Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Homeland Security

MAR 17 2008

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed please find the Characteristics of Specialty Occupation Workers (H-1B) Fiscal Year 2006 Annual Report. This report is mandated under section 416(c)(2) of the American Competitive and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA) which states: "...(T)he Attorney General shall submit on an annual basis, to the Committees on the Judiciary of the United States House of Representatives and the Senate, information on the countries of origin and occupations of, educational levels attained by, and compensation paid to, aliens who were issued visas or otherwise provided nonimmigrant status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act during the previous fiscal year."

I appreciate your interest in the Department of Homeland Security, and I look forward to working with you on future homeland security issues. If I may be of further assistance, please contact the Office of Legislative Affairs at (202) 447-5890.

Sincerely,

Donald H. Kent, Jr.
Assistant Secretary
Office of Legislative Affairs

Enclosure

AILA InfoNet Doc. No. 09123169. (Posted 12/31/09)

Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Homeland Security

MAR 17 2008

The Honorable Arlen Specter
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Specter:

Enclosed please find the Characteristics of Specialty Occupation Workers (H-1B) Fiscal Year 2006 Annual Report. This report is mandated under section 416(c)(2) of the American Competitive and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA) which states: "...(T)he Attorney General shall submit on an annual basis, to the Committees on the Judiciary of the United States House of Representatives and the Senate, information on the countries of origin and occupations of, educational levels attained by, and compensation paid to, aliens who were issued visas or otherwise provided nonimmigrant status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act during the previous fiscal year."

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Washington, DC 20528

Homeland Security

MAR 17 2008

The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees
and Border Security
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed please find the Characteristics of Specialty Occupation Workers (H-1B) Fiscal Year 2006 Annual Report. This report is mandated under section 416(c)(2) of the American Competitive and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA) which states: "...(T)he Attorney General shall submit on an annual basis, to the Committees on the Judiciary of the United States House of Representatives and the Senate, information on the countries of origin and occupations of, educational levels attained by, and compensation paid to, aliens who were issued visas or otherwise provided nonimmigrant status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act during the previous fiscal year."

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Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Homeland Security

MAR 17 2008

The Honorable John Cornyn
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees
and Border Security
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn:

Enclosed please find the Characteristics of Specialty Occupation Workers (H-1B) Fiscal Year 2006 Annual Report. This report is mandated under section 416(c)(2) of the American Competitive and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA) which states: "...(T)he Attorney General shall submit on an annual basis, to the Committees on the Judiciary of the United States House of Representatives and the Senate, information on the countries of origin and occupations of, educational levels attained by, and compensation paid to, aliens who were issued visas or otherwise provided nonimmigrant status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act during the previous fiscal year."

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Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Homeland Security

MAR 17 2008

The Honorable John J. Conyers, Jr.
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed please find the Characteristics of Specialty Occupation Workers (H-1B) Fiscal Year 2006 Annual Report. This report is mandated under section 416(c)(2) of the American Competitive and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA) which states: "...(T)he Attorney General shall submit on an annual basis, to the Committees on the Judiciary of the United States House of Representatives and the Senate, information on the countries of origin and occupations of, educational levels attained by, and compensation paid to, aliens who were issued visas or otherwise provided nonimmigrant status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act during the previous fiscal year."

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Office of Legislative Affairs

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Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Homeland Security

MAR 17 2008

The Honorable Lamar Smith
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Smith:

Enclosed please find the Characteristics of Specialty Occupation Workers (H-1B) Fiscal Year 2006 Annual Report. This report is mandated under section 416(c)(2) of the American Competitive and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA) which states: "...(T)he Attorney General shall submit on an annual basis, to the Committees on the Judiciary of the United States House of Representatives and the Senate, information on the countries of origin and occupations of, educational levels attained by, and compensation paid to, aliens who were issued visas or otherwise provided nonimmigrant status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act during the previous fiscal year."

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Office of Legislative Affairs

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Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Homeland Security

MAR 17 2008

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship,
Border Security, and International Law
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Lofgren:

Enclosed please find the Characteristics of Specialty Occupation Workers (H-1B) Fiscal Year 2006 Annual Report. This report is mandated under section 416(c)(2) of the American Competitive and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA) which states: "...(T)he Attorney General shall submit on an annual basis, to the Committees on the Judiciary of the United States House of Representatives and the Senate, information on the countries of origin and occupations of, educational levels attained by, and compensation paid to, aliens who were issued visas or otherwise provided nonimmigrant status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act during the previous fiscal year."

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AILA InfoNet Doc. No. 09123169. (Posted 12/31/09)

Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Homeland Security

MAR 17 2008

The Honorable Steve King
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship,
Border Security, and International Law
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative King:

Enclosed please find the Characteristics of Specialty Occupation Workers (H-1B) Fiscal Year 2006 Annual Report. This report is mandated under section 416(c)(2) of the American Competitive and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA) which states: "...(T)he Attorney General shall submit on an annual basis, to the Committees on the Judiciary of the United States House of Representatives and the Senate, information on the countries of origin and occupations of, educational levels attained by, and compensation paid to, aliens who were issued visas or otherwise provided nonimmigrant status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act during the previous fiscal year."

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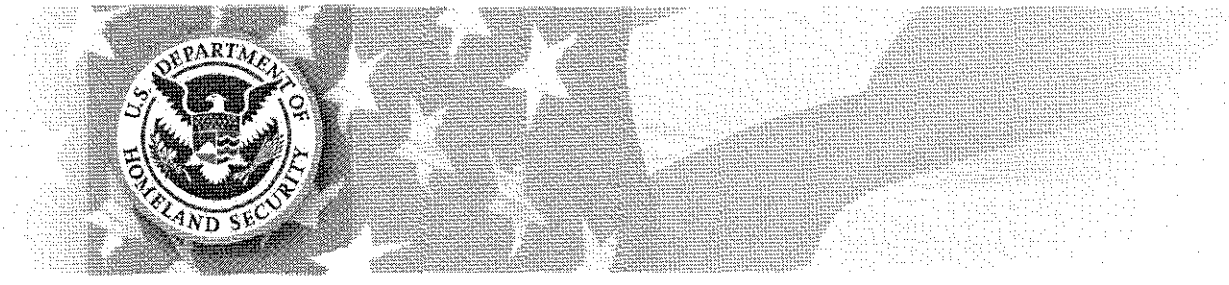
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services



Characteristics of Specialty Occupation Workers (H-1B)

Fiscal Year 2006, Annual Report
October 1, 2005 – September 30, 2006

March 2008

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Report Mandated by Public Law
105-277, Division C
American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement
Act of 1998

AILA InfoNet Doc. No. 09123169. (Posted 12/31/09)

Characteristics of Specialty Occupation Workers (H-1B): October 2005 to September 2006

This report is mandated under section 416(c)(2) of the American Competitive and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA) which states: "...(T)he Attorney General shall submit on an annual basis, to the Committees on the Judiciary of the United States House of Representatives and the Senate, information on the countries of origin and occupations of, educational levels attained by, and compensation paid to, aliens who were issued visas or otherwise provided nonimmigrant status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act during the previous fiscal year."

