

ICE Flight Monitor

OCTOBER 2025 MONTHLY REPORT



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Executive Summary

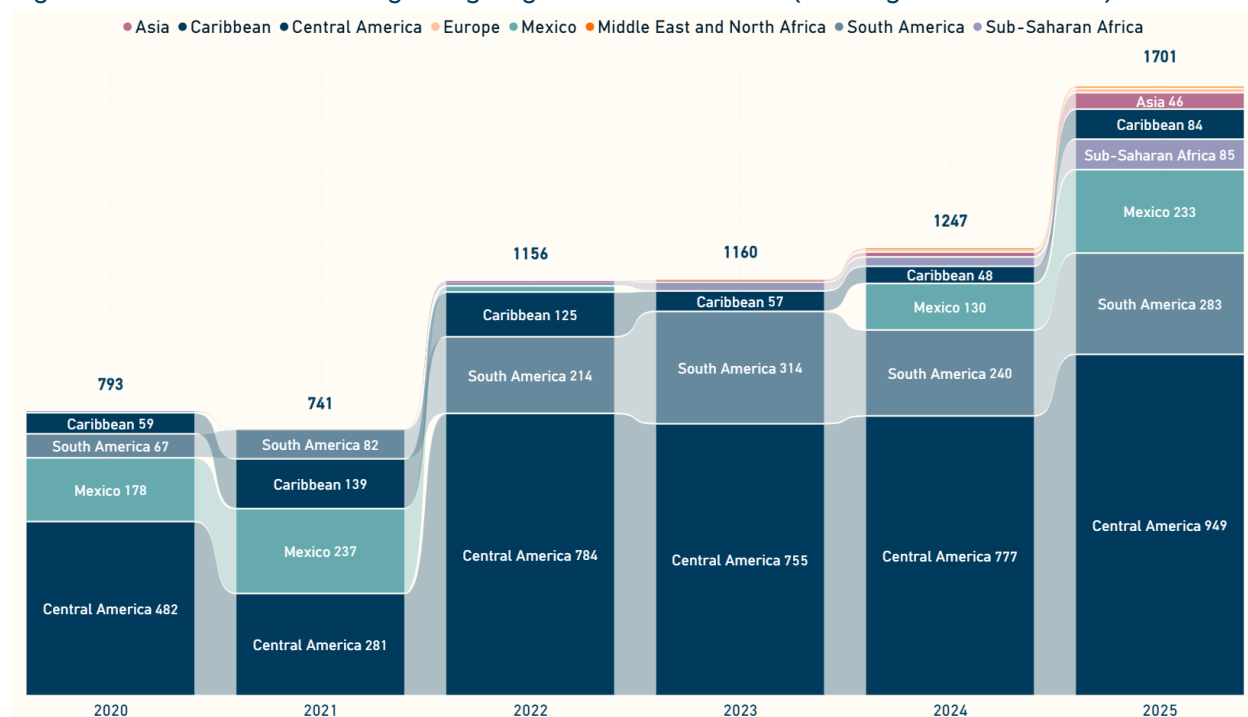
Since taking office on January 20, 2025, the Trump administration has pursued an unprecedented mass deportation agenda. U.S. officials have adopted a range of new tactics to achieve this objective, including expanding the use of expedited removal, sending people from the United States to offshore detention facilities in the U.S. Naval Base in Guantanamo, terminating protected legal statuses, disappearing people without due process – including to a high security prison in El Salvador, and forcibly transferring individuals to other countries of which they are not citizens. Many of these actions have been determined to be unlawful by federal courts and carried out with little to no transparency, while thousands of peoples' lives are uprooted from communities across the country, families separated, and their rights systematically violated. Family members of individuals in detention are living in fear and anguish, desperate for information about the whereabouts of their loved ones who often suddenly disappear from the ICE detainee locator system without explanation.

ICE Flight Monitor responds to this lawlessness and lack of information by using publicly available aviation data to monitor and document flights conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), including deportation flights and domestic transfers between U.S. detention centers and deportation staging facilities. The methodology is grounded in Tom Cartwright's nearly six years of independent work that tracked tens of thousands of ICE flights. To ensure the accuracy and integrity of the findings, ICE Flight Monitor cross-references flight data with public records, media reports, and observations from trusted partner organizations. The project also tracks other relevant air operations—such as military planes involved in immigration enforcement and Mexican and Panamanian government deportation flights. ICE routinely carries out a small number of additional removals on commercial flights, which ICE Flight Monitor is unable to track.

The ICE Flight Monitor reports the following top findings for October 2025:

- **Removal Flight Destinations Reach a Record 77 Countries Under the Trump Administration.** The Trump administration has conducted removal flights to an unprecedented range of destinations over the past ten months, significantly expanding its geographical reach. From January 20 to October 31, the administration carried out 1,701 removal flights to a record 77 countries—a 79 percent increase over the same period in 2024 when the Biden administration carried out removals to 43 countries—with September seeing the highest number of removal destinations. Notable new removal flight destinations in 2025 include: Armenia, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Benin, Chile, Eswatini, Iran, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Mali, Pakistan, and Rwanda. Additionally, under the Trump administration, there have been record removal flights to Latin America and the Caribbean (1,549 flights), Sub-Saharan Africa (85), South and Southeast Asia (35), and Central Asia (11) (see Figure 1). In October, ICE Air conducted 199 removal flights to 30 destinations, including first-time removal flights to Morocco and Sri Lanka.

Figure 1: Total U.S. Removal Flights by Region - Year over Year (January 20 – October 31)

