

2015

# Student Visa Control and Information Exchange

Lisa Bellamy  
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# Walden University

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

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2015

Abstract

Student Visa Control and Information Exchange

by

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MS, American Military University, 2007

BS, University of Maryland University College, 2005

Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfillment

of the Requirements for the Degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

Public Policy and Administration

Walden University

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## Abstract

Expired student visas can contribute to illegal residence in the U.S. and may also be a valuable source of information for Homeland Security. Although the reason for remaining in the U.S. might be for nonthreatening purposes, threatening actions could occur as an individual gets lost in the country. The purpose of this study was to determine how visas were issued, the reasons an individual may remain beyond the approved visa date, and the mechanisms intelligence and law enforcement agencies use to exchange information with each other. This research was based on the new war theory and the Lockwood Analytical Method for Prediction (LAMP) in order to predict results or intentions an individual may have with a student visa overstay. Quantitative nonimmigrant student visa data sets derived from the State Department were used to apply findings for a pair wise comparison. The pairwise comparison of issued visas involved completing a rank order comparison as determined by the LAMP Method. The benefit of this quantitative methods study was to demonstrate the need and reason to share information between the relevant enforcement agencies. The small detail of visas being attributed to terrorist events is minimal; however, there are known events involving visa overstays and terrorist events. The results noted major trends in the number of nonimmigrant student visas, organized by year, which could be directly linked to changes in U.S. international relations with other countries. This quasi-experimental research influences positive social change by utilizing information amongst law enforcement and intelligence agencies in accordance with location of individuals residing in the U.S. on expired student visas.

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## Dedication

Thanks to my family and friends for all of your motivation over the years!

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## Chapter 1: Introduction to the Study

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) was established in order to provide better mechanisms to detect, deter, and respond to terrorists. One of the focuses of homeland security is to protect the country from terrorist attacks. This preventative solution came in numerous forms which were sufficient enough to change the Cabinets of the Executive Branch of United States (U.S.) government.

The area of terrorism has been researched in great detail through various sources such as government agencies, private think tanks, and businesses. The research conducted was done as both preventative and after an event took places. The counterterrorism efforts being used may have critical gaps through failure to track and changes in individual opinion. An individual who is either consistently immersed in an idea may think the idea is the truth and that idea may very well be the truth; however, if there is some degree of misappropriation of an idea combined with a constant negative (verbal harassment, physical abuse), the outcomes deserve attention.

One method by which a terrorist (foreign-based) can harm the United States is through illegal entry or residency. The basis of this research was derived from student visa data and an attempt to link these data to actual terrorist events or associated activities to entry via visas. The focus of this research was to discuss the tracking mechanisms used for nonimmigrant visas as well as to propose alternative tracking methods or processes. The specific nonimmigrant visa type reviewed was the student visa since this type has direct links to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

I used a quantitative methodology review through assessments of quantitative data. I calculated the various locations from which student visas had been obtained. There is a quantitative assessment to focus specifically on three case studies of nonimmigrant student visas and visa overstays. A potential solution to diminish acts of terrorism is possible if this research were to be recognized and utilized by law enforcement entities. The research questions were predominantly focused on the demand to prevent terrorism through vigilance.

### **Background**

Terrorism has been identified as an element which has caused a threat to the national security of the US. Terrorism can cost lives and counterterrorism can cost substantial dollar amounts (Zegart, 2013). In addition to deterrent efforts, there are additional emergency budgets for use in response to a terrorist attack. Funds can be allocated to deter terrorism; yet, an incorrect focus could still allow terrorist events to take place on US territory.

The focus on nonimmigrant students is taken to determine ways for a foreign entity to arrive in the US. Some student visa overstays have been attributed to adverse ideologies (Spiers, 2004). The intent was not to isolate a particular group or organization, but rather to examine how this issue relates to deterrence of international terrorists from taking action against U.S. interests.

An individual can have an opinion often through previous experience or indoctrination into a various ideology. Each entity has various reasons such as religion and culture which would make one element perceived as incorrect (Rondon, 2009).

Al Qaida was a group which arrived with the intent to cause harm (Kephardt, 2006). This group has been directly tied to the events of September 11, 2001 (Kean & Hamilton, 2004). Other special interest aliens have origins from the Middle East and Southwest Asia. Those entities may have direct or supportive ties to seek to do harm. However, one caveat is the fact the typical arrived nonimmigrant student visa holders completes their education and returns to country of origin.

An increase in information exchange between intelligence and law enforcement agencies would help in preventing acts of terrorism within the United States (Mayntz, 2006). The objective of this research was to address the prevalent problems associated with student visa overstays and associations with committing malicious activities. The idea was to increase awareness in an attempt to deter international terrorism in the continental U.S. The point of origin at US consulates is the first step in the award of a nonimmigrant student visa. An increased information exchange would be helpful if information were available and exchanged. One problem is the lack of information. The link to nonimmigrant visa overstays and vulnerability to terrorism was identified as early as 2001. The events of September 11, 2001, occurred as student pilots conducted terrorist attacks against the United States. One of the 19 terrorists, Hanjour, a Saudi Arabian national, was known to be in violation of allowable visas to get a pilot license (Kean & Hamilton, 2004). While this event happened over 10 years ago, the problem still exists today, based upon continued actions taken by the U.S. government on entry restrictions.

The problem of entering the United States under the auspices of a student seems to be one of the best methods of concealment a potential terrorist or threat to a democratic society could use (Orbach, 1999). The ability for an individual to be swayed to believe who the enemy is could be possible after entry if interaction with negative entities is conducted. The prevention of actual entry is significant to ensuring homeland security meets the intent of protecting the United States (Kean & Hamilton, 2004). The early warning, tip-offs, and exchanges of information between both law enforcement and intelligence agencies are important (Kean & Hamilton, 2004). If actual entry is not prevented and a potential threat to society enters this country, sharing information amongst law enforcement and intelligence agencies must occur faster. A purpose of this research is to better understand student visa overstays and any links to terrorism found through student visa overstays.

Although links to terrorism and student visas were specifically mentioned in the 9/11 Commission Report (1999) and Vaughn (2012), the literature is insufficient to make an assessment to properly determine whether or not the problem is worsening or resolving. This absence of research is the preliminary reason for the research. Results of this study will supplement the link by providing recommendations to lessen the problem. The New War Theory (Kaldor, 1999) will serve as the model to assess overall concepts of terrorist organizations relocating internationally. The Lockwood Analytical Method for Prediction (LAMP) will compare actors in a pair wise comparison to determine if a given actor will conduct attacks, remain neutral, or support a larger terrorist organization.

## **Problem Statement**

Despite the effort to curtail nonimmigrant student visas, terrorism is occurring. This problem has negatively impacted some daily lives and is a major concern for American citizens because the threat of terrorism creates fear and uncertainty. A possible cause of this problem is the locations from which individuals are granted student visas (DHS, 2013). I investigated the methods of student visa approval by government approvals through the application of the LAMP (Lockwood, 2010) in an effort to remedy the situation. Terrorism is becoming an increasingly significant issue, according to the 9/11 Commission Report (1999) and Vaughn (2012).

Siskin (2005), DHS (2001), Rosen (2009), and Orbach (1999) demonstrated that an inability to accurately track individuals residing within the U.S. has become a more significant issue in recent years; but, the problem remains unresolved. In order to address terrorism, it is necessary to know more about the events which might provoke a negative response. I used quantitative statistics to obtain the number of visas granted by country of origin over a number of years in an effort to help to do predictive analysis or trend data to the top 10 countries. This study has the potential to identify potential problem areas in US foreign relations.

## **Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of this research was to determine if a link between student visa overstays and terrorist threats exist. The study of variables was completed in order to prove that if a terrorist threat is confirmed, then the appropriate agencies are notified. These agencies can use the information from student visa records to take the appropriate

action to counter the threat. A quantitative methods paradigm was used to complete this research. The use of the new war theory and the LAMP Method acquired baseline data from student visas for several years. Once assessed, this information was coded through the LAMP process in order to determine the probable outcomes a terrorist-associated organization could have within the United States.

The objective of this study was to determine if there are links between student visa overstays and terrorism. A secondary effect of this study will serve to determine if increased communication between law enforcement and intelligence agencies has occurred since known problems in communication were specifically referenced in the 9/11 Commission Report (Kean & Hamilton, 2004). The failure to communicate both clearly and concisely amongst agencies was directly attributed to a possible method to have detected or deterred the events which happened in the United States on September 11, 2001.

In order to determine the results, student visa statistics were used for visas issued before and after 2001. The dates were purposefully selected in order to give time for any randomness (copy cat) events and for the group of students to complete a college or secondary degree. The trends in changes also noted if one country had a significant increase or decrease in student visa issuances. A known change in international relations between the US and countries was reviewed to ensure a logical reason was not the result of major fluxuations in annual data sets. Once a numerical trend was given, major changes were explained or interpreted. The LAMP was used to determine if there was

likelihood a certain actor would conduct an attack on the United States after entry on the auspices of attending a college or university.

The lack of interagency communication was noted in the 9/11 Commission Report. There are several restrictions when accessing information between various agencies due to security concerns within each agency. This concern often leaves out large pieces of information which could change the final assessment in an analytical report. The intent of this study was to compile known instances of terrorist association through expired student visas in an effort to create a data base (DHS, 2013) which would flag associations of individuals from overseas to those within the continental United States.

### **Research Questions and Hypotheses**

The central research question was: How could a central database, populated by terrorism associated data from intelligence and law enforcement agencies, be created to allow access to the end user without compromising a source?

$H_0$ : Student a visa overstays can be directly linked to events which threaten the security of the United States.

