

Characteristics of People Who Naturalized Between FY 2015 and FY 2019



U.S. Citizenship and
Immigration Services

July 2021



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JULY 2021

OVERVIEW

Over 3.7 million people became U.S. citizens between fiscal years (FY) 2015 and 2019.¹ This fact sheet summarizes data from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) naturalization records to provide information on the demographic characteristics of these new citizens.²

On average, nearly 760,000 individuals naturalized each year in the FY 2015-2019 period, with annual totals ranging from 707,300 to 843,600. The yearly number of naturalizations depends both on operational factors, such as application processing times, and other factors such as the number of LPRs eligible to naturalize at any given time, their motivation to apply, and their ability to pay the associated fees.³ Naturalized citizens are becoming more diverse in their place of residence spreading out across the United States. Naturalized citizens in FY 2015 to FY 2019 spent a slightly longer time (a median of 7.7 years) as lawful permanent residents before naturalizing compared to a median of 7.3 years in FY 2009-2014. The median age for the FY 2015-2019 population increased by one year to 41 years old. Females and married new citizens made up a higher proportion of naturalized citizens compared to males and individuals with other marital statuses. The majority of people who naturalized came to the United States as immediate relatives of U.S. citizens or through family-sponsored preference categories.

Appendix tables 1 through 10 show region and country of birth, state, and core-base statistical area (CBSA) of residence, years in lawful permanent resident (LPR) status prior to naturalization, age, gender, marital status, and class of admission to the United States.

REGION AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH

People from Asia comprised the largest share of naturalizations, followed by North America, the Caribbean, and Europe. Compared to the FY 2009-2014 period, the proportion of people naturalizing that were born in North America and Asia increased, while the proportion born in Europe and South America decreased.

Over the five-year period, the top six countries of birth were Mexico, India, the Philippines, China, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic.⁴ In FY 2015 and 2017, the Dominican Republic replaced Cuba as the fifth largest origin country for citizens who naturalized, and in FY 2019 the Dominican Republic dropped to the seventh largest country of birth.

¹ The federal FY begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. For example, FY 2019 was October 1, 2018, through September 30, 2019. The number of naturalizations excludes individuals under 18 years of age.

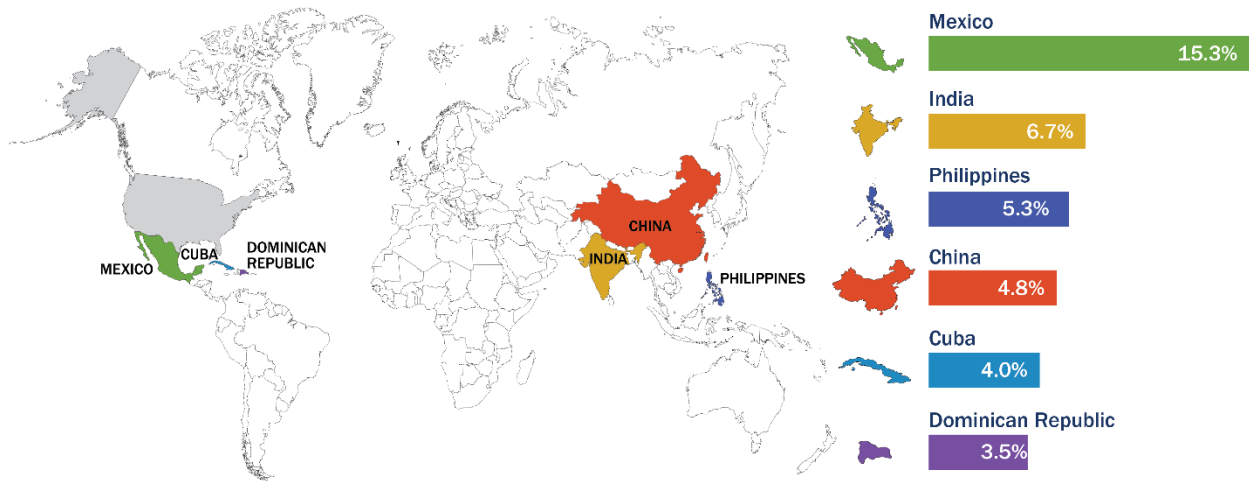
² For additional data and statistics on citizenship and naturalization see USCIS Reports and Studies <https://www.uscis.gov/tools/reports-and-studies>.

³ Filing Form N-400, Application for Naturalization, costs \$640, plus an \$85 biometrics fee where applicable as of April 2021. The filing fee may be waived if the applicant can demonstrate an inability to pay. There is no charge for filing the N-400 based on service in the U.S. Armed Forces. Updated information about Form N-400 can be found at: <https://www.uscis.gov/n-400>.

