

United States Department of State Bureau of Consular Affairs

VISA BULLETIN

Number 94 Volume IX

Washington, D.C.

IMMIGRANT NUMBERS FOR JULY 2016

A. STATUTORY NUMBERS

This bulletin summarizes the availability of immigrant numbers during <u>July</u> for: "Application Final Action Dates" and "Dates for Filing Applications," indicating when immigrant visa applicants should be notified to assemble and submit required documentation to the National Visa Center.

Unless otherwise indicated on the USCIS website at <u>www.uscis.gov/visabulletininfo</u>, individuals seeking to file applications for adjustment of status with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) in the Department of Homeland Security must use the "Application Final Action Dates" charts below for determining when they can file such applications. When USCIS determines that there are more immigrant visas available for the fiscal year than there are known applicants for such visas, USCIS will state on its website that applicants may instead use the "Dates for Filing Visa Applications" charts in this Bulletin. Applicants for adjustment of status may refer to USCIS for additional information by visiting www.uscis.gov/visabulletininfo.

1. Procedures for determining dates. Consular officers are required to report to the Department of State documentarily qualified applicants for numerically limited visas; USCIS reports applicants for adjustment of status. Allocations in the charts below were made, to the extent possible, in chronological order of reported priority dates, for demand received by June <u>8th</u>. If not all demand could be satisfied, the category or foreign state in which demand was excessive was deemed oversubscribed. The cut-off date for an oversubscribed category is the priority date of the first applicant who could not be reached within the numerical limits. If it becomes necessary during the monthly allocation process to retrogress a cutoff date, supplemental requests for numbers will be honored only if the priority date falls within the new cut-off date announced in this bulletin. If at any time an annual limit were reached, it would be necessary to immediately make the preference category "unavailable", and no further requests for numbers would be honored.

2. Section 201 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) sets an annual minimum family-sponsored preference limit of 226,000. The worldwide level for annual employment-based preference immigrants is at least 140,000. Section 202 prescribes that the per-country limit for preference immigrants is set at 7% of the total annual family-sponsored and employment-based preference limits, i.e., 25,620. The dependent area limit is set at 2%, or 7,320.

3. INA Section 203(e) provides that family-sponsored and employment-based preference visas be issued to eligible immigrants in the order in which a petition in behalf of each has been filed. Section 203(d) provides that spouses and children of preference immigrants are entitled to the same status, and the same order of consideration, if accompanying or following to join the principal. The visa prorating provisions of Section 202(e) apply to allocations for a foreign state or dependent area when visa demand exceeds the per-country limit. These provisions apply at present to the following oversubscribed chargeability areas: CHINA-mainland born, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS, INDIA, MEXICO, PHILIPPINES.

4. Section 203(a) of the INA prescribes preference classes for allotment of Family-sponsored immigrant visas as follows:

FAMILY-SPONSORED PREFERENCES

First: (**F1**) Unmarried Sons and Daughters of U.S. Citizens: 23,400 plus any numbers not required for fourth preference.

Second: Spouses and Children, and Unmarried Sons and Daughters of Permanent Residents: 114,200, plus the number (if any) by which the worldwide family preference level exceeds 226,000, plus any unused first preference numbers:

A. (F2A) Spouses and Children of Permanent Residents: 77% of the overall second preference limitation, of which 75% are exempt from the per-country limit;

B. (F2B) Unmarried Sons and Daughters (21 years of age or older) of Permanent Residents: 23% of the overall second preference limitation.

<u>Third</u>: (F3) Married Sons and Daughters of U.S. Citizens: 23,400, plus any numbers not required by first and second preferences.

<u>Fourth</u>: (F4) Brothers and Sisters of Adult U.S. Citizens: 65,000, plus any numbers not required by first three preferences.

A. APPLICATION FINAL ACTION DATES FOR FAMILY-SPONSORED PREFERENCE CASES

On the chart below, the listing of a date for any class indicates that the class is oversubscribed (see paragraph 1); "C" means current, i.e., numbers are authorized for issuance to all qualified applicants; and "U" means unauthorized, i.e., numbers are not authorized for issuance. (NOTE: Numbers are authorized for issuance only for applicants whose priority date is **earlier** than the cut-off date listed below.)

