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THE WORLD FACTBOOK

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COUNTRY COMPARISON :: POPULATION

Population compares estimates from the US Bureau of the Census based on statistics from population censuses, vital statistics registration systems, or sample surveys pertaining to the recent past and on assumptions about future trends.

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RANK	COUNTRY	POPULATION	DATE OF INFORMATION
1	CHINA	1,373,541,278	JULY 2016 EST.
2	INDIA	1,266,883,598	JULY 2016 EST.
3	EUROPEAN UNION	513,949,445	JULY 2016 EST.
4	UNITED STATES	323,995,528	JULY 2016 EST.
5	INDONESIA	258,316,051	JULY 2016 EST.
6	BRAZIL	205,823,665	JULY 2016 EST.
7	PAKISTAN	201,995,540	JULY 2016 EST.
8	NIGERIA	186,053,386	JULY 2016 EST.
9	BANGLADESH	156,186,882	JULY 2016 EST.
10	RUSSIA	142,355,415	JULY 2016 EST.
11	JAPAN	126,702,133	JULY 2016 EST.
12	MEXICO	123,166,749	JULY 2016 EST.
13	PHILIPPINES	102,624,209	JULY 2016 EST.
14	ETHIOPIA	102,374,044	JULY 2016 EST.
15	VIETNAM	95,261,021	JULY 2016 EST.
		94,666,993	JULY 2016 EST.

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16	<u>EGYPT</u>		
17	<u>IRAN</u>	82,801,633	JULY 2016 EST.
18	<u>CONGO, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE</u>	81,331,050	JULY 2016 EST.
19	<u>GERMANY</u>	80,722,792	JULY 2016 EST.
20	<u>TURKEY</u>	80,274,604	JULY 2016 EST.
21	<u>THAILAND</u>	68,200,824	JULY 2016 EST.
22	<u>FRANCE</u>	66,836,154	JULY 2016 EST.
23	<u>UNITED KINGDOM</u>	64,430,428	JULY 2016 EST.
24	<u>ITALY</u>	62,007,540	JULY 2016 EST.
25	<u>BURMA</u>	56,890,418	JULY 2016 EST.
26	<u>SOUTH AFRICA</u>	54,300,704	JULY 2016 EST.
27	<u>TANZANIA</u>	52,482,726	JULY 2016 EST.
28	<u>KOREA, SOUTH</u>	50,924,172	JULY 2016 EST.
29	<u>SPAIN</u>	48,563,476	JULY 2016 EST.
30	<u>COLOMBIA</u>	47,220,856	JULY 2016 EST.
31	<u>KENYA</u>	46,790,758	JULY 2016 EST.
32	<u>UKRAINE</u>	44,209,733	JULY 2016 EST.
33	<u>ARGENTINA</u>	43,886,748	JULY 2016 EST.
34	<u>ALGERIA</u>	40,263,711	JULY 2016 EST.
35	<u>POLAND</u>	38,523,261	JULY 2016 EST.
36	<u>UGANDA</u>	38,319,241	JULY 2016 EST.
37	<u>IRAQ</u>	38,146,025	JULY 2016 EST.
38	<u>SUDAN</u>	36,729,501	JULY 2016 EST.
39	<u>CANADA</u>	35,362,905	JULY 2016 EST.
40	<u>MOROCCO</u>	33,655,786	JULY 2016 EST.
41	<u>AFGHANISTAN</u>	33,332,025	JULY 2016 EST.
42	<u>MALAYSIA</u>	30,949,962	JULY 2016 EST.
43	<u>VENEZUELA</u>	30,912,302	JULY 2016 EST.
44	<u>PERU</u>	30,741,062	JULY 2016 EST.
45	<u>UZBEKISTAN</u>	29,473,614	JULY 2016 EST.
		29,033,914	JULY 2016 EST.

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46	<u>NEPAL</u>		
47	<u>SAUDI ARABIA</u>	28,160,273	
48	<u>YEMEN</u>	27,392,779	JULY 2016 EST.
49	<u>GHANA</u>	26,908,262	JULY 2016 EST.
50	<u>MOZAMBIQUE</u>	25,930,150	JULY 2016 EST.
51	<u>KOREA, NORTH</u>	25,115,311	JULY 2016 EST.
52	<u>MADAGASCAR</u>	24,430,325	JULY 2016 EST.
53	<u>CAMEROON</u>	24,360,803	JULY 2016 EST.
54	<u>COTE D'IVOIRE</u>	23,740,424	JULY 2016 EST.
55	<u>TAIWAN</u>	23,464,787	JULY 2016 EST.
56	<u>AUSTRALIA</u>	22,992,654	JULY 2016 EST.
57	<u>SRI LANKA</u>	22,235,000	JULY 2016 EST.
58	<u>ROMANIA</u>	21,599,736	JULY 2016 EST.
59	<u>ANGOLA</u>	20,172,332	JULY 2016 EST.
60	<u>BURKINA FASO</u>	19,512,533	JULY 2016 EST.
61	<u>NIGER</u>	18,638,600	JULY 2016 EST.
62	<u>MALAWI</u>	18,570,321	JULY 2016 EST.
63	<u>KAZAKHSTAN</u>	18,360,353	JULY 2016 EST.
64	<u>CHILE</u>	17,650,114	JULY 2016 EST.
65	<u>MALI</u>	17,467,108	JULY 2016 EST.
66	<u>SYRIA</u>	17,185,170	
67	<u>NETHERLANDS</u>	17,016,967	JULY 2016 EST.
68	<u>ECUADOR</u>	16,080,778	JULY 2016 EST.
69	<u>CAMBODIA</u>	15,957,223	JULY 2016 EST.
70	<u>ZAMBIA</u>	15,510,711	JULY 2016 EST.
71	<u>GUATEMALA</u>	15,189,958	JULY 2016 EST.
72	<u>ZIMBABWE</u>	14,546,961	JULY 2016 EST.
73	<u>SENEGAL</u>	14,320,055	JULY 2016 EST.
74	<u>RWANDA</u>	12,988,423	JULY 2016 EST.
75	<u>SOUTH SUDAN</u>	12,530,717	JULY 2016 EST.
		12,093,349	JULY 2016 EST.

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76	<u>GUINEA</u>		
77	<u>CHAD</u>	11,852,462	JULY 2016 EST.
78	<u>BELGIUM</u>	11,409,077	JULY 2016 EST.
79	<u>CUBA</u>	11,179,995	JULY 2016 EST.
80	<u>TUNISIA</u>	11,134,588	JULY 2016 EST.
81	<u>BURUNDI</u>	11,099,298	JULY 2016 EST.
82	<u>BOLIVIA</u>	10,969,649	JULY 2016 EST.
83	<u>PORTUGAL</u>	10,833,816	JULY 2016 EST.
84	<u>SOMALIA</u>	10,817,354	JULY 2016 EST.
85	<u>GREECE</u>	10,773,253	JULY 2016 EST.
86	<u>BENIN</u>	10,741,458	JULY 2016 EST.
87	<u>CZECHIA</u>	10,644,842	JULY 2016 EST.
88	<u>DOMINICAN REPUBLIC</u>	10,606,865	JULY 2016 EST.
89	<u>HAITI</u>	10,485,800	JULY 2016 EST.
90	<u>SWEDEN</u>	9,880,604	JULY 2016 EST.
91	<u>HUNGARY</u>	9,874,784	JULY 2016 EST.
92	<u>AZERBAIJAN</u>	9,872,765	JULY 2016 EST.
93	<u>BELARUS</u>	9,570,376	JULY 2016 EST.
94	<u>HONDURAS</u>	8,893,259	JULY 2016 EST.
95	<u>AUSTRIA</u>	8,711,770	JULY 2016 EST.
96	<u>TAJIKISTAN</u>	8,330,946	JULY 2016 EST.
97	<u>JORDAN</u>	8,185,384	JULY 2016 EST.
98	<u>SWITZERLAND</u>	8,179,294	JULY 2016 EST.
99	<u>ISRAEL</u>	8,174,527	
100	<u>TOGO</u>	7,756,937	JULY 2016 EST.
101	<u>HONG KONG</u>	7,167,403	JULY 2016 EST.
102	<u>BULGARIA</u>	7,144,653	JULY 2016 EST.
103	<u>SERBIA</u>	7,143,921	JULY 2016 EST.
104	<u>LAOS</u>	7,019,073	JULY 2016 EST.
105	<u>PARAGUAY</u>	6,862,812	JULY 2016 EST.
		6,791,317	JULY 2016 EST.

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106	<u>PAPUA NEW GUINEA</u>		
107	<u>LIBYA</u>	6,541,948	JULY 2016 EST.
108	<u>LEBANON</u>	6,237,738	JULY 2016 EST.
109	<u>EL SALVADOR</u>	6,156,670	JULY 2016 EST.
110	<u>SIERRA LEONE</u>	6,018,888	JULY 2016 EST.
111	<u>NICARAGUA</u>	5,966,798	JULY 2016 EST.
112	<u>UNITED ARAB EMIRATES</u>	5,927,482	
113	<u>ERITREA</u>	5,869,869	JULY 2016 EST.
114	<u>SINGAPORE</u>	5,781,728	JULY 2016 EST.
115	<u>KYRGYZSTAN</u>	5,727,553	JULY 2016 EST.
116	<u>DENMARK</u>	5,593,785	JULY 2016 EST.
117	<u>CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC</u>	5,507,257	JULY 2016 EST.
118	<u>FINLAND</u>	5,498,211	JULY 2016 EST.
119	<u>SLOVAKIA</u>	5,445,802	JULY 2016 EST.
120	<u>TURKMENISTAN</u>	5,291,317	JULY 2016 EST.
121	<u>NORWAY</u>	5,265,158	JULY 2016 EST.
122	<u>IRELAND</u>	4,952,473	JULY 2016 EST.
123	<u>GEORGIA</u>	4,928,052	JULY 2016 EST.
124	<u>COSTA RICA</u>	4,872,543	JULY 2016 EST.
125	<u>CONGO, REPUBLIC OF THE</u>	4,852,412	JULY 2016 EST.
126	<u>NEW ZEALAND</u>	4,474,549	JULY 2016 EST.
127	<u>CROATIA</u>	4,313,707	JULY 2016 EST.
128	<u>LIBERIA</u>	4,299,944	JULY 2016 EST.
129	<u>BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA</u>	3,861,912	JULY 2016 EST.
130	<u>PANAMA</u>	3,705,246	JULY 2016 EST.
131	<u>MAURITANIA</u>	3,677,293	JULY 2016 EST.
132	<u>PUERTO RICO</u>	3,578,056	JULY 2016 EST.
133	<u>MOLDOVA</u>	3,510,485	JULY 2016 EST.
134	<u>OMAN</u>	3,355,262	
135	<u>URUGUAY</u>	3,351,016	JULY 2016 EST.
		3,051,250	JULY 2016 EST.

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136	<u>ARMENIA</u>		
137	<u>ALBANIA</u>	3,038,594	JULY 2016 EST.
138	<u>MONGOLIA</u>	3,031,330	JULY 2016 EST.
139	<u>JAMAICA</u>	2,970,340	JULY 2016 EST.
140	<u>LITHUANIA</u>	2,854,235	JULY 2016 EST.
141	<u>KUWAIT</u>	2,832,776	
142	<u>WEST BANK</u>	2,697,687	
143	<u>NAMIBIA</u>	2,436,469	JULY 2016 EST.
144	<u>QATAR</u>	2,258,283	JULY 2016 EST.
145	<u>BOTSWANA</u>	2,209,208	JULY 2016 EST.
146	<u>MACEDONIA</u>	2,100,025	JULY 2016 EST.
147	<u>GAMBIA, THE</u>	2,009,648	JULY 2016 EST.
148	<u>SLOVENIA</u>	1,978,029	JULY 2016 EST.
149	<u>LATVIA</u>	1,965,686	JULY 2016 EST.
150	<u>LESOTHO</u>	1,953,070	JULY 2016 EST.
151	<u>KOSOVO</u>	1,883,018	JULY 2016 EST.
152	<u>GUINEA-BISSAU</u>	1,759,159	JULY 2016 EST.
153	<u>GAZA STRIP</u>	1,753,327	JULY 2016 EST.
154	<u>GABON</u>	1,738,541	JULY 2016 EST.
155	<u>SWAZILAND</u>	1,451,428	JULY 2016 EST.
156	<u>BAHRAIN</u>	1,378,904	
157	<u>MAURITIUS</u>	1,348,242	JULY 2016 EST.
158	<u>TIMOR-LESTE</u>	1,261,072	JULY 2016 EST.
159	<u>ESTONIA</u>	1,258,545	JULY 2016 EST.
160	<u>TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO</u>	1,220,479	JULY 2016 EST.
161	<u>CYPRUS</u>	1,205,575	JULY 2016 EST.
162	<u>FIJI</u>	915,303	JULY 2016 EST.
163	<u>DJIBOUTI</u>	846,687	JULY 2016 EST.
164	<u>COMOROS</u>	794,678	JULY 2016 EST.
165	<u>EQUATORIAL GUINEA</u>	759,451	JULY 2016 EST.
		750,125	JULY 2016 EST.

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166	<u>BHUTAN</u>		
167	<u>GUYANA</u>	735,909	JULY 2016 EST.
168	<u>MONTENEGRO</u>	644,578	JULY 2016 EST.
169	<u>SOLOMON ISLANDS</u>	635,027	JULY 2016 EST.
170	<u>MACAU</u>	597,425	JULY 2016 EST.
171	<u>WESTERN SAHARA</u>	587,020	JULY 2016 EST.
172	<u>SURINAME</u>	585,824	JULY 2016 EST.
173	<u>LUXEMBOURG</u>	582,291	JULY 2016 EST.
174	<u>CABO VERDE</u>	553,432	JULY 2016 EST.
175	<u>BRUNEI</u>	436,620	JULY 2016 EST.
176	<u>MALTA</u>	415,196	JULY 2016 EST.
177	<u>MALDIVES</u>	392,960	JULY 2016 EST.
178	<u>BELIZE</u>	353,858	JULY 2016 EST.
179	<u>ICELAND</u>	335,878	JULY 2016 EST.
180	<u>BAHAMAS, THE</u>	327,316	JULY 2016 EST.
181	<u>BARBADOS</u>	291,495	JULY 2016 EST.
182	<u>FRENCH POLYNESIA</u>	285,321	JULY 2016 EST.
183	<u>VANUATU</u>	277,554	JULY 2016 EST.
184	<u>NEW CALEDONIA</u>	275,355	JULY 2016 EST.
185	<u>SAMOA</u>	198,926	JULY 2016 EST.
186	<u>SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE</u>	197,541	JULY 2016 EST.
187	<u>SAINT LUCIA</u>	164,464	JULY 2016 EST.
188	<u>GUAM</u>	162,742	JULY 2016 EST.
189	<u>CURACAO</u>	149,035	JULY 2016 EST.
190	<u>ARUBA</u>	113,648	JULY 2016 EST.
191	<u>GRENADA</u>	111,219	JULY 2016 EST.
192	<u>KIRIBATI</u>	106,925	JULY 2016 EST.
193	<u>TONGA</u>	106,513	JULY 2016 EST.
194	<u>MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF</u>	104,719	JULY 2016 EST.
195	<u>VIRGIN ISLANDS</u>	102,951	JULY 2016 EST.
		102,350	JULY 2016 EST.

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196	<u>SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES</u>		
197	<u>JERSEY</u>	98,069	JULY 2016 EST.
198	<u>ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA</u>	93,581	JULY 2016 EST.
199	<u>SEYCHELLES</u>	93,186	JULY 2016 EST.
200	<u>ISLE OF MAN</u>	88,195	JULY 2016 EST.
201	<u>ANDORRA</u>	85,660	JULY 2016 EST.
202	<u>DOMINICA</u>	73,757	JULY 2016 EST.
203	<u>MARSHALL ISLANDS</u>	73,376	JULY 2016 EST.
204	<u>BERMUDA</u>	70,537	JULY 2016 EST.
205	<u>GUERNSEY</u>	66,297	JULY 2016 EST.
206	<u>GREENLAND</u>	57,728	JULY 2016 EST.
207	<u>CAYMAN ISLANDS</u>	57,268	JULY 2016 EST.
208	<u>AMERICAN SAMOA</u>	54,194	JULY 2016 EST.
209	<u>NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS</u>	53,467	JULY 2016 EST.
210	<u>SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS</u>	52,329	JULY 2016 EST.
211	<u>TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS</u>	51,430	JULY 2016 EST.
212	<u>FAROE ISLANDS</u>	50,456	JULY 2016 EST.
213	<u>SINT MAARTEN</u>	41,486	2015 EST.
214	<u>LIECHTENSTEIN</u>	37,937	JULY 2016 EST.
215	<u>BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS</u>	34,232	JULY 2016 EST.
216	<u>SAN MARINO</u>	33,285	JULY 2016 EST.
217	<u>SAINT MARTIN</u>	31,949	JULY 2016 EST.
218	<u>MONACO</u>	30,581	
219	<u>GIBRALTAR</u>	29,328	JULY 2016 EST.
220	<u>PALAU</u>	21,347	JULY 2016 EST.
221	<u>ANGUILLA</u>	16,752	JULY 2016 EST.
222	<u>WALLIS AND FUTUNA</u>	15,664	JULY 2016 EST.
223	<u>TUVALU</u>	10,959	JULY 2016 EST.
224	<u>NAURU</u>	9,591	JULY 2016 EST.
225	<u>COOK ISLANDS</u>	9,556	
		7,795	JULY 2016 EST.

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226	<u>SAINT HELENA, ASCENSION, AND TRISTAN DA CUNHA</u>		
227	<u>SAINT BARTHELEMY</u>	7,209	JULY 2016 EST.
228	<u>SAINT PIERRE AND MIQUELON</u>	5,595	JULY 2016 EST.
229	<u>MONTSERRAT</u>	5,267	JULY 2016 EST.
230	<u>FALKLAND ISLANDS (ISLAS MALVINAS)</u>	2,931	2014 EST.
231	<u>NORFOLK ISLAND</u>	2,210	JULY 2014 EST.
232	<u>CHRISTMAS ISLAND</u>	2,205	JULY 2016 EST.
233	<u>SVALBARD</u>	1,872	JULY 2014 EST.
234	<u>TOKELAU</u>	1,337	JULY 2014 EST.
235	<u>NIUE</u>	1,190	JULY 2014 EST.
236	<u>HOLY SEE (VATICAN CITY)</u>	1,000	2015 EST.
237	<u>COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS</u>	596	JULY 2014 EST.
238	<u>PITCAIRN ISLANDS</u>	54	JULY 2016 EST.

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THE WORLD FACTBOOK

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FIELD LISTING :: CITIZENSHIP

COUNTRY	PIPELINES
<u>Afghanistan</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must have been born in - and continuously lived in - Afghanistan dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>Albania</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Albania dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>Algeria</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: the mother must be a citizen of Algeria dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years
<u>American Samoa</u>	see United States
<u>Andorra</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: the mother must be an Andorran citizen or the father must have been born in Andorra and both parents maintain permanent residence in Andorra dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 25 years
<u>Angola</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Angola dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years
<u>Anguilla</u>	see United Kingdom
<u>Antigua and Barbuda</u>	citizenship by birth: yes citizenship by descent: yes dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years
<u>Argentina</u>	citizenship by birth: yes citizenship by descent: yes

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dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 2 years

Armenia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Armenia
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 3 years

Aruba

see the Netherlands

Ashmore and Cartier Islands

see Australia

Australia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen or permanent resident of Australia
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 4 years

Austria

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Austria
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

Azerbaijan

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: yes
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Bahamas, The

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of The Bahamas
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 6-9 years

Bahrain

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Bahrain
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 25 years; 15 years for Arab nationals

Bangladesh

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Bangladesh
dual citizenship recognized: yes, but limited to select countries
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Barbados

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: yes
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Belarus

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Belarus
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years

Belgium

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Belgium
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Belize

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: yes
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Benin

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Benin
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

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<u>Bermuda</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of the UK dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years
<u>Bhutan</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Bhutan dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years
<u>Bolivia</u>	citizenship by birth: yes citizenship by descent: yes dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 3 years
<u>Bosnia and Herzegovina</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Bosnia and Herzegovina dual citizenship recognized: yes, provided there is a bilateral agreement with the other state residency requirement for naturalization: 8 years
<u>Botswana</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Botswana dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years
<u>Brazil</u>	citizenship by birth: yes citizenship by descent: yes dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 4 years
<u>British Virgin Islands</u>	see United Kingdom
<u>Brunei</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Brunei dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 12 years
<u>Bulgaria</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Bulgaria dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>Burkina Faso</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Burkina Faso dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years
<u>Burma</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: both parents must be citizens of Burma dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: none note: an applicant for naturalization must be the child or spouse of a citizen
<u>Burundi</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Burundi dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years
<u>Cabo Verde</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Cabo Verde dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>Cambodia</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Cambodia dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years

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<u>Cameroon</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Cameroon</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>Canada</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: yes</p> <p>citizenship by descent: yes</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 3 years</p>
<u>Cayman Islands</u>	see United Kingdom
<u>Central African Republic</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: least one parent must be a citizen of the Central African Republic</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 35 years</p>
<u>Chad</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: both parents must be citizens of Chad</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: Chadian law does not address dual citizenship</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 15 years</p>
<u>Chile</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: yes</p> <p>citizenship by descent: yes</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>China</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: least one parent must be a citizen of China</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: while naturalization is theoretically possible, in practical terms it is extremely difficult; residency is required but not specified</p>
<u>Christmas Island</u>	see Australia
<u>Cocos (Keeling) Islands</u>	see Australia
<u>Colombia</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: least one parent must be a citizen or permanent resident of Colombia</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>Comoros</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of the Comoros</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years</p>
<u>Congo, Democratic Republic of the</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of the Democratic Republic of the Congo</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>Congo, Republic of the</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of the Republic of the Congo</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years</p>
<u>Coral Sea Islands</u>	see Australia
<u>Costa Rica</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: yes</p> <p>citizenship by descent: yes</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years</p>
<u>Cote d'Ivoire</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Cote d'Ivoire</p>

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dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Croatia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Croatia
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Cuba

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: yes
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: unknown

Curacao

see the Netherlands

Cyprus

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Cyprus
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years

Czechia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of the Czech Republic
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Denmark

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Denmark
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years

Djibouti

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: the mother must be a citizen of Djibouti
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

Dominica

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: yes
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Dominican Republic

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of the Dominican Republic
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 2 years

Ecuador

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: yes
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 3 years

Egypt

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: if the father was born in Egypt
dual citizenship recognized: only with prior permission from the government
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

El Salvador

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: yes
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Equatorial Guinea

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Equatorial Guinea
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

Eritrea

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Eritrea
dual citizenship recognized: no

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residency requirement for naturalization: 20 years

Estonia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Estonia
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Ethiopia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Ethiopia
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 4 years

Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)

see United Kingdom

Faroe Islands

see Denmark

Fiji

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Fiji
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Finland

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Finland
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 6 years

France

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of France
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

French Polynesia

see France

French Southern and Antarctic Lands

see France

Gabon

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Gabon
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

Gambia, The

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: yes
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Georgia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Georgia
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

Germany

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a German citizen or a resident alien who has lived in Germany at least 8 years
dual citizenship recognized: yes, but requires prior permission from government
residency requirement for naturalization: 8 years

Ghana

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent or grandparent must be a citizen of Ghana
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Gibraltar

see United Kingdom

Greece

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Greece
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

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<u>Greenland</u>	see Denmark
<u>Grenada</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: yes</p> <p>citizenship by descent: yes</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years for persons from a non-Caribbean state and 4 years for a person from a Caribbean state</p>
<u>Guam</u>	see United States
<u>Guatemala</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: yes</p> <p>citizenship by descent: yes</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years with no absences of six consecutive months or longer or absences totaling more than a year</p>
<u>Guernsey</u>	see United Kingdom
<u>Guinea-Bissau</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: yes</p> <p>citizenship by descent: yes</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>Guinea</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Guinea</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: na</p>
<u>Guyana</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: yes</p> <p>citizenship by descent: yes</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: na</p>
<u>Haiti</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a native-born citizen of Haiti</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>Holy See (Vatican City)</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent: no</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: not applicable</p> <p>note: in the Holy See, citizenship is acquired by law, ex iure, or by administrative decision; in the first instance citizenship is a function of holding office within the Holy See as in the case of cardinals resident in Vatican City or diplomats of the Holy See; in the second instance, citizenship may be requested in a limited set of circumstances for those who reside within Vatican City under papal authorization, as a function of their office or service, or as the spouses and children of current citizens; citizenship is lost once an individual no longer permanently resides in Vatican City, normally reverting to the citizenship previously held</p>
<u>Honduras</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: yes</p> <p>citizenship by descent: yes</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 1 to 3 years</p>
<u>Hong Kong</u>	see China
<u>Hungary</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Hungary</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 8 years</p>
<u>Iceland</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Iceland</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 3 to 7 years</p>
<u>India</u>	

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citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of India
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Indonesia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Indonesia
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 continuous years

Iran

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Iran
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Iraq

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Iraq
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

Ireland

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: yes
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 4 of the previous 8 years

Isle of Man

see United Kingdom

Israel

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Israel
dual citizenship recognized: yes, but naturalized citizens are not allowed to maintain dual citizenship
residency requirement for naturalization: 3 out of the 5 years preceding the application for naturalization
note: Israeli law (Law of Return, 5 July 1950) provides for the granting of citizenship to any Jew - defined as a person being born to a Jewish mother or having converted to Judaism while renouncing any other religion - who immigrates to and expresses a desire to settle in Israel on the basis of the Right of aliyah; the 1970 amendment of this act extended the right to family members including the spouse of a Jew, any child or grandchild, and the spouses of children and grandchildren

Italy

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Italy
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 4 years for EU nationals, 5 years for refugees and specified exceptions, 10 years for all others

Jamaica

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: yes
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 4 out of the previous 5 years

Japan

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Japan
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Jersey

see United Kingdom

Jordan

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Jordan
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 15 years

Kazakhstan

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Kazakhstan
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

<u>Kenya</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Kenya dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 4 out of the previous 7 years
<u>Kiribati</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a native-born citizen of Kiribati dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years
<u>Korea, North</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of North Korea dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: unknown
<u>Korea, South</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of South Korea dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>Kosovo</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Kosovo dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>Kuwait</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Kuwait dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: not specified
<u>Kyrgyzstan</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Kyrgyzstan dual citizenship recognized: yes, but only if a mutual treaty on dual citizenship is in force residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>Laos</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Laos dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years
<u>Latvia</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Latvia dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>Lebanon</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Lebanon dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: unknown
<u>Lesotho</u>	citizenship by birth: yes citizenship by descent: yes dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>Liberia</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Liberia dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 2 years
<u>Libya</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent or grandparent must be a citizen of Libya dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: varies from 3 to 5 years
<u>Liechtenstein</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Liechtenstein; in the case of a child

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born out of wedlock, the mother must be a citizen
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Lithuania

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Lithuania
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

Luxembourg

citizenship by birth: limited to situations where the parents are either unknown, stateless, or when the nationality law of the parents' state of origin does not permit acquisition of citizenship by descent when the birth occurs outside of national territory
citizenship by descent: at least one parent must be a citizen of Luxembourg
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years

