U.S. port of entry for initial processing. Through this application, individuals located in central and northern Mexico can submit certain information—including biographical and demographic details, travel history, and their sponsor information—and request a processing appointment at a U.S. port of entry. Beginning in January 2023, roughly 740 appointments became available at a set time each morning. Since this process allowed asylum seekers to make appointments directly with CBP, list managers dissolved all remaining metering and Title 42 exception waitlists. However, since Title 42 was still in place, individuals could only seek asylum with a CBP One appointment and could not directly approach a port of entry.

On May 11, 2023, the Title 42 public health order expired—ushering in the fifth and current asylum processing stage along the border. As of May 2024, the CBP One application continues to be the primary method for accessing asylum at ports of entry. Currently, individuals in central or northern Mexico can request an appointment each day during a 12 hour window (12pm to 12am), and then, if offered an appointment, they have another window of time to accept. In mid-May 2024, Mexico requested that the geographic area be extended to southern Mexico, but, so far, there have been no official changes.⁴ CBP also does not allow CBP One registrations to include more than 10 people in an attempt to avoid fraud.

Since CBP One rolled out in January 2023, the total number of daily appointments has increased to 1,450 appointments a day. CBP randomly allocates 70 percent of these appointments and the remaining 30 percent are provided to individuals who have been waiting the longest.⁵ These appointments are not spread evenly across the eight participating ports of entry (See Figure 1). Instead, in May 2024, the ports of entry in Tijuana and Matamoros each had nearly 400 daily CBP One appointments, constituting 52 percent of all available slots. The remaining daily appointments are unevenly divided among the other six ports of entry.

Figure 1: Number of CBP One Appointments per City (May 2024)

