

# Visa Bulletin

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# **Immigrant Numbers for November 2025**

# A. Statutory Numbers for Preference Immigrant Visas

This bulletin summarizes the availability of immigrant numbers during <u>November</u> for "Final Action Dates" and "Dates for Filing Applications," indicating when immigrant visa applicants should be notified to assemble and submit required documentation to the National Visa Center.

Unless otherwise indicated on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) website at <a href="https://www.uscis.gov/visabulletininfo">www.uscis.gov/visabulletininfo</a>, individuals seeking to file applications for adjustment of status with USCIS must use the "Final Action Dates" charts below for determining when they can file such applications. When USCIS determines that there are more immigrant visas available for the fiscal year than there are known applicants for such visas, USCIS will state on its website that applicants may instead use the "Dates for Filing Visa Applications" charts in this Bulletin.

- 1. **Procedures for determining dates.** Consular officers are required to report to the Department of State documentarily qualified applicants for numerically limited visas; USCIS reports applicants for adjustment of status. Allocations in the charts below were made, to the extent possible, in chronological order of reported priority dates, for demand received by October 1<sup>st</sup>. If all reported demand could not be satisfied, the category or foreign state in which demand was excessive was deemed oversubscribed. The final action date for an oversubscribed category is the priority date of the first applicant who could not be reached within the numerical limits. If it becomes necessary during the monthly allocation process to retrogress a final action date, supplemental requests for numbers will be honored only if the priority date falls within the new final action date announced in this bulletin. If at any time an annual limit were reached, it would be necessary to immediately make the preference category "unavailable", and no further requests for numbers would be honored.
- 2. The fiscal year 2026 limit for family-sponsored preference immigrants determined in accordance with Section 201 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) is 226,000. The worldwide level for annual employment-based preference immigrants is at least 140,000. Section 202 prescribes that the percountry limit for preference immigrants is set at 7% of the total annual family-sponsored and employment-based preference limits, i.e., 25,620. The dependent area limit is set at 2%, or 7,320.
- 3. INA Section 203(e) provides that family-sponsored and employment-based preference visas be issued to eligible immigrants in the order in which a petition on behalf of each has been filed. Section 203(d) provides that spouses and children of preference immigrants are entitled to the same status, and the same order of consideration, if accompanying or following to join the principal. The visa prorating provisions of Section 202(e) apply to allocations for a foreign state or dependent area when visa issuances will exceed the per-country limit. These provisions apply at present to the following



oversubscribed chargeability areas: CHINA-mainland born, INDIA, MEXICO, and PHILIPPINES.

4. Section 203(a) of the INA prescribes preference classes for allotment of Family-sponsored immigrant visas as follows:

# **Family-Sponsored Preferences**

**<u>First</u>**: **(F1)** Unmarried Sons and Daughters of U.S. Citizens: 23,400 plus any numbers not required for fourth preference.

**Second:** Spouses and Children, and Unmarried Sons and Daughters of Permanent Residents: 114,200, plus the number (if any) by which the worldwide family preference level exceeds 226,000, plus any unused first preference numbers:

- A. **(F2A)** Spouses and Children of Permanent Residents: 77% of the overall second preference limitation, of which 75% are exempt from the per-country limit.
- B. (**F2B**) Unmarried Sons and Daughters (21 years of age or older) of Permanent Residents: 23% of the overall second preference limitation.

**Third: (F3)** Married Sons and Daughters of U.S. Citizens: 23,400, plus any numbers not required by first and second preferences.

**<u>Fourth</u>**: (**F4**) Brothers and Sisters of Adult U.S. Citizens: 65,000, plus any numbers not required by first three preferences.

### A. Final Action Dates for Family-Sponsored Preference Class

On the chart below, the listing of a date for any class indicates that the class is oversubscribed (see paragraph 1); "C" means current, i.e., numbers are authorized for issuance to all qualified applicants; and "U" means unauthorized, i.e., numbers are not authorized for issuance. (NOTE: Numbers are authorized for issuance only for applicants whose priority date is **earlier** than the final action date listed below.)

Family- Sponsored	All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA- mainland born	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
F1	08NOV16	08NOV16	08NOV16	22NOV05	22JAN13
F2A	01FEB24	01FEB24	01FEB24	01FEB23	01FEB24
F2B	01DEC16	01DEC16	01DEC16	15DEC07	01OCT12
F3	08SEP11	08SEP11	08SEP11	01MAY01	22SEP04
F4	08JAN08	08JAN08	01NOV06	08APR01	22MAR06

For November, F2A numbers <u>EXEMPT from per-country limit</u> are authorized for issuance to applicants from all countries with priority dates <u>earlier</u> than 01FEB23. F2A numbers <u>SUBJECT to per-country limit</u> are authorized for issuance to applicants chargeable to all countries <u>EXCEPT MEXICO</u>, with priority



dates beginning 01FEB23 and earlier than 01FEB24. All F2A numbers provided for MEXICO are exempt from the per-country limit.

