



Fact Sheet: Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

[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 designated country, has filed for status during a specified registration period, and who has been continuously physically present in the U.S. since a designated date.

What are the benefits of TPS?

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 about [610,000 foreign nationals](#) from the following 16 countries, as of March 31, 2023:

Country	Estimated Number of Approved Individuals
Venezuela	201,895
El Salvador	188,725
Haiti	116,505
Honduras	56,840
Ukraine	22,480

Nepal	8,525
Syria	3,955
Nicaragua	3,020
Burma	1,760
Afghanistan	1,585
Yemen	1,530
Cameroon	1,300
Sudan	970
Ethiopia	910
Somalia	390
South Sudan	100

Where do TPS holders live?

TPS holders [reside](#) all over the United States. The [largest populations](#) of TPS holders live in Florida (197,485), Texas (69,840), California (60,420), New York (54,010), and Virginia (24,090). 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. On March 30, 2021, detailed information regarding where in the U.S. TPS holders from various countries live was revealed as a result of a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request filed by Catholic Legal Information Network Inc. (CLINIC), Alianza Americas, the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild, and the National TPS Alliance. The resulting [CLINIC report](#) provides previously undisclosed information about where TPS holders lived as of November 29, 2018, as well as additional facts concerning their demographics and work authorization status.

When do TPS designations expire?

Country	Required Arrival Date	Secretary's Decision Due	Expiration Date
Afghanistan	03/15/2022	09/21/2023	11/20/2023
Burma	09/25/2022	03/24/2024	05/25/2024
Cameroon	04/14/2022	10/08/2023	12/07/2023

El Salvador	3/9/2001	01/08/2025	03/09/2025
Ethiopia	12/12/2022	04/11/2024	06/12/2024
Haiti	12/06/2022	06/04/2024	08/03/2024
Honduras	12/30/1998	05/05/2025	07/05/2025
Nepal	06/24/2015	04/23/2025	06/24/2025
Nicaragua	12/30/1998	05/05/2025	07/05/2025
Somalia	01/11/2023	07/16/2024	09/17/2024
South Sudan	03/01/2022	09/04/2023	11/03/2023
Sudan	03/01/2022	02/18/2025	04/19/2025
Syria	07/28/2022	01/30/2024	03/31/2024
Ukraine	04/11/2022	02/18/2025	04/19/2025
Venezuela	03/08/2021	01/10/2024	03/10/2024
Yemen	12/29/2022	07/05/2024	09/03/2024

The Secretary can extend TPS after a review of country conditions. A [decision](#) concerning a 6, 12 or 18 month extension must be made at least 60-days before the TPS designation is set to expire. TPS extensions only apply to those who already have TPS status. Foreign nationals who arrive after the designated start date are only made eligible for status if TPS is re-designated for their country.

What will happen to TPS holders whose countries' designations were terminated?

On June 13, the Biden administration [said](#) it was rescinding Trump-era terminations of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for El Salvador, Honduras, Nepal, and Nicaragua and extending those nationalities' protections for another 18 months. Following that announcement, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals [granted](#) the Biden administration's request to voluntarily dismiss the U.S.'s appeal in *Ramos v. Nielsen* over the termination of temporary legal status for recipients from those countries.

Background:

Support Families Who Are Losing Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

What is TPS?

TPS was established with bipartisan support by Congress in 1990 for people whose countries cannot handle their return due to civil war, armed conflict, environmental disasters, or other disasters.

This protection allows for recipients to work, pay taxes, and contribute to society without fear of deportation.

1990

Why haven't they become citizens?

There is currently no pathway to become permanent residents or U.S. citizens for the **400,000+ immigrants with TPS**, even though many have been here for 20+ years and have children who are U.S. citizens.

400,000+ TPS recipients

That includes **126,000 TPS holders** who are essential workers during the COVID-19 pandemic & contribute billions to the U.S. annually.

What can I do to help?

Call your U.S. senators and representatives and urge them to support legislation that would provide a permanent solution for TPS holders and benefit the American people.

Get involved! Share this graphic!

NATIONAL IMMIGRATION FORUM

On September 14, 2020 the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit [overturned](#) the lower court's [preliminary injunction](#) and allowed the termination of TPS for El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Sudan to proceed. However, that decision has been appealed, and deportations will not proceed until the appeal is resolved and TPS recipients can maintain TPS status and work authorization through October 4, 2021. *Ramos v Nielsen* was filed in March 2018 on behalf of over 250,000 immigrants from El Salvador, Nicaragua, Haiti and Sudan, alleging the government's termination of TPS was unlawful.

On February 10, 2019, a group of Nepali and Honduran TPS holders filed a [separate lawsuit](#) claiming that the termination of the two countries' TPS designations violated the law. On March 12, 2019, a federal district court in California temporarily stayed the termination of TPS for Nepal and Honduras and consolidated the case with *Ramos v. Nielsen*. A third lawsuit, *Saget v. Trump*, challenges the termination of TPS for Haitians. In that case, a federal court judge in New York on April 11, 2019 issued a preliminary injunction blocking the termination of TPS for Haitians. That case is on appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

On December 9, 2020, [DHS](#) issued a [notice](#) extending TPS documentation for TPS holders from El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, and Sudan through October 4, 2021 while litigation is on-going. DHS will continue to extend the validity of these immigration documents in nine-month intervals. Once the litigation is completed, and if the courts have issued a final ruling that the terminations were proper, DHS will allow for a 365-day "orderly transition" period for those from El Salvador and a 120-day period for those from all other countries before deportations would begin.

On November 16, 2022, DHS posted a [notice](#) announcing the continuation of TPS for individuals under designations that continue to subject to the litigation. This announcement occurred after [settlement talks stalled](#) between the Biden administration and the plaintiffs in the ongoing lawsuits.

How do TPS holders contribute to our economy?

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. The total Social Security and Medicare contributions of those individuals is estimated at more than [\\$6.9 billion](#) over a ten year span.

Where do TPS holders work?

An estimated [130,000](#) TPS holders are working as “essential critical infrastructure workers” working shoulder to shoulder with Americans during the coronavirus pandemic and helping with our economic recovery in a number of industries including healthcare and food services. According to a 2017 [survey](#) of TPS holders from El Salvador and Honduras, overall 88.5% are working — 94% of men and 82% of women. Male TPS holders work in the following sector or occupation: construction/painting (23%), driving/delivery (13.7%), cleaning buildings or houses (7.3%), gardener (5.4%), cook (3.9%), or store clerk (2.5%). Female TPS holders are concentrated in cleaning buildings or houses (27.9%), childcare (6.6%), cooking (5.2%), clothing factory work (4%), or store clerk (3.8%).