Macau

see China

Macedonia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Macedonia
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 8 years

Madagascar

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Madagascar; in the case of a child born out of wedlock, the mother must be a citizen
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: unknown

Malawi

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Malawi
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years

Malaysia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Malaysia
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 out 12 years preceding application

Maldives

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of the Maldives
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: unknown

Mali

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Mali
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Malta

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Malta
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Marshall Islands

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of the Marshall Islands
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Mauritania

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Mauritania
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Mauritius

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: yes
dual citizenship recognized: yes

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residency requirement for naturalization: 5 out of the previous 7 years including the last 12 months

<u>Mexico</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: yes</p> <p>citizenship by descent: yes</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: not specified</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>Micronesia, Federated States of</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of FSM</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>Midway Islands</u>	see United States
<u>Moldova</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Moldova</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years</p>
<u>Monaco</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Monaco; in the case of a child born out of wedlock, the mother must be a citizen and father unknown</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years</p>
<u>Mongolia</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: both parents must be citizens of Mongolia; one parent if born within Mongolia</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>Montenegro</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Montenegro</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years</p>
<u>Montserrat</u>	see United Kingdom
<u>Morocco</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Morocco; if the father is unknown or stateless, the mother must be a citizen</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>Mozambique</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Mozambique</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>Namibia</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Namibia</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>Nepal</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: yes</p> <p>citizenship by descent: yes</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 15 years</p>
<u>Netherlands</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of the Netherlands</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>New Caledonia</u>	see France
<u>New Zealand</u>	citizenship by birth: no

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citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of New Zealand
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 3 years

Nicaragua

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: yes
dual citizenship recognized: no, except in cases where bilateral agreements exist
residency requirement for naturalization: 4 years

Nigeria

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Nigeria
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 15 years

Niger

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Niger
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: unknown

Norfolk Island

see Australia

Northern Mariana Islands

see United States

Norway

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Norway
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years

Oman

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Oman
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: unknown

Pakistan

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: at least one parent must be a citizen of Pakistan
dual citizenship recognized: yes, but limited to select countries
residency requirement for naturalization: 4 out of the previous 7 years and including the 12 months preceding application

Palau

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Palau
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: note - no procedure for naturalization

Panama

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: yes
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Papua New Guinea

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Papua New Guinea
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 8 years

Paraguay

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: at least one parent must be a native-born citizen of Paraguay
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 3 years

Peru

citizenship by birth: yes
citizenship by descent: yes
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 2 years

Philippines

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of the Philippines
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

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<u>Pitcairn Islands</u>	see United Kingdom
<u>Poland</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: both parents must be citizens of Poland</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>Portugal</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Portugal</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years; 6 years if from a Portuguese speaking country</p>
<u>Puerto Rico</u>	see United States
<u>Qatar</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Qatar</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 20 years; 15 years if an Arab national</p>
<u>Romania</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Romania</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>Russia</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Russia</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 3-5 years</p>
<u>Rwanda</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Rwanda; if the father is stateless or unknown, the mother must be a citizen</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years</p>
<u>Saint Barthelemy</u>	see France
<u>Saint Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha</u>	see United Kingdom
<u>Saint Kitts and Nevis</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: yes</p> <p>citizenship by descent: yes</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 14 years</p>
<u>Saint Lucia</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: yes</p> <p>citizenship by descent: at least one parent must be a citizen of Saint Lucia</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 8 years</p>
<u>Saint Martin</u>	see France
<u>Saint Pierre and Miquelon</u>	see France
<u>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: yes</p> <p>citizenship by descent: at least one parent must be a citizen of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: yes</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years</p>
<u>Samoa</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Samoa</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years</p>
<u>San Marino</u>	<p>citizenship by birth: no</p> <p>citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of San Marino</p> <p>dual citizenship recognized: no</p> <p>residency requirement for naturalization: 30 years</p>

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Sao Tome and Principe

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Sao Tome and Principe
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Saudi Arabia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Saudi Arabia; a child born out of wedlock in Saudi Arabia to a Saudi mother and unknown father
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Senegal

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Senegal
dual citizenship recognized: no, but Senegalese citizens do not automatically lose their citizenship if they acquire citizenship in another state
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Serbia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Serbia
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 3 years

Seychelles

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of the Seychelles
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Sierra Leone

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent or grandparent must be a citizen of Sierra Leone
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Singapore

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Singapore
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

Sint Maarten

see the Netherlands

Slovakia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Slovakia
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Slovenia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Slovenia; both parents if the child is born outside of Slovenia
dual citizenship recognized: yes, for select cases
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years, the last 5 of which have been continuous

Solomon Islands

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of the Solomon Islands
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years

Somalia

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Somalia
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years

South Africa

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of South Africa
dual citizenship recognized: yes, but requires prior permission of the government
residency requirement for naturalization: 1 year

South Sudan

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of South Sudan

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dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

Spain

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Spain
dual citizenship recognized: only with select Latin American countries
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years for persons with no ties to Spain

Sri Lanka

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Sri Lanka
dual citizenship recognized: no, except in cases where the government rules it is to the benefit of Sri Lanka
residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years

Sudan

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Sudan
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

Suriname

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Suriname
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Svalbard

see Norway

Swaziland

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: both parents must be citizens of Swaziland
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Sweden

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Sweden; in the case of a child born out of wedlock, the mother must be a citizen of Sweden and the father unknown
dual citizenship recognized: no, unless the other citizenship was acquired involuntarily
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Switzerland

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Switzerland
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 12 years including at least 3 of the last 5 years prior to application

Syria

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Syria; if the father is unknown or stateless, the mother must be a citizen of Syria
dual citizenship recognized: yes
residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

Taiwan

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Taiwan
dual citizenship recognized: yes, except that citizens of Taiwan are not recognized as dual citizens of the People's Republic of China
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Tajikistan

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Tajikistan
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years or 3 years of continuous residence prior to application

Tanzania

citizenship by birth: no
citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Tanzania; if a child is born abroad, the father must be a citizen of Tanzania
dual citizenship recognized: no
residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

<u>Thailand</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Thailand dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>Timor-Leste</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Timor-Leste dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years
<u>Togo</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Togo dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>Tokelau</u>	see New Zealand
<u>Tonga</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Tonga; if a child is born out of wedlock, the mother must be a citizen of Tonga dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>Trinidad and Tobago</u>	citizenship by birth: yes citizenship by descent: yes dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 8 years
<u>Tunisia</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Tunisia dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>Turkey</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Turkey dual citizenship recognized: yes, but requires prior permission from the government residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>Turkmenistan</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Turkmenistan dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: 7 years
<u>Turks and Caicos Islands</u>	see United Kingdom
<u>Tuvalu</u>	citizenship by birth: yes citizenship by descent: yes; for a child born abroad, at least one parent must be a citizen of Tuvalu dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: na
<u>Uganda</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent or grandparent must be a native-born citizen of Uganda dual citizenship recognized: yes residency requirement for naturalization: an aggregate of 20 years and continuously for the last 2 years prior to applying for citizenship
<u>Ukraine</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Ukraine dual citizenship recognized: no residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years
<u>United Arab Emirates</u>	citizenship by birth: no citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of the United Arab Emirates; if the father is unknown, the mother must be a citizen dual citizenship recognized: no