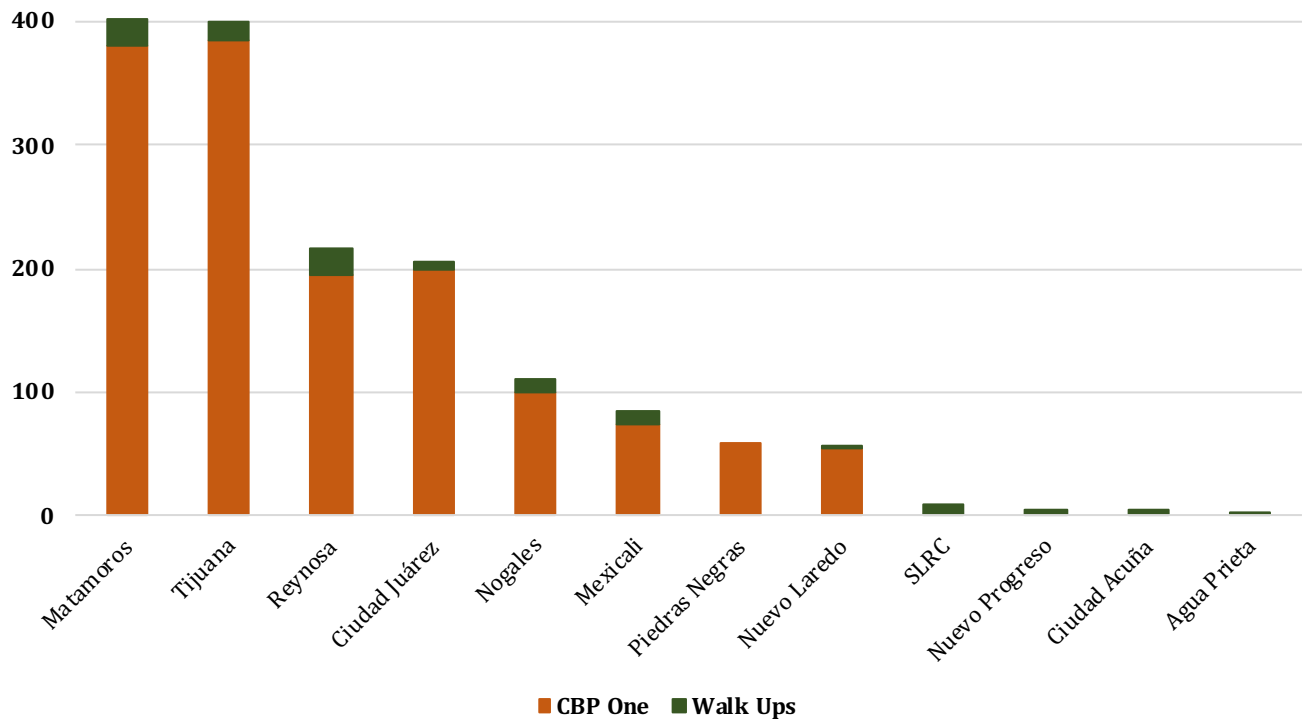


Authors' elaboration. Data collected from May 20, 2024 to May 23, 2024.

Between January 2023 and April 2024, more than 591,000 people scheduled appointments to enter the United States through the CBP One appointment process.⁶ In recent months, the largest numbers of people crossing with CBP One appointments were from Cuba, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, and Venezuela.⁷ However, CBP recently implemented a daily limit for Mexican citizens in order to ensure that other nationalities also receive appointments.⁸ Overall, individuals are waiting up to five to eight months for a CBP One appointment.

Additionally, each day, a small number of individuals enter the United States as “walk ups” at a port of entry without a CBP One appointment.⁹ This May 2024 report estimates that CBP is currently processing approximately 100 individuals a day as walk ups along the border. Notably, in some cities, various actors have developed processes for facilitating walk ups. In Matamoros, Reynosa, and Tijuana, the processes generally prioritize individuals with medical emergencies. In Nuevo Progreso, Ciudad Acuña, Nogales, San Luis Río Colorado, Agua Prieta, and Mexicali, the processes are more reminiscent of initial metering lines and waitlists, with individuals accessing the ports of entry by date of arrival. Piedras Negras does not appear to have any organized process for facilitating walk ups at this time. Figure 2 shows the average number of daily walk ups in each border city.

Figure 2: Combined Number of CBP One Appointments and Daily Walk Ups (May 2024)



Authors' elaboration. Data collected from May 20, 2024 to May 23, 2024.

After more than a year in operation, CBP One application users still report a number of challenges. The first set of challenges are related to accessibility, as asylum seekers need to be literate, speak one of the application’s three languages (English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole), have access to a cell phone with either cell or internet service, and have basic knowledge of the application.¹⁰ If these hurdles are surmounted, the next set of challenges center around the application’s registration process. Despite numerous updates, some asylum seekers continue to report error messages and incompatibility issues with the application. Yet, the most pressing issue continues to be that the number of daily appointments is less than the number of waiting individuals—causing long wait times.

With Title 42’s end in May 2023, the U.S. government also announced a new final rule, titled “Circumvention of Lawful Pathways,” which affects asylum processing at the U.S.-Mexico border.¹¹ This final rule, which is also referred to as the “transit ban” or “asylum ban,” makes most non-Mexican individuals ineligible for asylum if they do not enter the United States via a CBP One appointment at the border or if they have not applied for and been denied asylum in a country en route to the United States. The rule states three exceptions for non-Mexican individuals who enter the United States outside of a CBP One appointment, and includes individuals who: 1) have a medical emergency, 2) encounter an extreme safety threat, or 3) are unable to use the CBP One application due to a major obstacle such as a language barrier, illiteracy, or significant technical failure. Finally, the United States has also created a separate parole program for individuals from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela.¹² Some individuals of these nationalities may be eligible to enter the United States through this process rather than wait for a CBP One appointment.

Since May 2023, legal organizations have filed lawsuits against the “Circumvention of Lawful Pathways” final rule. On July 25, 2023, a judge in the Northern District of California sided with civil society organizations—which argued that the final rule mimics previously struck-down entry and transit bans—and vacated the regulation.¹³ The Biden administration immediately appealed the decision and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issued a stay.¹⁴ Then, on February 21, 2024, the U.S. Court of Appeals issued an order placing the appeal in abeyance after both parties agreed to settlement talks.¹⁵ As of May 23, 2024, there has been no settlement decision. In another lawsuit filed on July 27, 2023, civil society organizations alleged that CBP officers were turning back asylum seekers without a CBP One appointment and denying them access to ports of entry.¹⁶ On October 13, 2023, a federal court in California denied the civil society organizations’ request for a preliminary injunction, leaving the current dynamics in place as the case moves through the courts.¹⁷ This second lawsuit is still pending.

