



U.S. Lawful Permanent Residents: 2023

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September 2024



**Office of Homeland
Security Statistics**
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

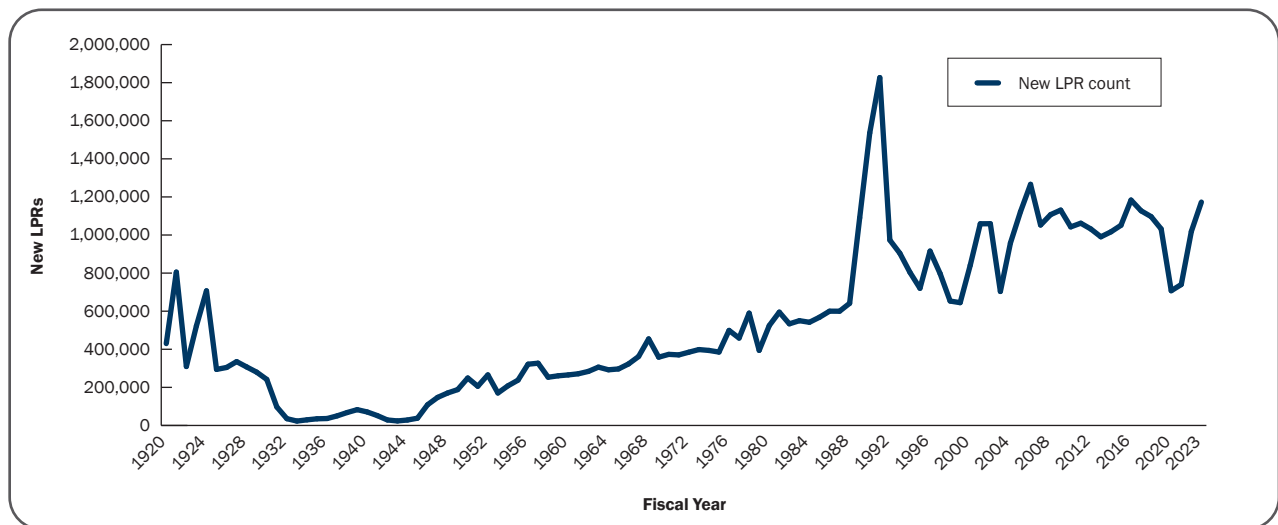
Immigration

Immigration law defines a lawful permanent resident (LPR) or “green card” holder as a foreign national who has been granted “the status of having been lawfully accorded the privilege of residing permanently in the United States as an immigrant in accordance with the immigration laws, such status not having changed.”¹ LPRs may live and work permanently anywhere in the United States, own property, and attend schools, colleges, and universities. They may also join the Armed Forces and may apply to become U.S. citizens if they meet certain additional eligibility requirements. The 2023 *Lawful Permanent Residents Annual Flow Report*, authored by the Office of Homeland Security Statistics (OHSS), presents information obtained from LPR applications on the number and characteristics of persons who became LPRs in the United States during Fiscal Year 2023.²

SUMMARY

Almost 1,173,000 persons became LPRs in 2023 (Figure 1). The majority of these new LPRs (52 percent) were already present in the United States when they were granted lawful permanent resident status. About 64 percent were granted LPR status based on a family relationship with a U.S. citizen or current LPR. The leading countries of birth of new LPRs were Mexico, Cuba, and India.

Figure 1.
New Lawful Permanent Residents: Fiscal Years 1920 to 2023



Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

THE LAWFUL IMMIGRATION PROCESS

The Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) provides various bases for obtaining LPR status. These bases include (but are not limited to) sponsorship by a close family member who is a U.S. citizen or LPR, sponsorship by an employer, making investments that create a certain

number of U.S. jobs, being from countries with relatively low levels of immigration to the United States (diversity visas), and being present in the United States in refugee or asylee status for at least one year. Each person seeking LPR status is subject to a background check as part of the adjudication of their benefit request.

¹ 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(20).

² This report was prepared by OHSS, which replaced the Office of Immigration Statistics in September 2023. Led by the DHS Statistical Official, OHSS’ mission is to foster transparency and data-driven homeland security decision-making by analyzing and disseminating timely, objective DHS data and statistics. This report includes OHSS’ analysis of relevant statutes, policy, and processes to provide background and context for DHS statistical data. DHS Component statistical officials have reviewed this report for accuracy. In this report, “years” refer to fiscal years, which run from October 1 to September 30. Fiscal Year 2023 ran from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. The 2023 *Yearbook of Immigration Statistics* and other OHSS reports contain additional context and are available at <https://ohss.dhs.gov/topics/immigration/yearbook>. Not all numbers cited in this report are contained in this report’s tables. To protect privacy, table cells and numbers in this report are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding.

New Arrivals versus Adjustments of Status

Two paths to LPR status are available, depending on whether a foreign national applies for an immigrant visa abroad or seeks LPR status from within the United States. Foreign nationals who live abroad and who have a petition or application approved by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) may apply for an immigrant visa at a U.S. Department of State (DOS) consular office. Once issued an immigrant visa by DOS, the foreign national may seek admission to the United States and become an LPR when admitted at a port of entry (POE). This report refers to these LPRs as *new arrivals*. A foreign national who is already present in the United States may file a Form I-485, *Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status*, with USCIS. These applicants may apply for authorization to accept employment and to depart and re-enter the United States while their Form I-485 is pending. If their I-485 is approved, they generally are granted LPR status at the time of approval.³ This report refers to these LPRs as *adjustments of status*.

Immediate Relatives of U.S. Citizens

The largest category of new LPRs consists of U.S. citizens' immediate relatives, defined as spouses, children (unmarried and under age 21), parents of U.S. citizens who are age 21 and over, and certain widows or widowers of U.S. citizens.⁴ Immediate relatives of U.S. citizens are not subject to numerical limits and typically account for over 40 percent of new LPRs annually.