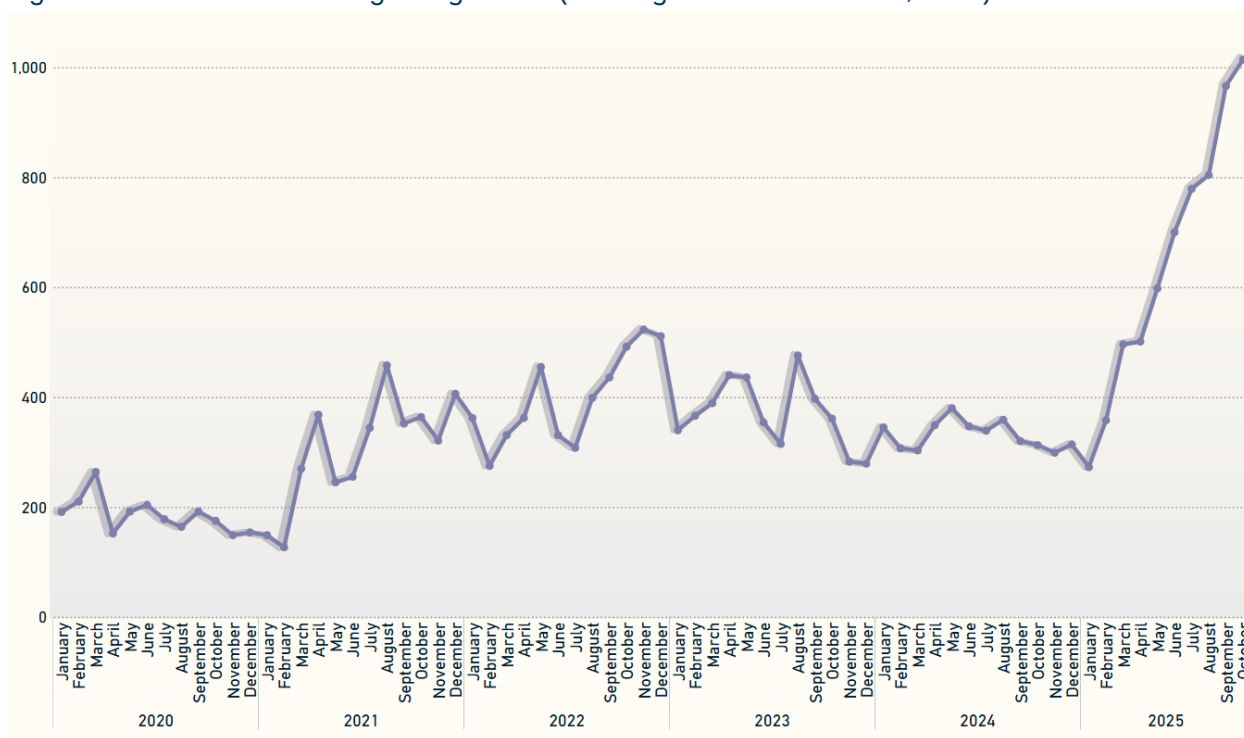


Source: ICE Flight Monitor

- Forced Third-Country Transfers Continue with First Third-Country Flights to Guatemala and Honduras and Additional Third-Country Flights to Eswatini and Ghana.** October saw the first third-country transfers of [non-Guatemalans to Guatemala](#) and of non-Hondurans to Honduras. ICE Flight Monitor also [tracked](#) the second flight of third country nationals to Eswatini and the [third flight](#) of third-country nationals to Ghana. These flights are part of the Trump administration's effort to pursue agreements with countries to facilitate forced third-country transfers—which send individuals to countries of which they are not citizens and often have no ties. The legality of these transfers—particularly without notice or an opportunity to contest the transfer based on fear of persecution—is currently being challenged in U.S. federal courts.
- The Trump administration continues to board people on ICE Air flights in violation of court orders or due to 'errors'.** On October 25, ICE Flight Monitor tracked a 46-hour ICE Air deportation flight (Omni flight 3747) to Laos, which was carrying an Alabama father who had lived in the United States since infancy, [despite a federal court order temporarily blocking his removal](#). In another case, ICE mistakenly placed a man on an Eastern Air Express flight from Newark to Harlingen, [sending him across the land border to Mexico instead of to a detention center in Arizona](#), before he had the chance to appear before an immigration judge. These incidents follow earlier cases in which individuals were boarded on planes despite court orders or due to administrative errors, including the March flights of [Venezuelans to El Salvador](#), the [mistaken removal of Kilmar Abrego Garcia](#), the removal of people from the United States with [South Sudan as the intended third country of removal](#), and the [attempted deportation of Guatemalan children](#) over Labor Day weekend.

- October Marks Record Number of Domestic Transfer Flights Amid Continued Expansion of Interior Enforcement and Detention.** Domestic transfer (or “shuffle”) flights move individuals between immigration detention centers and deportation staging facilities across the United States. These flights account for a significant portion of total U.S. immigration enforcement flights and have sharply increased over the past ten months (see Figure 2). This rise coincides with the Trump administration’s continued expansion of interior enforcement and detention. From January 20 to October 31, the administration conducted 6,333 domestic shuffle flights—more than double the 3,140 flights recorded during the same period in 2024. October alone saw a record 1,014 flights. Between August and October 2025, there was a monthly average of 928 domestic shuffle flights, compared to an average 437 flights per month during the first three months of the Trump administration (January 20 to April 20)—marking a 112 percent increase. This continued rise in shuffle flights has been enabled by ICE Air Operations’ expansion of subcontracted charter planes, which supports a greater number of daily flight routes.

Figure 2: Domestic Shuffle Flights by Month (January 2020 – October 31, 2025)

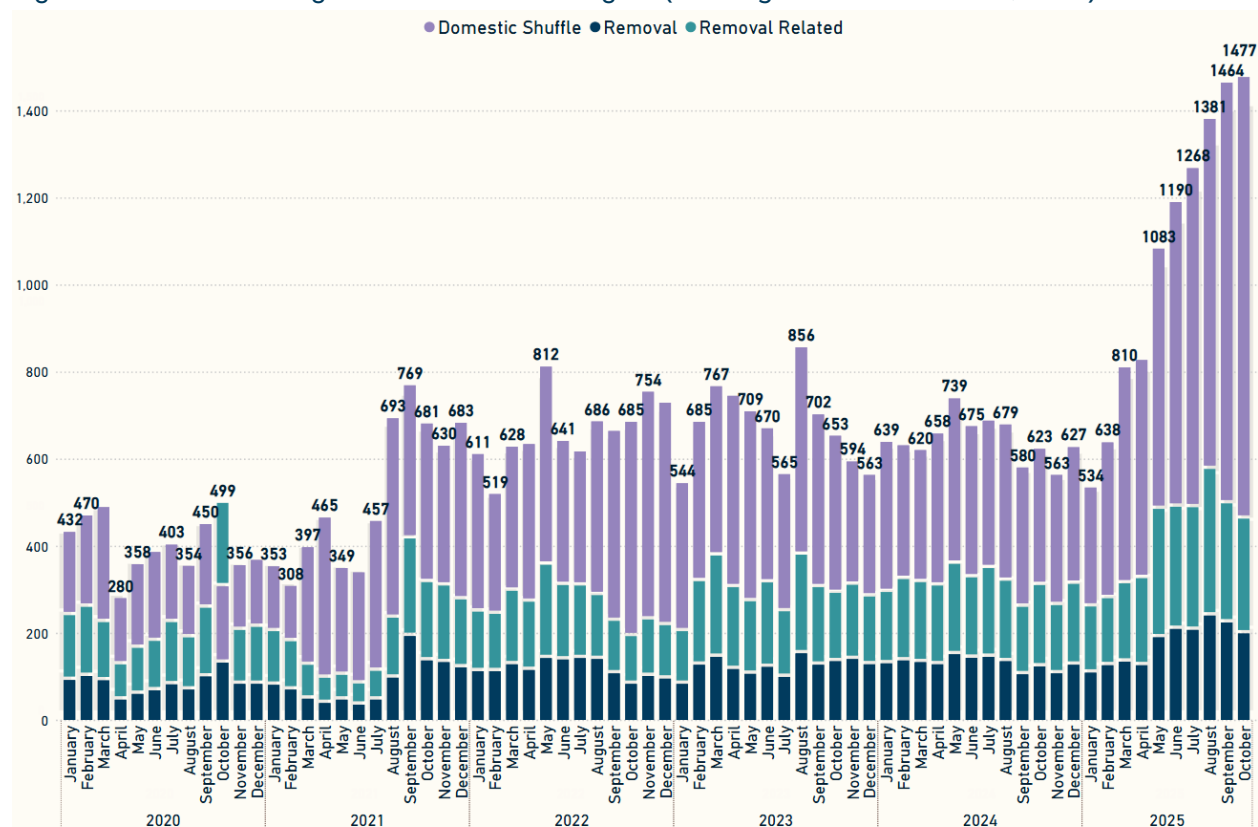


Source: ICE Flight Monitor

These findings make clear that the Trump administration’s current deportation campaign is unprecedented and dangerous—not only to the rights of those it targets, but also to our democracy. ICE Flight Monitor delivers accessible and reliable data to strengthen public accountability and uphold transparency. The following sections detail ICE Flight Monitor’s tracking from September 2025, including: 1) All U.S. immigration enforcement by air; 2) U.S. removal flights; 3) domestic shuffle flights; 4) flights to and from the U.S. Guantanamo Bay Naval Base; and 5) Mexican and Panamanian governments’ deportation flights.

All U.S Immigration Enforcement by Air

Figure 3: Total U.S. Immigration Enforcement Flights (January 2020 – October 31, 2025)

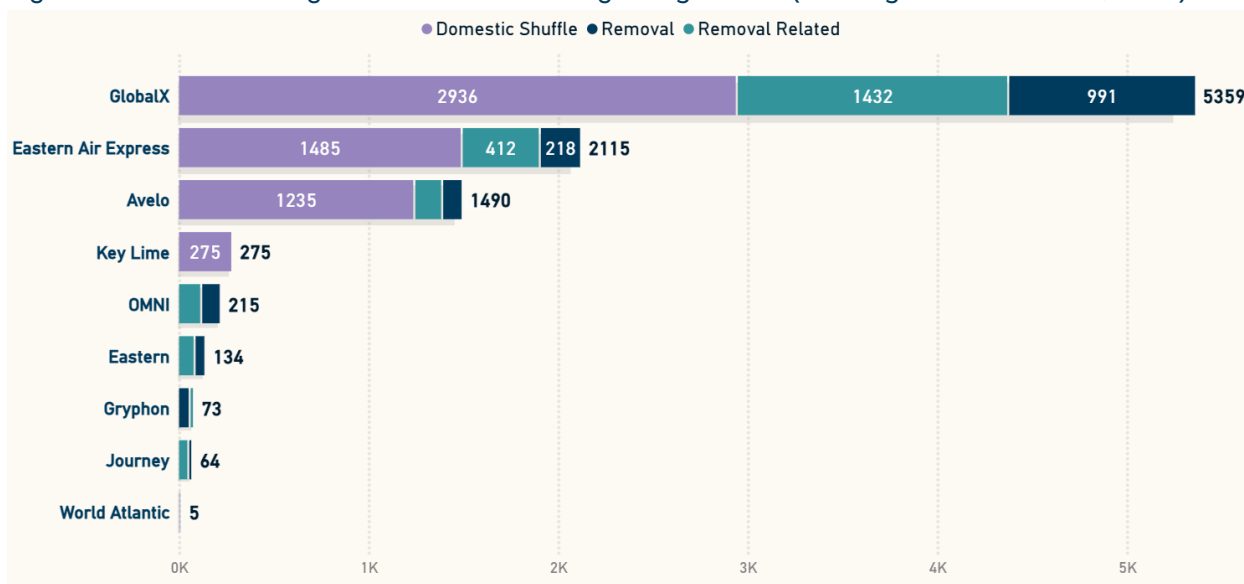


Source: ICE Flight Monitor

The vast majority of U.S. immigration enforcement flights are carried out by ICE Air Operations (IAO). IAO does not own planes but rather contracts its operations through the airline broker CSI Aviation, which in turn subcontracts to several airline carriers. These include GlobalX, Eastern Air Express, Avelo Airlines, World Atlantic (Caribbean Sun), Eastern Air, OMNI Air, Kaiser, and Key Lime Air. ICE also utilizes small charter planes operated by Gryphon Air (ATS) and Journey Aviation. *See appendix for the breakdown of flights by carrier.*