#### B. Dates for Filing Family-Sponsored Visa Applications

The chart below reflects dates for filing visa applications within a timeframe justifying immediate action in the application process. Applicants for immigrant visas who have a priority date <u>earlier than</u> the application date in the chart below may assemble and submit required documents to the Department of State's National Visa Center, following receipt of notification from the National Visa Center containing detailed instructions. The application date for an oversubscribed category is the priority date of the first applicant who cannot submit documentation to the National Visa Center for an immigrant visa. If a category is designated "current," all applicants in the relevant category may file applications, regardless of priority date.

A "C" listing indicates that the category is current, and that applications may be filed regardless of the applicant's priority date. The listing of a date for any category indicates that only applicants with a priority date which is **earlier** than the listed date may file their application.

Visit <u>www.uscis.gov/visabulletininfo</u> for information on whether USCIS has determined that this chart can be used (in lieu of the chart in paragraph 4.A.) this month for filing applications for adjustment of status with USCIS.

Family- Sponsored	All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA- mainland born	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
F1	01SEP17	01SEP17	01SEP17	01MAR07	22APR15
F2A	22OCT25	22OCT25	22OCT25	22OCT25	22OCT25
F2B	08MAR17	08MAR17	08MAR17	15MAY09	01OCT13
F3	22JUL12	22JUL12	22JUL12	01JUL01	01NOV05
F4	01MAR09	01MAR09	15DEC06	30APR01	01JAN08

5. Section 203(b) of the INA prescribes preference classes for allotment of Employment-based immigrant visas as follows:

# **Employment-Based Preferences**

**<u>First</u>**: Priority Workers: 28.6% of the worldwide employment-based preference level, plus any numbers not required for fourth and fifth preferences.

**Second:** Members of the Professions Holding Advanced Degrees or Persons of Exceptional Ability: 28.6% of the worldwide employment-based preference level, plus any numbers not required by first preference.



**Third:** Skilled Workers, Professionals, and Other Workers: 28.6% of the worldwide level, plus any numbers not required by first and second preferences, of which not more than 10,000 may be provided to "\*Other Workers".

**Fourth:** Certain Special Immigrants: 7.1% of the worldwide level.

**<u>Fifth</u>**: Employment Creation: 7.1% of the worldwide level, of which 32% are reserved as follows: 20% reserved for qualified immigrants who invest in a rural area; 10% reserved for qualified immigrants who invest in a high unemployment area; and 2% reserved for qualified immigrants who invest in infrastructure projects. The remaining 68% are unreserved and are allotted for all other qualified immigrants.

#### A. Final Action Dates for Employment-Based Preference Cases

On the chart below, the listing of a date for any class indicates that the class is oversubscribed (see paragraph 1); "C" means current, i.e., numbers are authorized for issuance to all qualified applicants; and "U" means unauthorized, i.e., numbers are not authorized for issuance. (NOTE: Numbers are authorized for issuance only for applicants whose priority date is **earlier** than the final action date listed below.)

Employment- Based	All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA- mainland born	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
1st	С	22DEC22	15FEB22	С	С
2nd	01DEC23	01APR21	01APR13	01DEC23	01DEC23
3rd	01APR23	01MAR21	22AUG13	01APR23	01APR23
Other Workers	15JUL21	01DEC17	22AUG13	15JUL21	15JUL21
4th	01JUL20	01JUL20	01JUL20	01JUL20	01JUL20
Certain Religious Workers	C	U	U	U	C
5th Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5, NU, RU)	С	08DEC15	01FEB21	С	С
5th Set Aside: Rural (20%) (including NR, RR)	С	С	С	С	С
5th Set Aside: High Unemployment (10%) (including NH, RH)	С	С	С	С	С



5th Set Aside:	С	С	С	С	С
Infrastructure					
(2%)					
(including RI)					

\*Employment Third Preference Other Workers Category: Section 203(e) of the Nicaraguan and Central American Relief Act (NACARA) passed by Congress in November 1997, as amended by Section 1(e) of Pub. L. 105-139, provides that once the Employment Third Preference Other Worker (EW) cut-off date has reached the priority date of the latest EW petition approved prior to November 19, 1997, the 10,000 EW numbers available for a fiscal year are to be reduced by up to 5,000 annually beginning in the following fiscal year. This reduction is to be made for as long as necessary to offset adjustments under the NACARA program. Since the EW final action date reached November 19, 1997 during Fiscal Year 2001, the reduction in the EW annual limit to 5,000 began in Fiscal Year 2002. For Fiscal Year 2026 this reduction will be limited to approximately 150.