⁴ This order was different in 2015, 2017, and 2018.

Map and Graph 1

Leading Countries of Birth FY 2015 – FY 2019 (Percent of Total)

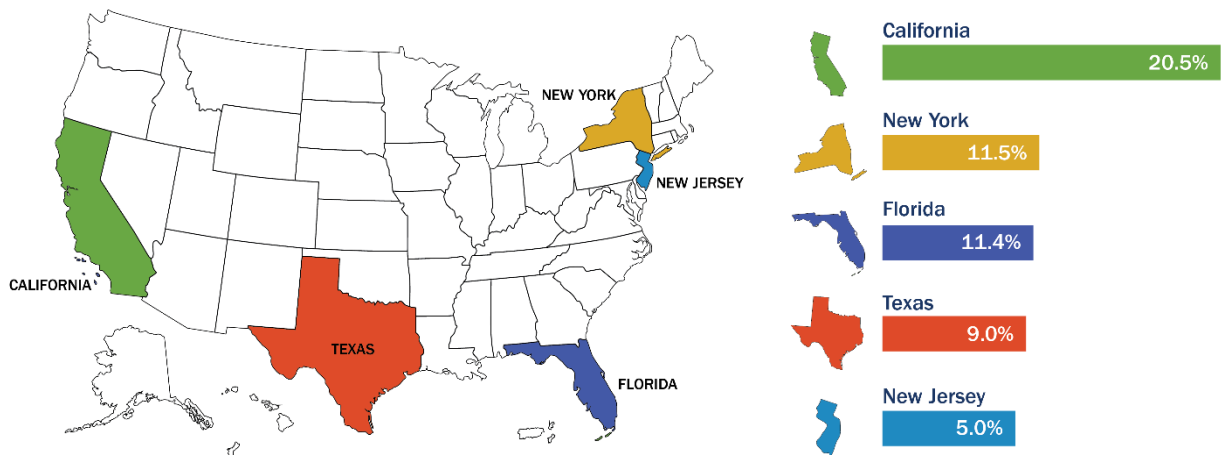


STATE AND CORE-BASED STATISTICAL AREA (CBSA) OF RESIDENCE

The top five states where people that naturalized resided⁵ were California, New York, Florida, Texas, and New Jersey. From FY 2015 to FY 2019, Texas went from the fourth leading state to the second leading state where people that naturalized resided.