From January 20 to October 31, 2025, the Trump administration conducted at least 9,730 ICE Air charter flights, including removal, removal-related, and domestic transfer (“shuffle”) flights (see Figure 4). GlobalX operated the majority of flights, accounting for about 55 percent, followed by Eastern Air Express with roughly 22 percent. Avelo and Key Lime Air—new carriers that began operations for ICE Air in the past few months—conducted approximately 15 percent and three percent of flights, respectively. GlobalX, Eastern Air Express, Avelo and Key Lime often operate multiple routes per day, typically carrying out domestic transfers and removals to Latin America and the Caribbean. Omni and Eastern planes also operate removal flights to Latin America, while Omni, Journey, and Eastern planes operate flights to Africa and Asia.

Figure 4: Total U.S. Immigration Enforcement Flights by Carrier (January 20 - October 31, 2025)



Source: ICE Flight Monitor

ICE Air flights pose serious security risks and raise human rights concerns. On U.S. immigration enforcement flights, individuals are often [restrained](#) by handcuffs, waist chains, and leg irons for the duration of the journey—including layovers and fuel stops—even when they pose no security threat. Even more concerning is ICE’s [documented use of the WRAP](#)—a full-body restraint suit that prevents individuals from moving their arms or shifting position—which medical experts warn can cause severe physical and psychological distress.

Flight attendants report that emergency procedures for ICE Air flights provide limited guidance for evacuating physically restrained passengers, and some crew members have stated that pilots instructed during briefings that [evacuating detained individuals in an emergency was not a priority](#). Flight crew have also described instances of medical neglect, including a case of an [untrained attendant who was forced to intervene](#) during a life-threatening medical crisis due to inadequate support from contracted medical staff. Language access is also a major concern: [preflight safety briefings are conducted solely in English](#), while most individuals on removal flights speak other languages.

IAO conducts routine removal flights to countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, with an average cost of [\\$8,577 per flight hour](#). It also operates what ICE refers to as special “high-risk” charter flights to destinations in Europe, Asia, and Africa, where costs can range from \$6,929 to \$26,795 per flight hour, depending on the type of aircraft and specific operational requirements.

In addition to ICE Air subcontracted carriers, U.S. immigration enforcement flights are also carried out on U.S. Air Force and Coast Guard planes. International carriers are sometimes used for U.S. removal flights, such as Colombia’s Air Force and the Venezuelan carrier Conviasa.

Deportation (“Removal”) Flights

I. Overview

The project defines removal flights as instances in which individuals are flown from the United States to international destinations by ICE-chartered planes, military planes collaborating with ICE to carry out immigration enforcement operations, or in limited cases, international carriers. Each removal flight refers to a single removal stop. Some flights go to a single destination, while other removal flights are part of multi-country routes that include multiple removal stops.

These removals often do not comply with U.S. immigration law, constitutional law, and international human rights and refugee law. Many of the people removed on these flights do not have deportation (“removal”) orders under U.S. law. The administration has carried out removals of people whose immigration case had not yet been decided by a judge, people who arrived to seek asylum and were expelled without even a screening of their claims, and people who ostensibly accepted “voluntary” departure or return—often under coercion, threats by immigration agents, or pressure stemming from abusive and prolonged detention conditions.

Additionally, individuals face both physical and psychological harm during removal flights. The WRAP—[reportedly](#) used as punishment when individuals request to speak with their attorney or express fear of deportation—has caused lasting injuries. One man, who was tightly bound from his shoulders to his feet on the September 5th [military flight of third country nationals to Ghana](#), reported being traumatized and sustaining a leg injury that has left him walking with a limp.

Since January 20th, 2025, the number of removal flights has steadily increased, totaling a staggering 1,701 removal flights under the second Trump administration. In October, there were at least 199 total removal flights— a decrease of 11 percent from the previous month and 17 percent from August (see Figure 5). The highest number of removal flights conducted in 2025 were in August (240) and September (224).

Figure 5: Number of U.S. Removal Flights by Month (January 2020 – October 2025)



Source: ICE Flight Monitor

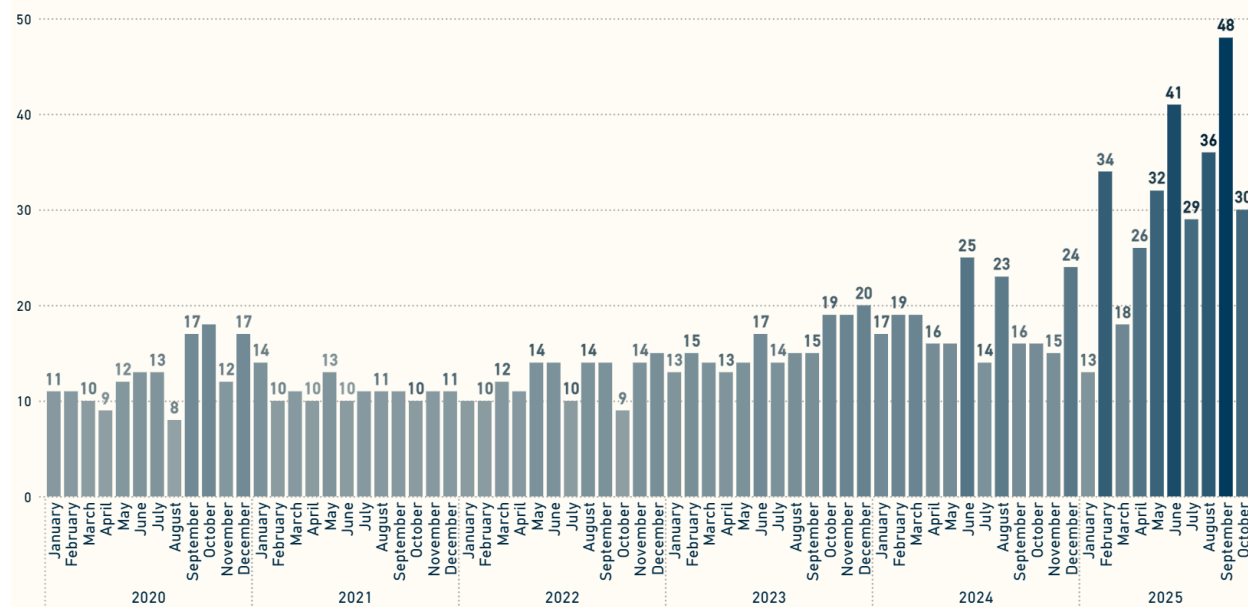
The Trump administration has also expanded its deportation campaign to include more removal flight destination countries. Over the last ten months, the administration conducted removal flights to a total of 77 countries—an increase of 79 percent over the same period in 2024 when there were 43 removal destinations. In 2025, removal flights were carried out to 24 countries that had not received any ICE flights since flight tracking began in 2020 (see Figure 6). In October, removal flight destinations decreased to 30 total countries from the record monthly total of 48 removal flight destinations in September (see Figure 7). October also saw first-time removal flights to Morocco and Sri Lanka. See *Appendix for a full breakdown of country-specific removals*.

Figure 6: New Removal Flight Destinations in 2025 (As of October 31, 2025)

Antigua and Barbuda	Kosovo
Argentina	Kyrgyzstan
Armenia	Mali
Azerbaijan	Marshall Islands
Benin	Morocco
Chile	Mozambique
Côte d'Ivoire	Pakistan
England	Rwanda
Eswatini	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Greece	Saint Lucia
Iran	Sri Lanka
Jordan	Total: 24
Kazakhstan	

Source: ICE Flight Monitor

Figure 7: Total Number of Removal Flight Destination Countries (January 2020 – October 31, 2025)



Source: ICE Flight Monitor

II. Forced Third-Country Transfer Flights

In October, the Trump administration carried out flights to at least four third-countries: Ghana, Eswatini, Guatemala, and Honduras. This included the first third-country transfers of non-Guatemalans to Guatemala and of non-Hondurans to Honduras. ICE Flight Monitor also [tracked](#) the second third-country flight to Eswatini and the [third flight](#) of third-country nationals to Ghana.

