



Fact Sheet: Temporary Protected Status

[Temporary Protected Status \(TPS\)](#) is granted by the Secretary of U.S. Department of Homeland Security (Secretary) to eligible foreign born individuals, who are unable to return home safely due to conditions or circumstances preventing their country from adequately handling the return.

When can the Secretary designate a country for TPS?

The Secretary can designate a country for TPS due to:

- Ongoing armed conflict (such as civil war),
- An environmental disaster (such as earthquake or hurricane), or an epidemic, or
- Other extraordinary and temporary conditions.

Who is eligible for TPS?

TPS can be granted to an individual who is a national of a country designated for TPS and meets other requirements and has been continuously physically present in the U.S. since specific dates.

What TPS means for the eligible individuals?

During a designated period, TPS holders are:

- Not removable from the U.S. and not detainable by DHS on the basis of his or her immigration status,
- Eligible for an employment authorization document (EAD), and
- Eligible for travel authorization.

How many individuals are currently granted TPS?

The U.S. currently provides TPS to over [300,000 foreign nationals](#) from the following countries:

Country	Estimated Number
El Salvador	195,000
Honduras	57,000
Haiti	50,000
Nepal	8,950
Syria	5,800

Nicaragua	2,550
Yemen	1,000
Sudan	450
Somalia	270
South Sudan	75-200

Where do TPS holders live?

TPS holders [reside](#) all over the U.S. Most TPS holders from El Salvador live in the Washington, DC (32,359), Los Angeles (30,415) and New York (23,168) metropolitan areas. Honduran TPS holders live mostly in the New York (8,818), Miami (7,467) and Houston (6,060) metropolitan areas. Haitian TPS holders live mainly in the Miami (16,287), New York (9,402) and Boston (4,302) metropolitan areas.

When do TPS designations expire?

Country	Most Recent Designation Date	Secretary's Decision Due	Expiration Date
Sudan	5/3/2013	N/A	11/2/2018
Nicaragua	1/5/1999	N/A	1/5/2019
Haiti	7/23/2011	N/A	7/22/2019
El Salvador	3/9/2001	N/A	9/9/2019
Syria	8/1/2016	8/1/2019	9/30/2019
Nepal	6/24/2015	4/25/2018	6/24/2018
Honduras	1/5/1999	5/6/2018	7/5/2018
Yemen	3/4/2017	7/5/2018	9/3/2018
Somalia	9/18/2012	7/19/2018	9/17/2018
South Sudan	5/3/2016	3/3/2019	5/2/2019

The Secretary can extend TPS after a review of country conditions. A [decision](#) about a 6, 12 or 18 month extension must be made at least 60-days before the TPS designation expiration date.

For example, the Secretary most recently decided to extend but not re-designate TPS status for [Syrians](#). Previously, the Secretary terminated TPS for [El Salvador](#), [Haiti](#), [Sudan](#) and [Nicaragua](#), but extended TPS for eligible immigrants from Honduras and South Sudan through July 2018 and May 2019, respectively.

How do TPS holders contribute to our economy?

Recent [data](#) estimate that TPS holders from El Salvador, Honduras, and Haiti contribute a combined \$4.5 billion in pre-tax wages or salary income annually to our nation's gross domestic product. Total Social Security and Medicare contributions of those individuals is estimated at more than \$6.9 billion over a decade.

Where do TPS holders work?

According to a recent [survey](#) of TPS holders from El Salvador and Honduras, overall 88.5% are working -- 94 percent of men and 82 percent of women. Male TPS holders work in the following sector or occupation: construction/painting (23 percent), driving/delivery (13.7 percent), cleaning buildings or houses (7.3 percent), gardener (5.4 percent), cook (3.9 percent), or store clerk (2.5 percent). Female TPS holders are concentrated in cleaning buildings or houses (27.9 percent), childcare (6.6 percent), cook (5.2 percent), clothing factory (4 percent), or store clerk (3.8 percent).