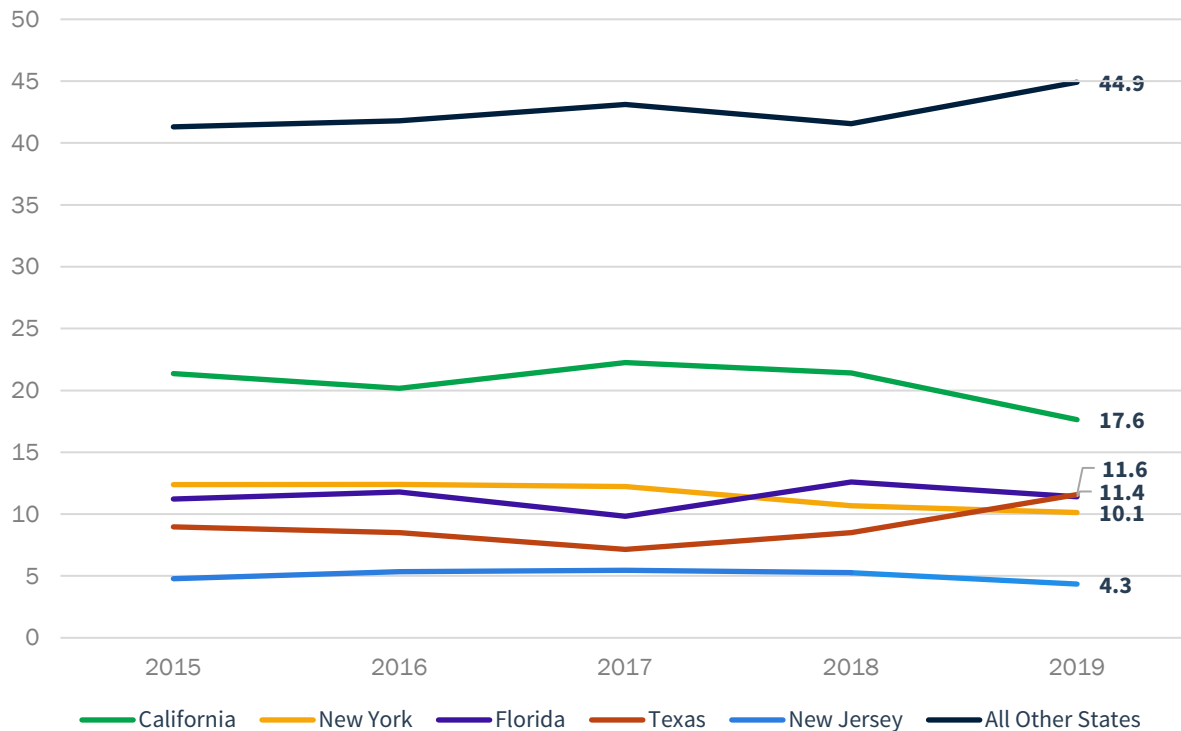
Map and Graph 2

Leading States of Residence (Percent of Total)



⁵ State residency is based on applicant's address at the time of filing.

Graph 3
Leading States of Residence by Fiscal Year (Percent of Total)



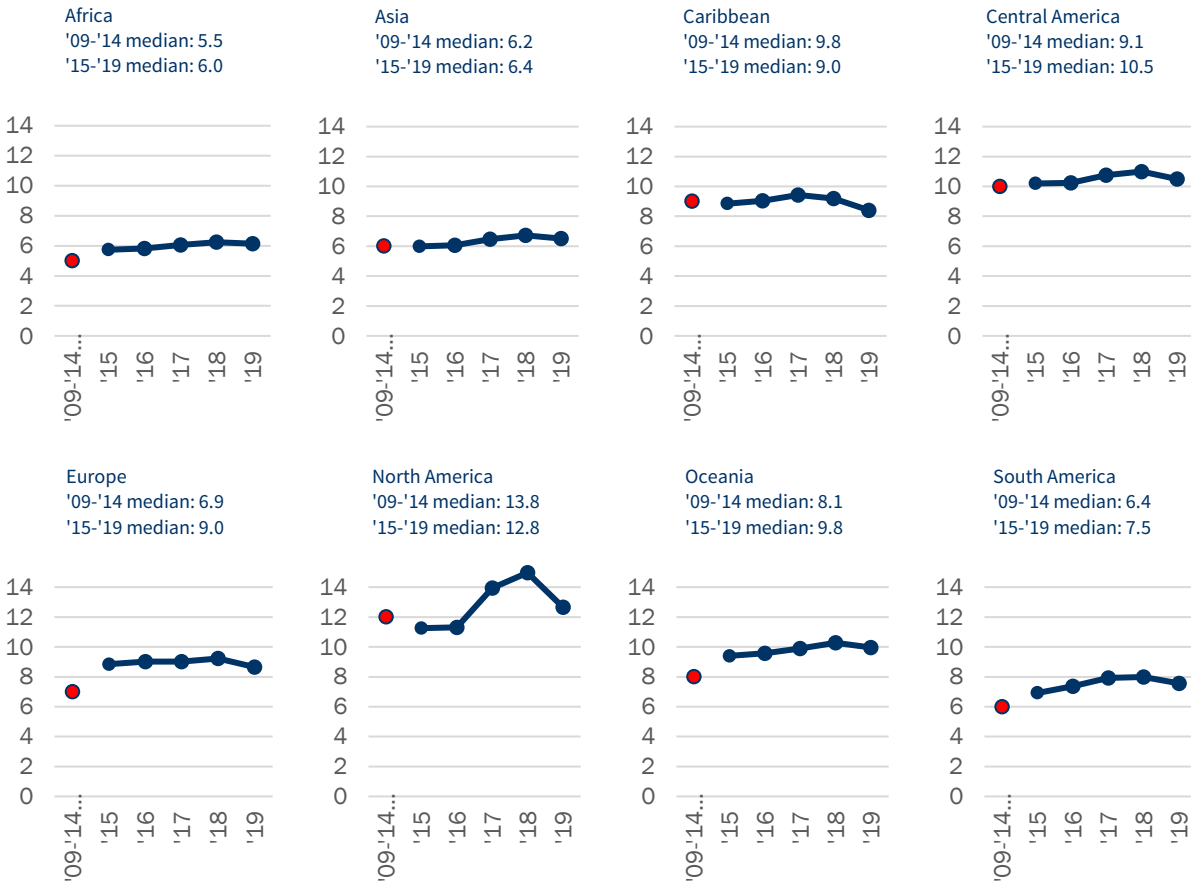
The top five CBSAs in both time periods were New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA, Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL, Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV, and Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI. All five leading CBSAs decreased as a proportion of the population from FY 2009-2014 to FY 2015-2019, suggesting a more expansive residence of naturalized citizens as well. Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX and Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX surpassed Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI in FY 2019 which dropped to the eighth largest CBSA of residence for citizens that naturalized. Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV also dropped to sixth largest CBSA in FY 2019.