Preference Immigration

The term *preference* is used in immigration law to designate numerically limited family and employment priority categories for LPR status. The INA specifies the worldwide level of preference immigration in family-sponsored and employment-based groupings.

Family-sponsored preferences consist of four categories of relatives:

- First preference (F-1), a U.S. citizen's unmarried sons and daughters (age 21 years or older) and their children;
- Second preference, an LPR's spouse and children (F-2A), or an LPR's unmarried sons and daughters (age 21 years or older) and their children (F-2B);

³ Certain classes of immigrants, such as refugees and asylees, receive credit for additional time in LPR status prior to approval of their I-485s, which allows them to naturalize more quickly.

⁴ The term *children* includes orphans adopted abroad or coming to the United States to be adopted.

- Third preference (F-3), a U.S. citizen's married sons and daughters and their spouses and children; and
- Fourth preference (F-4), siblings of an adult (age 21 years or older) U.S. citizen and their spouses and children.

Immediate relatives of U.S. citizens and family-preference LPRs are collectively referred to as *family-based immigrants*. All family-based immigrants must be petitioned for by their U.S. citizen or LPR relative.⁵ Generally, that relative must financially sponsor the immigrant.⁶

Employment-based preferences consist of five categories of workers, along with their spouses and children:

- EB-1 priority workers (e.g., persons of extraordinary ability, outstanding professors and researchers, certain multinational executives and managers);
- EB-2 professionals with advanced degrees or persons of exceptional ability;
- EB-3 skilled workers (e.g., those with at least two years of training or experience), professionals (those who hold baccalaureate degrees or a foreign equivalent degree), and unskilled workers (e.g., those with less than two years of training or experience);
- EB-4 "special" immigrants (e.g., special immigrant juveniles, ministers of religion, religious workers, employees of the U.S. Government abroad); and
- EB-5 immigrant investors.

Many EB-1 and EB-2, and all EB-3 immigrants must be sponsored by a U.S. employer, but some EB-1 and EB-2 employment-based immigrants may self-petition. Most EB-4 special immigrants file self-petitions, although some are the beneficiaries of petitions filed by employers. EB-5 immigrants all self-petition and must invest funds at amounts specified by regulation into a new commercial enterprise that will create at least ten full-time jobs for qualifying employees. In certain rural areas or areas with high unemployment, this required minimum investment amount is reduced.

In addition, most EB-2 and all EB-3 petitions require that the Secretary of Labor certify that sufficient U.S. workers

⁵ In certain circumstances, the widow or widower of a U.S. citizen may file a self-petition; see 8 U.S.C. 1151(b)(2)(A)(i) and 8 U.S.C. 1154(a)(1)(A)(ii).

⁶ Financial sponsorship includes signing an affidavit of support agreeing to make reimbursement should the sponsored relative receive any means-tested public benefits while in LPR status and before they are credited with 40 quarters (approximately ten years) of work.

who are able, willing, qualified, and available could not be found in the region of intended employment, and that the employment will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of similarly employed U.S. workers. All EB-1 and some EB-2 employment-based immigrants are exempted from labor certification and job offer requirements, and some EB-2 and EB-3 employment-based immigrants fall within occupations for which the Department of Labor has “pre-certified” that hiring noncitizens in those occupations will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of similarly employed U.S. workers.

Several categories of “special immigrants” are eligible for EB-4 visas, some of the largest categories being special immigrant juveniles, certain ministers of religion and religious workers, and certain current and former employees of the U.S. Government abroad, including certain Afghans who were admitted to the United States in 2021 and 2022 during Afghan relocation efforts.

Numerical Limits

The annual limit for family-sponsored preferences depends on the previous year’s immigration levels and is set at a minimum of 226,000. The annual employment-based preference limit is equal to 140,000 plus any unused visas in the family-sponsored preference categories from the previous year.⁷ Typically, there have been very few unused family-preference visas, so employment limits have remained close to 140,000. But over half of available family-sponsored preference visas were unused in 2020 (54 percent) and 2021 (63 percent), likely due to Coronavirus-2019 (COVID-19) challenges, resulting in the highest numbers of employment-based preference visas available since the implementation of the current preference system in 1992. The resulting employment-based limits were about 260,000 in 2021 and 280,000 in 2022—more than double the typical annual total. By the end of 2022, approximately 57,000 unused family-sponsored visa numbers were added to 2023’s employment-based limit, which was a little over 197,000.

In 2023, the overall limit on preference immigration was 423,091, which included 226,000 in the family-sponsored preference categories and 197,091 in the employment-based preference categories (see **APPENDIX**). The INA also specifies per-country limits equal to 7.0 percent of the combined total number of visas allotted to

⁷ Afghan SIV applicants are not counted against the EB-4 cap. The numerical limitations of Afghan and Iraqi SIVs are established by separate statutes. On December 29, 2022, Pub. L. 117-2617 amended the Afghan Allies Protection Act to extend the program through Dec. 31, 2024, and to increase the total number of principal noncitizens who may receive special immigrant status to 38,500.

family- and employment-based preferences. Dependent areas of foreign states are limited to 2.0 percent of this combined total.⁸ In 2023, these limits amounted to 29,616 preference immigrants from any single country and 8,462 preference immigrants from any single dependent area.

Diversity Visas

The Diversity Immigrant Visa Program is administered by the DOS and is designed to allow immigration from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States—defined by the INA as countries with fewer than 50,000 foreign nationals granted LPR status within family- and employment-based categories during the preceding five years. In 2023, the diversity visa limit was 54,833.⁹ The INA further limits the number of diversity visas per country to 7.0 percent of the worldwide total, or 3,838 in 2023. The INA additionally limits the number of diversity visas across six broad world regions based on regional immigration levels during the preceding five years, so high admission regions are eligible for fewer diversity visas. Nationals of eligible countries must have either a high school degree (or equivalent) or qualifying work experience to apply to the diversity visa program. Eligible foreign nationals who apply for the diversity program are randomly selected based on the allocations described above. Foreign nationals who are selected may then apply for a diversity visa, during which process they are subject to background checks and security screening.

