

Report

Citizenship and Integration Grant Program (CIGP) FY 2018 Report



U.S. Citizenship and
Immigration Services

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INTRODUCTION

This report provides an overview of the characteristics and outcomes for Citizenship and Integration Grant Program (CIGP).¹ participants who received citizenship preparation services during fiscal year 2018 (FY 2018). The characteristics of CIGP participants include age, gender, marital status, occupation, country of birth, lawful permanent resident (LPR) class of admission, and length of time in LPR status. The outcomes examined include the type of service provided to CIGP participants, naturalization application submission count, English and civics test results including test exemptions, submission of fee waivers, and naturalization rates. This report also includes summary CIGP information for FY 2014, FY 2015, FY 2016, FY 2017, and FY2018. The USCIS Office of Citizenship's Grants division collected CIGP grant recipient data, and LPR data provided by the DHS Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS), was used in the analysis.

The USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy, Policy Research Division (PRD), Immigration Data Analysis Branch analyzed data extracted from USCIS databases such as CLAIMS3 (C3), CLAIMS4 (C4), and ELIS2 for Forms: I-485 (*Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status*) and N-400 (*Application for Naturalization*), associated with CIGP participants.

During FY 2018, 80 CIGP grant recipient organizations provided citizenship preparation services to CIGP participants in the District of Columbia and 32 states across the United States. Of these CIGP recipients, 40 received their two-year CIGP grant in September 2016, providing their first year of services in FY 2017, and their second year of services in FY 2018. The other 40 CIGP recipients received their two-year CIGP grant in September 2017, providing their first year of services in FY 2018 and their second year of services in FY 2019.

Each CIGP recipient received approximately \$250,000 in funding for their two-year grants. CIGP participants are offered citizenship instruction services to prepare for the English and civics portions of the naturalization test, as well as naturalization application services to assist with submitting Form N-400, Application for Naturalization.

- A total of 34,107 participants participated in the FY 2018 CIGP, down 10% from 37,928 in FY 2017. Meanwhile, the number of N-400 applications associated with FY 2018 CIGP

¹ The program was formerly known as the Citizenship and Assimilation Grant Program (CAGP). This report will use Citizenship and Integration Grant Program to refer to past and future grant cycles. For details, see the program website at: <https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/civic-assimilation/learn-about-the-citizenship-and-assimilation-grant-program>
FY17 Grant Fact Sheet: https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/fact-sheets/FY2017_Grant_Program_Awards_Fact_Sheet.pdf
FY18 Grant Fact Sheet: https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/fact-sheets/FY2018_Grant_Program_Awards_Fact_Sheet.pdf

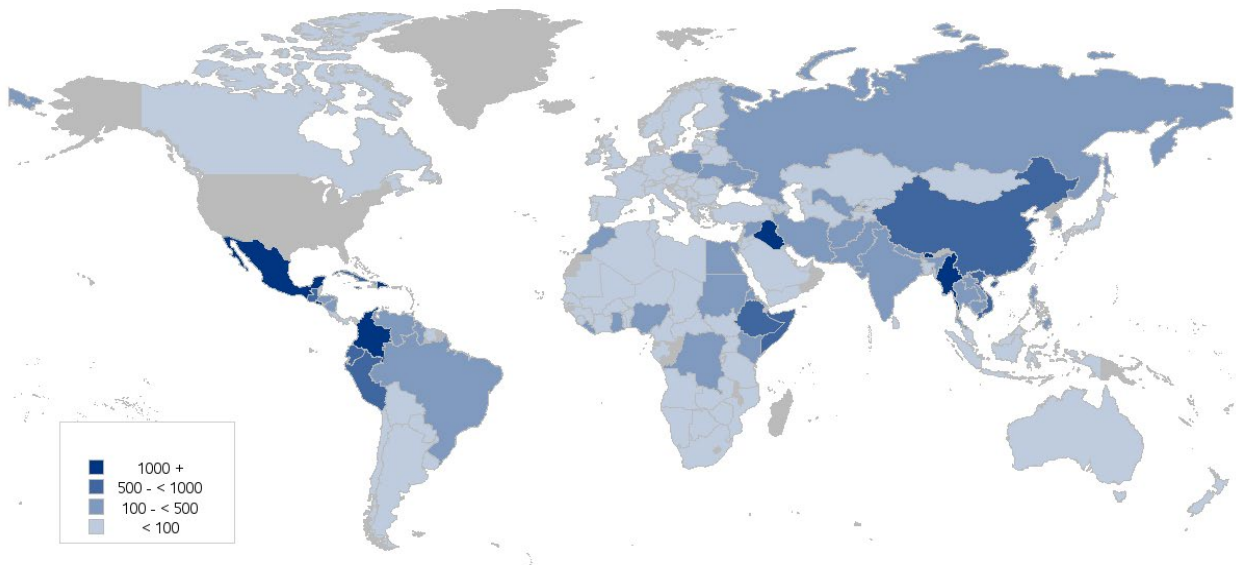
participants was 28,080, down 10% from the 31,259 FY 2017 CIGP participants who submitted Form N-400.

- 22% of CIGP participants enrolled between October and December 2017, 24% enrolled between January and March 2018, 27 % enrolled between April and June 2018, and 27% enrolled between July and September 2018.
- As of March 2021, about 61% of FY2018 CIGP participants became naturalized U.S. citizens compared with 55% of FY 2017 CIGP participants.

FY 2018 CIGP Geographic Coverage

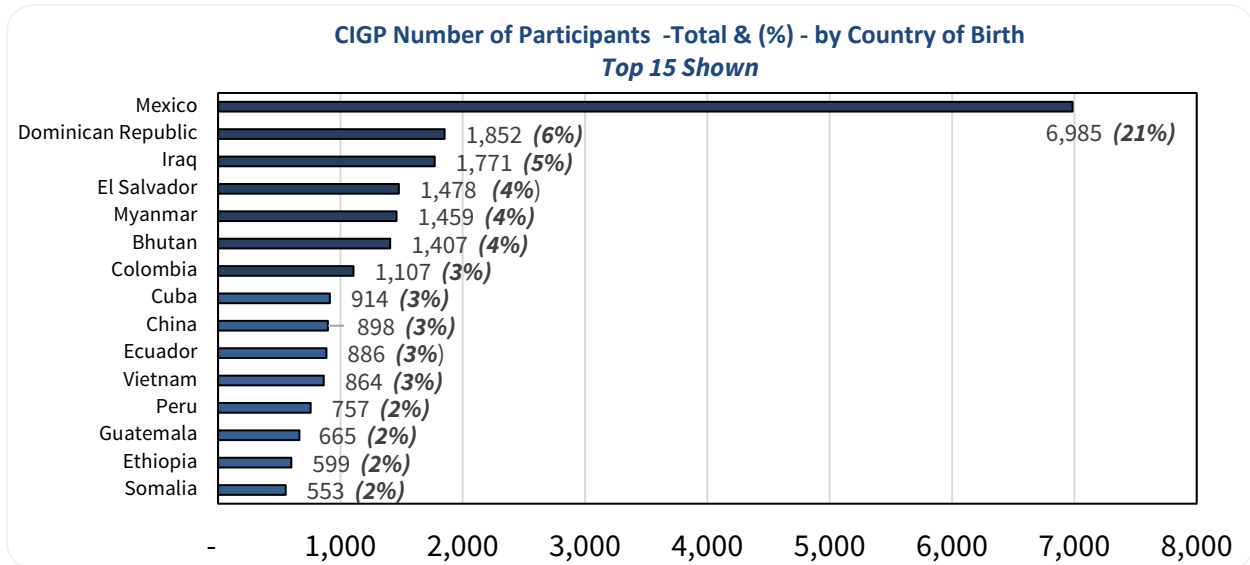
FY 2018 CIGP participants were born in 176 different countries. The top five countries of birth, comprising 40% of total CIGP participants were: Mexico 21%, Dominican Republic 6%, Iraq 5%, El Salvador 4%, and Myanmar 4% (see Figure 1a and Figure 1b). In comparison, the top five leading countries of birth for FY 2017 CIGP participants were: Mexico 25%, Dominican Republic 5%, Myanmar 5%, El Salvador 4%, and Iraq 4%.