$H_a$ : Student visa overstays have had no known link to terrorist threats within the United States.

The independent variables were the number of student visas issued over a 16 year period according to country of origin. The independent variables were foreign relationships with the United States, country of origin Gross Domestic Product per capita, country of origin primary religion, country of origin ethnicity (majority and minority), and country of origin links to terrorism. The independent variables were selected as

strategic international relationships. If individuals become dissatisfied with these high level exchanges (i.e. national policy), then smaller elements may be sought to alter those relationships or exchanges.

The dependent variable was to determine whether or not an individual had a visa overstay. The associated variables were measured to determine major trends to changes in student visa issued by country of origin over a 16 year period. The data limitations to 16 years were based upon public availability beyond 16 years as well as the fact individuals who obtained a student visa earlier have since settled into society showing no harmful intent.

### **Theoretical Foundation**

The conceptual theory of this research was provided through the use of the LAMP method. Using this method, data sets were coded. Based on numerous indicators and warnings, the information obtained can be used to predict the likelihood a particular event occurring. The prediction was consistent, although perhaps easily changed if the data deviate from the original indicators and warnings provided. Additional information on the findings for this study is located in Chapter 2.

### **Nature of the Study**

This study involved analyzing statistics of nonimmigrant student visas from the DHS data from October 1, 1997 through September 30, 2012. The collection method was derived from an online data pull from the organization's website. This information was assessed using the computer software and then the LAMP. Data sets are organized numerically according to country of origin. Further details for these data were

categorized according to the visa type issued according to country of origin by year of issuance.

The data sets for this portion of the research came from at least five case studies which explained the details of attempted or achieved attacks by terrorists/extremists against a formal government or citizens. This portion of the study helped to better understand the element of communication amongst all parties involved in the research. The country of origin organized annually served as the quantitative research portion, while case studies on the links to visa overstays and terrorism served as the baseline idea for this research.

Demonstrations of the methods used for acquiring a student visa were reviewed. This general information was then more specifically focused on 16 years of data pertaining to student visas issued by country of origin. The data were analyzed to determine which countries had the greatest number of student visas issued over a 16 year period. This rank ordered information was then be analyzed according to the country of origin and links a given country may have with terrorism. Highlights were mentioned for extreme negative terrorism tendencies as well as positive counter-terrorism efforts. The findings of this study could be used to provide a mechanism to advocate the increased exchanges between law enforcement and intelligence agencies to lessen threats to the United States.

## Definitions

*Actor:* A grouping of like elements such as a terrorist organization or subset of entities from a given country which seek a common result on a particular issue (Lockwood, 2010).

*Counterterrorism:* Actions completed to prevent future terrorist attacks or terrorist organizations (Learners, 2014).

*Critical Thinking:* Using details from valid learning points in order to determine alternative consequences (Kean & Hamilton, 2004).

*Fiscal Year:* The calendar commonly used by the U.S. Government starting on October 1 and ending on September 30 (DHS, 2014).

*Lockwood Analytical Method for Prediction (LAMP):* Concept to determine the outcome of a situation by applying numeric value of probability to determine the likelihood and event will occur (Lockwood, 2010).

*Manmade disaster:* Threats with human involvement either purposefully or through negligence resulting in extreme loss of life or property (IFRC, 2014).

*Nonimmigrant:* A person visiting a foreign country without intent to seek citizenship (DHS, 2014).

*Terrorism:* A hostile action conducted by a nongovernment entity against an opposing populace (Kean & Hamilton, 2004) .

*Terrorist:* A person who uses terrorism in support of political aims (Kean & Hamilton, 2004) .

*Threat:* Notification of a problem ((Kean & Hamilton, 2004).

*Visa*: An application used by individuals to temporarily visit a foreign country (DHS, 2014).

*Visa F-1*: Nonresident student attending elementary, college/university, seminary, academic institution (DHS, 2014).

*Visa F-2*: Spouse or unmarried minor children accompanying the F-1 visa holder (DHS, 2014).

*Visa M-1*: Nonresident student attending a vocational school (DHS, 2014).

*Visa M-2*: Spouse or unmarried minor child accompanying the M-1 visa holder (DHS, 2014).

### **Assumptions**

The first assumption was that data sets are likely accurate since the statistics are derived from a government website which is used by both the DHS and the Department of State. The data analyzed encompasses several years and countries in order to rule out any trends which could have caused either positive or negative statistics. Organizations may share some information; yet, not all information is needed amongst organizations with a different purpose. A human or analytical critical thinking factor is needed to determine the correct amount of required information.

### **Scope and Delimitations**

I attempted to minimize undue bias as the details have been reported from multiple perspectives to ensure review from multiple perspectives. The scope of research involved using nonaffiliated databases from government sites in order to achieve a holistic approach to data collection. The delimitation was due to the fact the data sets for

the quantitative research are already acquired through publically available websites. The case scenarios were based on events which may have had media attention and judicial action taken to provide additional unbiased information regarding actions of the individual or individuals being trialed. The data register from the files typically gave information on key witnesses or preferable subject matter experts from intelligence and law enforcement agencies.

The use of proper immigration controls based upon nonimmigrant student visas can potentially assist in diminishing terrorist attacks based in the United States. A primary goal of this research was to explore not only the origin of foreign students studying in the United States, but also to link the students to other resources in intelligence and law enforcement reporting. The tracking of student visa applicants upon arrival has been significantly important based upon previous case studies on counter-terrorism.

The purpose of this research was to provide a mechanism with real world problem sets used for analysis. A threatening action was accomplished on a repetitive basis if proven successful on the first attempt. The significance was to present concrete evidence of terrorism through the entry method of student visas does exist (Wasem, 2010). A result of this research will hopefully contribute to increased vigilance based upon combining numerous resources.

A quantitative method approach was used in this dissertation research. Data compilation was derived from statistics of nonimmigrant student visa approval from 2007 through 2009 (Department of State, 2010). This quantitative information has been

organized in conjunction with research plan created through the use of at least three case studies during which a terrorist action was conducted by an individual residing within the United States as a student DHS (2009, 2010a, 2010b).

My research population was derived from the approved nonimmigrant student visas into the United States from 2007 through 2009. The populace has one commonality, temporary moves from country of origin to study abroad. An assessment of the number of student visas (F-1, F-2, M-1, and M-2) granted were organized according to trends based upon the country of origin over the 3 year period. The case studies used in the quantitative portion of this work came from a random sampling of the exploration of terrorist events based upon visa overstays from the F-1, F-2, M-1, and M-2 visas.

Data retrieval included statistics published annually by the Department of State (2010). This collection was organized according to other movement factors and country of origin. The intent was to collect information on at least three experiences of a terrorist or rogue element traveling under the guise of a student visa to conduct unfavorable actions against the United States in support of a terrorist group likely associated to Al Qaida or a splinter factor (Doscher, 2008; Linder, 2006; Sadiki, 2011). The expectations were to identify trends in reason for potential terrorism or synonymous attributable factors.

### **Limitations**

The potential limitation in this research was the specific years selected based upon changes in immigration law. The minor limitations were extreme fluxuations in the number of the most and the least amounts for the countries being awarded visas. This

limitation could have been due to other factors beyond alliances with the United States such as internal conflicts. These extreme fluxuations could distort an overall trend in data results.

The idea of explaining the fact by a neutral research source through number of visas issued was the intent. One indirect bias was to present only negative events such as terrorist associations to nonimmigrant student visas. This negative influence was intentional to demonstrate a failure based upon a lack of oversight when visas are issued by a country of origin. Unfederated approvals based upon intimidation or undue influence could easily allow a terrorist entity to enter without U.S. law enforcement awareness if corrupt records to enter are the documents reviewed.

Limitations have been compensated for by giving positive means to better enforce the oversight of students residing in the United States based upon approved student visas. Other factors such as cost for education have been briefly discussed in the literature review. The overall reference reflected this research is not to depict that a foreign student would commonly be a terrorist; instead this results show that an isolated populace of entrants may either have or acquire terrorist intent based upon past or future events which change typical patterns of thought.

### **Significance**

While the research revealed in this study will not directly change policy, it highlights an area of potential interest for policy makers. A determination limiting the number of nonimmigrant student visas may not be the key to counter-terrorism. Instead, determining a better tracking method for those individuals with long-term visas would be

more practical and appropriate. Although there is considerable risk, vigilance will ensure the student remains for educational, not alternative, purposes. Application of the results of this research could be implemented on a more long-term basis or be used as a modeling technique for other countries to ensure the entry is for the purpose of the visa type. This method could then be applied to other types of visas issued both within the United States and in other locations.

### **Social Change Implications**

This research served to promote positive social change through increased communication between intelligence and law enforcement agencies. The study of nonimmigrant student visas, tracked by country of origin, serves to confirm whether or not increased exchanges helped to create more stringent entry requirements in countries with foreign policy contrary to U.S. beliefs. By understanding the differences in foreign policy, one country may not have visa approvals proportional to another country. Some considerations used in this effort were the political make up of a country, the socioeconomic composition, the population, and the interest for residents of a foreign country to study abroad.

### **Summary**

I used research from quantitative data sets. Data manipulation was completed through the use of automated software and manual coding. The LAMP method provided a premise for the need for the research problem. The baseline served as a reason for the literature review on the subject of nonimmigrant students' visas, individual influences,

and possible threatening actions. All items were intended to assist future communications within the DHS.

