
TEMPORARY ADMISSIONS FISCAL YEAR 2001

This report will appear as a chapter in the forthcoming *2001 Statistical Yearbook of the Immigration and Naturalization Service*. All references to Appendices, Charts, Tables, and other sections of the *Statistical Yearbook*, as well as detailed table numbers, appear as they will in the final *Yearbook* edition.

IV. TEMPORARY ADMISSIONS

This section presents information on the number and characteristics of persons who come to the United States on a temporary basis (nonimmigrants), with subsections on parolees—persons allowed temporary entrance under special circumstances, and H-1B workers—persons allowed temporary entrance to perform services in “specialty occupations.”

Nonimmigrants

A nonimmigrant is an alien admitted to the United States for a specified purpose and temporary period but not for permanent residence.

(See Appendix 2, p. A.2-8.)

Although the typical nonimmigrant is a tourist who visits for a few days to several months, there are numerous classes of nonimmigrant admission, ranging from students to ambassadors. More than 32.8 million nonimmigrant

admissions were counted during fiscal year 2001. This represents a decrease of nearly 866 thousand since 2000, or 2.6 percent. This is the first annual decrease since the early 1980s.

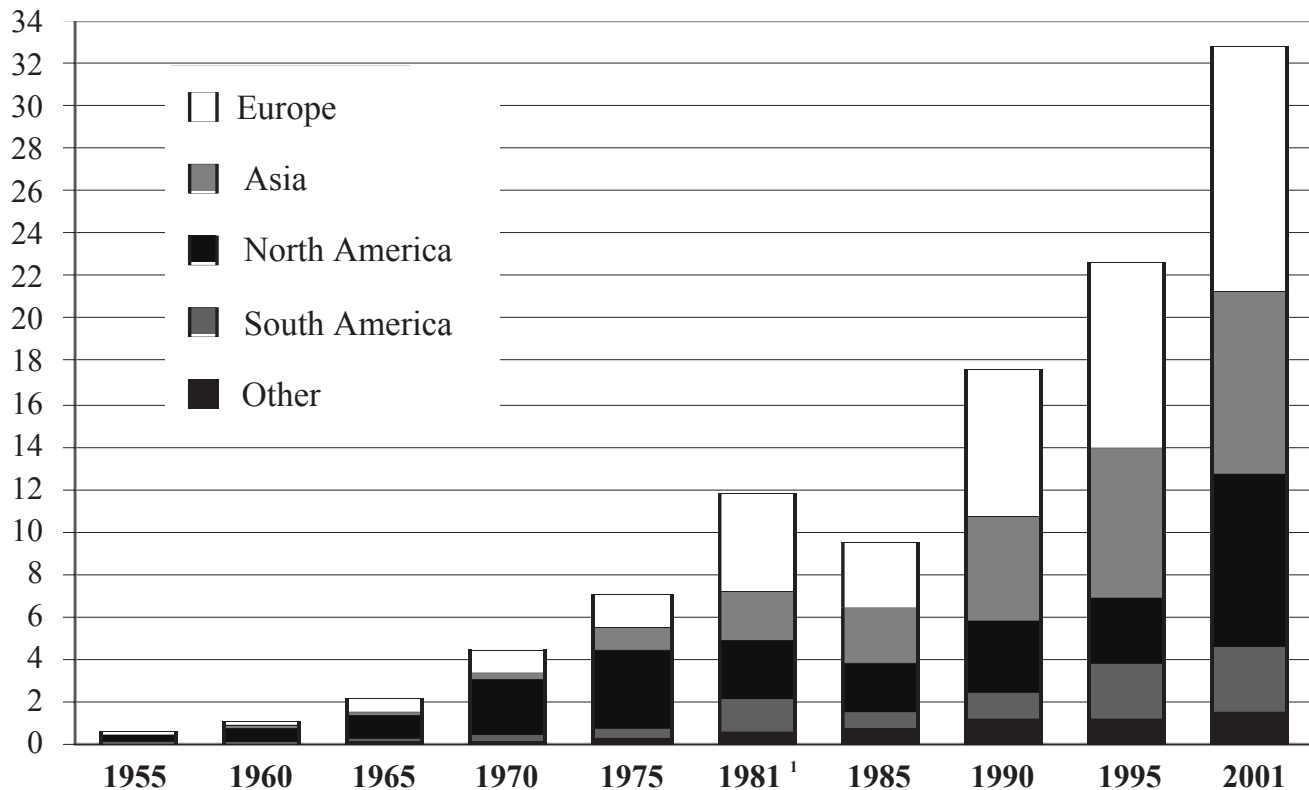
The September 11 terrorist attacks

The September 11 terrorist attacks had a substantial impact on the arrival of temporary visitors to the United States during 2001. Though the attacks occurred late in the fiscal year, the immediate reduction in arrivals of temporary

Chart E

Nonimmigrants Admitted by Region of Last Residence: Selected Fiscal Years 1955-2001

Millions



¹ No data available for 1980. NOTE: See Glossary for fiscal year definitions.

Source: 2001, 1995, 1990, 1985, and 1981, Table 35; 1955-75, previous *Yearbooks*.

visitors had a significant effect on the annual total. The impact is seen even more acutely during fiscal year 2002. While the decrease in total admissions for fiscal year 2001 was 2.6 percent, preliminary data for 2002 indicate an approximate 14 percent decline. Further information will be shown in the next edition of the *Statistical Yearbook*.

U.S. Nonimmigrant Program

Nonimmigrants were first defined in the Immigration Act of 1819, but the Act of 1855 was the first to require the reporting of “temporary arrivals” separately. The Act of 1924 defined several classes of admission that have been expanded in subsequent legislation. Though “tourists” (temporary visitors for pleasure) have consistently been by far the most numerous nonimmigrant class of admission to the United States, a wide variety of temporary visitors now fall within the nonimmigrant classification. Second in volume to tourists are business people coming to the United States to engage in commercial transactions (though not for employment in this country). (See Table 37.)

Nonimmigrant categories (Tables 35-38, 41, 43)

Other categories of admission make up a much smaller share of the nonimmigrant total, such as foreign students and temporary workers. Temporary workers are admitted to the United States with “specialty occupations” (such as computer systems analysts and programmers) or to perform temporary services or labor when persons capable of performing such services or labor cannot be found in this country (such as agricultural laborers). Others who are granted authorization to work temporarily in the United States include: exchange visitors who enter to study, teach, or conduct research; intracompany transferees, to render managerial or executive services in the United States to international firms or corporations; and industrial trainees. Though not strictly considered as employed in the United States, treaty traders and treaty investors enter temporarily to conduct trade or to invest substantially in enterprises under the provisions of treaties of commerce and navigation between the United States and foreign states.

Nonimmigrants also include several types of temporary visitors who are connected in some way with a foreign government or who represent an international organization. Ambassadors, public ministers, diplomats, and consular officers serve temporarily in this country, bringing with them members of their immediate families as well as personal employees, attendants, and servants. Officers and employees of international organizations such as the United

Nations add to the list of nonimmigrant visitors entering the United States each year.

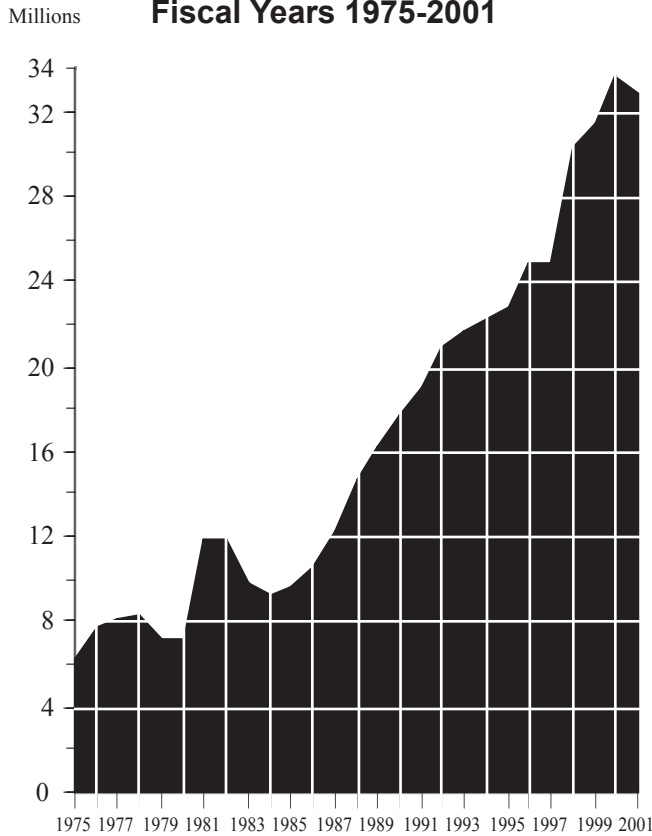
New classes of nonimmigrant admission were established in prior years that resulted in entries starting in 2001 (Table 37). The Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas Act of 1999 (see Appendix 2) established nonimmigrant entry for a limited number of nurses to fill short-term needs in medically underserved areas in the United States. The Legal Immigration Family Equity (LIFE) Act of 2000 and its amendments (see Appendix 2) authorized nonimmigrant admission to allow the spouse or child of a U.S. citizen to complete processing for permanent resident status while in the United States. Similar nonimmigrant admission was granted to a spouse or child (or dependent of a spouse or child) of a legal permanent resident who has had a petition for an immigrant visa pending for more than 3 years. The Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (see Appendix 2) authorized nonimmigrant admission to an individual (and spouse, child, or parent) who is or has been the victim of a severe form of trafficking. Also, this enactment authorized admission to an individual (and spouse, child, or parent) who has suffered substantial physical or mental abuse as a victim of a criminal activity.

