The U.S. Immigration System
BY THE NUMBERS

2015 Immigration Benefits

The Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS) reports on several main types of immigration benefits for foreign-born persons: lawful permanent residence (LPR), refugee arrivals, grants of asylum, naturalizations, and temporary admissions of nonimmigrants. This graphic provides information for these categories for Fiscal Year 2015.

LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENTS

1,051,031 individuals were granted lawful permanent resident (LPR) status in 2015.

Reasons for LPR status included:
- Spouses: 57.1%
- Parents: 28.6%
- Children: 14.4%
- Immediate Relatives of US Citizens: 44.2%
- Employment: 20.4%
- Family Preferences: 13.7%
- Diversity: 11.3%
- Asylees: 10.7%
- Other: 7.1%

LPR grantees represented over 70 countries, including:
- Mexico: 15.1%
- China: 7.1%
- India: 6.1%
- Phillipines: 5.4%
- Cuba: 5.2%

Regions of birth included:
- Asia: 35.8%
- North America: 33.9%
- Europe: 10.7%
- Africa: 9.8%
- South America: 9.3%

NATURALIZATIONS

730,259 individuals became naturalized United States citizens in 2015.

Regions of birth included:
- Asia: 45.1%
- North America: 36.3%
- Europe: 18.6%

REFUGEES & ASYLEES

69,920 individuals were admitted as refugees.

Top countries of nationality included:
- Burma: 26.3%
- Iraq: 18.1%
- Somalia: 12.7%

26,124 individuals were granted asylum.

Top countries of nationality included:
- China: 23.7%
- El Salvador: 8.3%
- Guatemala: 8.0%

NONIMMIGRANT ADMISSIONS (I-94 ARRIVALS)

79.6% Temporary Visitors for Pleasure

10.4% Temporary Visitors for Business

4.9% Temporary Workers & Families

3.5% Students & Exchange Visitors

1.6% Other

For additional information, please see the 2015 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics at www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics