

**LEGAL IMMIGRATION TO CALIFORNIA
IN FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 1994:
A SYNOPSIS IN TABLES**

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Legal Immigration to California in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 1994: A Synopsis in Tables

The following tables present a summary of the most recent data on legal immigration to California. The data were provided by the Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), from their Federal Fiscal Year 1994 Immigrant Tape, and tabulated by the Demographic Research Unit of the California State Department of Finance. "Immigrants" are defined as aliens who are admitted to the US for permanent legal residence.

Table 1: Legal Immigrants by Calendar Year of Arrival: FFY 1994

Calendar Year of Arrival	Number of Legal Immigrants
1991 or before	119
1992	193
1993	53,376
1994	152,184
Total	205,872

Note: Federal Fiscal Year 1994 runs from October 1, 1993 to September 30, 1994.

The above table records the number of aliens who were admitted as immigrants during Federal Fiscal Year 1994¹. State of residence for immigrants is based upon the reported ZIP Code of their intended residence.

California's total of 205,872 is 16.7 percent lower than the 247,253 for FFY 1993. California received more than one-quarter of the national total of legal immigrants in 1994, despite having an eighth of the country's population.

¹ Those admitted prior to 1993 should be considered as late registrations

Table 2: Legal Immigrants by Port of Entry: 1994

Port of Entry	Number	Percent
Los Angeles	78,805	38.3
San Francisco	43,941	21.3
San Diego	6,950	3.4
Sacramento	5,991	2.9
San Jose	4,938	2.4
Calexico	396	0.2
Western Service Center	6,621	3.2
Other California	49	*
POE outside of California	58,181	28.3
Total	205,872	100.0

* = less than one-tenth of one percent

There are more than 15 official ports of entry for immigration into California, and more than 300 throughout the entire US, yet more than half of California's immigrants came through just two ports of entry - Los Angeles and San Francisco. Of the immigrants who were refugees, 73 percent used either of these two cities as a port of entry.

Los Angeles, San Francisco, and San Diego together were the official ports of entry for 26.1 percent of all legal immigrants newly arriving to the US in FFY 1993.

Table 3: Legal Immigrants by Class of Admission: 1994

Class of Admission	1993 Number	1994 Number	Percent	1993-1994 Change
Family-Sponsored	121,782	113,157	55.0	-7.1%
Non-Capped	38,143	37,067	18.0	-13.0%
Employment-Based	55,589	33,187	16.1	-33.3%
Legalization of Dependents	25,666	17,930	8.7	-35.1%
Diversity Transition²	35,40	4,052	2.0	+14.5%
Born to Alien Residents	565	478	0.2	-15.4%
Total	247,253	205,872	100.0	-16.7%

The drop in the number of legal immigrants in 1994 was not limited to any particular class of admission - all the major classes had decreases in the number admitted. Of the largest three classes, family-sponsored, employment-based, and non-capped, the non-capped class had the largest proportionate decrease, a drop to a level only two-thirds of that of the previous year. Amongst all the major classes, only the diversity transition class increased in 1994, with roughly five hundred (14%) more immigrants than in 1993. The decreases in the major classes of admission in the state paralleled the changes at the national level.

² "Diversity Transition" is the category designated by Congress for the admission of more immigrants from countries deemed to have had their immigration quotas adversely impacted by the change in immigration laws in 1965.

Table 4: Legal Immigrants by Age and Sex: 1994

Age	Males	Females	Total	Percent of Total
0 to 4	3,756	3,711	7,467	3.63
5 to 9	8,094	7,607	15,701	7.63
10 to 14	10,719	10,064	20,783	10.10
15 to 19	12,268	11,738	24,006	11.66
20 to 24	8,922	11,825	20,747	10.08
25 to 29	9,661	14,787	24,448	11.88
30 to 34	9,381	12,781	22,162	10.77
35 to 39	6,750	9,242	15,992	7.77
40 to 44	4,934	7,253	12,187	5.92
45 to 49	4,041	5,488	9,529	4.63
50 to 54	3,089	4,247	7,336	3.56
55 to 59	2,740	4,114	6,854	3.33
60 to 64	2,778	4,073	6,851	3.33
65 and older	4,872	6,915	11,787	5.73
Unknown	8	2	10	0.00
Total	92,013	113,847	205,860	100.00

Note: Table above excludes 12 people of unknown sex.

