

Report on Characteristics of Specialty Occupation Workers (H-1B): Fiscal Year 2001

October 2000 – September 2001



July 2002

U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service

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

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This annual report covering fiscal year 2001 is the second to be submitted to Congress under the American Competitive and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA).¹ Information is presented on the characteristics of specialty occupation workers who were approved for H-1B nonimmigrant status during fiscal year 2001. While this report covers a variety of characteristics, information is not available on the city or state where the H-1B workers are employed.

This statistical report on the characteristics of H-1B workers follows the structure of the corresponding report of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) published in May 2002 for fiscal year 2000.² This report continues the distinction adopted in that report between H-1B workers approved for initial employment and those workers approved for continuing employment. In addition, this report includes for the first time a table on the industries that employ H-1B workers.

Included are twelve tables presenting statistics on:

- 1) H-1B petitions filed and approved by type of petition;
- 2) H-1B petitions filed by month;
- 3) H-1B petitions approved by type and action requested;
- 4) H-1B petitions approved by country of birth of beneficiary and type of petition;
- 5) H-1B petitions approved by age of beneficiary at time of approval and by type of petition;
- 6) H-1B petitions approved by level of education of beneficiary and type of petition;
- 7) H-1B petitions approved by major occupation of beneficiary and type of petition;
- 8) H-1B petitions approved by detailed occupation of beneficiary and type of petition;
- 9) Annual compensation of all H-1B beneficiaries by major occupation group;
- 10) Annual compensation of H-1B beneficiaries for initial employment by major occupation;
- 11) Annual compensation of H-1B beneficiaries for continuing employment by major occupation; and
- 12) H-1B petitions approved by detailed industry and type of petition.

Types of Petitions

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,

¹ Public Law 105-277, Division C, American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA), Section 416(c) requires the INS to submit a report with "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."

² U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, Characteristics of Specialty Workers (H-1B), October 2000 to September 2001, May 2002.

only some of which are applied to the annual cap.³ 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-1B workers intending to work beyond the initial 3-year period up to 6 years, the maximum period permissible under law during fiscal year 2001.⁴ 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 a second or subsequent H-1B employer.

During fiscal year 2001, INS approved 331,206 H-1B petitions submitted by employers on behalf of alien workers. Because sometimes more than one U.S. employer submits a petition on behalf of individual H-1B workers (multiple petitions), the number of approved petitions exceeds the number of individual H-1B workers. The number of approved petitions for initial employment exceeds the cap because of employer-based cap exemptions and multiple petitions for individuals. For example, approved petitions for initial employment are exempt from the cap because the sponsors are institutions of higher education or nonprofit organizations affiliated with institutions of higher education.

Table 1 shows for fiscal year 2001 the number of petitions filed and/or approved for initial and continuing employment. Of the 331,206 petitions approved in fiscal year 2001, a total of 201,079 petitions representing 61 percent were for initial employment.⁵ The corresponding number and percentage of petitions for continuing employment were 130,127 and 39 percent.⁶ 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 INS 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 by 14 percent and petitions approved increased by 29 percent between fiscal years 2000 and 2001 as the backlog dropped. The biggest increase occurred with respect to petitions approved for initial employment. These petitions surged from 137,000 in fiscal year 2000 to 202,000 in fiscal year 2001, or 47 percent. On the other hand, petitions approved for continuing employment grew a modest 8 percent over the same period.

Table 1. H-1B Petitions Filed and/or Approved by Type of Petition: Fiscal Year 2001

	Fiscal Year	Total	Initial Employment	Continuing Employment
Petitions filed	2000	299,046	164,814	134,232
	2001	342,035	201,543	140,492
Petitions approved*	2000	257,640	136,787	120,853
	2001	331,206	201,079	130,127

*Regardless of when filed.

³ H-1B petitions approved for initial employment with non-exempt employers, adjusted for multiple petitions for individuals and revocations, count against the annual cap.

⁴ Enactment of the American Competitiveness in the Twenty-first Century Act (AC21) in October 2000 amended the 6-year limitation for certain aliens (Public Law 106.313 §104(c) and 106).

⁵ AC21 raised the cap on initial employment from 107,500 to 195,000 in fiscal year 2001 and from 65,000 to 195,000 in fiscal years 2002 and 2003. In addition under AC21, petitions filed for initial employment after March 22, 2000 (when the INS had enough petitions to reach the 115,000 cap in fiscal year 2000) and before September 1, 2000, regardless of when approved, do not count towards the fiscal year 2000 cap. Initial employment applications filed in September 2000 count against the fiscal year 2001 cap.