Highlights

- The number of H-1B petitions filed increased 11 percent from 266,474 in Fiscal Year 2005 to 295,915 in Fiscal Year 2006.
- The number of H-1B petitions approved increased approximately one and one-half percent from 267,131 in Fiscal Year 2005 to 270,981 in Fiscal Year 2006.
- Approximately fifty percent of all H-1B petitions approved in Fiscal Year 2006 were for workers born in India.
- Sixty-six percent of H-1B petitions approved in Fiscal Year 2006 were for workers between the ages of 25 and 34.
- Forty-five percent of H-1B petitions approved in Fiscal Year 2006 were for workers with a bachelor's degree. Thirty-nine percent of the petitions were for workers who had a master's degree, eleven percent had a doctorate, and five percent had a professional degree.
- Forty-eight percent of H-1B petitions approved in Fiscal Year 2006 were for workers in computer-related occupations.
- The median salary increased from $55,000 in Fiscal Year 2005 to $60,000 in Fiscal Year 2006.

AILA InfoNet Doc. No. 09123169. (Posted 12/31/09)

Background

An H-1B temporary worker is an alien admitted to the United States to perform services in a "specialty occupation."[1]

The H-1B nonimmigrant classification is a vehicle through which qualified aliens may seek admission to the United States on a temporary basis to work in their fields of expertise. Prior to employing an H-1B temporary worker, a U.S. employer must first file an H-1B petition with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). However, while USCIS is responsible for evaluating an alien's qualifications for the H-1B classification, approval of an H-1B petition does not equate to admission of the alien to the U.S. in H-1B status. The Department of State (DOS) plays a vital role in the H-1B admission process.

Prior to filing the H-1B petition with USCIS, the U.S. employer must first file a Labor Condition Application (LCA) with the Department of Labor (DOL) specifying the job, salary, length and geographic location of employment. In addition, the employer must agree to pay the alien the greater of the actual or prevailing wage for the position in the area of intended employment. Once DOL approves the LCA, the U.S. employer may file the H-1B petition with USCIS.

To qualify as a specialty occupation, the position must meet one of the following requirements: (1) a bachelor's or higher degree or its equivalent is normally the minimum entry requirement for the position; (2) the degree requirement is common to the industry, or in the alternative, the position is so complex or unique that it can be performed only by an individual with a degree; (3) the employer normally requires a degree or its equivalent for the position; or (4) the nature of the specific duties is so specialized and complex that the knowledge required to perform the duties is usually associated with attainment of a bachelor's or higher degree. See 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(h)(4)(iii)(A). In order to perform services in a specialty occupation, an alien 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 fully practice the occupation (for example, architect, surveyor, physical therapist) in the state in which employment is sought; or (4) have, as determined by USCIS, the equivalent of the degree required by the specialty occupation acquired through a combination of education, specialized training, and/or progressively responsible experience. Specialty occupations may include, but are not limited to, computer systems analysts and programmers, physicians, professors, engineers, and accountants.

An alien may be admitted to the United States in H-1B status for a maximum period of six years; however, the H-1B petition may only be approved for a maximum period of three years. See INA § 214(g)(4). Thus, the H-1B petition may be used to sponsor an alien for an initial period of H-1B employment or to extend or change the authorized stay of an alien previously admitted to the United States in H-1B status or another nonimmigrant status. 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 need be made to extend the authorized stay of the beneficiary. For example, an employer may file an amended petition notifying USCIS of a different location where the

[1] Section 214(i)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act defines a specialty occupation as "an occupation that requires (A) the theoretical and practical application of a body of highly specialized knowledge, and (B) attainment of a bachelor's or higher degree in the specific specialty (or its equivalent) as a minimum for entry into the occupation in the United States." 8 U.S.C. § 1184(i).

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beneficiary will be employed or a material change in the beneficiary's job duties. Therefore, the total number of approved petitions in any given fiscal year exceeds the actual number of aliens who are provided nonimmigrant status as H-1B. At the end of the six-year period, the alien must either change to a different status (if eligible) or depart the United States[2]. See 8 CFR 214.2(h) (13)(iii)(A). USCIS regulations provide that an alien who has been outside the United States for at least one year may be eligible for a new six-year period of admission in H-1B status. See id.

When the H-1B category was enacted in 1990, Congress established that a maximum of 65,000 H-1B visas may be issued to aliens during each fiscal year. This limitation, commonly referred to as the "H-1B cap," does not apply to H-1B petitions filed on behalf of aliens who have been counted against the cap in the previous six years and who have not been outside of the United States for one year or longer. Thus, generally, petitions to extend an H-1B nonimmigrant's period of stay, change the conditions of the H-1B nonimmigrant's current employment, or request new H-1B employment filed on behalf of H-1B workers already in the United States will not count against the H-1B fiscal year cap.