The mean and median ages for immigrants were 28.7 and 26 years for males and 31.2 and 29 years for females, respectively. This is somewhat younger than the median ages of 30.4 and 32.5 years for males and females for California from the 1990 Census. The legal immigrant population is more concentrated at the working ages and less at the very youngest and oldest ages than is the native California population.

Table 5: Legal Immigrants Age 15 and Older by Marital Status and Sex: 1994

Marital Status	Males	Percent of Males	Females	Percent of Females	Total	Percent of Total
Single	26,907	38.75	23,281	25.18	50,190	31.00
Married	40,702	58.62	62,596	67.70	103,303	63.80
Widowed	700	1.01	4,421	4.78	5,121	3.16
Divorced	810	1.17	1,635	1.77	2,445	1.51
Separated	102	0.15	187	0.20	289	0.18
Unknown	215	0.31	343	0.37	559	0.35
Total	69,436	100.00	92,463	100.00	161,907	100.00

Legal immigrants are more likely to be married than are Californians. Fifty-eight percent of the immigrant males and 68 percent of the immigrant females are married, compared with 56 percent and 52 percent of the Californians of the same age group.

Table 6: Legal Immigrants by Continent of Birth: 1994

Continent	Number	Percent
Europe	26,827	13.0
Asia	100,619	48.9
Africa	4,179	2.0
Oceania	1,853	0.9
North America	67,606	32.8
South America	4,788	2.3
Total	205,872	100.0

More legal immigrants to California came from Asia than from any other continent.

The INS provides several variables for determining an immigrants "origin": country of birth, country of last permanent residence, nationality, and the country against whose quota the immigrant will be charged. These four are not necessarily the same, particularly in the case of refugees. Information on immigrants' origins in this and succeeding tables is based upon their country of birth.

Table 7: Legal Immigrants by Country of Birth: 1994

Country	Number	Percent of Total
Mexico	49,964	24.3
Philippines	23,916	11.6
China	17,442	8.5
Vietnam	14,162	6.9
El Salvador	7,900	3.8
India	7,076	3.4
Iran	6,284	3.1
Korea	4,957	2.4
Taiwan	4,855	2.4
Ukraine	3,996	1.9
Armenia	3,606	1.8
Guatemala	3,527	1.7
Hong Kong	3,356	1.6
United Kingdom	3,186	1.5
Russia	2,756	1.3
Thailand	2,689	1.3
Laos	2,617	1.3
Ireland	2,338	1.1
All Other	41,245	20.0
Total	205,872	100.0

As in FFY 1993, Mexico and the Philippines provided more legal immigrants than any other country. Among the top ten countries of origin in 1993, Vietnam experienced the largest proportionate drop - from 25,000 to 14,000, and so moved to fourth place for 1994. The countries among the top 12 countries of origin in 1993 were also the same top 12 in 1994, and with few exceptions, in the same order.