⁶ Neither AC21 nor prior legislation established a cap on H-1B petitions for continuing employment.

Table 2 shows the distribution of petitions filed by month in fiscal year 2001. For initial employment and continuing employment petitions combined, December 2000 and February 2001 were the highest and lowest months respectively. For petitions filed for continuing employment, 30 percent were received in November 2000, December 2000 and January 2001. The volume of petitions filed likely surged early in fiscal year 2001 due to the fee increase that went into effect in mid-December 2000. The number of petitions filed in fiscal year 2000 was negatively affected after March 2000 when the cap was reached.

Table 2. H-1B Petitions Filed by Month: Fiscal Year 2001

Receipt Date			Initial	Percent	Continuing	Percent
	FY 2000	FY 2001	Employment FY 2001	of Total	Employment FY 2001	of Total
Total	299,046	342,035	201,543	100.0	140,492	100.0
October	21,801	32,885	22,735	11.3	10,150	7.2
November	23,585	38,140	26,364	13.1	11,776	8.4
December	28,489	57,733	41,258	20.5	16,475	11.7
January	32,131	37,411	22,939	11.4	14,472	10.3
February	29,877	15,682	8,599	4.3	7,083	5.0
March	28,754	22,302	11,541	5.7	10,761	7.7
April	13,344	18,992	9,769	4.8	9,223	6.6
May	21,855	19,789	9,905	4.9	9,884	7.0
June	20,493	27,161	13,444	6.7	13,717	9.8
July	14,669	28,408	13,665	6.8	14,743	10.5
August	29,151	24,732	12,558	6.2	12,174	8.7
September	34,897	18,800	8,766	4.3	10,034	7.1

Table 3 gives a breakdown of approved petitions in fiscal year 2001 by type of petition. More than 201,000 H-1B beneficiaries were approved for initial employment and 130,000 for continuing employment. Approximately 40 percent of the beneficiaries of initial employment were in the United States in another nonimmigrant status.

The number of aliens outside the United States (U.S.) approved for initial employment grew by 40,000 to 116,000 in fiscal year 2001 or 53 percent above fiscal year 2000. The corresponding numbers for aliens in the United States changing to H-1B status rose by 24,000 in fiscal year 2001 to 85,000 or 40 percent over fiscal year 2000. In sharp contrast, the number of H-1B workers approved to continue employment increased only 8 percent in fiscal year 2001.

Table 3. H-1B Petitions Approved by Type: Fiscal Year 2001

Type of Petition	Petitions Approved	
	FY 2000	FY 2001
Total	257,640	331,206
Initial employment	136,787	201,079
Aliens outside U.S.	75,785	115,759
Aliens in U.S.	61,002	85,320
Continuing employment	120,820	130,127
Type of petition unknown	33	0

Notes: Shaded cells represent the petitions approved in fiscal year 2001 that qualified as counting towards the numerical limit of 195,000 based on rules existing prior to the enactment of AC21 and before adjustments for multiple petitions and revocations.

Country of Birth

Table 4 shows the distribution of beneficiaries by country of birth.⁷ Almost half of the H-1B petitions approved were granted to individuals born in India, easily exceeding the 8 percent from China, the second leading country of birth. The share of H-1B workers born in India is higher for continuing beneficiaries (54 percent) than for initial beneficiaries (45 percent). The number of India-born H-1B workers rose by 37,000 or 30 percent from 125,000 to 162,000 in fiscal year 2001 in comparison with fiscal year 2000. The number of China-born beneficiaries increased from 23,000 to 27,000, or 21 percent.

⁷ Data actually represents countries and territories of birth.

