

Temporary Admissions of Nonimmigrants to the United States in 2004

Elizabeth M. Grieco

May 2005

Each year, millions of foreign nationals are admitted into the United States. Those who are temporarily admitted for a defined period of time and for a specific purpose are referred to as nonimmigrants. Most nonimmigrants enter as tourists or business travelers on short-term trips, while others, such as students, temporary workers, and foreign diplomats, stay for longer periods of time, ranging from a few months to several years. This Office of Immigration Statistics *Annual Flow Report* examines the number and characteristics of nonimmigrant admissions in 2004¹ recorded by the Nonimmigrant Information System (NIIS) of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).²

NIIS is the primary source of data on nonimmigrant admissions into the United States. NIIS compiles and maintains data collected from the Arrival-Departure Record, also known as Form I-94. Nonimmigrants arriving by air, land, or sea are required to complete Form I-94, with two important exceptions. Canadians who travel to the United States as tourists or on business generally do not need the I-94 Form. Also, certain Mexicans who have a nonresident alien Border Crossing Card, commonly known as a laser visa, may not require the I-94 Form for entry. These exceptions are significant because Canadian and Mexican citizens make up the vast majority of all nonimmigrant admissions. In 2004, there were an estimated 179 million nonimmigrant admissions.³ Of these, an estimated 153 million were Canadian and Mexican citizens, including 148 million who were not required to complete the I-94 Form.⁴

While NIIS excludes the majority of short-term admissions from Canada and Mexico, it does capture short-term admissions, including tourists, business travelers,

and transit aliens, from all other countries. NIIS also captures temporary residents, such as students and high-skilled workers, long-term residents, such as fiancés(ées) of U.S. citizens, and diplomats, such as ambassadors and consular officers, from all countries, including Canada and Mexico. In 2004, NIIS recorded 30.8 million nonimmigrant arrivals.

This report describes nonimmigrant arrivals by class of admission and country of citizenship, as well as other characteristics, including sex, age, state of destination, month of arrival, and port of entry. In summary, of the 30.8 million temporary admissions included in NIIS, most entered as short-term visitors, either as tourists (74 percent) or business travelers (15 percent). One-half of all arrivals were by citizens of just four countries: the United Kingdom (16 percent), Mexico (14 percent), Japan (14 percent), and Germany (5 percent).

DEFINING "NONIMMIGRANT"

A nonimmigrant is a foreign national seeking to enter the United States temporarily for a specific purpose. Nonimmigrants are admitted for a temporary period of time and, once in the country, are restricted to the activity or reason for which their visa was issued. They may have more than one type of nonimmigrant visa but are admitted in only one status.

In general, foreign nationals seeking temporary admission to the United States must first apply for a visa at the American Embassy or Consulate with jurisdiction over their place of permanent residence. The type of nonimmigrant visa required is defined by immigration law and relates to the purpose of travel. Visa applicants must also: be admissible or have obtained a waiver for any ground of inadmissibility; be in possession of a valid passport; maintain a foreign residency, in most instances; show proof of financial support for their stay, if required; abide by the terms and conditions of admission; and agree to depart at the end of their authorized stay or extension.

¹ In this report, years refer to fiscal years (October 1 to September 30).

² During the first quarter of fiscal year 2005, NIIS was incorporated into CBP's Treasury Enforcement Communications System (TECS) and is no longer operated as an independent system.

³ Note that the 179 million nonimmigrant admissions for fiscal year 2004 exclude sea and air crew admissions (D-1 and D-2 visas).

⁴ Estimates based on data derived from both NIIS (Arrival File, FY 2004) and the Performance Analysis System (PAS).



**Homeland
Security**

**Office of
Immigration Statistics**
Management Directorate

Nonimmigrant visas allow foreign nationals to travel to a U.S. port of entry, such as an international airport, a seaport, or a land border crossing. However, they do not guarantee entry. At the port of entry, an immigration officer of CBP authorizes a traveler's admission into the United States and the period of stay (i.e., the length of time the bearer of a nonimmigrant visa is allowed to remain in the United States) for that visit. The initial authorized stay is noted in the I-94 Form issued to the nonimmigrant by CBP.

Nonimmigrant visa holders may apply to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to extend their initial period of stay provided they meet certain eligibility requirements. Many visas are valid for several years, allowing those visa holders to enter the United States multiple times. Nonimmigrants on long-term visas, however, are still issued an authorized period of stay by CBP each time they are admitted.