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residency requirement for naturalization: 30 years

United Kingdom

citizenship by birth: no

citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of the United Kingdom

dual citizenship recognized: yes

residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

United States

citizenship by birth: yes

citizenship by descent: yes

dual citizenship recognized: no, but the US government acknowledges such situations exist; US citizens are not encouraged to seek dual citizenship since it limits protection by the US

residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Uruguay

citizenship by birth: yes

citizenship by descent: yes

dual citizenship recognized: yes

residency requirement for naturalization: 3-5 years

Uzbekistan

citizenship by birth: no

citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Uzbekistan

dual citizenship recognized: no

residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Vanuatu

citizenship by birth: no

citizenship by descent only: both parents must be citizens of Vanuatu; in the case of only one parent, it must be the father who is a citizen

dual citizenship recognized: no

residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

Venezuela

citizenship by birth: yes

citizenship by descent: yes

dual citizenship recognized: no

residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Vietnam

citizenship by birth: no

citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Vietnam

dual citizenship recognized: no

residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

Virgin Islands

see United States

Wake Island

see United States

Wallis and Futuna

see France

Yemen

citizenship by birth: no

citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Yemen; if the father is unknown, the mother must be a citizen

dual citizenship recognized: no

residency requirement for naturalization: 10 years

Zambia

citizenship by birth: only if at least one parent is a citizen of Zambia

citizenship by descent: yes, if at least one parent was a citizen of Zambia

dual citizenship recognized: yes

residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years for those with an ancestor who was a citizen of Zambia, otherwise 10 years residency is required

Zimbabwe

citizenship by birth: no

citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Zimbabwe; in the case of a child born out of wedlock, the mother must be a citizen

dual citizenship recognized: no

residency requirement for naturalization: 5 years

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What is the Visa Waiver Program (VWP)?

The VWP permits citizens of 38 countries to travel to the United States for business or tourism for stays of up to 90 days without a visa. In return, those 38 countries must permit U.S. citizens and nationals to travel to their countries for a similar length of time without a visa for business or tourism purposes.

Since its inception in 1986, the VWP has evolved into a comprehensive security partnership with many of America's closest allies. The VWP, administered by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS),

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in consultation with the State Department, utilizes a risk-based, multi-layered approach to detect and prevent terrorists, serious criminals, and other *mala fide* actors from traveling to the United States. This approach incorporates regular, national-level risk assessments concerning the impact of each program country's participation in the VWP on U.S. national security and law enforcement interests. It also includes comprehensive vetting of individual VWP travelers prior to their departure for the United States, upon arrival at U.S. ports of entry, and during any subsequent air travel within the United States, among other things.

How does VWP travel work? What is the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA)?

All prospective VWP travelers must obtain pre-travel authorization via U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) ESTA system prior to boarding a plane or ship bound for the United States.

ESTA applications are available on CBP's website: <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta/>. ESTA is used to determine eligibility to travel without a visa to the United States under the VWP. Travelers who do not receive an approved ESTA must apply for a visa at the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate prior to travel to the United States. Although an approved ESTA is generally valid for a period of two years, travelers should check their ESTA status on CBP's website prior to travel.

What is the Visa Waiver Program Improvement and Terrorist Travel Prevention Act of 2015? Why is it necessary to once again expand the amount of ESTA information being collected from VWP travelers?

DHS remains concerned about the risks posed by the situation in Syria and Iraq, where instability has attracted thousands of foreign fighters, including many from VWP countries. Such individuals could travel to the United States for operational purposes on their own or at the behest of violent extremist groups.

The U.S. Congress shares this concern, and on December 18, 2015, the President signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2016, which includes the Visa Waiver Program Improvement and Terrorist Travel Prevention Act of 2015 (the Act). The Act, among other things, establishes new eligibility requirements for travel under the VWP. These new eligibility requirements do not bar travel to the United States. Instead, a traveler who does not meet the requirements must obtain a visa for travel to the United States, which generally includes an in-person interview at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

DHS has updated the ESTA application with additional questions to address the new eligibility requirements under the Act.

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What are the new eligibility requirements for VWP travel?

Under the Act, travelers in the following categories are no longer eligible to travel or be admitted to the United States under the VWP:

- Nationals of VWP countries who have been present in Iraq, Syria, or countries listed under specified designation lists (currently including Iran and Sudan) at any time on or after March 1, 2011 (with limited government/military exceptions).
- Nationals of VWP countries who have been present in Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, at any time on or after March 1, 2011 (with limited government/military exceptions).

These restrictions do not apply to VWP travelers whose presence in Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia, or Yemen was to perform military service in the armed forces of a program country, or in order to carry out official duties as a full-time employee of the government of a program country. We recommend those who have traveled to the seven countries listed above for military/official purposes bring with them appropriate documentation when traveling through a U.S. port of entry.

The vast majority of VWP-eligible travelers will not be affected by the new Act. New countries may be added to this list at the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security.

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Are there any exceptions to the new eligibility requirements?

Yes, the Act provides for limited exceptions to the restriction relating to prior travel to/physical presence in Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia, or Yemen. If you have traveled to Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia, or Yemen to represent your program country on official military orders or official government business, you may fall within an established exception to the new eligibility requirements.

I am a scientist or researcher who has traveled to one of the restricted countries listed here as a part of my official work, what do I do?

Based on the circumstances surrounding your travel, you may fall within an established exception to the new eligibility requirements if you were a representative of an international organization, working on behalf of a humanitarian NGO, performed official work as a government employee of a Visa Waiver Program country, have traveled to Iran for legitimate business-related purposes, or your work was related to other official reasons for travel. You must carefully review the options available in the ESTA application to determine which situation applies to you and then select the appropriate information to be considered for a waiver.

What do I do if I fall under one of the VWP travel restrictions under the new Act?

The restrictions do not bar travel to the United States, but they do require a traveler covered by the restrictions in the law to obtain a visa from a U.S. Embassy or Consulate. Most U.S. Embassies and Consulates in VWP partner countries and worldwide have short wait times for visa interviews. Please visit travel.state.gov for general visa information or usembassy.gov to find the website of the Embassy that has jurisdiction over your residence.

If you are applying for a nonimmigrant visa after ESTA denial or revocation as a result of the new Act, and have imminent business, medical, or humanitarian travel to the United States you may request an expedited visa appointment.

Visas have some advantages over the ESTA, including validity for up to 10 years versus a general two years for ESTA, and the option to stay in the United States for up to six months at a time, as opposed to up to 90 days under the VWP. Visa travelers generally may also extend their stay beyond six months or seek to change to a different visa class while in the United States, neither of which is allowed under the VWP.