<u>Family-</u> Sponsored	All Charge- ability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA- mainland born	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
F1	22MAR09	22MAR09	22MAR09	08MAR95	01FEB05
F2A	15NOV14	15NOV14	15NOV14	01SEP14	15NOV14
F2B	08DEC09	08DEC09	08DEC09	08SEP95	01JUL05
F3	01DEC04	01DEC04	01DEC04	220CT94	01MAR94
F4	08SEP03	01JAN03	01JAN01	15APR97	01JAN93

*NOTE: For July, F2A numbers <u>EXEMPT from per-country limit</u> are authorized for issuance to applicants from all countries with priority dates <u>earlier</u> than 01SEP14. F2A numbers <u>SUBJECT to per-country limit</u> are authorized for issuance to applicants chargeable to all countries <u>EXCEPT MEXICO</u> with priority dates beginning 01SEP14 and earlier than 15NOV14. (All F2A numbers provided for MEXICO are exempt from the per-country limit; there are no F2A numbers for MEXICO subject to percountry limit.)

B. DATES FOR FILING FAMILY-SPONSORED VISA APPLICATIONS

The chart below reflects dates for filing visa applications within a timeframe justifying immediate action in the application process. Applicants for immigrant visas who have a priority date <u>earlier than</u> the cut-off date in the chart below may assemble and submit required documents to the Department of State's National Visa Center, following receipt of notification from the National Visa Center containing detailed instructions. The cut-off date for an oversubscribed category is the priority date of the first applicant who cannot submit documentation to the National Visa Center for an immigrant visa. If a category is designated "current," all applicants in the relevant category may file applications, regardless of priority date.

The "C" listing indicates that the category is current, and that applications may be filed regardless of the applicant's priority date. The listing of a date for any category indicates that only applicants with a priority date which is **earlier** than the listed date may file their application.

Visit <u>www.uscis.gov/visabulletininfo</u> for information on whether USCIS has determined that this chart can be used (in lieu of the chart in paragraph 4.A.) this month for filing applications for adjustment of status with USCIS.

Family- Sponsored	All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA- mainland born	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
F1	01OCT09	01OCT09	01OCT09	01APR95	01SEP05
F2A	15OCT15	15OCT15	15OCT15	15OCT15	15OCT15
F2B	15DEC10	15DEC10	15DEC10	15MAY96	01JAN06
F3	01AUG05	01AUG05	01AUG05	01MAY95	01AUG95
F4	01MAY04	01MAY04	01MAY04	01JUN98	01APR93

5. Section 203(b) of the INA prescribes preference classes for allotment of Employment-based immigrant visas as follows:

EMPLOYMENT-BASED PREFERENCES

<u>First</u>: Priority Workers: 28.6% of the worldwide employment-based preference level, plus any numbers not required for fourth and fifth preferences.

Second: Members of the Professions Holding Advanced Degrees or Persons of Exceptional Ability: 28.6% of the worldwide employment-based preference level, plus any numbers not required by first preference.

Third: Skilled Workers, Professionals, and Other Workers: 28.6% of the worldwide level, plus any numbers not required by first and second preferences, not more than 10,000 of which to "*Other Workers".

Fourth: Certain Special Immigrants: 7.1% of the worldwide level.

Fifth: Employment Creation: 7.1% of the worldwide level, not less than 3,000 of which reserved for investors in a targeted rural or high-unemployment area, and 3,000 set aside for investors in regional centers by Sec. 610 of Pub. L. 102-395.

A. APPLICATION FINAL ACTION DATES FOR EMPLOYMENT-BASED PREFERENCE CASES

On the chart below, the listing of a date for any class indicates that the class is oversubscribed (see paragraph 1); "C" means current, i.e., numbers are authorized for issuance to all qualified applicants; and "U" means unauthorized, i.e., numbers are not authorized for issuance. (NOTE: Numbers are authorized for issuance only for applicants whose priority date is **earlier** than the cut-off date listed below.)