Figure 1a. FY 2018 CIGP Participants Total by Country of Birth



Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

Figure 1b. FY 2018 CIGP Participants Total by Country of Birth

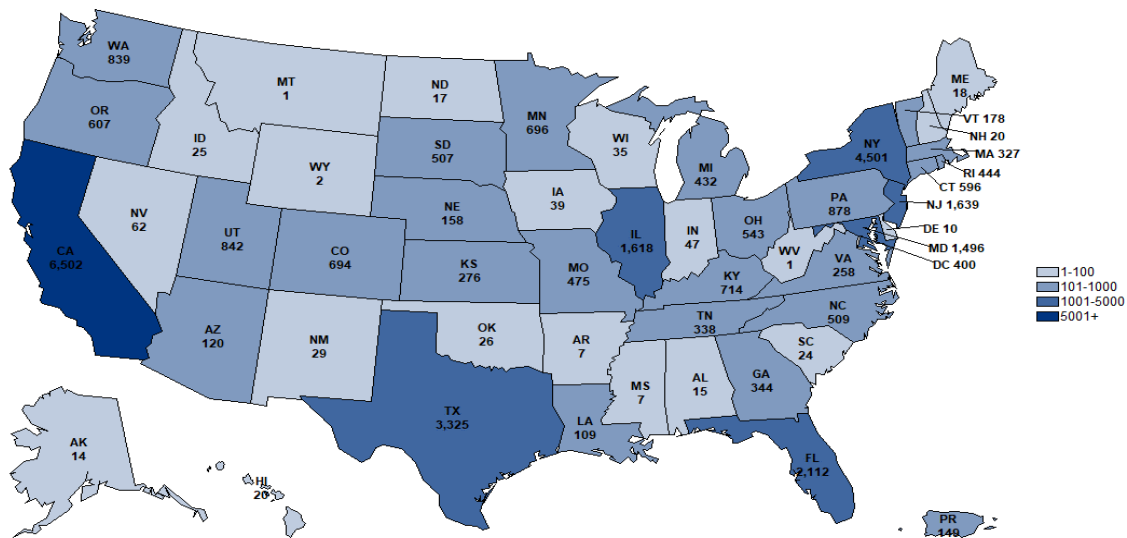


Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

Sixty percent of FY 2018 CIGP participants lived in one of six U.S. states at the time they enrolled in CIGP: California (20%), New York (14%), Texas (10%), Florida (6%), New Jersey (5%), and Illinois (5%)

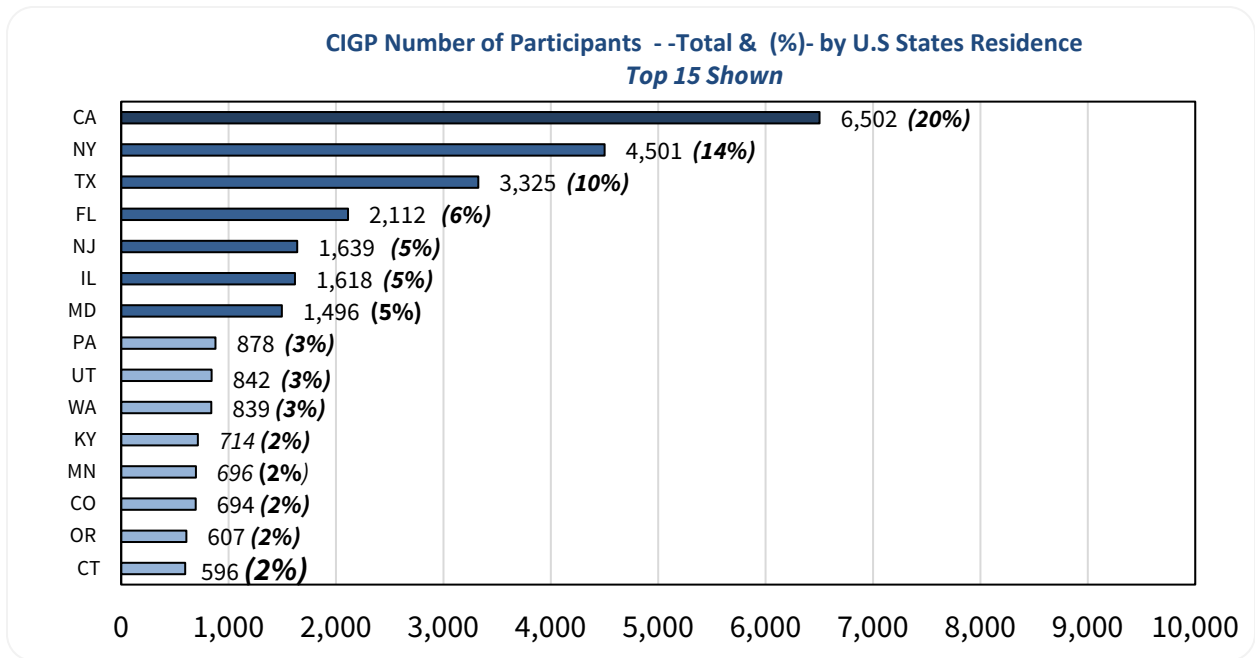
(See Figure 2a, and Figure 2b). Approximately 57% of FY 2017 CIGP participants lived in: California (20%), New York (15%), Texas (12%), Florida (6%), and Illinois (4%).

Figure 2a. FY 2018 CIGP Participants Total by U.S. States of Residence



Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

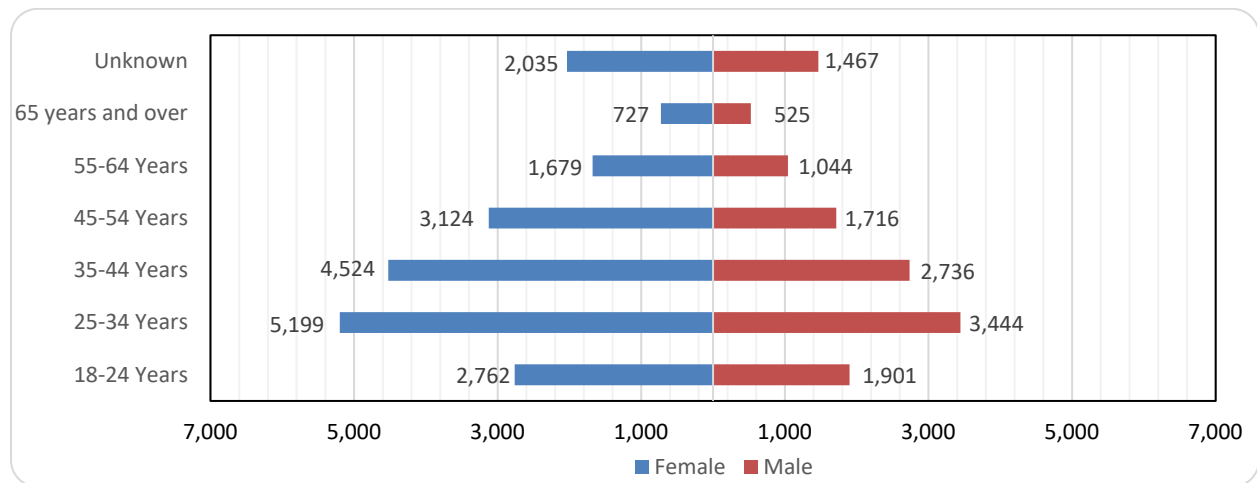
Figure 2b. FY 2018 CIGP Participants Total by U.S. States of Residence



Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

CIGP Participants Characteristics

Figure 3. FY 2018 CIGP Participants by Age Group and Gender

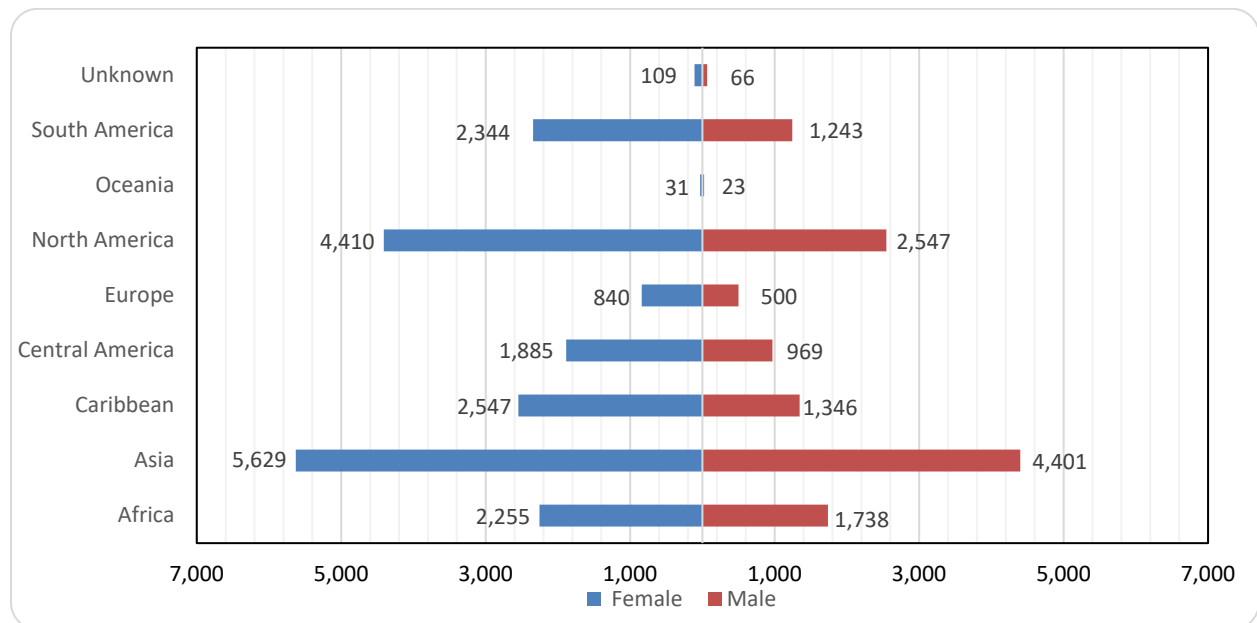


Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

Note: Cases where gender is missing were not included.

Over 48% of FY 2018 CIGP participants were 25 to 44 years old. The median age was 35 (see Figure 3).

Figure 4. FY 2018 CIGP Participants by World Region and Gender

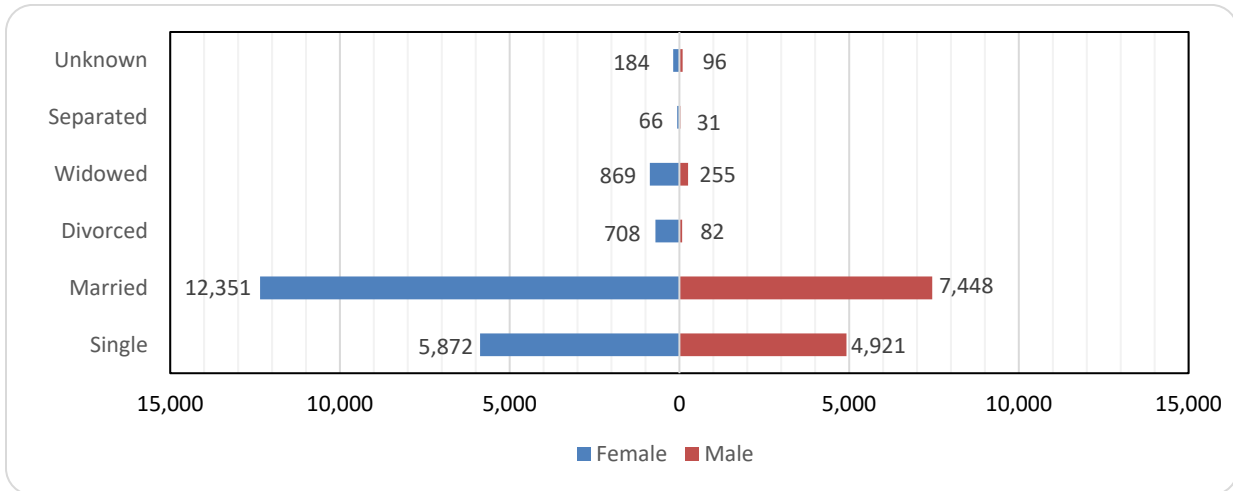


Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

Note: Cases where gender is missing were not included.

About 75 % of CIGP participants were born in the following regions: Asia (31%), North America (21%), South America (11%), and the Caribbean (12%) (see Figure 4).

Figure 5. FY 2018 CIGP Participants by Marital Status and Gender

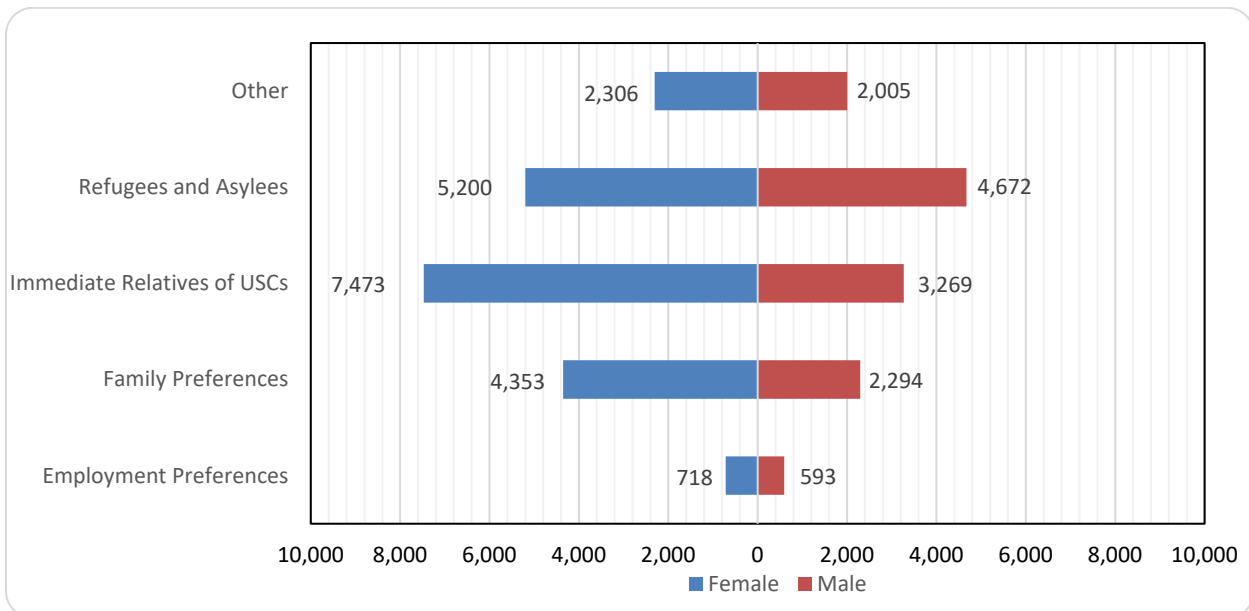


Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

Note: Cases where gender is missing were not included.

Females accounted for 59% of all FY 2018 CIGP participants. Sixty percent of CIGP participants were married, while 33% were single, and 2% were divorced (see Figure 5).