#### B. Dates for Filing of Employment-Based Visa Applications

The chart below reflects dates for filing visa applications within a timeframe justifying immediate action in the application process. Applicants for immigrant visas who have a priority date <u>earlier than</u> the application date in the chart may assemble and submit required documents to the Department of State's National Visa Center, following receipt of notification from the National Visa Center containing detailed instructions. The application date for an oversubscribed category is the priority date of the first applicant who cannot submit documentation to the National Visa Center for an immigrant visa. If a category is designated "current," all applicants in the relevant category may file, regardless of priority date.

The "C" listing indicates that the category is current, and that applications may be filed regardless of the applicant's priority date. The listing of a date for any category indicates that only applicants with a priority date which is **earlier** than the listed date may file their application.

Visit <u>www.uscis.gov/visabulletininfo</u> for information on whether USCIS has determined that this chart can be used (in lieu of the chart in paragraph 5.A.) this month for filing applications for adjustment of status with USCIS.

Employment- Based	All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA- mainland born	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
1st	С	15MAY23	15APR23	C	С
2nd	15JUL24	01DEC21	01DEC13	15JUL24	15JUL24
3rd	01JUL23	01JAN22	15AUG14	01JUL23	01JUL23
Other Workers	01DEC21	01OCT18	15AUG14	01DEC21	01DEC21
4th	15FEB21	15FEB21	15FEB21	15FEB21	15FEB21



Certain Religious Workers	U	U	U	U	U
5th Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5, NU, RU)	C	01JUL16	01APR22	С	С
5th Set Aside: Rural (20%) (including NR, RR)	С	С	С	С	С
5th Set Aside: High Unemployment (10%) (including NH, RH)	С	С	С	С	С
5th Set Aside: Infrastructure (2%) (including RI)	С	С	С	С	С

# B. Diversity Immigrant (DV) Category for the Month of November

Section 203(c) of the INA provides up to 55,000 immigrant visas each fiscal year to permit additional immigration opportunities for persons from countries with low admissions during the previous five years. The NACARA stipulates that beginning with DV-99, and for as long as necessary, up to 5,000 of the 55,000 annually allocated diversity visas will be made available for use under the NACARA program. Visa numbers made available to NACARA applicants in FY 2025 will result in reduction of the DV-2026 annual limit to approximately 54,850. Section 5104 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2024 amended the NACARA's provisions on the DV program such that the number of visas made available under the NDAA each fiscal year will be deducted from the 55,000 DVs annually allocated. These amendments will further reduce the DV-2026 annual limit to approximately 52,000. DVs are divided among six geographic regions. No one country can receive more than seven percent of the available diversity visas in any one year.

For <u>November</u>, immigrant numbers in the DV category are available to qualified DV-2026 applicants chargeable to all regions/eligible countries as follows. When an allocation cut-off number is shown, visas are available only for applicants with DV regional lottery rank numbers <u>BELOW</u> the specified allocation cut-off number:

Region	All DV Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed Separately			
AFRICA	17,500	Except:	Algeria	14,500
AFRICA	17,300		Egypt	16,000
ASIA	10,000	Except:	Nepal	6,000



EUROPE	7,750	
NORTH AMERICA	20	
(BAHAMAS)	20	
OCEANIA	1,100	
SOUTH AMERICA,	1.050	
and the CARIBBEAN	1,850	

Entitlement to immigrant status in the DV category lasts only through the end of the fiscal (visa) year for which the applicant is selected in the lottery. The year of entitlement for all applicants registered for the DV-2026 program ends as of September 30, 2026. DVs may not be issued to DV-2026 applicants after that date. Similarly, spouses and children accompanying or following to join DV-2026 principals are only entitled to derivative DV status until September 30, 2026. DV availability through the end of FY-2026 cannot be taken for granted. Numbers could be exhausted prior to September 30.

