United States Department of State
Bureau of Consular Affairs

VISA BULLETIN

Number 69 Volume IX **Washington, D.C.**

IMMIGRANT NUMBERS FOR JUNE 2014

A. STATUTORY NUMBERS

1. This bulletin summarizes the availability of immigrant numbers during June. Consular officers are required to report to the Department of State documentarily qualified applicants for numerically limited visas; U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in the Department of Homeland Security reports applicants for adjustment of status. Allocations were made, to the extent possible, in chronological order of reported priority dates, for demand received by May 7th. If not all demand could be satisfied, the category or foreign state in which demand was excessive was deemed oversubscribed. The cut-off date for an oversubscribed category is the priority date of the first applicant who could not be reached within the numerical limits. Only applicants who have a priority date earlier than the cut-off date may be allotted a number. If it becomes necessary during the monthly allocation process to retrogress a cut-off date, supplemental requests for numbers will be honored only if the priority date falls within the new cut-off date announced in this bulletin.

2. Section 201 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) sets an annual minimum family-sponsored preference limit of 226,000. The worldwide level for annual employment-based preference immigrants is at least 140,000. Section 202 prescribes that the per-country 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 in 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 demand exceeds 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

First: (**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.

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

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 available for all qualified applicants; and "U" means unavailable, i.e., no numbers are available. (NOTE: Numbers are available only for applicants whose priority date is **earlier** than the cut-off date listed below.)

Family-Sponsored	All Charge-ability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA-mainland born	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
F1	22MAR07	22MAR07	22MAR07	15DEC93	01JUN02
F2A	01MAY12	01MAY12	01MAY12	15MAR11	01MAY12
F2B	01APR07	01APR07	01APR07	01AUG93	15JUL03
F3	01OCT03	01OCT03	01OCT03	22JUL93	08MAR93
F4	15DEC01	15DEC01	15DEC01	08DEC96	15NOV90

*NOTE: For June, F2A numbers EXEMPT from per-country limit are available to applicants from all countries with priority dates earlier than 15MAR11. F2A numbers SUBJECT to per-country limit are available to applicants chargeable to all countries EXCEPT MEXICO with priority dates beginning 15MAR11 and earlier than 01MAY12. (All F2A numbers provided for MEXICO are exempt from the per-country limit; there are no F2A numbers for MEXICO subject to per-country limit.)

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

EMPLOYMENT-BASED PREFERENCES

First: 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, not more than 10,000 of which to "*Other Workers".

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

Fifth: Employment Creation: 7.1% of the worldwide level, not less than 3,000 of which reserved for investors in a targeted rural or high-unemployment area, and 3,000 set aside for investors in regional centers by Sec. 610 of Pub. L. 102-395.

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 available for all qualified applicants; and "U" means unavailable, i.e., no numbers are available. (NOTE: Numbers are available only for applicants whose priority date is **earlier** than the cut-off date listed below.)

Employment-Based	All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA-mainland born	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
1st	C	C	C	C	C
2nd	C	22MAY09	15NOV04	C	C
3rd	01APR11	01OCT06	15OCT03	01APR11	01JAN08
Other Workers	01APR11	01JAN03	15OCT03	01APR11	01JAN08
4th	C	C	C	C	C
Certain Religious Workers	C	C	C	C	C
5th	C	C	C	C	C
Targeted Employment Areas/ Regional Centers and Pilot Programs					

*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 cut-off date reached November 19, 1997 during Fiscal Year 2001, the reduction in the EW annual limit to 5,000 began in Fiscal Year 2002.

6. The Department of State has a recorded message with visa availability information which can be heard at: (202) 485-7699. This recording is updated on or about the tenth of each month with information on cut-off dates for the following month.

B. DIVERSITY IMMIGRANT (DV) CATEGORY FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

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. **This resulted in reduction of the DV-2014 annual limit to 50,000.** DV visas 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 June, immigrant numbers in the DV category are available to qualified DV-2014 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 BELOW the specified allocation cut-off number:

Region	All DV Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed Separately			
AFRICA	45,600	Except:	Egypt	28,200
			Nigeria	15,300
ASIA	7,425			
EUROPE	32,950	Except:	Uzbekistan	17,500
NORTH AMERICA (BAHAMAS)	18			
OCEANIA	1,185			
SOUTH AMERICA, and the CARIBBEAN	1,425			

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-2014 program ends as of September 30, 2014. DV visas may not be issued to DV-2014 applicants after that date. Similarly, spouses and children accompanying or following to join DV-2014 principals are only entitled to derivative DV status until September 30, 2014. DV visa availability through the very end of FY-2014 cannot be taken for granted. Numbers could be exhausted prior to September 30.