Figure 6. FY 2018 CIGP Participants by Admission Class and Gender

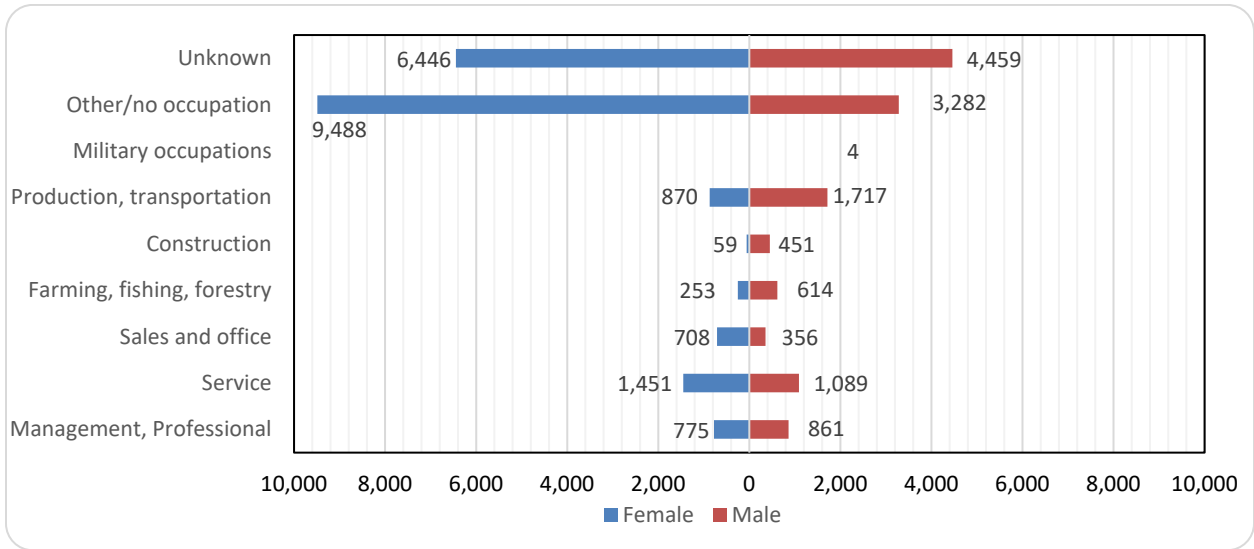


Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021

Note: Cases where gender is missing were not included.

One-third of FY 2018 CIGP participants gained LPR status through admission as immediate relatives of U.S. citizens, while 30% were admitted as refugees and asylees, and another 19% were admitted under family-sponsored preferences (see Figure 6).

Figure 7. FY 2018 CIGP Participants by Occupation and Gender

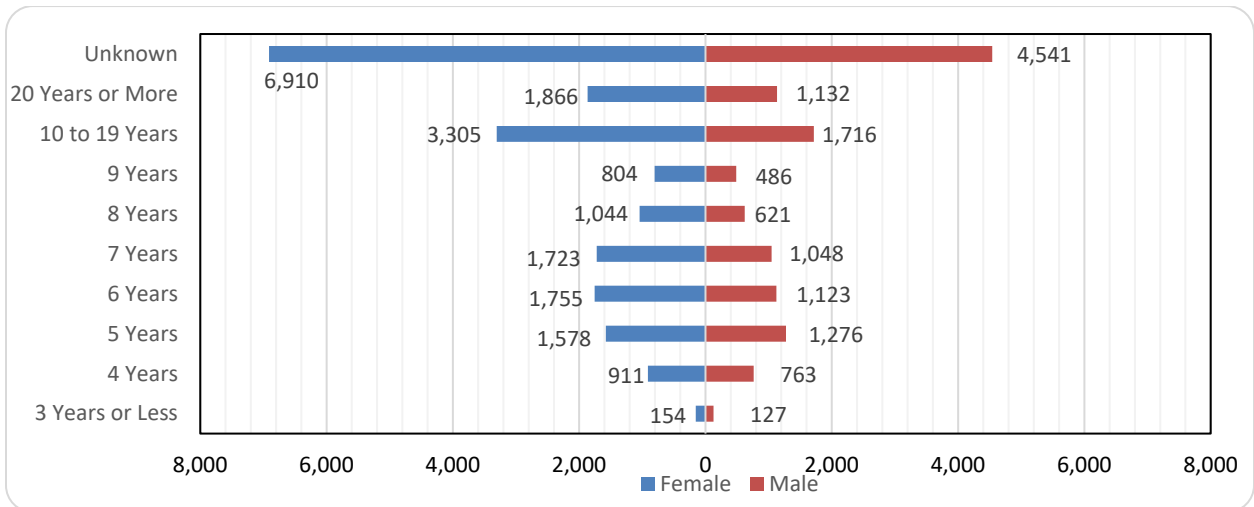


Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

Note: Cases where gender is missing were not included.

About 40% of FY 2018 CIGP participants reported Other/no occupation when they applied for naturalization. 8% were in production and transportation, and another 8% were in service occupations (see Figure 7).

Figure 8. FY 2018 CIGP Participants by Years in LPR Status and Gender



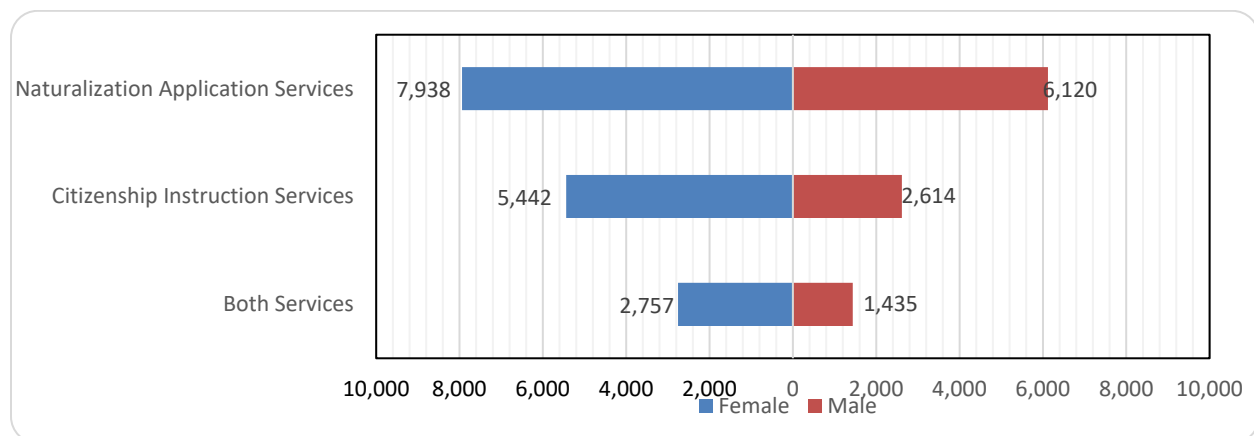
Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

Note: Cases where gender is missing were not included.

FY 2018 CIGP participants spent a median of seven years in LPR status before becoming CIGP participants (see Figure 8). FY 2017 CIGP LPR status median duration time was 8 years.