## Chapter 2: Literature Review

### **Strategy for Literature Review**

The goal of this research was to track the individual or groups of individuals who enter and remain in the United States through student visas in order to conduct terrorist-type actions intended to threaten the independence of the United States. The method used to gather literature for this review was derived from querying various scholarly and government websites. Some of the specific databases yielding applicable articles for review were: ProQuest Research Library, ABI/Inform Global, and the Library of Congress, EBSCO Host and Sage International. In addition to specific journals various government databases such as The Library of Congress and Congressional Review were reviewed. Some commercial news sources such as Al-Jazeera were referenced in order to explain a given problem in immigration. The DHS was used to identify areas of focus during primary stages of research. International think tanks in the private and public sectors were also reviewed. Organizations such as the Center for European Studies, Naval Postgraduate School, Griffith Law, Center for Immigration Studies, Brigham Young University, Danish Institute for International Studies, Strategic Studies Institute, and the Migration Policy Institute.

The selected databases were chosen for inclusion in this review based upon the focus of the database. Certain databases retrieve from educational sources; others may retrieve from law enforcement specific information. The main keywords and phrases used in database queries included *terrorist*, *immigration*, *illegal immigration*, and *nonimmigrant visas*. Even though these words are very general, the results were easily

reviewed and inclusion or exclusion criteria was based upon the article title and the publishing journal. International reviews were included in order to better understand issues associated with immigration control, education, employment, and potential links to terrorism. The mixed query word searches typically resulted in retrievals of hundreds of articles.

In order to conduct a comprehensive literature review, the research was first broadly categorized and then refined to specific provide examples. The refinement of information allowed to most relevant information to be analyzed. The basic ideals of immigration, to include reason for entry, and then some examples of immigration controls used, will help to better understand this research. The goal is to present organized information as appropriate to this research. Basic concepts of immigration and information exchange are not details, as the most significant portions of research involve nonimmigrant student visas. The research involving information exchange focuses specifically on law enforcement and intelligence agencies with the basic details of a student derived from classified databases and institutional records.

The New War Theory created by Kaldor (1999) emphasizes the transition from a traditional country against country conflict into a group against another entity. For this research, the focus will be Al Qaida and derivative entities conducting attacks against the United States. The original New War Theory was developed to support Eastern Europe conflicts, yet could easily transition to meet the requirements of modern counter-terrorism efforts being conducted against the United States (Kaldor, 1999).

The New War Theory explains the differences in conflict from traditional military against military conflict to another variant. This variant is the extremist or terrorist organization attempting to destabilize a government or seek attention towards a given cause or supported methodology/ideology. The research studied based upon this theory will likely be confirmatory proving the fact not all future wars are military to military instead, rogue entities seeking to greater a given organization. This theory denotes the increase in practice of rogue elements conducting attacks on enemy properties.

### **Immigration**

In 2001, a European perspective of immigration practices was written by Apap (2001). Apap described the migrant working pool from some North African countries. Apap discussed the potential link between immigration trends, specifically illegal usage of immigration, as an international problem set for security officials. While there are attempts to educate some immigrants in European countries like Italy, the goal of countries better understanding security controls was not achieved.

Apap (2001) noted that the majority of programs have reportedly failed in Italy. The failure was linked to the fact that North African immigrants seemed to be deterred by publicly available programs in favor of seeking employment to meet the immediate goal of income, rather than the long-term goal of higher education and eventually, higher income. A choice on the part of the individual to earn money, for survival, is an area of relevance in this research.

Apap (2001) has served as a guide to the reasons for which an immigrant would seek an alternate residence either for a short or long period of time. An effort to acquire

knowledge in order to obtain success is of interest since the individual must complete several packages to enroll in educational institutions. There are challenges, such as learning a foreign language and culture in an alternate residence. If an individual were able to easily adapt and overcome this major challenges more immigrants would likely follow in the process. However, there are limits to student visas set by the foreign and domestic governments through which an individual must be approved. Although this approval process checks numerous items, there are also ways to modify entrance, such as applying for a visa in a country with more approvals (DHS, 2015).

Orrenius and Nicholson (2009) noted immigration was likely due to the economic potential offered within the United States. Immigrants sought employment in both upper and lower class markets, due to the range of abilities gained in their countries of origin. If people are able to compete for higher wages, the immigrants typically made the attempt; if jobs were not available, even well-trained immigrants settled for low incomes in order to satisfy basic needs. The effect this had on Americans is that jobs are given to the most qualified individuals, whether the individual is an American or an immigrant. This atypical employment allocation forces Americans to either search for alternate forms of employment, or accept lack of employment.

Orennius and Nicholson (2009) listed estimates of undocumented or illegal residents within the United States as high; however, the results are mere estimates and continue to strain the fragile economic classes of the United States. The number of visas from 1995-2000 and 2001-2008 showed the student visa as the only category of almost

unchanged numbers. The countries of origin were not noted, yet were likely to have changed (Camarota, 2007).

Orennius and Nicholson (2009) noted an individual was willing to take a lower paying job. This choice would allow the overall quality of life to perhaps improve when comparing two locations. An upper level income in one country may not be as favorable as a higher quality of life. The changes would be due to government or military drive conflicts in some areas. The trend in visas remaining rather consistent is also of interest since situations may have remained the same rather than improving or worsening in some areas. Camarota (2007) also noted that too many immigrants might cause major changes to the classes within the United States.

Brumfield (2004) echoed the findings of Grummon (2010). Brumfield stated that the number of Chinese scientists coming to America for education had declined. Numerous students from Southeast Asia continued to shun education in America. This was likely attributed to more stringent visa application requirements within the United States since 2001. A direct attribute noted to the decline based upon visa requirements were the intensive security checks students were required to participate in prior to admittance and visa application approval. There are planned reforms to the student visa process; the question is whether or not the changes will be implemented prior to altering the trend in education for foreign students within the United States. The elected policy makers have completed promissory pledges to modify requirements to make student non-immigration visas a less cumbersome process.

A terrorist event like September 11, 2001 notably changed policy. Since the policy made student visa entry more stringent, there were likely fewer visas issued. The United States is now marked as vulnerable to terrorist attacks, potentially encouraging people to live in different locations (Camarota, 2007). If an immigrant thought the United States was once safer, this event may have changed the perception. Conversely, even after the attack against the United States, an immigrant might still achieve a higher quality of life if the departure was from a third world nation with constant attacks.

In 2009, Rodan explained the reasons why immigrants migrate to Australia for education. Like the United States, there are requirements to enter Australia. One of the same requirements is to be able to afford the education (Rodan, 2009). Since some students fail to plan for living expenses, there are compelling needs to seek alternate sources of income. Many students seek work as manual laborers to pay for educational expenses only to maintain full-time employment rather than full-time education. This trend away from American universities has resulted in an increase into Australian universities during the same timeframe.

Rodan (2009) and Camarota (2007) both noted the willingness of immigrants to accept jobs with low wages and requirements to attend foreign colleges and universities. This trend is likely to be seen in other works as long as the benefit to relocate for education remains. If there is a negative trend in foreign education, the visa numbers may begin to decline. If the requirements to obtain a nonimmigrant student visa increase, the applications may decline. There is a larger gain to ensure the locations foreign students seek for education remain safe. Homeland security has the charge to ensure safety exists.

Scores of unhappy citizens choose to leave their country of origin for various reasons. Crock and Ghezelbash (2010) showed trends in refugees seeking asylum in Australia. All reasons can likely be attributed to seeking a better life. As an example, a visa could be granted in Australia. Eventually, that individual may be given permanent residence. This citizenship, under a government with close ties to the U.S., would allow the individual to have an easier time obtaining a student visa.

The views of immigrants from Iran were explained by Mobasher (2006). An identity crisis began in 1978 as the U.S. and Iranian ties declined. There were numerous accounts provided for the conflict as the individuals providing this information resided in the U.S. The idea is the same as being Russian during the Cold War or Japanese after Pearl Harbor (Mobasher, 2006). An individual's association to a country is part of the American mindset. This mindset can be attributed to changes in people. A failure to admit ethnic and religious ties would likely be attributed to feelings of hostility or reasons to hide information. If this idea were capitalized upon by the wrong person or group, malevolent events could begin.

Previous Indian students who attended universities in Australia have decided to remain (Baas, 2006). The reason for the extended stays is often due to the prosperity gained in another location based upon family traditions (Boulard, 2004). With the education as the means to extend a residence in country, the reality for visa extensions is somewhat obscured (Birrell, Healy, & Kinnaird 2009). A progressively higher education is not the overwhelming goal. The trend towards Australia as a college student immigration location is due to numerous stringencies such as money and immigration

compliance U.K. and U.S. Birrell et al. provided accounts from several Indian students residing in Australia. All accounts seemed to result in students hoping for more than the reality provided.

While Australia is mentioned as a location for foreign education the United States also has many foreign students. For both destinations the unexpected expenses can be a problem (Birrell et al., 2009). This stress could often lead other additional complications such as the need to get a part time job to pay bills. The distraction from education could then lead to the lack of interest to go to classes in order to work more often. This scenario is the start of a problem for the ensuring the student attends schools as required by the previously issued student visas.

Grummon (2010) explained that the decline in enrollment at American colleges and universities was directly attributed to an economic decline, as well as a less prestigious degree title from the United States. In the past, countries like China were not seen as prosperous places for American students to attend. However, the long term planning efforts in China have resulted in the fulfillment of more timely problems, such as resolution of environmental issues like greenhouse gases and other toxic environmental emissions (Grummon, 2010). This accomplishment in long-term planning has made Chinese education more relevant to international students. Another means of education is the trend away from traditional face-to-face education towards online or web based forms of education (Grummon, 2010). This process allows foreign students to determine if moving the United States through a vigorous visa process is worth the effort.