Refugee and Asylee Adjustments of Status

The United States provides humanitarian protections to foreign nationals who have experienced past persecution or have a well-founded fear of future persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. Foreign nationals who have experienced or may experience this type of harm may be allowed to apply for protection from outside the United States as a refugee, along with their spouse and/or children. If the foreign national is physically present in the United States or is arriving at a POE, that individual may apply for this protection as an asylum applicant, along with their spouse and/or children.

⁸ For more information regarding independent states, dependent areas, and visa allocations, see 9 Foreign Affairs Manual 503.2 at <https://fam.state.gov/FAM/09FAM/09FAM050302.html>.

⁹ The INA establishes an overall diversity visa limit of 55,000 per year, which in the past has been reduced by 5,000 annually to offset Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act (NACARA) adjustments. In recent years, there have been far fewer new NACARA adjustments than numbers offset. This resulted in reduction of the DV-2023 annual limit to approximately 54,833.

As prescribed in the Refugee Act of 1980, the President, after consultation with Congress, establishes the number of foreign nationals who may be admitted to the United States as refugees each year. Since the passage of the Refugee Act of 1980, the United States has accepted more than 3.7 million refugees and asylees. The ceiling on refugee admissions was set between 70,000 and 85,000 each year from 2003 to 2016 but has varied in recent years. The ceiling was initially set at 110,000 in 2017 but was later reduced to 50,000 through a pair of Executive Orders.¹⁰ The ceiling continued to decline over the next three years to 45,000 in 2018, 30,000 in 2019, and 18,000 in 2020. Though the 2021 ceiling was originally set at 15,000, in May 2021 the Biden Administration raised the ceiling to 62,500. In both 2022 and 2023, the ceiling was 125,000. There is no numerical limit on the number of people who may be granted asylum each year.

The INA requires refugees to apply for adjustment to LPR status one year after admission into the United States. Asylees are eligible to have their green card applications adjudicated one year after they are granted asylum but are not required to do so. Refugee and asylee adjustments of status are not subject to numerical limits.

Other Admission Categories

Remaining admission categories are generally limited to foreign nationals admitted under special legislation, and admission or adjustment may be subject to numerical limits. In 2000, the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act (including the Battered Immigrant Women Protection Act) created the T and U nonimmigrant statuses permitting qualifying victims of trafficking and other statutorily enumerated crimes to be admitted as nonimmigrants for specified periods of time and then to apply for adjustment to LPR status. Certain foreign nationals admitted as parolees may adjust status from within the United States, and children born abroad to LPRs may enter the United States as new arrival LPRs.

Eligibility for Naturalization

Most LPRs who are at least 18 years of age are eligible to apply for citizenship after meeting certain requirements. These requirements generally include holding LPR status and residence in the United States for five years (or three years for those married to a U.S. citizen) and passing tests in English language and civics (unless an exemption or waiver applies for one or both tests). Typically, children

in LPR status and under the age of 18 may automatically acquire citizenship through a U.S. citizen-parent.

TRENDS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF NEW LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENTS

Historical Trends and Characteristics

Historically, the annual LPR flow has exhibited a general upward trend since 1944, increasing from an average of 250,000 new LPRs per year during the 1950s to averaging over 1 million per year since 1989. These increases are partly explained by changes in immigration law, including elimination in 1965 of the National Origins system and an increase in the annual immigration ceiling in 1990.¹¹ The spike in lawful immigration from 1989 to 1991 resulted from the legalization of 2.7 million unauthorized immigrants under the Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) of 1986. The period 2016–2020 exhibited the longest continuous decrease of new LPRs since 1940–1944 and 1992–1996, when the LPR flow was returning to normal levels after the historic 1991 peak. LPR admissions fell for three consecutive years even before the global pandemic contributed to the 17-year low in 2020, and more recently they have increased each year since then.

The United States granted just over 10 million individuals LPR status in the past decade (2014–2023). Of these, 54 percent were already present in the United States in another status and 46 percent were new arrivals. Sixty-four percent received LPR status as family-sponsored immigrants and nearly 17 percent under employment-based preferences. Immediate relatives of U.S. citizens consistently made up the largest subcategory of LPRs, comprising 47 percent of total LPRs.

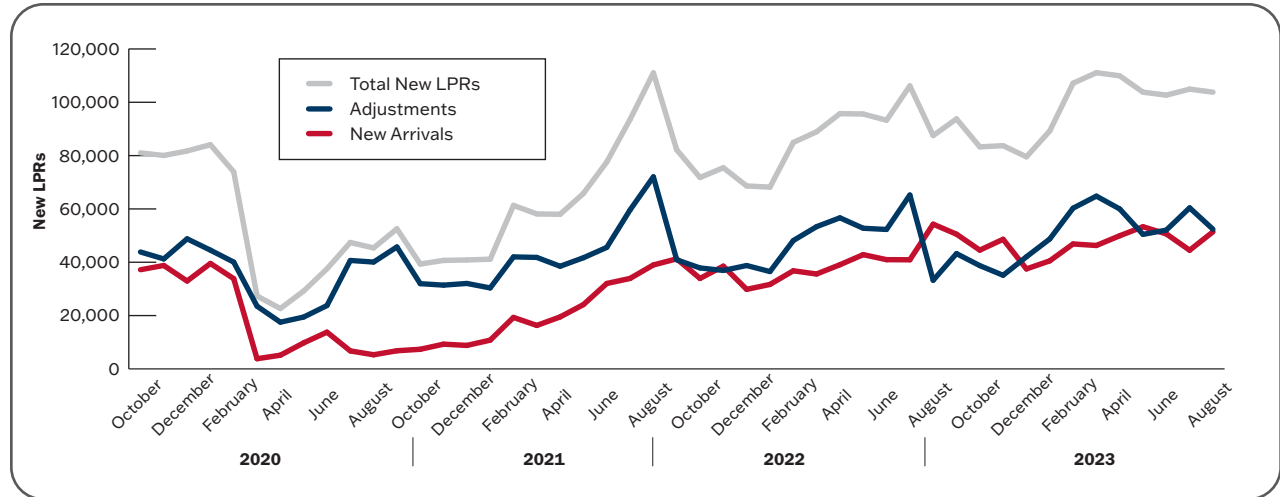
More recently, in early 2021, monthly LPR numbers remained low, but by August they had rebounded to pre-pandemic levels, where they remained through 2023. The United States granted LPR status to 1,172,910 individuals in 2023, a 15 percent increase over 1,018,350 new LPRs in 2022 and a 66 percent increase over 740,000 new LPRs in 2021. Notably, low numbers in 2020 and 2021 came almost entirely from a reduction in family-sponsored immigrants, while numbers of employment-based preference LPRs increased. This was largely because many family-sponsored preference visas were unused during the pandemic due to embassy closures, and immigration law reallocates any unused family-sponsored preference