The Glossary (Appendix 2) contains a detailed definition of nonimmigrants, a listing of each of the nonimmigrant classes of admission, and a detailed definition of each class.

Admission policy

The U.S. government has an “open door” policy for most nonimmigrant classes of admission. There is no set limit on the total number of admissions each year; indeed, tourists (the majority of nonimmigrants) are encouraged to visit as a boon to the U.S. economy. The only exception is on the number of petitions approved for initial employment for certain categories of temporary workers. Annual ceilings have been set by U.S. law on the number of petitions approved each year for admission categories H-1B (specialty occupations—see page 134) and H-2B (occupations in which persons providing services or labor cannot be found in this country). Regulations govern additional areas such as the grounds for nonimmigrant admission, length and extension of stay, employment in the United States, accompaniment by family members, travel restrictions within the United States, and change of admission status. For example, ambassadors are allowed to

Chart F
Nonimmigrants Admitted:
Fiscal Years 1975-2001



NOTE: Data estimated for last quarter of 1979 and no data available for 1980 and 1997. See Glossary for fiscal year definitions.
 Source: Table 35 and previous *Yearbooks*.

remain in the United States for the duration of their service, students to complete their studies, visitors for business for a maximum of 6 months (plus 6-month extensions), and aliens in transit through the United States for not more than 29 days (with no extensions).

In response the terrorist attacks in September 2001 the INS initiated the policy of inspecting transit aliens who had previously not been inspected, but rather had waited in secure U.S. airport “transit lounges” for their connecting flights through the United States from one foreign country to another. This policy has greatly increased the count of aliens in transit without visas (and to a much more limited extent, counts for visitors for business and pleasure (Table 37)) because this admission classification is most often used for inspection of transit lounge aliens. While this policy change had a minimal affect on the count of aliens in transit without visas during fiscal year 2001, the impact on the count for fiscal year 2002 is expected to be substantial.

Employment, family members

(Tables 36-38, 41, 43)

Most types of nonimmigrants are not allowed employment while in the United States, though exceptions may be granted, for example to students and to family members of international representatives. On the other hand, temporary workers come to the United States expressly for purposes of employment. Most nonimmigrant aliens may bring immediate family members with them; the exception is transit aliens other than foreign government officials. Some nonimmigrant aliens are prohibited from changing to another nonimmigrant category while in this country: transit aliens (except certain diplomats); crewmen; Visa Waiver Program visitors; fiance(e)s coming to the United States to marry U.S. citizens; visitors under a special program to provide certain critical information to Federal or State courts; and certain exchange visitors, non-agricultural workers, industrial trainees, vocational students, NATO personnel, and Irish Peace process aliens.

Country of citizenship	Visa Waiver visitors to Guam, fiscal year 2001	
	For pleasure	For business
Total	109,400	2,202
Korea	78,543	1,661
Taiwan ¹	25,125	298
Hong Kong	1,995	22
United Kingdom	1,213	19
Japan	270	3
Australia	181	18
Malaysia	111	-
Indonesia	103	12
Nauru	78	3
Singapore	74	74
New Zealand	52	1
Burma ²	40	1
Papua New Guinea ...	25	2
Solomon Islands	8	2
Vanuatu	8	2
Brunei	-	-
Samoa	-	-
Unknown	1,574	57

¹ Includes 6,940 pleasure and 36 business admissions from the People’s Republic of China, which is not in the Guam Visa Waiver program.

² Removed from the program in January 2001.

- Represents zero.

Visa Waiver Program (Table 37)

The Visa Waiver Program, established by the Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) of 1986 and made permanent by the Visa Waiver Permanent Program Act of 2000, permits certain nonimmigrants from qualified countries entry to the United States on a temporary basis without nonimmigrant visas. The program (see Appendix 2, p. A.2-14) extends only to approved countries that offer a reciprocal waiver of visas to U.S. citizens and adhere to other statutory and regulatory requirements. These include development of machine-readable passports and the condition that designation in the program will not compromise U.S. law enforcement or national security. Entry is limited to the visitor for pleasure and for business classes, with admission not to exceed 90 days. During fiscal year 2001, 29 countries were members of the Visa Waiver Program. Entries for current participant countries during fiscal year 2000 and 2001 are shown in Table C. Data for business and pleasure are not available separately for 2000 and 2001 due to the expiration of the Visa Waiver Pilot Program before it was made permanent. From May 1 through October 30, 2000 all visa waiver entries were inspected using parole provisions and were not differentiated as to visitors for business or pleasure.

Guam Visa Waiver Program

Under the Visa Waiver Program, certain visitors from designated countries may visit Guam for up to 15 days without first having to obtain nonimmigrant visitor visas. Guam Visa Waiver entries were not affected by the May through October 2000 period of expiration. The table on the preceding page shows the countries participating in this program and entries for fiscal year 2001.

North American Free-Trade Agreement

(Tables 36-38, 41, 43)

In December 1992, the Presidents of the United States and Mexico and the Prime Minister of Canada signed an agreement, enacted in December 1993, known as the North American Free-Trade Agreement (NAFTA). This law superseded the United States-Canada Free-Trade Agreement, and established a special, reciprocal trading relationship among the United States, Canada, and Mexico. This agreement extended to the citizens of Mexico (with certain stipulations) and Canada the nonimmigrant class of admission exclusively for business people entering the United States to engage in activities at a "professional" level. Additionally, the agreement facilitates entry for Mexican as well as Canadian citizens

seeking temporary entry as visitors for business, treaty traders and treaty investors, and intracompany transferees. Entries under NAFTA began in February 1994. Data for fiscal year 2001 are shown for NAFTA in Table 37.

**More than 32.8 million
nonimmigrants were admitted
to the United States during 2001.**

Data Overview

Recent trends in admission (Tables 35, 37)

As noted, the fiscal year 2001 total of more than 32.8 million nonimmigrant arrivals represents a decrease of nearly 866 thousand (2.6 percent) from fiscal year 2000. Total nonimmigrant admissions numbered about 6.3 million during 1975 and steadily increased to about 11.8 million in both 1981 and 1982. The number stabilized at about 9.5 million from 1983 to 1985 (recording a low in 1984), then began a steady increase that continued from 1985 to 2000. The decrease from 2000 to 2001 is the first since 1983-84 (Chart F).

Due to multiple entry each year of some aliens (especially among certain categories such as students) and the method of data collection, nonimmigrant admission data represent arrival events rather than individuals (see Data Collection section).

Class of admission (Tables 35-38, 41, 43)

Of the 32.8 million nonimmigrant admissions in fiscal year 2001, a large majority (89.6 percent) entered as visitors for pleasure (tourists) or visitors for business. Nearly 340,000 persons entered as exchange visitors to study, teach, or conduct research in the United States, bringing with them some 49,600 spouses and children (Chart G and Table 38). There were nearly 699,000 foreign student admissions recorded, entering to pursue a full course of study (predominantly in academic institutions) in addition to more than 43,000 spouse and children admissions (Chart H and Table 36).