Table 4. H-1B Petitions Approved by Country of Birth of Beneficiary and Type of Petition: Fiscal Year 2001

Country of Birth	Total	Percent	Initial Employment	Percent	Continuing Employment	Percent
Total	331,206	-----	201,079	-----	130,127	-----
Country of birth known	330,521	100.0	200,627	100.0	129,894	100.0
India	161,561	48.9	90,668	45.2	70,893	54.6
China	27,330	8.3	16,847	8.4	10,483	8.1
Canada	12,726	3.9	9,184	4.6	3,542	2.7
Philippines	10,389	3.1	7,294	3.6	3,095	2.4
United Kingdom	9,682	2.9	6,053	3.0	3,629	2.8
Korea	6,468	2.0	4,484	2.2	1,984	1.5
Pakistan	6,313	1.9	3,904	1.9	2,409	1.9
Japan	5,902	1.8	3,676	1.8	2,226	1.7
Taiwan	5,808	1.8	3,406	1.7	2,402	1.8
Russia	4,589	1.4	2,900	1.4	1,689	1.3
Germany	4,205	1.3	2,598	1.3	1,607	1.2
France	4,151	1.3	2,748	1.4	1,403	1.1
Mexico	3,987	1.2	2,561	1.3	1,426	1.1
Colombia	3,703	1.1	2,909	1.4	794	0.6
Brazil	2,900	0.9	1,947	1.0	953	0.7
Malaysia	2,532	0.8	1,464	0.7	1,068	0.8
South Africa	2,516	0.8	1,448	0.7	1,068	0.8
Venezuela	2,422	0.7	1,720	0.9	702	0.5
Turkey	2,292	0.7	1,517	0.8	775	0.6
Australia	2,273	0.7	1,487	0.7	786	0.6
Other countries	48,772	14.8	31,812	15.9	16,960	13.1
Country of birth unknown	685	-----	452	-----	233	-----

Notes: 0.2 of 1 percent of total petitions approved have an unknown country of birth.

Percents shown in the table are based on the total number of petitions approved with country of birth known.

Age

Table 5 shows the age structure of the H-1B beneficiaries in fiscal year 2001 by type of petition, virtually the same as in fiscal year 2000. Nearly 68 percent of workers granted H-1B status during fiscal year 2001 were between 25 and 34 years of age at the time their petitions were approved. The age structures of the initial employment and continuing employment beneficiaries differ markedly. At the low end of the age spectrum, 17 percent of first-time beneficiaries were under age 25; in contrast to only 4 percent of those beneficiaries continuing employment. Slightly more than 45 percent of the beneficiaries continuing employment were between the ages of 30 and 39. On the other hand, nearly one in three first-time H-1B workers were in their 30s. The most beneficiaries in any single 5-year age group, initial or continuing, were in the 25-29 age group. Less than 2 percent were 50 or older. Of the 194 beneficiaries under 20 years of age, 176 were fashion models. The mean and median ages of all H-1B beneficiaries were 30 and 29 years respectively; 30 and 28 for initial beneficiaries; and 31 and 30 continuing beneficiaries (not shown in Table 5).

Table 5. H-1B Petitions Approved by Age of Beneficiary at Time of Approval and by Type of Petition: Fiscal Year 2001

Age	Total	Percent	Initial Employment	Percent	Continuing Employment	Percent
Total	331,206	-----	201,079	-----	130,127	-----
Age known	330,266	100.0	200,450	100.0	129,816	100.0
Under 20	194	0.0	185	0.1	9	0.0
20-24	38,248	11.6	33,500	16.7	4,748	3.7
25-29	138,450	41.9	84,105	42.0	54,345	41.9
30-34	85,084	25.8	44,184	22.0	40,900	31.5
35-39	39,561	12.0	21,481	10.7	18,080	13.9
40-44	16,168	4.9	9,195	4.6	6,973	5.4
45-49	7,224	2.2	4,400	2.2	2,824	2.2
50-54	3,292	1.0	2,075	1.0	1,217	0.9
55-59	1,359	0.4	899	0.4	460	0.4
60-64	483	0.1	300	0.1	183	0.1
65 and over	203	0.1	126	0.1	77	0.1
Age unknown	940	-----	629	-----	311	-----

Notes: Sum of the percents may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.
0.3 of 1 percent of total beneficiaries have an unknown age.
Percentages shown in the table are based on the total number of approved petitions with known ages.

Education

Table 6 shows the highest level of education achieved by the beneficiary at the time of application. Employers are asked to provide highest degree (domestic or foreign) but not training or experience deemed equivalent to degree. The reporting of a domestic or foreign degree is not required in a standard format on INS or Department of Labor forms. However, the petitioning employer almost always 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. INS does not maintain separate data regarding whether the degree was earned in the United States or abroad.