C. THE DIVERSITY (DV) IMMIGRANT CATEGORY RANK CUT-OFFS WHICH WILL APPLY IN JULY

For July, immigrant numbers in the DV category are available to qualified DV-2014 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 BELOW the specified allocation cut-off number:

Region	All DV Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed Separately			
AFRICA	56,300	Except:	Egypt	30,900
			Nigeria	17,400
ASIA	8,900			
EUROPE	36,300			
NORTH AMERICA (BAHAMAS)	CURRENT			
OCEANIA	1,300			
SOUTH AMERICA, and the CARIBBEAN	1,550			

D. RETROGRESSION OF JUNE CUT-OFF DATES

WORLDWIDE F2A:

The cut-off date for the Family F2A category was advanced at a very rapid pace during fiscal year 2013 in an effort to generate demand to use all numbers available under that annual limit. Those movements have resulted in a dramatic increase in the level of applicant demand being received during the past seven months. This has required the retrogression of the Family F2A cut-off date for June in an effort to hold number use within the annual numerical limit. Further retrogression cannot be ruled out should demand by applicants with very early priority dates continue to increase.

MEXICO F2A:

Despite a previous retrogression, the level of demand has remained excessive, resulting in a further retrogression of this cut-off date to hold number use within the annual limit.

Employment Third, and Third Other Workers:

The unexpected and dramatic increase in demand being received from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service Offices during the past several months has resulted in number use approaching the annual limit for this category. As a result, it has been necessary to retrogress the Worldwide, China, and Mexico cut-off dates for the month of June.

Notices were included in several Visa Bulletins during the past year alerting readers to the possibility of such retrogressions. While corrective action in some categories has become necessary earlier than was anticipated based on the information available earlier, it is hoped that readers are not caught off guard by these retrogressions.

F. DIVERSITY VISA LOTTERY 2015 (DV-2015) RESULTS

The Kentucky Consular Center in Williamsburg, Kentucky has registered and notified the winners of the DV-2015 diversity lottery. The diversity lottery was conducted under the terms of section 203(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act and makes available *50,000 permanent resident visas annually to persons from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States. Approximately 125,514 applicants have been registered and notified and may now make an application for an immigrant visa. Since it is likely that some of the first *50,000 persons registered will not pursue their cases to visa issuance, this larger figure should insure that all DV-2015 numbers will be used during fiscal year 2015 (October 1, 2014 until September 30, 2015).

Applicants registered for the DV-2015 program were selected at random from 9,388,986 qualified entries (14,397,781 with derivatives) received during the 30-day application period that ran from noon, Eastern Daylight Time on Tuesday, October 1, 2013, until noon, Eastern Daylight Time on Saturday, November 2, 2013. The visas have been apportioned among six geographic regions with a maximum of seven percent available to persons born in any single country. During the visa interview, principal applicants must provide proof of a high school education or its equivalent, or show 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 the information requested.

Registrants living legally in the United States who wish to apply for adjustment of their status must contact the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services for information on the requirements and procedures. Once the total *50,000 visa numbers have been used, the program for fiscal year 2015 will end. Selected applicants who do not receive visas by September 30, 2015 will derive no further benefit from their DV-2015 registration. Similarly, spouses and children accompanying or following to join DV-2015 principal applicants are only entitled to derivative diversity visa status until September 30, 2015.

Dates for the DV-2016 program registration period will be widely publicized in the coming months. Those interested in entering the DV-2016 program should check the Department of State’s 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. The reduction of the limit of available visas to 50,000 began with DV-2000.

The following is the statistical breakdown by foreign-state chargeability of those registered for the DV-2015 program:

AFRICA

ALGERIA 3,076
ANGOLA 173
BENIN 1,758
BOTSWANA 12
BURKINA FASO 390
BURUNDI 188
CABO VERDE 20
CAMEROON 5,000
CENTRAL AFRICAN REP. 33
CHAD 99
COMOROS 6
CONGO 243
CONGO, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE 4,943
COTE D'IVOIRE 1,487
DJIBOUTI 77
EGYPT 4,988
EQUATORIAL GUINEA 14
ERITREA 815
ETHIOPIA 4,988
GABON 81
GAMBIA, THE 110
GHANA 3,381
GUINEA 2,314
GUINEA-BISSAU 7
KENYA 3,534
LESOTHO 3
LIBERIA 5,000
LIBYA 263
MADAGASCAR 62
MALAWI 27
MALI 123
MAURITANIA 29
MAURITIUS 55
MOROCCO 2,844
MOZAMBIQUE 11
NAMIBIA 19
NIGER 334
RWANDA 690
SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE 0
SENEGAL 620
SEYCHELLES 9
SIERRA LEONE 2,182
SOMALIA 275
SOUTH AFRICA 924
SOUTH SUDAN 21
SUDAN 3,484
SWAZILAND 5
TANZANIA 231
TOGO 1,824
TUNISIA 221
UGANDA 642
ZAMBIA 116
ZIMBABWE 249