In total, the Trump administration has carried out at least 21 flights carrying third country nationals to 10 countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Rwanda, South Sudan, and Uzbekistan (see Figure 8). Third country transfers to Mexico are understood to take place over the US-Mexico land border. These flights are part of the Trump administration's effort to pursue agreements with countries to facilitate forced third-country transfers—which send individuals to countries of which they are not citizens and often have no ties. The legality of these transfers—particularly without notice or an opportunity to contest the transfer based on fear of persecution—is currently being challenged in U.S. federal courts.

Figure 8: Confirmed Third Country Transfer Flights (February – October 31, 2025)

Date	Plane	Carrier	Origin City	Destination
Wednesday, February 12, 2025	C-17	US Military	San Diego, CA	Panama
Friday, February 14, 2025	C-17	US Military	San Diego, CA	Panama
Saturday, February 15, 2025	C-17	US Military	San Diego, CA	Panama
Thursday, February 20, 2025	A320	GlobalX	San Diego, CA	Costa Rica
Tuesday, February 25, 2025	B737	Eastern Air Express	Yuma, AZ	Costa Rica
Saturday, March 15, 2025	A320	GlobalX	Harlingen, TX	El Salvador
Saturday, March 15, 2025	A320	GlobalX	Harlingen, TX	El Salvador
Saturday, March 15, 2025	A320	GlobalX	Harlingen, TX	El Salvador
Monday, March 31, 2025	C-17	US Military	Guantanamo Bay, Cuba	El Salvador
Sunday, April 13, 2025	C-17	US Military	Guantanamo Bay, Cuba	El Salvador
Wednesday, April 30, 2025	B788	Uzbekistan Airways	New York, NY	Uzbekistan
Friday, July 04, 2025	C-130	US Military	Ambouli, Djibouti	South Sudan ¹
Tuesday, July 15, 2025	C-130	US Military	El Paso, TX	Eswatini ²
Saturday, August 16, 2025	GLF5	Journey	San Antonio, TX	Rwanda
Sunday, August 17, 2025	GLF5	Journey	Miami, FL	Rwanda
Friday, September 05, 2025	C-17	US Military	Alexandria, LA	Ghana
Thursday, September 11, 2025	B763	OMNI	Phoenix, AZ	Ghana
Sunday, October 05, 2025	GLF4	Journey	Alexandria, LA	Eswatini
Friday, October 10, 2025	A320	GlobalX	Harlingen, TX	Guatemala
Friday, October 10, 2025	A320	GlobalX	Alexandria, LA	Honduras
Monday, October 13, 2025	B762	OMNI	Phoenix, AZ	Ghana

Source: ICE Flight Monitor

¹ Individuals were held at a U.S. military base in Djibouti [for more than a month](#) before being transferred to South Sudan.

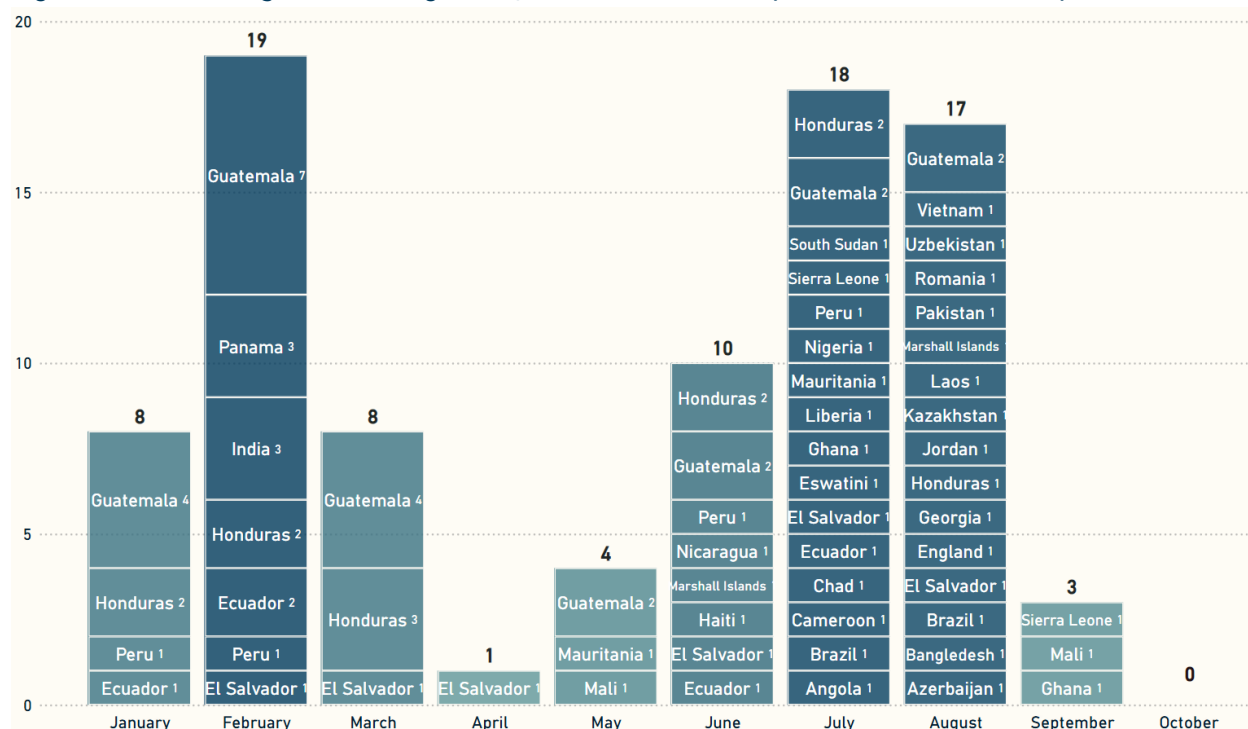
² Individuals on this route departed El Paso on a Journey GLF5, July 14th. The aircraft connected first in Ireland and then Djibouti, wherein a C-130 military aircraft completed the last removal flight leg to Eswatini.

III. Use of Military Aircrafts for Removal Flights

Since January 20, 2025, the Trump administration has used U.S. military planes to carry out a total of 88 removal flights. On his first day in office, President Trump signed an [executive order](#) authorizing U.S. military involvement in border enforcement. Soon after, the administration began using military aircraft, primarily C-17 Air Force cargo planes, to carry out ICE removal flights. These planes are significantly more expensive than standard ICE Air charter operations, reportedly [costing \\$28,500 an hour](#). The administration appears to have paused its use of military aircraft: in October, ICE Flight Monitor did not track any removal flights on military planes. This marks a shift from September, when there were three removal stops on two C-17 planes at the beginning of the month, and from August, when there were 17 removal stops aboard 11 military aircraft (see Figure 9).

In addition, Colombian Air Force planes have been used to conduct removals of Colombian nationals to Colombia, following objections from the Colombian government regarding the treatment of its citizens on ICE Air removal flights. There were five such removals to Colombia in October.

Figure 9: U.S. Military Removal Flight Stops and Destinations (As of October 31, 2025)



Source: ICE Flight Monitor

IV. Country Specific Removal Flights

The vast majority of U.S. removal flights are to Latin America and the Caribbean. A smaller number of removal flights occur to other regions, particularly Southeast Asia, often involving multi-country stops and grueling long flight times, with individuals remaining shackled for the entire journey. The highlights below are not comprehensive; for a full country-by-country breakdown, see the appendix table, *U.S. Immigration Removal Flights by Country (YTD 2025)*.

Mexico: In October 2025, ICE Air conducted 17 removal flights to Mexico—up from 9 in September but still far below the 72 flights recorded in August. Of these October flights, 10 were to Villahermosa, Tabasco and 7 to Tapachula, Chiapas. Removal flights to Villahermosa and Tapachula account for 88 percent of the 246 total flights to Mexico in 2025. Between January and September 2025, a reported 12,043 individuals were removed to Villahermosa, 9,215 to Tapachula, and 3,712 to Mexico City³. U.S. removal flights to Mexico are understood to carry only Mexican nationals, while third-country nationals continue to be sent to Mexico via the U.S.-Mexico land border.

Guatemala: In October 2025, U.S. officials carried out 54 flights to Guatemala, representing a decrease from the record 56 flights to Guatemala in September 2025. These October flights removed⁴ 5,540 individuals to Guatemala—a 2025 record for the number of individuals deported⁵ and marking an average of 103 individuals per flight. Notably, the [first third-country transfer](#) to Guatemala took place on October 10, when three Honduran nationals along with 56 Guatemalans were sent on a removal flight originating from Harlingen, Texas.

