The total number of offenders sentenced in federal court doubled, from over 36,000 in 1992 to over 75,000 in 2012. 48% of the growth during that period is attributed to illegal reentry. Drug charges, as a group account for the next largest portion of growth, at 22%.

$1B Estimated annual cost of incarcerating those convicted of illegal reentry alone.

In 1992, 690 individuals were convicted in federal courts for illegal reentry. In 2012, the number of individuals convicted for illegal reentry was 19,463.
2013 Reentry Data
Source: US Sentencing Commission, Illegal Reentry Offenses (Special Coding Project analyzing random sample of 1,897 individuals out of 18,948 convicted)

Most offenders (67.1%) had relatives, other than children, in the US at the time of their arrest for reentry.

Half (49.5%) of the offenders had at least one child in the US.

Three out of four (74.5%) offenders had worked in the US for at least one-year prior to their arrest for illegal reentry.

Most individuals charged with illegal reentry were male (96.8%).

Nearly all of the offenders (98.1%) were Hispanic.

The average age of individuals at the time charged was 36 years old.

The average offender was deported 3.2 times before conviction.

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The Center for Immigrants’ Rights’ mission is to represent immigrants’ interests through legal excellence, advocacy, education and collaboration with key stakeholders. Students of the Center for Immigrants’ Rights Clinic engage in community outreach and education on immigration topics. Students also produce white papers, practitioner toolkits, and primers of national impact for institutional clients based across the nation.