

Temporary Protected Status protects families while also boosting the U.S. economy

New analysis finds that TPS helps protect families, including 800,000 U.S. citizens living with TPS recipients.

TPS also strengthens the U.S. workforce, with the majority of TPS recipients working in industries facing labor shortages.

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New FWD.us analysis of government data shows that more than half a million individuals have [Temporary Protected Status \(TPS\)](#), a form of immigration relief that provides work authorization and deportation protections for those whose home countries are very unsafe. With recent TPS designations and redesignations, however, the number of individuals *eligible* for TPS, because they have not formally applied or been approved, is significantly higher. In fact, **FWD.us estimates that about 350,000 additional individuals are currently eligible for TPS; in all, nearly 900,000 individuals were TPS holders or were eligible for TPS protections at the end of 2022.**

TPS holders and TPS-eligible individuals have lived an average of 14 years in the U.S., contributing enormously to local communities across the country by providing businesses with employees with critical skills and expertise. **FWD.us estimates that TPS-eligible individuals, including current TPS holders, contribute some \$22 billion in wages to the U.S. economy each year and work in more than 600,000 jobs, filling important gaps in an economy plagued by persistent labor shortages.**

Many more individuals in the U.S., however, need protections from deportation to countries where their lives would be at risk. For instance, [members of Congress](#) and human rights advocates have proposed the addition of new TPS countries where conditions remain unsafe for people to return, including the [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#), [Guatemala](#), [Lebanon](#), [Mali](#), [Mauritania](#), and [Pakistan](#). Each of these countries faces extraordinary human rights challenges, widespread violence, or recent climate-related events that warrant immediate TPS designations.

Additionally, conditions remain unsafe in current TPS countries such as [El Salvador](#), [Honduras](#), [Nepal](#), and [Nicaragua](#), but the U.S. has not allowed new TPS registrations for these countries since 2018. These countries continue to experience civil unrest, violence, political repression, or climate-related events that make it impossible for individuals from these countries to return home safely. Finally, individuals from countries that already have TPS designations but will need consideration for redesignation in 2023, like Afghanistan, [Cameroon](#), South Sudan, Sudan, Ukraine, and [Venezuela](#), continue to have country conditions that remain perilous for nationals to return.

Terminology for TPS Population Groups

- TPS holders:** The population currently holding TPS.
- TPS-eligible individuals:** TPS holders plus those eligible for TPS but may have not yet applied or have an application being processed.
- TPS-potential individuals:** Current TPS holders and those eligible for TPS plus those who could be eligible with the designation of new countries or redesignation of current countries with new arrival dates as outlined in this report.

TPS country - designation status	Geography	Eligible population	Average years in U.S.	% in labor force	Annual economic contribution	U.S. citizens living with TPS individuals
Total TPS holders	living in the U.S.	537,000	17 years	77%	\$12.8 billion	598,000
	living in California	57,000	25 years	80%	\$1.6 billion	89,000
	living in Florida	164,000	10 years	74%	\$3.4 billion	140,000
	living in Georgia	18,000	20 years	84%	\$513 million	21,000
	living in Maryland	24,000	22 years	87%	\$537 million	27,000
	living in New Jersey	20,000	16 years	75%	\$496 million	27,000
	living in New York	50,000	22 years	77%	\$968 million	58,000
	living in Texas	65,000	19 years	75%	\$1.7 billion	85,000
	living in Virginia	24,000	23 years	80%	\$628 million	35,000
Total TPS holders and TPS-eligible individuals	living in the U.S.	892,000	14 years	76%	\$22.1 billion	833,000
	living in California	140,000	18 years	78%	\$3.5 billion	104,000
	living in Florida	222,000	9 years	72%	\$4.5 billion	182,000
	living in Georgia	26,000	16 years	79%	\$607 million	32,000
	living in Maryland	35,000	15 years	86%	\$988 million	43,000
	living in New Jersey	34,000	13 years	77%	\$801 million	34,000
	living in New York	62,000	17 years	73%	\$1.6 billion	76,000
	living in Texas	94,000	17 years	74%	\$2.5 billion	100,000
	living in Virginia	52,000	20 years	86%	\$1.8 billion	46,000
Total TPS holders from Afghanistan	living in the U.S.	<1,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

