

Table II
Classes of Immigrants Issued Visas at Foreign Service Posts
Fiscal Years 1999 – 2003

Class of Immigrant	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Grand Total	413,662	413,521	406,080	389,157	364,768
Family-Sponsored Preference Total	191,393	181,127	146,204	129,414	131,407
First Preference					
Unmarried son or daughter of U.S. citizen, and children	18,936	19,670	15,871	15,817	16,914
Second Preference Exempt from Country Limitations					
Spouse or child of alien resident, and children	45,662	37,653	20,661	14,565	9,343
Second Preference Subject to Country Limitations					
Spouse or child of alien resident, and children	21,790	20,227	16,464	11,524	8,189
Unmarried son or daughter of alien resident, and children	22,029	22,866	17,559	15,329	18,064
Third Preference					
Married son or daughter of U.S. citizen, spouse and children	22,495	22,092	18,972	19,480	25,677
Fourth Preference					
Brother or sister of U.S. citizen, spouse and children	60,481	58,619	56,677	52,699	53,220
Employment-Based Preference Total	15,455	22,392	43,129	39,289	29,712
First Preference					
Priority worker, spouse and children	3,233	5,780	12,208	9,485	6,359
Second Preference					
Professional holding advanced degree or alien of exceptional ability, spouse and children	853	1,940	6,716	5,192	2,353
Third Preference					
Skilled worker or professional, spouse and children	7,682	10,793	20,710	21,507	17,772
Other worker, spouse and children	2,032	1,789	1,408	1,544	1,928
Fourth Preference					
Broadcaster in the United States employed by the International Broadcasting Bureau of the Broadcasting Board of Governors or grantees of that Board, and accompanying spouse and children ¹			-	-	-
Minister of religion, spouse and children	414	431	693	376	243
Certain employees or former employees of the U.S. Government abroad, spouse and children	683	974	849	766	612
Certain former employees of the Panama Canal Company or Canal Zone Government, spouse and children	-	6	3	5	-
Certain former employees of the U.S. Government in the Canal Zone, spouse and children	5	12	8	-	2
Certain former employees of the Panama Canal Company or Canal Zone Government on April 1, 1979, spouse and children	-	-	-	-	-
Spouse and child of certain foreign medical graduates	-	-	-	-	-
Certain retired international organization employees and spouse, unmarried sons or daughters of international organization employees, surviving spouses of deceased international organization employees	17	6	22	13	11
Certain juvenile court dependents	-	-	-	-	-

Table II
Classes of Immigrants Issued Visas at Foreign Service Posts (Continued)
Fiscal Years 1999 – 2003

Class of Immigrant	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Certain retired NATO–6 civilian employees and spouse, unmarried sons or daughters of NATO–6 civilian employees, surviving spouses of deceased NATO–6 civilian employees ²			-	-	-
Certain religious workers, spouse and children	462	595	461	353	388
Fifth Preference					
Employment creation outside targeted area, spouse and children	28	25	31	32	14
Employment creation in targeted rural/high unemployment area, spouse and children	45	41	20	16	30
Investor pilot program not in targeted area, spouse and children ³	-	-	-	-	-
Investor pilot program in targeted area, spouse and children ³	1	-	-	-	-
Alien recruited outside the United States who has served or is enlisted to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces for 12 years, spouse and children	19	11	7	6	1
Immediate Relative Total	156,048	163,610	172,087	178,142	154,760
Spouse of U.S. citizen	20,828	22,676	28,172	23,196	20,513
Spouse of U.S. citizen (conditional) ⁴	28,547	31,440	31,307	30,998	25,898
Child of U.S. citizen	32,175	33,268	33,098	33,668	30,219
Child of U.S. citizen (conditional) ⁴	5,780	5,399	5,102	6,813	5,526
Orphan adopted abroad by U.S. citizen	11,338	13,195	13,791	15,733	16,042
Orphan to be adopted in the U.S. by U.S. citizen	5,031	5,282	5,433	5,645	5,574
Parent of U.S. citizen at least 21 years of age	52,271	52,245	55,093	61,989	50,862
Parent of U.S. citizen who acquired status under the Virgin Islands Nonimmigrant Alien Adjustment Act (Pub. L. 97–271)	-	-	-	-	-
Certain widow(er)s of U.S. citizens	53	81	78	67	78
Children of certain widow(er)s of U.S. citizens	25	24	13	33	48
Special Immigrant Total	830	816	856	735	701
Returning resident	830	816	856	735	701
Certain persons who lost U.S. citizenship by marriage	-	-	-	-	-
Certain persons who lost U.S. citizenship by serving in foreign armed forces	-	-	-	-	-
Vietnam Amerasian Immigrants	245	1,052	426	374	102
DV Diversity Immigrants	49,672	44,513	43,371	41,197	48,085

Table II
Classes of Immigrants Issued Visas at Foreign Service Posts (Continued)
Fiscal Years 1999 – 2003

- ¹ Pub. L. 106–536 enacted November 22, 2000 created a new Employment Fourth Preference class under INA 101(a)(27)(M) for immigrants who will be employed as broadcasters by the International Broadcasting Bureau of the Broadcasting Board of Governors or by grantees of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, and accompanying spouse and children, in a number not to exceed 100 principal aliens in any fiscal year. This provision became effective October 1, 2000.
- ² Section 421(a) of the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act, Title IV of Division C of the Act of October 21, 1998 (Pub. L. 105–277) created a new Employment Fourth Preference class under INA 101(a)(27)(L) for certain retired NATO–6 civilian employees and spouse, unmarried sons or daughters of retired NATO–6 civilian employees, or surviving spouses of deceased NATO–6 civilian employees.
- ³ Section 610 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1993 (Pub. L. 102–395), as amended by Section 116 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998 (Pub. L. 105–119) and Section 402 of the Visa Waiver Permanent Program Act (Pub. L. 106–396), modified INA 203(b)(5) by creating a 10-year pilot program (October 1, 1993 through September 30, 2003) that sets aside up to 3,000 immigrant visas annually for aliens investing in qualifying regional centers in the United States for the promotion of economic growth.
- ⁴ Pub. L. 99–639 (Immigration Marriage Fraud Amendments of 1986) established a conditional immigration status for persons whose basis for immigration is a marriage of the petitioner that was entered into less than 2 years prior to the applicant's admission to the United States as an immigrant.