

United States Department of State Bureau of Consular Affairs

# **VISA BULLETIN**

Number 66 Volume X

Washington, D.C.

IMMIGRANT NUMBERS FOR JUNE 2022

# A. STATUTORY NUMBERS

This bulletin summarizes the availability of immigrant numbers during <u>June</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 <u>www.uscis.gov/visabulletininfo</u>, individuals seeking to file applications for adjustment of status with USCIS in the Department of Homeland Security 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 May  $6^{th}$ . 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. 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 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 demand exceeds the per-country limit. These provisions apply at present to the following oversubscribed chargeability areas: CHINA-mainland born, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS, INDIA, MEXICO, and PHILIPPINES.

4. Section 203(a) of the INA prescribes preference classes for allotment of Familysponsored 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.

<u>Second</u>: 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.

**<u>Third</u>**: (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.

### A. FINAL ACTION DATES FOR FAMILY-SPONSORED 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.)

Family- Sponsored	All Charge- ability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA- mainland born	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
F1	01DEC14	01DEC14	01DEC14	01FEB00	01MAR12
F2A	С	С	С	С	С
F2B	22SEP15	22SEP15	22SEP15	01FEB01	220CT11
F3	22NOV08	22NOV08	22NOV08	15SEP97	08JUN02
F4	22MAR07	22MAR07	15SEP05	01MAR00	22AUG02

### 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.

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 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	15MAY16	15MAY16	15MAY16	01MAY01	22APR15
F2A	С	С	С	С	С
F2B	22SEP16	22SEP16	22SEP16	01MAY01	01OCT13
F3	22AUG09	22AUG09	22AUG09	01MAR01	08NOV03
F4	01OCT07	01OCT07	22FEB06	01MAR01	22APR04

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.

**Fifth**: 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.

June 2022

# 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	All Charge- ability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA- mainland born	EL SALVADOF GUATEMALA HONDURAS	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
Based						
1st	С	С	С	С	С	С
2nd	С	01MAR19	С	01SEP14	С	С
3rd	С	22MAR18	С	15JAN12	С	С
Other Workers	08MAY19	01JUN12	08MAY19	15JAN12	08MAY19	08MAY19
4th	С	С	01MAY17	С	01APR20	С
Certain Religious Workers	C	С	01MAY17	С	01APR20	С
5th Unreserved (including	C 1 g C5, T5, I5, R	22NOV15 5)	С	С	С	С
5th Set Asides	S <b>:</b>					
Rural (208	5) C	С	С	С	С	С
High Unemployme (10%)	C ent	С	С	С	С	С
Infra- structure (2%)	С	С	С	С	С	С

\*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 2022 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 Charge- ability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA - mainland born	EL SALVADOR GUATEMALA HONDURAS	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
1st	С	С	С	С	С	С
2nd	С	01APR19	С	01DEC14	С	С
3rd	С	01APR18	С	22JAN12	С	С
Other Workers	С	01AUG15	С	22JAN12	С	С
4th	С	С	15JUN17	С	С	С
Certain Religious Workers	С	С	15JUN17	С	С	С
5 <sup>th</sup> Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, and R5)	С	15DEC15	С	С	С	С

(Chart B. DATES FOR FILING OF EMPLOYMENT-BASED VISA APPLICATIONS continued from previous page)

Employment- Based	All Charge- ability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA - mainland born	EL SALVADOR GUATEMALA HONDURAS	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
5 <sup>th</sup> Set Aside: (Rural – 20%)	С	С	С	С	С	С
5 <sup>th</sup> Set Aside: (High Unemployment – 10%)	С	С	С	С	С	С
5 <sup>th</sup> Set Aside: (Infrastructure – 2%)	С	С	С	С	С	С

# 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 will result in reduction of the DV-2022 annual limit to approximately 54,850. 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 <u>June</u>, immigrant numbers in the DV category are available to qualified DV-2022 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	Current	Except:	Egypt	13,000
ASIA	Current	Except:	Nepal	5,700
EUROPE	Current			
NORTH AMERIC (BAHAMAS)	CA 10			
OCEANIA	Current			
SOUTH AMERIC and the C	,			

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-2022 program ends as of September 30, 2022. DV visas may not be issued to DV-2022 applicants after that date. Similarly, spouses and children accompanying or following to join DV-2022 principals are only entitled to derivative DV status until September 30, 2022. DV visa availability through the very end of FY-2022 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-2022 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:

	Areas Exc	argeability ept Those			
Region	Listed Se	parately			
AFRICA		Current	Except:	Egypt	13,000
ASIA		Current	Except:	Nepal	6,300
EUROPE		Current			
NORTH AMERI( (BAHAMAS)	CA	10			
OCEANIA		Current			
SOUTH AMERIC and the C	,	Current			

### D. ESTABLISHMENT OF EMPLOYMENT THIRD PREFERENCE "OTHER WORKERS" (EW) FINAL ACTION DATE

High number use in the Employment Third Preference "Other Workers" (EW) category has necessitated the establishment of a worldwide final action date in June to hold number use within the maximum allowed under the FY-2022 annual limit. All countries are subject to a final action date of 08MAY19 except for China-mainland born, which is subject to a 01JUN12 final action date and India, which is subject to a 15JAN12 final action date.

# E. ESTABLISHMENT OF C5 and T5 FINAL ACTION DATE AND APPLICATION FILING DATE FOR CHINA-MAINLAND BORN

It has become necessary to establish a final action date and application filing date for C5 and T5 China-mainland born because sufficient demand has materialized as readers were cautioned was a possibility in Item D of the May 2022 Visa Bulletin. China-mainland born C5 and T5 applicants are subject to a 22NOV15 final action date and an application filing date of 15DEC15.

## F. AVAILABILITY OF DIVERSITY VISAS (DV)

Most regions have been set to "Current" for June 2022 in an effort to maximize number use during the DV-2022 program year. However, rank cut-offs could be re-established for any region or country in future months to keep number use within the applicable annual limits.

#### G. FAMILY-SPONSORED SECOND PREFERENCE VISA AVAILABILITY

Item D in the July 2019 Visa Bulletin advised that the F2A category was made current to increase the level of demand and encourage applicants to actively pursue final action on their cases. The item also advised that once large numbers of F2A applicants did begin to have their cases brought to final action, it would be necessary to establish a date to keep number use within the annual limit.

Number use in the F2A category has remained steady throughout FY-2022 and it may be necessary to establish an F2A final action date as early as August. This situation is being continually monitored and any necessary adjustments will be made accordingly.

# H. FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION ON VISA PROCESSING AT U.S. EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, PLEASE VISIT THE BUREAU OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS WEBSITE AT TRAVEL.STATE.GOV

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