More than 239,000 representatives of foreign governments (less than 1 percent of total entries) entered the United States as nonimmigrants in 2001. This figure consists of: more than 131,000 foreign government officials (including

Table C
Nonimmigrants Admitted Under the Visa Waiver Program by Country of Citizenship:
Fiscal Years 2000-01

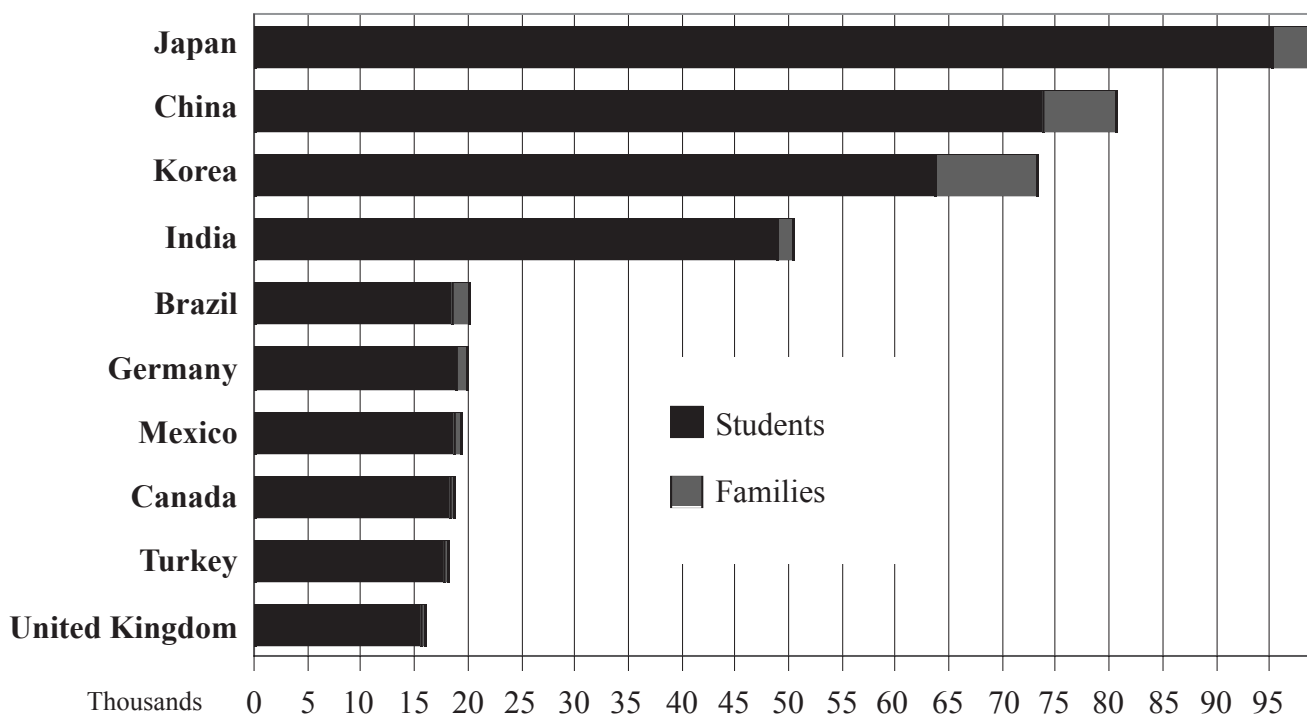
Country of citizenship	2001	2000	Change	
			Number	Percent
All Visa Waiver countries	16,364,966	17,697,919	-1,332,953	-7.5
Japan	4,752,952	4,942,818	-189,866	-3.8
United Kingdom	4,487,264	4,563,621	-76,357	-1.7
Germany	1,525,268	1,893,534	-368,266	-19.4
France	1,075,677	1,193,256	-117,579	-9.9
Italy	670,751	737,641	-66,890	-9.1
Netherlands	538,968	623,088	-84,120	-13.5
Australia.....	478,689	519,176	-40,487	-7.8
Argentina	443,047	410,915	32,132	7.8
Spain	369,544	394,170	-24,626	-6.2
Ireland	345,681	338,793	6,888	2.0
Switzerland	291,765	322,935	-31,170	-9.7
Sweden	273,100	317,515	-44,415	-14.0
Belgium	197,660	234,136	-36,476	-15.6
New Zealand	168,417	171,403	-2,986	-1.7
Austria	153,008	190,194	-37,186	-19.6
Denmark	143,559	151,417	-7,858	-5.2
Norway	134,515	139,728	-5,213	-3.7
Finland	86,796	99,266	-12,470	-12.6
Portugal	72,402	66,779	5,623	8.4
Singapore	68,434	66,521	1,913	2.9
Uruguay	40,933	33,625	7,308	21.7
Iceland	21,648	24,462	-2,814	-11.5
Slovenia	13,155	16,119	-2,964	-18.4
Luxembourg	8,243	11,141	-2,898	-26.0
Liechtenstein	1,365	1,392	-27	-1.9
Monaco	586	677	-91	-13.4
Andorra	573	723	-150	-20.7
Brunei	568	615	-47	-7.6
San Marino	398	531	-133	-25.0
Unknown	217,637	231,728	-14,091	-6.1

NOTE: Data include entries under the Guam Visa Waiver Program. Data for business and pleasure are not available separately due to temporary expiration of the Visa Waiver Program from May through October 2000.

ambassadors, public ministers, career diplomats, and consular officers), family members, and attendants; more than 94,000 foreign representatives to international

organizations (including families and attendants); and nearly 14,000 officials serving the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) (including family members).

Chart G
Nonimmigrants Admitted as Students and Their Families from Top Ten Countries of Citizenship: Fiscal Year 2001



NOTE: China includes the People's Republic of China and Taiwan. Source: Table 36.

Country of citizenship (Tables 36, 38-40, 42)

Nearly half of all nonimmigrants arriving in 2001 were citizens of one of four countries: Japan (15.4 percent), the United Kingdom (15.1), Mexico (11.3), and Germany (5.3). Tourists far outnumbered other classes of entry for almost every country of citizenship (Chart I). More than 94 percent of Japanese nonimmigrants were tourists (visitors for business or pleasure), compared to 90 percent of citizens of France, and 81 percent of Chinese (the People's Republic of China and Taiwan).

Port of entry (Table 39)

Just as four countries dominated nonimmigrant admissions to the United States in 2001, so did four ports of entry. Miami (13.2 percent), New York (12.2), Los Angeles (10.8), and Honolulu (5.8) together accounted for 42 percent of all entrants. The share of all four ports decreased in 2001, indicating a continuing dispersement of arrivals to other ports within the United States since 1996.

State of destination (Tables 41, 42)

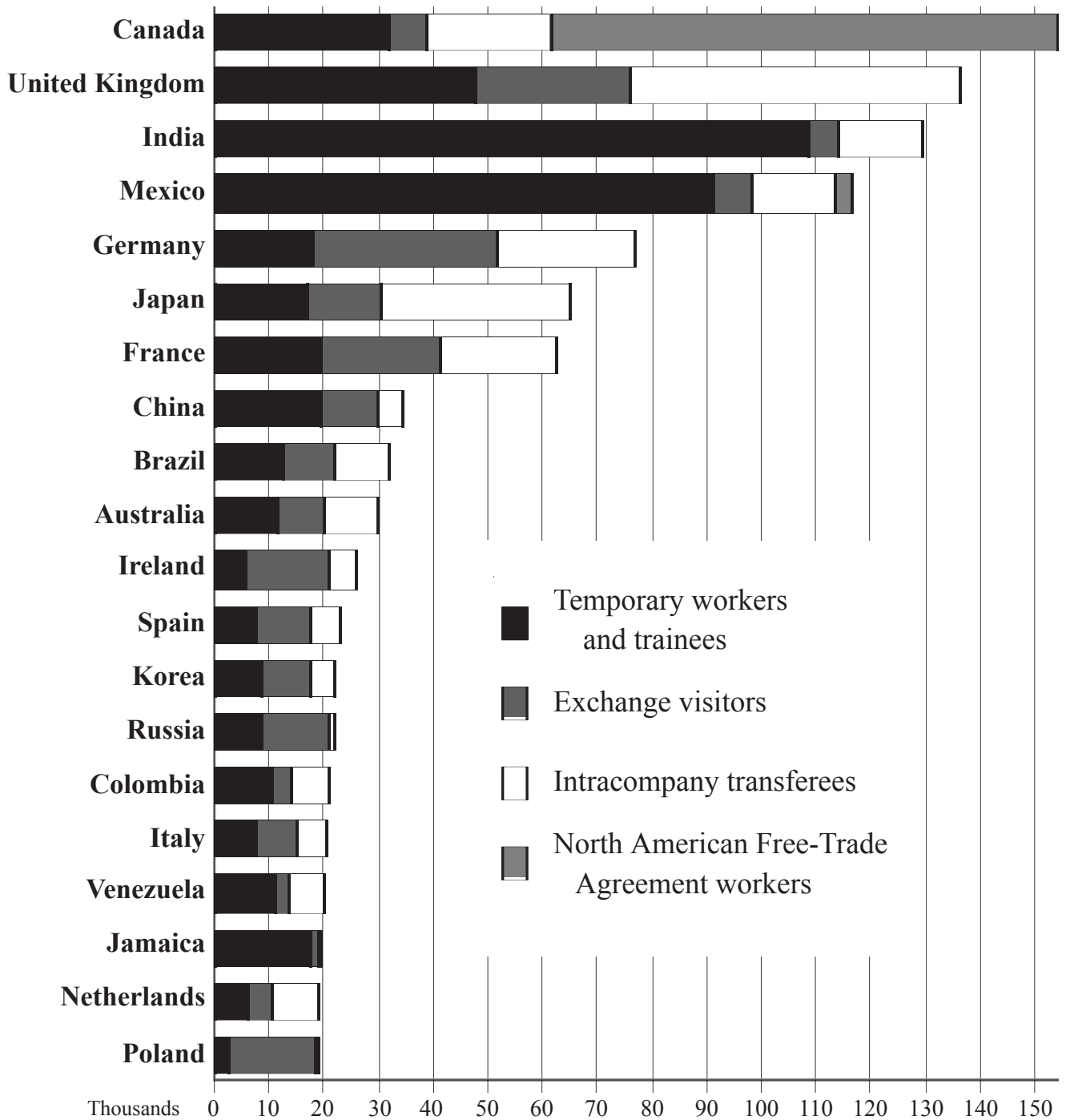
Five states were most often the destination of temporary visitors to the United States: Florida (17.1 percent of total admissions, 25 percent from the United Kingdom), California (13.8 percent of the total, more than 14 percent from Japan and nearly 14 percent from Mexico), New York (12 percent of the total, 19 percent from the United Kingdom), Texas (6.1 percent of the total, more than 57 percent from Mexico), and Hawaii (5.7 percent of the total, nearly 85 percent from Japan).

