This fact sheet provides information on select characteristics of people with Lawful Permanent Residence (LPR) status, also known as Green Card holders. Generally, an LPR is eligible to become a naturalized U.S. citizen after meeting certain requirements. Providing more information on the eligible to naturalize population is in keeping with the Executive Order on Restoring Faith in Our Legal Immigration Systems and Strengthening Integration and Inclusion Efforts for New Americans (E.O. 14012).

Throughout our history, the United States has welcomed immigrants from all over the world who have helped shape and define our country. Granting citizenship to eligible lawful permanent residents is vital to our nation’s security, economic prosperity, and a future built on the principles of the U.S. Constitution. Some of the benefits to becoming a U.S. citizen include the right to vote, traveling with a U.S. passport, bringing family members to the U.S., applying for federal jobs, and becoming an elected official.

**Top Countries of Birth**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of Births</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>30,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China, People’s Republic</td>
<td>20,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>16,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>15,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>14,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabo Verde</td>
<td>10,020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Number of Years in LPR Status**

Generally, a Lawful Permanent Resident (or LPR) is eligible to become a naturalized U.S. citizen after meeting certain requirements such as length of time in LPR status; the length of time depends on the class of admission they were given as an LPR.
LPRs by Category of Admission

After meeting certain eligibility requirements, a person can gain LPR status through employment, family relationships, the diversity visa program, or as a refugee or asylee, among other ways.

**131,290** Immediate relatives of U.S. citizens

**12,230** Diversity

**18,730** Refugees and Asylees

**36,980** Employment-based preferences

**47,540** Family-sponsored preferences

Concentration of Eligible to Naturalize in the Region

63% of the eligible to naturalize population resides in three counties.

- Middlesex County, MA: 73,410
- Suffolk County, MA: 53,280
- Essex County, MA: 33,270
- Worcester County, MA: 24,940
- Norfolk County, MA: 24,650
- Plymouth County, MA: 11,430
- Hampden County, MA: 9,800
- Bristol County, MA: 8,220
- Barnstable County, MA: 4,940
- Hampshire County, MA: 1,880
- Berkshire County, MA: 1,380
- Nantucket County, MA: 890
- Dukes County, MA: 600
- Franklin County, MA: 570
- Unknown County, MA: 480

Eligible to Naturalize by Age

- 75 and Over: 13,230
- 60 to 74: 30,670
- 50 to 59: 34,340
- 40 to 49: 61,960
- 30 to 39: 64,000
- 20 to 29: 40,190
- 18 to 19: 5,470

Eligible to Naturalize by Gender

- 54% of persons eligible were Female
- 46% of persons eligible were Male