TPS holders and TPS-eligible individuals from Afghanistan	living in the U.S.	90,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
TPS-eligible individuals from Ethiopia	living in the U.S.	53,000	8 years	75%	\$1.2 billion	70,000
TPS holders from El Salvador	living in the U.S.	191,000	27 years	82%	\$4.9 billion	289,000
	living in California	48,000	27 years	82%	\$1.2 billion	71,000
	living in Maryland	14,000	25 years	89%	\$432 million	24,000
	living in New York	20,000	28 years	78%	\$498 million	31,000
	living in Texas	34,000	26 years	76%	\$761 million	49,000
	living in Virginia	17,000	26 years	83%	\$477 million	29,000
TPS holders and TPS-potential individuals from El Salvador with redesignation	living in the U.S.	673,000	14 years	77%	\$14.1 billion	663,000
	living in California	142,000	15 years	78%	\$3.1 billion	146,000
	living in Florida	20,000	14 years	83%	\$446 million	21,000
	living in Maryland	67,000	12 years	78%	\$1.4 billion	62,000
	living in New York	50,000	17 years	80%	\$1.2 billion	67,000
	living in Texas	131,000	12 years	72%	\$2.5 billion	107,000
	living in Virginia	58,000	15 years	80%	\$1.4 billion	61,000
TPS holders from Haiti	living in the U.S.	87,000	11 years	72%	\$1.9 billion	127,000
	living in Florida	51,000	12 years	68%	\$950 million	80,000
	living in New Jersey	6,000	13 years	75%	\$119 million	9,000
	living in New York	9,000	11 years	70%	\$145 million	13,000
TPS holders and TPS-eligible individuals from Haiti	living in the U.S.	182,000	9 years	68%	\$3.7 billion	199,000
	living in Florida	105,000	9 years	66%	\$1.9 billion	118,000
	living in New Jersey	10,000	9 years	75%	\$214 million	11,000
	living in New York	20,000	9 years	64%	\$345 million	22,000
TPS holders from Honduras	living in the U.S.	58,000	27 years	85%	\$1.4 billion	68,000
	living in Florida	12,000	27 years	84%	\$251 million	10,000
	living in Texas	11,000	27 years	76%	\$257 million	15,000
TPS holders and TPS-potential individuals from Honduras with redesignation	living in the U.S.	668,000	8 years	74%	\$13.0 billion	355,000
	living in Florida	83,000	10 years	71%	\$1.4 billion	41,000
	living in Texas	197,000	6 years	76%	\$3.5 billion	75,000
TPS holders from Nicaragua	living in the U.S.	3,000	28 years	92%	\$76 million	14,000
TPS holders and TPS-potential individuals from Nicaragua with redesignation	living in the U.S.	134,000	7 years	66%	\$2.3 billion	62,000
TPS holders from Nepal	living in the U.S.	9,000	13 years	66%	\$301 million	11,000
TPS holders and TPS-potential individuals from Nepal with redesignation	living in the U.S.	54,000	8 years	75%	\$1.6 billion	40,000
TPS holders from Ukraine	living in the U.S.	10,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
TPS holders and TPS-eligible individuals from Ukraine	living in the U.S.	93,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
TPS holders, TPS-eligible and TPS-potential individuals from Ukraine with redesignation	living in the U.S.	146,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

