



Fact Sheet

June 30, 2006 (revised)

USCIS ISSUES CITIZENSHIP AND NATURALIZATION FACTS

Highlights July 4th Week “Celebrate Citizenship, Celebrate America” Naturalization Ceremonies

- United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will welcome 18,000 new citizens during July 4th week (June 27-July 7). On the Fourth of July alone, the agency will welcome more than 1,500 new United States citizens at ceremonies across the country.
- Since President George W. Bush signed the Expedited Naturalization Executive Order on July 3, 2002, USCIS has naturalized more than **24,000** service members. In all, more than **35,000** service members have filed for expedited naturalization.
- During fiscal years 2004 and 2005, more than **7,500** and **6,000** service members became United States Citizens, respectively.
- In October 2004, USCIS began hosting the first overseas military naturalization ceremonies since the Korean War. During fiscal year 2005, **1,006** service members became Citizens while serving on active duty outside of the United States.
- There are currently more than **40,000** members of the U.S. military who are eligible to apply for naturalization.
- Approximately 11.3 million naturalized citizens live in the United States.
- Nearly eight million immigrants living in the United States are eligible for naturalization.
- During fiscal year 2005, USCIS welcomed more than 600,000 new citizens.
- Sixty-five percent of all new citizens naturalized during FY 2004 (537,151) call California, New York, Florida, Texas, Illinois, or New Jersey home.
- More than half (fifty-four percent) of all new citizens naturalized during FY 2004 were women.
- Asia is the leading region of birth among persons naturalizing. Forty percent of new citizens naturalized during FY 2004 were born in Asian countries.
- Home to more than 63,830 new citizens, Mexico is the leading country of birth among persons who naturalized during FY 2004.

- USCIS' Office of Citizenship recently introduced a New Immigrant Orientation Guide, Civics Flash Cards and other free tools to help applicants prepare for citizenship. These materials are available at <http://uscis.gov/graphics/citizenship>.
- USCIS has also created a web page entitled "Faces of America" which highlights the stories of newly naturalized U.S. citizens at <http://www.uscis.gov/graphics/publicaffairs/faces.htm>

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