The highest level of education achieved of H-1B beneficiaries changed to a small extent between fiscal years 2000 and 2001. As shown in Table 6, 57 percent of all H-1B petitions approved for workers in fiscal year 2001 reported that the beneficiary had earned the equivalent of a bachelor’s degree; 31 percent a master’s degree; 7 percent a doctorate, and 3 percent a professional degree. The corresponding numbers for fiscal year 2000 were virtually identical. Altogether, 98 percent earned at least a bachelor’s degree and 41 percent earned at least a master’s degree. Of the 319 beneficiaries without a high school diploma, 149 were fashion models. Regarding differences in education between workers approved for initial and continuing employment in fiscal year 2001, the latter were more likely to have a master’s degree (33 versus 29 percent).

Table 6. H-1B Petitions Approved by Level of Education of Beneficiary and Type of Petition: Fiscal Year 2001

Level of Education	Total	Percent	Initial		Continuing	
			Employment	Percent	Employment	Percent
Total	331,206	-----	201,079	-----	130,127	-----
Education known	330,808	100.0	200,791	100.0	130,017	100.0
No high school diploma	319	0.1	247	0.1	72	0.1
High school graduate	1,181	0.4	895	0.4	286	0.2
Less than 1 year of college credit	390	0.1	284	0.1	106	0.1
1 or more years of college credit, no diploma	2,052	0.6	1,376	0.7	676	0.5
Associate's degree	1,666	0.5	1,181	0.6	485	0.4
Bachelor's degree	187,735	56.8	116,558	58.0	71,177	54.7
Master's degree	102,996	31.1	59,357	29.6	43,639	33.6
Doctorate degree	24,610	7.4	15,121	7.5	9,489	7.3
Professional degree	9,859	3.0	5,772	2.9	4,087	3.1
Education unknown	398	-----	288	-----	110	-----

Notes: Sum of the percents may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.

0.1 of 1 percent of total petitions approved have an unknown level of education, much less than 8.5 percent in fiscal year 2000.

Percents shown in the table are based on the number of approved petitions with known levels of education.

Occupation

- Major Occupation Group

Table 7 shows the distribution of beneficiaries by major occupation group for fiscal year 2001. The relative distributions in fiscal years 2000 and 2001 are very similar. The occupations are arranged by descending order of total petitions approved. The petitioning employer supplies the occupation code on the Labor Condition Application (LCA).⁸ Fifty-eight percent of all H-1B petitions approved in fiscal year 2001 were accounted for by computer-related occupations. The corresponding percents for initial employment and continuing employment were 55 and 62, respectively. This pattern of higher proportionality among continuing employment petitions was repeated only in occupations in medicine and health. The second and third most numerous occupation groups in order were architecture, engineering, and surveying and administrative specializations. The former group includes computer and systems engineers while the latter contains accountants and management systems analysts.

The number of H-1B petitions approved for workers in computer-related occupations grew by 29 percent from 148,000 in fiscal year 2000 to 191,000 in fiscal year 2001. The growth was particularly strong at 49 percent for H-1B workers approved for initial employment in computer-related jobs, dwarfing the 9 percent recorded by workers continuing their employment in the same occupations. Of the increase of 65,000 petitions approved for initial employment, workers in computer-related jobs accounted for 56 percent or 36,000 petitions. The bulk of

⁸H-1B status requires a sponsoring U.S. employer. The employer must file a labor condition application (LCA) with the Department of Labor attesting to several items, including payment of prevailing wages for the position, and the working conditions offered.

the balance of the increase in initial employment was divided among occupations associated with petitions approved for workers employed in jobs in architecture, engineering, and surveying (8,000), administrative specializations (4,000), education (4,000), and managers (4,000).

Table 7. H-1B Petitions Approved by Major Occupation Group of Beneficiary and Type of Petition: Fiscal Year 2001