¹⁰ Executive Orders 13769 and 13780, “Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States.”

¹¹ Under the National Origins system included in the original version of the INA passed in 1952, immigration limits were established on a per-country basis, with each country’s quota set by a formula based on the national origins of the U.S. population in the 1920 census.

Figure 2.

New Lawful Permanent Residents by Type and Month: Fiscal Years 2020 to 2023



Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

Table 1.

New Lawful Permanent Residents: Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023

Category of admission	2021		2022		2023	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	740,000	100.0	1,018,350	100.0	1,172,910	100.0
New arrivals	227,210	30.7	465,720	45.7	564,660	48.1
Adjustments of status	512,800	69.3	552,630	54.3	608,260	51.9

Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding.
Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

visas in a fiscal year to employment-based preferences in the subsequent fiscal year. In 2023, family-sponsored new LPRs increased by 27 percent, while employment-based new LPRs decreased by 27 percent.

Type and Class of Admission¹²

Between 2010 and 2019, adjustments accounted for 53 percent of new LPRs. Due to the sharp drop in new arrivals during the COVID-19 pandemic years of 2020 and 2021, adjustments of status made up relatively high proportions of new LPRs in those years (62 and 69 percent, respectively). As new arrivals recovered quickly in 2022 and 2023, adjustments dropped back to typical proportions to account for 52 percent of new LPRs in

2023, despite rising to a post-2009 high of 608,000 adjustments of status (Table 1, Figures 2 and 3).

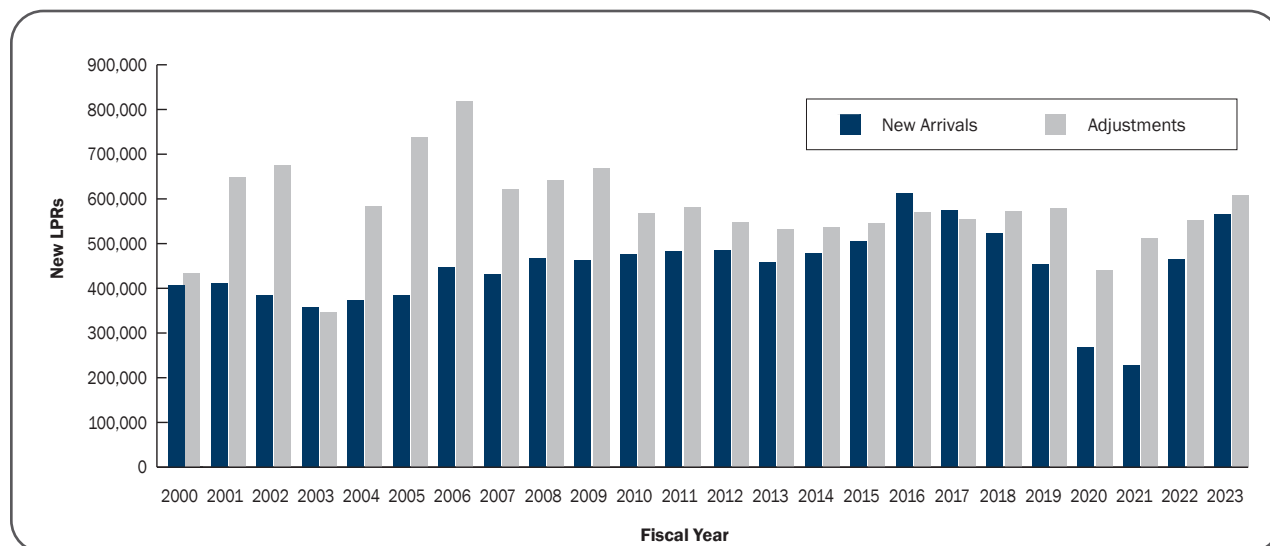
Family-sponsored immigrants (including immediate relatives of U.S. citizens and family-sponsored preference immigrants) accounted for 756,000 new LPRs (64 percent) in 2023 (Table 2). The largest share of family-sponsored immigrants were immediate relatives of U.S. citizens (47 percent of total new LPRs in 2023). Spouses of U.S. citizens made up 23 percent of all new LPRs, parents made up nearly 18 percent, and children (including adopted children) made up 5.7 percent. A slight majority of immediate relative immigrants become LPRs as adjustments (57 percent in 2023 and 52 percent between 2010 and 2019).