Table 8: Legal Immigrants to California by County: 1994

County	Immigrants 1994	Percent of Immigrants	Population 1994	Immigration Rate 1994
Alameda	9,781	4.8	1,346,600	7.26
Alpine	1	*	1,180	0.85
Amador	22	*	33,250	0.66
Butte	499	0.2	201,200	2.48
Calaveras	22	*	37,700	0.58
Colusa	179	0.1	17,600	10.17
Contra Costa	3,897	1.9	868,600	4.49
Del Norte	12	*	28,800	0.42
El Dorado	171	0.1	144,600	1.18
Fresno	5,673	2.8	749,300	7.57
Glenn	71	*	26,550	2.67
Humboldt	131	0.1	127,000	1.03
Imperial	1,342	0.7	135,900	9.87
Inyo	28	*	18,750	1.49
Kern	2,982	1.4	616,800	4.83
Kings	518	0.3	114,400	4.53
Lake	76	*	56,700	1.34
Lassen	15	*	29,300	0.51
Los Angeles	75,855	36.8	9,221,300	8.23
Madera	491	0.2	106,700	4.60
Marin	868	0.4	242,900	3.57
Mariposa	13	*	16,150	0.80
Mendocino	157	0.1	84,900	1.85
Merced	1,518	0.7	199,000	7.63
Modoc	6	*	10,450	0.57
Mono	26	*	11,100	2.34
Monterey	2,677	1.3	370,100	7.23
Napa	480	0.2	118,600	4.05
Nevada	49	*	86,900	0.56
Orange	15,255	7.4	2,598,100	5.87
Placer	285	0.1	201,600	1.41
Plumas	8	*	21,050	0.38
Riverside	4,092	2.0	1,361,300	3.01
Sacramento	6,138	3.0	1,130,800	5.43
San Benito	209	0.1	41,450	5.04
San Bernadino	4,657	2.3	1,594,500	2.92
San Diego	13,904	6.8	2,687,800	5.17
San Francisco	11,990	5.8	750,400	15.98
San Joaquin	2,482	1.2	522,300	4.75
San Luis Obispo	491	0.2	232,400	2.11
San Mateo	5,674	2.8	686,100	8.27
Santa Barbara	2,128	1.0	392,000	5.43
Santa Clara	16,144	7.8	1,583,500	10.20

Santa Cruz	1,448	0.7	239,400	6.05
Shasta	111	0.1	163,400	0.68
Sierra	5	*	3,420	1.46
Siskyou	35	*	45,700	0.77
Solano	1,505	0.7	373,300	4.03
Sonoma	1,189	0.6	423,200	2.81
Stanislaus	1,667	0.8	413,400	4.03
Sutter	570	0.3	73,100	7.80
Tehama	34	*	54,500	0.62
Trinity	3	*	13,750	0.22
Tulare	1,828	0.9	347,900	5.25
Tuolumne	23	0.0	52,800	0.44
Ventura	4,079	2.0	709,000	5.75
Yolo	1,036	0.5	150,400	6.89
Yuba	393	0.2	63,400	6.20
Unknown	929	0.5		
TOTAL	205,872	100.0	31,952,000	6.44

* = less than one-tenth of one percent

As in 1993, Los Angeles County received far and away more legal immigrants than any other county, followed by Santa Clara, Orange, San Diego, and San Francisco counties. San Francisco once again had the highest rate, with more than 15 legal immigrants per 1,000 population, and was followed by Santa Clara, Colusa, and Imperial counties. (Maps 1 and 2)

Table 9: Number of Legal Immigrants to California by City, for Cities Receiving 1,000 or More Legal Immigrants: 1994

City (County)	Immigrants	Population	Immigration Rate
Los Angeles (Los Angeles)	29,322	3,617,300	8.11
San Francisco (San Francisco)	11,998	750,400	15.99
San Jose (Santa Clara)	8,991	833,300	10.79
San Diego (San Diego)	7,643	1,184,800	6.45
Glendale (Los Angeles)	4,502	189,900	23.71
Sacramento (Sacramento)	4,480	393,600	11.38
Fresno (Fresno)	3,241	399,000	8.12
Garden Grove (Orange)	2,557	151,900	16.83
Oakland (Alameda)	2,554	383,700	6.66
Santa Ana (Orange)	2,489	310,600	8.01
Long Beach (Los Angeles)	2,249	436,200	5.16
Anaheim (Orange)	2,000	290,900	6.88
Oxnard (Ventura)	1,835	152,000	12.07
Stockton (San Joaquin)	1,824	229,100	7.96
Fremont (Alameda)	1,803	184,400	9.78
Alhambra (Los Angeles)	1,765	86,200	20.48
Daly City (San Mateo)	1,686	99,100	17.01
Sunnyvale (Santa Clara)	1,588	123,900	12.82
Salinas (Monterey)	1,345	119,600	11.25
Monterey Park (Los Angeles)	1,340	63,000	21.27
Pasadena (Los Angeles)	1,242	134,500	9.23
Torrance (Los Angeles)	1,237	136,600	9.06
Santa Clara (Santa Clara)	1,234	96,900	12.73
Bakersfield (Kern)	1,232	201,700	6.11
Hayward (Alameda)	1,222	122,300	9.99
Irvine (Orange)	1,197	121,300	9.87
San Gabriel (Los Angeles)	1,104	38,650	28.56
San Mateo (San Mateo)	1,075	90,300	11.90
Riverside (Riverside)	1,058	244,900	4.32

Twenty-nine different cities³ in California received more than a thousand legal immigrants in 1994. Los Angeles received by far the most - approximately 15 percent of the State's total, and more than nearly every state, except for New York, Texas, Florida, New Jersey, and Illinois.

