



ADC American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a decision to extend Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Yemen. TPS was extended for 18 months and allows only current TPS beneficiaries to renew their TPS status. Individuals from Yemen with TPS will be eligible to re-register for an extension of their status for 18 months through March 3, 2020.

While DHS estimates that 1,250 Yemeni nationals are eligible for TPS re-registration, ADC believes the impact is even greater on Yemeni nationals that arrived after January 4, 2017 to obtain TPS status. According to the U.S. Department of State, there were over [2,900](#) nonimmigrant visas issued to Yemeni nationals for fiscal year 2017. The U.S. Department of State’s monthly nonimmigrant visa breakdown from [March 2017 to May 2018](#) provides that 1,135 nonimmigrant visas issued were visitor visas.¹

The nonimmigrant visa issuance is not dispositive of actual entry, nor do we know how the numbers are impacted by visas revoked or deemed invalid due to the Arab and Muslim Ban.² However, DHS failure to re-designate TPS for Yemen has a significant impact. Thousands of Yemeni nationals who have arrived in 2017 and 2018 are likely impacted and have effectively been denied safety.

ADC provides the U.S. Department of State monthly breakdown in the consolidated excel sheet below.

Month	Visitor Visa Issuance	Month	Visitor Visa Issuance
March 2017	152	November 2017	90
April 2017	88	December 2017	32
May 2017	128	January 2018	14
June 2017	157	February 2018	38
July 2017	66	March 2018	20
August 2017	85	April 2018	38
September 2017	59	May 2018	39
October 2017	129	TOTAL	1,135

¹ The visa issuance of nonimmigrant visitor visas (B1/B2) visas was singled out because visitor visas are the only allow entry in 6 month increments, and allow for persons to apply for extension but prohibit nationals to work and study. Visitor visas temporary nature is the most temporary in nature in comparison to other nonimmigrant visas that allow entry and presence up to years in some cases and/or until completion of studies, training, cultural exchange or work.

² The visitor visa issuance numbers are significantly higher in 2017 in comparison to 2018 because of the nationwide injunction on implementation of the Arab and Muslim Ban. The nationwide injunction was lifted by the U.S. Supreme Court on December 4, 2017.