Gender and age (Table 43)

The largest age group for all nonimmigrant admissions is 25-39 years, with more than 36 percent. Males account for 53.1 percent of total nonimmigrant admissions; more than 85 percent of intracompany transferees; nearly 77 percent of temporary workers and trainees; more than 73 percent of foreign government officials; and nearly 71 percent of foreign information media.

Chart H

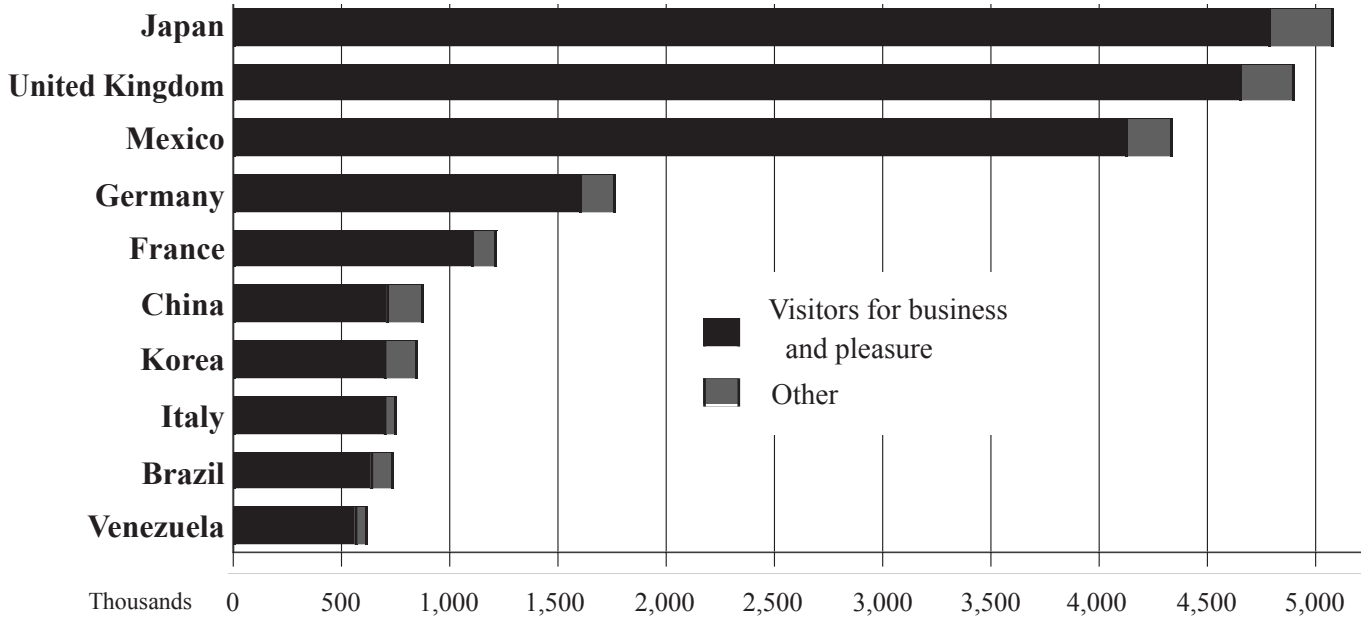
Nonimmigrants Admitted as Temporary Workers, Intracompany Transferees, and Exchange Visitors from Top Twenty Countries of Citizenship: Fiscal Year 2001



NOTE: China includes the People's Republic of China and Taiwan. "Temporary workers and trainees" includes admission classes H, O, P, Q, and R (see Nonimmigrant Admission section of text). Also, see Glossary for definitions of nonimmigrant classes of admission.

Source: Table 38.

Chart I
Nonimmigrants Admitted by Selected Class of Admission from Top Ten Countries of Citizenship: Fiscal Year 2001



NOTE: China includes the People's Republic of China and Taiwan. Source: Table 36.

Parolees

A parolee is an alien, appearing to be inadmissible to the inspecting officer, allowed to enter the United States under urgent humanitarian reasons or when that alien's entry is determined to be for significant public benefit.

(See Appendix 2, p. A.2-9.)

Authority to grant parole

The Attorney General has the authority to allow the temporary admission of an alien on a case-by-case basis who may appear inadmissible but who enters the United States for urgent humanitarian reasons or when that alien's entry is determined to be for significant public benefit. Parole does not constitute formal admission to the United States. It confers only temporary status, and parolees are required to leave when the conditions supporting their admission are ended.

U.S. Parole Program

Parolees are treated as nonimmigrants at port processing, but their numbers are not reported in the nonimmigrant admission data (Tables 35-43). They are classified into six categories: deferred inspections; port-of-entry paroles; advance paroles; humanitarian, public interest, and

overseas parolees. To simplify presentation, some of these categories are combined in Table D. In fiscal years 1998 and 1999, more than 200,000 parole admissions were authorized annually. In fiscal year 2000 the number was nearly 300,000, but it dropped in fiscal year 2001 to about 274,000.

Nearly 274,000 parolees were admitted to the United States during 2001.

Categories of parole

Deferred inspection is used when an alien does not appear to be clearly admissible based on the evidence at hand. The parole is issued and an appointment is made for the alien to appear at another INS office, where more information is available and the inspection can be completed. These cases are usually resolved within 2 weeks, and the alien is admitted in the appropriate category. Parole may also be granted by advance application to an INS District Office. Advance parole is

Table D
Parolees Admitted by Selected Class of Admission from Top Five Countries of Citizenship:
Fiscal Years 1998-2001

Class of admission/ country of citizenship	1998	1999	2000	2001
All parolees	234,545	263,755	299,851	273,914
Deferred inspections	10,108	9,608	10,272	12,677
Mexico	1,786	1,806	1,773	2,089
Cuba	212	399	362	1,540
Canada	822	851	991	951
China ¹	333	349	347	645
United Kingdom	480	445	556	526
Other	6,475	5,758	6,243	6,926
Port-of-entry and district advance parolees	177,701	204,364	247,664	221,290
Mexico	57,019	52,557	51,632	44,146
Canada	13,219	17,228	19,344	17,506
India	6,188	7,539	14,896	14,693
China ¹	8,962	9,967	15,497	13,377
United Kingdom	9,348	12,456	15,177	12,101
Other	82,965	104,617	131,118	119,467
Humanitarian, public interest, and overseas parolees	46,736	49,783	41,915	39,947
Mexico	21,476	19,801	18,340	12,060
Cuba	13,888	17,209	9,188	10,862
Canada	2,376	2,153	2,072	2,569
Ukraine ²	704	1,582	1,290	1,601
Honduras	75	88	315	1,076
Other	8,217	8,950	10,710	11,779

¹ Includes the People's Republic of China and Taiwan. ² Totals for the former Soviet Union were 2,281 in 1998, 3,814 in 1999, 2,745 in 2000, and 3,477 in 2001.

issued to an alien residing legally in the United States in other than permanent resident status who has an unexpected need to travel abroad and return, and whose conditions of stay do not otherwise allow for readmission if he/she departs. Most commonly, parole is extended at ports of entry. These parole admissions comprised 72 percent of all paroles in fiscal year 2001. These cases are most common at the land border ports and often involve the reentry of lawful permanent residents who are not carrying their documents. Again, these cases are typically resolved rapidly when the documents are produced.

The more exceptional instances of parole arise in emergencies or special situations. People may be admitted under humanitarian parole to receive medical treatment or because they are injured or acutely ill. They may be

brought to the United States under public interest parole to take part in legal proceedings as witnesses or defendants, or as part of a special overseas program undertaken in an agreement with another government. The latter category is the only one that may result in a long-term admission to the United States.