Nonimmigrants are not permanent residents but they may apply to adjust their status to lawful permanent residence (i.e., obtain a "green card") if they meet certain eligibility requirements. A nonimmigrant visa, however, does not necessarily lead to permanent resident status.

Visa Waiver Program. The Visa Waiver Program enables nonimmigrants from qualified countries to travel to the United States without a visa if they meet certain conditions. To be admitted, they must be citizens of a Visa Waiver Program country, seek entry as a tourist or business traveler for a period of not more than 90 days, possess a valid, machine-readable passport, have a round-trip ticket with a qualified carrier when arriving by air or sea, and meet other requirements. Visa Waiver Program entrants are not permitted to extend their visits or change to another visa category.

Currently, 27 countries participate in the Visa Waiver Program, including Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino,

Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

Classes of Admission

The Steerage Act of 1819 established the official collection of immigrant arrival data and was the first Federal law to distinguish permanent immigrants from alien visitors not intending to stay in the United States. Separate reporting of permanent and temporary entrants, however, was not required until the Passenger Act of 1855. The Immigration Act of 1907 required aliens to declare themselves as either permanent immigrants or temporary "nonimmigrants."

The Act of 1924 defined several classes of admission that have been expanded in subsequent legislation. Today, a wide variety of temporary visitors fall within the definition of nonimmigrant. Historically, tourists (or temporary visitors for pleasure) have been the largest class of admission. Second in volume to tourists are business travelers who come to the United States to conduct business, but not for employment.

Other classes of admission account for a smaller number of nonimmigrant admissions annually. Students include those foreign nationals pursuing a full course of study at an academic or vocational institution. Temporary workers and trainees include nonimmigrants in "specialty occupations," such as H-1B computer programmers, as well as temporary agricultural laborers, seasonal labor, religious workers, and artists, athletes and entertainers. Other classes authorized to work temporarily in the United States include intracompany transferees, treaty traders and investors, representatives of foreign information media, and exchange visitors who study, teach, or conduct research.

Nonimmigrant admissions also include diplomats, such as ambassadors and consular offices, and representatives of international organizations. Transit aliens, or foreign nationals in immediate and continuous transit through the United States, are also classified as nonimmigrants. There are also several special nonimmigrant classes aimed at protecting victims of a severe form of trafficking and criminal activity.

Appendix 1 lists the nonimmigrant visas by code and provides a short description for each.

Annual Numerical Limits. There is no limit on the total number of nonimmigrants admitted each year. However, there are numerical limits for certain classes of admission. The number of visas issued to alien victims of criminal activity and their families, for example, is limited to 10,000 per year. There are also limits on the number of petitions approved for initial employment for certain categories of temporary workers. For example, in 2004, high-skilled H-1B visas for certain first-time applicants were limited to 65,000. In general, there are few limitations on the number of immediate family members who can enter the country with nonimmigrant visa holders.

DATA

The data presented in this report are derived from the Nonimmigrant Information System (NIIS) of the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Customs and Border Protection. NIIS compiles and maintains information collected from nonimmigrants by DHS Form I-94, which asks for dates of arrival and departure as well as limited demographic information, such as name, sex, nationality, and date of birth. Each time a nonimmigrant enters the United States, the arrival portion of the I-94 Form is collected and the information is entered in the data system. Conversely, each time a nonimmigrant leaves the United States, the departure portion is collected and additional information is entered into NIIS. The information presented in this report is based on the arrival data.

Admissions v. Nonimmigrants

NIIS is designed to provide nonimmigrant arrivals a record of legal admission and departure. Many nonimmigrants, such as students, diplomats, and temporary workers, enter and leave the United States more than once each year, and the NIIS system records each arrival and departure separately. Since the arrival data are collected for each admission, and an individual might enter more than once in a fiscal year, the count of admissions exceeds the number of individuals arriving.

Table 1.

Nonimmigrant Admissions by Number of Arrivals: Fiscal Year 2004

Number of admissions	30,781,330
Number of individuals ¹	25,790,507
Single arrival	22,549,310
More than one arrival	3,241,197

¹Calculated based on total (30,651,096) that excludes arrivals with missing name and date of birth data. Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Nonimmigrant Information System (NIIS), Arrival File, FY2004 and RAW File, FY2004.

Table 2.

Total Nonimmigrant Admissions: Fiscal Year 2000 to 2004

Year	Number
2000	33,690,082
2001	32,824,088
2002	27,897,734
2003	27,849,443
2004	30,781,330

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Nonimmigrant Information System (NIIS), Arrival File, FY2000 to FY2004.