Honduras: In October 2025, U.S. officials removed 3,231 individuals⁶ to Honduras on 39 flights—averaging 83 individuals per flight. October’s total represented a 29 percent decrease from the 55 removal flights in September and the same number of flights as in August. On October 10, Mexicans were sent to Honduras, marking the first third country transfer to Honduras.

El Salvador: U.S. officials conducted 16 flights to El Salvador in October, bringing the 2025 total to 148. October’s flights were up slightly from 13 in September but remained 27 percent below prior 2025 highs of 22 flights in June and July.

Nicaragua: In October 2025, ICE Air conducted eight removal flights to Nicaragua, down from a record 10 in September but up from five in August. This was the second-highest monthly total of the year, bringing the 2025 total to 48 flights. While Nicaragua does not publish official statistics on returned nationals, [media reports](#) indicate that over 4,600 Nicaraguans were returned in the first nine months of 2025.

Venezuela: In October 2025, ICE Air carried out 10 removal flights to Venezuela, removing 2,336 Venezuelans⁷—an increase of 52 percent from the previous month when 1,109 Venezuelans were returned on seven flights, and an increase of 25 percent from August 2025 when 1,755 individuals

³ Mexico’s Unidad de Política Migratoria maintains a record of removed individuals. The figures reflect data through September. [Source](#).

⁴ The Guatemalan government maintains a record of returned individuals. These numbers are referenced against the number of flights IFM tracked to Guatemala. [Source](#).

⁵ There were 56 removal flights to Guatemala in September, a correction from September’s ICE Flight Monitor report, where 55 removal flights were noted for the month.

⁶ The Honduran government maintains a record of returned individuals. These numbers are referenced against the number of flights tracked to Honduras. The numbers reflect data through October 30. [Source](#).

⁷ The number of Venezuelans returned is sourced from Venezuelan local reporting on the Vuelta a la Patria (Return to the Homeland) program.

were returned aboard nine flights. The number of flights in October matches May's total, with both months representing the highest monthly removal flights to Venezuela this year. Since February 2025, the United States has carried out a total of 65 removal flights to Venezuela, returning 12,035 Venezuelans, including families and children. Removal flights to Venezuela typically occur biweekly—on Wednesdays and Fridays—currently via a direct flight from the United States. Since February, some of the removal flights to Venezuela were carried out via a transfer at the U.S. Soto Cana military base in Honduras—however, these transfers were paused in mid-August 2025.

Ecuador: U.S. officials conducted eight removal flights to Ecuador in October, one fewer than the nine flights in both September and August, bringing the 2025 total to 77. Ecuador continues to receive the highest number of deportation flights in South America, with flights typically occurring biweekly—on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Colombia: In October 2025, there were 10 removal flights to Colombia, half of which used Colombian Air Force planes. The use of Colombian aircraft began in February after President Gustavo Petro criticized inhumane U.S. deportation practices, particularly the use of shackles on removal flights. The remaining flights occurred on multi-country routes that included Brazil. October's total increased by three compared to September and August, when there were seven flights each, though January still holds the 2025 high with 12 flights.

Brazil: In October 2025, U.S. officials carried out five removal flights to Brazil—a 2025 record—bringing the yearly total to 29. This was one more than the four flights conducted in both September and August. [Local media reports](#) indicate 2025 is already a record year for the number of Brazilian nationals deported from the United States, with over 2,000 individuals removed by early October. Since mid-August, removal flights to Brazil have occurred every Wednesday on multi-country routes that first stop in Colombia, resulting in longer flights during which individuals remain shackled for the entire journey.

Laos: U.S. officials carried out one removal flight to Laos in October, bringing the 2025 total to four flights. Of the four removal flights to Laos, one had taken place on a U.S. Military aircraft, and three were conducted on Omni charter planes. All four occurrences involved multi-country routes, resulting in excruciatingly long journeys with layovers and fuel stops. Notably, the [October removal flight to Laos](#) lasted over 44 hours, where individuals remained shackled throughout the entire journey.

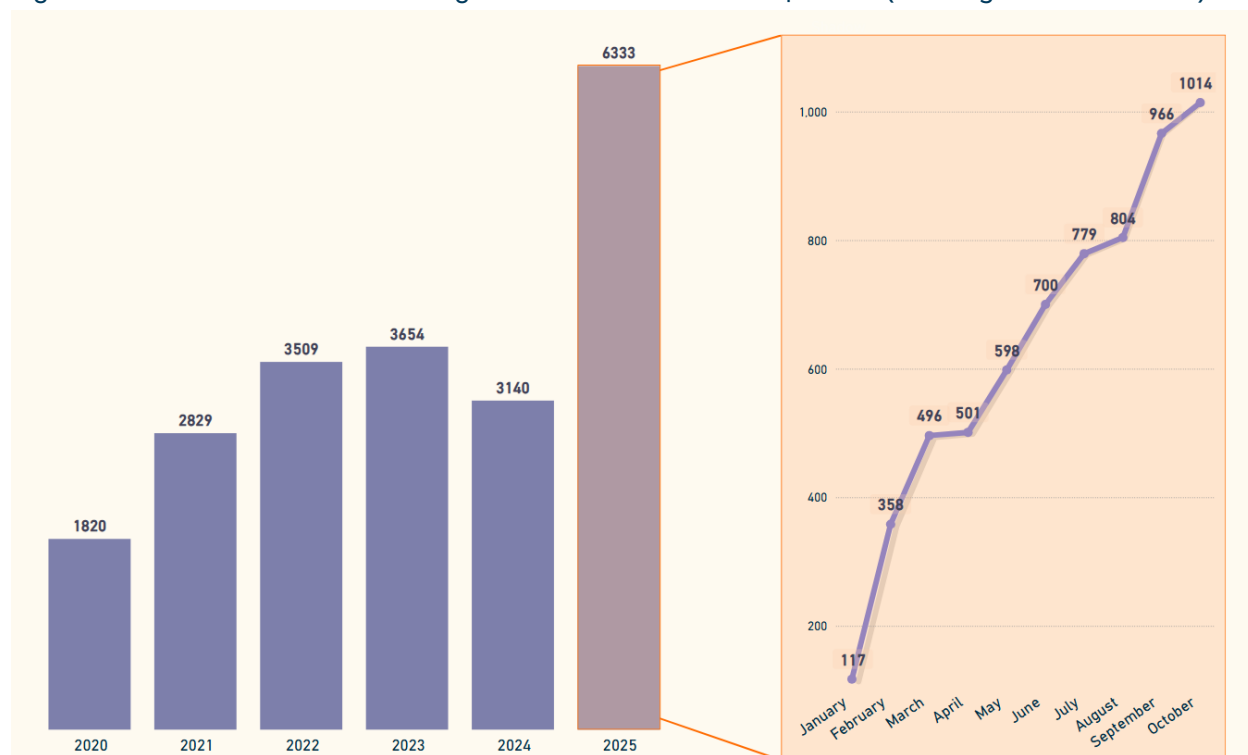
Vietnam: U.S. officials conducted two removal flights to Vietnam in October, bringing the 2025 total to five flights. Of the five removal flights, one was carried out on a Journey plane traveling via Hawaii and Guam. Another removal flight took place on a U.S. Military aircraft (the same one that conducted the removal to Laos), and the remaining three flights to Vietnam in 2025 have taken place on Omni charter planes. All five removal flights involved multi-country routes. These routes result in lengthy journeys where individuals remain physically restrained for extended periods of time.

Domestic Transfer (“Shuffle”) Flights

I. Overview

The Trump administration’s mass deportation campaign has driven a dramatic increase in detention and interior enforcement operations. Over the past ten months, this escalation has resulted in a sharp rise in both the scale and reach of domestic transfer flights (“shuffles”). Between January 20 and October 31, there were a staggering 6,333 shuffle flights, a 51 percent increase from the 3,140 flights in the same period in 2024. This includes a record 1,014 flights in October 2025 (see Figure 10). This report defines domestic transfers as the transportation by air of individuals between U.S. detention centers, including to Puerto Rico or the U.S. Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, and staging facilities, which are located in Mesa, Arizona; Alexandria, Louisiana; San Antonio and Harlingen, Texas. These flights are not directly tied to a same-day removal flight.

Figure 10: Total Domestic Shuffle Flights – Year over Year Comparison (January 20 – October 31)



Source: ICE Flight Monitor

The increase in domestic shuffle flights under the second Trump administration raises serious concerns as individuals are frequently moved far from their families and legal representation, often isolated in facilities with harsh conditions. These concerns are amplified by reports that conditions on domestic transfer flights are punitive and dehumanizing. [Flight attendants on ICE charters have described being instructed to deprive passengers of food and water](#), with strict controls imposed on these basic necessities—even for children.

