



* A per-country limit applies to visas in these preference categories. For independent countries the limit is seven percent of the total number of preference visas available, while dependent areas are limited to two percent of total preference visas.
 * The Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act of 1997 (NACARA) reallocates 5,000 visas annually from both the Visa Lottery and the Unskilled Worker category and makes them available to illegal aliens who qualify for amnesty under NACARA. Once NACARA applications fall below a specified level, this reallocation will end.



The Average Annual Legal Immigration Level During:

The Colonial Era (1607-1775):	3,500
The Nation Building Era (1776-1819):	6,500
The Era of Continental Expansion (1820-1879):	162,000
The Great Wave (1880-1924):	584,000
The Rise of the Middle Class (1925-1964):	178,000
The Civil Rights Era (1965-1989):	507,000

The Average Annual Legal Immigration Level Since The Immigration Act Of 1990:

1,000,000