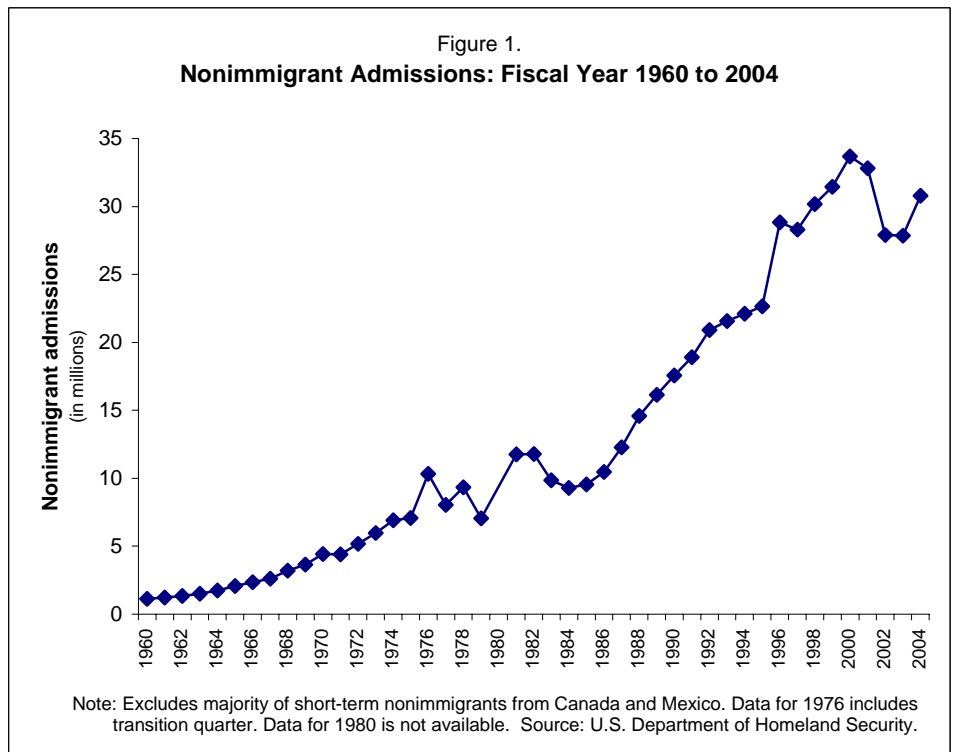
In 2004, for example, there were 30.8 million admissions recorded by NIIS, but only 25.8 million individuals entered the United States (see Table 1). Of those 25.8 million, 87 percent arrived once while 13 percent arrived two or more times during the year. This report uses NIIS data to describe the number and characteristics of the 30.8 million nonimmigrant admissions and not the 25.8 million individual nonimmigrants.

RESULTS

Temporary Admissions Through Time

Nonimmigrant admissions to the United States have increased over the past 25 years (see Figure 1). In 1960, there were 1.1 million nonimmigrant admissions but by 2000 the number increased to 33.7 million.

Recent Trends in Admission. In 2004, 30.8 million nonimmigrant admissions were recorded by NIIS, compared with 27.8 million in 2003 (see Table 2). Between 2003 and 2004, nonimmigrant admissions increased by approximately 11 percent. This growth reverses the decline in admissions that began in 2001.



Class of Admission

Of the 30.8 million nonimmigrant admissions recorded by NIIS in 2004, 22.8 million entered as tourists with an additional 4.6 million entering as business travelers (see Table 3). Combined, tourists and business travelers accounted for 89 percent of all arrivals for the year. Five additional classes accounted for more than 1 percent each of all arrivals, including temporary workers/trainees and their families (2.7 percent), students and their families (2.1 percent), intracompany transferees and their families (1.5 percent), exchange visitors and families (1.2 percent), and transit aliens (1.1 percent).

Country of Citizenship

Almost one-half (45 percent) of the 30.8 million nonimmigrant arrivals recorded by NIIS in 2004 were citizens of three countries: the United Kingdom (16 percent), Mexico (14 percent), and Japan (14 percent) (see Table 4). Other leading countries of citizenship included Germany (5.3 percent), France (4.0 percent), Korea (2.7 percent), Italy (2.5 percent), China (2.2 percent), Australia (2.1 percent), and India and the Netherlands (2.0 percent each).

Sex and Age Distribution

Males were more likely than females to enter the United States in 2004. Approximately 53 percent of nonimmigrant arrivals recorded by NIIS were male, compared with 46 percent female (see Table 5). For every 100 admissions that were female, 115 were male.