A key factor behind the rise of domestic shuffle flights in October is an increase in the number of aircrafts used by ICE for shuffle flights. The increase was largely enabled by the use of additional planes under new and existing ICE Air carriers subcontracted under CSI Aviation. The top domestic transfer flight locations in October included Alexandria, Louisiana; Harlingen, Texas; El Paso, Texas; Youngstown, Ohio; Miami, Florida; and Phoenix, Arizona. Routine ICE Air connections have also been seen in multiple cities across the United States, including in Newark, New Jersey; San Diego, California; and Indianapolis, Indiana—where domestic transfers occur at least three times per week.

II. Coast Guard Aircraft for Shuffle Flights

In October 2025, at least 61 flights were conducted using U.S. Coast Guard planes, part of DHS's expanded use of these aircraft to support small-scale domestic transfers between detention centers and deportation staging facilities, primarily in Alexandria, Louisiana, and Harlingen, Texas. Coast Guard planes typically seat 27 passengers. An additional 56 flights repositioned planes, for example, flying empty on the way to pick up individuals for transport to ICE hubs or staging locations. So far in 2025, at least 385 Coast Guard flights have been redirected from core missions to support immigration enforcement. October's shuffle flights remained at the same level as September.

Guantanamo Bay Naval Base: Hub for Shuffle and Removal Flights

In February 2025, the Trump administration began to transfer migrants and asylum seekers—many of whom were previously in immigration detention on U.S. soil—to the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay (GTMO). Since then, the Trump administration has conducted at least 91 flights to GTMO. 39 of these flights have continued on to removal destinations after stopping at the naval base, while others have returned to the United States, serving as shuffle flights (see Figure 11).

At GTMO, individuals have often been held by military guards, with no access to in-person legal counsel, and under punitive conditions that raise significant human rights concerns. GTMO facilities reportedly have a capacity for around [200 individuals and are staffed by approximately 670 personnel](#)—most of whom are uniformed officials. The financial cost of detention at GTMO is estimated at [\\$100,000 per person, per day](#). Since February, a total of 720 people have been transferred to the naval base. Despite the extensive personnel, fewer than 40 people have been detained at GTMO at any given time over the past three months.

Since August, the number of migrants and asylum seekers detained at GTMO has steadily declined. On October 1, a domestic transfer flight moved the roughly 20 remaining individuals to the Alexandria, Louisiana ICE hub. The facilities remained empty until October 13, when 17 individuals were transferred from U.S. detention centers to GTMO. Two subsequent ICE Air flights stopped at GTMO before continuing on to carry out removals—returning roughly half of the individuals to Guatemala and the other half to El Salvador. Given the regular cadence of direct flights to these countries, these temporary transfers suggest the Trump administration is using GTMO as a purely punitive measure. As of October 17, no migrants or asylum seekers remain at the base.

Figure 11: Guantanamo Bay Inbound and Outbound Flights (January – October 31, 2025)



Source: ICE Flight Monitor

Mexican and Panamanian Governments' Deportation Flights

ICE Flight Monitor also tracks deportation flights from Mexico and Panama, both of which carry out routine flights that are relevant to the regional context of U.S. flights.

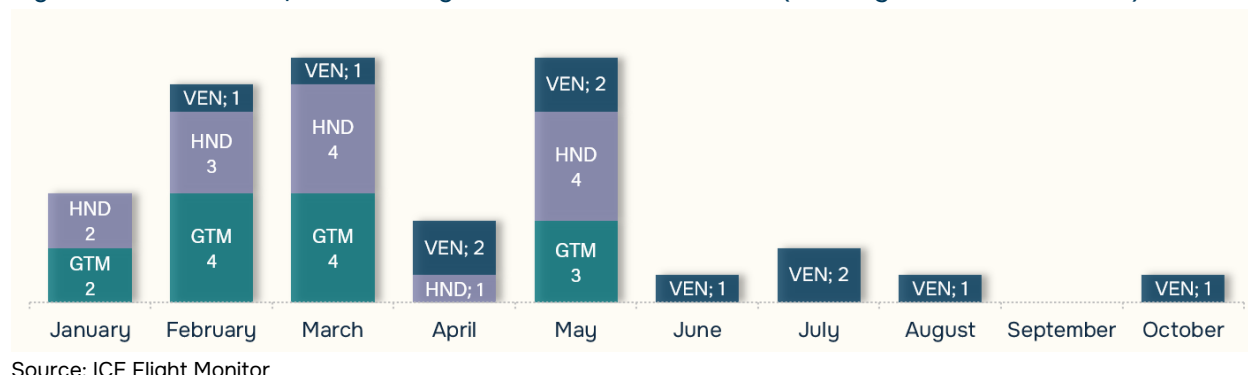
I. Mexican Government's Repatriation Flights

The Mexican government carries out removal flights (referred to as “repatriation” flights by the Mexican government, which include both forced removals and voluntary returns) to various countries in Latin America, currently operated by the airline VivaAerobus. Tracking of these flights began in mid-2021, and the scale and frequency of these operations have varied over time. In March 2023, a deadly fire at a detention center in Ciudad Juárez prompted the Mexican government to significantly reduce the number of repatriation flights. Prior to the incident, Mexico operated 30 to 40 flights per month to five countries. Since then, flight numbers have dropped to the single digits, with flights primarily carried out to Guatemala, Honduras, and Venezuela.

Mexican deportation flights to Central America stopped in May 2025, however the Mexican government [continues to repatriate individuals](#) to South and Central America via commercial planes and to deport Central Americans by land. In October, the Mexican government conducted one repatriation flight to Venezuela, marking the 11th such flight this year (see Figure 12). These are voluntary return flights operated by the Venezuelan government, primarily carrying Venezuelan nationals who wish to return home. Decisions to return are likely driven by security risks and repeated detention by Mexican authorities, which particularly affect Venezuelans lacking legal status in Mexico.

Demand for these flights remains high, with many Venezuelans currently waiting for available seats. However, a major challenge is that many lack valid passports and obtaining them from the Venezuelan consulate remains difficult.

Figure 12: Mexico's Repatriation Flights and their Destinations (January – October 31, 2025)

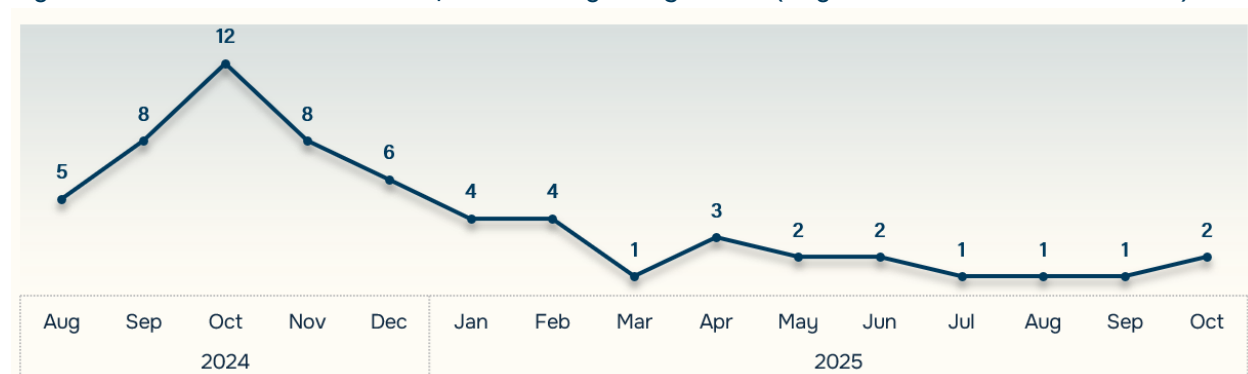


II. Panamanian Government's Deportation Flights

The government of Panama conducts deportation flights under a [July 2024 Memorandum of Understanding with the United States](#)—the first known agreement in which the U.S. directly funds another country's removal operations. While the U.S. government asserted the MOU included safeguards to ensure compliance with international law, Panama's asylum system has very limited capacity to screen for protection needs. Since the MOU was signed, individuals who have tried to request asylum in Panama have been systematically denied that right and deported. These flights are currently operated by Panama Air. Between August 2024 and October 2025, Panama carried out 60 U.S.-funded deportation flights (see Figure 13), primarily to Colombia and Ecuador, with a small number of flights to India (2), Vietnam (1), and Cameroon (1).

In October 2025, Panama carried out two flights to Colombia—one more than in September but a significant decrease from the 12 flights conducted in October 2024. This decline closely mirrors the sharp drop in irregular crossings through the Darién Gap, which fell from [25,111 in September 2024](#) to just [41 people in September 2025](#).