Family-sponsored preference LPRs accounted for 204,000 new LPRs (17 percent) in 2023. More than half of family-sponsored preference LPRs in 2023 were from the “spouses and children of LPRs” preference class (9.9 percent of total new LPRs). Less than a quarter were in the “siblings of U.S. citizens” preference class (3.8 percent

¹² In this report, *type of admission* distinguishes new arrivals (who receive admission to the United States at the same time as admission to LPR status) and adjustments of status (who are already within the United States). *Class of admission* refers to category of admission to LPR status rather than admission to the United States.

Figure 3.

New Lawful Permanent Residents by Type (Adjustments of Status and New Arrivals): Fiscal Years 2000 to 2023



Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

of total new LPRs). Most family-sponsored preference immigrants become LPRs as new arrivals (94 percent in 2023 and 90 percent between 2010 and 2019).

Employment-based preference LPRs accounted for 197,000 new LPRs (17 percent) in 2023. Twenty-nine percent of these were in the “skilled workers, professionals, and unskilled workers” preference class, and another 29 percent were in the “priority workers” preference class (each 4.9 percent of total new LPRs). The “professionals with advanced degrees” class made up 28 percent of employment-preference LPRs (4.8 percent of total new LPRs). The majority of employment-based preference immigrants become LPRs as adjustments (74 percent in 2023 and 85 percent between 2010 and 2019).

Diversity visa immigrants accounted for 67,000 new LPRs (5.7 percent) in 2023, up from 43,000 (4.2 percent) in 2022 and up from an average of 48,000 between 2010 and 2019. Most diversity visa immigrants become LPRs as new arrivals (97 percent in 2023 and between 2010 and 2019).

Refugee adjustments accounted for 59,000 new LPRs in 2023 (5.0 percent), nearly doubling from the previous year’s 29,000 new LPRs in 2022. Asylee adjustments accounted for 40,000 new LPRs in 2023 (3.4 percent), representing the second highest count of asylee adjustments since 2011 (after 54,000 in 2022).

Region and Country of Birth

The leading regions of birth of new LPRs in 2023 were North America (38 percent) and Asia (36 percent) (Table 3). Together, Asia and North America have accounted for at least 70 percent of new LPRs each year since 2008.

In 2023, 15 percent of all foreign nationals granted LPR status were born in Mexico. Mexico has been the leading source of new LPRs each year since 1978. Since 2010, the proportion of new LPRs born in Mexico who adjust status has tended to fluctuate closely with the overall proportion of new LPRs adjusting status. Between 2010 and 2018, 51 percent of new LPRs born in Mexico adjusted status, while between 2019 and 2021 that proportion rose to 67 percent, before dropping back to 51 percent in 2022. However, in 2023, this proportion increased to 63 percent, near pre-pandemic levels (Tables 3 and 4).

Next-leading countries of birth of new LPRs in 2023 were Cuba (7.0 percent), India (6.7 percent), the Dominican Republic (5.9 percent), China (5.1 percent) and the Philippines (4.2 percent). Among the top ten leading countries of birth for new LPRs, Brazil-born LPRs had the lowest proportion who gained LPR status as new arrivals (18 percent), while Vietnam-born LPRs had the highest proportion (82 percent).

State and Metropolitan Area of Residence

California was the state of residence of nearly one-fifth (18 percent) of those granted LPR status in 2023, and over half (55 percent) of new LPRs residing in California were adjustments of status (Tables 5 and 6). Next-leading

Table 2.**New Lawful Permanent Residents by Major Class of Admission: Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023**

Category of admission	2021		2022		2023	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	740,000	100.0	1,018,350	100.0	1,172,910	100.0
Family-sponsored immigrants	451,090	61.0	594,310	58.4	755,830	64.4
Immediate relatives of U.S. citizens	385,400	52.1	428,270	42.1	551,590	47.0
Spouses	251,830	34.0	238,630	23.4	276,080	23.5
Parents	80,520	10.9	132,510	13.0	208,350	17.8
Children ¹	53,060	7.2	57,130	5.6	67,150	5.7
Family-sponsored preferences	65,690	8.9	166,040	16.3	204,240	17.4
Unmarried sons/daughters of U.S. citizens	6,840	0.9	17,760	1.7	23,690	2.0
Spouses and children of lawful permanent residents	39,130	5.3	89,860	8.8	116,560	9.9
Married sons/daughters of U.S. citizens	6,630	0.9	17,450	1.7	19,180	1.6
Siblings of U.S. citizens	13,100	1.8	40,970	4.0	44,820	3.8
Employment-based preferences	193,340	26.1	270,280	26.5	196,760	16.8
Priority workers	61,450	8.3	53,430	5.2	57,140	4.9
Professionals with advanced degrees	59,830	8.1	109,080	10.7	55,790	4.8
Skilled workers, professionals, unskilled workers	54,100	7.3	79,360	7.8	57,310	4.9
Special immigrants	15,320	2.1	20,530	2.0	14,600	1.2
Investors	2,640	0.4	7,880	0.8	11,930	1.0
Diversity programs	15,150	2.0	43,230	4.2	67,350	5.7
Refugees and Asylees	56,400	7.6	83,080	8.2	99,360	8.5
Refugee adjustments	35,850	4.8	29,420	2.9	59,030	5.0
Asylee adjustments	20,550	2.8	53,660	5.3	40,330	3.4
Parolees	10	0.0	10	0.0	10	0.0
Other categories	24,020	3.2	27,430	2.7	53,600	4.6
Children born abroad to noncitizen residents	80	0.0	90	0.0	610	0.1
Certain Iraqis and Afghans employed by U.S. Government and their spouses and children	8,300	1.1	11,910	1.2	26,430	2.3
Cancellation of removal	5,020	0.7	4,160	0.4	4,900	0.4
Subject to annual limit	4,740	0.6	3,830	0.4	4,580	0.4
Not subject to limit (NACARA ² Section 203)	280	0.0	330	0.0	320	0.0
Victims of human trafficking	940	0.1	710	0.1	800	0.1
Victims of crimes and their spouses and children	9,260	1.3	9,950	1.0	19,720	1.7
Other ³	430	0.1	610	0.1	1,140	0.1

¹ Includes adoptees.

² Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act of 1997.

³ Primarily consists of those admitted or adjusted under special legislation.

Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

Table 3.**New Lawful Permanent Residents by Region and Country of Birth: Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023**

(Ranked by 2023 country of birth)

Region/country of birth	2021		2022		2023	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
REGION						
Total	740,000	100.0	1,018,350	100.0	1,172,910	100.0
Africa	66,210	8.9	89,570	8.8	105,520	9.0
Asia	295,310	39.9	414,950	40.7	418,930	35.7
Europe	61,520	8.3	75,610	7.4	80,280	6.8
North America	240,440	32.5	332,670	32.7	450,310	38.4
Caribbean	77,560	10.5	109,870	10.8	193,580	16.5
Central America	45,410	6.1	72,430	7.1	64,110	5.5
Other North America	117,460	15.9	150,380	14.8	192,620	16.4
Oceania	4,150	0.6	5,130	0.5	5,000	0.4
South America	71,370	9.6	99,030	9.7	112,130	9.6
Unknown	1,010	0.1	1,390	0.1	730	0.1
COUNTRY						
Total	740,000	100.0	1,018,350	100.0	1,172,910	100.0
Mexico	107,230	14.5	138,770	13.6	180,530	15.4
Cuba	23,080	3.1	36,640	3.6	81,600	7.0
India	93,450	12.6	127,010	12.5	78,070	6.7
Dominican Republic	24,550	3.3	40,150	3.9	68,870	5.9
China, People's Republic	49,850	6.7	67,950	6.7	59,260	5.1
Philippines	27,510	3.7	36,000	3.5	49,200	4.2
Vietnam	16,310	2.2	24,430	2.4	36,000	3.1
Afghanistan	9,490	1.3	14,190	1.4	30,300	2.6
Brazil	18,350	2.5	24,170	2.4	28,880	2.5
El Salvador	18,670	2.5	30,880	3.0	26,210	2.2
Colombia	15,290	2.1	21,720	2.1	24,810	2.1
Jamaica	13,360	1.8	16,480	1.6	21,460	1.8
Bangladesh	6,410	0.9	10,860	1.1	18,910	1.6
Venezuela	14,410	1.9	21,030	2.1	18,440	1.6
Nigeria	13,100	1.8	12,390	1.2	15,790	1.3
Korea, South	12,350	1.7	16,170	1.6	15,770	1.3
Guatemala	8,900	1.2	16,990	1.7	15,690	1.3
Haiti	11,460	1.5	10,430	1.0	15,450	1.3
Honduras	10,120	1.4	17,100	1.7	14,140	1.2
Peru	5,040	0.7	8,040	0.8	12,580	1.1
All other countries, including Unknown	241,080	32.6	326,960	32.1	360,970	30.8

Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

Table 4.**Type of Admission of New Lawful Permanent Residents for Top Ten Countries of Birth: Fiscal Year 2023**

Country of birth	Total	Adjustments		New Arrivals	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Mexico	180,530	113,370	62.8	67,160	37.2
Cuba	81,600	43,260	53.0	38,340	47.0
India	78,070	46,620	59.7	31,450	40.3
Dominican Republic	68,870	14,210	20.6	54,660	79.4
China, People's Republic	59,260	37,380	63.1	21,880	36.9
Philippines	49,200	15,090	30.7	34,110	69.3
Vietnam	36,000	6,610	18.4	29,390	81.6
Afghanistan	30,300	10,450	34.5	19,850	65.5
Brazil	28,880	23,710	82.1	5,170	17.9
El Salvador	26,210	17,480	66.7	8,730	33.3

Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

Table 5.**New Lawful Permanent Residents by State of Residence: Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023**

(Ranked by 2023 state of residence)

Country of birth	2021		2022		2023	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	740,000	100.0	1,018,350	100.0	1,172,910	100.0
California	135,180	18.3	182,920	18.0	205,040	17.5
Florida	83,230	11.2	113,650	11.2	155,500	13.3
New York	76,130	10.3	111,310	10.9	127,980	10.9
Texas	78,870	10.7	109,720	10.8	126,930	10.8
New Jersey	37,840	5.1	54,960	5.4	60,780	5.2
Illinois	26,230	3.5	34,550	3.4	37,760	3.2
Massachusetts	22,430	3.0	32,890	3.2	36,730	3.1
Pennsylvania	17,310	2.3	28,380	2.8	33,260	2.8
Washington	22,150	3.0	31,840	3.1	32,190	2.7
Virginia	20,430	2.8	28,900	2.8	29,600	2.5
Other*	220,210	29.8	289,230	28.4	327,150	27.9

*Includes unknown, U.S. territories, and Armed Forces posts.

Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

states of residence for new LPRs in 2023 were Florida (13 percent), New York, and Texas (each with 11 percent). Of the top ten states of residence for new LPRs, New York had the highest proportion of new arrivals (58 percent), while Washington had the lowest proportion (38 percent). In terms of new LPRs per capita in 2023, Florida had the highest number (with 688 new LPRs per 100,000

population), while Washington had the lowest (with 44 new LPRs per 100,000 population) (Figure 4).¹³

The leading metropolitan area of residence for new LPRs in 2023 was New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA

¹³ State populations sourced from the U.S. Census Bureau: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. December 2023. Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023 (NST-EST2023-POP). <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/2020s-state-total.html#v2023>.

Table 6.