This report provides an asylum processing update along the U.S.-Mexico border and focuses on the CBP One appointment system, the processes for managing walk ups, and conditions for waiting asylum seekers. Overall, asylum seekers continue to face unstable living conditions and security risks in Mexican border cities. Civil society organizations have detailed widespread violence against asylum seekers waiting for appointments in Mexico.¹⁸ Certain groups of asylum seekers also continue to experience additional challenges, with Black, LGBTQ+, Indigenous, and non-Spanish speaking asylum seekers often facing targeted discrimination.

The May 2024 asylum processing update draws on phone and WhatsApp interviews with asylum seekers, Mexican government officials, and members of civil society organizations on both sides of the border from May 20, 2024 through May 23, 2024. It also relies on local news articles to fill in any gaps.

Asylum Waitlists: May 2024

Mexican City	CBP One Appointments	# of People Crossing Each Day	City Conditions
<p>Matamoros, Tamaulipas</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>~402 people per day</p> <p>—</p> <p><i>~380 people via CBP One appointments</i></p> <p><i>~22 people via walk ups</i></p> <p>—</p> <p><i>May 20, 2024</i></p>	<p>Each day, CBP processes an estimated 402 people from Matamoros. This includes 380 individuals with CBP One appointments and around 22 people who are processed as walk ups.</p> <p>Mexican authorities control access to the city’s international bridges. Each day, Mexico’s National Migration Institute (<i>Instituto Nacional de Migración</i>, INM) allows approximately 20 to 25 people without appointments to enter the Gateway Bridge as walk ups for CBP processing.</p> <p>Currently, there are an estimated 2,500 to 3,000 migrants in Matamoros. This includes less than 100 people in a camp along the Rio Grande. The rest of the people are staying in shelters, rented rooms, and abandoned houses. Most of the migrant population is from Mexico, Venezuela, Haiti, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Russia, and countries in Africa.¹⁹</p> <p>There continue to be significant security challenges in Matamoros. Local organizations report ongoing kidnappings and violence against migrants.</p>
<p>Nuevo Progreso, Tamaulipas</p>	<p>Closed</p>	<p>~5 people per day</p> <p>—</p> <p><i>0 people via CBP One appointments</i></p> <p><i>~5 people via walk ups</i></p> <p>—</p> <p><i>May 20, 2024</i></p>	<p>There are no CBP One appointments in Nuevo Progreso. However, CBP processes an estimated five people per day as walk ups.</p> <p>Beginning in mid-December 2023, migrants began arriving on the Progreso-Nuevo Progreso International Bridge.²⁰ Initially, many of these individuals came from Russian-speaking countries.</p> <p>As of mid-May 2024, there were approximately 50 tents set up along the international bridge’s pedestrian sidewalk, with an estimated 125 people. In a shift from previous months, the majority of the waiting individuals are now from Mexico.</p> <p>Those waiting on the bridge stay in tents. They can</p>

Asylum Waitlists: May 2024 (continued)