³ Data on the intended city of residence are based upon the ZIP Code of intended residence, and not an actual reported city. Because some ZIP Codes straddle city boundaries, the number of immigrants for each city should be considered an approximation.

**Table 10: Highest Legal Immigration Rates Among
Incorporated Cities Within California: 1994**

City (County)	Immigrants 1994	Population 1994	Immigration Rate (per 1,000)
Artesia (Los Angeles)	818	16,050	50.97
Arvin (Kern)	452	10,550	42.84
San Joaquin (Fresno)	86	2,760	31.16
San Gabriel (Los Angeles)	1,104	38,650	28.56
Mendota (Fresno)	214	7,650	27.97
Watsonville (Santa Cruz)	903	33,200	27.20
Firebaugh (Fresno)	143	5,325	26.86
Orange Cove (Fresno)	161	6,125	26.29
Marysville (Yuba)	314	12,800	24.53
South El Monte (Los Angeles)	510	21,400	23.83
Glendale (Los Angeles)	4,502	189,900	23.71
Monterey Park (Los Angeles)	1,340	63,000	21.27
Williams (Colusa)	62	2,940	21.09
Alhambra (Los Angeles)	1,765	86,200	20.48
Walnut (Los Angeles)	599	30,800	19.45

Just as the rate legal immigration varied widely among counties within the State, so it also varied among cities, but with even larger differences. A number of California's cities had extremely high rates of legal immigration. Based on legal immigration alone, Artesia's population would probably double inside of 14 years if the legal immigration rate were to hold constant and there were no out-migration from the city.

Table 11: Orphan-adoptee Immigrants by Country of Birth and Sex: 1994

Country	Females	Males	Total	Percent of Total
Russia	75	51	126	19.1
China	90	5	95	14.4
Korea	34	40	74	11.1
Philippines	27	28	55	8.3
India	28	20	48	7.3
Paraguay	19	12	31	4.7
Vietnam	11	11	22	3.3
Japan	14	7	21	3.2
Guatemala	8	11	19	2.9
36 Other Countries	97	72	169	25.6
Total	403	257	660	100.0

In FFY 1994, 660 orphan immigrants were either adopted abroad and brought to California, or brought here for adoption, an increase of 20 percent over the 550 orphan immigrants adopted by Californian's in FFY 1993. Sixty-one percent (403) of the orphans were female, and thirty-nine percent (257) were male. Fifty-eight percent (383) were younger than two years of age at the date of immigration, while less than ten percent were age ten or older. There were a total of just over 6,000 adoptions in California during Calendar Year 1994⁴.

⁴ Source: California Department of Social Services, Adoptions Branch, Sacramento, CA, 95814

Table 12: Fiancé(e)-Immigrants by Country of Birth and Sex: 1994

Country	Females	Males	Total	Percent
Philippines	417	54	471	31.7
China	105	17	122	8.2
Vietnam	89	2	91	6.1
Mexico	59	12	71	4.8
India	39	18	57	3.8
Russia	54	2	56	3.8
Japan	54	1	55	3.7
Thailand	42	0	42	2.8
Iran	31	5	36	2.4
United Kingdom	18	15	33	2.2
Canada	16	11	27	1.8
88 Other Countries	346	77	423	28.5
Total	1,270	214	1,484	100.0

In FFY 1994, 1,484 women and men immigrated to California with fiancé(e)-type visas, an increase of six percent over the total for FFY 1993. Fiancé(e)-type immigrants are usually female, making up 86 percent of the total. The Philippines is by far the most common country of birth for this type of immigrant, providing nearly a third of the total. The 20-34 year old age group comprise four-fifths of all immigrants of this type.