The INA, as amended by the Immigration Act of 1990, the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA) and the American Competitiveness in the Twenty-first Century Act (AC21), made significant changes to policy and procedures governing the H-1B category, including providing temporary increases in H-1B cap and certain exemptions to the cap. Under ACWIA, the annual ceiling of H-1B petitions valid for new employment was increased from 65,000 to 115,000 in Fiscal Years 1999 and 2000 and to 107,500 in Fiscal Year 2001. AC21 raised the limit on petitions in Fiscal Year 2001 from 107,500 to 195,000 and in Fiscal Year 2002 from 65,000 to 195,000. The limit in Fiscal Year 2003 was 195,000. Starting in Fiscal Year 2004, the H-1B cap reverted back to 65,000 per fiscal year and presently remains at that level. These statutory provisions also provided for certain exemptions from the fiscal year H-1B cap; petitions for new H-1B employment are exempt if the aliens will be employed at institutions of higher education or related or affiliated nonprofit entities, or at nonprofit research organizations or governmental research organizations. In addition, the H-1B Visa Reform Act of 2004 mandates that the first 20,000 H-1B petitions filed on behalf of aliens with U.S.-earned master's or higher degrees will be exempt from any fiscal year cap on available H-1B visas.

[2] Certain aliens are exempt from the six-year maximum period of admission under the provisions of the American Competitiveness in the Twenty-First Century Act of 2000 (AC21) (Public Law 106-313).

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Petitions

During Fiscal Year 2006, USCIS approved 270,981 H-1B petitions submitted by employers in behalf of alien workers. The total number of approved petitions (new and extensions) exceeds the number of individual H-1B workers because more than one U.S. employer may file a petition in behalf of an individual H-1B worker or an employer may file additional petitions for the same worker if there is a change in the alien's duties or worksite (amended petitions). The number of approved H-1B petitions for initial employment exceeds the cap because of employer-based cap exemptions. For example, approved petitions for initial employment are exempt from the cap if the sponsors are institutions of higher education or nonprofit organizations affiliated with institutions of higher education; the sponsors are nonprofit research organizations or governmental research organizations; or a beneficiary has a U.S. advanced degree.

Table 1 shows for Fiscal Year 2006 the number of petitions filed and/or approved for initial and continuing employment. Of the 270,981 petitions approved in 2006, a total of 109,614 petitions or 40 percent were for initial employment.[3] The corresponding number of petitions for continuing employment was 161,367.[4] These workers may have had a second (or subsequent) petition filed on their behalf in order to: 1) extend the period allowed to work with their current employer; 2) notify USCIS of changes in the conditions of employment, including a change of employer; or 3) request concurrent H-1B status with another employer.

The number of H-1B petitions filed increased 11 percent and petitions approved increased one and one-half percent between Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006. For initial employment, petitions filed rose four percent and petitions approved fell six percent. In contrast, petitions filed for continuing employment increased 17 percent and petitions approved increased seven percent.

Table 1. H-1B Petitions Filed and/or Approved by Type of Petition: Fiscal Years 2003 to 2006

	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Petitions filed	**231,030**	**312,200**	**266,474**	**295,915**
Initial employment	108,526	163,549	117,536	121,724
Continuing employment	122,504	148,651	148,938	174,191
Petitions approved [1]	**217,340**	**287,418**	**267,131**	**270,981**
Initial employment	105,314	130,497	116,927	109,614
Continuing employment	112,026	156,921	150,204	161,367

[1] Regardless of when filed.

[3] The terms "initial employment" and "continuing employment" are used throughout this report 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. 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-1Bworkers intending to work beyond the initial 3-year period up to 6 years, the maximum period permissible under law during fiscal year 2006. Sequential employment refers to petitions for workers transferring between H-1B employers within the 6-year period. Finally, petitions for concurrent employment are filed for H-1B workers intending to work simultaneously for more than one H-1B employer.

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

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Table 2 shows the number of petitions filed by quarter in Fiscal Years 2003 to 2006. The general trend was an increase in filings each quarter with filing peaking in the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2006 at 132,655.

Table 2. H-1B Petitions Filed by Quarter: Fiscal Years 2003 to 2006

Quarter	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	Initial Employment	Percent of Total	Continuing Employment	Percent of Total
Total	**231,030**	**312,200**	**266,474**	**295,915**	**121,724**	**100**	**174,191**	**100**
October-December	50,633	69,835	41,020	48,678	10,678	8.8	38,000	21.8
January-March	52,722	64,022	41,847	50,445	6,431	5.3	44,014	25.3
April-June	61,302	74,823	98,831	132,655	91,187	74.9	41,468	23.8
July-September	66,373	103,520	84,776	64,137	13,428	11.0	50,709	29.1

Table 3 provides a breakdown of approved petitions in Fiscal Years 2003 to 2006 by type of petition. 109,614 H-1B beneficiaries were approved for initial employment and 161,367 for continuing employment in Fiscal Year 2006.

The number of aliens outside the United States approved for initial employment increased from 54,635 to 57,264 in Fiscal Year 2006. The corresponding numbers for aliens in the United States changing to H-1B status fell from 62,292 in 2005 to 52,350 in 2006.

Table 3. H-1B Petitions Approved by Type: Fiscal Years 2003 to 2006

Type of Petition	Petitions Approved							
	FY 2003	Percent	FY 2004	Percent	FY 2005	Percent	FY 2006	Percent
Total	**217,340**	**100**	**287,418**	**100**	**267,131**	**100**	**270,981**	**100**
Initial employment	**105,314**	**48**	**130,497**	**45**	**116,927**	**44**	**109,614**	**40**
Aliens outside U.S.	41,895	19	60,271	21	54,635	20	57,264	21
Aliens in U.S.	63,419	29	70,226	24	62,292	23	52,350	19
Continuing employment	**112,026**	**52**	**156,921**	**55**	**150,204**	**56**	**161,367**	**60**

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Country of Birth

Tables 4A and 4B show the distribution of beneficiaries by country of birth.[5] Fifty percent of the H-1B petitions approved in Fiscal Year 2006 were granted on behalf of individuals born in India, an increase of six percent from 2005. The number of beneficiaries from India approved for initial employment increased nearly four percent in 2006, while the number of beneficiaries approved for continuing employment increased 24 percent.

Table 4A. H-1B Petitions Approved by Country of Birth of Beneficiary and Type of Petition (Number): Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006

Country of Birth	All Beneficiaries		Initial Employment		Continuing Employment	
	FY 2005 Number	FY 2006 Number	FY 2005 Number	FY 2006 Number	FY 2005 Number	FY 2006 Number
Total	**267,131**	**270,981**	**116,927**	**109,614**	**150,204**	**161,367**
India	118,520	135,329	57,349	59,612	61,171	75,717
China, People's Republic	24,561	23,638	10,643	9,859	13,918	13,779
Canada	11,780	10,996	4,246	3,587	7,534	7,409
Philippines	9,965	8,870	3,316	2,829	6,649	6,041
Korea	8,072	7,570	3,831	3,313	4,241	4,257
United Kingdom	6,796	5,995	2,407	1,712	4,389	4,283
Japan	5,727	5,181	2,379	1,829	3,348	3,352
Taiwan	4,285	3,919	1,795	1,602	2,490	2,317
Pakistan	4,120	3,781	1,535	1,263	2,585	2,518
Mexico	3,605	3,435	1,206	1,169	2,399	2,266
Germany	3,449	3,082	1,475	1,186	1,974	1,896
France	3,116	2,851	1,228	977	1,888	1,874
Colombia	3,444	2,833	1,214	872	2,230	1,961
Russia	2,694	2,477	962	797	1,732	1,680
Turkey	2,665	2,367	1,188	908	1,477	1,459
Venezuela	2,930	2,351	1,122	726	1,808	1,625
Brazil	2,506	2,242	1,071	843	1,435	1,399
Argentina	2,299	1,743	793	521	1,506	1,222
Malaysia	1,791	1,624	775	458	1,016	1,166
Israel	1,804	1,622	594	516	1,210	1,106
Other countries	43,002	39,075	17,798	15,035	25,204	24,040

Notes: Countries of birth are ranked based on 2006 data.

[5] Data actually represent countries and territories of birth.

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Table 4B. H-1B Petitions Approved by Country of Birth of Beneficiary and Type of Petition (Percent): Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006

Country of Birth	All Beneficiaries		Initial Employment		Continuing Employment	
	FY 2005 Percent	FY 2006 Percent	FY 2005 Percent	FY 2006 Percent	FY 2005 Percent	FY 2006 Percent
Total	---	---	---	---	---	---
Country of birth	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
India	44.4	49.9	49.1	54.4	40.8	46.9
China, People's Republic	9.2	8.7	9.1	9.0	9.3	8.5
Canada	4.4	4.1	3.6	3.3	5.0	4.6
Philippines	3.7	3.3	2.8	2.6	4.4	3.7
Korea	3.0	2.8	3.3	3.0	2.8	2.6
United Kingdom	2.5	2.2	2.1	1.6	2.9	2.7
Japan	2.1	1.9	2.0	1.7	2.2	2.1
Taiwan	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.4
Pakistan	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.7	1.6
Mexico	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.6	1.4
Germany	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.2
France	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.9	1.3	1.2
Colombia	1.3	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.5	1.2
Russia	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	1.2	1.0
Turkey	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.9
Venezuela	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.7	1.2	1.0
Brazil	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9
Argentina	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.5	1.0	0.8
Malaysia	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.7
Israel	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.7
Other countries	15.9	14.4	15.1	13.7	16.6	14.9

Notes: Countries of birth are ranked based on 2006 data.
Totals may not add due to rounding.

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Age

Table 5 shows the age distribution of the H-1B beneficiaries in Fiscal Year 2006 by type of petition. Sixty-six percent of workers granted H-1B status during 2006 were between 25 and 34 years of age at the time their petitions were approved. Fifty-eight percent of initial beneficiaries were under 30, compared with twenty-seven percent of continuing beneficiaries.

Table 5. H-1B Petitions Approved by Age of Beneficiary at Time of Approval and by Type of Petition: Fiscal Year 2006

Age	Total	Percent	Initial Employment	Percent	Continuing Employment	Percent
Total	**270,981**		**109,614**		**161,367**	
Age known	**270,793**	**100**	**109,538**	**100**	**161,255**	**100**
Under 20	161	0.1	135	0.1	26	0.0
20-24	18,809	6.9	16,477	15.0	2,332	1.4
25-29	89,214	32.9	47,446	43.3	41,768	25.9
30-34	89,905	33.2	28,090	25.6	61,815	38.3
35-39	41,329	15.3	10,249	9.4	31,080	19.3
40-44	18,271	6.7	4,141	3.8	14,130	8.8
45-49	7,495	2.8	1,673	1.5	5,822	3.6
50-54	3,366	1.2	786	0.7	2,580	1.6
55-59	1,497	0.6	352	0.3	1,145	0.7
60-64	544	0.2	140	0.1	404	0.3
65 and over	202	0.1	49	0.0	153	0.1
Age unknown	**188**	---------	**76**	---------	**112**	---------

Notes: Age of beneficiary is calculated based on the date the petition was approved.
Sum of the percents may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.
Percentages shown in the table are based on the total number of approved petitions with known ages.

Education

Tables 6 and 7 show the highest level of education achieved by the beneficiaries at the time of their application. Employers are asked to provide the highest degree (domestic or foreign) but not training or experience deemed equivalent to a degree. The reporting of a domestic or foreign degree is not required in a standard format on USCIS or Department of Labor forms. However, in nearly all cases, the petitioning employer provides the information in supporting documentation. For degrees earned outside the United States, the employer usually supplies a credential evaluation stating that the foreign degree is "equivalent to" a particular U.S. degree. USCIS does not maintain separate data regarding whether the degree was earned in the United States or abroad. (Data on beneficiaries with U.S. advanced degrees has been available since May 2005.)

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The breakdown of the highest level of education achieved by H-1B beneficiaries remained about the same between Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006. As shown in Table 6, forty-five percent of all H-1B petitions approved for workers in 2006 reported that the beneficiary had earned the equivalent of a bachelor's degree; thirty-nine percent a master's degree; eleven percent a doctorate, and five percent a professional degree. Altogether, ninety-eight percent earned at least a bachelor's degree and fifty-four percent earned at least a master's degree.