What additional questions were added to the ESTA application in February 2016?

The additional/modified questions were:

- Have you traveled to, or been present in, Iraq, Syria, Iran, or Sudan on or after March 1, 2011?
- Have you ever been issued a passport (or national identity card for travel) by any other country?
- Are you now a citizen or national of any other country?
- Have you ever been a citizen or national of any other country?

Based on responses to the above questions, ESTA applicants may be directed to answer additional questions concerning travel to Iraq, Syria, Iran, and Sudan and potential dual nationality.

What are the new eligibility requirements for Visa Waiver Program (VWP) travel that will be added to the ESTA application in June 2016?

Under the Visa Waiver Program Improvement and Terrorist Travel Prevention Act of 2015 (the Act), and DHS's implementation of it, nationals of VWP countries who have traveled to, or been present in, Libya, Somalia, or Yemen on or after March 1, 2011, are no longer eligible for travel or admission to the United States under the VWP.

This restriction does not apply to VWP travelers whose presence in Libya, Somalia, or Yemen was to perform military service in the armed forces of a program

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country, or in order to carry out official duties as a full-time employee of the government of a program country. We recommend those who have traveled to the three countries listed above for military/official purposes bring with them appropriate documentation when traveling through a U.S. port of entry.

The vast majority of VWP-eligible travelers will not be affected by these additional restrictions made under the Act.

What are the additional questions being added to the ESTA application in June 2016?

The additional/modified questions are:

- Have you traveled to, or been present in, Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia, or Yemen on or after March 1, 2011?
- CBP Global Entry program number, if applicable.

Are there other countries that I have traveled to that might impact VWP travel?

Yes, on February 18, 2016, DHS announced that it is continuing its implementation of the Act with the addition of Libya, Somalia, and Yemen as three countries of concern, limiting VWP travel for certain individuals who have traveled to these countries. DHS continues to consult with the Department of State and the Office of the Director of National

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Intelligence to determine whether other countries would be added to this list.

Do I have to answer the new questions if the provisions of the new Act do not apply to me?

Yes, all ESTA applicants must complete the entire ESTA application.

Is there a mechanism to inform all current ESTA holders (not just those who have previously indicated holding dual nationality) of the new requirements to prevent misunderstandings and complications?

CBP continues to engage with the Departments of State and Commerce in outreach. CBP and the Department of State also post new information and frequently asked questions on their websites, www.cbp.gov and travel.state.gov.

We strongly urge all travelers to acquire an ESTA authorization or a valid U.S. visa prior to making travel reservations. If you are concerned about your ESTA status, please go to <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov> to verify. All travelers should verify their ESTA status prior to traveling.

Are there any waivers to the new eligibility requirements?

Yes, under the new Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security may waive these new travel-related VWP restrictions if he determines that such a waiver is in the law enforcement or national security interests of the United States. Such waivers will be granted only on a case-by-case basis. As a general matter, categories of travelers who may be eligible for a waiver include:

- Individuals who have traveled to Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, on behalf of international organizations, regional organizations, or sub-national governments on official duty;
- Individuals who have traveled to Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, on behalf of a humanitarian non-governmental organizations (NGO);
- Individuals who have traveled to Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, as a for reporting purposes;
- Individuals who traveled to Iran for legitimate business-related purposes following the conclusion of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (July 14, 2015);
- Individuals who have traveled to Iraq for legitimate business-related purposes; and
- Individuals who have traveled to Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia, or Yemen who maintain current Global Entry program membership.

How do I obtain a waiver if I think I am eligible for one? How do I obtain a waiver if my ESTA is denied or revoked?

You do not apply separately for a waiver. Travelers can apply for an ESTA and whether they are eligible for a waiver will be determined on a case-by-case basis as part of the ESTA process, consistent with the terms of the law.

If you wish to travel to the United States and if your ESTA is denied or revoked, you must apply for a nonimmigrant visa at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate to travel to the United States. If you are applying for a nonimmigrant visa after ESTA denial or revocation as a result of the new Act, and have imminent business, medical, or humanitarian travel to the United States you may request an expedited visa appointment. We suggest that you retain a copy of any ESTA denial or revocation; it may be requested in order to schedule an expedited appointment.

How will the public be notified of ESTA changes?

All changes to the ESTA process will be announced on CBP's website, www.cbp.gov. Please keep up to date via the website for all ESTA changes. Travelers whose ESTA status has changed as a result of these new eligibility requirements will be notified via the email addressed provided in the applicant's ESTA application. We strongly encourage all travelers to verify their ESTA status and update appropriate contact information prior to traveling to the United States.

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Additionally, all changes to the ESTA form go through notice (in the Federal Register) and public comment under the Paperwork Reduction Act and are available on reginfo.gov under OMB Control Number 1651-0111. The public is invited to provide CBP with feedback during the public comment periods that accompany each change to the form.

Will everyone—including those with no ties to Iraq, Syria, Iran, or Sudan, or no prior travel to Libya, Somalia, or Yemen—have to reapply and update their ESTA applications?

No. If you are not covered by the new eligibility requirements of the Act and you have not had your ESTA revoked, you do not have to reapply for a new ESTA authorization until your current one expires. CBP recommends that you check the status of your ESTA authorization prior to making a reservation to travel to the United States and prior to your actual travel.

However, if you have traveled to one of the seven countries covered by the new eligibility requirements on or after March 1, 2011, CBP recommends that you do apply for a new ESTA authorization to help facilitate your travel to the United States, or apply for a visa.

How is “dual citizen” or “dual national” defined? What if I was

born in a country, but never lived there and do not consider myself a national or citizen?

We will make nationality determinations in accordance with U.S. legal standards and practices, not merely by reference to the laws and practices of foreign governments. If an individual believes that he or she is eligible for an ESTA travel authorization, the individual should apply for an ESTA, answer all questions truthfully and accurately, and that individual's eligibility for an ESTA authorization will be determined in accordance with U.S. law. If you have any questions, please contact CBP at 1-202-344-3710.

What qualifies as a subnational government/entity?

Subnational governments are state, regional or provincial counties, territories, and other intermediate levels of government.

How is "international (multilateral or intergovernmental)" organization or "regional (multilateral or intergovernmental)" organization defined?

An international (multilateral or intergovernmental) organization is an organization formed pursuant to a multilateral act, such as a treaty, the

membership of which is composed primarily of sovereign or member states or other intergovernmental organizations. An international organization can be global or regional in nature. Examples of such organizations in this context include the United Nations, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Monetary Fund, and the European Union.

How is a government official defined?

A government official is an individual performing official duties or services for the government of a VWP country.

Will guidance be provided as to what documents are necessary to prove an individual falls under an exception (military/official) from the new Act?

During the admissions process, CBP will review any documents presented at a port of entry that demonstrate a VWP traveler meets the official government or military exceptions under the new Act. Travelers are recommended to bring certain documentation with them when they travel to the United States, including but not limited to, travel orders, official or diplomatic visas, or an official letter from a VWP country government entity, if available. Travelers may also be asked

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questions about their travel during the admissions process.