**Table 13: Employment-Based Immigrants (Principals Only)
by Country of Birth and Sex: 1994**

Country	Males	Females	Total	Percent
India	725	119	844	7.8
Philippines	307	516	823	7.6
Taiwan	505	312	817	7.5
China	612	203	815	7.5
Mexico	608	156	764	7.1
Korea	390	302	692	6.4
El Salvador	227	411	638	5.9
United Kingdom	434	148	582	5.4
Iran	308	142	450	4.2
Canada	224	114	338	3.1
Japan	263	64	327	3.0
Guatemala	114	165	279	2.6
Hong Kong	158	112	270	2.5
Israel	117	41	158	1.5
South Africa	83	53	136	1.3
110 Other Countries	1,971	930	2,901	26.6
Total	7,046	3,788	10,834	100.0

In FFY 1994, 10,834 persons immigrated to California as principals with employment-based visas, a decrease of approximately 28 percent over the total admitted for the same purpose in FFY 1993. Principal visa-holders, the actual workers and not the accompanying spouses or children, were 65 percent male.

In FFY 1994, more employment-based principals came from India than any other country. In 1993, Taiwan was the most common country of birth for employment-based principals.

Table 14: Employment-Based Immigrants by Occupation and Sex: 1994

Occupational Group	Males	Females	Total	Percent
Executive, Administrative, and Managerial	1,800	613	2,413	22.3
Engineers, Surveyors, and Mapping Scientists	1,451	155	1,606	14.8
Service Occupations	616	873	1,489	13.7
Social, Recreation, and Religious Workers	559	283	842	7.8
Registered Nurses	70	612	682	6.3
Precision Production, Craft, and Repair	537	143	680	6.3
Operators, Fabricators, and Laborers	359	138	497	4.6
Writers, Artists, Entertainers, and Athletes	299	147	446	4.1
Mathematical and Computer Scientists	283	90	373	3.4
19 Other Occupational Groups	1,072	734	1,806	28.8
Total	7,046	3,788	10,834	100.0

Of the thirty or so occupational groups possible, three groups predominated. Two of these groups - executives and engineers, accounted for around 37 percent of the principals, and were mostly composed of immigrants from Asian countries. The third largest occupational group, service occupations, was composed mostly of immigrants from Latin America.

The flow of employment-based immigrants was quite focused, with just five counties receiving more than 80 percent of this immigrant type. Los Angeles County attracted the most, with 52 percent of the total (5,618), followed by the counties of Santa Clara with 11.8 percent (1,270), Orange with 9.2 percent (997), San Diego with 4.2 percent (448), and Alameda with 3.8 percent (405). Five cities drew nearly 40 percent of these immigrants, with Los Angeles alone receiving more than one-fourth (2,256) of the overall total. It was trailed by San Jose (344, or 3.9 percent), San Francisco (334, or 3.8 percent), Sunnyvale (264, or 3.0 percent), and San Diego (251, or 2.9 percent). The cities with the highest rates of employment-based immigration were, however, Artesia (4.9 per 1,000) and Cupertino (3.1 per 1,000). The ZIP Code receiving the most employment-based immigrants was 94086 in Sunnyvale, however, receiving 153 of this immigrant type (2.7 per 1,000, based upon the 1990 population).

Table 15: Refugee and Asylee Immigrants by Country of Birth and Sex: 1994

Country	Females	Males	Total	Percent of Total
Vietnam	4,384	4,497	8,881	30.3
Ukraine	1,969	1,745	3,714	12.7
Laos	1,279	1,176	2,455	8.4
Thailand	914	952	1,868	6.4
Russia	1,034	809	1,845	6.3
Iran	839	848	1,687	5.8
Soviet Union	668	578	1,246	4.3
Iraq	374	570	944	3.2
Afghanistan	378	420	798	2.7
Belarus	353	291	644	2.2
89 Other Countries	2,469	2,732	5,202	17.7
Total	14,661	14,618	29,284	100.0

In FFY 1994, 29,284 refugees and asylees immigrated to California, a decrease of 25 percent below the total for the preceding year. Vietnam was the country of birth of 30.3 percent (8,881) of them, all the countries of the former Soviet Union combined were the countries of birth of 32.4 percent (9,492), and Thailand and Laos combined were the birthplace of 14.7 percent (4,323).