

Table 48. Persons Obtaining Legal Permanent Resident Status by Class of Admission: 2000 to 2008

[For years ending September 30. For definition of immigrants, see text, this section]

Class of admission	2000	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	841,002	957,883	1,122,257	1,266,129	1,052,415	1,107,126
New arrivals	407,279	373,962	383,955	446,881	431,368	466,558
Adjustments	433,723	583,921	738,302	819,248	621,047	640,568
Family-sponsored preferences	235,092	214,355	212,970	222,229	194,900	227,761
Unmarried sons/daughters of U.S. citizens and their children	27,635	26,380	24,729	25,432	22,858	26,173
Spouses, unmarried sons/daughters of alien residents and their children	124,540	93,609	100,139	112,051	86,151	103,456
Married sons/daughters of U.S. citizens ¹	22,804	28,695	22,953	21,491	20,611	29,273
Brothers or sisters of U.S. citizens ¹	60,113	65,671	65,149	63,255	65,280	68,859
Employment-based preferences	106,642	155,330	246,877	159,081	162,176	166,511
Priority workers ¹	27,566	31,291	64,731	36,960	26,697	36,678
Professionals with advanced degrees or aliens of exceptional ability ¹	20,255	32,534	42,597	21,911	44,162	70,046
Skilled workers, professionals, unskilled workers ¹	49,589	85,969	129,070	89,922	85,030	48,903
Special immigrants ¹	9,014	5,407	10,133	9,539	5,481	9,524
Employment creation (investors) ¹	218	129	346	749	806	1,360
Immediate relatives of U.S. citizens	346,350	417,815	436,115	580,348	494,920	488,483
Spouses	196,405	252,193	259,144	339,843	274,358	265,671
Children ²	82,638	88,088	94,858	120,064	103,828	101,342
Parents	67,307	77,534	82,113	120,441	116,734	121,470
Refugees	56,091	61,013	112,676	99,609	54,942	90,030
Asylees	6,837	10,217	30,286	116,845	81,183	76,362
Diversity ³	50,920	50,084	46,234	44,471	42,127	41,761
Cancellation of removal	12,154	32,702	20,785	29,516	14,927	11,128
Parolees	3,162	7,121	7,715	4,569	1,999	1,172
Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act (NACARA)	20,364	2,292	1,155	661	340	296
Haitian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act (HRIFA)	435	2,451	2,820	3,375	2,448	1,580
Other	2,955	4,503	4,624	5,425	2,453	2,042

¹ Includes spouses and children. ² Includes orphans. ³ Includes categories of immigrants admitted under three laws intended to diversify immigration: P.L. 99-603, P.L. 100-658, and P.L. 101-649.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Immigration Statistics, *2008 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics*. See also <<http://www.dhs.gov/ximgrn/statistics/publications/yearbook.shtm>>.