The majority of temporary admissions in 2004 were by nonimmigrants 18 years of age or older (see Table 6). Of all temporary admissions included in NIIS, 88 percent were for persons 18 years of age and over. Only 11 percent of admissions were for persons under 18 years of age, with 9 percent under the age of 15. Over one-half (56 percent) of all nonimmigrants were between the ages of 15 and 44 years with 44 percent between the ages of 25 and 44 years.

State of Destination

Among all nonimmigrant admissions recorded by NIIS, excluding transit aliens, the most common states of destination included Florida (16 percent), California (13 percent), New York (12 percent), Texas (7 percent), and Hawaii (6 percent) (see Table 7). Combined, these five states

Table 3.

Nonimmigrant Admissions by Class of Admission: Fiscal Year 2002 to 2004

Class of admission	2004		2003		2002	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	30,781,330	100.0	27,849,443	100.0	27,897,734	100.0
Temporary visitors for pleasure.....	22,802,907	74.1	20,142,909	72.3	19,956,230	71.5
Visitors for pleasure (B-2)	9,185,492	29.8	8,532,461	30.6	8,773,307	31.4
Visa waiver (WT).....	13,521,963	43.9	11,520,679	41.4	11,067,165	39.7
Visa waiver, Guam (GT).....	95,342	0.3	89,646	0.3	115,609	0.4
Bering Strait agreement entrants (BE).....	110	--	123	--	149	--
Temporary visitors for business	4,593,124	14.9	4,215,714	15.1	4,376,935	15.7
Visitors for business (B-1).....	2,352,404	7.6	2,245,350	8.1	2,329,708	8.4
Visa waiver (WB).....	2,239,595	7.3	1,969,180	7.1	2,045,776	7.3
Visa waiver, Guam (GB)	1,125	--	1,184	--	1,451	--
Temporary workers/trainees and families	839,510	2.7	797,822	2.9	810,978	2.9
Registered nurses (H-1A)	7,795	--	924	--	1,145	--
Specialty occupations (H-1B).....	386,821	1.3	360,498	1.3	370,490	1.3
Chile/Singapore Free Trade Agreement (H-1B1).....	326	--	--	--	--	--
Nurses under the Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas Act (H-1C)	70	--	48	--	111	--
Seasonal agricultural workers (H-2A)	22,141	0.1	14,094	0.1	15,628	0.1
Seasonal nonagricultural workers (H-2B)	86,958	0.3	102,833	0.4	86,987	0.3
Industrial trainees (H-3).....	2,226	--	2,370	--	2,695	--
Spouses/children of H-1, H-2, and H-3 workers (H-4)	130,847	0.4	124,487	0.4	129,188	0.5
Workers with extraordinary ability or achievement (O-1)	27,127	0.1	25,541	0.1	25,008	0.1
Workers accompanying and assisting in performance of O-1 workers (O-2)	6,332	--	5,321	--	4,156	--
Spouses/children of O-1 and O-2 workers (O-3).....	3,719	--	3,665	--	4,023	--
Internationally recognized athletes or entertainers (P-1)	40,466	0.1	43,274	0.2	41,453	0.1
Artists/entertainers in reciprocal exchange programs (P-2)	3,810	--	3,898	--	3,754	--
Artists/entertainers in culturally unique programs (P-3)	10,038	--	8,869	--	9,487	--
Spouses/children of P-1, P-2, and P-3 workers (P-4)	1,853	--	1,667	--	1,605	--
Workers in international cultural exchange programs (Q-1).....	2,113	--	2,074	--	1,755	--
Workers in religious occupations (R-1)	21,571	0.1	20,272	0.1	19,115	0.1
Spouses/children of R-1 workers (R-2)	6,443	--	6,105	--	5,348	--
North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) professional workers (TN) ¹	66,219	0.2	59,446	0.2	73,699	0.3
Spouses and children of NAFTA professional workers (TD) ²	12,635	--	12,436	--	15,331	0.1
Students and families.....	656,373	2.1	662,966	2.4	687,506	2.5
Academic students (F-1).....	613,221	2.0	617,556	2.2	637,954	2.3
Spouses/children of academic students (F-2).....	35,771	0.1	37,112	0.1	40,433	0.1
Vocational students (M-1)	6,989	--	7,361	--	8,062	--
Spouses/children of vocational students (M-2)	392	--	937	--	1,057	--
Intracompany transferees and families	456,583	1.5	434,281	1.6	454,145	1.6
Intracompany transferees (L-1).....	314,484	1.0	298,054	1.1	313,699	1.1
Spouses/children of intracompany transferees (L-2)	142,099	0.5	136,227	0.5	140,446	0.5
Exchange visitors and families	360,777	1.2	362,782	1.3	370,176	1.3
Exchange visitors (J-1).....	321,975	1.0	321,660	1.2	325,580	1.2
Spouses/children of exchange visitors (J-2)	38,802	0.1	41,122	0.1	44,596	0.2
Transit aliens ³	338,175	1.1	554,559	2.0	614,934	2.2
All other classes, including unknown ⁴	733,881	2.4	678,410	2.4	626,830	2.2

