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AAO Processing Times

The AAO reports its processing times by form type, displaying the total number of completions for the quarter and the percentage completed within 180 days, which is our goal.

The administrative appeals process has two stages: initial field review and AAO appellate review.

Initial field review: The office that issued the unfavorable decision has 45 days to evaluate the appeal and determine whether to take favorable action on the appeal. If that office does not take favorable action, it will forward the appeal to the AAO and send the appellant a Notice of Transfer to the AAO.

AAO appellate review: The AAO strives to complete its appellate review within 180 days from the time it receives a complete case record after the initial field review. Some cases may take longer than 180 days due to factors beyond the AAO's control. For example, additional documentation may be needed to complete the record, or the case may be more complex and require additional review.

The following chart shows the percentage of cases the AAO completed within 180 days, by case category, during the most recent quarter of the fiscal year. These data include all AAO dispositions for the listed form types. If a case category is not listed, the AAO issued no appeal decisions for that category in the most recent quarter.

Timeliness of Fiscal Year 2021 Second Quarter Completions (January - March 2021)

Form Type	Case Type	Completed 0-180 Days	Quarterly Completions
Cumulative total of all completions		39%	1,268
I-129E2	CNMI Treaty Investor	50%	2
I-129F	Petition for Fiancée	58%	12
I-129H1B	Nonimmigrant Specialty Occupation Worker	47%	93

Form Type	Case Type	Completed 0-180 Days	Quarterly Completions
I-129H3	Nonimmigrant Petitions for Trainees	100%	1
I-129L	Nonimmigrant Intracompany Transferee	63%	71
I-129O	Nonimmigrant Extraordinary Ability Worker	8%	13
I-129P	Athletes, Artists and Entertainers	20%	5
I-129R	Nonimmigrant Religious Worker	43%	7
I-140A	Alien with Extraordinary Ability	43%	72
I-140C	Multinational Manager or Executive	63%	46
I-140D	Advanced Degree Professional	50%	12
I-140E	Professional Worker	67%	6
I-140F	Skilled Worker	44%	18
I-140G	Other Worker	89%	19
I-140I	National Interest Waiver	27%	15
I-212	Application to Reapply for Admission	22%	87
I-352	Bond Breach	72%	111
I-360C	Special Immigrant Juvenile	11%	178
I-360D	Petition for Religious Worker	0%	3
I-360 VAWA	Violence Against Women Act Petition	59%	27
I-485 SEC 13	Cuban Adjustment Act	57%	7
I-485U	U Visa Nonimmigrant Adjustment	16%	160
I-526	Alien Entrepreneur	27%	22
I-600	Petition for Orphan	100%	1

Form Type	Case Type	Completed 0-180 Days	Quarterly Completions
I-601	Application for Waiver of Inadmissibility	39%	153
I-612	Application of 212(e) Waiver	0%	2
I-698	Application to Adjust Status from Temporary to Permanent Resident Under Section 245A	100%	1
I-821	Temporary Protected Status	67%	6
I-914	Application for T Nonimmigrant Status	73%	15
I-918	Petition for U Nonimmigrant Status	46%	46
I-929	Petition for Qualifying Family Member of a U-1 Recipient	50%	2
N-565	Replacement Naturalization/Citizenship Document	57%	7
N-600	Certificate of Citizenship	44%	48

Last Reviewed/Updated: 04/13/2021