Occupation LCA Code (2-digits)	Total	Percent	Initial Employment	Percent	Continuing Employment	Percent
Total	331,206	-----	201,079	-----	130,127	-----
Occupation known	329,866	100.0	200,116	100.0	129,750	100.0
Computer-related occupations (03)	191,397	58.0	110,713	55.3	80,684	62.2
Occupations in architecture, engineering, and surveying (00/01)	40,388	12.2	25,365	12.7	15,023	11.6
Occupations in administrative specializations (16)	23,794	7.2	15,573	7.8	8,221	6.3
Occupations in education (09)	17,431	5.3	11,733	5.9	5,698	4.4
Managers and officials n.e.c. (18)	12,423	3.8	8,050	4.0	4,373	3.4
Occupations in medicine and health (07)	11,334	3.4	6,646	3.3	4,688	3.6
Occupations in life sciences (04)	6,492	2.0	4,143	2.1	2,349	1.8
Occupations in social sciences (05)	6,145	1.9	4,212	2.1	1,933	1.5
Occupations in mathematics and physical sciences (02)	5,772	1.7	3,627	1.8	2,145	1.7
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial (19)	5,662	1.7	3,692	1.8	1,970	1.5
Occupations in art (14)	3,425	1.0	2,283	1.1	1,142	0.9
Occupations in writing (13)	1,888	0.6	1,309	0.7	579	0.4
Occupations in law and jurisprudence (11)	1,614	0.5	1,180	0.6	434	0.3
Fashion models (29)	910	0.3	790	0.4	120	0.1
Occupations in entertainment and recreation (15)	772	0.2	509	0.3	263	0.2
Occupations in museum, library, and archival sciences (10)	336	0.1	230	0.1	106	0.1
Occupations in religion and theology (12)	83	0.0	61	0.0	22	0.0
Occupation unknown	1,340	-----	963	-----	377	-----

Notes: Sum of the percents may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.
0.4 of 1 percent of total petitions approved have an unknown occupation.
Percents shown in the table are based on the total number of petitions approved with known occupations.
N.E.C. indicates *not elsewhere classified*.

- Detailed Occupation

Table 8 indicates the distribution of beneficiaries by detailed major occupation group in fiscal year 2001. The relative distribution in fiscal year 2000 was very similar. The number of beneficiaries is listed in descending order by 3-digit major occupation group. The list is limited to the top 24 categories. Fifty-two percent of the approved petitions were for aliens working as systems analysts or programmers. The second largest category was electrical/electronics engineering occupations with nearly 5 percent of approved petitions.

**Table 8. H-1B Petitions Approved by Detailed Occupation of Beneficiary
and Type of Petition: Fiscal Year 2001**

Occupation LCA Code (3-digits)	Total	Percent	Initial Employment	Percent	Continuing Employment	Percent
Total	331,206	-----	201,079	-----	130,127	-----
Occupation known	329,652	100.0	199,971	100.0	129,681	100.0
Occupations in systems analysis and programming (030)	171,784	52.1	100,513	50.3	71,271	55.0
Electrical/Electronics engineering occupations (003)	15,356	4.7	9,538	4.8	5,818	4.5
Computer-related occupations, n.e.c. (039)	13,661	4.1	6,907	3.5	6,754	5.2
Occupations in colleges and university education (090)	12,183	3.7	7,833	3.9	4,350	3.4
Accountants, auditors, and related occupations (160)	11,076	3.4	6,774	3.4	4,302	3.3
Occupations in architecture, engineering, and surveying, n.e.c. (019)	8,404	2.5	4,585	2.3	3,819	2.9
Miscellaneous managers and officials, n.e.c. (189)	6,864	2.1	4,353	2.2	2,511	1.9
Occupations in economics (050)	5,733	1.7	3,920	2.0	1,813	1.4
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial occupations n.e.c. (199)	5,106	1.5	3,288	1.6	1,818	1.4
Mechanical engineering occupations (007)	4,815	1.5	3,019	1.5	1,796	1.4
Occupations in biological sciences (041)	4,813	1.5	3,039	1.5	1,774	1.4
Physicians and surgeons (070)	4,541	1.4	2,193	1.1	2,348	1.8
Occupations in administrative specializations, n.e.c. (169)	3,279	1.0	2,271	1.1	1,008	0.8
Budget and management systems occupations (161)	3,245	1.0	2,264	1.1	981	0.8
Architectural occupations (001)	2,937	0.9	2,091	1.0	846	0.7
Occupations in medicine and health, n.e.c. (079)	2,827	0.9	2,003	1.0	824	0.6
Occupations in data communications and networks (031)	2,618	0.8	1,397	0.7	1,221	0.9
Occupations in computer systems technical support (033)	2,590	0.8	1,480	0.7	1,110	0.9
Civil engineering occupations (005)	2,534	0.8	1,825	0.9	709	0.5
Occupations in preschool, primary school, and kindergarten education (092)	2,472	0.7	1,799	0.9	673	0.5
Sales and distribution management occupations (163)	2,415	0.7	1,638	0.8	777	0.6
Occupations in chemistry (022)	2,360	0.7	1,471	0.7	889	0.7
Industrial engineering occupations (012)	2,184	0.7	1,385	0.7	799	0.6
Other occupations	35,855	10.9	24,385	12.2	11,470	8.8
Occupation unknown	1,554	-----	1,108	-----	446	-----

Notes: Sum of the percents may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.

