

OPERATIONS DATA:

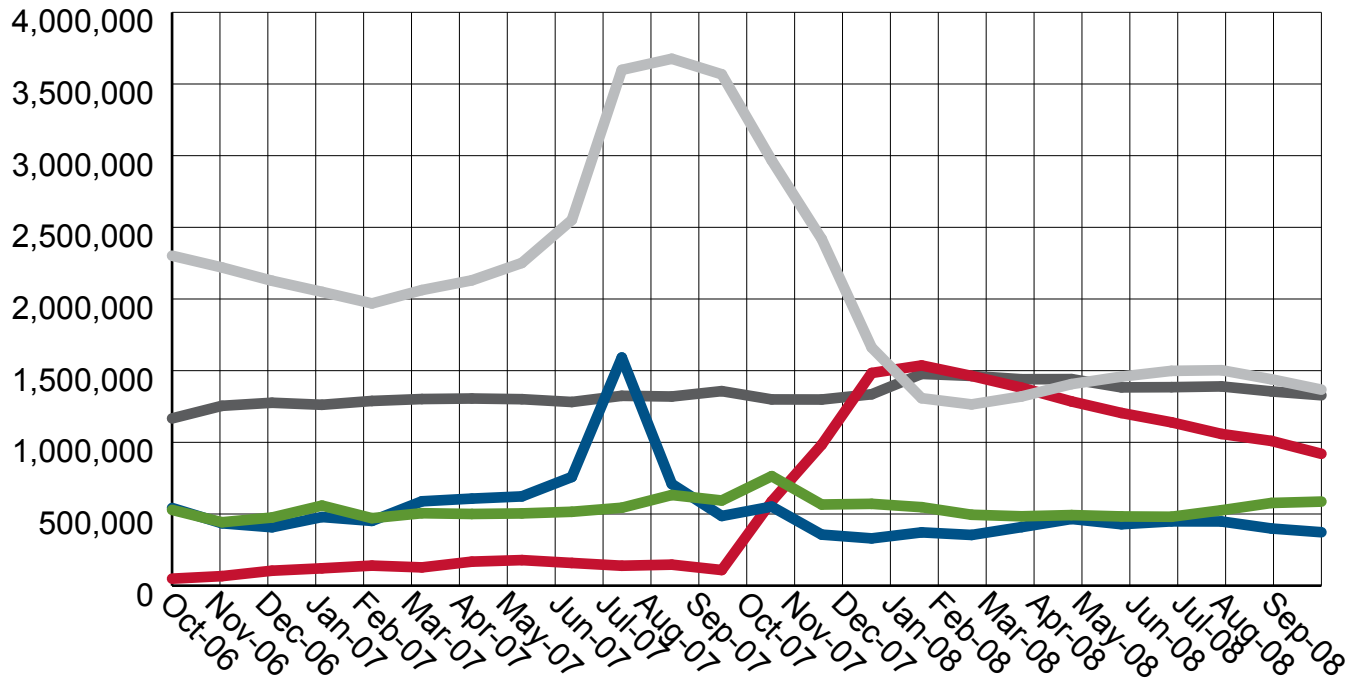
FISCAL YEAR 2008 BY THE NUMBERS

With more than 18,000 federal and contract employees in 263 offices worldwide, USCIS is the largest immigration service in the world. Each day USCIS fulfills its promise to provide accurate and useful information to our customers, to adjudicate immigration and citizenship benefits, to detect and defer benefit fraud, and to promote awareness and understanding of United States citizenship. USCIS interacts with customers and adjudicates applications and petitions for a range of benefits including employment authorization, advance parole, asylum and refugee status, adjustment of status, and naturalization and citizenship.

Every year, USCIS receives approximately six million immigration applications and petitions for legal review and adjudication. Each day, in offices worldwide, USCIS provides dynamic, efficient service. We take this responsibility very seriously.

Our constant effort to deliver high quality service drives us to thoroughly screen and process applications, render timely decisions, and provide accurate information. We honor our commitment to public service through dedication to our mission of welcoming new immigrants and citizens and preserving the integrity of the immigration system.

All Forms



Completions – The total number of cases closed.