CIGP Participants Services

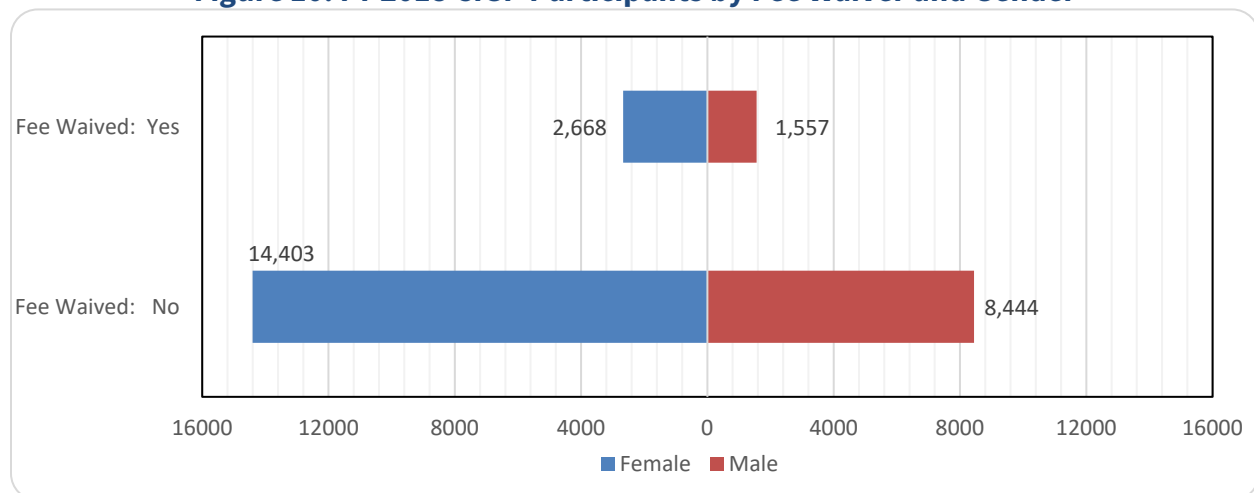
Figure 9. FY 2018 CIGP Participants by Service Type and Gender



Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

About 13% of CIGP participants used both citizenship instruction services and naturalization application services, while 25% used only citizenship instruction services, and 43% used only naturalization application services (see Figure 9).

Figure 10. FY 2018 CIGP Participants by Fee Waiver and Gender



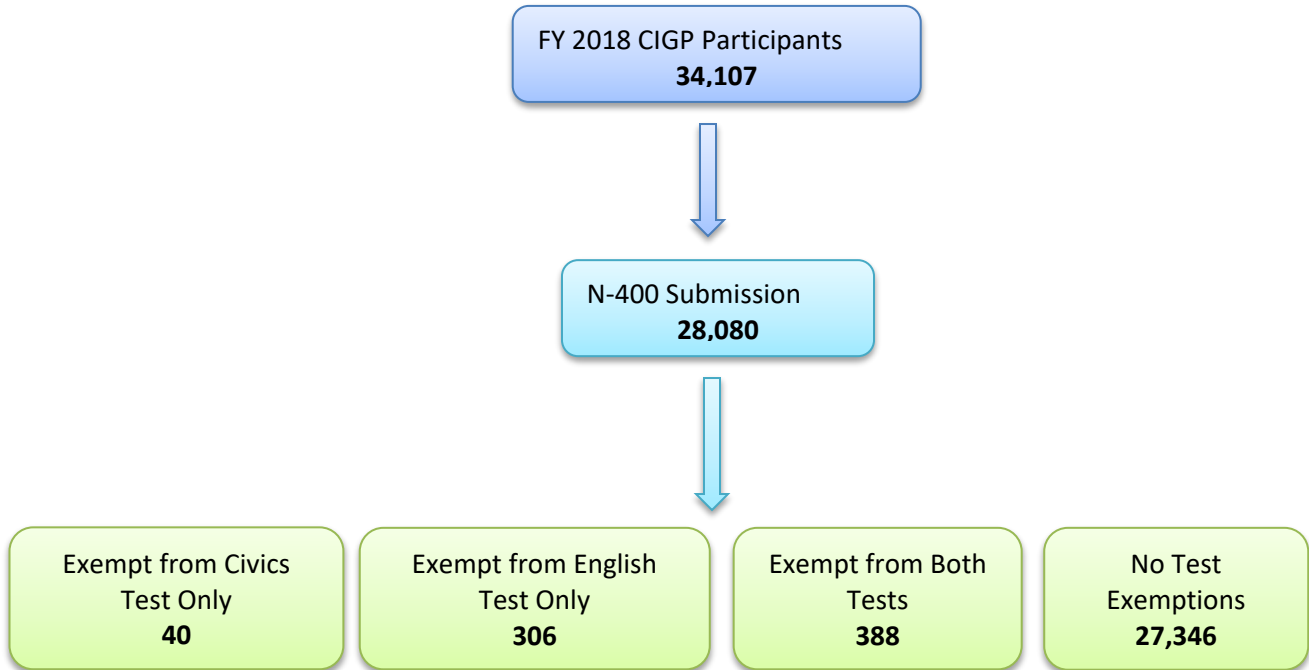
Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

Note: Cases where gender is missing were not included.

Within the two-year grant cycle, 28,080 FY 2018 CIGP participants submitted Form N-400. Of which, 16% (2,668+ 1,557 or 4,225 of 28,080) of FY 2018 CIGP participants who submitted Form N-400, had a fee waiver request approved (see Figure 10). The above fee waiver status for the CIGP N-400 applicants doesn't include reduced fee information.²

² For details about application fee waivers, see: <https://www.uscis.gov/feewaiver> and request for reduced fee: <https://www.uscis.gov/i-942>

Figure 11. FY 2018 CIGP Participants – English and Civics Tests Exemptions



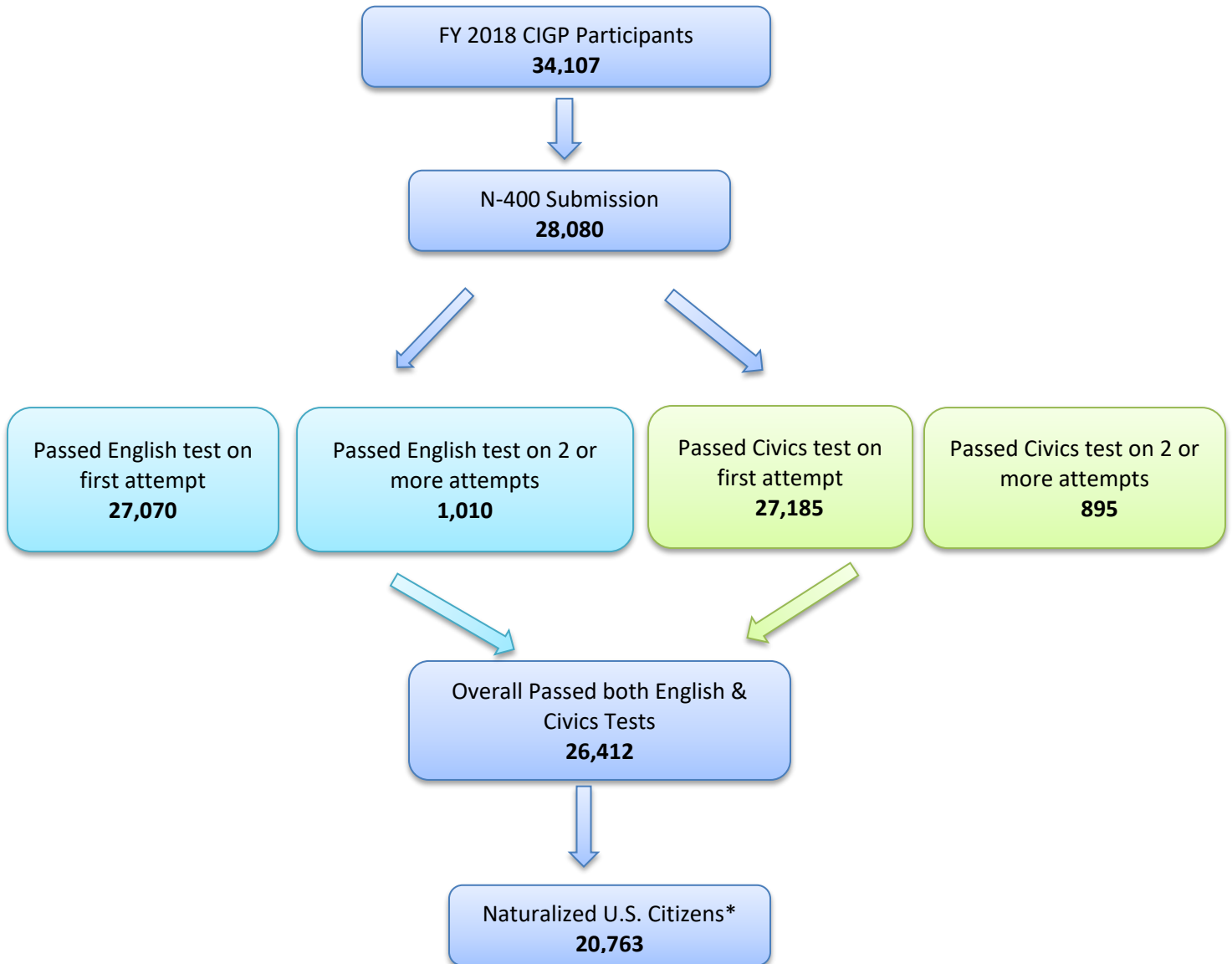
Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