-- Figure is zero or rounds to 0.0. ¹NAFTA professional workers include both TN and TC visas. ²Spouses and children of NAFTA professional workers includes both TD and TC visas. ³Transit aliens include the C-1, C-2, C-3, and C-4 visas. ⁴Other includes the following visas: A-1 to A-3, E-1 to E-2, G-1 to G-5, I-1, K-1 to K-4, N-1 to N-9, Q2 to Q3, T1 to T4, U1 to U4, V1 to V3, and nonimmigrants with unknown classes of admission. Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Nonimmigrant Information System (NIIS), Arrival File, FY2002 to FY2004.

Table 4.

Nonimmigrant Admissions by Country of Citizenship: Fiscal Year 2002 to 2004

(Ranked by 2004 admissions)

Country of citizenship	2004		2003		2002	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	30,781,330	100.0	27,849,443	100.0	27,897,734	100.0
United Kingdom.....	4,996,211	16.2	4,534,988	16.3	4,304,098	15.4
Mexico.....	4,454,061	14.5	4,307,144	15.5	4,183,988	15.0
Japan.....	4,335,975	14.1	3,589,589	12.9	3,651,856	13.1
Germany.....	1,630,247	5.3	1,439,131	5.2	1,405,856	5.0
France.....	1,241,511	4.0	1,036,394	3.7	1,057,292	3.8
Korea ¹	829,031	2.7	840,162	3.0	804,443	2.9
Italy.....	759,895	2.5	638,512	2.3	578,874	2.1
China ²	687,148	2.2	579,380	2.1	705,673	2.5
Australia.....	645,234	2.1	550,308	2.0	514,297	1.8
India.....	611,327	2.0	537,992	1.9	501,884	1.8
Netherlands.....	607,110	2.0	544,392	2.0	535,762	1.9
Spain.....	542,733	1.8	428,234	1.5	408,280	1.5
Brazil.....	534,163	1.7	497,039	1.8	576,461	2.1
Ireland.....	428,209	1.4	370,716	1.3	343,524	1.2
Colombia.....	394,152	1.3	379,519	1.4	418,050	1.5
Venezuela.....	363,962	1.2	343,488	1.2	489,932	1.8
Israel.....	337,513	1.1	303,630	1.1	316,119	1.1
Bahamas.....	321,046	1.0	306,316	1.1	318,744	1.1
Sweden.....	307,827	1.0	256,454	0.9	238,721	0.9
Switzerland.....	276,433	0.9	256,699	0.9	270,877	1.0
All other countries, including unknown.....	6,477,542	21.0	6,109,356	21.9	6,273,003	22.5

¹Korea includes admissions from both North Korea and South Korea. ²China includes admissions from both China and Taiwan. Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Nonimmigrant Information System (NIIS), Arrival File, FY2002 to FY2004.

represented the destinations of over half of all temporary admissions in 2004. Four additional states, including Nevada (2.9 percent), Illinois (2.3 percent), New Jersey (2.2 percent), and Massachusetts (2.1 percent), each represented over 2 percent of admissions.

Month of Arrival

The months with the highest number of admissions recorded by NIIS in 2004 include July (3.3 million), August (3.0 million), December (2.8 million), and April (2.7 million) (see Table 8). The months with the lowest number of admissions were February (2.1 million) and January (2.2 million). On average, there were 2.6 million nonimmigrant admissions each month.

Port of Entry

The ports of entry with the highest number of nonimmigrant admissions recorded by NIIS in 2004 include Miami (3.8 million), New York (3.6 million), and Los Angeles (3.3 million) (see Table 8). Honolulu, Newark, Chicago, San Francisco, Atlanta, and Agana, Guam had over 1 million admissions each.

Table 5.

