

Business Immigration Weekly for August 8, 2014

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Practices: Immigration

September 2014 Visa Bulletin Update

Current Availability

Today the U.S. Department of State ("DOS") released its September 2014 Visa Bulletin which shows the availability of employment-based immigrant visa categories for the month of September. Below is a summary of the bulletin highlights:

- The EB-2 India category continues advancing significantly from January 22, 2009 in August to May 1, 2009 in September. The DOS predicts in this month's bulletin that once there is a significant demand in this category the dates can retrogress as early as November.
- The EB-3 World category remains at April 1, 2011 has not advanced since June 2014 when the category retrogressed from October 1, 2012.
- The EB-3 China, India and Mexico categories show no advancement from August and remain at November 1, 2008 for China, November 8, 2003 for India and April 1, 2011 for Mexico.
- The EB-2 China category also remains stalled at October 8, 2009.
- The EB-3 Philippines category continues to show rapid advancement from June 1, 2010 in August to April 1, 2011 in September.

Forecasted Availability

The DOS has indicated the following visa availability:

- EB-1 will remain current.
- EB-2: World category will remain current; China will advance three to five weeks; and India will slow its advancement or retrogress in the coming months.

Please note that month-to-month availability of immigrant visas varies and depends on many factors. These forecasts do not guarantee future availability.

Comparison to Prior Months

The following is a comparison of priority date movement since the inception of the current retrogression in 2007:

	Dec 2007	Jun 2008	Aug 2009	Sept 2012	May 2013	Aug 2014	Sept 2014
EB-3 World	09/01/02	03/01/06	U	10/01/06	12/01/07	04/01/11	04/01/11
EB-2 China	01/01/03	04/01/04	10/01/03	U	05/15/08	10/08/09	10/08/09
EB-3 China	10/15/01	03/22/03	U	12/15/05	12/01/07	11/01/08	11/01/08
EB-2 India	01/01/02	04/01/04	10/01/03	U	09/01/04	01/22/09	05/01/09
EB-3 India	05/01/01	11/01/01	U	10/08/02	12/22/02	11/08/03	11/08/03
EB-3 Other Workers	10/01/01	01/01/03	U	10/01/06	12/01/07	04/01/11	04/01/11

Additional information about the movement of the employment-based immigrant visa priority dates will be contained in our firm's future Immigration Updates when it becomes available.