Table 6. H-1B Petitions Approved by Level of Education: Fiscal Years 2003-2006

	Percent of beneficiaries			
Level of Education	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Education known	100	100	100	100
Less than a bachelor's degree	2	1	1	1
Bachelor's degree	50	49	45	45
Master's degree	31	34	37	39
Doctorate degree	12	11	12	11
Professional degree	6	5	5	5

Note: Sum of percent may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Table 7. H-1B Petitions Approved by Level of Education of Beneficiary and Type of Petition: Fiscal Year 2006

Level of Education	Total	Percent	Initial Employment	Percent	Continuing Employment	Percent
Total	**270,981**		**109,614**		**161,367**	
Education known	**270,867**	**100**	**109,587**	**100**	**161,280**	**100**
No high school diploma	196	0.1	96	0.1	100	0.1
High school graduate	720	0.3	392	0.4	328	0.2
Less than 1 year of college credit	144	0.1	54	0.0	90	0.1
1 or more years of college credit, no diploma	743	0.3	195	0.2	548	0.3
Associate's degree	642	0.2	177	0.2	465	0.3
Bachelor's degree	121,825	45.0	46,501	42.4	75,324	46.7
Master's degree	104,673	38.6	44,474	40.6	60,199	37.3
Doctorate degree	28,593	10.6	12,543	11.4	16,050	10.0
Professional degree	13,331	4.9	5,155	4.7	8,176	5.1
Education unknown	**114**	--------	**27**	--------	**87**	--------

Notes: Sum of the percents may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.
Percents shown in the table are based on the number of approved petitions with known levels of education.

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Occupation

- Occupation Category

Tables 8A and 8B show the distribution of beneficiaries by occupation category for Fiscal Year 2006. The petitioning employer supplies the occupation code on the Labor Condition Application (LCA). Computer-related occupations were the most numerous occupation categories in 2006; their share of total petitions approved increased from 43 percent in 2005 to 48 percent in Fiscal Year 2006. The corresponding shares for initial employment and continuing employment in computer-related occupations were 51 and 46 percent, respectively. Sixteen of the seventeen occupation categories had more continuing than initial H-1B beneficiaries.

The number of H-1B petitions approved for workers in computer-related occupations increased fifteen percent from 113,867 in 2005 to 130,556 in 2006. The majority of the remaining occupation groups decreased between 2005 and 2006. The only exception was miscellaneous professional, technical and managerial occupations, which increased seven percent.

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Table 8A. H-1B Petitions Approved by Major Occupation Group of Beneficiary and Type of Petition (Number): Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006

Occupational Division	All Beneficiaries		Initial Employment		Continuing Employment	
	FY 2005 Number	FY 2006 Number	FY 2005 Number	FY 2006 Number	FY 2005 Number	FY 2006 Number
Total	**267,131**	**270,981**	**116,927**	**109,614**	**150,204**	**161,367**
Occupation known	**264,892**	**269,898**	**115,662**	**109,408**	**149,230**	**160,490**
Computer-related occupations	113,867	130,556	52,352	56,393	61,515	74,163
Occupations in architecture, engineering, and surveying	32,030	29,883	12,831	10,490	19,199	19,393
Occupations in education	29,061	25,610	12,978	11,220	16,083	14,390
Occupations in administrative specializations	25,928	24,636	11,041	9,047	14,887	15,589
Occupations in medicine and health	17,360	15,703	7,218	6,104	10,142	9,599
Managers and officials, n.e.c.	10,652	10,061	3,619	2,895	7,033	7,166
Occupations in life sciences	8,840	7,731	3,859	3,216	4,981	4,515
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial	5,542	5,964	2,265	2,282	3,277	3,682
Occupations in mathematics and physical sciences	6,600	5,949	2,695	2,442	3,905	3,507
Occupations in social sciences	6,072	5,862	2,700	2,251	3,372	3,611
Occupations in art	3,790	3,400	1,631	1,122	2,159	2,278
Occupations in law and jurisprudence	1,767	1,666	810	723	957	943
Occupations in writing	1,482	1,302	631	422	851	880
Occupations in entertainment and recreation	693	606	293	438	400	168
Fashion models	655	573	467	199	188	374
Occupations in museum, library, and archival sciences	376	286	161	112	215	174
Occupations in religion and theology	177	110	111	52	66	58
Occupation unknown	**2,239**	**1,083**	**1,265**	**206**	**974**	**877**

Notes: Occupations ranked based on 2006 data.
n.e.c. indicates not elsewhere classified.

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Table 8B. H-1B Petitions Approved by Major Occupation Group of Beneficiary and Type of Petition (Percent): Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006

Occupational Division	All Beneficiaries		Initial Employment		Continuing Employment	
	FY 2005 Percent	FY 2006 Percent	FY 2005 Percent	FY 2006 Percent	FY 2005 Percent	FY 2006 Percent
Total	------	------	------	------	------	------
Occupation known	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
Computer-related occupations	43.0	48.4	45.3	51.5	41.2	46.2
Occupations in architecture, engineering, and surveying	12.1	11.1	11.1	9.6	12.9	12.1
Occupations in education	11.0	9.5	11.2	10.3	10.8	9.0
Occupations in administrative specializations	9.8	9.1	9.5	8.3	10.0	9.7
Occupations in medicine and health	6.6	5.8	6.2	5.6	6.8	6.0
Managers and officials, n.e.c.	4.0	3.7	3.1	2.6	4.7	4.5
Occupations in life sciences	3.3	2.9	3.3	2.9	3.3	2.8
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial	2.1	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3
Occupations in mathematics and physical sciences	2.5	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.6	2.2
Occupations in social sciences	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.2
Occupations in art	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.4
Occupations in law and jurisprudence	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6
Occupations in writing	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.5
Occupations in entertainment and recreation	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.1
Fashion models	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2
Occupations in museum, library, and archival sciences	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Occupations in religion and theology	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Occupation unknown	------	------	------	------	------	------

Notes: Occupations ranked based on 2006 data.
Sum of the percents may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.
Percents shown in the table are based on the total number of petitions approved with known occupations.
n.e.c. indicates not elsewhere classified.

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- Detailed Occupation

Tables 9A and 9B indicate the distribution of beneficiaries by detailed major occupation group in descending order in Fiscal Year 2006. The relative distributions in 2005 and 2006 were similar. The list is limited to the top 21 categories. More than one-third of the approved petitions in 2006 were for aliens working as systems analysts or programmers. The second largest category was occupations in colleges and university education.

