The U.S. Immigration System

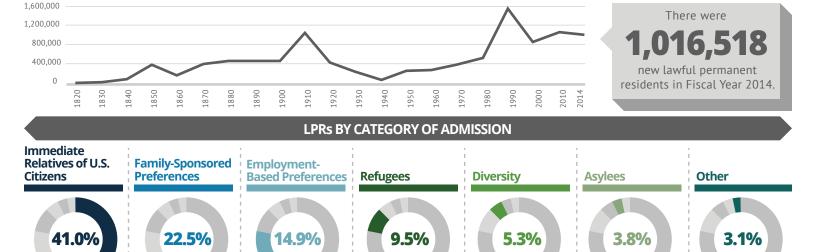
BY THE NUMBERS

2014 Lawful Permanent Residents

A lawful permanent resident (LPR) or "green card" recipient is defined by immigration law as a person who has been granted lawful permanent residence in the United States. Lawful permanent residents may live and work permanently anywhere in the United States; own property; attend public schools, colleges, and universities; join the U.S. Armed Forces; and apply to become a U.S. citizen after meeting certain eligibility requirements. This graphic provides information on those who received LPR status in Fiscal Year 2014.

LPRs OVER TIME

2014 LPR TOTAL



The Diversity Immigrant Visa Program is available to nationals of countries with historically low rates of immigration. Visas are distributed by lottery. To enter the diversity visa lottery, an individual (or their spouse or parent) must have been born in an eligible country and must have a high school degree or its equivalent or a certain level of work experience. Winners must clear criminal and security background checks before receiving a visa. Diversity visas are limited to 50,000 per year, and the per-country limit was 3,500 in 2014.

LPRs BY REGION OF LAST RESIDENCE & TOP CATEGORIES OF ADMISSION

