The naturalization process confers U.S. citizenship upon foreign citizens or nationals who have fulfilled the requirements established by Congress in the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). After naturalization, foreign-born citizens enjoy nearly all of the same benefits, rights, and responsibilities that the Constitution gives to native-born U.S. citizens, including the right to vote. This graphic provides information for persons who naturalized in Fiscal Year 2015.

**2015 Naturalizations**

The naturalization process confers U.S. citizenship upon foreign citizens or nationals who have fulfilled the requirements established by Congress in the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). After naturalization, foreign-born citizens enjoy nearly all of the same benefits, rights, and responsibilities that the Constitution gives to native-born U.S. citizens, including the right to vote. This graphic provides information for persons who naturalized in Fiscal Year 2015.

**Naturalizations Over Time**

- **730,259** persons naturalized in Fiscal Year 2015.
- **39,448** persons naturalized in Fiscal Year 1910.

**Time to Naturalization**

Persons naturalizing in Fiscal Year 2015 spent a median of 7 Years in lawful permanent resident (LPR) status before becoming citizens, unchanged from the previous three years.

**Top Five Countries of Birth**

- **Mexico**: 14.5%
- **India**: 5.8%
- **Philippines**: 5.6%
- **China**: 4.3%
- **Dominican Republic**: 3.7%

**Top Five States of Residence**

- **California**: 21.4%
- **New York**: 12.4%
- **Florida**: 11.2%
- **Texas**: 9.0%
- **New Jersey**: 4.8%

**Naturalizations by Age and Sex**

- **44.1%** of persons naturalized in Fiscal Year 2015 were male.
- **55.9%** of persons naturalized in Fiscal Year 2015 were female.

**Top Five Countries by Region of Birth**

- **Asia**: 200,000
- **North America**: 600,000
- **Oceania**: 800,000
- **Africa**: 1,000,000
- **Europe**: 1,200,000

1. Europe was replaced by Asia as the largest region of origin for naturalizations.
2. Increase in naturalizations partially as a result of the 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) (See 2011 Naturalizations Flow Report for additional information).

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