TPS holders from Venezuela	living in the U.S.	172,000	6 years	72%	\$3.7 billion	90,000
	living in Florida	90,000	6 years	75%	\$2.0 billion	39,000
	living in Texas	23,000	7 years	69%	\$538 million	15,000
TPS-potential individuals from Venezuela with redesignation	living in the U.S.	340,000	5 years	75%	\$8.3 billion	113,000
	living in Florida	179,000	5 years	78%	\$4.6 billion	\$49,000
	living in Texas	47,000	5 years	76%	\$1.1 billion	19,000
TPS holders from Burma, Cameroon, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen	living in the U.S.	9,000	7 years	53%	\$207 million	10,000
TPS-eligible individuals from Burma (Myanmar), Cameroon, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen	living in the U.S.	42,000	8 years	75%	\$1.0 billion	56,000
TPS-potential individuals from DR Congo with new designation	living in the U.S.	2,000	17 years	93%	\$30 million	6,000
TPS-potential individuals from Guatemala with designation	living in the U.S.	785,000	10 years	77%	\$14.7 billion	498,000
	living in California	110,000	14 years	80%	\$2.1 billion	97,000
	living in Florida	81,000	10 years	82%	\$1.5 billion	43,000
	living in Georgia	40,000	10 years	81%	\$760 million	24,000
	living in Maryland	36,000	9 years	75%	\$691 million	22,000
	living in New Jersey	43,000	9 years	81%	\$841 million	28,000
	living in New York	27,000	12 years	86%	\$654 million	24,000
	living in North Carolina	43,000	9 years	77%	\$665 million	19,000
	living in Texas	90,000	7 years	78%	\$1.6 billion	38,000
living in Virginia	35,000	8 years	75%	\$650 million	26,000	
TPS-potential individuals from Mali and Mauritania with new designations	living in the U.S.	8,000	9 years	73%	\$320 million	14,000
TPS-potential individuals from Lebanon with new designation	living in the U.S.	12,000	7 years	64%	\$420 million	13,000
TPS-potential individuals from Pakistan with new designation	living in the U.S.	62,000	7 years	66%	\$2 billion	67,000

Timeline of Historic TPS Designations by Presidential Administration and Date

Presidential Administration	Date of Initial Designation	Country	Status	Count of Redesignations & Extensions ²	Date of Termination
George H.W. Bush	November 29, 1990	El Salvador	Terminated	0	January 1, 1999
	March 27, 1991	Kuwait	Terminated	0	March 27, 1992
	March 27, 1991	Lebanon	Terminated	1	April 9, 1993
	March 27, 1991	Liberia	Terminated	6	September 28, 1999
	September 16, 1991	Somalia	Active	24	March 17, 2023 ³
	August 10, 1992	Bosnia-Herzegovina	Terminated	7	February 10, 2001
Bill Clinton	August 27, 1997	Montserrat	Terminated	5	August 27, 2004
	November 4, 1997	Burundi	Terminated	9	May 2, 2009
	November 4, 1997	Sudan	Terminated ¹	15	November 2, 2018
	June 9, 1998	Kosovo	Terminated	2	December 8, 2000
	January 5, 1999	Honduras	Terminated ¹	14	January 5, 2020
	January 5, 1999	Nicaragua	Terminated ¹	14	January 5, 2019
	March 11, 1999	Guinea-Bissau	Terminated	1	September 10, 2000
	March 29, 2000	Angola	Terminated	2	March 29, 2003
George W. Bush	March 9, 2001	El Salvador	Terminated ¹	12	September 9, 2019
	October 1, 2002	Liberia	Terminated	5	October 1, 2007
	June 7, 2004	Rwanda	Terminated	4	December 6, 1997
	November 21, 2004	Sierra Leone	Terminated	2	May 21, 2017
Barack Obama	January 21, 2010	Haiti	Terminated ¹	5	July 22, 2019
	October 13, 2011	South Sudan	Active	7	November 3, 2023 ³
	March 29, 2012	Syria	Active	7	March 31, 2024 ³
	November 21, 2014	Guinea	Terminated	1	May 21, 2017
	November 21, 2014	Liberia	Terminated	2	May 21, 2017
	June 24, 2015	Nepal	Terminated ¹	1	June 24, 2019
	September 3, 2015	Yemen	Active	5	September 3, 2024 ³
Joe Biden	March 9, 2021	Venezuela	Active	1	March 10, 2024 ³
	May 25, 2021	Burma (Myanmar)	Active	1	May 25, 2024 ³
	August 3, 2021	Haiti	Active	1	August 3, 2024 ³
	April 19, 2022	Sudan	Active	0	October 19, 2023 ³
	April 19, 2022	Ukraine	Active	0	October 19, 2023 ³
	May 20, 2022	Afghanistan	Active	0	November 20, 202 ³
	June 7, 2022	Cameroon	Active	0	December 7, 2023 ³
	December 12, 2022	Ethiopia	Active	0	June 12, 2024 ³