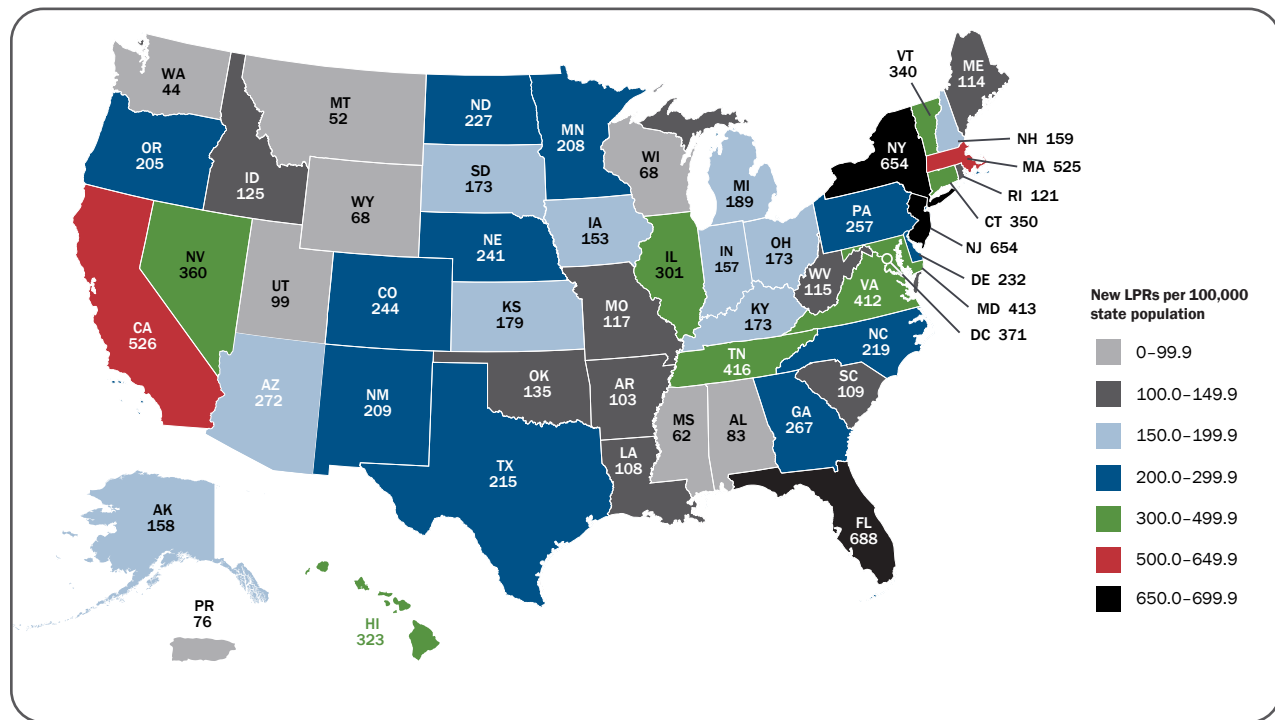
Type of Admission of New Lawful Permanent Residents for Top Ten States of Residence: Fiscal Year 2023

State of residence	Total	Adjustments		New Arrivals	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
California	205,040	112,100	54.7	92,940	45.3
Florida	155,500	86,090	55.4	69,410	44.6
New York	127,980	53,550	41.8	74,440	58.2
Texas	126,930	74,010	58.3	52,910	41.7
New Jersey	60,780	28,420	46.8	32,360	53.2
Illinois	37,760	17,880	47.4	19,880	52.6
Massachusetts	36,730	18,950	51.6	17,790	48.4
Pennsylvania	33,260	13,710	41.2	19,550	58.8
Washington	32,190	19,990	62.1	12,200	37.9
Virginia	29,600	12,890	43.6	16,700	56.4

Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding.
 Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

Figure 4.

New Lawful Permanent Residents per 100,000 State Population: Fiscal Year 2023



Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics and U.S. Census Bureau.

Table 7.**New Lawful Permanent Residents by Metropolitan Area of Residence: Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023**

(Ranked by 2023 metropolitan area of residence)

Metropolitan area of residence	2021		2022		2023	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	740,000	100.0	1,018,350	100.0	1,172,910	100.0
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ	101,680	13.7	148,520	14.6	169,180	14.4
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL	49,290	6.7	62,480	6.1	95,290	8.1
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA	50,960	6.9	63,580	6.2	72,960	6.2
Houston-Pasadena-The Woodlands, TX	26,150	3.5	38,200	3.8	45,280	3.9
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	27,570	3.7	39,390	3.9	40,310	3.4
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX	25,710	3.5	35,330	3.5	38,110	3.2
San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, CA	24,670	3.3	35,370	3.5	34,670	3.0
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN	23,860	3.2	31,400	3.1	34,640	3.0
Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH	18,150	2.5	26,370	2.6	29,790	2.5
Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA	18,190	2.5	26,450	2.6	25,660	2.2
Other	373,780	50.5	511,270	50.2	587,010	50.0

Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding.

Metropolitan areas defined based on the 2023 update of CBSA definitions. Numbers from previous years may differ from previously published figures.

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

Table 8.**New Lawful Permanent Residents by Age: Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023**

Age	2021		2022		2023	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	740,000	100.0	1,018,350	100.0	1,172,910	100.0
Under 5 years	12,700	1.7	22,970	2.3	31,030	2.6
5 to 14 years	67,740	9.2	102,010	10.0	123,790	10.6
15 to 24 years	99,170	13.4	142,760	14.0	160,730	13.7
25 to 34 years	201,240	27.2	237,660	23.3	262,920	22.4
35 to 44 years	184,330	24.9	240,930	23.7	226,060	19.3
45 to 54 years	98,110	13.3	137,860	13.5	169,360	14.4
55 to 64 years	47,790	6.5	81,860	8.0	114,520	9.8
65 years and over	28,920	3.9	52,300	5.1	84,510	7.2
Median age (years)	34		35		35	

Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

(14 percent) (Table 7). Other prominent metropolitan areas of residence included Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL, with 8.1 percent new LPRs and Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA with 6.2 percent. Together the top ten metropolitan areas accounted for 50 percent of new LPRs.¹⁴

¹⁴ For more data on LPRs by state or Core-Based Statistical Area (CBSA) outside of this Flow Report and the Yearbook, please see OHSS tables at <https://ohss.dhs.gov/topics/immigration/lpr> and LPR Web Profiles tables at <https://ohss.dhs.gov/topics/immigration/lpr/profiles>.