Country of citizenship

Table D displays the total number of parolees admitted from fiscal year 1998 through fiscal year 2001 by the three major categories of parole. Within each category, the five countries accounting for the largest number of parole admissions in fiscal year 2001 are shown. Parole admissions declined by 8.6 percent in fiscal year 2001, reversing the upward trend observed since the mid-1990s. In most years our neighboring countries, Canada and

Table E
Parolees Admitted by Selected Category of Parole from Selected Country of Citizenship:
Fiscal Years 1998-2001

Class of admission/ country of citizenship	1998	1999	2000	2001
All selected parole categories	46,736	49,783	41,915	39,947
Overseas parolees	1,072	2,130	3,345	3,159
Ukraine	144	601	640	685
Cuba	107	181	103	399
Russia	159	372	304	316
Vietnam	101	138	176	202
China ¹	47	20	135	184
Moldova	6	71	104	136
Cambodia	9	10	39	122
Other	499	737	1,844	1,115
Humanitarian parolees (medical and related reasons)	25,141	22,571	22,933	18,374
Mexico	18,292	16,106	15,948	9,291
Canada	1,802	1,620	1,704	1,957
Honduras	66	68	291	1,034
El Salvador	742	1,077	699	935
Cuba.....	234	260	325	903
Other	4,005	3,440	3,966	4,254
Public interest parolees (legal and related reasons) ..	20,523	25,082	15,637	18,414
Cuba	13,547	16,768	8,760	9,574
Mexico	3,092	3,581	2,300	2,718
Ukraine	493	874	504	725
Canada	543	516	319	578
Russia	483	547	280	443
Other	2,365	2,796	3,474	4,376

¹ Includes the People's Republic of China and Taiwan.

Mexico, account for the largest number of parolees in the deferred inspections and port-of-entry/district advance categories, but in 2001, Cuba placed second to Mexico in deferred inspections. Deferred inspections increased from about 10,000 to more than 12,000 in 2001. The significant decline in the use of parole came in the port-of-entry category and was observed among most countries, including Mexico and others with many parole admissions.

Table E presents more detail for the same years regarding admissions under the overseas and humanitarian parole categories, in which admissions dropped, and the public interest category, which increased. More than 61 percent of the humanitarian paroles granted in fiscal year 2001 for medical and related reasons were from Canada and Mexico.

The rest came in small numbers from many other countries. A number of the annual admissions under public interest parole for legal and related reasons are also from Canada and Mexico, but the increase in this category was spread over many countries. The largest number of public interest parolees continued to be Cubans admitted under the 1994 migration agreement with Cuba. Most of the parolees from Vietnam, Cambodia, and the former Soviet Union arrived under special legislation after being denied refugee status. ¹ These persons are allowed to adjust to immigrant status after one year of residence in the United States.

¹ The Foreign Operations Act of November 21, 1989. This provision is commonly known as the Lautenberg Amendment.

Notes on the parole data

Several changes were made in the presentation of the parole data in fiscal year 2000 and continued in fiscal year 2001. The corresponding changes were made retroactively in the data for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 in Tables D and E. First, the data for the independent republics of the former Soviet Union are no longer combined. This affects the ranking of the countries in the tables, since the former Soviet Union as a whole accounted for a significant share of the paroles in some categories. Second, the practice of combining the humanitarian and public interest parolees from countries with special programs into the overseas parole category is no longer being followed, and the data are presented without this editing step. Most Cubans admitted under the 1994 migration agreement are now being classified under public interest parole, but Cubans appear in other parole categories as well. Parolees from Vietnam and the republics of the former Soviet Union may be classified under overseas or public interest parole. Third, from May 1 through the end of October 2000, the public interest parole authority was used to admit more than 9 million temporary visitors after the Visa Waiver Pilot Program expired without being reauthorized. Although procedures were adopted to distinguish these paroles from ordinary public interest paroles in the data, analysis indicates that the distinction was not made correctly in every case. For this reason, interpretation of the public interest parole data for fiscal year 2000 and to a lesser extent fiscal year 2001 should be made with caution.

Understanding the Data

Data Collection

The Nonimmigrant Information System (NIIS) is designed to provide for each nonimmigrant entry a record of legal admission and departure. The system also produces statistics for such variables as age, country of citizenship, class of admission, visa-issuing post, port of entry, and destination in the United States.

As mentioned, many nonimmigrants enter and leave the United States more than once each year, and the NIIS system records each entry (and departure) separately. The data system records each arrival/departure event via collection of a separate INS Form I-94; thus, admission data represent each arrival event during the year rather than the actual number of individuals admitted. Nonimmigrants in several classes of admission often enter (and leave) many times in any given year, especially students, intracompany transferees, and visitors for business.

A description of the principal steps in the process of nonimmigrant admission to the United States is useful for understanding the data produced by the NIIS system. A nonimmigrant visa is secured at a U.S. Consulate abroad (except for those entering under the Visa Waiver Program—see Visa Waiver Program section). These visas may be valid for multiple visits to the United States. Prior to departing for the United States, nonimmigrants are screened initially by the transportation company to ensure that their documents are in order. During the trip, INS Form I-94 is distributed to non-U.S. citizens.

At the port of entry, each arriving nonimmigrant presents a visa, which usually is stamped in the passport, and a completed INS Form I-94 to an immigration inspector. Among other actions, the inspector checks the form for completeness, determines the length of admission, and stamps the class of admission and port of entry on the form. The arrival portion is torn off and sent to a central data processing facility. The matching departure section of the form, usually stapled into the passport, is the nonimmigrant's proof of legal admission to the United States. This section of INS Form I-94, collected at departure, also is sent to the data processing facility where it is processed and matched electronically to the arrival section of the form.

Other temporary visitors

The Nonimmigrant Information System also includes information on parolees, (see Parolees section), withdrawals, stowaways, and refugees. Data for these classes of admission are not shown in the nonimmigrant tables but are included in summary in footnotes to the appropriate tables.

Temporary visitor information not collected

The Nonimmigrant Information System does not include data for permanent resident aliens returning after short visits abroad or for most of the millions of citizens of Canada and Mexico who cross the border for brief periods of time. Most aliens entering the United States from Canada or Mexico do not require documentation in the NIIS system. Canadians may travel for business or pleasure without travel restrictions for a period of 6 months without obtaining nonimmigrant visas. Mexicans crossing the border frequently may apply for border crossing cards, which can be used for admission to the United States for business or pleasure within 25 miles of the Southwestern border for a period not to exceed 72 hours.

Limitations of Data

A new data system was developed and put into place in mid-1996. While the new system introduced needed improvements in many of the data processing functions, start-up difficulties produced less complete capture of some data elements for fiscal year 1996, such as port of entry and state of intended destination. As noted, data for fiscal year 1997 do not appear in this edition due to data inconsistencies resulting from the reengineering of both the data entry and data base management components of the Nonimmigrant Information System.

The tables on parole admissions in fiscal year 1998 reflect a later edition of the data than was available for production of the report entitled, *Use of the Attorney General's Parole Authority Under the Immigration and Nationality Act: Fiscal Years 1997-1998*.

Missing information

There are gaps in the historical nonimmigrant data series due to the unavailability of arrival and departure records for July to September 1979, all of 1980, and for most characteristics for 1981 and 1982. Country of last residence and class of admission are the only variables available for 1981 and 1982. No reliable data are available for 1997.

H-1B Temporary Workers

An H-1B temporary worker is an alien admitted to the United States to perform services in "specialty occupations," based on professional education, skills, and/or equivalent experience. (See Appendix 2, p. A.2-13.)

H-1B Program

The INS is responsible for the processing and approval of H-1B petitions submitted by domestic employers and their representatives on behalf of nonimmigrant workers seeking temporary employment within the United States. The H-1B nonimmigrant classification permits foreign professionals to enter the United States on a temporary basis to work in their field of expertise.

Under the H-1B program, specialty workers are permitted to be employed for as long as three years initially with extensions not exceeding three years. The maximum stay is six years. In order to perform services in a specialty occupation, an employee must meet one of the following criteria: 1) hold a United States baccalaureate or higher degree as required by the specialty occupation from an

accredited college or university; 2) possess a foreign degree determined to be equivalent to a United States baccalaureate or higher degree as required by the specialty occupation from an accredited college or university; 3) have any required license or other official permission to practice the occupation (for example, architect, surveyor, physical therapist) in the state in which employment is sought; or 4) have, as determined by the INS, the equivalent of the degree required by the specialty occupation acquired through a combination of education, training, and/or experience. Specialty occupations include computer systems analysts and programmers, physicians, professors, engineers, and accountants.

In order to sponsor a foreign worker under the H-1B program, an employer must first file an application with the Department of Labor specifying the job, the salary, and the length and site of employment. In addition, the employer must agree to pay the prevailing salary and provide proof that the pay is fair. Once the Department of Labor certifies the application, U.S. employers file the petition with the INS to sponsor an alien worker as an H-1B nonimmigrant. This petition may be filed to sponsor an alien for an initial period of H-1B employment or to extend the authorized stay of an alien as an H-1B nonimmigrant. Additionally, an employer may file the petition to sponsor an alien who currently has status as an H-1B nonimmigrant working for another employer or to seek an amendment of a previously approved petition. In the case of a petition to amend a previously approved petition, no corresponding request might be made to extend the authorized stay of the beneficiary. For example, an employer may file an amended petition notifying the INS of a different location where the beneficiary will be employed or a material change in the beneficiary's job duties. Therefore, the total number of approved petitions exceeds the actual number of aliens who are provided nonimmigrant status as H-1B.