Mexican City	CBP One Appointments	# of People Crossing Each Day	City Conditions
<p>Nuevo Progreso, Tamaulipas <i>(continued)</i></p>			<p>only use the public bathrooms that are located on the bridge and there are no showers. These individuals are also exposed to the elements, and are particularly vulnerable to the intense summer heat.</p>
<p>Reynosa, Tamaulipas</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>~217 people per day</p> <p>—</p> <p><i>~195 people via CBP One appointments</i></p> <p><i>~22 people via walk ups</i></p> <p>—</p> <p><i>May 20-21, 2024</i></p>	<p>Every day, CBP processes approximately 217 people from Reynosa. This includes around 195 people through CBP One appointments and 22 people via walk ups.</p> <p>Mexican authorities control access to the city’s international bridges. Each day, INM allows approximately 20 to 25 people without CBP One appointments onto the McAllen-Hidalgo International Bridge. These individuals often have acute medical needs. Additionally, some asylum seekers have used cars to access the port of entry through vehicle lanes.</p> <p>Currently, migrants in the city are waiting up to five to eight months for a CBP One appointment. Many of these individuals are waiting in shelters, which are not full. As of May 21, 2024, Senda de Vida 1 had 1,350 people and Senda de Vida 2 had around 2,000 people. As these two shelters lack any trees, they become extremely hot during the summer months.²¹</p> <p>There continue to be significant security challenges in Reynosa. Local organizations report ongoing kidnappings and violence against migrants. Migrants also report being asked to pay a fee in order to exit the Reynosa airport.</p> <p>The majority of the migrants in Reynosa are from Haiti, Central American countries, Venezuela, and Mexico. Although, individuals from Russia and China are also increasingly staying in the city’s shelters.</p>

Asylum Waitlists: May 2024 (continued)

Mexican City	CBP One Appointments	# of People Crossing Each Day	City Conditions
<p>Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>~57 people per day</p> <p>—</p> <p><i>~55 people via CBP One appointments</i></p> <p><i>~2 people via walk ups</i></p> <p>—</p> <p><i>May 20, 2024</i></p>	<p>CBP processes approximately 55 people from Nuevo Laredo each day through CBP One appointments.</p> <p>There is no established system for facilitating and managing walk ups in Nuevo Laredo. However, at times, INM in collaboration with Civil Protection (<i>Protección Civil</i>) has allowed certain individuals onto the international bridge.</p> <p>Security issues in the city are ongoing. Migrant shelters in Nuevo Laredo continue to be mostly closed, due to members of organized crime threatening and perpetrating violence against shelter staff and migrants. Since June 2023, some migrants have lived in a tent encampment in Nuevo Laredo’s Plaza Morelos. At its peak, during mid-2023, the camp housed roughly 2,000 migrants. As of May 2024, there were an average of around 50 people staying in the encampment each night.</p> <p>Individuals arriving for their CBP One appointments are also at risk. Armed men have kidnapped people as they leave the Nuevo Laredo airport. In one case, kidnappers captured a family and demanded more than US\$1,000 per person after confirming that the family had CBP One appointments.²²</p> <p>The majority of the migrants in Nuevo Laredo are from Venezuela, Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. These individuals are waiting up to five to seven months for a CBP One appointment, with Mexican nationals reportedly waiting even longer.</p>

Asylum Waitlists: May 2024 (continued)

Mexican City	CBP One Appointments	# of People Crossing Each Day	City Conditions
<p>Piedras Negras, Coahuila</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>~60 people per day</p> <p>—</p> <p><i>~60 people via CBP One appointments</i></p> <p><i>0 people via walk ups</i></p> <p>—</p> <p><i>May 21, 2024</i></p>	<p>Every day, CBP processes up to 60 CBP One appointments in Piedras Negras. Although the number of migrants that are able to arrive for their appointments is lower.</p> <p>There are no walk ups in Piedras Negras. Members of Grupo Enlace—a part of the municipal government—check every traveler’s documents before they set foot on the international bridges. If the group detects an asylum seeker without an appointment, they stop the individual from entering the bridge.</p> <p>Since the beginning of the year, the number of arriving migrants has decreased dramatically due to Mexican authorities’ checkpoints and enforcement efforts on northbound highways.²³ Additionally, buses traveling to Piedras Negras have refused to take any migrants beyond Nueva Rosita—which is about an hour away from Piedras Negras—including individuals with CBP One appointments.</p> <p>As of May 20, 2024, there were approximately 300 migrants in the city’s six shelters. Most of these individuals are waiting up to six to eight months for their CBP One appointments.²⁴ The majority of these individuals are from Venezuela, with fewer numbers of people from Mexico, Colombia, Honduras, Ecuador, and Haiti.</p> <p>Compared to late last year, far fewer individuals are crossing between ports of entry near Piedras Negras. However, some migrants continue to cross the Rio Grande. In mid-May 2024, the Border Patrol indicated that they were apprehending an average of 330 people a day in the area between Piedras Negras / Eagle Pass and Ciudad Acuña / Del Rio.²⁵</p>