Figure 13: U.S. Funded Panama Deportation Flights by Month (August 2024 - October 31, 2025)





About Human Rights First: Human Rights First is a nonprofit, nonpartisan international human rights organization founded in 1978 to address the lack of legal protection for refugees and asylum seekers. We work alongside human rights defenders, hold human rights abusers accountable, fight for the conditions that uphold democracy, and provide tools that bring the power of AI and advanced technologies to justice and human rights movements.

Human Rights First is based in Los Angeles, New York, and Washington D.C.

Methodology

Data is collected using several open-source flight tracking platforms that provide real-time and historical information about aircraft movements, allowing for the independent identification of flights potentially associated

with immigration enforcement. Identifying flights as ICE-related or otherwise associated with immigration enforcement requires a multi-layered process. ICE Flight Monitor analyzes aircraft registration numbers, recurring flight routes, patterns of operation, and known ICE detention center and destination locations. To ensure the accuracy and integrity of the findings, ICE Flight Monitor cross-references flight data with public records, media reports, and observations from trusted partner organizations.

Data Revisions and Corrections: Following the publication of each report, corrections may be made as new findings arise. This report includes some retroactive updates to data from the previous month. For the most updated versions of our data, please see ICE Flight Monitor's most recent report.

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Data Tables

U.S. Immigration Enforcement Flights by ICE Carrier (January – October 31, 2025)

In addition to regular enforcement flight categories, this data includes “relocation” flights, wherein carriers relocate from a hub to facilitate a transfer or removal.

Carrier	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Air Charter Express						5				
Avelo					116	214	238	291	318	314
Eastern Airlines			3	5		7	8	34	41	40
Eastern Air Express	70	80	199	225	264	192	293	277	256	309
GlobalX	421	418	542	549	644	703	610	621	610	503
Gryphon		24	4	15	21	6	3			
Journey						3	2	21	27	11
Key Lime									83	192
OMNI	2	2	3	7	17	38	21	25	56	51
World Atlantic	16		4			1				

Total U.S. Immigration Enforcement Flights by Month (January 2020 – October 31, 2025)

Date	Domestic Shuffle	Removal	Removal Related	Grand Total
2025	6489	1764	2419	10672
January	273	109	152	534
February	358	126	154	638
March	496	134	180	810
April	501	126	200	827
May	598	190	295	1083
June	700	209	281	1190
July	779	207	282	1268
August	804	240	337	1381
September	966	224	274	1464
October	1014	199	264	1477
2024	3676	1457	2026	7159
January	345	130	164	639
February	307	137	187	631
March	303	133	184	620

Date	Domestic Shuffle	Removal	Removal Related	Grand Total
April	349	128	181	658
May	380	151	208	739
June	347	143	185	675
July	339	145	204	688
August	359	135	185	679
September	320	105	155	580
October	313	123	187	623
December	314	127	186	627
2023	4153	1342	1964	7459
January	340	83	121	544
February	366	127	192	685
March	389	145	233	767
April	440	117	188	745
May	436	106	167	709
June	354	122	194	670
July	315	99	151	565
August	476	153	227	856
September	397	127	178	702
October	361	135	157	653
December	279	128	156	563
2022	4262	1315	1649	7226
January	362	112	137	611
February	275	112	132	519
March	331	128	169	628
April	362	115	157	634
May	455	142	215	812
June	331	139	171	641
July	308	142	167	617
August	399	140	147	686
September	436	107	121	664
October	492	83	110	685
December	511	95	123	729
2021	3338	916	1240	5494
January	149	81	123	353
February	127	70	111	308
March	270	49	78	397
April	368	39	58	465

Date	Domestic Shuffle	Removal	Removal Related	Grand Total
May	245	47	57	349
June	255	35	49	339
July	344	47	66	457
August	458	97	138	693
September	352	193	224	769
October	364	137	180	681
December	406	121	156	683
2020	2076	926	1487	4489
January	191	92	149	432
February	210	101	159	470
March	264	91	134	489
April	152	47	81	280
May	192	60	106	358
June	204	68	114	386
July	178	82	143	403
August	164	70	120	354
September	192	100	158	450
October	175	132	192	499
December	154	83	131	368
Grand Total	23994	7720	10785	42499

U.S. Immigration Removal Flights by Country (January - October 31, 2025)

Country	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Total
Guatemala	31	24	35	23	48	51	54	43	56	54	419
Honduras	24	22	33	16	35	43	49	37	55	39	353
Mexico	14	13	22	32	30	17	17	72	9	17	243
El Salvador	8	11	14	13	17	22	22	12	13	16	148
Ecuador	9	7	6	5	6	9	9	9	9	8	77
Colombia	12	7	6	5	5	5	9	7	6	10	72
Venezuela		3	3	6	10	8	9	9	7	10	65
Nicaragua	2	2	2	3	5	5	6	5	10	8	48
Peru	2	4	2	2	3	5	4	5	4	5	36
Dominican Republic	2	2	2	4	3	4	5	4	5	4	35
Brazil	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	5	29
Jamaica	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	15
Costa Rica		2				2	1	3	3	2	13

Country	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Total
Bahamas					2	2	1	2	2	2	11
Haiti		1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	10
Cuba	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		9
Mauritania		1		1	3	1	1	1	1		9
India		4	1	1				1	1	1	9
Ghana						1	1	1	3	1	7
Chile					1	2		2	1	1	7
Senegal					3	1		3			7
Nigeria		1			1	1	1		1	1	6
Angola		1			1	1	1			1	5
Pakistan		1		1				1	1	1	5
Uzbekistan				1	1			1	1	1	5
Argentina						2			3		5
Vietnam					1			1	1	2	5
Guinea		1		1		1	1		1		5
Liberia		1		1		1	1		1		5
Nepal			1	1		1			1		4
Sierra Leone					1		1		2		4
Kenya		1		1		1	1				4
Georgia		1						1	1	1	4
Trinidad and Tobago			1		1	2					4
Bangladesh				1		1		1	1		4
Cameroon		1				1	1		1		4
Laos					1			1	1	1	4
Panama		3									3
Benin		1			1				1		3
Saint Lucia			1		1	1					3
Egypt		1				1		1			3
Togo		1			1	1					3
Mali		1			1				1		3
Belize					1	2					3
Chad		1			1		1				3
Marshall Islands						1		1			2
Azerbaijan								1	1		2
Jordan		1						1			2
Burkina Faso		1							1		2

Country	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Total
Rwanda								2			2
Cambodia									1	1	2
Eswatini							1			1	2
Dem Rep of Congo						1			1		2
Kazakhstan								1	1		2
Armenia									1	1	2
China	1					1					2
Romania						1		1			2
Gambia				1				1			2
Zimbabwe									1		1
Equatorial Guinea							1				1
Kyrgyzstan									1		1
Greece				1							1
Guyana						1					1
Albania		1									1
Morocco										1	1
Saint Kitts and Nevis									1		1
Iran									1		1
Sri Lanka										1	1
Cote d'Ivoire						1					1
England								1			1
Zambia									1		1
Kosovo				1							1
Antigua and Barbuda						1					1
South Sudan							1				1
Côte d'Ivoire									1		1
Tajikistan					1						1
Mozambique									1		1
Grand Total	109	126	134	126	190	209	207	240	224	199	1764

U.S. Immigration Enforcement Flight Departure Cities (January – October 31, 2025)

Totals include Shuffle Flights, Removal Flights, and Removal Flight Connections.