Table 9A. H-1B Petitions Approved by Detailed Occupation of Beneficiary and Type of Petition (Number): Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006

Occupational Group	All Beneficiaries FY 2005 Number	All Beneficiaries FY 2006 Number	Initial Employment FY 2005 Number	Initial Employment FY 2006 Number	Continuing Employment FY 2005 Number	Continuing Employment FY 2006 Number
Total	**267,131**	**270,981**	**116,927**	**109,614**	**150,204**	**161,367**
Occupation known	**264,766**	**269,876**	**115,581**	**109,400**	**149,185**	**160,476**
Occupations in systems analysis and programming	99,976	115,782	47,282	51,838	52,694	63,944
Occupations in college and university education	21,418	18,925	10,063	8,826	11,355	10,099
Accountants, auditors and related occupations	12,104	11,149	5,230	4,027	6,874	7,122
Computer-related occupations, n.e.c	9,487	10,420	3,524	3,235	5,963	7,185
Electrical/electronics engineering occupations	10,067	9,549	3,872	3,392	6,195	6,157
Physicians and surgeons	7,218	7,355	2,963	2,806	4,255	4,549
Occupations in economics	5,529	5,346	2,393	1,994	3,136	3,352
Miscellaneous professional, technical and managerial occupations, n.e.c.	4,865	5,322	1,960	2,013	2,905	3,309
Occupations in biological sciences	6,308	5,293	2,676	2,169	3,632	3,124
Miscellaneous managers and officials, n.e.c.	5,255	4,991	1,762	1,461	3,493	3,530
Mechanical engineering occupations	4,619	4,569	1,942	1,635	2,677	2,934
Occupations in architecture, engineering, and surveying, n.e.c.	4,695	4,331	1,806	1,414	2,889	2,917
Budget and management systems analysis occupations	4,071	4,300	1,884	1,788	2,187	2,512
Occupations in administrative specializations, n.e.c.	4,212	4,173	1,857	1,658	2,355	2,515
Civil engineering occupations	3,704	3,491	1,450	1,220	2,254	2,271
Occupations in medicine and health, n.e.c.	4,075	3,327	1,901	1,452	2,174	1,875
Occupations in preschool, primary school, and kindergarten education	3,408	2,933	1,249	1,123	2,159	1,810
Architectural occupations	3,261	2,901	1,230	917	2,031	1,984
Occupations in data communications and networks	2,292	2,469	870	784	1,422	1,685
Industrial engineering occupations	2,528	2,421	1,074	879	1,454	1,542
Other occupations	45,674	40,829	18,593	14,769	27,081	26,060
Occupation Unknown	**2,365**	**1,105**	**1,346**	**214**	**1,019**	**891**

Notes: Occupations ranked on 2006 data.
n.e.c. indicates *not elsewhere classified.*

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Table 9B. H-1B Petitions Approved by Detailed Occupation of Beneficiary and Type of Petition (Percent): Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006

Occupational Group	All Beneficiaries FY 2005 Percent	All Beneficiaries FY 2006 Percent	Initial Employment FY 2005 Percent	Initial Employment FY 2006 Percent	Continuing Employment FY 2005 Percent	Continuing Employment FY 2006 Percent
Total	------	------	------	------	------	------
Occupation known	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
Occupations in systems analysis and programming	37.8	42.9	40.9	47.4	35.3	39.8
Occupations in college and university education	8.1	7.0	8.7	8.1	7.6	6.3
Accountants, auditors and related occupations	4.6	4.1	4.5	3.7	4.6	4.4
Computer-related occupations, n.e.c	3.6	3.9	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.5
Electrical/electronics engineering occupations	3.8	3.5	3.4	3.1	4.2	3.8
Physicians and surgeons	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.9	2.8
Occupations in economics	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.8	2.1	2.1
Miscellaneous professional, technical and managerial occupations, n.e.c.	1.8	2.0	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.1
Occupations in biological sciences	2.4	2.0	2.3	2.0	2.4	1.9
Miscellaneous managers and officials, n.e.c.	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.3	2.3	2.2
Mechanical engineering occupations	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.8
Occupations in architecture, engineering, and surveying, n.e.c.	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.9	1.8
Budget and management systems analysis occupations	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.6
Occupations in administrative specializations, n.e.c.	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.6
Civil engineering occupations	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.5	1.4
Occupations in medicine and health, n.e.c.	1.5	1.2	1.6	1.3	1.5	1.2
Occupations in preschool, primary school, and kindergarten education	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.4	1.1
Architectural occupations	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.8	1.4	1.2
Occupations in data communications and networks	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	1.0	1.1
Industrial engineering occupations	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	1.0	1.0
Other occupations	17.3	15.1	16.1	13.5	18.2	16.2
Occupation unknown	------	------	------	------	------	------

Notes: Occupations ranked on 2006 data
Sum of the percents may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.
Percents shown in the table are based on the total number of petitions approved with known occupations.
n.e.c. indicates *not elsewhere classified.*

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Annual Compensation [7]

Tables 10, 11, and 12 show compensation by occupation for beneficiaries of all, initial, and continuing employment, respectively. Each table shows occupations arranged by the total number of beneficiaries approved in Fiscal Year 2006. As shown in Table 10, the median annual compensation reported by employers of H-1B workers approved for employment during Fiscal Year 2006 was $60,000. This number compares with $55,000 in 2005. One-half were expected to earn between $47,000 and $78,000. Median compensation ranged from a low of $33,000 for occupations in religion and theology to a high of $105,000 for occupations in law and jurisprudence.

Table 10. Annual Compensation of All H-1B Beneficiaries by Major Occupation Group: Fiscal Year 2006

Occupation	Total Reported	25th Percentile	Median	75th Percentile
Total	**268,033**	**47,000**	**60,000**	**78,000**
Occupations with annual compensation known	**267,003**	**47,000**	**60,000**	**78,000**
Computer-related occupations	129,883	51,000	60,000	77,000
Occupations in architecture, engineering, and surveying	29,589	51,000	64,000	80,000
Occupations in education	25,291	36,000	43,000	56,000
Occupations in administrative specializations	24,230	40,000	52,000	73,000
Occupations in medicine and health	15,128	43,000	56,000	117,000
Managers and officials, n.e.c.	9,948	50,000	75,000	105,000
Occupations in life sciences	7,689	37,000	43,000	58,000
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial occupations	5,923	47,000	65,000	95,000
Occupations in mathematics and physical sciences	5,918	47,000	62,000	81,000
Occupations in social sciences	5,782	42,000	60,000	87,000
Occupations in art	3,339	36,000	45,000	65,000
Occupations in law and jurisprudence	1,637	51,000	105,000	145,000
Occupations in writing	1,273	31,000	40,000	54,000
Occupations in entertainment and recreation	538	30,000	36,000	49,000
Fashion models	445	100,000	100,000	104,000
Occupations in museum, library, and archival sciences	283	36,000	43,000	55,000
Occupations in religion and theology	107	26,000	33,000	46,000
Occupation unknown	**1,030**	**38,000**	**50,000**	**70,000**

Notes: Occupations ranked by number of beneficiaries.
n.e.c. indicates *not elsewhere classified.*

Definitions: Median is the middle ranking value (50th percentile) of all values. 25th percentile and 75th percentile are the lower quarter and upper quarter ranking values, respectively.

