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STUDIES

**New Data, New Tools**



Undocumented residents;  
updating the registry date

## Registry provision – Current requirements

- Eligible under Section 249 of the Act if:
- Entered the U.S. prior to January 1, 1972;
- Resided in this country continuously since such entry;
- Is a person of good moral character;
- Is not ineligible for citizenship; and,
- Is not inadmissible under section 249; not deportable under section 237(a)(4)(B) as a terrorist; and, not subject to the foreign residence requirement of section 212(e) of the Act.

*Source: <https://www.uscis.gov/>*

## Summary of changes to the registry provision

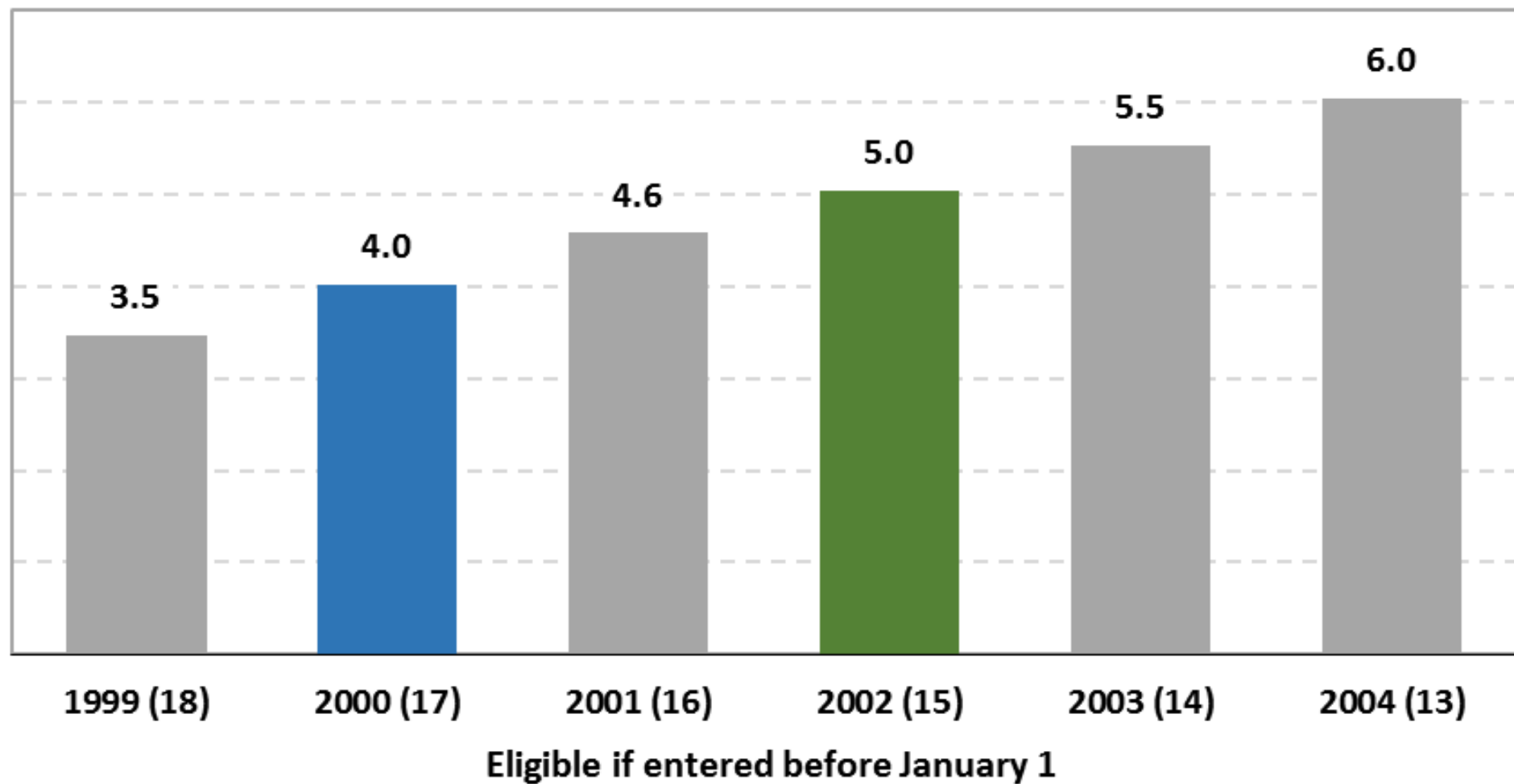
Date of change	Eligible if entered before Jan. 1	Years between date enacted and year eligible
1929	1921	8 years
1940	1924	16 years
1958	1940	18 years
1965	1948	17 years
1986	1972	14 years
<b>Currently</b>	<b>1972</b>	<b>44 years</b>

Source: <https://www.uscis.gov/>

Average years  
between date changes  
**14.5**

Average years  
above  
**14.5**

**Number eligible to adjust status for new registry dates (January 1)**  
**Assumes legislation is enacted in 2017 (in millions)**



## Undocumented residents arrived before January 1, 2002

### **Ability to Speak English (5 years and older)**

Speaks English a little	30%
Speaks English well, very well, or only English	55%

### **Educational attainment (18 years and older)**

High school diploma or equivalent	27%
Some college or a degree	23%

### **Employment status (16 years and older)**

In the labor force	4,030,000
Unemployment rate (as of 2014)	6.4%

**Percent at or above the poverty level** 73%

**Percent with health insurance coverage** 37%

A faint, light gray map of the United States is visible in the background, showing state boundaries and a grid of cities.

<http://data.cmsny.org/>