Nonimmigrant Admissions by Sex: Fiscal Year 2002 to 2004

Sex	2004		2003		2002	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	30,781,330	100.0	27,849,443	100.0	27,897,734	100.0
Male.....	16,225,125	52.7	14,786,786	53.1	14,875,366	53.3
Female.....	14,118,634	45.9	12,580,817	45.2	12,544,101	45.0
Unknown.....	437,571	1.4	481,840	1.7	478,267	1.7

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Nonimmigrant Information System (NIIS), Arrival File, FY2002 to FY2004.

◆ ◆ ◆

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the Office of Immigration Statistics web page at uscis.gov/graphics/shared/statistics.

Revised June 6, 2005.

Table 6.

Nonimmigrant Admissions by Age: Fiscal Year 2002 to 2004

Age	2004		2003		2002	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	30,781,330	100.0	27,849,443	100.0	27,897,734	100.0
Under 15 years.....	2,699,113	8.8	2,408,581	8.6	2,473,322	8.9
15 to 64 years.....	25,824,170	83.9	23,503,473	84.4	23,525,325	84.3
15 to 44 years.....	17,255,496	56.1	15,924,268	57.2	16,046,267	57.5
15 to 24 years.....	3,591,305	11.7	3,352,067	12.0	3,400,448	12.2
25 to 44 years.....	13,664,191	44.4	12,572,201	45.1	12,645,819	45.3
45 to 64 years.....	8,568,674	27.8	7,579,205	27.2	7,479,058	26.8
65 years and over.....	2,177,561	7.1	1,847,995	6.6	1,813,211	6.5
18 years and over.....	27,181,582	88.3	24,631,103	88.4	24,621,765	88.3
Unknown.....	80,486	0.3	89,394	0.3	85,876	0.3

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Nonimmigrant Information System (NIIS), Arrival File, FY2002 to FY2004.

Table 7.

**Nonimmigrant Admissions, Excluding Transit Aliens, by State of Destination:
Fiscal Year 2002 to 2004**

(Ranked by 2004 admissions)

State of destination	2004		2003		2002	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	30,443,155	100.0	27,294,884	100.0	27,282,800	100.0
Florida	4,837,850	15.9	4,451,933	16.3	4,411,680	16.2
California	4,031,772	13.2	3,729,559	13.7	3,594,336	13.2
New York.....	3,723,943	12.2	3,186,804	11.7	2,827,567	10.4
Texas	1,979,673	6.5	1,895,660	6.9	1,859,928	6.8
Hawaii	1,751,070	5.8	1,584,841	5.8	1,474,091	5.4
Nevada.....	870,006	2.9	753,974	2.8	655,058	2.4
Illinois	689,406	2.3	685,246	2.5	623,839	2.3
New Jersey	657,685	2.2	599,606	2.2	598,883	2.2
Massachusetts	647,747	2.1	622,201	2.3	615,615	2.3
Arizona	492,100	1.6	433,874	1.6	377,041	1.4
Washington	393,129	1.3	355,057	1.3	328,249	1.2
Georgia	383,175	1.3	348,596	1.3	352,962	1.3
Pennsylvania.....	351,341	1.2	335,968	1.2	312,533	1.1
Virginia	340,027	1.1	309,281	1.1	302,044	1.1
Michigan.....	337,161	1.1	308,467	1.1	296,433	1.1
Colorado.....	302,754	1.0	290,170	1.1	291,621	1.1
District of Columbia	296,633	1.0	281,409	1.0	276,704	1.0
Maryland	279,479	0.9	260,594	1.0	250,951	0.9
Ohio.....	225,877	0.7	211,179	0.8	207,709	0.8
North Carolina	217,929	0.7	198,883	0.7	196,671	0.7
Connecticut	199,100	0.7	187,636	0.7	189,038	0.7
Louisiana.....	176,688	0.6	162,416	0.6	148,591	0.5
New Mexico.....	149,549	0.5	153,222	0.6	148,664	0.5
Minnesota.....	137,997	0.5	125,830	0.5	125,664	0.5
Indiana	120,527	0.4	111,798	0.4	110,601	0.4
Tennessee	119,283	0.4	104,792	0.4	104,750	0.4
Oregon	114,715	0.4	103,678	0.4	99,632	0.4
Wisconsin.....	110,287	0.4	105,139	0.4	101,885	0.4
Alaska	95,681	0.3	77,236	0.3	69,749	0.3
Missouri.....	91,991	0.3	88,511	0.3	85,978	0.3
Utah.....	91,747	0.3	80,084	0.3	102,652	0.4
South Carolina	91,085	0.3	84,881	0.3	82,276	0.3
Alabama	65,447	0.2	57,239	0.2	54,217	0.2
Kentucky	64,451	0.2	58,492	0.2	58,193	0.2
Oklahoma.....	56,526	0.2	53,641	0.2	54,170	0.2
New Hampshire.....	54,339	0.2	50,631	0.2	51,091	0.2
Kansas	51,830	0.2	49,673	0.2	50,132	0.2
Rhode Island	43,346	0.1	40,582	0.1	40,029	0.1
Iowa.....	40,212	0.1	36,675	0.1	37,958	0.1
Maine	38,886	0.1	37,906	0.1	37,413	0.1
Vermont.....	37,855	0.1	34,640	0.1	37,629	0.1
Arkansas	32,475	0.1	30,339	0.1	29,285	0.1
Delaware	30,403	0.1	29,133	0.1	26,941	0.1
Nebraska.....	23,361	0.1	21,027	0.1	21,523	0.1
Mississippi.....	23,112	0.1	22,122	0.1	20,115	0.1
Idaho	22,648	0.1	20,812	0.1	19,685	0.1
Montana	21,297	0.1	19,466	0.1	18,678	0.1
Wyoming	13,856	--	12,843	--	12,646	--
West Virginia.....	12,749	--	12,143	--	11,847	--
North Dakota.....	9,865	--	9,253	--	7,966	--
South Dakota	8,829	--	8,619	--	7,248	--
Other, including unknown.....	5,484,261	18.0	4,461,123	16.3	5,462,639	20.0