Employment Based	All Charge- ability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA- mainland born	EL SALVADOR GUATEMALA HONDURAS	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
1st	С	С	С	С	С	С
2nd	С	01JAN10	С	01NOV04	С	С
3rd	01MAR16	01JAN10	01MAR16	220CT04	01MAR16	15FEB09
Other Workers	01MAR16	01JAN04	01MAR16	220CT04	01MAR16	15FEB09
4th	С	С	01JAN10	С	01JAN10	С
Certain Religious Workers	C	С	01JAN10	С	01JAN10	С
5th Non-Region Center (C5 and TS		15FEB14	С	С	С	С
5th Regional ((I5 and R		15FEB14	С	С	С	С

*Employment Third Preference Other Workers Category: Section 203(e) of the Nicaraguan and Central American Relief Act (NACARA) passed by Congress in November 1997, as amended by Section 1(e) of Pub. L. 105-139, provides that once the Employment Third Preference Other Worker (EW) cut-off date has reached the priority date of the latest EW petition approved prior to November 19, 1997, the 10,000 EW numbers available for a fiscal year are to be reduced by up to 5,000 annually beginning in the following fiscal year. This reduction is to be made for as long as necessary to offset adjustments under the NACARA program. Since the EW cut-off date reached November 19, 1997 during Fiscal Year 2001, the reduction in the EW annual limit to 5,000 began in Fiscal Year 2002.

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B. DATES FOR FILING OF EMPLOYMENT-BASED VISA APPLICATIONS

The chart below reflects dates for filing visa applications within a timeframe justifying immediate action in the application process. Applicants for immigrant visas who have a priority date <u>earlier than</u> the cut-off date in the chart may assemble and submit required documents to the Department of State's National Visa Center, following receipt of notification from the National Visa Center containing detailed instructions. The cut-off date for an oversubscribed category is the priority date of the first applicant who cannot submit documentation to the National Visa Center for an immigrant visa. If a category is designated "current," all applicants in the relevant category may file, regardless of priority date.

The "C" listing indicates that the category is current, and that applications may be filed regardless of the applicant's priority date. The listing of a date for any category indicates that only applicants with a priority date which is **earlier** than the listed date may file their application.

Visit <u>www.uscis.gov/visabulletininfo</u> for information on whether USCIS has determined that this chart can be used (in lieu of the chart in paragraph 5.A.) this month for filing applications for adjustment of status with USCIS.

Employment- Based	All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA - mainland born	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
1st	С	С	С	С	С
2nd	С	01JUN13	01JUL09	С	С
3rd	С	01MAY15	01JUL05	С	01JAN10
Other Workers	С	01AUG09	01JUL05	С	01JAN10
4th	С	С	С	С	С
Certain Religious Workers	С	С	С	С	С
5 th Non-Regional Center (C5 and T5)	С	01MAY15	С	С	С
5 th Regional Center (I5 and R5)	С	01MAY15	С	С	С

6. The Department of State has a recorded message with the cut-off date information for Final Application Action which can be heard at: (202) 485-7699. This recording is updated on or about the tenth of each month with information on cut-off dates for the following month.

B. DIVERSITY IMMIGRANT (DV) CATEGORY FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

Section 203(c) of the INA provides up to 55,000 immigrant visas each fiscal year to permit additional immigration opportunities for persons from countries with low admissions during the previous five years. The NACARA stipulates that beginning with DV-99, and for as long as necessary, up to 5,000 of the 55,000 annually-allocated diversity visas will be made available for use under the NACARA program. This resulted in reduction of the DV-2016 annual limit to 50,000. DV visas are divided among six geographic regions. No one country can receive more than seven percent of the available diversity visas in any one year.

For <u>July</u>, immigrant numbers in the DV category are available to qualified DV-2016 applicants chargeable to all regions/eligible countries as follows. When an allocation cut-off number is shown, visas are available only for applicants with DV regional lottery rank numbers <u>BELOW</u> the specified allocation cut-off number:

	All DV Chargea Areas Except T	hose			
Region	Listed Separat	ely			
AFRICA	43,8	325			
ASIA	10,5	550 I	Except:	Nepal	6 , 725
EUROPE	CURRE	INT			
NORTH AMERI (BAHAMAS)	CA CURRE	INT			
OCEANIA	CURRE	INT			
SOUTH AMERIC and the C	•	INT			

Entitlement to immigrant status in the DV category lasts only through the end of the fiscal (visa) year for which the applicant is selected in the lottery. The year of entitlement for all applicants registered for the DV-2016 program ends as of September 30, 2016. DV visas may not be issued to DV-2016 applicants after that date. Similarly, spouses and children accompanying or following to join DV-2016 principals are only entitled to derivative DV status until September 30, 2016. DV visa availability through the very end of FY-2016 cannot be taken for granted. Numbers could be exhausted prior to September 30.