0.5 of 1 percent of total petitions approved have an unknown occupation.

Percents shown in the table are based on the total number of petitions approved with known occupations.

N.E.C. indicates *not elsewhere classified*.

Annual Compensation⁹

Tables 9, 10, and 11 bring together occupations and compensation for beneficiaries of all, initial, and continuing employment respectively. Annual compensation in each table is arranged by ascending occupation code. As shown in Table 9, the median annual compensation reported by employers of H-1B workers was \$55,000 compared with \$52,000 in fiscal year 2000; half were expected to earn between \$45,000 and \$72,000. Median compensation ranges from a low of \$30,000 for occupations in religion and theology to high of \$100,000 for fashion models. The corresponding compensation in fiscal year 2000 was \$30,500 and \$125,000 for religion workers and fashion models, respectively.

Table 9. Annual Compensation of All H-1B Beneficiaries by Major Occupation Group: Fiscal Year 2001

Occupation LCA Code (2-digits)	Total Reported	25th Percentile	Median	75th Percentile
Total	329,849	\$45,000	\$55,000	\$72,000
Occupations with annual compensation known	328,587	\$45,000	\$55,000	\$72,000
Occupations in architecture, engineering, and surveying (00/01)	40,225	\$46,800	\$60,000	\$75,000
Occupations in mathematics and physical sciences (02)	5,758	\$42,000	\$55,000	\$72,125
Computer-related occupations (03)	190,990	\$48,000	\$58,000	\$71,000
Occupations in life sciences (04)	6,461	\$31,000	\$38,000	\$55,000
Occupations in social sciences (05)	6,094	\$35,000	\$45,000	\$65,000
Occupations in medicine and health (07)	11,229	\$35,000	\$45,000	\$94,718
Occupations in education (09)	17,313	\$30,000	\$35,232	\$46,488
Occupations in museum, library, and archival sciences (10)	330	\$30,000	\$36,803	\$50,000
Occupations in law and jurisprudence (11)	1,603	\$45,000	\$90,000	\$125,000
Occupations in religion and theology (12)	73	\$24,960	\$30,000	\$38,256
Occupations in writing (13)	1,864	\$30,000	\$37,000	\$50,000
Occupations in art (14)	3,400	\$30,000	\$40,000	\$53,354
Occupations in entertainment and recreation (15)	738	\$24,000	\$33,000	\$43,000
Occupations in administrative specializations (16)	23,681	\$33,605	\$44,806	\$65,000
Managers and officials n.e.c. (18)	12,379	\$40,000	\$65,000	\$98,000
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial (19)	5,640	\$36,000	\$54,000	\$80,000
Fashion models (29)	809	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$130,000
Occupation unknown	1,262	\$31,000	\$42,118	\$61,500

Notes: Of the 331,206 petitions approved, 0.4 of 1 percent (1,357) did not have compensation reported.
Of the 329,849 petitions approved with compensation reported, 0.4 of 1 percent (1,262) did not have an occupation reported.

⁹ 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 beneficiary actually worked fewer than 12 months.

From Tables 10 and 11, beneficiaries for continuing employment reported higher annual compensation than did beneficiaries for initial employment. Median annual compensation for the former was \$65,000 and \$50,000 for the latter. In fiscal year 2000, workers approved for continuing employment and initial employment reported median annual compensation of \$62,000 and \$48,000, respectively.

Table 10. Annual Compensation of H-1B Beneficiaries for Initial Employment by Major Occupation Group: Fiscal Year 2001

