

Amnesty										
HRIFA Amnesty	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other Amnesties	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other⁵	3,037	6,029	7,068	20,371	12,268	1,557	10	NA	NA	NA
TOTAL Permanent Resident Aliens⁶	16,105	75,761	499,730	906,435	1,138,145	166,531	25,614	6,963	4,985	5,314
Net) in Adjustment of Status Backlog	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Anchor Babies	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
TOTAL PERMANENT IMPACT⁷	16,105	75,761	499,730	906,435	1,138,145	166,531	25,614	6,963	4,985	5,314

* The Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA) was enacted by Congress in response to the large and rapidly growing illegal alien population in the United States. The final bill was the result of a dramatic compromise between those who wanted to reduce illegal immigration into the United States and those who wanted to "wipe the slate clean" for those illegals already living here by granting them legal residence. As enacted, IRCA included a massive amnesty program for two main categories of illegal aliens: 1) those who could show that they had resided illegally in the United States continuously since at least January 1, 1982; and 2) those who had worked as agricultural workers for at least 90 days between May 1, 1985 and May 1, 1986. As a "balance" to this huge amnesty, IRCA also included several provisions designed to strengthen the enforcement of immigration laws, including sanctions for employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens, increased border controls, and a program to verify the immigration status of aliens applying for certain welfare benefits.

¹ LPR = Legal Permanent Resident² IRCA added a new subcategory of special immigrants for retired officers and employees of international organizations, along with their spouses and minor children. The numbers shown in this row reflect only those special immigrants admitted under this new subcategory.

³ IRCA included a provision that permitted Cubans and Haitians who had lived in the United States illegally since 1982 to adjust to permanent resident status. The law also modified Section 249 of the Immigration and Nationality Act so that any alien who entered the country prior to January 1, 1972 may apply for legal residence. Prior to IRCA, an alien had to show that he or she entered the United States prior to June 30, 1948 in order to benefit from Section 249. The numbers shown in this row may overcount slightly the number of beneficiaries of this new provision, since Immigration and Naturalization (INS) statistics lump together all Section 249 beneficiaries who entered the country between June 29, 1940 and January 1, 1972. Thus, a small number of beneficiaries who entered between June 29, 1940 and June 30, 1948 are attributed to IRCA since there is no way to count and exclude them.

⁴ This row includes all those illegal aliens who were granted amnesty under both the general (entry prior to 1982) and the special agricultural worker amnesties of IRCA.

⁵ IRCA created a special, temporary category for "nonpreference immigrants," or aliens born in countries from which immigration was adversely affected by the 1965 amendments to the Immigration and Nationality Act. IRCA allocated 5,000 visas to this category in 1987 and 1988 and 15,000 visas in 1989 and 1990.

⁶ This row shows the total number of aliens granted legal permanent resident status between 1987 and 1996 as a result of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

⁷ This row shows the total, permanent impact on the United States of the 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act over a 10-year period.