Source: Department of Justice, "Temporary Protected Status," <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/temporary-protected-status>.

1. The terminations of TPS designations for these six countries (El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, and Sudan) are currently being challenged in court. Federal courts have ordered that TPS recipients from these countries will have their protections and benefits automatically extended until further notice. Our table reflects when the TPS designations were formally terminated, however please note that recipients from these countries continue to receive benefits under these court orders.
2. Counts of redesignations and extensions include only formal redesignations and extensions of the TPS designation, but do not include automatic extensions of documentation or benefits.
3. For countries with active designations, we have listed the date of termination as the date on which the most recent designation, redesignation, or extension is scheduled to expire. Please note that these dates could change if the designation is terminated, extended, or redesignated.

TPS provides lifesaving relief for those whose home countries are very unsafe

Congress established the Temporary Protected Status program as part of the [Immigration Act of 1990](#). That Act also established the first TPS designation, describing specific TPS conditions for Salvadorans. TPS is currently administered by [U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services](#), under the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). TPS designations can be passed by Congress or issued by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

Since TPS was established, new TPS designations for countries were issued six times during the George H.W. Bush Administration, 10 times during the Clinton Administration, twice during the George W. Bush Administration, eight times during the Obama Administration, and eight times so far during the Biden Administration.

The program offers work authorization and deportation protections for individuals in the U.S. for whom their home countries are very unsafe. Foreign-born individuals can apply for TPS if Congress or the Secretary of Homeland Security [issues a designation](#) that “conditions in the country temporarily prevent the country’s nationals from returning safely,” often because of violent conflict or natural disaster. Many TPS recipients originally entered the U.S. as temporary immigrants or visitors, individuals seeking humanitarian relief, or without immigration status.

Upon registration with and approval by [United States Citizenship and Immigration Services](#) (USCIS), TPS holders are protected from deportation and can receive work authorization. Only individuals already in the U.S. when a designation is announced are eligible to receive TPS. The program is not a substitute for refugee or asylum protections that provide relief to individuals actively fleeing dangerous conditions.

Many TPS holders have lived in the United States for years, setting down roots in the U.S. and [building families](#) here. As a result, many TPS recipients are deeply ingrained into American families and communities. For instance, FWD.us **estimates that more than 800,000 U.S. citizens live in households with at least one current TPS holder or TPS-eligible person, including some 400,000 U.S. citizen children.** Whether these families will be able to remain safe and together is inextricably bound to their loved ones’ TPS protections.

TPS holders contribute significantly to the U.S. economy

Since Congress established TPS more than three decades ago, TPS recipients have used the program’s work authorization to support themselves and to contribute enormously to the U.S. workforce and economy. For example, **some 82% of TPS holders from El Salvador and 85% from Honduras—all of whom have lived in the U.S. for 20 years or longer—participate in the labor force. Similarly, a high share (83%) of Haitian TPS holders who have been in the country before 2011 are also in the labor force.** These labor force participation rates of long-term TPS holders are considerably higher than the U.S. labor force overall (about 62%).

Work authorization also allows holders to contribute significantly to the U.S. economy by filling labor gaps that are hindering economic growth. TPS holders’ significant economic contributions have helped [tamp down inflation](#) related to severe labor shortages that the U.S. has experienced in recent months. That’s largely because TPS holders work in many industries that have experienced extreme labor shortages during the past few years. In fact, FWD.us estimates **that the majority (59%) of current, eligible, or potential TPS holders, or roughly 1.2 million workers, work in industries experiencing 5% or higher job opening rates,** including 280,000 working in professional and business services, 250,000 in accommodations and food services, 200,000 in manufacturing, 190,000 in retail trade, 150,000 in transportation, warehousing and utilities, and 110,000 in healthcare and social assistance.

