

8 USC 1151: Worldwide level of immigration

Text contains those laws in effect on September 15, 2024

From Title 8-ALIENS AND NATIONALITY

CHAPTER 12-IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY

SUBCHAPTER II-IMMIGRATION

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§1151. Worldwide level of immigration

(a) In general

Exclusive of aliens described in subsection (b), aliens born in a foreign state or dependent area who may be issued immigrant visas or who may otherwise acquire the status of an alien lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence are limited to-

(1) family-sponsored immigrants described in [section 1153\(a\) of this title](#) (or who are admitted under [section 1181\(a\) of this title](#) on the basis of a prior issuance of a visa to their accompanying parent under [section 1153\(a\) of this title](#)) in a number not to exceed in any fiscal year the number specified in subsection (c) for that year, and not to exceed in any of the first 3 quarters of any fiscal year 27 percent of the worldwide level under such subsection for all of such fiscal year;

(2) employment-based immigrants described in [section 1153\(b\) of this title](#) (or who are admitted under [section 1181\(a\) of this title](#) on the basis of a prior issuance of a visa to their accompanying parent under [section 1153\(b\) of this title](#)), in a number not to exceed in any fiscal year the number specified in subsection (d) for that year, and not to exceed in any of the first 3 quarters of any fiscal year 27 percent of the worldwide level under such subsection for all of such fiscal year; and

(3) for fiscal years beginning with fiscal year 1995, diversity immigrants described in [section 1153\(c\) of this title](#) (or who are admitted under [section 1181\(a\) of this title](#) on the basis of a prior issuance of a visa to their accompanying parent under [section 1153\(c\) of this title](#)) in a number not to exceed in any fiscal year the number specified in subsection (e) for that year, and not to exceed in any of the first 3 quarters of any fiscal year 27 percent of the worldwide level under such subsection for all of such fiscal year.

(b) Aliens not subject to direct numerical limitations

Aliens described in this subsection, who are not subject to the worldwide levels or numerical limitations of subsection (a), are as follows:

(1)(A) Special immigrants described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of [section 1101\(a\)\(27\) of this title](#).

(B) Aliens who are admitted under [section 1157 of this title](#) or whose status is adjusted under [section 1159 of this title](#).