MEDIAN YEARS IN LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS

For everyone who naturalized between FY 2015 and FY 2019, the median length of time spent in LPR status was 7.7 years – up from a median of 7.3 years in FY 2009-2014. African- and Asian-born immigrants spent the least time as LPRs (6-6.4 years). Immigrants from North America (Canada and Mexico) and Central America tended to wait the longest (12.8 years) before naturalizing. North American and Caribbean immigrants were the only regions to decrease in median years in LPR status while all others increased from FY 2009-2014 to FY 2015-2019.

Graph 4

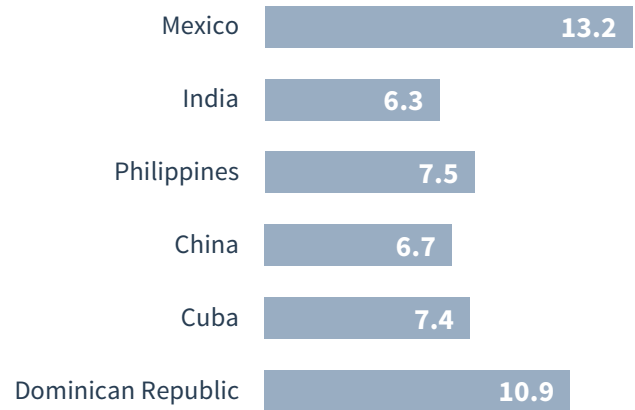
Median Years in Lawful Permanent Resident Status by Region of Birth



Compared to the FY 2009-2014 period, the median number of years in LPR status increased for immigrants from four of the top six countries of birth: Mexico, India, the Philippines, and China. People from Cuba and the Dominican Republic had decreases in median years in LPR status as compared to FY 2009 and FY 2014. Dominicans had the largest decrease in median years spent in LPR status (15.3 years to 10.9 years).

Graph 5

Median Years in Lawful Permanent Resident Status by Leading Countries of Birth, FY 2015-2019

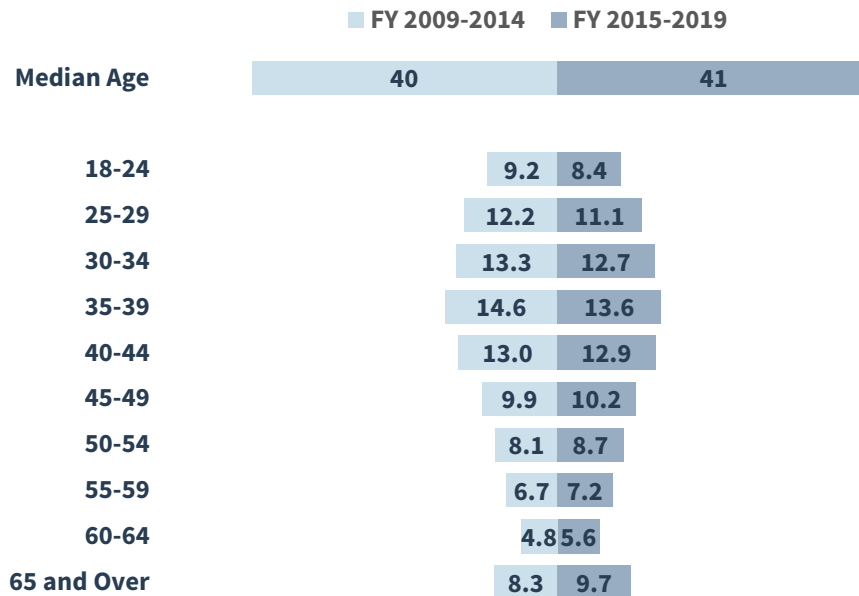


AGE, GENDER, AND MARITAL STATUS

The median age at naturalization was 41 in FY2015-2019. This is slightly higher than the median age (40) during the FY 2009-2014 period. The primary age range for naturalization was 25-49. However, over 31 percent of new citizens were age 50 or over, as compared to 27.8 percent during the FY 2009-2014 time period.

Graph 6

Age at Naturalization (Percent of Total)



The proportion of females in the naturalizing population was about 11 percentage points higher than the proportion of males. This difference is mainly because approximately 85,000 more females than males attain LPR status each year, mostly as immediate relatives of U.S. citizens. Thus, more females become eligible to naturalize. Most (64.2 percent) of the individuals who naturalized were married.