TPS program status varies across a host of countries with unsafe conditions

Sixteen countries are currently designated with Temporary Protected Status, with the program status varying by country. The Trump Administration attempted to terminate TPS designations for El Salvador (TPS-holder population of 191,000), Honduras (58,000), Nepal (9,000), and Nicaragua (3,000), but federal courts [blocked these attempts](#), stalling their terminations and allowing current TPS holders from those countries to retain their TPS protections for the time being. Currently, TPS holders from these countries will have their protections auto-extended through mid-2024. The Trump Administration also moved to terminate designations for Haiti and Sudan, but they have since been issued new designations by the Biden Administration.

Since these country designations were first issued, situations in these countries have remained precarious—including continuing violence in [El Salvador](#), human rights abuses in [Nicaragua](#) and [Nepal](#), and devastating hurricanes in [Honduras](#). These country conditions prevent people from returning safely. If El Salvador, Honduras, Nepal, and Nicaragua were redesignated for TPS in 2023 with updated arrival dates, nearly 1.5 million total individuals from these countries would be eligible to apply.

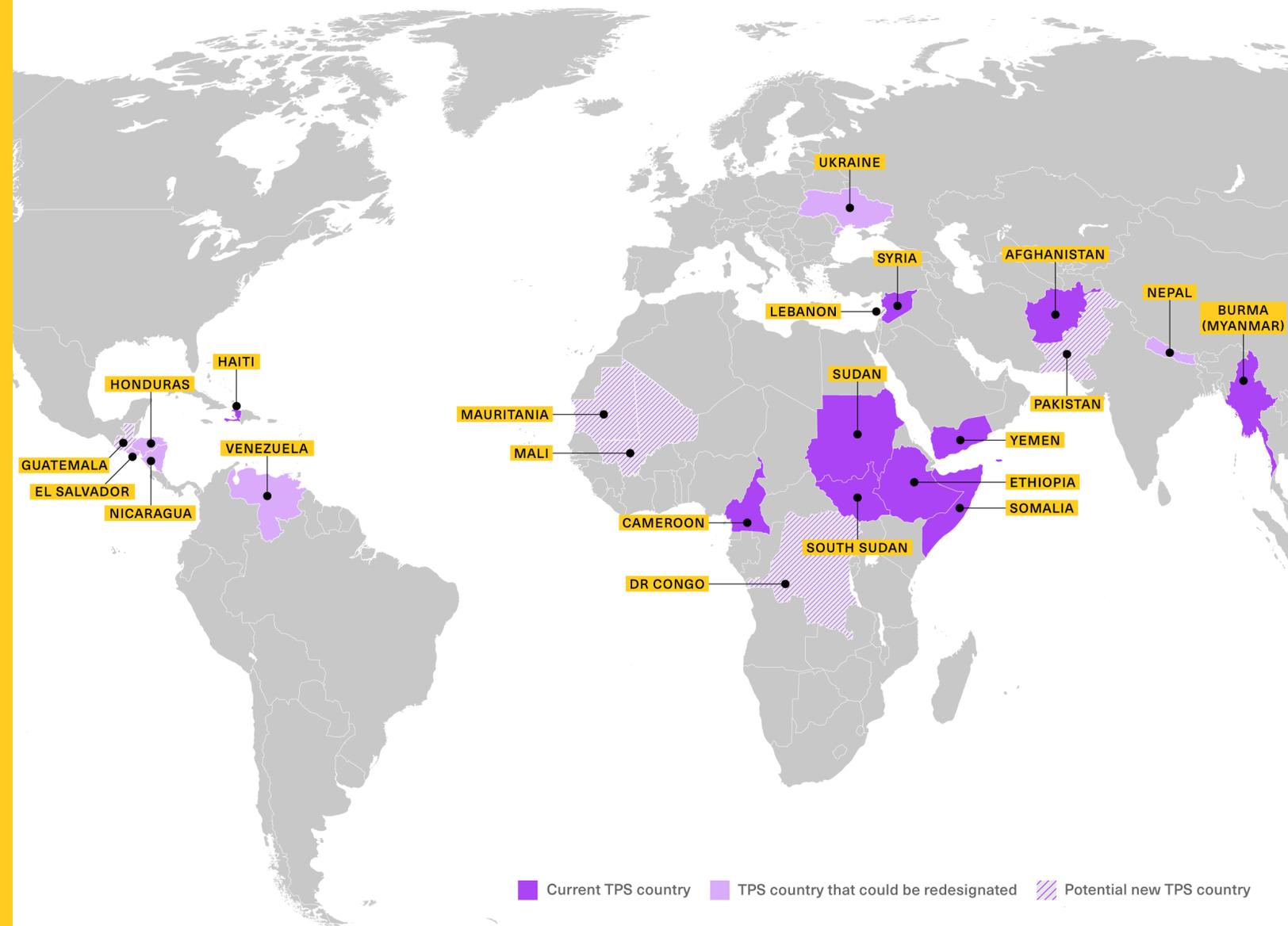


Table of Current TPS Designations

Country	Most Recent Decision	Required Arrival Date ^a	Expiration Date ^b	Individuals with TPS ^c
Afghanistan	New designation	March 15, 2022	November 20, 2023	25
Burma	Extension and redesignation	September 25, 2022	May 25, 2024	1,195
Cameroon	New designation	April 14, 2022	December 7, 2023	645
El Salvador	Termination (blocked by court injunction) ^d	February 13, 2001	September 9, 2019	190,865
Ethiopia	New designation	October 20, 2022	June 12, 2024	N/A
Haiti (2010)	Termination (blocked by court injunction) ^d	January 12, 2011	July 22, 2019	27,465
Haiti (2021)	Extension and redesignation	November 6, 2022	August 3, 2024	59,595
Honduras	Termination (blocked by court injunction) ^d	December 30, 1998	January 5, 2020	57,605