Occupation LCA Code (2-digits)	Total Reported	25th Percentile	Median	75th Percentile
Total	200,227	\$41,600	\$50,000	\$62,720
Occupation with annual compensation known	199,324	\$41,600	\$50,000	\$62,900
Occupations in architecture, engineering, and surveying (00/01)	25,279	\$43,985	\$56,485	\$70,720
Occupations in mathematics and physical sciences (02)	3,619	\$40,000	\$52,008	\$69,000
Computer-related occupations (03)	110,465	\$45,000	\$51,600	\$60,000
Occupations in life sciences (04)	4,123	\$30,000	\$35,232	\$50,000
Occupations in social sciences (05)	4,179	\$34,000	\$44,500	\$60,000
Occupations in medicine and health (07)	6,589	\$33,000	\$41,000	\$74,880
Occupations in education (09)	11,665	\$29,000	\$34,000	\$44,848
Occupations in museum, library, and archival sciences (10)	226	\$29,040	\$36,000	\$48,000
Occupations in law and jurisprudence (11)	1,171	\$42,000	\$90,000	\$125,000
Occupations in religion and theology (12)	55	\$24,960	\$30,000	\$40,000
Occupations in writing (13)	1,292	\$28,253	\$35,655	\$46,500
Occupations in art (14)	2,270	\$30,000	\$35,518	\$49,920
Occupations in entertainment and recreation (15)	486	\$24,056	\$32,100	\$41,600
Occupations in administrative specializations (16)	15,489	\$31,699	\$40,000	\$56,576
Managers and officials n.e.c. (18)	8,023	\$36,000	\$58,000	\$90,000
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial (19)	3,681	\$34,300	\$50,000	\$75,000
Fashion models (29)	712	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$130,000
Occupation unknown	903	\$30,000	\$40,000	\$57,600

Notes: Of the 201,079 petitions approved for initial employment, 0.4 of 1 percent (852) did not have compensation reported.

Of the 200,227 petitions approved for initial employment with compensation reported, 0.5 of 1 percent (903) did not have an occupation reported.

Table 11. Annual Compensation of H-1B Beneficiaries for Continuing Employment by Major Occupation Group: Fiscal Year 2001

Occupation LCA Code (2-digits)	Total Reported	25th Percentile	Median	75th Percentile
Total	129,622	\$50,000	\$65,000	\$80,000
Occupations with annual compensation known	129,263	\$50,000	\$65,000	\$80,000
Occupations in architecture, engineering, and surveying (00/01)	14,946	\$53,308	\$68,000	\$82,000
Occupations in mathematics and physical sciences (02)	2,139	\$46,000	\$61,963	\$76,450
Computer-related occupations (03)	80,525	\$56,680	\$69,000	\$80,000
Occupations in life sciences (04)	2,338	\$34,210	\$43,417	\$63,000
Occupations in social sciences (05)	1,915	\$37,000	\$50,000	\$75,000
Occupations in medicine and health (07)	4,640	\$39,649	\$54,320	\$110,000
Occupations in education (09)	5,648	\$31,551	\$38,762	\$50,379
Occupations in museum, library, and archival sciences (10)	104	\$33,079	\$39,577	\$56,500
Occupations in law and jurisprudence (11)	432	\$52,113	\$95,730	\$150,000
Occupations in religion and theology (12)	18	\$23,920	\$31,723	\$37,252
Occupations in writing (13)	572	\$31,377	\$40,524	\$55,120
Occupations in art (14)	1,130	\$35,006	\$46,000	\$63,000
Occupations in entertainment and recreation (15)	252	\$24,000	\$34,894	\$47,500
Occupations in administrative specializations (16)	8,192	\$38,740	\$54,429	\$80,000
Managers and officials n.e.c. (18)	4,356	\$48,000	\$75,000	\$103,450
Miscellaneous professional, technical, and managerial (19)	1,959	\$41,218	\$62,000	\$90,000
Fashion models (29)	97	\$70,000	\$100,000	\$182,000
Occupation unknown	359	\$37,107	\$52,000	\$70,000

Notes: Of the 130,127 petitions approved for continuing employment, 0.4 of 1 percent (505) did not have compensation reported.

Of the 129,622 petitions approved for continuing employment with compensation reported, 0.3 of 1 percent (359) did not have an occupation reported.

Industry

Table 12 shows the industries that employed the most H-1B workers in fiscal year 2001.¹⁰ By far the leading employer with 141,000 workers was computer systems design and related services. The relative distribution of H-1B workers by industry was similar for those workers approved for initial employment and continuing employment.

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

¹⁰ Information on the industries employing the most H-1B workers is being published for the first time in this report. The reason is that until fiscal year 2001, industry data was not available for a complete year.