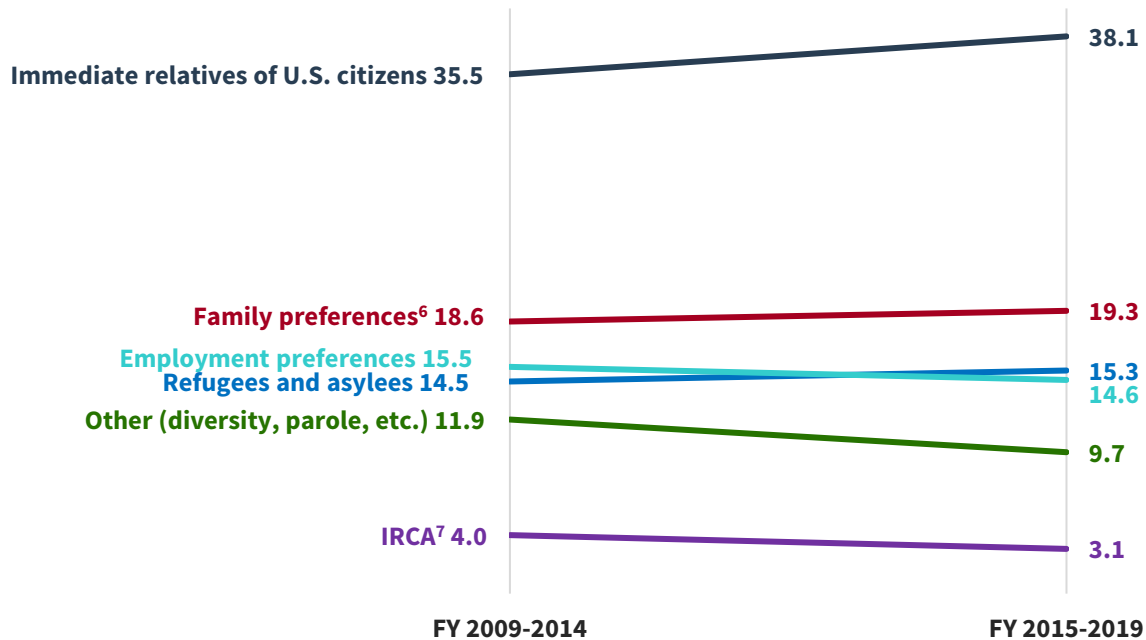
CLASS OF ADMISSION

The majority of people who naturalized came to the United States as immediate relatives of U.S. citizens or through family-sponsored preference categories. The naturalization numbers reflect a trend in overall admissions between the FY 2009-2014 and FY 2015-2019 periods: the number of immediate relatives of U.S. citizens and family-sponsored preferences grew in proportion to total admissions whereas the number of admissions through other categories, such as diversity or parole, declined.⁶

Compared to FY 2009-2014, people who were admitted as refugees or asylees before adjusting their status to LPR comprised larger percentages of total naturalizations and have had a steadily growing trend. This increase can be attributed to The REAL ID Act of 2005, which eliminated the annual cap of 10,000 asylee adjustments to LPR status. The initial surge of asylees who adjusted their status became eligible to naturalize (and started doing so) in 2010.

⁶ In FY 2009-2014, 36 percent of LPRs who became eligible to naturalize each year had been admitted as immediate relatives of U.S. citizens. In FY 2015-2019, this figure rose to 38 percent. For LPRs admitted through other categories, the corresponding percentage dropped from 12 to 10.

Graph 7
Class of Admission (Percent of Total)



Compared to FY 2009-2014, persons admitted for employment-based reasons comprised smaller percentages of total naturalizations overall (15.5 to 14.6 percent). However, in FY 2019 alone this percentage turned upwards to 15.5 percent, the same as the percentage in FY 2009-2014. The number of naturalizations of people who became LPR's through the Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) has been declining and reached 2.7 percent in FY 2019.

⁷ Preference categories apply to family members who are not immediate relatives, such as adult sons and daughters of U.S. citizens, brothers and sisters of adult U.S. citizens, and adult sons and daughters of permanent residents. The visas allotted for these categories are subject to annual numerical limits. A visa becomes available to a preference category based on the priority date. In family immigration, this is generally the date a petition was filed with USCIS.

⁸ The Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) of 1986 legalized unauthorized immigrants who entered the United States before 1982, had resided in the United States continuously, and did not owe back taxes or have a criminal record. Today the number of naturalizations of people who became LPRs under the IRCA is declining.