Nepal	Termination (blocked by court injunction) ^d	June 24, 2015	June 24, 2019	8,545
Nicaragua	Termination (blocked by court injunction) ^d	December 30, 1998	January 5, 2019	3,085
Somalia	Extension and redesignation	January 11, 2023	September 17, 2024	370
South Sudan	Extension and redesignation	March 1, 2022	November 3, 2023	80
Sudan (1997)	Termination (blocked by court injunction) ^d	January 9, 2013	November 2, 2018	570
Sudan (2022)	New designation	March 1, 2022	October 19, 2023	280
Syria	Extension and redesignation	July 28, 2022	March 31, 2024	4,025
Ukraine	New designation	April 11, 2022	October 19, 2023	9,520
Venezuela	Extension	March 8, 2021	March 10, 2024	171,550
Yemen	Extension and redesignation	December 29, 2022	September 3, 2024	1,510
Total				537,075

Source: Congressional Research Service, "[Temporary Protected Status and Deferred Enforced Departure](#)"

- The arrival date represents the date from which individuals are required to have continuously resided in the United States in order to qualify for TPS. Unless a country is re-designated for TPS, the required arrival date does not change.
- The expiration date represents the end of the most recent designation period and is subject to change based on future decisions of the Secretary of DHS. Expiration dates for recent designations may not yet be announced.
- Counts of individuals with TPS are the most recent estimates provided by USCIS or DHS. [Most counts were provided to the Congressional Research Service](#). Countries with a pending termination and a new designation may have individuals registered under both designations; the Total count does not count these individuals twice. Data for countries with relatively newer designations may not yet be available and are marked "N/A."
- While these designations have been formally terminated, court injunctions have prevented terminations from taking effect, and DHS has extended the validity of all TPS-related documents for beneficiaries of TPS for El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, and Sudan through June 30, 2024.