C. <u>THE DIVERSITY (DV) IMMIGRANT CATEGORY RANK CUT-OFFS WHICH WILL APPLY</u> <u>IN AUGUST</u>

For <u>August</u>, immigrant numbers in the DV category are available to qualified DV-2016 applicants chargeable to all regions/eligible countries as follows. When an allocation cut-off number is shown, visas are available only for applicants with DV regional lottery rank numbers <u>BELOW</u> the specified allocation cut-off number:

Region	All DV Chargeabili Areas Except Those Listed Separately	ty	
AFRICA	CURRENT		
ASIA	CURRENT	Except: Ne	epal 7,100
EUROPE	CURRENT		
NORTH AMERIC (BAHAMAS)	CA CURRENT		
OCEANIA	CURRENT		
SOUTH AMERIC and the Ci	•		

D. OVERSUBSCRIPTION OF THE MEXICO EMPLOYMENT-BASED FOURTH (E4) AND CERTAIN RELIGIOUS WORKERS (SR) PREFERENCE CATEGORIES

As readers were advised in the May Visa Bulletin number 92, there has been extremely high demand in the E4 and SR categories, primarily for Juvenile Court Dependent cases filed with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for adjustment of status. Pursuant to the Immigration and Nationality Act, this has now required the implementation of E4 and SR Application Final Action Dates for Mexico, which has reached its per-country limit. This action will allow the Department to hold worldwide number use within the maximum allowed under the FY-2016 annual limits.

E. VISA AVAILABILITY FOR THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH ARE, OR WILL BE, SUBJECT TO A FINAL ACTION DATE IN THE EMPLOYMENT-BASED FOURTH (E4) AND CERTAIN RELIGIOUS WORKERS (SR) PREFERENCE CATEGORIES

INA Section 202 sets an annual per-country limitation for preference immigrants of 7 percent of the worldwide level, to avoid monopolization of the annual limit by applicants from only a few countries.

INA Section 202(a)(5)(A) provides that if total demand will be insufficient to use all available numbers in an Employment preference during a calendar quarter, then the otherwise unused numbers may be made available in that preference without regard to the per-country limits. This provision helps to assure that all available Employment preference numbers may be used. Through late winter, this provision allowed countries with demand in excess of their normal per-country limit to utilize numbers that would have otherwise gone unused. Those countries were El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

By April, the level of worldwide Employment Fourth preference demand had increased to the point where there was sufficient demand to fully utilize the FY-2016 worldwide preference limit. It therefore became necessary to impose a final action date on those countries which had already reached their per-country limit, followed by those which would reach their limit in the coming months.

Readers should be aware that the establishment of the Employment Fourth preference Final Action date of January 1, 2010 does not mean that applicants are now subject to a wait in excess of six years. That Final Action Date is intended only to stop any further use of numbers by applicants from those countries under the FY-2016 annual limit, not to indicate how long it will be before applicants will be eligible for final action.

What are the Employment Fourth Final Action Dates likely to be for October when the FY-2017 annual limits take effect?

Mexico: The Employment Fourth Preference category will become CURRENT for October.

El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras: A determination regarding the final action date(s) which may be required for these countries cannot be made at this time. Demand versus availability of numbers for these countries will be continuously monitored throughout the coming months, and official determination will be made in early September. Based on current indications which are very much subject to change, it is anticipated that the Final Action Date(s) for these three countries will be a date in 2015.

F. VISA AVAILABILITY IN THE COMING MONTHS

FAMILY-sponsored categories (August and September)

Worldwide dates:

F1: Up to two monthsF2A: One or two weeksF2B: Four to six weeksF3: Up to two weeksF4: Up to one month

EMPLOYMENT-based categories (August and September)

Employment First: Current for most.

China and India: A date will be established no later than September. Will return to "Current" status for October.

Employment Second:

- Worldwide: Date likely to be imposed by September. Will return to "Current" status for October.
- China: No forward movement.
- India: One week beyond India EB-3.

Employment Third:

Worldwide: Up to one month.

China: No forward movement.

