

**Historical Trajectory of the H2-A, H2-B and H2-R Visas**  
 Department of Homeland Security<sup>1</sup>

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Agricultural workers (H2A)</b>	<b>Nonagricultural workers (H2B)</b>	<b>Returning H2 visa workers</b>	<b>Totals</b>
2006 (2)	46,432	97,279	36,792	180,503
2005 (2) *	N/A	N/A	N/A	129,327
2004 (2)	22,141	86,958	X	109,099
2003 (2)	14,094	102,833	X	116,927
2002 (2)	15,628	86,987	X	102,615
2001 (2)	27,695	72,387	X	100,082
2000 (2)	33,292	51,462	X	84,754
1999 (2)	32,376	35,935	X	68,311
1998 (2)	27,308	24,895	X	52,203
1996 (3)	9,635	14,345	X	23,980
1995 (3)	11,394	14,193	X	25,587
1994 (3)	13,185	15,687	X	28,872
1993 (3)	14,628	14,847	X	29,475
1992 (3)	16,390	18,052	X	34,442
1991 (3)	18,440	21,442	X	39,882
1990 (3)	18,219	17,754	X	35,973
1989 (3)	30,189	16,381	X	46,570
1988 (4)	10,851	22,115	X	32,966 * <sup>2</sup>
1987 (4)	X	X	X	28,882
1986 (4)	X	X	X	28,014
1985 (3)	X	X	X	24,544
1984 (4)	X	X	X	23,362
1983 (5)	X	X	X	29,514
1981 (3)	X	X	X	N/A
1978 (4)	X	X	X	22,832

(<sup>1</sup>) Note: The Dept of Homeland Security counts visa holders' entrances into the United States, therefore one visa can represent multiple entries if a worker chooses to leave and then return within the duration of their visa.

(\*) For FY2005 the breakdown for H2-A and H2-B are not available.

(2) Department of Homeland Security, Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, "Nonimmigrant admissions (I-94) By class of admission: Fiscal Year 1998 to 2006" Table 26.

<http://www.dhs.gov/ximgtn/statistics/publications/YrBk06NI.shtm> retrieved Septemeber 21, 2007.

(3) Department of Homeland Security, Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, "Nonimmigrant admitted by class of admission selected fiscal years 1981 to 2000" Table 37.

<http://www.dhs.gov/ximgtn/statistics/publications/YrBk00TA.shtm> retrieved Septemeber 21, 2007

(4) Department of Homeland Security, Statistical Yearbook of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1988.

(5) Department of Homeland Security, Statistical Yearbook of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1983.

(\*<sup>2</sup>) Number includes 10,851 agricultural workers (H2A). Due to coding errors, the figure for H2As is estimated.

The U.S Employment Service, Department of Labor, issued labor certifications for aproximately 26,000 H2A workers in calendar year 1988. It is estimated that approximately 17, 000- 20,000 H2A workers entered the U.S in calendadr year 1988. The distribution by region and country of ciizenship is unknown. Supra Source 4.