

Visas Commonly Used for Temporary Foreign Labor

Visas	H-2A	H-2B	H-1B	L-1	B-1
Employers/ Job Positions	Agricultural work, including tobacco farms, onion and sweet potato farms, and fruit picking	Amusement parks; forestry industry; seafood industry; landscaping; housekeeping and cleaning; groundskeeping (industrial, commercial); construction; restaurants	Computer programming and information technology services; accounting; engineering; physicians and nurses; teachers; architectural drafters; cooks; law clerks; market research analysis; office administration; social work	Multinational corporations, including high-tech, computer, and information technology services-related firms (not only executives and managers but also lower level positions)	Multinational corporations, including high-tech, computer, and information technology services-related firms (ex. Infosys); domestic work
Intended Category of Nonimmigrants/ Purpose of Visa	"[A]n alien . . . who is coming temporarily to the United States to perform agricultural labor or services . . . and the pressing of apples for cider on a farm, of a temporary or seasonal nature . . . " (INA § 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(a))	"[A]n alien . . . who is coming temporarily to the United States to perform other temporary service or labor if unemployed persons capable of performing such service or labor cannot be found in this country . . ." (INA § 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b))	"[A]n alien . . . who is coming temporarily to the United States to perform services [other than H-2A labor or services, among other exceptions] . . . in a specialty occupation . . . or who is coming temporarily to the United States to perform services as a registered nurse . . . " (INA § 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b))	"[A]n alien who . . . has been employed continuously for one year by a firm or corporation or other legal entity or an affiliate or subsidiary thereof and who seeks to enter the United States temporarily in order to continue to render his services to the same employer or a subsidiary or affiliate thereof in a capacity that is managerial, executive, or involves specialized knowledge . . . " (INA § 101(a)(15)(L))	"[A]ny alien (other than one coming for the purpose of study or of performing skilled or unskilled labor or as a representative of foreign press, radio, film, or other foreign information media coming to engage in such vocation) . . . who is visiting the United States temporarily for business . . . " (INA § 101(a)(15)(B))
# of Visas Issued in 2010 by State Department¹	55,921	47,403	117,409	74,719	B-1 visas: 44,197 (Note: "B-1 in lieu of H-1B" visas, "B-1 in lieu of H-3" visas, and B-1 visas for domestic workers not disaggregated by State Department) Combination B-1/B-2 visas: 3,278,782 Combination B-1/B-2 visa Border Crossing Cards to Mexican nationals: 971,886
Top Ten Sending Countries in 2010²	Mexico, South Africa, Peru, Guatemala, Romania, Nicaragua, New Zealand, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Uruguay	Mexico, Jamaica, Guatemala, Philippines, South Africa, U.K., El Salvador, Indonesia, Honduras, Costa Rica	India, China, South Korea, U.K., Philippines, Mexico, Japan, Taiwan, France, Germany	India, U.K., Japan, Mexico, France, China, Germany, South Korea, Brazil, Australia	B-1 visas (State Department): Mexico, Philippines, Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil, Peru, U.K., India, Dominican Republic, El Salvador Combination B-1/B-2 visas issued by State Department: China, India, Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Argentina, Taiwan, Russia, Israel, Philippines
Government Agencies Enforcing Regulations	Department of Labor; Department of Homeland Security	Department of Labor; Department of Homeland Security	Department of Labor; Department of Homeland Security	Department of Homeland Security	State Department

¹ U.S. State Department, Non Immigrant Visa Statistics, Detail Table by Individual Class of Admission for FY2006-2010, available at <http://www.travel.state.gov/pdf/NIVClassIssued-DetailedFY2006-2010.pdf>.

² U.S. State Department, Non Immigrant Visa Statistics, Detail Table by Visa Class and Nationality for FY2010, available at <http://www.travel.state.gov/pdf/FY10NIVDetailTable.pdf>.

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Visas	A-3	G-5	F-1	J-1
Employers/ Job Positions	Domestic work	Domestic work	On-campus jobs; retail store clerks; high-skilled positions, including information-technology jobs	<p>Summer Work Travel: Hotels; restaurants; amusement parks; beach resorts; ski resorts; seafood processing plants; factories and warehouses</p> <p>Trainees and Interns: Hotels; restaurants; airlines; corporations; architectural firms; development organizations; investment and financial services; manufacturing companies; dairy farms</p> <p>Positions/employers for other J-1 categories: camp counselors; au pairs; schools and educational institutions (for teachers, professors, scholars, students); hospitals and private practices (for physicians)</p>
Intended Category of Nonimmigrants/ Purpose of Visa	"[A]ttendants, servants, personal employees , and members of their immediate families, of [foreign government] officials and employees, " including ambassadors, public ministers, and career diplomatic or consular officers, with A-1 or A-2 visas. (INA § 101(a)(15)(A)(iii))	"[A]ttendants, servants, and personal employees of any . . . representative, officer, or employee [of international organizations] with G-1, G-2, G-3, or G-4 visas], and the members of [their] immediate families . . ." (INA § 101(a)(15)(G)(iv))	"[A]n alien . . . who is a bona fide student qualified to pursue a full course of study and who seeks to enter the United States temporarily and solely for the purpose of pursuing such a course of study . . . at an established college, university, seminary, conservatory, academic high school, elementary school, or other academic institution or in a language training program . . . approved by the Attorney General . . ." (INA § 101(a)(15)(F)(i))	"[A]n alien . . . who is a bona fide student, scholar, trainee, teacher, professor, research assistant, specialist, or leader in a field of specialized knowledge or skill . . . who is coming temporarily to the United States as a participant in [an exchange visitors] program designated by the [Department of State], for the purpose of teaching, instructing or lecturing, studying, observing, conducting research, consulting, demonstrating special skills, or receiving training . . ." (INA § 101(a)(15)(J))
# of Visas Issued in 2010 by State	916	747	385,210	320,805
Top Ten Sending Countries in 2010⁴	Philippines, Indonesia, India, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, Mexico, Morocco, Sri Lanka, Nigeria	Philippines, Peru, Brazil, Colombia, India, Sri Lanka, Ecuador, Paraguay, Mexico, Kenya	China, South Korea, India, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Japan, Taiwan, Vietnam, Mexico, Brazil	China, Russia, Germany, U.K., France, Brazil, Ukraine, Turkey, South Korea, Thailand Israel, Philippines
Government Agencies Enforcing Regulations	State Department	State Department	Department of Homeland Security	State Department