Chang (2004) discussed the decrease to the number of students visas issued at US consulates throughout China. Between 2000 and 2001, the denial rates for Chinese student visas to the US nearly doubled. There had been no changes to US visa policy during this time period. The embassy official often denied merely because the potential students had interests beyond education which, could be presumed to be a threat, however noted to be unlikely based upon other information such as background checks (Chang, 2004). Even though the explanations for visa denials are vague, the applicants continue to apply and get denied. There are even guides to help better understand the questions that might be asked.

The foreign policies between the United States and other countries such as China and Iran seems to be directly proportional to the number of student visas issued annually (Chang, 2004; Grummon, 2010). Although there is an economic decline, ultimately foreign agreements and often disagreements have significant impacts. The analysis of visa issued to students in countries with less than positive interactions will likely be demonstrated during the data analysis phases of this research. The presumption of threat is enough to deny an approval for a student visa. While this result may be extreme, there are likely less obvious consequences of which only agencies such as the DHS is aware.

### **Immigration Laws**

The Immigration and Naturalization Act was designed to allow foreigners to enter the U.S. either as immigrants or nonimmigrants. In order to organize entry visa requirements, nonimmigrant visas are categorized according to reason for entry in an alphanumeric system (Haddal, 2006). Completing a formal education is considered

commonplace in the United States. This country grants money to citizens and provides loans. There are also financial support offerings provided to international students. International students can be awarded a nonimmigrant student (F-1, M-1) and nonimmigrant student family (F-2, M-2) visas from the State Department. The typical reason for entering the United States being discussed involves education; but, there are other conditions upon which visas are violated.

Scahill (n.d.) discussed the findings of a proposed follow-on to the laws from the Patriot Act. The Domestic Security Enhancement Act eventually intended to combat terrorism. One point of interest was the policy needed to determine if the future of counter-terrorism was in a combative direction, such as sending terrorists to their home of record in countries not required to uphold the same standards as the United States. Another point is that the future of counter-terrorism may serve to prevent future attacks by forbidding entry on a more restrictive basis. The intended result of this legislation is to enact a generalized combination of both methods in order to prevent peaceful students from being influenced into other paths based upon ease of access, as well as aggressions.

The efforts of counter-terrorism may also be the reason for student visa denial. One issue is the fact a student may not have obvious issues to conduct actions which might threaten the security of America. For some individuals, the reason to attend a foreign university may be for the removal from a location with a large or prevalent terrorist populace. There are countries like Syria and Yemen which possess a great number of individuals attempting to seek refuge in other places like Jordan or even the United States. Crock and Ghezlbash (2010) explained that the goal of seeking asylum

may also require consideration. One goal of education is to better oneself whether, through educational accomplishments or the relocation to more stable locations.

Smith (2005) discussed several changes through policy for international students. There were practices such as the Open Doors Policy of 2004 and the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004. In 2004, the American Competitiveness through International Openness Now (ACTION) Act was enacted, which encouraged foreign citizens to visit the U.S. in order to achieve secondary education levels. The balance between encouraging visitors for the purpose of education and protecting against potential terrorist actions is an element of high interest to individuals in numerous Departments (State, Homeland Security, and Education).

Rosenblum (2011) noted that immigration policy became less restrictive in 2000 in order to help with the economy of the United States. The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 prevented the change. Instead, immigration into the U.S. had more restrictions created. Rosenblum spoke about laws to change immigration since 2001. The focus was on illegal immigration and visa focus with a specific emphasis on labor workers from Mexico. One deduction from this work is the fact there are more issues than just illegally documented workers to consider in immigration policy reform. A need to invite potential workers at all salary ranges should be a focus since the country workers under the auspices of upper, middle, and lower classes.

Another view of immigration laws was written by Laque (2011). Laque referenced other researchers who determined immigration preference from Americans was often either negative or positive based upon socio-economic conditions. For

example, more affluent urban Americans were in favor of immigration, while fewer affluent, rural citizens saw immigration as negative, and even potentially competing towards their own interests for success. Laque discussed the lives of surveyed immigrants and concluded that those immigrants who were educated were more successful in the U.S. The information on immigration focus was further analyzed by Laque to determine that the newest immigration laws have not been seen as favorable by immigrants. Laque noted the improvements Canada has made and the United States has not made when immigration is concerned.

As immigration laws become more stringent, immigration will likely decline. The use of protection is a logical reason to be more restrictive on immigration; however, the security of America could still be problematic. There are numerous other methods an individual could harm domestic security (Bugarin, 2007). An increase to student visas may also become overwhelming for universities to meet requirements to track individuals admitted to the United States on student visas (Akram & Johnson, 2002). There may also be a balance of the number of foreign students admitted; however, documentation noted in this research do not seem to agree to the college as the reason for decline or changes to student visa by country of origin over the last 16 years.

### **Student Visas**

The processes required to become a nonimmigrant student are defined on the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement website of the DHS website (2011). There is a simplified 10 step process. This process from DHS (2014) asks a potential nonimmigrant student the following questions:

1. How do I start?
2. How do I pay my SEVIS I-901 fee?
3. How do I get a visa to enter the United States?
4. How should I prepare for my trip to the United States?
5. What should I do when I arrive?
6. When do I have to report to my school?
7. What are my benefits?
8. How do I maintain status?
9. What do I do if a problem happens?
10. When completed, how do I depart?

As of mid-2011, the Student and Exchange Visitors Program (SEVP) managed programs in thousands of approval schools. A potential student is required to select a school. Once accepted, the student can then begin the visa process, which includes paying a \$200 service fee. This fee is part of the Student Exchange Visitors Information System (SEVIS) process, which requires arrival no earlier than 30 days prior to class start date. While in the United States, social security benefits are provided. A key requirement is the fact that students must have contact with the academic institutions during each quarter or semester. The continuation or progressively higher level degrees can also be completed once the original degree sought has been completed. To continue to reside to complete another degree requires an additional visa be approved.

A student could then reside in America for an indefinite amount of time after receiving the initial student visa. If the student has a family, other family members might

also attempt to acquire a student visa. This process could continue for quite some time in order to remain in America. The change in educational institutions could also cause problems as a student may have requirements for multiple institutions making the overall process of remaining in contact cumbersome. The school has a responsibility to track the students. The level of emphasis to track a student may vary according to the requirements for each educational institution.

Ford (2004) collated information on the time required to obtain a student science or scholar visa. This General Accounting Office (GAO) report mentioned the same visa requirements for students with one exception, an individual seeking to study certain technological or scientific fields while in the U.S. must undergo a Visa Mantis Security Check. This investigation involves information on the proposed visa applicant being reviewed by law enforcement and intelligence agencies to ensure there is no immediate threat when a perspective visa applicant is granted access to sensitive areas of study. The investigation requires that the visa applicant would cause no direct harm while in country or give technology back to the individual's country of origin upon completion of a program. The overall finding on the time required for a visa to be issued cannot be standardized, as there are numerous attributes to complicate or altogether curtail the student visa application process.

The goal to obtain education within technological fields makes the approval even more difficult. An extensive background check can take additional time which might result in a student meeting enrollment requirements thus delaying entry even longer. In this type of situation the arrival and therefore the education is delayed leaving the

potential student more time to accomplish an educational goal. This interest in a technological or scientific field could prove impossible for individuals from locations with poor foreign relations with the United States (Crock & Ghezelbash, 2010).

Borjas (2002) explained the requirements of a student visa. While the names of national agencies such as the Immigration and Naturalization Service have changed, the requirements are still almost exactly the same. Upon arrival to the U.S., the student is difficult to track unless the intent of the visit is for an education similar to international political figures. One problem with the intrinsic process of applying for an F-1 student visa involves a level of corruptness. In isolated circumstances, the corruption has been noted on the part of the student, the family, the educators, or even the would-be approving consulate in participating countries. The practice of entering the U.S. for education can be difficult. There are numerous export control laws for physical elements; however, Borjas mentioned that foreign born students can travel back to previous residences with often closely held technology. The practice is essentially helping a future enemy through the acquisition of advanced information.

Anonymous (2004) discussed a solution to potential future shortcomings in the field of research within the U.S., and proposed extensions of the Visas Mantis security clearance for foreign students. After the initial increased focus on student visas after 2001, the time to process the majority of visas was only 30 days as of the date of this report. The 3 year timeline for improvements involved almost an entire degree completion. During this time, students sought other means, such as domestic or other

international locations for degree completion to avoid a cumbersome visa process within the U.S.

### **Types of Visas**

Alberts (2007) studied qualitative information from the Open Doors reports over a period of time. The findings, directly attributed by time, found student visa applications from predominantly Islamic countries saw a significant decline in F-1 student visa applications. The pool of skilled immigrant researchers may have decreased due to less visa approvals. For the student, the training remains highly competitive on major economic markets, yet the location is modified. The biggest loss would be seen in the United States labor force of international college graduates extending time within the United States.

While a trend in decreases by Middle Eastern countries, reasons may vary (Alberts, 2007). The economic decline in the United States and more stringent visa application reviews could likely be a reason. For some individuals, the threat in security within America may be a reason. The Middle East has well-publicized levels of conflict; but, the entire populace does not wish to remain in the situation. Often, the lesser of two evils is selected. For students the goal of self-improvement may no longer be seen by obtaining a foreign education. For students from third world nations with local government or militant conflicts, there may be a lack of funds available to even complete the visa application.

Shuman and Bohmer (2010) described an event on foreign education as part of a working paper about political asylum. A country intended to prevent students who

completed program requirements from graduating to prolong residencies abroad. The students protested based upon the fact that the educators allowed courses to continue with the eventual intent of program cancellation. One of the student protesters escaped prison and arrived in the U.S. as a scholar through a student visa. Upon arrival, she applied for political asylum. While this asylum was in favor of the perceived victim, the foreign government involved cited numerous differences in the graduation process and actions taken against the student protesters.