APPENDIX

Table 1
Region of Birth

Year of Naturalization	FY 2009-2014	FY 2015-2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total Naturalizations	708,100/yr.	759,200/yr.	730,300	753,100	707,300	761,900	843,600
Region of Birth (percent of total)							
Africa	9.5	9.4	9.8	9.6	8.7	8.5	10.1
Asia	36.3	36.7	35.8	36.1	36.1	36.2	38.8
Caribbean	12.9	12.8	12.7	14.0	13.1	12.5	12.0
Central America^a	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.0
Europe	11.3	9.7	10.7	9.9	9.2	9.4	9.6
North America^b	14.7	16.6	15.8	15.0	17.9	18.6	15.8
Oceania^c	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
South America	9.5	8.9	9.3	9.4	8.9	8.9	8.1
Unknown	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0

Total percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding.

Figures may differ from previously published reports due to updated methodology.

Source: USCIS OIS Form N-400 naturalization data, FY 2009 - 2019.

^a Central America comprises Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panamá.

^b North America comprises Canada, Mexico, and the United States.

^c Oceania includes Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu, and surrounding island countries.

Table 2
Leading Countries of Birth (Percent of Total)

Year of Naturalization	FY 2009-2014	FY 2015-2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Mexico	13.4	15.3	14.5	13.8	16.8	17.3	14.5
India	6.8	6.7	5.8	6.1	7.2	6.9	7.7
Philippines	5.6	5.3	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.1	5.2
China	4.7	4.8	4.3	4.8	5.3	5.2	4.7
Cuba	3.4	4.0	3.5	4.3	3.7	4.2	4.3
Dominican Republic	3.6	3.5	3.7	4.2	4.2	3.0	2.7
Vietnam	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.3	2.7	2.8	3.0
Colombia	2.8	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.0
El Salvador	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.2
Jamaica	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.3	2.1
South Korea	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.1	1.9
Haiti	2.3	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.9	1.7
Iraq	0.8	1.7	2.0	1.6	1.1	1.6	2.2
Pakistan	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.6
Peru	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2
Brazil	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.2
United Kingdom	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4
Iran	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.3
Nigeria	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.3
Canada	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.3
All Other Countries	37.2	35.6	36.7	36.2	34.2	34.2	36.4

Total percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding.

Figures may differ from previously published reports due to updated methodology.

Source: USCIS OIS Form N-400 naturalization data, FY 2009 - 2019.

Table 3
Leading States of Residence (Percent of Total)

Year of Naturalization	FY 2009-2014	FY 2015-2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
California	21.8	20.5	21.4	20.2	22.2	21.4	17.6
New York	12.2	11.5	12.4	12.4	12.2	10.7	10.1
Florida	12.0	11.4	11.2	11.8	9.8	12.6	11.4
Texas	7.7	9.0	9.0	8.5	7.1	8.5	11.6
New Jersey	5.2	5.0	4.8	5.4	5.5	5.3	4.3
Illinois	3.9	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6
Massachusetts	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.9	3.3	2.7
Virginia	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.7	3.1	2.4	2.8
Georgia	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.5	2.3	2.2	3.1
Pennsylvania	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.5	2.5
All Other States	26.5	28.2	26.9	27.6	28.1	27.8	30.3

Total percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding.
 Figures may differ from previously published reports due to updated methodology.
 Source: USCIS OIS Form N-400 naturalization data, FY 2009 - 2019.

Table 4
Leading CBSAs of Residence (Percent of Total)

Year of Naturalization	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA	14.8	15.4	15.1	13.4	12.2
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA	9.2	8.0	8.2	7.9	6.5
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL	7.0	7.5	6.0	7.2	6.8
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	3.6	3.7	4.0	2.8	3.5
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.3
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX	3.4	3.0	2.0	2.9	3.8
San Francisco-Oakland-Berkeley, CA	2.8	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.5
Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH	2.5	2.5	3.0	2.5	2.0
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX	2.6	2.4	1.6	2.2	3.4
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Alpharetta, GA	2.3	2.0	1.9	1.8	2.4
All Other CBSAs	48.8	49.2	52.1	53.4	53.5

Total percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding.
 Figures may differ from previously published reports due to updated methodology.
 Source: USCIS OIS Form N-400 naturalization data, FY 2009 - 2019.
 CBSA is Core-Based Statistical Area.