The Immigration and Naturalization Act, as amended by the Immigration Act of 1990 and the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA), regulates H-1B policy as well as guides H-1B procedures. Under ACWIA, the annual ceiling of H-1B petitions valid for initial employment was increased from 65,000 to 115,000 in fiscal years 1999 and 2000 and 107,500 in 2001. The enactment of the American Competitiveness in the Twenty-first Century Act (AC21) in October 2000 raised the limit on petitions in fiscal year 2001 from 107,500 to 195,000.

Data Overview

Petitions filed and approved (Table F)

The terms initial employment and continuing employment are used throughout this section on H-1B petitions to identify two types of petitions. Petitions for initial employment are filed for first-time H-1B employment with employers, only some of which are applied to the annual cap.² Continuing employment petitions refer to extensions, sequential employment, and concurrent employment, which are filed for aliens already in the United States. Extensions are filed for H-1B workers intending to work beyond the initial 3-year period up to six years, the maximum period permissible under law during fiscal year 2001.³ Sequential employment refers to petitions for workers transferring between H-1B employers within the six-year period. Finally, petitions for concurrent employment are filed for H-1B workers intending to work simultaneously for a second or subsequent H-1B employer.

More than 342,000 H-1B petitions were filed and more than 331,000 approved during 2001.

The number of H-1B petitions filed in fiscal year 2001 was approximately 342,000, of which 202,000 or 59 percent were for initial employment.⁴ The remaining 140,000 or 41 percent were for extensions of status, and sequential or concurrent employment. The corresponding numbers for fiscal year 2000 were 299,000 petitions filed, of which 165,000 (55 percent) were for initial and 134,000 (45 percent) were for continuing employment. However, while the number of petitions filed increased by 14 percent in 2001 over 2000, applications filed were down by 9 percent in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2001 in relation to the same period in 2000. In September, the number filed was down 46 percent below the level of September 2000.

² H-1B petitions approved for initial employment with non-exempt employers, adjusted for multiple petitions for individuals and revocations, count against the annual cap.

³ Enactment of AC21 amended the 6-year limitation for certain aliens (Public Law 106.313, Sec. 104(c) and 106).

⁴ The number of petitions counting against the cap was 164,000. This number excludes multiple petitions of individuals as well as petitions for employment with institutions of higher education and certain non-profit organizations.

Table F
H-1B Petitions Filed and Approved by Type:
Fiscal Year 2001

Type of petition	Petitions filed	Petitions approved
All petitions	342,035	331,206
Initial beneficiaries	201,543	201,079 ¹
Aliens outside U.S.	111,565	115,759 ¹
Aliens in U.S.	89,978	85,320 ¹
Continuing beneficiaries	140,492	130,127

¹ Petitions approved in fiscal year 2001 that may have qualified as counting towards the numerical limit of 195,000 based on rules existing prior to the enactment of AC21 and before adjustment for multiple petitions and revocations.

During the same period, the INS approved about 331,000 H-1B petitions submitted by employers on behalf of alien workers. In some cases, more than one U.S. employer submitted a petition on behalf of an individual H-1B worker (multiple petitions); therefore, the number of approved petitions exceeds the number of individual H-1B workers. The references in the tables and chart to beneficiaries represent petitions approved (rather than individual workers approved). In fiscal year 2000, approximately 258,000 petitions were approved.

Of the petitions approved in fiscal year 2001, about 201,000 petitions or 61 percent were for initial employment.⁵ Approximately 42 percent of the beneficiaries of initial employment were in the United States in another nonimmigrant status.⁶ The corresponding number of petitions for continuing employment was 130,000.⁷ In fiscal year 2000, 53 and 47

⁵ AC21 raised the cap on initial employment from 65,000 to 195,000 in fiscal years 2002 and 2003. In addition, under AC21 petitions filed for initial employment after March 22, 2000 (when the INS has enough petitions to reach the 115,000 cap in fiscal year 2000) and before September 1, 2000, regardless of when approved, do not count towards the fiscal year cap. Initial employment applications filed in September 2000 count against the fiscal year 2001 cap.

⁶ In a report covering May 1998 to July 1999 an estimated 58 percent of aliens already in the United States in a nonimmigrant status were here as academic students. The report, *Characteristics of Specialty Occupation Workers (H-1B)—May 1998 to July 1999*, is available at the H-1B and statistical reports section of the INS website.

⁷ Neither AC21 nor prior legislation established a cap on H-1B petitions for continuing employment.

Table G. Profile of H-1B Beneficiaries by Top Ten Countries of Birth: Fiscal Year 2001

Country of birth	All beneficiaries	Initial beneficiaries (percent)	Continuing beneficiaries (percent)	Initial and continuing beneficiaries				
				Median age (years)	Median income (dollars ¹)	Bachelor's degree or higher (percent ¹)	Master's degree or higher (percent ¹)	Computer-related occupation (percent ¹)
All countries	331,206	61	39	29	55,000	98	42	58
India	161,561	56	44	28	55,000	99	35	85
China, People's Rep.	27,331	62	38	32	57,500	100	81	44
Canada	12,726	72	28	33	70,000	94	37	30
Philippines	10,389	70	30	31	44,765	99	12	34
United Kingdom	9,682	63	37	33	70,000	91	33	24
Korea	6,468	69	31	33	48,000	98	57	21
Pakistan	6,313	62	38	29	52,440	99	40	59
Japan	5,902	62	38	30	39,520	97	34	12
Taiwan	5,808	59	41	30	50,000	99	72	33
Russia	4,589	63	37	31	55,000	99	65	52

¹ Based on all beneficiaries with known level of income, education, or occupation.

percent of the petitions approved were for initial and continuing beneficiaries, respectively.

The number of H-1B petitions approved presented in this section and the number of H-1B temporary workers admissions reported previously in the Nonimmigrants section are not comparable because they measure different populations. Petitions approved pertain to H-1B petitions authorizing temporary employment for specialty workers, whether they are in the United States or overseas, while admissions represent H-1B workers arriving from abroad. H-1B petitions can be approved for aliens changing nonimmigrant status without leaving the United States. Most significantly, H-1B workers can be admitted multiple times using a single petition, and admitted with a petition approved in a prior fiscal year.

Common characteristics of beneficiaries

The typical H-1B beneficiary whose petition was approved in fiscal year 2001 had the following characteristics: born in India; 29 years old; holding a bachelor's degree; working in a computer-related occupation; and receiving

an annual compensation of \$55,000. Forty-one percent of all beneficiaries were born in India, had either a bachelor's or master's degree, and were employed in a computer-related occupation. ⁸ The beneficiaries continuing in H-1B status were two years older and earned \$15,000 more annually than the typical initial beneficiaries.

Profile of beneficiaries by country of birth
(Table G)

Beneficiaries from India continue to dominate the H-1B program in fiscal year 2001, representing nearly half of the total. A distant second are beneficiaries from the People's Republic of China, accounting for 8 percent. In fiscal year 2000, approximately 49 percent and 9 percent of beneficiaries were from India and the People's Republic of China, respectively.

As indicated in Chart J and Table G, 81 and 72 percent of beneficiaries born in the People's Republic of China and Taiwan, respectively had at least a master's degree, the

⁸ Every percentage shown about H-1B beneficiaries is based on the total number of reported values for a particular characteristic.

Table H. Profile of H-1B Beneficiaries by Top Ten Occupations: Fiscal Year 2001

Occupation	All beneficiaries	Initial and continuing beneficiaries		
		Initial beneficiaries (percent)	Continuing beneficiaries (percent)	Leading country of birth (percent)
All occupations	331,206	61	39	India (49)
Computer-related	191,397	58	42	India (71)
Architecture, engineering, and surveying	40,388	63	37	India (28)
Administrative specializations	23,794	65	35	India (17)
Education	17,431	67	33	PRC (16)
Managers and officials n.e.c.	12,423	65	35	India (14)
Medicine and health	11,334	59	41	India (20)
Life sciences	6,492	64	36	PRC (27)
Social sciences	6,145	69	31	India (13)
Mathematics and physical sciences	5,772	63	37	PRC (25)
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial	5,662	65	35	India (16)

highest percent among countries listed. On the other hand, 12 and 20 percent of beneficiaries born in the Philippines and South Africa, respectively, had a master's degree or higher.

The youngest beneficiaries, with a median age of 28, were born in India while the oldest, with a median age of 33, were born in Canada, the United Kingdom, and Korea. In fiscal year 2000, the median age of Indians was also 28 years. The median age of beneficiaries in all countries was 29 years, the same as in fiscal year 2000.

Median income ranged from about \$40,000 for beneficiaries born in Japan to \$70,000 for beneficiaries born in Canada and the United Kingdom. The median income was \$55,000 for beneficiaries from all countries, 4 percent higher than the overall median income in fiscal year 2000.

Ninety-eight percent of beneficiaries of all countries held a bachelor's degree or higher, and 42 percent at least a master's degree. The corresponding percents in fiscal year 2000 were 98 and 41.