Hess (2010) explained laws concerning Nonimmigrants which pertained to all individuals in a given jurisdiction. Of note is the fact that the law has granted nonimmigrants greater privileges in some jurisdictions than others. There may be greater protection from some levels of prosecution for illegal aliens than nonimmigrants. The matter of visas emerges under these laws as G-4 visa holders, present due to employment of foreign governments or international organizations, could not obtain in-state tuition rates due to other tax laws. Since the F-1 visa holders could not reside permanently in a state, the Supremacy clause applied only to the G-4 visa holders.

This increased tuition, which does not fall under the Supremacy clause, was not limited to only for profit educational institutions (Hess, 2010). The increased cost for a foreign student means out of state or out of country fees. One area where this cost might be mitigated is through online education. Over the last decade, the ease to access and increase to available online programs has increased. An issue of the online study could be a requirement to attend a portion of the program in-residence; however, the nonimmigrant student visa would have to be awarded.

Recent research led to the revelation there are entire chapters of books dedicated to teach a potential student how to enter the US on a student visa. While the reading is somewhat specific, there is also a great deal of vagueness in some areas which merely guides a potential visa seeker in a general rather than a specific direction (Bray, 2013). One noteworthy item is the caution of program selected. If there are technical science (nuclear) or security, the visa applicant may be denied based upon an association to a given country and the given country's association to terrorism (Bray, 2013). Bray provided specific details about how to change schools or academic majors.

The denial or increased security investigation could either delay or prevent entry. This delay could then allow the student time to decide to pursue another terminal degree. An issue of program availability may contribute to the change in degree pursued. The student might also attempt to seek residency in another location in order to obtain a visa from a different location thus increasing the chances of a visa approval. The problem with delays to visa approval is the additional time to choose other options for education. And method might be to apply for foreign education in countries other than America which would confirm a reason there are less visa applications and issuances.

Bray (2013) continued this temporary immigration process by noting there are alternate reasons an individual might enter the US under the auspices of a student visa. This information will be a key point to this research once the actual research findings have been conducted. There are also suggestions of methods (work study, dissertation work) to remain a full time student. The concepts allow the student to continue to meet

the guidelines enforced as part of the visa issued. Health problems are the only way noted in the article a reduced course load would be authorized.

### **Requirements for Visa Retention**

Over the last 10 years, the tracking methods for individuals who have been issued an F-1 nonimmigrant visa have changed. Previously, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) led the process. In 2001, a newly established federal department called the DHS began to complete the immigration tracking process. The ability to vanish into a system is easy in large colleges or universities. An individual is responsible for reporting to an educational facility within specific time periods; the college or university is responsible for reporting, but more importantly educating the students. (Akram & Johnson, 2002)

An individual could easily forget to report a status. If the university was lenient on the failure to report a status in a timely manner, this error may be overlooked. If the university had strict monetary penalties for delayed or absent reporting this ease in disappearing could diminish (DHS, 2001). There are several conditional statements which could be applied to this situation. The key is to prevent late and lack of reporting a status to meet security requirements.

Siskin (2005) explained that the origin of the SEVIS was derived from requirements in the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996. The SEVIS is an electronic database used to track foreign students under nonimmigrant visas. The SEVIS was further refined in 2002 under the Enhanced Border Security and Visa Reform Act. In 2003, the SEVIS was mandated for all institutions with

foreign students. The funds required to operate the SEVIS are paid by foreign student fees (\$160/student, DHS, 2014).

Upon arrival into the U.S., a customs agent enters the student into the SEVIS. After 30 days, the educational institution updates any changes to the status of the student. The educational institutes are also required to report on F-2 (student spouse) visa holders. The facilities contend this additional requirement is beyond the scope of an educational institution, as the spouses are not enrolled in the school. The educational institution is then required to track family members since the educational visa allowed the individual to reside in America.

Educators have noted discrepancies and system complications of the SEVIS. The flaws are normal with a newly implemented system. Siskin (2005) mentioned the fact the SEVIS would make a notification when a student overstayed a visa. This point would go in favor of advocacy against illegal immigration. If a visa overstay occurred, the school or government agency would be one of the first parties informed. A tracking mechanism would be beneficial (Siskin, 2005).

The tracking mechanism would be helpful if an individual wanted to remain in the United States, the possibility to achieve this goal exists. This action of remaining would then cause a negative trend against the country from which this individual arrived. A reason for this negative impact is a repetition of disappearing especially if networks of nonimmigrant student visa forfeitures became prominent. Siskin (2005) noted a need for a tracking mechanism however; the approach to create such a mechanism has yet to be

developed or implemented based upon research on this topic. A valid tracking mechanism would resolve many potential problems with becoming lost in education.

Wadhwa (2011) advocated for nonimmigrant students to become residents in the United States. Wadhwa noted high numbers of students who studied in the country on nonimmigrant student visas and sought to immigrate upon graduation. Although the ability to stay is possible, the ease in remaining upon graduation is difficult due to immigration restrictions within the U.S. Immigration laws restrict the number of visas issued for permanent resident by this country.

Since technically savvy countries like India and China have large populaces, there is a major denial to potential residents. In the past, graduates wanted to remain in the United States. There are activities such as immigration restrictions which have resulted in recent graduates choosing to return to their country of record. Wadhwa (2011) recommended retaining graduates with advanced degrees in the United States resulting in a higher net gain for the graduate and America.

#### **Alternative Entry Methods: Illegal Entry**

Laws such as the Dream Act (Bruno, 2010) recently passed in California; enable illegal immigrants to attend state colleges and universities. While there are both positive (citizenship and education) and negative (illegal entry and lack of permission) aspects, the long-term result allows illegal entrants to become citizens, thus bypassing the typical visa process. This method of bypassing leads to a lack of security checks on an individual. A failure in security can have minor (illegal entry) or major (terrorist attacks) effects on America (Zegart, 2013).

Chester (2011) mentioned President Obama granting student visas more readily to legal immigrants than to students for to acquire nonimmigrant visas. A frustration of the basis of this claim is gathered from truth. The result of this effort has resulted in an exodus of many skilled workers currently employed in the US, returning to other potentially upcoming countries in Southeast Asia. The number of student visas issued annually is unlimited; but, the visas expire 60 days after graduation. An effort exists to allow students to stay beyond this date once they are enrolled in career programs.

Rosen (2009) noted the practice of illegal immigration from the perspective of education. Some places students apply to are not upholding the requirements for student immigrants. A common practice is to approve a student to attend, then lose track of this student upon arrival. Some schools are traced to a personal home or business instead of an educational institution. Other schools receive tuition and fail to ensure the students achieve course requirements. The government has more stringent tactics to validate the school as a legitimate education facility prior to approving a visa. While Rosen (2009) discussed elements of the United Kingdom, the practice of deceit could likely be applied to locations within the U.S.

Bugarin (2007) analyzed methods of terrorist entry through the research of Schneier's model. Prior to assessing the model, Bugarin detailed the methods a potential threat/terrorist could use in order to avoid being removed from the country based on visa violations. Even reading this document could assist a potential threat in taking actions to counter the protocol of immigration. Schneier's model asks five generic questions that could be applied into counter-terrorism. Elements such as avoiding proper immigration

procedures, visa overstays, could start the illegal actions. Due to the lack of centralized immigration management the need to share information is crucial to prevent illegal entry.

### **Illegal Residency**

The practice of visiting the United States to obtain degrees in higher levels of education seems admirable; yet, there are faults to this process. An average individual would likely arrive, obtain education, and then depart. With any common practice there are exceptions. In 2006, Edwards (2006) made a connection between illegal and legal immigration increasing and decreasing proportionally. One issue addressed in the article involved the changes made with U.S. immigration. Once family limits restricted additional immigrants, legislation produced in 1965 changed the meaning of family. An illegal alien getting a pardon would become legalized. This legalized alien could then work to bring other family members into the country.

Although individuals possessing nonimmigrant student visas are not intended to become long-term residents, the practice does happen. In order to accurately cover multiple aspects of migration, both immigration and nonimmigration will be addressed. The ratio of positive versus negative intent on the student nonimmigrant visa is extreme. Those individuals who seek to manipulate the visa system make the already complicated process more difficult for well intending individuals to attend colleges and universities. Orbach (1999) provided an update on the illegal actions taken through the student visa process. A review of some of the visa denials were provided; however, suggestive details of the document show that changes from the time of a visa application to arrival in the

United States may also result in changes to behavior patterns and actions based upon country of origin.

### **Trends in Lieu of Visas**

Aufhauser et al. (2004) provided information from the 35th in a series of Capitol Hill Conferences. These conferences involved Saudi Arabia, the iconic nation of Islam. Since 2001, Saudi Arabia has started to trend towards other methods of not only business, but also education. Modern trends are towards European and Asian markets in lieu of completing financial exchanges with America. Although the primary focus of this article is on financial assistance, either directly or indirectly, contributing towards potential terrorist-like activities, the end goal depicts a trend away from American activities and towards other destinations. This practice could therefore be assessed as hindering positive interactions with a country central to all of Islam. Even if changing a mindset is cumbersome, the end result would yield positive financial results.

Aufhauser et al. (2004) linked to the foreign policy America shares with other economic markets. The economic decline of America continues as foreign exchanges are created within areas of education. A decline in relationships for prominent countries, especially within the Middle East, set the plan for the future of international students wishing to attend colleges and universities in America. This decline, whether attributed to educational or financial forums, also increases a vulnerability to a threat. As foreign partnerships decline, the support for protection may also trend in a negative direction.