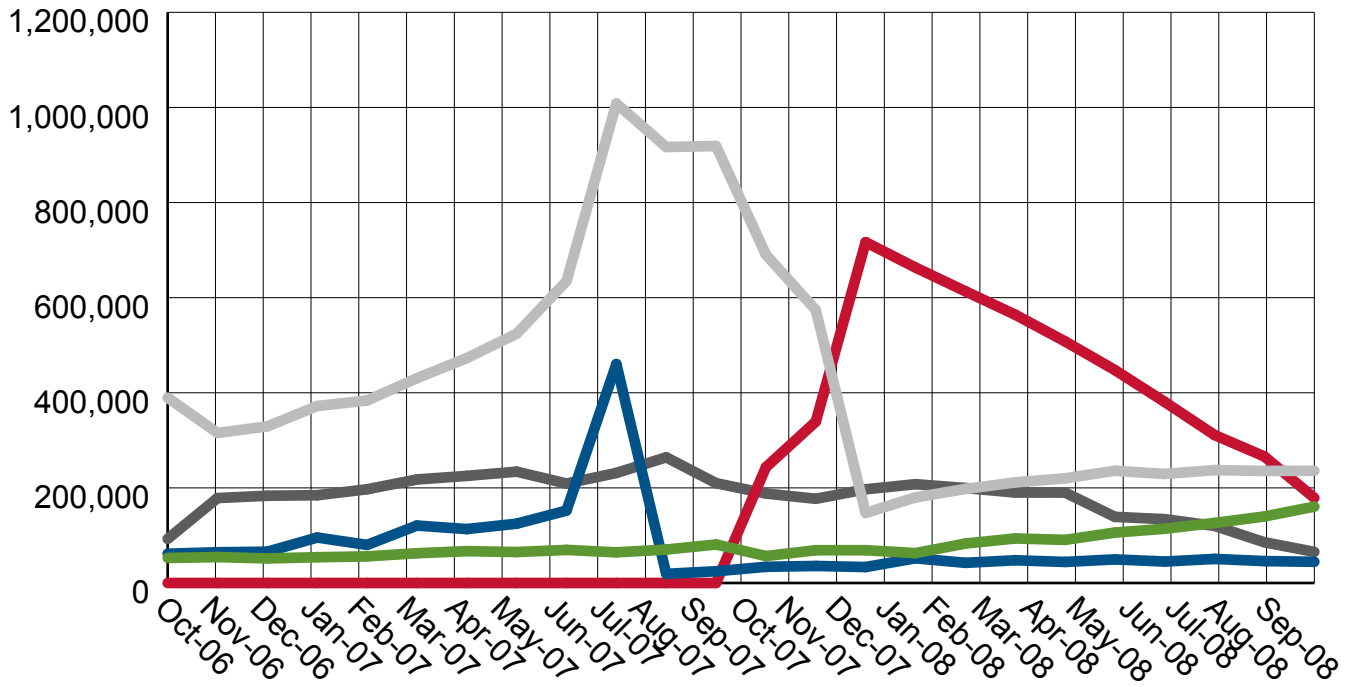
Receipts – The total number of applications and petitions for benefits received.

Backlog – USCIS calculates its Backlog by subtracting Active Pending and Active Suspense from the total pending of each type of case. Any remaining positive balance is referred to as a Backlog.

Active Pending – The volume of receipts received for each case type within the goal processing time. For example, if we have a processing time goal of 4 months, we count receipts for the prior 4 months, and that is our acceptable Active Pending.

Active Suspense – Cases temporarily in suspense because we cannot process them today. For example, we may ask a customer for more information, and wait for their reply. This category also includes cases outside our control for security and background checks by other agencies.