Within the grant cycle, 97% (27,346 of 28,080) of FY 2018 CIGP participants who submitted Form N-400, received no exemption from taking any portion of the naturalization test. Of the FY 2018 CIGP participants, 40 participants were exempt only from taking the civics test, 388 participants were exempt from taking both tests, while another 306 participants were exempt only from taking the English test (see Figure 11).³

³ For details about naturalization test exceptions, see the [Exceptions and Accommodations webpage](#)

CIGP Participants Outcome

Figure 12. FY 2018 CIGP Participants – N-400 Information



Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

***Note: Within the two-year CIGP grant cycle:**

- The number of CIGP participants who became naturalized U.S. citizens includes those who were otherwise eligible for naturalization and either passed both the English and the civics portion of the naturalization test or received an exemption from one or both tests.
- About 82% (28,080 of 34,107) of FY 2018 CIGP participants submitted Form N-400 as of March 2021 based on USCIS data. Over 96% of CIGP participants who applied for naturalization passed either the English or the civics test on the first attempt. About 61% percent (20,763 of 34,107) of CIGP participants became naturalized U.S. citizens within the CIGP period (see Figure 12).

Trend Analysis: FY2018 CIGP Participants Summary

Table 1: CIGP Participants Summary Characteristics by Gender, FY 2018

Age	Median Age	Total and (% Percent) of Female	Total and (% Percent) of Male
18-24 Years	21	2,762 (13.8%)	1,901 (14.8%)
25-34 Years	30	5,199 (25.9%)	3,444 (26.8%)
35-44 Years	39	4,524 (22.6%)	2,736 (21.3%)
45-54 Years	49	3,124 (15.6%)	1,716 (13.4%)
55-64 Years	59	1,679 (8.4%)	1,044 (8.1%)
65 years and over	69	727 (3.6%)	525 (4.1%)
Marital Status			
Divorced	61	708 (3.5%)	82 (0.6%)
Married	38	12,351 (61.6%)	7,448 (58.0%)
Separated	38	66 (0.3%)	31 (0.2%)
Single	21	5,872 (29.3%)	4,921 (38.3%)
Unknown	32	184 (0.9%)	96 (0.7%)
Widowed	48	869 (4.3%)	255 (2.0%)
Birth Region			
Africa	31	2,255 (11.2%)	1,738 (13.5%)
Asia	35	5,629 (28.1%)	4,401 (34.3%)
Caribbean	34	2,547 (12.7%)	1,346 (10.5%)
Central America	35	1,885 (9.4%)	969 (7.6%)
Europe	45	840 (4.2%)	500 (3.9%)
North America	31	4,410 (22.0%)	2,547 (19.8%)
Oceania	39	31 (0.2%)	23 (0.2%)
South America	41	2,344 (11.7%)	1,243 (9.7%)
Unknown	41	109 (0.5%)	66 (0.5%)
Admission Class			
Employment Preferences	37	718 (3.6%)	593 (4.6%)
Family Preferences	31	4,353 (21.7%)	2,294 (17.9%)
Immediate Relatives of USCs	38	7,473 (37.3%)	3,269 (25.5%)
Other	33	2,306 (11.5%)	2,005 (15.6%)
Refugees and Asylees	33	5,200 (25.9%)	4,672 (36.4%)
Occupation			
Management, professional and related occupations	40	775 (3.9%)	861 (6.7%)
Service occupations	36	1,451 (7.2%)	1,089 (8.5%)
Sales and office occupations	38	708 (3.5%)	356 (2.8%)
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	30	253 (1.3%)	614 (4.8%)
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	35	59 (0.3%)	451 (3.5%)
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	34	870 (4.3%)	1,717 (13.4%)
Military occupations	29	0 (0.0%)	4 (0.0%)
Other and no occupations	28	9,488 (47.3%)	3,282 (25.6%)
Unknown occupations	37	6,446 (32.1%)	4,459 (34.7%)

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Continued- Table1: CIGP Participants Summary Characteristics by Gender, FY 2018

Years in LPR Status	Median Age	Total and (% Percent) of Female	Total and (% Percent) of Male
3 Years or Less	33	154 (0.8%)	127 (1.0%)
4 Years	35	911 (4.5%)	763 (5.9%)
5 Years	35	1,578 (7.9%)	1,276 (9.9%)
6 Years	35	1,755 (8.8%)	1,123 (8.8%)
7 Years	35	1,723 (8.6%)	1,048 (8.2%)
8 Years	34	1,044 (5.2%)	621 (4.8%)
9 Years	34	804 (4.0%)	486 (3.8%)
10 to 19 Years	34	3,305 (16.5%)	1,716 (13.4%)
20 Years or More	29	1,866 (9.3%)	1,132 (8.8%)
# of Participants by Quarter			
Oct-Dec 2017	34	4,438 (22.1%)	2,654 (20.7%)
Jan-Mar 2018	34	4,808 (24.0%)	3,228 (25.2%)
Apr-Jun 2018	34	5,404 (27.0%)	3,502 (27.3%)
Jul-Sep 2018	34	5,400 (26.9%)	3,449 (26.9%)

Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

Note: Cases where gender is missing were not included.

Table 2: CIGP Participants Summary Service and Outcome by CIGP and Gender, FY 2018

Services Used	Median Age	Total and (% Percent) of Female	Total and (% Percent) of Male
Naturalization Application Services	32	7,938 (39.6%)	6,120 (47.7%)
Citizenship Instruction Services	37	5,442 (27.1%)	2,614 (20.4%)
Both Services Used	37	2,757 (13.8%)	1,435 (11.2%)
No information on Services Used	33	3,913 (19.5%)	2,664 (20.8%)
N-400 Fee Waiver			
No Fee Waiver: 22,847	34	14,403 (63.0%)	8,444 (37.0%)
Fee Waiver: 4,225	35	2,668 (63.1%)	1,557 (36.8%)
Exam Exemptions			
Civics test Only	34	19 (0.1%)	19 (0.2%)
English test only	31	150 (0.9%)	112 (1.1%)
Exempt from both tests	37	248 (1.5%)	135 (1.3%)
No Exemptions	34	16,654 (97.6%)	9,735 (97.3%)

Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

Note: Cases where gender is missing were not included.