Asylum Waitlists: May 2024 (continued)

Mexican City	CBP One Appointments	# of People Crossing Each Day	City Conditions
<p>Ciudad Acuña, Coahuila</p>	<p>Closed</p>	<p>~5 people per day</p> <p>—</p> <p><i>0 people via CBP One appointments</i></p> <p><i>~5 people via walk ups</i></p> <p>—</p> <p><i>May 22, 2024</i></p>	<p>There are no CBP One appointments in Ciudad Acuña. However, CBP processes a small number of people each day as walk ups. This report estimates that an average of five people cross as walk ups each day. At times, CBP may process more individuals.</p> <p>A local process manages walk ups in Ciudad Acuña. The city’s migrant shelter reports that the waiting individuals are primarily from Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, and El Salvador.</p>
<p>Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>~205 people per day</p> <p>—</p> <p><i>~200 people via CBP One appointments</i></p> <p><i>~5 people via walk ups</i></p> <p>—</p> <p><i>May 22, 2024</i></p>	<p>Each day, CBP processes an estimated 200 individuals from Ciudad Juárez through CBP One appointments.</p> <p>Mexican authorities control access to the city’s international bridges. Members of Fideicomiso—a part of the Chihuahua state government—private security guards, and, at times, the Mexican National Guard (<i>Guardia Nacional</i>) stop asylum seekers before they can enter the city’s international bridges.</p> <p>There is also an informal process for walk ups at the Zaragoza Bridge. CBP officers process approximately five people a day as walk ups from the bridge.</p> <p>Large numbers of people continue to travel to Ciudad Juárez, including on top of freight trains. In response, the Texas National Guard in El Paso has placed multiple rows of concertina wire and other enforcement infrastructure in popular crossing locations (such as Gates 36 and 40). Over the last few months, there have been multiple confrontations between guardsmen and migrants. In some of these incidents, groups of migrants have sought to break</p>

Asylum Waitlists: May 2024 (continued)

Mexican City	CBP One Appointments	# of People Crossing Each Day	City Conditions
<p>Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua <i>(continued)</i></p>			<p>through the wire and reach the U.S. border wall, so that the Border Patrol can process them into the United States. In early May 2024, videos captured National Guard soldiers firing at migrants on the Mexican side of the border.²⁶</p> <p>The security conditions in Ciudad Juárez are also challenging. Mexican authorities have reported frequent migrant kidnappings within the city.²⁷ There are also accounts of Mexican officials requiring that migrants pay a fee in order to pass through the city’s airport.²⁸</p>
<p>Agua Prieta, Sonora</p>	<p>Closed</p>	<p>~1 people per day</p> <p>—</p> <p><i>0 people via CBP One appointments</i></p> <p><i>~1 people via walk ups</i></p> <p>—</p> <p><i>May 22, 2024</i></p>	<p>There is no CBP One appointment processing in Agua Prieta. However, local organizations report that CBP processes approximately three families per week—the equivalent of roughly one person per day—as walk ups at the Raul Hector Castro Port of Entry.</p> <p>Asylum seekers maintain their own waitlist. As of May 22, 2024, there were 41 families on the list (totaling about 165 individual people). The average wait time for individuals on the list is three to four months.</p> <p>Initially, all of these families waited at the Raul Hector Castro Port of Entry during the day. However, given Agua Prieta’s ongoing security challenges, only the families at the top of the list—whose numbers are closest to being called—are currently waiting outside the port. The other families are staying in shelters or renting rooms. Almost all of the migrants in Agua Prieta are from Mexico.</p> <p>Organized crime in Agua Prieta controls buses entering and leaving the city. This affects individuals and families attempting to enter Agua Prieta to seek asylum, individuals looking to take buses to Nogales for CBP One appointments, and even migrants attempting to travel back to Mexico’s interior.²⁹</p>

