

United States Immigration Laws: An Overview

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Four Categories of People



UNDOCUMENTED OR OUT OF STATUS:

Over half have overstayed their visas.



Citizens



- Native Born
- Derivatives
- Naturalized

Nonimmigrants – an alphabet soup of categories



NONIMMIGRANT STATUS

- Nonimmigrants may remain in the U.S. for a temporary period and are restricted to the activity consistent with their visas.
- Nonimmigrants are expected to depart the U.S. by the expiration of their status unless they have timely filed for an extension. There can be serious consequences for anyone who overstays his/her authorized period of admission.

Commonly used nonimmigrant visas:

B visitors; F-1 Students; J-1 Exchange Visitors; H-1B Specialty Workers; H-2B Seasonal Workers; K fiancés; L-1 Transferees; O-1 Extraordinary Ability; E-2 Treaty Investors

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