ASIA

AFGHANISTAN 305
BAHRAIN 12
BHUTAN 45
BRUNEI 0
BURMA 453
CAMBODIA 2,079
HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMIN. REGION 160
INDONESIA 288
IRAN 4,992
IRAQ 289
ISRAEL 231
JAPAN 636
JORDAN 374
NORTH KOREA 0
KUWAIT 241
LAOS 1
LEBANON 408
MALAYSIA 129
MALDIVES 2
MONGOLIA 186
NEPAL 4,991
OMAN 15
QATAR 51
SAUDI ARABIA 517
SINGAPORE 47
SRI LANKA 1,303
SYRIA 598
TAIWAN 498
THAILAND 81
TIMOR-LESTE 0
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 195
YEMEN 875

EUROPE

ALBANIA 2,946
ANDORRA 2
ARMENIA 2,049
AUSTRIA 134
AZERBAIJAN 454
BELARUS 1,466
BELGIUM 107
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA 171
BULGARIA 1,418
CROATIA 87
CYPRUS 32
CZECH REPUBLIC 125
DENMARK 65
ESTONIA 71
FINLAND 88
FRANCE 816
  French Polynesia 11
  Saint Martin 1
  St. Pierre & Miquelon 2
GEORGIA 804
GERMANY 1,354
GREECE 147
HUNGARY 329
ICELAND 42
IRELAND 157
ITALY 779
KAZAKHSTAN 772
KOSOVO 227
KYRGYZSTAN 403
LATVIA 92
LIECHTENSTEIN 3
LITHUANIA 287
LUXEMBOURG 0
MACEDONIA 436
MALTA 16
MOLDOVA 2,809
MONACO 1
MONTENEGRO 16
NETHERLANDS 151
  Aruba 5
  Curacao 13
  Sint Maarten 1
NORTHERN IRELAND 41
NORWAY 49
POLAND 961
PORTUGAL 82
  Macau 29
ROMANIA 1,068
RUSSIA 4,103
SAN MARINO 0
SERBIA 399
SLOVAKIA 110
SLOVENIA 11
SPAIN 393
SWEDEN 217
SWITZERLAND 194
TAJIKISTAN 528
TURKEY 3,688
TURKMENISTAN 191
UKRAINE 4,679
UZBEKISTAN 4,368
VATICAN CITY 0

NORTH AMERICA

BAHAMAS, THE 14

OCEANIA

AUSTRALIA 1,798
  Christmas Island 1
  Cocos Islands 1
  Norfolk Island 12
FIJI 857
KIRIBATI 6
MARSHALL ISLANDS 1
MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF 6
NAURU 19
NEW ZEALAND 589
  Cook Islands 14
  Niue 3
PALAU 6
PAPUA NEW GUINEA 20
SAMOA 32
SOLOMON ISLANDS 3
TONGA 123
TUVALU 1
VANUATU 7

SOUTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA, AND THE CARIBBEAN

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA 6
ARGENTINA 109
BARBADOS 15
BELIZE 3
BOLIVIA 69
CHILE 37
COSTA RICA 72
CUBA 1,480
DOMINICA 5
GRENADA 8
GUATEMALA 86
GUYANA 53
HONDURAS 165
NICARAGUA 54
PANAMA 19
PARAGUAY 6
SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS 7
SAINT LUCIA 18
SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES 7
SURINAME 11
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO 193
URUGUAY 20
VENEZUELA 1,556

Natives of the following countries were not eligible to participate in DV-2015: Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, China (mainland-born, excluding Hong Kong S.A.R., Macau S.A.R., and Taiwan), Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, South Korea, United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland) and its dependent territories, and Vietnam.

G. OBTAINING THE MONTHLY VISA BULLETIN

The Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs publishes the monthly Visa Bulletin on their website at www.travel.state.gov under the Visas section. Alternatively, visitors may access the Visa Bulletin directly by going to:

http://www.travel.state.gov/content/visas/english/law-and-policy/bulletin.html.

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The Department of State also has available a recorded message with visa cut-off dates which can be heard at: **(202) 485-7699.** The recording is normally updated on/about the 10th of each month with information on cut-off dates for the following month.

Readers may submit questions regarding Visa Bulletin related items by E-mail at the following address:

VISABULLETIN@STATE.GOV

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