Table 5
Median Years in Lawful Permanent Resident Status by Region of Birth

Year of Naturalization	FY 2009-2014	FY 2015-2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
All Regions	7.3	7.7	7.3	7.5	8.0	8.2	7.5
Africa	5.5	6.0	5.7	5.8	6.1	6.2	6.1
Asia	6.2	6.4	6.0	6.1	6.5	6.7	6.5
Caribbean	9.8	9.0	8.9	9.0	9.4	9.2	8.4
Central America	9.1	10.5	10.2	10.2	10.7	11.0	11.0
Europe	6.9	9.0	8.8	9.0	9.0	9.2	8.7
North America	13.8	12.8	11.3	11.3	13.9	15.0	12.6
Oceania	8.1	9.8	9.4	9.6	9.9	10.3	10.0
South America	6.4	7.5	6.9	7.4	7.9	8.0	7.6

Naturalizations with unknown region of birth may be the result of incomplete updates or data entry errors in the information systems and comprise less than 0.01 percent of totals.

Figures may differ from previously published reports due to updated methodology.

Source: USCIS OIS Form N-400 naturalization data, FY 2009 - 2019.

Table 6
Median Years in Lawful Permanent Resident Status by Leading Countries of Birth

Year of Naturalization	FY 2009-2014	FY 2015-2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Mexico	12.1	13.2	11.6	11.5	14.7	15.8	13.1
India	5.7	6.3	6.1	6.0	6.2	6.6	6.2
Philippines	6.2	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.7	7.6
China	5.6	6.7	6.2	6.1	6.7	7.2	7.2
Cuba	7.7	7.4	7.7	8.1	8.2	7.4	5.8
Dominican Republic	15.3	10.9	11.2	10.8	11.7	11.2	10.3

Figures may differ from previously published reports due to updated methodology.

Source: USCIS OIS Form N-400 naturalization data, FY 2009 - 2019.

Table 7
Age at Naturalization

Year of Naturalization	FY 2009-2014	FY 2015-2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Age at Naturalization^a							
Median Age (years)	40	41	40	41	42	42	41
Age at Naturalization (percent of total)							
18-24	9.2	8.4	9.1	9.0	7.8	7.7	8.2
25-29	12.2	11.1	12.4	12.1	10.6	10.1	10.3
30-34	13.3	12.7	13.0	13.0	12.3	12.2	13.0
35-39	14.6	13.6	13.5	13.3	13.6	13.5	14.1
40-44	13.0	12.9	12.6	12.5	13.1	12.9	13.1
45-49	9.9	10.2	9.9	10.0	10.5	10.5	10.2
50-54	8.1	8.7	8.4	8.6	9.0	9.0	8.5
55-59	6.7	7.2	6.8	7.0	7.5	7.6	7.2
60-64	4.8	5.6	5.2	5.3	5.8	5.9	5.6
65 and Over	8.3	9.7	9.0	9.3	9.7	10.4	9.9

Total percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding. Naturalizations with unknown age may be the result of incomplete updates or data entry errors in the information systems and comprise less than 0.1 percent of totals.

Figures may differ from previously published reports due to updated methodology.

Source: USCIS OIS Form N-400 naturalization data, FY 2009 - 2019.

^a Generally, people must be 18 years of age or over to be eligible to naturalize.

Table 8
Gender (Percent of Total)

Year of Naturalization	FY 2009-2014	FY 2015-2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Male	45.7	44.4	44.1	44.2	44.0	44.8	44.9
Female	54.3	55.6	55.9	55.8	56.0	55.2	55.1

Total percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding. Naturalizations with unknown gender may be the result of incomplete updates or data entry errors in the information systems and comprise less than 0.1 percent of totals.

Figures may differ from previously published reports due to updated methodology.

Source: USCIS OIS Form N-400 naturalization data, FY 2009 - 2019.

Table 9
Age and Gender at Naturalization (Percent of Total)

Year of Naturalization	FY 2009-2014	FY 2015-2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Age at Naturalization^a (percent of total)							
18-24 Female	4.9	4.4	4.8	4.7	4.1	4.1	4.3
18-24 Male	4.4	4.0	4.3	4.3	3.7	3.6	3.8
25-29 Female	7.0	6.3	7.2	6.9	6.1	5.7	5.8
25-29 Male	5.3	4.8	5.3	5.2	4.5	4.4	4.5
30-34 Female	7.7	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.3	7.1	7.4
30-34 Male	5.6	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.1	5.2	5.6
35-39 Female	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.8	7.6	7.9
35-39 Male	6.7	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.8	5.9	6.2
40-44 Female	6.7	6.9	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.8	6.9
40-44 Male	6.3	6.0	5.7	5.7	6.1	6.1	6.2
45-49 Female	5.1	5.5	5.3	5.4	5.7	5.6	5.4
45-49 Male	4.7	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.8	5.0	4.9
50-54 Female	4.3	4.7	4.6	4.7	5.0	4.8	4.6
50-54 Male	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.1	3.9
55-59 Female	3.6	4.1	3.8	3.9	4.3	4.2	4.0
55-59 Male	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.4	3.2
60-64 Female	2.6	3.1	2.9	3.0	3.3	3.3	3.1
60-64 Male	2.2	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.4
65 and Over Female	4.7	5.6	5.2	5.4	5.6	6.0	5.7
65 and Over Male	3.6	4.1	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.4	4.1