N-400

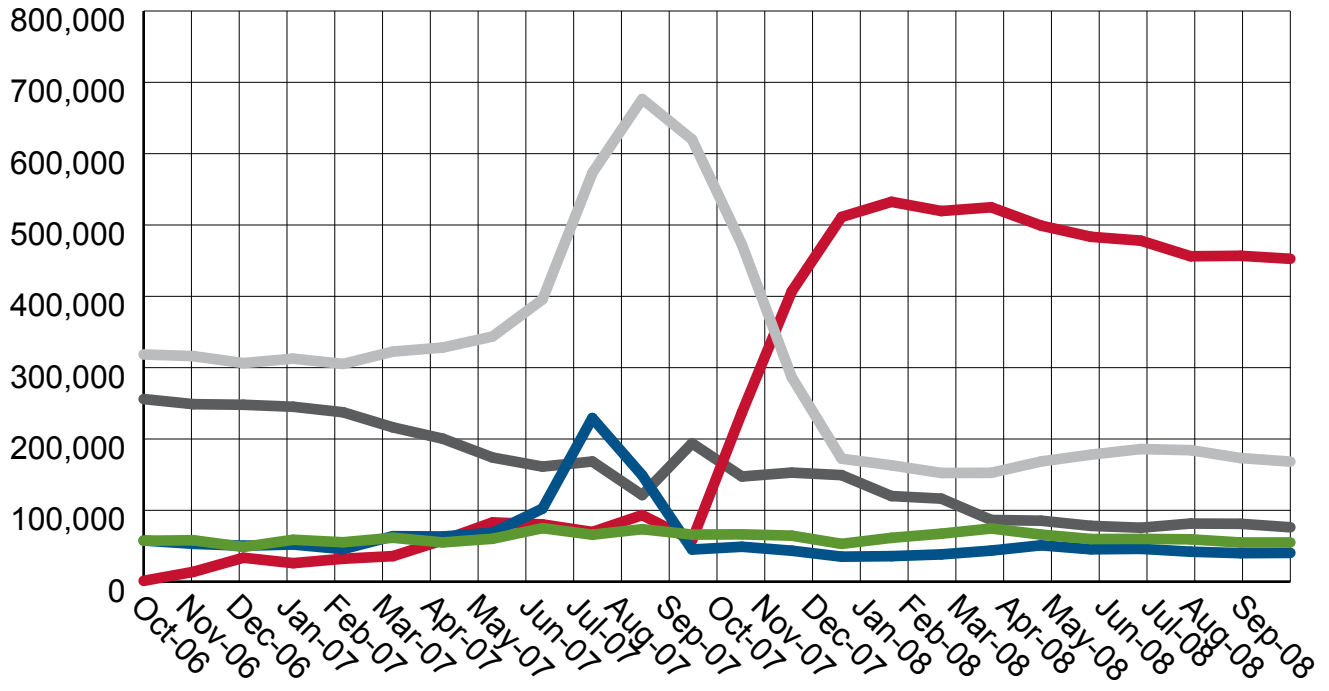


The charts in this section show overall trends in receipts, completions, pending and backlogs since the completion of the first backlog elimination effort at the end of FY2006.

Prior to August 2007 USCIS application fees did not keep pace with the costs of adjudicating applications. This meant the agency could not afford the resources needed to keep up with a growing workload and resulted in a rapidly growing backlog. Congress stepped in for a period of years with a temporary subsidy of appropriated funds to finance the resources needed to deplete the existing backlog. That subsidy ended in FY 2006 with the successful culmination of the first backlog elimination effort. The end of the temporary subsidy restored the pre-existing cost/capacity imbalance until the summer of 2007 when USCIS implemented a new fee structure to recover processing costs.

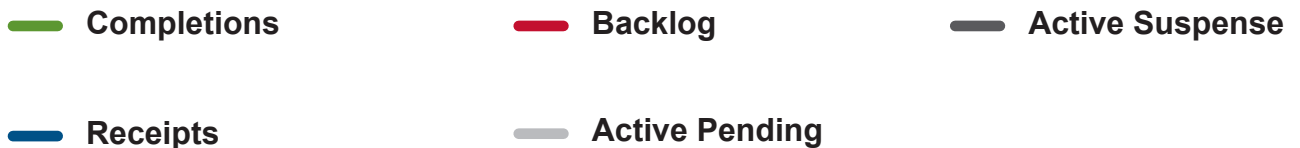
Thus FY 2007 was a bridge year to a new, self-sustaining financial structure. However, in the summer of FY 2007, a sudden surge in demand temporarily compounded the capacity problem. The announced fee increase was itself one cause, as some chose to file their applications and petitions before the increase took effect. However, to the extent the surge was due to early filing, the increased volume of receipts prior to the fee increase was largely balanced by decreased volume afterwards. While core application volume increased 16% in June and July of 2007,