What is the Global Entry Program?

Global Entry is a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) program (separate from ESTA) that allows expedited clearance for pre-approved, low-risk travelers upon arrival in the United States. Members enter the United States through automatic kiosks at select airports.

Travelers can apply for Global Entry at www.cbp.gov/travel/trusted-traveler-programs/global-entry.

How will CBP use my Global Entry information?

Travelers who are members of CBP's Global Entry program have been extensively vetted by CBP. If an applicant is a Global Entry member, he/she has already voluntarily given CBP additional information including their fingerprints, photograph, travel history, as well as had an interview by a CBP Officer. That additional information may be helpful in adjudicating their application for an ESTA.

Will the ESTA fee increase with

these changes to the application?

There is no plan to increase the ESTA fee when the changes take effect. However, travelers who apply for a new ESTA through the enhanced system will be charged the standard ESTA fee.

Will there be fee waivers for those whose ESTAs were denied/revoked and now have to apply for a nonimmigrant visa?

No. DHS does not have the legal authority to waive the ESTA fee. The fee is a processing fee per application. Travelers who apply for visas will be required to pay the associated visa processing fee.

How will the new information collected be used?

DHS will handle the new information in the same manner as other information collected through ESTA and will document these procedures in the System of Record Notice (SORN) and Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA). As before, DHS will screen intending VWP travelers to determine their eligibility to travel to the United States under the VWP. The additional questions will be used to help DHS determine whether applicants are eligible for travel and admission to the United States under the VWP.

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Will DHS share the new ESTA information outside of DHS?

The information collected by and maintained in ESTA may be used by other components of DHS on a strictly need-to-know basis consistent with the component's mission.

Under current agreements between DHS and DOS, information submitted during an ESTA application may be shared with consular officers of DOS to assist them in determining whether a visa should be issued to an applicant after an ESTA travel authorization application has been denied.

Information may be shared with appropriate federal, state, local, tribal, and foreign governmental agencies or multilateral governmental organizations responsible for investigating or prosecuting the violations of, or for enforcing or implementing, a statute, rule, regulation, order or license, or where DHS believes information would assist enforcement of civil or criminal laws.

Additionally, information may be shared when DHS reasonably believes such use will assist in anti-terrorism efforts or intelligence gathering related to national or international security or transnational crime. All sharing, including the sharing mentioned above, will remain consistent with the Privacy Act's SORN, which was published in the Federal Register on February 23, 2016 and is available on the DHS web site, www.dhs.gov.

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Although carriers will not receive the ESTA application information that travelers provide to DHS, they will receive confirmation of a passenger's ESTA status via the Advance Passenger Information System indicating whether an ESTA is required and whether authorization has been granted.

How long will DHS retain the data generated from these additional ESTA questions?

The data retention period remains unchanged. ESTA application data remains active for the period of time that the approved ESTA is valid, which is generally two years, or until the traveler's passport expires, whichever comes first. DHS then maintains this information for an additional year after which it is archived for 12 years—with further limited access—to allow retrieval of the information for law enforcement, national security, or investigatory purposes. These policies are consistent with both CBP's search authority and with the border security mission mandated for CBP by Congress. Data linked to active law enforcement lookout records, CBP matches to enforcement activities, and/or investigations or cases, including applications for ESTAs that are denied, will remain accessible for the life of the law enforcement activities to which they are related.

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How will the new information collected be safeguarded?

DHS will handle the new information in the same manner as other information collected through ESTA and will document these procedures in the SORN and PIA. Information submitted by applicants through the ESTA website will continue to be subject to the same strict privacy provisions, use limitations, and access controls that are currently in place for ESTA, and consistent with similar traveler screening programs.

Why is DHS taking action under a Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) notice and not a regulation?

The relevant regulatory provision does not list the specific data elements that VWP travelers must provide in order to obtain an ESTA. Instead, the regulation states that “ESTA will collect such information as the Secretary [of Homeland Security] deems necessary to issue a travel authorization, as reflected by the I-94W Nonimmigrant Alien Arrival/Departure Form (I-94W).” Since there are no data elements listed in the regulation, there is no need to update the regulation. The revisions to the ESTA data elements fall under the PRA since DHS is amending an information collection (Form I-94W) and not amending a regulation.

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Will this change to the ESTA application discourage legitimate foreign national travelers?

No. The new VWP eligibility requirements do not bar legitimate travel to the United States. If a traveler is not granted an ESTA, the traveler will need to obtain a U.S. visa from a U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

DHS is committed to facilitating legitimate trade and travel while maintaining the highest standards of security and border protection. Requirements for travel to the United States have increased, especially since September 11, 2001, to enhance security at U.S. borders; however, the flow of goods and visitors into the United States continues to grow each year.

By adding these additional questions, will the ESTA now be the equivalent of an electronic visa?

No. The requirements for a nonimmigrant visitor (B1/B2) visa are different under U.S. law and more complex than the requirements for an ESTA. Applicants for a B1/B2 visa must complete an online visa application (DS-160) and, with limited exception, appear for an interview with a U.S. consular officer. Part of the visa application process requires that applicants submit their biometric information in advance of travel, and provide additional biographic information as required.

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Even with these additional ESTA questions, does the VWP represent a security vulnerability?

No. Countries that participate in the VWP are required to have a high degree of security cooperation with the United States; sign and implement information sharing agreements regarding known, suspected or potential terrorists and serious criminals; report lost and stolen passport data to the United States or other means approved by the United States; and issue International Civil Aviation Organization-compliant electronic passports. VWP countries are also subject to biennial eligibility reviews, which provide DHS with the opportunity to conduct broad and consequential inspections of foreign security standards and operations, and verify the level of law enforcement and counterterrorism cooperation with the United States. The Director of National Intelligence is required to complete an intelligence assessment to support each eligibility review conducted by DHS.

VWP travelers must obtain approval through the ESTA process prior to commencing VWP travel to the United States. ESTA continuously vets applicants' biographic information against the Terrorist Screening Database; lost and stolen passport records (including INTERPOL's Stolen and Lost Travel Documents database); visa revocations; previous VWP refusals; expedited

removals; and Public Health records, e.g., records from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for persons who have a communicable disease constituting a public health threat.

Is VWP travel at the land border affected by the Act?

The new eligibility requirements apply to all VWP applicants regardless of mode of entry. If you do not meet one of the new eligibility requirements established by the Act, you are ineligible for travel and admission to the United States under the VWP. You will be required to obtain a nonimmigrant visa. Waivers for a respondent's travel history will not be adjudicated at the border through the I-94W.

Are there new passport requirements for travel to the United States under the VWP?

Yes, effective April 1, 2016, all VWP country nationals must possess an electronic passport to travel to the United States under the VWP. If not in possession of an electronic passport, a valid nonimmigrant visa is required to travel to the United States.

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Tags:

Electronic System for Travel Authorization
 (ESTA),
 Travel, Travel Industry Personnel



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