Asylum Waitlists: May 2024 (continued)

Mexican City	CBP One Appointments	# of People Crossing Each Day	City Conditions
<p>Nogales, Sonora</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>~110 people per day</p> <p>—</p> <p><i>~100 people via CBP One appointments</i></p> <p><i>~10 people via walk ups</i></p> <p>—</p> <p><i>May 21, 2024</i></p>	<p>Each day, CBP processes an estimated 110 people from Nogales. This includes approximately 100 people through CBP One appointments.</p> <p>CBP also processes up to 10 people a day from a line of asylum seekers outside the DeConcini Port of Entry. However, the Kino Border Initiative reports that the number varies and CBP does not process walk ups every day.</p> <p>The Nogales municipal agency Social Wellbeing (<i>Bienestar Social</i>) manages the waitlist for asylum seekers without CBP One appointments. Social Wellbeing calls the people who are next in line and sends them to wait at the Nogales port of entry. Once asylum seekers arrive at the port of entry, they cannot leave the physical line or they risk losing their turn.</p> <p>There are currently more than 4,000 people signed up on the waitlist. These individuals are waiting about seven months to cross.</p> <p>The majority of the people arriving in Nogales are from Mexico. There are also smaller numbers of people from Venezuela, Honduras, Colombia, Guatemala, Ecuador, and El Salvador.</p>
<p>San Luis Río Colorado, Sonora</p>	<p>Closed</p>	<p>~10 people per day</p> <p>—</p> <p><i>0 people via CBP One appointments</i></p> <p><i>~10 people via walk ups</i></p>	<p>There is no CBP One appointment processing in San Luis Río Colorado. However, CBP officers at the San Luis Port of Entry process approximately five to ten people a day as walk ups.</p> <p>The individuals waiting to cross at the San Luis Port of Entry are organized through a self-run waitlist system. There are approximately 250 people on the list, with minors making up roughly half of the waiting population. Almost all of the people on the waitlist are from Mexico.</p>

Asylum Waitlists: May 2024 (continued)

Mexican City	CBP One Appointments	# of People Crossing Each Day	City Conditions
<p>San Luis Río Colorado, Sonora <i>(continued)</i></p>		<p><i>May 22, 2024</i></p>	<p>Only a few of the waiting asylum seekers are staying at the San Luis Port of Entry. Instead, most of these individuals stay in hotels or rented rooms. They show up at the port of entry each evening to confirm their place on the waitlist.</p>
<p>Mexicali, Baja California</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>~85 people per day</p> <p>—</p> <p><i>~75 people via CBP One appointments</i></p> <p><i>~10 people via walk ups</i></p> <p>—</p> <p><i>May 20-22, 2024</i></p>	<p>Every day, CBP processes approximately 85 people from Mexicali. This includes roughly 75 people per day with CBP One appointments. Additionally, an average of two to three families (totaling ten individuals) are processed as walk ups each day.³⁰</p> <p>Mexican authorities control access to the ports of entry. The walk up process is run through a waitlist, which is coordinated by Mexicali’s shelters. As of May 20, 2024, the waitlist had approximately 1,400 names on it. Each shelter is given one day per week to present ten migrants. Migrants who are not residing in shelters cannot participate in this walk up process.</p> <p>Migrants are also increasingly crossing between ports of entry and using cars to access the port through vehicle lanes. These crossings have affected both CBP One appointments and organized walk up processing in Mexicali. Local organizations report that individuals with CBP One appointments and shelter walk ups are, at times, waiting at the port of entry for between three and five days.</p> <p>International organizations estimate that there are around 3,000 migrants in the city.³¹ The shelters are full, and many migrants are renting rooms. Most migrants in the city are from Cuba, Haiti, Venezuela, Mexico, and Russian speaking countries.</p>

Asylum Waitlists: May 2024 (continued)