[7] Annual compensation refers to what the employer agreed to pay the beneficiary at the time the application was filed. The amount excludes non-cash compensation and benefits such as health insurance and transportation. Further, compensation is based on full-time employment for 12 months, even if the beneficiary actually worked fewer than 12 months.

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As revealed in Tables 11 and 12, beneficiaries for continuing employment reported higher annual compensation than did beneficiaries for initial employment. Median annual compensation was $65,000 for the former and $52,000 for the latter. In Fiscal Year 2005 workers approved for continuing employment and initial employment reported median annual compensation of $60,000 and $50,000, respectively.

Table 11. Annual Compensation of H-1B Beneficiaries for Initial Employment by Major Occupation Group: Fiscal Year 2006

Occupation	Total Reported	25th Percentile	Median	75th Percentile
Total	**108,218**	**44,000**	**52,000**	**61,000**
Occupations with annual compensation known	**108,025**	**44,000**	**52,000**	**61,000**
Computer-related occupations	56,064	48,000	55,000	60,000
Occupations in education	11,048	35,000	41,000	53,000
Occupations in architecture, engineering, and surveying	10,373	48,000	58,000	72,000
Occupations in administrative specializations	8,852	38,000	48,000	60,000
Occupations in medicine and health	5,874	42,000	47,000	83,000
Occupations in life sciences	3,196	36,000	40,000	50,000
Managers and officials, n.e.c.	2,853	45,000	63,000	95,000
Occupations in mathematics and physical sciences	2,430	44,000	55,000	74,000
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial occupations	2,256	41,000	57,000	85,000
Occupations in social sciences	2,211	40,000	55,000	75,000
Occupations in art	1,098	31,000	38,000	48,000
Occupations in law and jurisprudence	710	48,000	110,000	145,000
Occupations in writing	406	29,000	35,000	45,000
Fashion models	309	100,000	100,000	104,000
Occupations in entertainment and recreation	184	28,000	33,000	42,000
Occupations in museum, library, and archival sciences	110	34,000	39,000	47,000
Occupations in religion and theology	51	25,000	33,000	49,000
Occupation unknown	**193**	**36,000**	**46,000**	**59,000**

Notes: Occupations ranked by the number of beneficiaries.
n.e.c. indicates *not elsewhere classified.*

Definitions: Median is the middle ranking value (50th percentile) of all values.
25th percentile and 75th percentile are the lower quarter and upper quarter ranking values, respectively.

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Table 12. Annual Compensation of H-1B Beneficiaries for Continuing Employment by Major Occupation Group: Fiscal Year 2006

Occupation	Total Reported	25th Percentile	Median	75th Percentile
Total	**159,815**	**50,000**	**65,000**	**85,000**
Occupations with annual compensation known	**158,978**	**50,000**	**65,000**	**85,000**
Computer-related occupations	73,819	59,000	70,000	86,000
Occupations in architecture, engineering, and surveying	19,216	54,000	67,000	84,000
Occupations in administrative specializations	15,378	42,000	58,000	80,000
Occupations in education	14,243	37,000	44,000	58,000
Occupations in medicine and health	9,254	46,000	70,000	126,000
Managers and officials, n.e.c.	7,095	52,000	80,000	110,000
Occupations in life sciences	4,493	38,000	46,000	63,000
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial occupations	3,667	50,000	74,000	101,000
Occupations in social sciences	3,571	44,000	65,000	95,000
Occupations in mathematics and physical sciences	3,488	50,000	67,000	85,000
Occupations in art	2,241	40,000	52,000	72,000
Occupations in law and jurisprudence	927	53,000	101,000	160,000
Occupations in writing	867	33,000	42,000	57,000
Occupations in entertainment and recreation	354	30,000	40,000	52,000
Occupations in museum, library, and archival sciences	173	36,000	47,000	62,000
Fashion models	136	100,000	100,000	169,000
Occupations in religion and theology	56	26,000	32,000	42,000
Occupation unknown	**837**	**39,000**	**52,000**	**73,000**

Notes: Occupations ranked by the number of beneficiaries.
n.e.c. indicates *not elsewhere classified.*

Definitions: Median is the middle ranking value (50th percentile) of all values.
25th percentile and 75th percentile are the lower quarter and upper quarter ranking values, respectively.

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Industry

Tables 13A and 13B show the industries that employed the most H-1B workers in Fiscal Year 2006. The number of workers approved for all known industries increased two and one-half percent from 247,155 in Fiscal Year 2005 to 253,212 in Fiscal Year 2006. Among the top ten industries, five experienced an increase ranging from 3.5 percent (semiconductor & other electronic component manufacturing) to 24.7 percent (securities & commodity contracts intermediation & brokerage). The remaining five industries experienced a decrease ranging from 6.1 percent (accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, & payroll services) to 10.7 percent (colleges, universities & professional schools).