Table 12. H-1B Petitions Approved by Detailed Industry and Type of Petition: Fiscal Year 2001

Industry NAICS Code (4-digits)	Total	Percent	Initial		Continuing	
			Employment	Percent	Employment	Percent
			t		t	
Total	331,206	-----	201,079	-----	130,127	-----
Industry known	301,264	100.0	181,722	100.0	119,542	100.0
Computer systems design and related services (5415)	141,267	46.9	84,853	46.7	56,414	47.2
Colleges, universities, and professional schools (6113)	15,372	5.1	9,817	5.4	5,555	4.6
Management, scientific, and technical consulting services (5416)	12,721	4.2	7,800	4.3	4,921	4.1
Architectural, engineering, and related services (5413)	12,148	4.0	8,087	4.5	4,061	3.4
Telecommunications (5133)	9,638	3.2	4,928	2.7	4,710	3.9
Scientific research and development services (5417)	6,929	2.3	4,173	2.3	2,756	2.3
Semiconductor and other electronic component manufacturing (3344)	6,171	2.0	3,330	1.8	2,841	2.4
Communications equipment manufacturing (3342)	4,383	1.5	2,537	1.4	1,846	1.5
Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services (5412)	4,213	1.4	2,678	1.5	1,535	1.3
Securities and commodity contracts intermediation and brokerage (5231)	3,676	1.2	2,074	1.1	1,602	1.3
Elementary and secondary schools (6111)	3,318	1.1	2,502	1.4	816	0.7
Computer and electronic product manufacturing (3340)	3,123	1.0	1,628	0.9	1,495	1.3
Information services (5141)	3,027	1.0	1,482	0.8	1,545	1.3
Computer and peripheral equipment manufacturing (3341)	3,000	1.0	1,494	0.8	1,506	1.3
Professional, scientific, and technical services (5410)	2,868	1.0	1,745	1.0	1,123	0.9
General medical and surgical hospitals (6221)	2,811	0.9	1,542	0.8	1,269	1.1
Software publishers (5112)	2,748	0.9	1,267	0.7	1,481	1.2
Manufacturing and reproducing magnetic and optical media (3346)	2,657	0.9	1,675	0.9	982	0.8
Other professional, scientific, and technical services (5419)	2,287	0.8	1,491	0.8	796	0.7
Information services and data processing services (5140)	2,223	0.7	1,360	0.7	863	0.7
Offices of physicians (6211)	2,084	0.7	1,093	0.6	991	0.8
Other financial investment activities (5239)	1,927	0.6	1,121	0.6	806	0.7
Specialized design services (5414)	1,776	0.6	1,142	0.6	634	0.5
Employment services (5613)	1,682	0.6	1,106	0.6	576	0.5
Data processing services (5142)	1,642	0.5	1,011	0.6	631	0.5
Pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturing (3254)	1,616	0.5	942	0.5	674	0.6
Other industries	45,957	15.3	28,844	15.9	17,113	14.3
Industry unknown	29,942	-----	19,357	-----	10,585	-----

Notes: Sum of the percents may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.
9.0 percent of total petitions approved have an unknown industry.
Percents shown in the table are based on the total number of petitions approved with known industry.
NAICS stands for North American Industrial Classification System.

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 INS form I-129 (Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker) and the addendum I-129W (H-1B Data Collection and Filing Fee Exemption). The petitions are mailed to one of four INS Service Centers for processing depending on the location of the sponsoring employer: St. Albans, Vermont; Lincoln, Nebraska; Dallas Texas; and Laguna Niguel, California.

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.

Bio-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 on which to base a decision to approve or deny the petition. If sufficient evidence is available, a decision is made by the adjudicator and then corresponding information 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 have been adjudicated, the associated paper files are forwarded for storage to the INS records center in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Data Limitations

The tables in this report have been tabulated from an extract file created at headquarters from INS service center files. Errors in this extract file could have occurred in several ways. For example, petition data might have been inaccurate on petitions, miskeyed into computers at the service centers or improperly transferred electronically between the service centers and headquarters. Very little editing has been done in this report. Impossible or very improbable values have been defined as unknown. Examples are beneficiaries younger than 16 (except for fashion models) or those beneficiaries working without compensation.

In fiscal year 2001 the percentage of petitions with unknown information improved notably, especially with respect to education and annual compensation. The percentage of petitions approved with missing data went from 8.5 percent in fiscal year 2000 to 0.1 of 1 percent in fiscal year 2001 for education and from 8.7 percent to 0.4 of 1 percent for compensation. For the other characteristics, the percentages of approved petitions with missing data remained low: age (0.3 of 1 percent), country of birth (0.2 of 1 percent), major occupation (0.4 of 1 percent), and detailed occupation (0.5 of 1 percent). In contrast, the percent of missing data for industry in its first year of availability was 9.0 percent.