Eight-five percent of beneficiaries born in India had a computer-related occupation. For beneficiaries of all countries, the percentage was 58, identical to fiscal year 2000. Of the top ten countries, only beneficiaries from India and Pakistan (59) exceeded the average percentage. Without India, the percentage of beneficiaries employed in computer-related occupations drops to 32 percent.

Profile of beneficiaries by occupation
(Table H)

Seventy-one percent of H-1B beneficiaries in computer-related occupations were born in India. In no other occupation did a country have a majority of beneficiaries. Other characteristics of beneficiaries in computer-related occupations were a median age of 28 and a median income of \$58,000. Additionally, 35 percent held at least a master's degree and 74 percent were employed in computer systems design and related services.

Besides computer-related occupations, India-born beneficiaries held the lead in other numerically-significant occupations: architecture, engineering, and surveying

**Table H. Profile of H-1B Beneficiaries by Top Ten Occupations:
Fiscal Year 2001—Continued**

Occupation	Initial and continuing beneficiaries			
	Median age (years)	Median income (dollars ¹)	Master's degree or higher (percent ¹)	Leading industry (percent ¹)
All occupations	29	55,000	42	Computer systems design and related services (47)
Computer-related	28	58,000	35	Computer systems design and related services (74)
Architecture, engineering, and surveying	30	60,000	47	Architectural, engineering, and related services (25)
Administrative specializations	30	44,806	35	Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services (18)
Education	34	35,232	75	Colleges, universities, and professional schools (67)
Managers and officials n.e.c.	33	65,000	36	Computer systems design and related services (14)
Medicine and health	32	45,000	68	General medical and surgical hospitals (25)
Life sciences	33	38,000	85	Scientific research and development services (38)
Social sciences	29	45,000	45	Management, scientific, and technical consulting services (13)
Mathematics and physical sciences	32	55,000	79	Scientific research and development services (28)
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial	30	54,000	48	Securities and commodity contracts intermediation and brokerage (13)

¹ Based on all beneficiaries with known level of income, education, or occupation.

Note: n.e.c. represents not elsewhere classified. PRC represents People's Republic of China.

(28 percent); administrative specializations (17 percent); managers and officials not elsewhere classified (14 percent); and medicine and health (20 percent).

Besides computer-related occupations and computer systems design and related services, close relationships existed between other occupations and industries. Sixty-seven percent of educators were employed in colleges, universities, and professional schools, and 80 percent of beneficiaries in law and jurisprudence were employed in legal services.

Profile of beneficiaries by industry

(Table I)

Information on the industries employing H-1B workers is reported for the first time in this edition of *Statistical Yearbook*.

Forty-seven percent of all beneficiaries were employed in computer systems design and related services. Seventy-five percent of these beneficiaries were born in India. The median age of these beneficiaries was 28, earning a median income of \$56,500. Additionally, 33 percent held at least a master's degree and 92 percent were in computer-related occupations.

The least compensated beneficiaries, with a median income of \$37,000, were employed in colleges, universities, and professional schools and the most compensated, with a median income of \$75,000, were employed in securities, and commodity contracts intermediation and brokerage.

Ninety-three percent of H-1B employees in colleges, universities, and professional schools held at least a

Table I. Profile of H-1B Beneficiaries by Top Ten Industries: Fiscal Year 2001

Industry (NAICS code)	All beneficiaries	Initial and continuing beneficiaries		
		Initial beneficiaries (percent)	Continuing beneficiaries (percent)	Leading country of birth (percent)
All industries ¹	331,206	61	39	India (49)
Computer systems design and related services (5415)	141,267	60	40	India (75)
Colleges, universities, and professional schools (6113)	15,372	64	36	PRC (24)
Management, scientific, and technical consulting services (5416)	12,721	61	39	India (54)
Architectural, engineering, and related services (5413)	12,148	67	33	India (26)
Telecommunications (5133)	9,638	51	49	India (39)
Scientific research and development services (5417)	6,929	60	40	PRC (24)
Semiconductor and other electronic component manufacturing (3344)	6,171	54	46	India (36)
Communications equipment manufacturing (3342)	4,383	58	42	India (36)
Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services (5412)	4,213	64	36	India (17)
Securities and commodity contracts intermediation and Brokerage (5231)	3,676	56	44	India (21)

master's degree, the highest of any top ten industry. The lowest percent was 33 in computer systems design and related services.

Annual compensation by age and occupation of beneficiaries (Table J)

For all beneficiaries, median annual compensation was \$55,000, with a peak at \$60,000 for workers in their thirties.

For any occupation and age group the highest compensated beneficiaries, at a median level of approximately \$115,000, were in law and jurisprudence occupations and were between 25 and 29 years old. The lowest, compensated at about \$26,000, were religion and theology workers under age 25.

Education by occupation of beneficiaries (Table K)

Ninety-eight and 42 percent of all beneficiaries held at

least a bachelor's or master's degree, respectively. Three percent had a professional degree and another 7 percent had a doctorate degree. These percents were nearly the same in fiscal year 2000, except 41 percent held at least a bachelor's or master's degree then.

For beneficiaries in computer-related occupations, 65 percent had no more than a bachelor's degree and 33 percent no more than a master's degree.

Annual compensation by education and occupation of beneficiaries (Table L)

Beneficiaries with a bachelor's degree—the most numerous group—had a median income of \$53,000, 6 percent higher than in fiscal year 2000. Their income was the lowest of all education levels.

Beneficiaries with at most a master's degree fared better. Their median income was \$60,000, \$3,000 more than in fiscal year 2000. Median compensation for H-1B workers

Table I. Profile of H-1B Beneficiaries by Top Ten Industries: Fiscal Year 2001—Continued

Industry (NAICS code)	Initial and continuing beneficiaries			
	Median age (years)	Median income (dollars ¹)	Master's degree or higher (percent ¹)	Leading occupation (percent ¹)
All industries ¹	29	55,000	42	Computer-related (58)
Computer systems design and related services (5415)	28	56,500	33	Computer-related (92)
Colleges, universities, and professional schools (6113)	34	36,999	93	Education (69)
Management, scientific, and technical consulting services (5416)	28	55,000	41	Administrative specializations (22)
Architectural, engineering, and related services (5413)	30	50,000	42	Architecture, engineering, and surveying (75)
Telecommunications (5133)	29	69,000	48	Computer-related (60)
Scientific research and development services (5417)	32	55,291	81	Life sciences (32)
Semiconductor and other electronic component manufacturing (3344)	29	71,000	65	Architecture, engineering, and surveying (65)
Communications equipment manufacturing (3342)	29	68,000	58	Computer-related (65)
Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services (5412)	29	43,000	36	Administrative specializations (88)
Securities and commodity contracts intermediation and Brokerage (5231)	28	75,000	45	Computer-related (28)

¹ Based on all beneficiaries with known level of income, education, or occupation.

Note: NAICS refers to North American Industry Classification System. For additional information on NAICS codes, visit the website of the National Technical Information Service at <http://www.ntis.gov>. PRC represents People's Republic of China.

with professional degrees and doctorates increased in fiscal year 2001 over fiscal year 2000 by \$1,000, to \$65,000, and by \$5,000, to \$55,000, respectively.

Understanding the Data

Data Collection

Petitions for obtaining H-1B nonimmigrant status for alien workers are submitted by their prospective employers on INS form I-129 (*Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker*) and the addendum I-129W (*H-1B Data Collection and Filing Fee Exemption*). The petitions are mailed to one of four INS Service Centers for processing, depending on the location of the sponsoring employer: St. Albans, Vermont; Lincoln, Nebraska; Dallas Texas; and Laguna Niguel, California.

Upon receipt, each petition is stamped with its date of arrival at the Service Center. File assembly clerks create a paper file that contains the original petition as well as all supporting documentation. This file becomes the official file of record for all activities connected with the petition.

Biographical data such as name, date of birth, and country of birth are entered from the petition by data entry clerks into the Computer-Linked Application Information Management System (CLAIMS3) case-tracking system. The computer system generates a unique number for the file, known as a receipt number. The files are distributed to adjudicators after being sorted into potential cap and non-cap cases.

Table J. Median Annual Compensation of H-1B Beneficiaries by Age and Top Ten Occupations: Fiscal Year 2001

Occupation	All beneficiaries	Median compensation by age of beneficiary (dollars)						
		All ages	Under 25 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	40 years and older	Unknown age
All occupations	329,849 ¹	55,000	50,000	55,000	60,000	60,000	57,500	52,000
Computer-related	190,990	58,000	50,000	56,790	62,000	65,000	65,000	55,000
Architecture, engineering, and surveying	40,225	60,000	52,000	60,000	64,099	65,000	65,000	57,600
Administrative specializations	23,681	44,806	37,000	44,000	50,000	48,000	43,900	42,935
Education	17,313	35,232	29,000	33,000	35,648	36,703	38,000	34,000
Managers and officials n.e.c.	12,379	65,000	36,000	50,000	70,000	80,000	80,000	60,000
Medicine and health	11,229	45,000	35,670	40,000	49,691	66,560	58,240	39,000
Life sciences	6,461	38,000	30,451	36,135	37,280	38,582	42,000	35,000
Social sciences	6,094	45,000	42,000	45,000	50,000	45,300	40,113	50,000
Mathematics and physical sciences	5,758	55,000	46,000	52,996	56,900	58,000	60,000	64,150
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial	5,640	54,000	45,000	52,000	60,000	60,000	55,000	57,500

¹ Less than the 331,206 shown in Table H by 1,357 petitions with annual compensation unknown. Note: n.e.c. represents not elsewhere classified.