### **Visa Links**

Zuhur (2005) discussed acts of Islamic terrorists based upon the current U.S. military occupations in the Middle East under the Global War on Terrorism, now called an Overseas Contingency Operation. There were comments directly linking Islamic extremism and the threat of attacks against America based upon the American and Coalition military invasion into the Middle East. While the threats in America may not have increased, the attacks against U.S. and other countries taking action against the prevention terrorism remain of interest. This rivalry in counter-terrorism is seen through attacks on U.S. consulates, military forces overseas, and Americans visiting the wrong places.

Zuhur (2005) continued the discussion noting the U.S. strategy against terrorism is too broad. Her thoughts were to learn from extremist acts in other countries, and apply tactics against those types of incidents. The problem seems to be the need for the U.S. to move away from a Cold War era military strategy into a more tactical, even technical, enemy. According to Zuhur, "Foreign occupation or military presence on Muslim lands then becomes the most powerful argument for jihad, and one hinging on American foreign policy in the Middle East and the Muslim world" (p. 30:1)

Borrowing some ideas from European counter-terrorism tactics could assist in the U.S. goal of preventing terrorist entry. Lodge (2010) provided information on the use of biometrics within the European Union (EU). While the U.S. already uses biometrics, the EU attempted to address the future uses of this system. Although highly beneficial for the typical traveler, an elusive traveler could easily avoid areas of modern technology and

readily move about throughout the EU with no detection due to either data falsification, lack of entry into the biometrics tracking system, or biometric equipment malfunctions. Some concerns noted within the EU use of biometrics were data storage, invasion of privacy, and system accuracy. One area of note on the topics of biometrics is this relatively new immigration compliance tool is being further explored as a viable solution to personal credentials.

Biometrics would be difficult to determine in highly populated areas and, there are methods to prevent alerts through biometrics. If the devices were not located in several locations, an individual could merely avoid detection by selecting an alternative travel route. The accuracy of the system was mentioned as problematic. This accuracy could result in false positive alerts which might put a peaceful person through unnecessary interrogation. One other problem not mentioned is the staff to review the biometric sensors. If automated, there may be some reprieve to the work force required to review any alerts. There would also be a manpower/law enforcement demand to prosecute/apprehend individuals.

Zegart (2013) wrote about the use of intelligence in modern times. One mention was a list of countries which have been democratic for the last 50 years linked to an article by the Wilson Center stating democratization has not had a great deal of survivability in the Middle East. Special attention to determine democratic association to democratic government and acts of terrorism will also be reviewed. There may be an association trending towards lack of democracy and acts of terrorism; however, this link would not be directly tied to this research.

The trend towards democracy has increased with assistance of the United States in several locations in the Middle East. The problem with total democracy is the fact some locations cannot achieve the goal once the United States and UN forces leave an area. The typical issues of society like corruption and ancient laws remain. These locations will either trend in excessive student visa applications to leave nondemocratic societies or decrease as individual is unable to remove themselves.

An attempt to attack the Federal Reserve Building in New York during 2012 was conducted by a foreign student visa holder. This individual was in the United States based upon education needs however; this individual had reportedly failed in two colleges in his country of origin. This individual should have been deemed a Special Interest Alien (Vaughan, 2012). Vaughan alluded to colleges and universities being lenient on requirements but, the foreign consulate should have upheld higher standards to maintain security rather than family affluence in this situation.

### **Intelligence Failures**

The 9/11 Commission Report (Keen et al., 2002) mentioned several problems with strategy and the focus against terrorism. The Counterterrorism Center focused abroad and was not supplemented with information from the Federal Bureau of Investigations. There was a discernible gap in focus between terrorism domestic and abroad. Even the intelligence agencies did not share findings on the same terrorist associated groups. The focus of the 9/11 retaliatory attacks were to determine a means to take actions abroad, specifically in Afghanistan. There are different rules that apply overseas than in the domestic United States. One reason is due to the military actions

used overseas and the law enforcement perspective within America. The failed 1993 terrorist attack against the World Trade Center was likened to a learning tool which terrorist planners used for the 2001 attack set at the financial center of America. The additional attack on the Pentagon was symbolic for the attack against the military.

Mayntz (2006) reviewed the 9/11 Commission Report; findings can be summed up as a lack of proper exchange. There was a mention of a lack of funds to investigate potential terrorists, a failure in sharing information between intelligence agencies and law enforcement entities, and perhaps most significant, a lack of jurisdiction since this event spanned numerous departments within the government at national, state, and local levels.

A study of the attacks after the September 11, 2001 can seem simple to determine. Often, a problem is easier to figure out after an event in order to study the details of the event in order to prevent future events from happening. There are ideas saying Homeland Security has been successful since no other major attack has occurred. However, there are still remnants of the group which attacked America throughout the world. Another attack could easily occur if this attack was the intent of the attackers. The study to prevent occupancy within the United States through the refined screening of non-immigrant student visas has likely been beneficial to protect America.

Mayntz (2006) keyed into the fact all the actions of 9/11 involved travel. First, there was travel into the U.S. (through student visas). Then there was travel within the U.S. as prepositioning before the attacks. Finally, there was air travel during the attacks (Mayntz, 2006). The history of terrorism would not have indicated an airplane based attack. The mindset of historical attacks by rogue entities would be hijackings and

kidnappings, not using a plane as a destructive weapon. The pieces of information were not linked to the similar boat-based attack of the United States Ship (USS) Cole only a few years earlier while docked in Yemen (US Navy, 2012).

Kephardt (2006) was a member of the 9/11 Commission Report and noted the extreme ease foreign terrorists had when entering the U.S. This report details numerous methods potential terrorists have used to infiltrate the U.S. For continuity purposes accounts of entry based upon education were reviewed. At least one third of the individuals had valid visas; there were almost 20 specific mentions of student visas issued to named terrorists in this report. The aforementioned fact revealed a fault in the American visa process. A lack of effort to enforce entry allowed threatening entities to arrive and enter America virtually undetected.

Until 2001, immigration was not publicly seen as a threat to National Security. The focus was on larger problems, such as bringing in a dirty bomb or weapon of mass destruction. After 2001, there was an investigation into the immigration methods of the U.S. Terrorists entered the U.S. by fraudulent means. Student visas allowed terrorists to learn how to fly. And other members of extremist networks assisted with funding and other support structures to allow the terrorists to carry out attacks. Failures were noted in border security and immigration. The focus was not on tourists and students; previously high threats were focused on drug smuggling and human traffickers. The failsafe was to stop a terrorist prior to arrival. Once entered, an individual can move about and acquire new documents or reasons to remain in America. The United States Visitor and

Immigrant Status Indicator Technology (U.S. VISIT) was created to track entry of visitors, nonimmigrant visas, and immigrants.

In 2011, DHS explained the needs for local law enforcements agencies to understand the information provided by National intelligence agencies such as the Central Intelligence (CIA) and National Security Agencies (NSA). In order to control the individuals entering the U.S. there is a system called the U.S. VISIT systems. The intent of the system is to compile information about an individual into a centralized database with easily retrievable information (DHS, 2010b).

### **Results of Entry**

Urias and Yeakey (2009) explained the link to foreign education and terrorism. After the 2001 terrorist attacks, local law enforcement agencies failed in an effort to locate numerous individuals in the U.S. on nonimmigrant student visas. Prior to obtaining an F-1 Visa, a potential student must have a completed I-20 Form. An I-20 Form is from a school official and states the individual has been admitted. The form also determines the named individual is financially able to fulfill educational monetary commitments.

Fischer (2012) wrote about the I-20 suggesting the need for the DHS to remain in charge of security and allowing educators the right to control the educational criteria requirements. Fischer talked about a DHS integration to require students in a nonimmigrant visa status to be able to pass and English test. There are often conditional offers to attend; however, the final details include items such as passing a language test which is often difficult for potential immigrants from China. This concept of Chinese

students and US education explained as instances of immigration from were also mentioned by Chester (2011) and Chang (2004).

Akram and Johnson (2002) wrote about fear of the unknown. In this instance, the unknown were immigrants/noncitizens residing in the U.S. after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. The lack of knowledge resulted in misguided investigations based upon the ethnicity (Arab) or religious following (Islam). There were instances of politicians returning campaign donations back to supporters who were deemed to have issues with racism. The general public acted against entire races rather than individuals. This practice of being (guilty by association) resulted in a panic amongst Americans in general. However, the panic was not well considered since the reason was merely a lack of knowledge about all aspects of foreigners. The control held by the federal government is often negatively impacted when state and local interests are considered.

Shultz and Beitler (2004) explained the means that nonstate actors and terrorists have used to infiltrate on a global perspective. An alignment to the nonimmigrant visa process contributed to this globalization. Al Qaida used the element of surprise when conducting attacks against the U.S. Even though an attack was imminent, the specific details remaining closely held amongst the group of operatives prevented the detection of the actual attack. The article specifically mentioned Al Qaida operatives studying publically available government documents in order to find vulnerabilities in America. One operative converted from Catholicism to Islam, obtained a Western education, lived in the U.S., traveled frequently to the Middle East, and eventually was arrested for embassy bombings in Africa. Other operatives also had some sort of normalcy absent in

their lives. For some it was money, for others, unstable families, and, perhaps the most unusual, some had specific trade crafts, like understanding Middle Eastern culture and were welcomed into American social, economic, and military circles.

Spiers (2004) discussed some of the origins and generalizations of terrorism. This topic is closely linked to this immigration study, as some of the students who have approved student visas have committed acts of terrorism (Borjas, 2002). The introduction of the need for policy to prevent future terrorist attacks prevailed in this discussion. A group may be an enemy based upon extreme differences. This fact is not the element causing devastation to opposing forces; the forces are becoming competitive against one another. Peaceful coexistence is dwindling. Spiers realized the goal of combating terrorism is merely to understand the goal of the enemy. The implementation of the plan is not likely to be so easy.