Departure City	# Outbound Flights
Alexandria, LA	1857
Harlingen, TX	1525
El Paso, TX	848
Phoenix, AZ	583
San Antonio, TX	417
Miami, FL	377
Youngstown, OH	304
San Diego, CA	232
Newark, NJ	161
Jacksonville, FL	150
Columbus, GA	122
Dallas, TX	120
Houston, TX	111
Denver, CO	109
Victorville, CA	105
Richmond, VA	104
Bedford, MA	103
Las Vegas, NV	97
Kansas City, MO	90
Seattle, WA	88
Gary, IN	84
San Pedro Sula, Honduras	82
Guantanamo Bay, Cuba	81
Buffalo, NY	79
Minneapolis, MN	75
Salt Lake City, UT	68
Omaha, NE	63
Baltimore, MD	62
Ypsilanti, MI	61
Killeen, TX	48
Guatemala City, Guatemala	45
Harrisburg, PA	45
San Juan, Puerto Rico	43
Laredo, TX	43
Tampa, FL	42
Mercer, NJ	39
Ochopee, FL	36

Departure City	# Outbound Flights
Indianapolis, IN	32
Reno, NV	31
Abilene, TX	31
Gadsden, AL	28
Toledo, OH	28
Portsmouth, NH	28
Comayagua, Honduras	22
Diass, Senegal	22
Springfield, MO	22
Lake City, FL	21
Bogotá, Colombia	18
Guayaquil, Ecuador	17
Yuma, AZ	17
Albuquerque, NM	16
San Salvador, El Salvador	15
Bakersfield, CA	15
Atlanta, GA	14
Knoxville, TN	11
Tucson, AZ	10
Nashville, TN	10
Yakima, WA	9
Charlotte, NC	9
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic	8
Oklahoma City, OK	8
Nassau, Bahamas	7
Brownsville, TX	7
Callao, Peru	7
Tirana, Albania	6
Universal City, TX	6
Doha, Qatar	6
Mission, TX	6
Accra, Ghana	6
Cincinnati, OH	6
Belo Horizonte, Brazil	5
Los Angeles, CA	5
Nouakchott, Mauritania	5
Orlando, FL	5

Departure City	# Outbound Flights
Charleston, WV	5
Bucharest, Romania	5
Aguadilla, Puerto Rico	5
New York, NY	4
Vientiane, Laos	4
Guam	4
Tashkent, Uzbekistan	4
Tuscaloosa, AL	4
Nsimalen, Cameroon	4
Ikeja, Nigeria	4
Kingston, Jamaica	3
Monrovia, Liberia	3
Saint Croix	3
Chaklala, Pakistan	3
Yerevan, Armenia	3
Conakry, Guinea	3
Dhaka, Bangladesh	3
Cap-Haitien, Haiti	3
Lungi, Sierra Leone	3
Tallahassee, FL	3
Piarco, Trinidad and Tobago	3
Clearwater, FL	3
Cairo, Egypt	3
N'Djamena, Chad	3
Belize City, Belize	3
Villahermosa, Mexico	2
Phnom Penh, Cambodia	2
Portland, ME	2
Simal, Azerbaijan	2
San Jose, Costa Rica	2
Ambouli, Djibouti	2
Lome, Togo	2
State College, PA	2
New Orleans, LA	2
Fort Worth, TX	2
Fortaleza, Brazil	2
Cancun, Mexico	2
Angola	2
Niagra Falls, NY	2
Wichita, KS	2
Tbilisi, Georgia	2

Departure City	# Outbound Flights
Plattsburgh, NY	2
Saint Lucia	2
Lafayette, LA	2
Anchorage, AK	2
Detroit, MI	2
Maiquetia, Venezuela	2
Lusaka, Zambia	1
Hot Springs, AR	1
Presque Isle, ME	1
Marshall Islands	1
Wrightstown, NJ	1
Santiago, Chile	1
Topeka, KS	1
Memphis, TN	1
Raleigh, NC	1
Ontario, CA	1
Warsaw, Poland	1
Shannon, Ireland	1
Boston, MA	1
Kathmandu, Nepal	1
Manuas, Brazil	1
Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso	1
Traverse City, MI	1
St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda	1
Pristina, Kosovo	1
Panama City, Panama	1
Honolulu, Hawaii	1
Suffolk, England	1
Delhi, India	1
Mexico City, Mexico	1
Dover, DE	1
Harare, Zimbabwe	1
Ekibastuz, Kazakhstan	1
Cotonou, Benin	1
Colombo, Sri Lanka	1
Kinshasa, Dem Rep of Congo	1
Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire	1
Mobile, AL	1
Banjul, Gambia	1
Grand Total	9183

U.S. Immigration Enforcement Flight Destination Cities (January – October 31, 2025)

Totals include Shuffle Flights, Removal Flights, and Removal Flight Connections.

Destination City	# Inbound Flights
Alexandria, LA	1510
Harlingen, TX	1077
El Paso, TX	787
Phoenix, AZ	481
Guatemala City, Guatemala	419
Miami, FL	360
San Pedro Sula, Honduras	354
Youngstown, OH	292
San Antonio, TX	231
San Diego, CA	223
Newark, NJ	160
San Salvador, El Salvador	148
Jacksonville, FL	127
Villahermosa, Mexico	121
Dallas, TX	119
Columbus, GA	118
Houston, TX	110
Denver, CO	109
Victorville, CA	105
Richmond, VA	104
Bedford, MA	101
Las Vegas, NV	97
Tapachula, Mexico	92
Guantanamo Bay, Cuba	89
Seattle, WA	88
Gary, IN	86
Buffalo, NY	79
Guayaquil, Ecuador	77
Minneapolis, MN	74
Bogotá, Colombia	72
Kansas City, MO	71
Salt Lake City, UT	68
Maiquetia, Venezuela	65

Destination City	# Inbound Flights
Omaha, NE	63
Ypsilanti, MI	53
Managua, Nicaragua	48
Harrisburg, PA	45
Killeen, TX	42
Laredo, TX	40
Mercer, NJ	40
Callao, Peru	36
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic	35
Reno, NV	31
Indianapolis, IN	30
Abilene, TX	30
Mexico City, Mexico	30
Toledo, OH	27
Portsmouth, NH	25
Comayagua, Honduras	24
Baltimore, MD	22
San Juan, Puerto Rico	21
Lake City, FL	21
Ochopee, FL	21
Springfield, MO	19
Tampa, FL	19
Yuma, AZ	17
Albuquerque, NM	17
Belo Horizonte, Brazil	15
Kingston, Jamaica	15
Bakersfield, CA	15
Atlanta, GA	15
Fortaleza, Brazil	13
San Jose, Costa Rica	13
Detroit, MI	11
Nassau, Bahamas	11
Nashville, TN	10

Destination City	# Inbound Flights
Charlotte, NC	9
Nouakchott, Mauritania	9
Cap-Haitien, Haiti	9
Tucson, AZ	9
Havana, Cuba	9
Yakima, WA	9
Oklahoma City, OK	8
Diass, Senegal	7
Santiago, Chile	7
Accra, Ghana	7
Knoxville, TN	6
Ikeja, Nigeria	6
Mission, TX	5
Chaklala, Pakistan	5
Angola	5
Delhi, India	5
Tashkent, Uzbekistan	5
Hanoi, Vietnam	5
Monrovia, Liberia	5
Buenos Aires, Argentina	5
Brownsville, TX	5
Orlando, FL	4
Tbilisi, Georgia	4
Vientiane, Laos	4
Nsimalen, Cameroon	4
Lungi, Sierra Leone	4
Dhaka, Bangladesh	4
Nairobi, Kenya	4
New Orleans, LA	4
Piarco, Trinidad and Tobago	4
Conakry, Guinea	4
Kathmandu, Nepal	4
Wrightstown, NJ	3
Cairo, Egypt	3
Amritsar, India	3
Bamako, Mali	3
Belize City, Belize	3

Destination City	# Inbound Flights
Cotonou, Benin	3
Lome, Togo	3
New York, NY	3
Panama Pacifico, Panama	3
Saint Lucia	3
N'Djamena, Chad	3
Niagra Falls, NY	2
Kinshasa, Dem Rep of Congo	2
Yerevan, Armenia	2
Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso	2
Bucharest, Romania	2
Little Rock, AR	2
Lafayette, LA	2
Phnom Penh, Cambodia	2
Mswatini	2
Simal, Azerbaijan	2
Marshall Islands	2
Banjul, Gambia	2
Ekibastuz, Kazakhstan	2
State College, PA	2
Wichita, KS	2
Tallahassee, FL	2
Amman, Jordan	2
Fuzhou, China	2
Doha, Qatar	2
Plattsburgh, NY	2
Kigali, Rwanda	2
Portland, ME	2
Aguadilla, Puerto Rico	2
Basseterre, Saint Kitts and Nevis	1
Harare, Zimbabwe	1
Punta Europa, Equatorial Guinea	1
Lusaka, Zambia	1
Bissau, Guinea	1
Dover, DE	1
Timehri, Guyana	1

Destination City	# Inbound Flights
Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire	1
Raleigh, NC	1
Casablanca, Morocco	1
Saint Croix	1
Shannon, Ireland	1
Boston, MA	1
Manuas, Brazil	1
Juba, South Sudan	1
Maputo, Mozambique	1
Tirana, Albania	1
St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda	1
Topeka, KS	1
Port Bouet, Cote d'Ivoire	1

Destination City	# Inbound Flights
Athens, Greece	1
Suffolk, England	1
Colombo, Sri Lanka	1
Port-au-Prince, Haiti	1
Bishkek, Kyrgystan	1
El Centro, CA	1
Dushanbe, Tajikistan	1
Memphis, TN	1
Ontario, CA	1
Presque Isle, ME	1
(blank)	1
Pristina, Kosovo	1
Tehran, Iran	1
Grand Total	9184