Mexican City	CBP One Appointments	# of People Crossing Each Day	City Conditions
<p>Tijuana, Baja California</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>~400 people per day</p> <p>—</p> <p><i>~385 people via CBP One appointments</i></p> <p><i>~15 people via walk ups</i></p> <p>—</p> <p><i>May 20, 2024</i></p>	<p>Each day, CBP processes approximately 400 people in Tijuana. This includes roughly 385 people with CBP One appointments. These appointments are processed through the PedWest (El Chaparral) Port of Entry. CBP also processes an average of 15 individuals a day as walk ups through the PedEast Port of Entry.</p> <p>Grupo Beta and INM officials verify asylum seekers' CBP One appointment confirmations or walk up approval before they can enter one of the two ports of entry. If individuals do not have a CBP One appointment or are not previously confirmed as a walk up, they are not permitted to reach the port of entry. Migrants are waiting up to seven months for an appointment.</p> <p>Many migrants are crossing the border between ports of entry, including in Jacumba and Otay Mountain Wilderness, both to the east of Tijuana. For the first time since the 1990s, more migrants are crossing near San Diego than in any other region along the U.S.-Mexico border.³² Many of these individuals are from Venezuela, Colombia, China, Russia, and other extra-continental nationalities.</p> <p>In recent months, Tijuana's security situation has worsened for migrants. This is particularly true for migrants who are crossing between ports of entry.³³</p> <p>The majority of migrants in Tijuana continue to reside in shelters and motels, which are currently at or past capacity. Most migrants in the city are from Cuba, Haiti, Venezuela, Mexico, and Russian speaking countries.</p>

**The numbers should be interpreted as a general range rather than an exact figure.*

ENDNOTES

1. In April 2018, CBP leadership issued guidance that allowed officers to limit asylum seekers' access to ports of entry. This guidance permitted CBP officers stationed at the United States' international boundary with Mexico to inform arriving asylum seekers that U.S. ports of entry were full. Two months later, in June 2018, then-DHS Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen signed a memo that authorized port directors to begin metering at all U.S. ports of entry. U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Inspector General, "CBP Has Taken Steps to Limit Processing of Undocumented Aliens at Ports of Entry," October 27, 2020, <https://www.oig.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/assets/2020-10/OIG-21-02-Oct20.pdf>.
2. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Control of Communicable Diseases; Foreign Quarantine: Suspension of Introduction of Persons Into United States From Designated Foreign Countries or Places for Public Health Purposes," Federal Register, March 24, 2020, <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/03/24/2020.-06238/control-of-communicable-diseases-foreign-quarantine-suspension-of-introduction-of-persons-into>.
3. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Control of Communicable Diseases; Foreign Quarantine: Suspension of Introduction of Persons Into United States From Designated Foreign Countries or Places for Public Health Purposes," Federal Register, March 24, 2020, <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/03/24/2020.-06238/control-of-communicable-diseases-foreign-quarantine-suspension-of-introduction-of-persons-into>.
4. Perla Pineda, "Piden a EU que CBP One se pueda usar en sur de México," *El Economista*, May 14, 2024, <https://www.economista.com.mx/politica/Piden-a-EU-que-CBP-One-se-pueda-usar-en-sur-de-Mexico-20240514-0136.html>.
5. Camilo Montoya Galvez, "Migrants in Mexico have used CBP One app 64 million times to request entry into U.S.," *CBS News*, February 12, 2024, <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/immigration-cbp-one-app-migrants-mexico-64-million/>.
6. U.S. Customs and Border Protection, "CBP Releases April 2024 Monthly Update," May 15, 2024, <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/cbp-releases-april-2024-monthly-update>.
7. Ibid.
8. Julia Love, "Biden's Border Asylum App has Migrants Waiting Months in Danger," *Bloomberg*, December 4, 2023, <https://news.yahoo.com/biden-border-asylum-app-migrants-130003830.html>.
9. This report defines "walk ups" as individuals who enter the United States through a port of entry without a CBP One appointment. CBP processes these individuals through a separate parole process and they are subject to the "Circumvention of Legal Pathways" final rule.
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