# C. Diversity (DV) Immigrant Category Rank Cut-Offs Which Will Apply in December

For <u>December</u>, immigrant numbers in the DV category are available to qualified DV-2026 applicants chargeable to all regions/eligible countries as follows. When an allocation cut-off number is shown, visas are available only for applicants with DV regional lottery rank numbers <u>BELOW</u> the specified allocation cut-off number:

Region	All DV Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed Separately			
AFRICA	17,500	Except:	Algeria	17,250
AFRICA	17,500		Egypt	16,000
ASIA	10,000	Except:	Nepal	6,000
EUROPE	7,750			
NORTH AMERICA	20			
(BAHAMAS)	20			
OCEANIA	1,100			
SOUTH AMERICA,	1,850			
and the CARIBBEAN	1,030			

# D. <u>Expiration of the Employment Fourth Preference Certain Religious Workers (SR)</u> <u>Category</u>

H.R. 1968, signed on March 15, 2025, extended the Employment Fourth Preference Certain Religious Workers (SR) category until September 30, 2025. No SR visas may be issued overseas, or final action taken on adjustment of status cases, after midnight September 29, 2025.



The final action date for this category has been listed as "Unavailable" for November. In the event there is legislative action extending the category, it is likely it will become available effective immediately. If extended, the category will be subject to the same final action dates as the other Employment Fourth Preference categories per applicable foreign state of chargeability.

#### E. Diversity Visa Lottery 2026 (DV-2026 Results)

The Kentucky Consular Center in Williamsburg, Kentucky has registered and notified the selectees who are eligible to participate in the DV-2026 Diversity Visa (DV) program. Random selection of DV participants was conducted under the terms of section 203(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which makes up to \*55,000 permanent resident visas available annually to persons from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States. Approximately 129,516 prospective applicants (i.e., selectees and their spouses and children) have been registered, can confirm their selection, and may be eligible to make an application for an immigrant visa. Since selection is random and blind to the number of family members who might immigrate with the selectee, and it is likely that some of the selectees will not complete their cases or will be found ineligible for a visa, this larger figure should ensure that all DV-2026 numbers can be used during fiscal year 2026 (FY26: October 1, 2025, until September 30, 2026).

Entrants registered for the DV-2026 program were selected at random from 20,822,624 qualified entries received during the 37-day application period that ran from noon, Eastern Daylight Time on Wednesday, October 2, 2024, until noon, Eastern Standard Time on Thursday, November 7, 2024. The visas will be apportioned among the six geographic regions to ensure a maximum of seven percent are issued to persons chargeable to any single country. During the visa interview, principal applicants must provide proof of a high school education or its equivalent, or two years of work experience in an occupation that requires at least two years of training or experience within the past five years. Those selected will need to act on their immigrant visa applications quickly. Applicants should follow the instructions in their notification letter and must fully complete all required steps.

Selectees who are physically present with legal status in the United States may apply to adjust their status by first contacting the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for information on the requirements and procedures. Once the total \*55,000 visa numbers have been used, the program for fiscal year 2026 will end. Selectees who do not receive visas or status by September 30, 2026, will derive no further benefit from their DV-2026 registration. Similarly, spouses and children accompanying or following to join DV-2026 principal applicants are only entitled to derivative DV status until September 30, 2026.

Dates for the DV-2027 program registration period will be widely publicized in the coming months. Those interested in entering the DV-2027 program should check the Department of State's Diversity Visa web page in the coming months.

\*The Nicaraguan and Central American Relief Act (NACARA) passed by Congress in November 1997 stipulated that up to 5,000 of the 55,000 annually allocated diversity visas be made available for use under the NACARA program. This will result in reduction of the DV-2026 annual limit to approximately 54,850. Additionally, Section 5104 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)



for Fiscal Year 2024 amended the NACARA's provisions on the Diversity Visa program such that the number of visas made available under the NDAA will also be deducted from the 55,000 DVs annually allocated. This will result in an additional reduction of the DV-2026 annual limit to approximately 51,850.

The following is the statistical breakdown by foreign state of chargeability of prospective applicants (i.e., selectees and their spouses and children) who have been registered for the DV-2026 program:

, 1	,	1 0
<u>AFRICA</u>		
ALGERIA 5,457	ESWATINI 3	MOZAMBIQUE 4
ANGOLA 763	ETHIOPIA 3,287	NAMIBIA 3
BENIN 1,064	GABON 62	NIGER 109
BOTSWANA 7	GAMBIA, THE 198	RWANDA 1,252
BURKINA FASO 252	GHANA 1,642	SENEGAL 478
BURUNDI 1,616	GUINEA 1,051	SIERRA LEONE 639
CABO VERDE 35	GUINEA-BISSAU 10	SOMALIA 1,554
CAMEROON 3,533	KENYA 3,949	SOUTH AFRICA 187
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC 19	LESOTHO 6	SOUTH SUDAN 72
CHAD 482	LIBERIA 1,593	SUDAN 5,226
COMOROS 12	LIBYA 276	TANZANIA 404
CONGO, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC	MADAGASCAR 48	TOGO 2,473
OF THE 2,210		
CONGO, REPUBLIC OF THE 448	MALAWI 159	TUNISIA 202
COTE D'IVOIRE 926	MALI 268	UGANDA 1,513
DJIBOUTI 204	MAURITANIA 261	ZAMBIA 236
EGYPT 5,527	MAURITIUS 2	ZIMBABWE 327
EQUATORIAL GUINEA 12	MOROCCO 3,670	
ERITREA 206	Western Sahara 2	
ASIA		
AFGHANISTAN 4,200	JORDAN 1,092	SINGAPORE 6
BAHRAIN 18	KUWAIT 101	SRI LANKA 1,028
BHUTAN 278	LAOS 68	SYRIA 624
BURMA 1,540	LEBANON 141	TAIWAN 247
CAMBODIA 811	MALAYSIA 17	THAILAND 360
INDONESIA 385	MONGOLIA 227	TIMOR-LESTE 1
IRAN 4,137	NEPAL 3,933	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 154
IRAQ 616	OMAN 11	YEMEN 2,449
ISRAEL 153	QATAR 66	
JAPAN 141	SAUDI ARABIA 577	



<u>EUROPE</u>		
ALBANIA 1,590	GERMANY 420	POLAND 343
ARMENIA 2,639	GREECE 58	PORTUGAL 40
AUSTRIA 35	HUNGARY 121	Macau 5
AZERBAIJAN 1,817	IRELAND 30	ROMANIA 161
BELARUS 1,545	ITALY 267	RUSSIA 5,510
BELGIUM 26	KAZAKHSTAN 2,723	SERBIA 324
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA 51	KOSOVO 172	SLOVAKIA 26
BULGARIA 142	KYRGYZSTAN 3,324	SLOVENIA 6
CROATIA 14	LATVIA 53	SPAIN 84
CYPRUS 8	LITHUANIA 79	SWEDEN 34
CZECH REPUBLIC 44	MOLDOVA 1,208	SWITZERLAND 22
DENMARK 8	MONTENEGRO 57	TAJIKISTAN 3,708
ESTONIA 17	NETHERLANDS 24	TURKEY 3,191
FINLAND 20	Aruba 4	TURKMENISTAN 2,542
FRANCE 309	NORTH MACEDONIA 165	UKRAINE 5,283
French Polynesia 1	NORTHERN IRELAND 10	UNITED KINGDOM 1,303
New Caledonia 4	NORWAY 6	UZBEKISTAN 3,754
GEORGIA 1,406		
NORTH AMERICA		
BAHAMAS, THE 23		
OCEANIA		
AUSTRALIA 599	MICRONESIA 1	SAMOA 14
Christmas Island 1	NAURU 8	SOLOMON ISLANDS 4
Cocos (Keeling) Islands 55	NEW ZEALAND 229	TONGA 100
COOK ISLANDS 24	Tokelau 4	VANUATU 13
FIII 2,094	PAPUA NEW GUINEA 14	VANUATO 13
KIRIBATI 15	REPUBLIC OF PALAU 3	
MINDALL 13	WEI ODEIC OI FALAO 3	
SOUTH AMERICA		
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA 2	ECUADOR 1,270	PERU 1,596
ARGENTINA 124	GRENADA 5	SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS 11
BARBADOS 3	GUATEMALA 367	SAINT LUCIA 9
BELIZE 2	GUYANA 24	SAINT VINCENT AND THE
		GRENADINES 8
BOLIVIA 269	NICARAGUA 167	SURINAME 8
CHILE 83	PANAMA 36	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO 139



COSTA RICA 99	PARAGUAY 19	URUGUAY 13
DOMINICA 8		

Natives of the following countries were not eligible to participate in DV-2026: Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, China (including Hong Kong SAR), Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, South Korea, Venezuela, and Vietnam.

## F. U.S. Government Employee Special Immigrant Visas (SIVs)

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2024, signed into law on December 22, 2023, may affect certain current and former employees of the U.S. Government abroad, as well as certain surviving spouses and children of deceased employees of the U.S. government abroad, applying for SIVs or adjustment of status, as described in section 101(a)(27)(D) of the INA. This does not affect certain Iraqis and Afghans applying for SQ and SI SIVs. Applicants should contact the consular section at which they filed their Form DS-1884 for further information on the impact of that law on their case.

For the latest information on visa processing at U.S. embassies and consulates, please visit the Bureau of Consular Affairs website at <u>travel.state.gov</u>.

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