- India: Indications are that there will be "otherwise" unused numbers available under the Worldwide limit. This should allow the September date to reach early 2005.
- Mexico: Worldwide date for the foreseeable future.

Philippines: Likely to reach late 2009, possibly early 2010.

Employment Fourth: Current for most.

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico will be subject to the January 1, 2010 Final Action Date through September. That date will be applied to India in August.

El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras are expected to have a 2015 Final Action Date(s) for October.

India and Mexico: Will return to "Current" status for October.

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China: Best case scenario is March 1st by September. Slow forward movement for October and beyond.

The above projections for the Family and Employment categories indicate what is likely to happen on a monthly basis based on current applicant demand patterns. Readers should never assume that recent trends in Final Action Date movements are guaranteed for the future, or that "corrective" action will not be required at some point during the year in an effort to maintain number use within the applicable annual limits. The determination of the actual monthly Final Action Dates is subject to fluctuations in applicant demand and a number of other variables.

G. DIVERSITY VISA LOTTERY 2017 (DV-2017) RESULTS

The Kentucky Consular Center in Williamsburg, Kentucky has registered and notified the winners of the DV-2017 diversity lottery. The diversity lottery was conducted under the terms of section 203(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act and makes available *50,000 permanent resident visas annually to persons from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States. Approximately 83,910 applicants have been registered and notified and may now make an application for an immigrant visa. Since it is likely that some of the first *50,000 persons registered will not pursue their cases to visa issuance, this larger figure should insure that all DV-2017 numbers will be used during fiscal year 2017 (October 1, 2016 until September 30, 2017).

Applicants registered for the DV-2017 program were selected at random from 12,437,190 qualified entries (19,344,586 with derivatives) received during the application period that ran from noon, Eastern Daylight Time on Thursday, October 1, 2015, until noon, Eastern Daylight Time on Tuesday, November 3, 2015. The visas have been apportioned among six geographic regions with a maximum of seven percent available to persons born in any single country. During the visa interview, principal applicants must provide proof of a high school education or its equivalent, or show two years of work experience in an occupation that requires at least two years of training or experience within the past five years. Those selected will need to act on their immigrant visa applications quickly. Applicants should follow the instructions in their notification letter and must fully complete the information requested.

Registrants living legally in the United States who wish to apply for adjustment of their status must contact the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services for information on the requirements and procedures. Once the total *50,000 visa numbers have been used, the program for fiscal year 2017 will end. Selected applicants who do not receive visas by September 30, 2017 will derive no further benefit from their DV-2017 registration. Similarly, spouses and children accompanying or following to join DV-2017 principal applicants are only entitled to derivative diversity visa status until September 30, 2017.

Dates for the DV-2018 program registration period will be widely publicized in the coming months. Those interested in entering the DV-2018 program should check the Department of State's Visa web page in the coming months.

*The Nicaraguan and Central American Relief Act (NACARA) passed by Congress in November 1997 stipulated that up to 5,000 of the 55,000 annually-allocated diversity visas be made available for use under the NACARA program. The reduction of the limit of available visas to 50,000 began with DV-2000. The following is the statistical breakdown by foreign-state chargeability of those registered for the DV-2017 program:

AFRICA

AFRICAALGERIA 1,561ERITREA 316NAMIBIA 12ANGOLA 80ETHIOPIA 4,500NIGER 34BENIN 617GABON 26RWANDA 277BOTSWANA 15GAMBIA, THE 46SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE 0BURKINA FASO 217GHANA 3,170SENEGAL 357BURUNDI 106GUINEA 1,233SEYCHELLES 1CABO VERDE 7GUINEA-BISSAU 3SIERRA LEONE 2,065CAMEROON 2,096KENYA 2,090SOMALIA 215CENTRAL AFRICAN REF. 9LESOTHO 1SOUTH AFRICA 427CHAD 52LIBERIA 3,105SOUTH SUDAN 17COMGOS 5LIBYA 274SUDAN 2,522CONGO 94MADAGASCAR 13SWAZILAND 4CONGO, DEMOCRATICMALAWI 17TANZANIA 89REPUBLIC OF THE 3,835MALI 82TOGO 963COTE D'IVOIRE 891MAURITANIA 27TUNISIA 169DJIBOUTI 53MAURITINIS 9UGANDA 240EGYPT 4,501MOROCCO 1,905ZAMBIA 36EQUATORIAL GUINEA 3MOZAMBIQUE 7ZIMBABWE 106