Trend Analysis: CIGP Participants Information Comparison, FY2014-FY2018

Table 3: CIGP Participants Characteristics, FY 2014-FY 2018

	FY 2014 CIGP Percent of Total	FY 2015 CIGP Percent of Total	FY 2016 CIGP Percent of Total	FY 2017 CIGP Percent of Total	FY 2018 CIGP Percent of Total
Age					
18 to 24 years	7.9%	8.3%	13.7%	14.3%	13.1%
25 to 34 years	19.6%	19.5%	26.0%	27.8%	25.4%
35 to 44 years	24.1%	22.3%	21.1%	22.3%	21.3%
45 to 54 years	22.7%	21.9%	14.0%	14.2%	14.2%
55 to 64 years	15.7%	15.9%	7.7%	8.0%	8.0%
Over 65 years	10.1%	11.9%	17.5%	3.3%	3.7%
Gender					
Female	60.2%	60.3%	58.6%	59.2%	58.8%
Male	39.8%	39.6%	36.7%	37.2%	37.6%
Marital Status					
Married	64.2%	62.3%	59.1%	61.1%	58.4%
Single	29.0%	23.7%	30.0%	32.2%	31.8%
Divorced	3.4%	9.4%	2.4%	2.3%	2.3%
Widowed	2.7%	4.0%	3.2%	3.2%	3.3%
Other/Unknown	0.7%	0.6%	5.3%	1.2%	3.9%
Birth Region					
Asia	28.8%	33.1%	28.9%	27.1%	29.6%
North America	21.5%	19.4%	22.9%	25.3%	20.5%
South America	13.2%	12.4%	10.7%	11.0%	10.6%
Caribbean	11.8%	11.4%	9.9%	11.2%	11.5%
Africa	9.6%	10.3%	9.3%	11.1%	11.8%
Central America	9.3%	8.5%	9.9%	9.9%	8.4%
Europe + Oceania	5.7%	4.5%	8.4%	4.5%	4.1%
Top Country of Birth					
Mexico	21.3%	19.2%	23.0%	25.2%	21.1%
Iraq	8.6%	6.7%	4.6%	3.9%	5.4%
Dominican Republic	6.7%	5.3%	4.5%	5.4%	5.6%
El Salvador	4.0%	3.8%	4.5%	4.6%	4.5%
Colombia	3.7%	3.8%	3.9%	3.4%	3.3%
All Others	55.18	56.7%	59.5%	57.5%	60.1%
Top U.S States Residence					
CA	14.8%	14.6%	22.2%	19.9%	19.6%
NY	17.6%	14.0%	10.7%	15.3%	13.6%
TX	13.2%	8.3%	9.3%	12.1%	10.1%
FL	3.9%	7.2%	8.4%	5.8%	6.4%
IL	5.4%	6.1%	4.5%	4.2%	4.9%
All Others	45.1%	49.8%	44.9%	42.7%	45.4%
Classes of Admission					
Employment preferences	5.6%	5.0%	4.7%	4.7%	3.9%
Family-sponsored preferences	19.4%	19.5%	18.7%	19.8%	19.7%
Immediate relatives of U.S. citizens	33.7%	31.4%	30.7%	34.2%	31.7%
Refugees and asylees	27.7%	30.3%	28.6%	26.8%	29.0%
Other (Diversity Visa, IRCA, parolees, etc.)	13.6%	13.8%	17.3%	14.6%	15.7%
* Management/ /Farming /Military/ Other/Unknown	7.1%	31.9%	48.7%	46.3%	79.6%

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Continued- Table 3: CIGP Participants Characteristics, FY 2014-FY 2018

Employment and Occupation	FY 2014 CIGP Percent of Total	FY 2015 CIGP Percent of Total	FY 2016 CIGP Percent of Total	FY 2017 CIGP Percent of Total	FY 2018 CIGP Percent of Total
Unemployed	20.3%	14.6%	6.9%	7.0%	N/A %
Homemaker	15.5%	9.4%	12.3%	12.7%	N/A %
Student	8.7%	5.0%	11.7%	11.8%	N/A %
Retired	3.8%	3.1%	0.7%	0.7%	N/A %
Construction, extraction, maintenance	14.8%	2.1%	1.5%	1.7%	1.6%
Service	14.3%	23.7%	7.2%	7.9%	7.7%
Sales and office	8.0%	4.9%	2.9%	3.2%	3.2%
Production, transportation	7.5%	5.3%	8.1%	8.7%	7.9%
* Management/ /Farming /Military/ Other/Unknown	7.1%	31.9%	48.7%	46.3%	79.6%

Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

Note: Several Occupations categories numbers (Management/ /Farming /Military/ Other/Unknown) were aggregated.

Table 4: CIGP Participants Service and Outcome, FY 2014-FY 2018

Services Used	FY 2014 CIGP Percent of Total	FY 2015 CIGP Percent of Total	FY 2016 CIGP Percent of Total	FY 2017 CIGP Percent of Total	FY 2018 CIGP Percent of Total
Naturalization Application Services	55.0%	52.2%	46.2%	42.3%	42.8%
Citizenship Instruction Services	28.0%	27.6%	24.4%	26.0%	24.5%
Both Services Used	17.0%	20.1%	15.3%	13%	12.6%
N-400 Fee Waiver					
Yes	N/A	52.7%	41.1%	26.8%	15.1%
No	N/A	47.3%	58.9%	72.2%	84.9%
Exam Exemptions⁴					
Civics test only	2.0%	4.1%	< 1 %	< 1 %	< 1 %
English test only	11.0%	7.3%	3.9%	3.3%	1.1%
Exempt from both tests	2.0%	3.9%	4.9%	4.0%	1.4%
No exemptions	85.0%	84.7%	90.9%	92.4%	97.4%
Naturalization Information⁵					
Passed (Civics or English) tests on first attempt	84.0%	88.9%	91.3%	89.9%	96.4%
Passed either test on second or later attempt	16.0%	9.8%	8.7%	7.2%	3.6%
Overall Passed both tests	92.0%	93.4%	90.1%	90.0%	94.1%
CIGP participants who became naturalized U.S citizens within the study period	67.0%	64.0%	61.7%	55.1%	60.9%

Source: USCIS, CLAIMS 3/CLAIMS 4/ELIS, and OIS LPR Data as of March 2021.

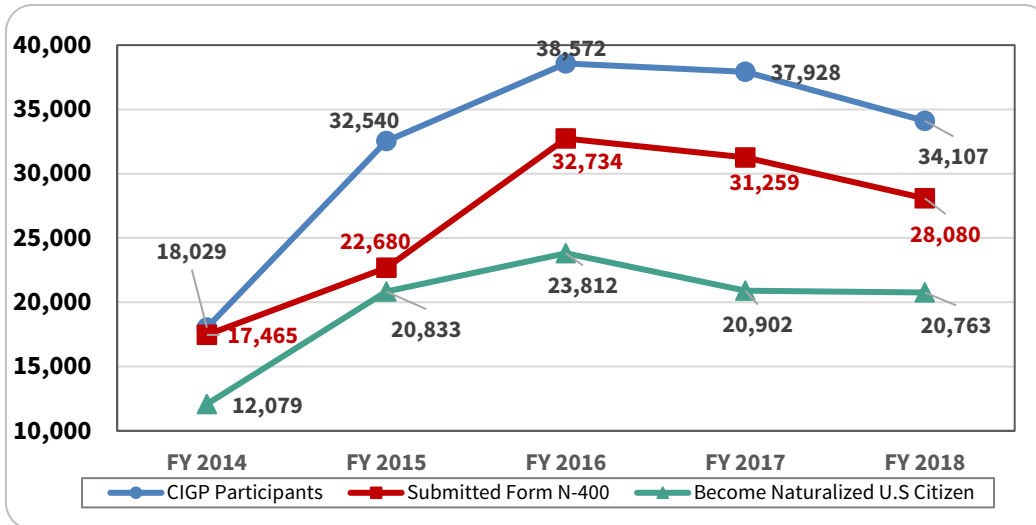
⁴ “Exam Exemptions” refers to percentages of total CIGP participants.