Total percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding. Naturalizations with unknown age may be the result of incomplete updates or data entry errors in the information systems and comprise less than 0.01 percent of totals.

Source: USCIS OIS Form N-400 naturalization data, FY 2009 - 2019.

^a Generally, people must be 18 years of age or over to be eligible to naturalize.

Table 10
Marital Status at Naturalization (Percent of Total)

Year of Naturalization	FY 2009-2014	FY 2015-2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Married	64.8	64.2	63.5	63.5	64.7	64.9	64.4
Single	21.7	21.7	22.9	22.8	21.2	20.9	21.0
Divorced ^a	9.9	10.1	10.3	10.4	10.3	10.1	9.7
Widowed	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.1
Unknown	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.9	1.8

Total percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding. Recently naturalized citizens of separated marital status comprise less than 0.1 percent of totals.

Figures may differ from previously published reports due to updated methodology.

Source: USCIS OIS Form N-400 naturalization data, FY 2009 - 2019.

^a The divorced category includes separated individuals.

Table 11
Marital Status and Gender at Naturalization (Percent of Total)

Year of Naturalization	FY 2009-2014	FY 2015-2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Married Female	35.1	35.5	35.5	35.4	36.0	35.5	35.3
Married Male	29.7	28.7	28.0	28.0	28.7	29.4	29.2
Single Female	10.5	10.7	11.3	11.2	10.6	10.3	10.3
Single Male	11.2	11.0	11.6	11.6	10.6	10.5	10.7
Divorced Female	5.9	6.2	6.2	6.4	6.4	6.2	5.9
Divorced Male	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.0	3.8
Widowed Female	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.7
Widowed Male	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.8
Unknown Female	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.9
Unknown Male	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.4

Total percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding. Recently naturalized citizens of separated marital status comprise less than 0.1 percent of totals. Naturalizations with unknown gender may be the result of incomplete updates or data entry errors in the information systems and comprise less than 0.1 percent of totals.

Source: USCIS OIS Form N-400 naturalization data, FY 2009 - 2019.

^a The divorced category includes separated individuals.

Table 12
Class of Admission^a (Percent of Total)

Year of Naturalization	FY 2009-2014	FY 2015-2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Immediate relatives of U.S. citizens ^b	35.5	38.1	38.4	38.1	38.2	37.9	37.9
Family-sponsored preferences ^c	18.6	19.3	18.8	20.3	19.5	19.2	18.8
Refugees and asylees	14.5	15.3	14.8	15.0	16.1	15.9	15.9
Employment preferences	15.4	14.6	14.4	13.9	13.2	14.3	15.5
Other (Diversity Visa, parolees, etc.)	11.9	9.7	10.7	10.1	9.4	9.0	9.2
IRCA ^d	4	3.1	2.9	2.6	3.5	3.7	2.7

Total percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding.

Figures may differ from previously published reports due to updated methodology.

Source: USCIS OIS Form N-400 naturalization data, FY 2009 - 2019.

^a Class of admission reflects the immigration category held when becoming a lawful permanent resident.

^b Immediate relatives of U.S. citizens include: spouses of U.S. citizens, children (unmarried and under 21) of U.S. citizens, and parents of U.S. citizens (where the petitioning U.S. citizen is 21 or older).

^c Preference categories apply to family members who are not immediate relatives, such as adult sons and daughters of U.S. citizens, brothers and sisters of adult U.S. citizens, spouses and unmarried children (those under the age of 21) of permanent residents, and unmarried adult sons and daughters (those 21 years of age or older) of permanent residents. The visas allotted for these categories are subject to annual numerical limits. A visa becomes available to a preference category based on the priority date. In family immigration, this is generally the date a petition was filed with USCIS.

^d The IRCA of 1986 legalized unauthorized immigrants who entered the United States before 1982, had resided there continuously, and did not owe back taxes or have a criminal record. Since the enactment of IRCA occurred almost 30 years ago, the number of naturalizations of people who became LPRs under the IRCA is declining.