Both Spiers (2004) and Borjas (2002) tied elements of terrorism to the need to elevate the status for a cause. The use of terrorism serves to intimidate an individual or organization. Throughout this review there are documented events during which an individual residing in the United States on a student visa has sought to harm the security of America. Efforts can be small such as recruitment or large such as actual terrorist events. The difficulty in tracking one individual has been given to the educational institutions to which students are subordinated.

Camarota (2002) revealed the migration status of foreign-born terrorists associated with attacks against the United States over the last few decades. One area of focus to restrict this violation is to more properly categorize individuals into a

nonimmigrant student visa violation and an illegal alien residing in the United States with no visa. The practice of visa overstay was directly attributed to terrorists responsible for numerous hostile events conducted on U.S. soil. One area mentioned by Camarota is the number of individuals who were approved entry through a U.S. Consular office abroad. While the immigration system may be flawed, the individual may not be associated with terrorism upon entry into the U.S. An individual with ill-fated intent has ways to avoid being detected, either through the falsification of documents or connections with corrupt elements enabling visa issuance. There are actions and there are reactions in the matter of illegal immigration. The reality is if an individual enters the U.S. and meets all the requirements, there is little to no suspicion about this person until after the act of terrorism has transpired. Lack of support personnel was noted as a reason security fails and allows individuals with terrorist ties entry into the U.S.

In June of 2012 the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) arrested individuals. The individuals who were arrested were from the following 17 countries (DHS, 2011). The number of individuals arrested follows in parentheses.

- Saudi Arabia (1)
- Yemen (1)
- Kenya (15)
- Azerbaijan (1)
- Zimbabwe (1)
- Zambia (1)

- Nepal (2)
- Nigeria (4)
- Gambia (2)
- Cameroon (3)
- Grenada (2)
- Thailand (1)
- Spain (1)
- Jamaica (1)
- Dominica (1)
- Mexico (2)
- Antigua and Barbuda (1)

Not all were F-1 nonimmigrant visas, other reasons included. Previous arrests happened earlier in August 2011, resulting in arrests of individuals from: Nepal (7), Kenya (6), Pakistan (6), Mexico (4), and once each for India, Kazakhstan, Peru and Turkey, according to the DHS (2011).

As recently as October 2012 (Vaughan, 2012), an individual who arrived in the U.S. via a student visa attempted to attack the Federal Reserve building. Vaughan mentioned international students entering the U.S. to attend colleges and universities as a monetary gain for universities. Any paperwork discrepancies were often overlooked based upon the positive financial support international students contributed towards a given educational institution.

## Summary

The literature reviewed was organized to first introduce the requirement an individual must accomplish prior to the award of a nonimmigrant student visa. The information provided then gave specific examples of wrongful use of a student visa. Throughout this presentation of student visa information, various pieces of scholarly research were given to better understand the reasons intelligence agencies and law enforcement entities have had difficulty in preventing the conduct or planning of a terrorist attack based upon misuse of a student visa. There were specific references provided to depict the improper processes selected as well as ideas of methods to prevent the conduct of terrorist actions. The literature review serves to create a baseline of understanding for the significance of the study. The research methods used to implement the literature reviewed is important to understand the value. The additive comes when the quantitative method is used to not only understand demographics but also reasons for which international students reside abroad in the US for secondary education.

The theoretical construct to be assessed is change through dynamic organizational change (Udo-Akang, 2012) in order to ensure the students in the US under student visas remain in the active educational program. An adaptive behavior through the development and implementation of a centralized database could assist in a more effective predictive analysis for homeland security. Whether manual or automated, additional data sources allow for a more realistic determination of validity.

For the purposes of this research, specific emphasis will be given to full-time student visa applications in the F-1 and F-2 categories. Other visa categories will be

mentioned in order to better define the F-1 and F-2 visas. There are numerous requirements in order to be granted an F-1 visa. Those requirements include acceptance at a qualified institution, funds to cover the education and a full academic course load (Haddal, 2006).

Chapter 3 is an explanation of the research method used to complete this research. I used data from nonimmigrant student visas for 16 year period. This information was then analyzed and linked to other variables such as positive or negative actions amongst foreign countries and the U.S. to determine future alliances or conflicts which may occur.

### Chapter 3: Research Method

The purpose of this study was to determine whether or not a link to student visa overstays can be connected to domestic terrorism events. The primary sections of this research portion include a review of the respective country, and numbers of visa approvals during a 16-year period in an effort to align the numbers to an increase or decrease in visa overstays based upon regulation. In order to determine the visa overstay reasons for nonimmigrants on student visas, three case studies were reviewed. The information then required presentation of various positive and negative exchanges between various law enforcement and intelligence agencies involved in homeland or domestic security efforts.

The setting for this study involved the exploration of the actions taken by the DHS when student visa numbers are allocated internationally. Some countries acquire more visas based upon relationships with the United States and known areas of technology in a specific geographic region. Rather than use basic concepts like populace total by country, visas are issued based upon other factors such as alliances in political and technological interactions with the United States.

I used varied international educational ideas as applied to a study within the United States for students seeking higher level education degrees. The sample size for this research consisted of 200 countries over a consecutive 16 year time period that were awarded M-1/2, or F-1/2 student visas. A more specific study was conducted through automated software tools which will process approximately 15 countries with known

terrorist associations. The reason for the secondary analysis was to provide a more focused analysis between countries with intricate links to the U.S.

The purpose of this research was to provide a mechanism with real world problem sets used for analysis in order to determine if there are links between a student visa and an individual or groups effort to conduct an act of terrorism. Often, a threatening action was accomplished on a repetitive basis, if proven successful on the first attempt. The significance of this study has been to present concrete evidence that terrorism through the entry method of student visas does exist. A result of this research, there was an increased vigilance based upon combining numerous resources (Wasem, 2010).

The central concept/phenomenon was two-fold. The first portion involves falsifying intent and the second involves communication. The student visa entrant turned potential terrorist will be one of the quantitative portions of research, which relies upon the use of communication between law enforcement and intelligence agencies within the U.S.

The quantitative portion of research involved terrorist incidents based upon student visa overstays. Terrorist incidents are defined as events or actions by foreign entities with the goal of disrupting a stable government. The initial reports were from information acquired in research with the intent to better depict some methods during which greater levels of communication would have prevented harmful acts from taking place.

The quantitative method design used for this research used quantitative data in the form of government visas issued by country of origin for educational purposes. The

quantitative research data gathered based incidents of unauthorized visa overstays as a mechanism to identify the reasons a visa overstay occurred. The coupling of this quantitative data was used to better understand the motivators an individual might either intentionally or unintentionally seek to cause harm against both people and properties within the United States.

The dates selected were from 1997-2012 for student visas were to ensure one isolated event did not negatively impact findings. The intent of a trend removal allowed for a more realistic, rather than event driven decision for the numbers of visas issued according to country of origin. Since 2001, the typical college student enrolled in a 4-year bachelor's degree program would have graduated and returned to their country of origin. The time period analyzed was to allow for the most all-inclusive timeline without giving too much information or retention of data.

My role in this research was to reformat generally categorized visa applications (by country of origin) based upon a threat rating given by country and year of visa applications. My professional interaction was most closely linked to the actions which might occur based upon arrival of unfriendly entities into the United States. In order to suspend biases, my research focused on numbers for quantitative assessments.

No known ethical issues have been found. To date, I have no known biases or avocations for one group over another. Another area of ethical concern would be revealed if I worked in an agency determining the number of visas given to one country over another. The final ethical concern possibility would be based upon the historical ties a country has with the United States. There are some countries (Iran and North Korea)

which have not had student visas issued during the time period of this research (DHS, 2015). The final ethical concern is the association a country may have ties to a historical event for which past ties are still prevalent.

### **Methodology**

Experimental research design and the quantitative method style serve to support one another as a means to formulate the research plan. One of the strengths of quasi-experimental research is the ability to incorporate information over a long period of time (Shadish, Cook, & Campbell, 2002).. Specifically, the trend in immigration may reflect an increase to the number of approved visas due to relationships (military/political) with the United States. Fewer numbers may be available from countries that have poor or nonexistent relationships with the U.S. The plan to track statistics provided by the Department of State (2009) over a 16year period (1997-2012) will help to lessen the occurrence of erroneous findings. The idea of not incorporating the reason for extreme numeric shifts was to be considered; a small additional research process was used to substantiate findings. The specific spreadsheets used were collected from the State Department Nonimmigrant Visas, by country of origin. This information was organized according to fiscal year.

The research analysis involved the use of regression and correlation. The intent of using this model was to determine if there are trends in one country, or geographic region, for terrorist incidents conducted by individuals possessing a nonimmigrant student visa. Multiple regression methods were employed the findings of this inquiry.

### **Number of Participants**

The participants meet the research criteria if they were awarded student visas to the United States between 1997 and 2012. The number of visa levels varied somewhat by country of origin over the 16 year period. The qualitative assessment focused on three major incidents directly linked to illegal student visa overstays. In addition, the data were correlated to other events which may have impacted the reason the number of visa applicants awarded varied significantly between countries.

There was no direct interaction with the participants due to the data retrieval method used. Instead, the intent was to collect data pertaining to the specified events associated with terrorism based upon individuals who remained in the United States on expired Student Visas. The lack of direct contact was intentional in order to allow for neutrality in this type of analysis. This neutrality allowed for all information to be considered for analysis. If the information is determined to be irrelevant or extraneous the data may be withheld to ensure the study is not corrupt.