After being received, the files are reviewed by adjudicators who determine whether they have adequate information in the file on which to base a decision to approve or deny the petition. If sufficient evidence is available, a decision is made by the adjudicator and then the corresponding information is entered into the tracking system. Otherwise, additional information is sought by the adjudicator from the sponsoring employer. A response from the employer must be made within a set period of time or the petition will be denied.

After petitions have been adjudicated, the associated paper files are forwarded for storage to the INS records center in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Limitations of Data

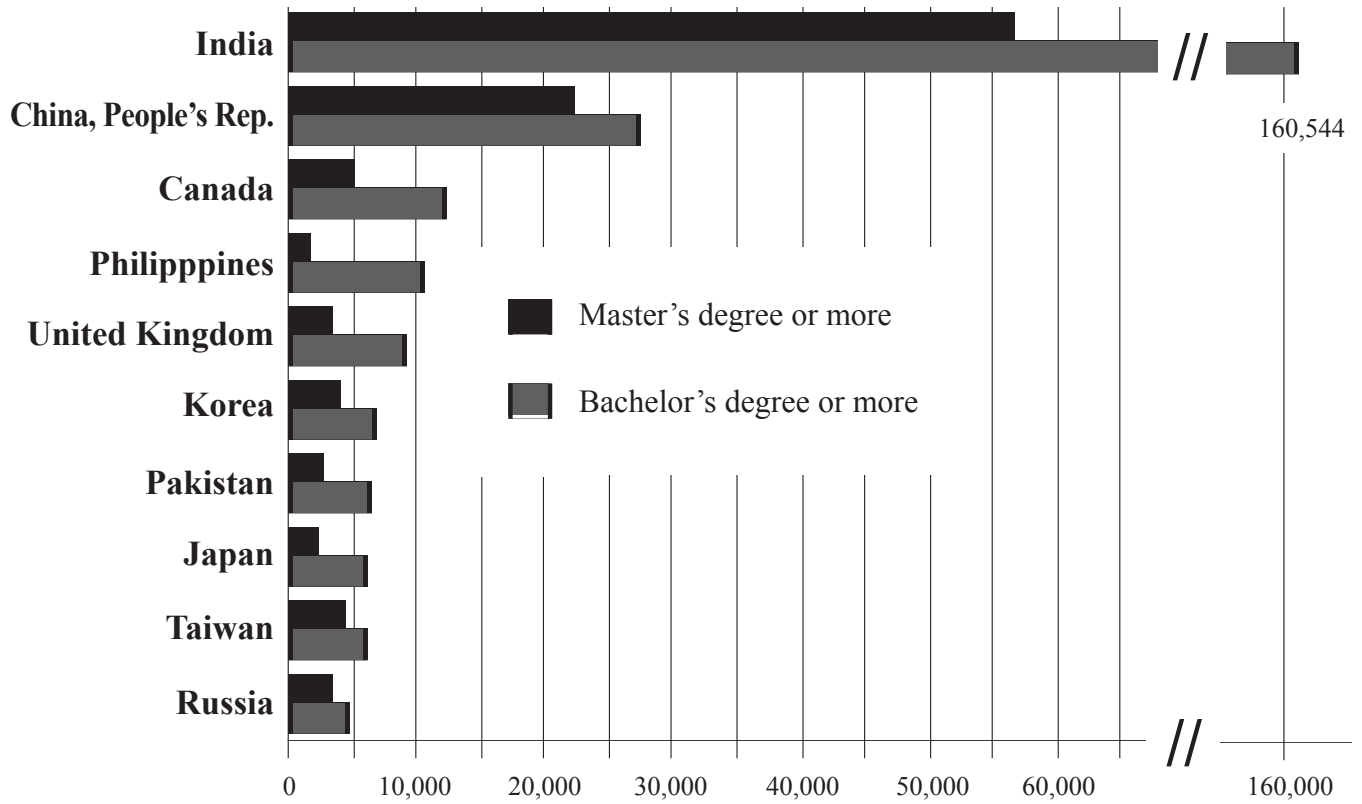
Historical data on H-1B petitions filed and approved is incomplete before fiscal year 2000. The availability of comprehensive H-1B data does not begin until fiscal

year 2000,⁹ a direct response to the aforementioned ACWIA.

The tables in this report have been tabulated from an extract file created at headquarters from INS service center files. Errors in this extract file could have occurred in several ways. For example, petition data might have been inaccurate on petitions, miskeyed into computers at the service centers, or improperly transferred electronically between the service centers and headquarters. Very little editing has been done in this report. Impossible or very improbable values have been defined as unknown. Examples are beneficiaries younger than 16 (except for fashion models) or those beneficiaries working without compensation.

⁹ The reports, *Characteristics of Specialty Occupation Workers (H-1B)—Fiscal Year 2000 and Fiscal Year 2001*, are available at the H-1B and statistical reports section of the INS website.

Chart J
H-1B Beneficiaries from Top Ten Countries of Birth by Level of Education:
Fiscal Year 2001



Industry data was collected using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Unlike country of birth, age, education, and occupation, INS does not verify the NAICS code because the sponsor does not provide supporting documentation.

In fiscal year 2001 the percentage of petitions with unknown information improved notably, especially with respect to education and annual compensation. The

percentage of petitions approved with missing data went from 8.5 percent in fiscal year 2000 to .1 of 1 percent in fiscal year 2001 for education, and from 8.7 percent to .4 of 1 percent for compensation. For the other characteristics, the percentages of approved petitions with missing data remained low: age (.3 of 1 percent); country of birth (.2 of 1 percent); and major occupation (.4 of 1 percent). In contrast, the percent of missing data for industry in its first year of availability was 9.0 percent.

Table K. H-1B Beneficiaries by Education and Top Ten Occupations: Fiscal Year 2001

Occupation	All beneficiaries	Education of beneficiary						Unknown
		Less than Bachelor's degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's degree	Professional degree	Doctorate degree		
All occupations	331,206	5,608	187,735	102,996	9,859	24,610	398	
Computer-related	191,397	1,757	123,410	62,464	298	3,322	146	
Architecture, engineering, and surveying	40,388	992	20,508	14,764	257	3,819	48	
Administrative specializations	23,794	511	14,904	7,970	201	201	7	
Education	17,431	83	4,297	3,353	1,365	8,307	26	
Managers and officials n.e.c.	12,423	731	7,214	3,895	155	413	15	
Medicine and health	11,334	52	3,537	851	5,691	1,187	16	
Life sciences	6,492	36	955	1,199	526	3,769	7	
Social sciences	6,145	111	3,257	2,443	35	280	19	
Mathematics and physical sciences	5,772	28	1,179	1,653	84	2,820	8	
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial	5,662	118	2,849	2,249	135	310	1	

Note: n.e.c. represents not elsewhere classified.

Table L. Median Annual Compensation of H-1B Beneficiaries by Education and Top Ten Occupations: Fiscal Year 2001

Occupation	All beneficiaries	Median compensation by education of beneficiary						
		All education levels (dollars)	Less than Bachelor's degree (dollars)	Bachelor's degree (dollars)	Master's degree (dollars)	Professional degree (dollars)	Doctorate degree (dollars)	Unknown (dollars)
All occupations	329,849 ¹	55,000	63,817	53,000	60,000	65,000	55,000	50,000
Computer-related	190,990	58,000	63,000	55,000	60,000	66,000	80,000	55,000
Architecture, engineering, and surveying	40,225	60,000	68,640	55,000	63,000	75,000	75,000	55,000
Administrative specializations	23,681	44,806	50,000	40,000	52,000	60,000	82,002	39,000
Education	17,313	35,232	29,050	31,910	34,505	36,998	40,000	32,656
Managers and officials n.e.c.	12,379	65,000	50,000	55,000	75,330	83,000	102,000	43,000
Medicine and health	11,229	45,000	35,000	40,000	40,000	85,000	38,980	47,206
Life sciences	6,461	38,000	36,000	34,000	40,000	34,000	39,000	40,000
Social sciences	6,094	45,000	36,400	40,000	54,000	50,000	72,300	90,000
Mathematics and physical sciences	5,758	55,000	55,000	50,000	52,530	67,000	61,200	44,000
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial ..	5,640	54,000	50,000	45,757	65,000	49,586	67,000	64,000

¹ Less than the 331,206 shown in Table H by 1,357 petitions with annual compensation unknown.

Note: n.e.c. represents not elsewhere classified.