ASIA

AFGHANISTAN285ISRAEL127OMAN9BAHRAIN12JAPAN204QATAR33BHUTAN16JORDAN259SAUDI ARABIA253BRUNEI0NORTH KOREA0SINGAPORE20BURMA213KUWAIT101SRI LANKA375CAMBODIA824LAOS0SYRIA356HONG KONG SPECIALLEBANON183TAIWAN260ADMIN.REGION37MALAYSIA39THAILAND41INDONESIA115MALDIVES0TIMOR-LESTE0IRAN4,500MONGOLIA144UNITED ARAB EMIRATES97IRAQ302NEPAL4,000YEMEN694

ALBANIA 2,373 andorra 0 ARMENIA 1,669 AUSTRIA 71 AZERBAIJAN 470 BELARUS 899 BELGIUM 95 BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA 119 BULGARIA 666 CROATIA 36 CYPRUS 12 CZECH REPUBLIC 53 DENMARK 44 ESTONIA 34 FINLAND 51 FRANCE 467 French Polynesia 1 NETHERLANDS 82 New Caledonia 1 GEORGIA 680 GERMANY 532 GREECE 86

HUNGARY 153 ICELAND 13 IRELAND 63 ITALY 443 kazakhstan 518 KOSOVO 348 KYRGYZSTAN 292 latvia 64 LIECHTENSTEIN 3 LITHUANIA 183 LUXEMBOURG 5 MACEDONIA 286 malta 3 MOLDOVA 1,762 MONACO 4 MONTENEGRO 25 Aruba 2 Curacao 1 Sint Maarten 4 NORTHERN IRELAND 13

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NORWAY 24 POLAND 517 PORTUGAL 36 ROMANIA 480 RUSSIA 2,290 SAN MARINO 0 SERBIA 376 SLOVAKIA 49 SLOVENIA 16 SPAIN 204 SWEDEN 94 SWITZERLAND 96 TAJIKISTAN 414 TURKEY 2,186 TURKMENISTAN 91 UKRAINE 4,500 UZBEKISTAN 4,501 VATICAN CITY 0

NORTH AMERICA

BAHAMAS, THE 10

OCEANIA

AUSTRALIA 748	NAURU 5	TONGA 42
Cocos Islands 3	NEW ZEALAND 213	TUVALU 1
FIJI 404	Cook Islands 8	VANUATU 5
KIRIBATI 3	PALAU O	
MARSHALL ISLANDS 0	PAPUA NEW GUINEA 6	
MICRONESIA, FEDERATED	SAMOA 10	
STATES OF 2	SOLOMON ISLANDS 0	

SOUTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA, AND THE CARIBBEAN

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	11
ARGENTINA 53	
BARBADOS 1	
BELIZE 3	
BOLIVIA 30	
CHILE 27	
COSTA RICA 18	
CUBA 493	
DOMINICA 8	

grenada 7 GUATEMALA 29 GUYANA 10 HONDURAS 44 NICARAGUA 9 PANAMA 12 PARAGUAY 3 SAINT KITTS AND nevis 0

SAINT LUCIA 9 SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES 4 SURINAME 0 TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO 34 URUGUAY 12 VENEZUELA 1,134

1 5

Natives of the following countries were not eligible to participate in DV-2017: Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, China (mainland-born, excluding Hong Kong S.A.R., Macau S.A.R., and Taiwan), Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, South Korea, United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland) and its dependent territories, and Vietnam.

G. OBTAINING THE MONTHLY VISA BULLETIN

The Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs publishes the monthly Visa Bulletin on their website at <u>www.travel.state.gov</u> under the Visas section. Alternatively, visitors may access the Visa Bulletin directly by going to:

http://www.travel.state.gov/content/visas/english/law-and-policy/bulletin.html.

To be <u>placed on</u> the Department of State's E-mail subscription list for the "Visa Bulletin", please send an E-mail to the following E-mail address:

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The Department of State also has available a recorded message with visa cut-off dates which can be heard at: (202) 485-7699. The recording is normally updated on/about the 10^{th} of each month with information on cut-off dates for the following month.

Readers may submit questions regarding Visa Bulletin related items by E-mail at the following address:

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