## Issue Briefing June 2023



#### H-2B BY THE NUMBERS

- For FY 2022 employers are requesting a near-record of 136,555 H-2B positions for the summer, more than 4 times the summer cap of 33,000.
- The Department of Labor (DOL) certified a record 95 percent of H-2B positions as unfilled by U.S. workers in 2021.
- H-2B wages have grown at twice the rate of all U.S. wages.
- The unemployment rate in the top H-2B job (landscaping) was at a record low of 4 percent in the summer of 2021.
- H-2B's main industry (landscaping) had a record 2.3 job openings for each unemployed worker in the summer of 2021.
- H-2B businesses (mainly small businesses) face declines in revenue of about \$2 billion without a cap increase.
- In a typical example, the Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy mentions one Maryland landscaper that advertised 25 H-2B jobs: 25 U.S. workers applied, 3 showed up for interviews, and only 2 lasted more than two weeks on the job.
- The landscape industry values our seasonal guest workers, many of whom are returning workers that have been returning to the same landscape company for several years. These H-2B workers are celebrated employees and integral members of these organizations each season.
- NALP supports measures that ensure fair and equitable treatment and harsh penalties for the small number of bad actors in the program including disbarment.



Applications Received<sup>1</sup>

FY22	Q1 (Oct-Dec)	Q2 (Jan-Mar)	Q3 (Apr-Jun)	Q4 (Jul-Sept)	% Change FY 2021
14,302	955	9,474	421	3,452	49.5%

Applications Processed<sup>2</sup>

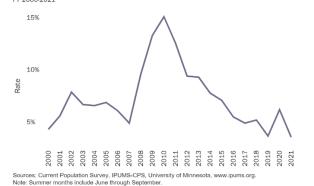
Applications Processed					
Determinations	FY22	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Total Processed	14,401	1,096	6,171	4,014	3,120
- Certified	11,567	834	5,246	2,945	2,542
- Denied	1,440	150	262	668	360
- Withdrawn	1,177	80	625	294	178
- Rejected	217	32	38	107	40
Positions Requested	267,986	28,930	107,073	64,031	67,952
Positions Certified	211,254	21,353	89,923	46,609	53,369
Processed Timely <sup>2</sup>	52.5%	80.0%	60.5%	4.2%	88.0%

Review of Positions Certified FY 2022 (% of total certified FY 2022)					
Top 10 States of Employment	Texas	21,220	10.0%		
	Florida	19,053	9.0%		
	Colorado	9,294	4.4%		
	North Carolina	7,738	3.7%		
	Pennsylvania	7,566	3.6%		
	Louisiana	7,373	3.5%		
	Michigan	6,931	3.3%		
	South Carolina	6,392	3.0%		
	Ohio	6,149	2.9%		
	Utah	6,076	2.9%		

## Review of Positions Certified FY22 (% of total certified FY22)

Top 10 Occupations (based on SOC Codes)	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	78,304	37.1%
	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	17,253	8.0%
	Forest and Conservation Workers	13,769	6.5%
	Amusement and Recreation Attendants	11,277	5.3%
	Meat, Poultry and Fish Cutters	8,004	3.8%
	Cooks, Restaurant	7,837	3.7%
	Construction Laborers	6,398	3.0%
	Waiters and Waitresses	6,286	3.0%
	Laborers and Freight Movers	4,216	2.0%
	Counter Attendants	3,353	1.6%

#### Summer unemployment rate for landscaping and groundskeeping positions ${\rm FY}\,2000\text{-}2021$



# National Association of Landscape Professionals

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