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

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Table 13A. H-1B Petitions Approved by Detailed Industry and Type of Petition (Number): Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006

Industry	All Beneficiaries FY 2005 Number	All Beneficiaries FY 2006 Number	Initial Employment FY 2005 Number	Initial Employment FY 2006 Number	Continuing Employment FY 2005 Number	Continuing Employment FY 2006 Number
Total	**267,131**	**270,981**	**116,927**	**109,614**	**150,204**	**161,367**
Industry known	**247,155**	**253,212**	**108,674**	**103,794**	**138,481**	**149,418**
Computer systems design & related services	85,552	99,990	43,831	48,073	41,721	51,917
Colleges, universities, & professional schools	27,683	24,718	12,995	11,279	14,688	13,439
Management, scientific, & technical consulting services	9,493	11,031	4,822	5,383	4,671	5,648
Architectural, engineering, & related services	11,413	10,618	4,738	3,746	6,675	6,872
Scientific research and development services	8,052	7,322	3,203	2,906	4,849	4,416
Securities & commodity contracts intermediation & brokerage	4,756	5,930	1,750	1,869	3,006	4,061
General medical and surgical hospitals	5,055	5,594	2,243	2,501	2,812	3,093
Elementary and secondary schools	5,582	5,163	2,078	1,875	3,504	3,288
Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, & payroll services	5,104	4,795	2,501	2,217	2,603	2,578
Semiconductor & other electronic component manufacturing	4,510	4,668	1,639	1,801	2,871	2,867
Offices of physicians	3,206	2,925	1,202	888	2,004	2,037
Computer and peripheral equipment manufacturing	2,453	2,602	601	451	1,852	2,151
Other financial investment activities	2,088	2,212	794	651	1,294	1,561
Telecommunications	3,218	2,057	652	392	2,566	1,665
Communications equipment manufacturing	1,665	1,865	490	326	1,175	1,539
Pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturing	1,861	1,797	563	485	1,298	1,312
Software publishers	1,356	1,719	356	606	1,000	1,113
Legal services	1,703	1,631	760	694	943	937
Non-depository credit intermediation	1,313	1,628	384	372	929	1,256
Other professional, scientific, & technical services	1,846	1,597	713	524	1,133	1,073
Health and personal care stores	1,823	1,444	639	435	1,184	1,009
Specialized design services	1,618	1,377	709	496	909	881
Depository credit intermediation	1,165	1,362	362	401	803	961
Offices of other health practitioners	1,707	1,340	847	572	860	768
Advertising and related services	1,277	1,246	495	383	782	863
Employment services	1,433	1,175	665	434	768	741
Insurance carriers	895	1,148	234	245	661	903
Traveler accommodation	1,189	1,097	362	263	827	834
Manufacturing	906	1,022	335	331	571	691
Management of companies and enterprises	680	998	247	280		718
Other industries	46,553	41,141	17,464	12,915	29,089	28,226
Industry unknown	**19,976**	**17,769**	**8,253**	**5,820**	**11,723**	**11,949**

Notes: Industries ranked by total beneficiaries in 2006
NAICS - North American Industry Classification System

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Table 13B. H-1B Petitions Approved by Detailed Industry and Type of Petition (Percent): Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006

Industry	All Beneficiaries FY 2005 Percent	All Beneficiaries FY 2006 Percent	Initial Employment FY 2005 Percent	Initial Employment FY 2006 Percent	Continuing Employment FY 2005 Percent	Continuing Employment FY 2006 Percent
Total	------	------	------	------	------	------
Industry known	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
Computer systems design & related services	34.6	39.5	40.3	46.3	30.1	34.7
Colleges, universities, & professional schools	11.2	9.8	12.0	10.9	10.6	9.0
Management, scientific, & technical consulting services	3.8	4.4	4.4	5.2	3.4	3.8
Architectural, engineering, & related services	4.6	4.2	4.4	3.6	4.8	4.6
Scientific research and development services	3.3	2.9	2.9	2.8	3.5	3.0
Securities & commodity contracts intermediation & brokerage	1.9	2.3	1.6	1.8	2.2	2.7
General medical and surgical hospitals	2.0	2.2	2.1	2.4	2.0	2.1
Elementary and secondary schools	2.3	2.0	1.9	1.8	2.5	2.2
Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, & payroll services	2.1	1.9	2.3	2.1	1.9	1.7
Semiconductor & other electronic component manufacturing	1.8	1.8	1.5	1.7	2.1	1.9
Offices of physicians	1.3	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.4	1.4
Computer and peripheral equipment manufacturing	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.4	1.3	1.4
Other financial investment activities	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.0
Telecommunications	1.3	0.8	0.6	0.4	1.9	1.1
Communications equipment manufacturing	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.8	1.0
Pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturing	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.9
Software publishers	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.7
Legal services	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6
Non-depository credit intermediation	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.8
Other professional, scientific, & technical services	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.7
Health and personal care stores	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.9	0.7
Specialized design services	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.6
Depository credit intermediation	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.6
Offices of other health practitioners	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5
Advertising and related services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.6
Employment services	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5
Insurance carriers	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.6
Traveler accommodation	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.6
Manufacturing	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5
Management of companies and enterprises	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.5
Other industries	18.8	16.2	16.1	12.4	21.0	18.9
Industry unknown	------	------	------	------	------	------

Notes: Industries ranked by total beneficiaries in 2006
Sum of the percents may not add to 100 due to rounding.
Percents shown are based on the total number of petitions approved with industry known.
NAICS: North American Industry Classification System

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Appendix: H-1B Petition Processing and Data Limitations

Petition Processing

Petitions for obtaining H-1B nonimmigrant status for alien workers are submitted by their prospective employers on USCIS Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker, and the addendum Data Collection and Filing Fee Exemption Supplement. The petitions are mailed to either the Vermont or California Service Centers, depending on the geographic location of the employment.

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.

Biographic data such as name, date of birth, and country of birth are entered from the petition by data entry clerks into the case tracking system, Computer-Linked Application Information Management System (CLAIMS3). 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.

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

After petitions are adjudicated, the associated paper files are forwarded either to the USCIS records center in Harrisonburg, Virginia, for storage or to the Kentucky Consular Center in Williamsburg, Kentucky, for consular processing.

Data Limitations

The tables in this report have been tabulated from an electronic data file created at Headquarters from USCIS service center electronic data files. Errors in this extract file may have occurred in several ways. For example, petition data might have been inaccurate on petitions, or keying errors may have occurred during data entry at the service centers or as a result of being improperly transferred electronically between the service centers and Headquarters. Minimum editing has been done to the data in this file. Impossible or highly improbable values have been defined as unknown; for example, beneficiaries younger than 16 (except for fashion models) or those beneficiaries working without compensation.

Lastly, information in electronic format is not available regarding the city or state where H-1B workers are employed.

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