⁵ For more information on naturalization:

<https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/learn-about-citizenship/the-naturalization-interview-and-test>

<https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/learn-about-citizenship/the-naturalization-interview-and-test/applicant-performance-on-the-naturalization-test>

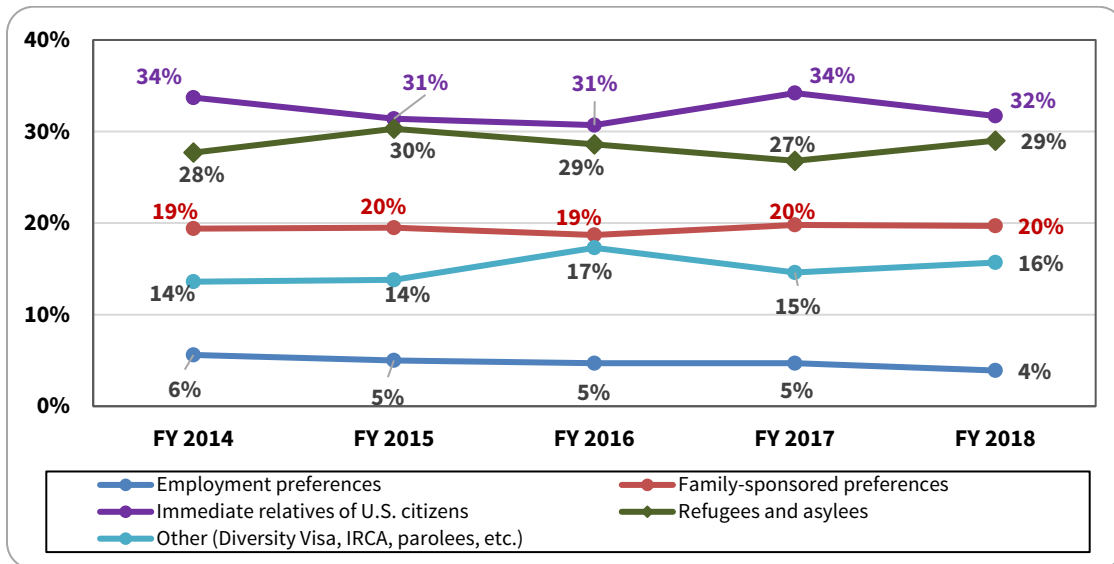
Figure 13: CIGP Participants Information, - FY 2014-FY 2018



Source: OP&S Published Reports: <https://www.uscis.gov/tools/reports-and-studies> in addition to current FY2018 CIGP report numbers.

Between FY 2014 and FY 2018, the percentage change in total number of CIGP participants is an increase of about 89%, while the percentage change for CIGP participants who submitted Form N-400 is a 61% increase. Overall, the percentage change for CIGP participants who became naturalized U.S. citizens is a 73% increase between FY 2014 and FY 2018 (see Figure 13).⁶

Figure 14: CIGP Participants- Admission Class, - FY 2014-FY 2018

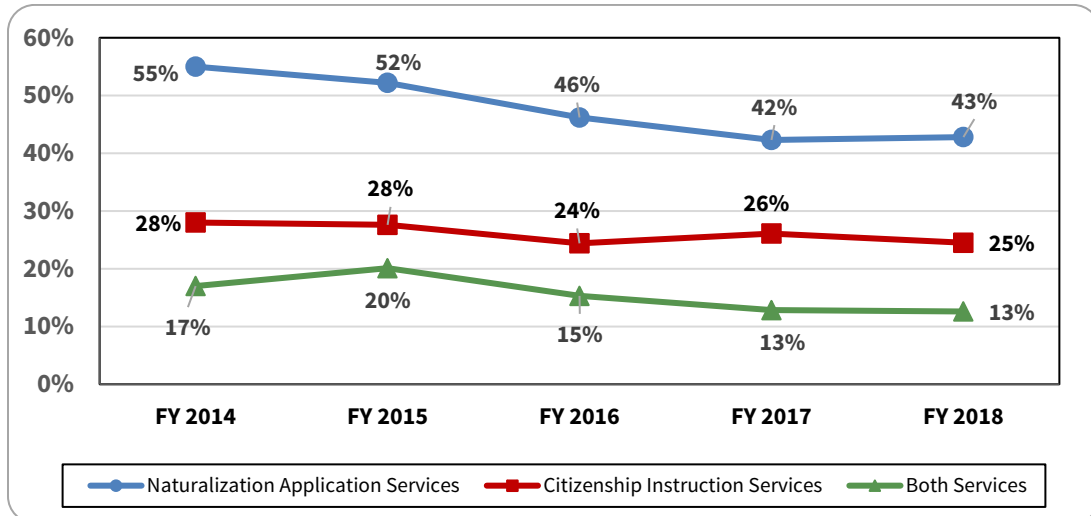


Source: OP&S Published Reports: <https://www.uscis.gov/tools/reports-and-studies> in addition to current FY2018 CIGP report numbers.

Between FY 2014 and FY 2018, CIGP admission classes percentages remain relatively unchanged (see Figure 14).

⁶ The FY 2014 data were skewed because we only had data for FY 2013 grant recipients, while the FY 2012 cohort did not report individual A-numbers.

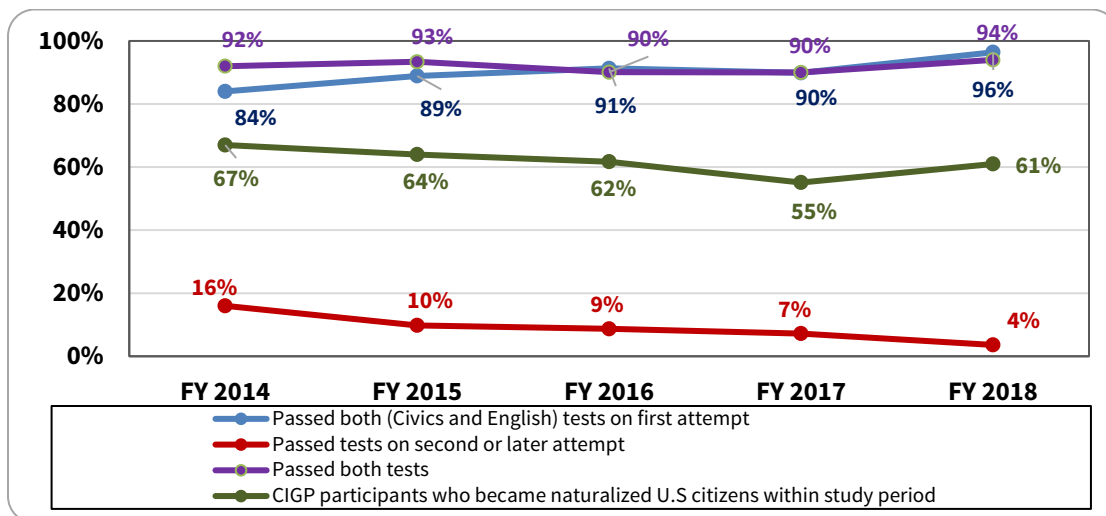
Figure 15: CIGP Participants- Percent of Services Used, - FY 2014-FY 2018



Source: OP&S Published Reports: <https://www.uscis.gov/tools/reports-and-studies> in addition to current FY2018 CIGP report numbers.

Between FY 2014 and FY 2018, the percentage change for CIGP participants who received only naturalization application services decreased by only 12% (from 55% to 43%). Furthermore, the percentage change for CIGP participants who received both naturalization application services and citizenship instruction services fell from 17% to 13%. There were no changes in the percentage of CIGP participants who only received citizenship instruction services (see Figure 15).

Figure 16: CIGP Participants- English and Civics Tests Passing Rates and Naturalization Outcomes, - FY 2014-FY 2018



Source: OP&S Published Reports: <https://www.uscis.gov/tools/reports-and-studies> in addition to current FY2018 CIGP report numbers.

Between FY 2014 and FY 2018, the overall test passing rate for CIGP participants was between 90% and 94%, while the percentage of CIGP participants who became U.S. naturalized citizens dropped from 67% to 61% (see Figure 16).