-- Figure rounds to 0.0. Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Nonimmigrant Information System (NIIS), Arrival File, FY2002 to FY2004.

Table 8.
Nonimmigrant Admissions by Month of Arrival: Fiscal Year 2002 to 2004

Month of arrival	2004		2003		2002	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	30,781,330	100.0	27,849,443	100.0	27,897,734	100.0
October	2,429,488	7.9	2,367,086	8.5	1,799,182	6.4
November.....	2,302,587	7.5	2,166,059	7.8	1,757,549	6.3
December.....	2,840,684	9.2	2,669,293	9.6	2,260,160	8.1
January	2,167,819	7.0	2,113,898	7.6	2,049,431	7.3
February.....	2,108,387	6.8	1,836,351	6.6	1,920,384	6.9
March	2,289,916	7.4	1,928,354	6.9	2,566,501	9.2
April	2,661,567	8.6	2,091,370	7.5	2,198,354	7.9
May	2,476,428	8.0	2,084,734	7.5	2,374,555	8.5
June	2,630,509	8.5	2,287,325	8.2	2,474,800	8.9
July.....	3,294,062	10.7	2,918,194	10.5	3,059,704	11.0
August.....	2,996,784	9.7	2,889,000	10.4	2,964,649	10.6
September.....	2,583,098	8.4	2,497,779	9.0	2,472,465	8.9
Unknown	1	--	--	--	--	--

-- Figure is zero or rounds to 0.0. Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Nonimmigrant Information System (NIIS), Arrival File, FY2002 to FY2004.

Table 9.
Nonimmigrant Admissions by Port of Entry: Fiscal Year 2004
 (Ranked by 2004 admissions)

Port of Entry	2004		2003		2002	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	30,781,330	100.0	27,849,443	100.0	27,897,734	100.0
Miami, FL	3,828,943	12.4	3,543,138	12.7	3,766,761	13.5
New York, NY.....	3,626,323	11.8	3,234,612	11.6	3,025,816	10.8
Los Angeles, CA	3,331,876	10.8	2,898,689	10.4	3,016,452	10.8
Honolulu, HI	1,666,062	5.4	1,531,801	5.5	1,488,744	5.3
Newark, NJ.....	1,597,137	5.2	1,360,489	4.9	1,288,217	4.6
Chicago, IL.....	1,523,374	4.9	1,438,129	5.2	1,383,176	5.0
San Fransisco, CA	1,419,629	4.6	1,292,248	4.6	1,367,494	4.9
Agana, GU	1,184,129	3.8	828,806	3.0	984,725	3.5
Atlanta, GA	1,004,174	3.3	937,111	3.4	978,395	3.5
Houston, TX	922,457	3.0	883,204	3.2	900,190	3.2
Washington, DC	912,666	3.0	855,991	3.1	841,269	3.0
Laredo, TX	680,184	2.2	643,920	2.3	597,971	2.1
Dallas, TX.....	652,886	2.1	590,689	2.1	591,723	2.1
Orlando, FL	642,874	2.1	529,746	1.9	520,324	1.9
San Diego, CA	623,843	2.0	649,622	2.3	605,101	2.2
All other ports, including unknown.....	7,164,773	23.3	6,631,248	23.8	6,541,376	23.4

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Nonimmigrant Information System (NIIS), Arrival File, FY2002 to FY2004.