Meanwhile, the Biden Administration has designated or redesignated several countries since 2021. These countries include Venezuela (TPS-holder population of 172,000), [Haiti](#) (87,000), Afghanistan (<1,000), Ukraine (10,000), Burma (Myanmar) (1,000), [Cameroon](#) (<1,000), Yemen (1,500), Somalia (<1,000), Sudan (<1,000), South Sudan (<1,000), and Syria (4,000). Some of these countries still maintain open periods for application, including Afghanistan (including current TPS holders, 90,000 eligible, according to FWD.us estimates); Ethiopia (53,000 currently eligible); Haiti (182,000 eligible); Ukraine (93,000 eligible). Burma (Myanmar), Cameroon, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen represent a combined group of 42,000 eligible. However, intense backlogs remain at USCIS, leading to [lengthy processing times](#). These backlogs could be reduced significantly if [Congress provided additional funding](#).

Additionally, safe return is not possible for a number of other countries, and those necessitate a TPS designation. For example, certain African countries like the [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#), [Mali](#), and [Mauritania](#) have all experienced recent, and in some cases prolonged, periods of civil unrest with conditions including armed conflicts, extreme violence, and statelessness and enslavement, making it unsafe for citizens to return. Also, recent flooding in [Pakistan](#), hurricanes in [Guatemala](#), and the 2020 explosion and resulting social and economic unrest in [Lebanon](#) validate granting TPS for people from these countries. Finally, the Biden Administration during 2023 will determine whether several countries will be redesignated with a more recent arrival date, including Afghanistan, [Cameroon](#), South Sudan, Sudan, Ukraine, and [Venezuela](#). With new country designations listed above and current TPS countries with redesignations, an additional million people would be eligible to apply for TPS protections.

Temporary Protected Status has shown that protection from deportation and access to work authorization provides significant benefits for families, allowing them to improve their economic condition, keep their families together, and more fully participate in their local communities. Work authorizations also let them contribute more robustly to the U.S. economy, providing workers that U.S. industries desperately need at this time. TPS has the capacity to provide immediate humanitarian relief to hundreds of thousands of immigrants in the U.S. while simultaneously strengthening the U.S. labor force.



Methodology

Estimates reflect population sizes and economic contributions as of the end of 2022. Data sources for this report include: (1) November 2022 Congressional Research Service [report](#) on TPS; (2) 2021 American Community Survey data obtained from IPUMS: Steven Ruggles, Sarah Flood, Ronald Goeken, Megan Schouweiler, and Matthew Sobek. IPUMS USA: Version 12.0 [data set]. Minneapolis, MN: IPUMS, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.18128/D010.V12.0>; (3) U.S. Customs and Border Protection [data](#); and (4) DHS reporting for [Operation Allies Welcome](#) and [Uniting for Ukraine](#). Population estimates are based on augmented 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) data for the potentially eligible TPS population that include undocumented immigrants and nonimmigrant visa holders (such as H-1B, H-2B, and international students), with upward adjustments for new arrivals who [entered the U.S.](#) as unaccompanied minors or part of a family unit under Title 8 in fiscal years 2021, 2022, and through the end of December during fiscal year 2023. Analysis of 2021 Title 8 [apprehension statistics](#) from U.S. Customs and Border Patrol indicate most individuals paroled or permitted to enter the U.S. under Title 8 belonged to these demographic groups. Most of these individuals are assumed to have applied for asylum after entering the U.S. This report assumes no emigration of TPS holders, TPS-eligible, or TPS-potential individuals since 2021. Potential TPS holder characteristics, including state of residence, are the same as undocumented peers from the same country who entered the U.S. between 2016 and 2021. Immigrant status in the ACS was classified by FWD.us researchers based on social, demographic, and economic characteristics. See [immigration status methodology](#) for more details. Economic estimates are combined wages after the payment of [federal, state, and local](#) taxes, differentiated by state of residence, income, and household size. Economic figures were upwardly adjusted to account for the average [rise in wages between 2021 and 2022](#).