Age, Sex, and Marital Status

In 2023, the median age for new LPRs was 35 years. New LPR's who were 65 years of age and older increased 62 percent from 2022 (Table 8).

A slight majority of new LPRs in 2023 were female (55 percent) (Table 9). Over half (58 percent) of new LPRs were married (Table 10).

Table 9.**New Lawful Permanent Residents by Age: Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023**

Sex	2021		2022		2023	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	740,000	100.0	1,018,350	100.0	1,172,910	100.0
Female	403,480	54.5	543,800	53.4	642,060	54.7
Male	336,450	45.5	474,240	46.6	530,550	45.2
Unknown	70	0.0	310	0.0	300	0.0

Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding.
Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

Table 10.**New Lawful Permanent Residents by Marital Status: Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023**

Marital status	2021		2022		2023	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	740,000	100.0	1,018,350	100.0	1,172,910	100.0
Married	493,500	66.7	625,330	61.4	685,740	58.5
Single	206,000	27.8	333,310	32.7	402,220	34.3
Other*	30,050	4.1	48,660	4.8	73,190	6.2
Unknown	10,450	1.4	11,060	1.1	11,760	1.0

*Includes persons who are widowed, divorced, or separated.
Notes: To protect privacy, table cells are rounded to the nearest ten. The totals may not sum due to rounding.
Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

DATA

This report uses data from the USCIS Computer Linked Application Information Management System (CLAIMS) and Electronic Immigration System (ELIS). CLAIMS maintains information for applicants present in the United States from USCIS' Form I-485. ELIS uses a combination of data sources for information on applicants living abroad: (1) biographical and demographic information from the DOS Form DS-230, *Application for Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration*, or Form DS-260, *Electronic Application for Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration*; and (2) data on the date of entry, POE, and updated class of admission (if there is any change from the originally approved class of admission) collected by Customs and Border Protection at a POE. Since 2019, ELIS has also maintained information on family-sponsored applicants and certain special immigrant applicants present in the United States from the USCIS Form I-485.

The size and demographic composition of new LPR cohorts are affected by many factors including changes to immigration law and procedure, variation in application volume, and other factors related to application processing. For these reasons, caution should be exercised in drawing conclusions about the propensity to immigrate from the data presented in this report.

APPENDIX**PREFERENCE IMMIGRATION LIMITS¹⁵**

Section 201 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) defines a complex set of rules determining worldwide limits on the number of family- and employment-based visas, as well as other general rules defining the limits. Section 202 of the INA describes per-country limits based on the worldwide total. Section 203 of the INA describes the allocation of immigrant visas.

Family-sponsored Preference Limit

The annual limit for family-sponsored preference immigration is calculated as 480,000 people minus the number of foreign nationals who were issued visas or who adjusted to Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) status in the previous year as (1) immediate relatives of U.S. citizens, (2) children born subsequent to the issuance of a visa to an accompanying parent, (3) children born abroad to LPRs on temporary trips abroad, and (4) certain categories of foreign nationals paroled into the United States in the second preceding year, and plus (5)

¹⁵ The DOS Bureau of Consular Affairs is responsible for determining these limits. See DOS's monthly Visa Bulletins for more information: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/visa-law0/visa-bulletin.html>.

unused visas in the employment-preference classes in the preceding year.

The family-sponsored preference limit may not fall below a minimum of 226,000 in any year. Because the calculated limit (based on visa usage during the prior year) for family-sponsored preference classes in 2023 was below 226,000, the family-sponsored preferences limit was set at 226,000 (Table A1).

Employment-based Preference Limit

The annual limit for employment-based preference immigration is equal to 140,000 plus unused numbers in the family-sponsored preference classes in the previous year. With 57,091 unused numbers in the family-sponsored preference classes in 2022, the 2023 employment-based preference limit was 197,091. The limit is 28.6 percent of this total for each of the first three employment-preference classes and 7.1 percent for each of the last two preference classes. In 2023, these limits were 56,368 and 13,993, respectively.

Per Country and Dependent Area Limits

A limit of 7.0 percent of the combined total visa limits for family-sponsored and employment-based preference classes is set for independent countries, and a limit of 2.0 percent is set for dependent areas. The 2023 per-country limit for independent foreign states was 29,616 (7.0 percent of 423,091; the sum of the 2023 employment-based and family-based preference limits), and the limit for dependencies was 8,462 (2.0 percent of 423,091).

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the Office of Homeland Security Statistics webpage at <https://www.ohss.dhs.gov>.

Table A1:

Annual Limits for Preference and Diversity Immigrants: Fiscal Year 2023

Preference/description	Limit
Family-sponsored preferences	226,000
First: Unmarried sons and daughters of U.S. citizens and their children	23,400 ¹
Second: Spouses, children, and unmarried sons and daughters of permanent residents	114,200 ²
Third: Married sons and daughters of U.S. citizens	23,400 ²
Fourth: Brothers and sisters of U.S. citizens (at least 21 years of age)	65,000 ²
Employment-based preferences	197,091
First: Priority workers	56,368 ³
Second: Professionals with advanced degrees or aliens of exceptional ability	56,368 ²
Third: Skilled workers, professionals, and needed unskilled workers	56,368 ²
Fourth: Certain special immigrants	13,993
Fifth: Employment creation ("investors").	13,993
Diversity	54,833

¹ Plus unused family fourth preference visas.

² Plus unused higher preference visas.

³ Plus unused employment fourth and fifth preference visas.

Source: Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