I-485

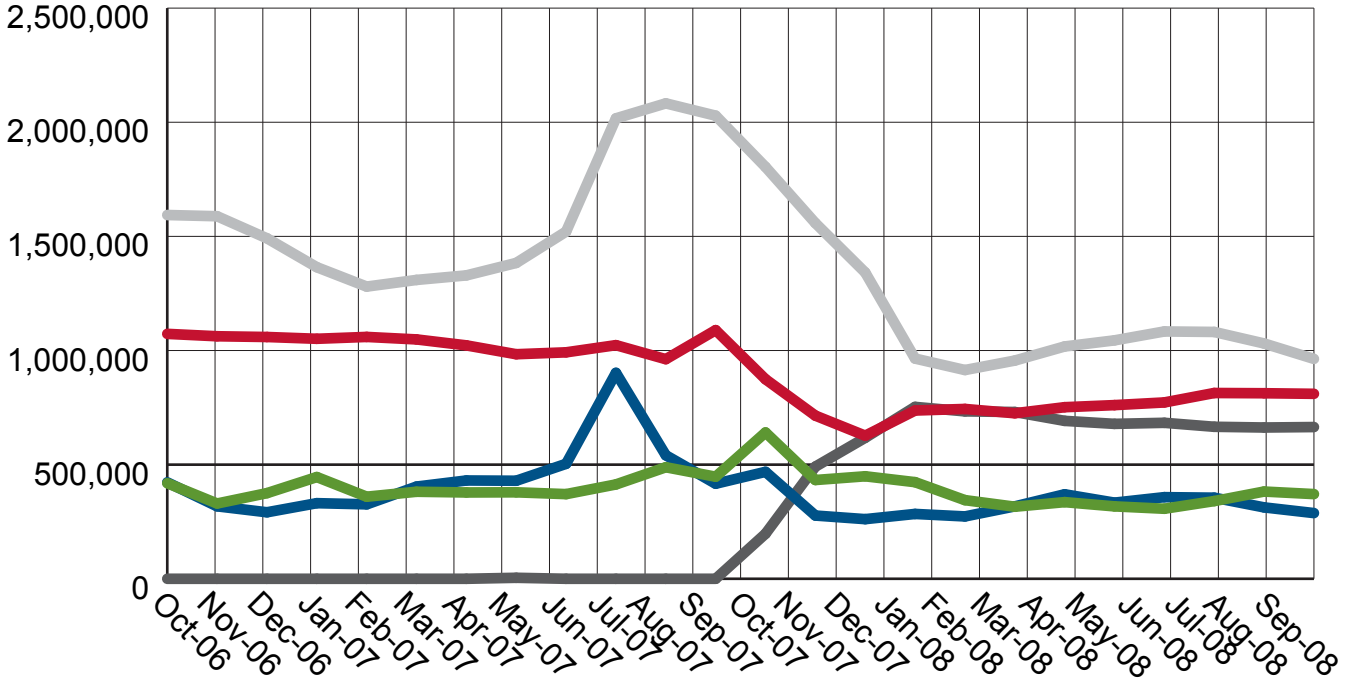


filings of naturalization applications more than doubled in June, and in July naturalization filings were about eight times normal monthly receipts. Furthermore, USCIS received almost 800,000 additional employment-based applications for permanent residence due to the announcement by the Department of State in its July 2007 Visa Bulletin that any person in the United States waiting for an employment-based visa number could immediately apply for adjustment.

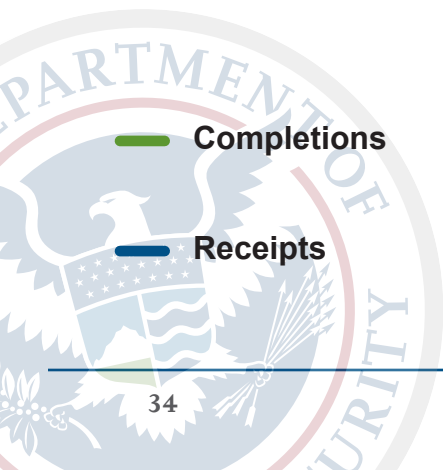
In response to the unprecedented number of immigration applications and petitions received during June and July of FY 2007, USCIS developed a Surge Response Plan (SRP). The SRP was an operational blueprint responding to the increase in workload. It was built on the capabilities the new fee structure would create and on the revenue that came with the summer surge in application filings. As a result USCIS increased the Adjudications Officer workforce by 1,199 in FY 2008.



All Other Forms



In FY 2008 USCIS reduced our total inventory of pending cases by 31 percent to 3.655 million. We substantially reduced processing times in several key areas, including naturalization, which we prioritized due to the large number of applications filed in the summer of 2007. This surge of applications drove our estimated processing time at the end of FY 2007 to 16 – 18 months. Last year we increased naturalization production by almost 57%, to 1.171 million, and reduced our national average processing time to 8.8 months. At the end of FY 2008 our total pending inventory of naturalization cases was less than the volume of cases we received that year, which demonstrates that we effectively worked through the entire 1.4 million cases we received in FY 2007.



Completions

Backlog

Active Suspense

Receipts

Active Pending