Appendix A.

Nonimmigrant Classes of Admission

Class	Description
Transit aliens	
C-1 ¹	Aliens in transit
C-2.....	Aliens in transit to the United Nations
C-3.....	Foreign government officials and families in transit
C-4.....	Transit Without Visa (TWOV) aliens
Temporary visitors for business	
B-1.....	Temporary visitors for business
GB.....	Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for business to Guam
WB.....	Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for business
Temporary visitors for pleasure	
B-2.....	Temporary visitors for pleasure
BE.....	Bering Strait Agreement aliens
GT.....	Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for pleasure to Guam
WT.....	Visa Waiver Program – temporary visitors for pleasure
Treaty traders and investors	
E-1.....	Treaty traders, spouses, and children
E-2.....	Treaty investors, spouses, and children
Students	
F-1.....	Students – academic institutions
F-2.....	Spouses and children of students – academic institutions
M-1.....	Students – nonacademic institutions
M-2.....	Spouses and children of students – nonacademic institutions
Temporary workers and trainees	
H-1A ²	Registered nurses
H-1B.....	Temporary workers with “specialty occupation”
H-1B1.....	Chile and Singapore Free Trade Agreement Aliens
H-1C.....	Nurses under the Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas Act
H-2A.....	Seasonal agricultural workers
H-2B.....	Seasonal nonagricultural workers
H-3.....	Industrial trainees
H-4.....	Spouses and children of workers admitted as H-1, H-2, or H-3
O-1.....	Temporary workers with extraordinary ability/achievement
O-2.....	Temporary workers accompanying and assisting in performance of O-1 workers
O-3.....	Spouses and children of O-1 and O-2 workers
P-1.....	Temporary workers – internationally recognized athletes or entertainers
P-2.....	Temporary workers – artists or entertainers (reciprocal exchange programs)
P-3.....	Temporary workers – artists or entertainers (culturally unique programs)
P-4.....	Spouses and children of P-1, P-2, or P-3 workers
Q-1.....	Temporary workers – international cultural exchange program
R-1.....	Temporary workers – religious occupation
R-2.....	Spouses and children of R-1 workers
TN.....	North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) professional workers
TD.....	Spouses and children of NAFTA professional workers
Representatives of foreign information media	
I-1.....	Representatives of foreign information media and families
Exchange visitors	
J-1.....	Exchange visitors
J-2.....	Spouses and children of exchange visitors
Intracompany transferees	
L-1.....	Intracompany transferees
L-2.....	Spouses and children of intracompany transferees
Irish Peace Process Cultural Training Program	
Q-2.....	Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program aliens
Q-3.....	Spouses and children of Q-2 aliens
Foreign government officials	
A-1.....	Ambassadors, public ministers, career diplomatic or consular officers, and spouses and children
A-2.....	Other foreign government officials or employees, and spouses and children
A-3.....	Attendants, servants, or personal employees of A-1 and A-2 classes, and spouses and children

Appendix A. (continued)

Nonimmigrant Classes of Admission

Representatives of international organizations	
G-1	Principals of recognized foreign governments
G-2	Other representatives of recognized foreign governments
G-3	Representatives of unrecognized foreign governments
G-4	International organization officers and employees
G-5	Attendants, servants, or personal employees of representatives
NATO officials	
N-1 to N-7	North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) aliens, spouses, and children
Special categories	
K-1	Alien fiancés(ees) of U.S. citizens
K-2	Children of fiancés(ees) of U.S. citizens
K-3	Alien spouse of U.S. citizen
K-4	Alien child of U.S. citizen
N-8	Parents of international organization special immigrants
N-9	Children of N-8
T-1 to T-4	Victims of a severe form of trafficking (and spouses, children, and parents)
U-1 to U-4	Aliens suffering physical or mental abuse as a victim of criminal activity (and spouses, children, and parents)
V-1 to V-3	Spouse or child of a lawful permanent resident who has been waiting three years or more for an immigrant visa (and dependent children)

¹C-1 visas were suspended as of 8/2/2003. ²H-1A visa program ended in 1995. Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security.