The trend for the cases analyzed was lengthy; however, it was likely that several cases were going to be the same the same. Additional research may yield minor changes in the results this time period was intended to be indicative of trending data, the likely saturation revealed the same concept of an individual with malevolent interest towards the United States. The future of this analysis would likely lead to the implementation of a mechanism to provide better oversight, either in the student visa process or the specific tracking requirements of those who remain in the United States on expired student visas.

## Quantitative Components

The data for the quantitative research came from publically available information from the Department of State. This organization publishes the number of visas by country of origin each year. The data are reliable as this organization is the source reporting overall visa totals.

There was no conflict of interest as the data are pertinent to this research. Permission for use of data was not required because they are publically available information, which will then have a secondary analysis conducted by comparing data sets for 16 consecutive years (FY1997-FY2012). If these data were not available to the public, a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) could have been completed. The data derived from the State Department had tertiary analysis completed, as some countries are allocated additional visas based upon factors such as technological interest and political and economic exchanges with the United States.

In order to accomplish proper coding, an automated software tool was used for quantitative data. This software allowed data to be entered in an Excel format. The data entered were then analyzed to answer the research questions pertaining to the country of origin by rank order for a 3 year period. The multiple years were compiled to determine any significant changes by country of origin. If significant differences exist, additional research to determine a possible reason has been provided.

The procedures used in this pilot study involved acquiring visa issuance statistics from publically available information posted on the official Department of State's (2012) visa website. The data were then analyzed according to variances over a 3 year period in

order to either support or contradict terrorist-entered planning, and events which could then be used by the DHS in order to deter terrorist actions. The IRB approval number for this dissertation is 01-02-15-0084167.

The data collection method was from news sources and confirmed by official government reports. The frequency of data collection was conducted on a random basis based upon a trigger event. The duration of data collection encompassed a time period sufficient enough to include at least three events. The data reviewed and reported in summary with key word indicators provided to allow for a correlation and coding of data. This information allowed for a specific direction or trending as appropriate.

I focused on specific countries based upon visas issued. A high end and low number of visas by country of origin were listed and compared by year of student visa issuance. The influences on an individual can influence decisions contradictory to original ideas. The null hypothesis was that the changes cannot be tracked. The alternative hypotheses was that the changes can be tracked and further quantified in purposeful actions taken by an individual which seek to cause great harm on an individual. Another alternative hypothesis was that thoughts could influence others based upon perceptions of a given ideology. The generic inclusion of all countries was completed to ensure there are no prejudices based upon a country; instead, further analysis may reveal a terrorist group was hosted or based in a specific country or even region.

The interpretation of numeric data was consistent by country over a period of 16 years. Any major extremes were based upon a percentile change. Erroneous numbers

should not factor into this research, as the data contained specific numbers with no variations.

The qualitative components of this research involved three case studies, which used automated computer software in order to organize data to be used for analysis. An additional portion of quantitative analysis was done through the use of LAMP. In this portion of the research, a pair wise comparison was done in order to determine the likelihood, by area of origin, a nonstate actor, or group or actors, would conduct a terrorist attack against the U.S. The quantitative statistics provided on nonimmigrant student visas served to direct an area of origin based upon varied ideologies to include religion and cultural beliefs. Data integration for both qualitative and quantitative data will be used to supplement the processes of information exchange and intelligence agencies regarding nonimmigrant student visas and the conduct of terrorism against the U.S.

### **Threats to Validity**

The threats to external validity were based upon the random year selection of this research. Naturally, analysis of additional periods of time could make this research more easily reproduced. The threats to internal validity were various events that could drastically increase or decrease the number of student visas being issued. Some areas of concern would be major political unrest or overall modifications to the policy of one country or region. Changes to immigration laws in the United States or other locations had a direct effect on the internal validity to this research.

There was no threat to the statistical conclusion, as the analysis has been comparative by year. The validity of the information was conducted under the auspices the student is truly pursuing an education while visiting. One possible threat could have been the internal changes impacting the high and low numbers of visas issued to one country; however, this threat would be an indirect attribute. The credibility of the quantitative research was based upon neutral reporting from a government entity, with no vested interest or positive goal by corrupting data sets.

As such, the transferability of this information, created by the Department of State, can be used by other government entities, such as the DHS, educational institutions, and law enforcement agencies to support other information. The relevancy of an open source media report can be traced to official peer-reviewed journals, as well as official government documents, such as police blotters. The coding within this research had some degree of reliability due to the variances in country of origin. In order to mitigate this risk, a larger sampling of three years was provided.

### **Ethical Procedures**

The data for the quantitative portion was not individual or personal. Instead, this data was from a generic total organized by country of origin. The research was conducted in the qualitative research portion. There was no requirement to access information which is not already publically available. If there was a determination that any one individual would be referenced, a proper generic cover was used to protect the individual rights of that person. There were no actual human interactions in this research. Any details are sanitized in the mere numbers of applicants over the 16 year period.

The treatment of data was purely statistical for the quantitative research. The qualitative research was derived from archival information. The analysis was determined not to impact ethical concerns. No confidential data were used as all this information provided was available via a publically accessible federal government website. This research was purposefully designed to derive data from publically available sources in order to prevent the compromise of confidential or classified information.

### **Summary**

The cradle to grave research process included the integration of Department of State data for nonimmigrant student visas organized by country of origin over a consecutive 16 year period. This data were analyzed to locate or determine trends, either positive or negative, based upon international events and changes to the number of student visas issued. The results were then considered when using the LAMP theory in order to determine if there are any countries which may have links to terrorism which are supported through the student visa process. This trending can be shared with law enforcement and intelligence agencies in order to provide a more predictive analytical tool for counterterrorism efforts.

The research plan was continued as noted throughout this chapter. The data collection method used was through the archives of Department of State nonimmigrant visas from fiscal year 1997 through fiscal year 2012. These data were analyzed using trend analysis to determine if there were major fluxuations in a given period of time for a specific country. There were countries selected from the F-1 nonimmigrant visas and three countries selected from M-1 nonimmigrant student visas to complete a predictive

analysis of the possible actions a student might take in order to become educated in the United States.

## Chapter 4: Results

The results recorded in a secondary analysis of nonimmigrant student visa data were consistent with earlier research. Previous researchers such as Borjas (2002), Camarota (2002), Doscher (2008), Fischer (2012) and Orbach (1999) noted the fact there is a link to nonimmigrant students visas and a threat to security. There were some trends noted in direct correlation to some countries before and after 2001. Additional trends were found in some countries which do not receive mainstream attention for foreign education (Grummon, 2010). The details are noted below.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this research was to determine if a link in student visa overstays and terrorist threats exist. A study of variables included a specific emphasis on the visa types issued by number over years as well as a comparison between various nonimmigrant visa categories F-1, F-2, M-1 and M-2. The completed quantitative methods paradigm provided the basis for this research. The LAMP Method supported the acquisition of baseline data from student visas for several years. The graded findings of the LAMP Process will help codify if a threat were to be directly attributed to a nonimmigrant student visa issued.

There are 12 steps to the LAMP (Lockwood, 2015).

1. Define the issue for which the researcher is trying to determine the most likely future.
2. Specify the national actors involved.

3. Perform an in-depth study of how each national actor perceives the issue in question.
4. Specify all possible courses of action for each actor.
5. Determine the major scenarios compared within the alternate futures.
6. Calculate the total number of permutations of possible alternate futures for each scenario.
7. Perform a pair wise comparison of all alternate future within the scenario to determine their relative probability.
8. Rank the alternate futures for each scenario from highest relative probability to the lowest based on the number of votes received.
9. Assuming each future occurs; analyze each alternate future in terms of its consequences for the issue in question.
10. Determine the focal events that must occur in our present in order to bring about a given alternate future.
11. Develop indicators for the focal events.
12. State the potential of a given alternate future to transpose into another alternate future.

### **Research Question and Hypotheses**

The central research question was: How could a central database, populated by terrorism associated data from intelligence and law enforcement agencies, be created to allow access to the end user without compromising a source?

$H_0$ : Student a visa overstays can be directly linked to events which threaten the security of the United States.

$H_a$ : Student visa overstays have had no known link to terrorist threats within the United States.

### **Results of the Study**

During this research, there was 16 years of retrievable student visa and spouse data for nearly 200 countries/territories. In order to accumulate enough detail, the 16 year period from fiscal year 1997 through fiscal year 2012 was selected. The rationale for selecting these years involved the availability of data sets as well a time long enough to determine changes after fiscal year 2002. This date was selected since the visas after this date were issued in direct proportion to the September 11, 2001 terror attacks which were conducted within the United States. The midpoint of time for this data assessment was 2004.

### **Visa Issuance Rate by Type and Location**

There were 38 countries selected from the 208 countries reviewed due to deviations in the number of visas issued from 1997 through 2012 (Table A1). The specific visas reviewed are those of non-immigrant students (F-1, M-1) and their families (F-2, M-2) seeking higher level education in the United States. Each of the four visa types has similar changes for a certain period while some years had random visa numbers issued. The following findings were acquired through a manual review of major changes in numeric.

### **The F-1 Visa Rates**

All countries are tracked for 16 years except for the following which was tracked by the number of years noted directly after the country name. The limited data sets were from the countries of Timor Leste (13), South Sudan (2), Serbia (6), Montenegro (5), Macau (SAR) (13), Kosovo (5), and Congo (varied from 1-15 throughout the assessed years).

The major deviations in countries selected for additional review were completed. The major changes in the F-1 visas issued showed a 93% increase for the number of visas issued to Afghanistan from 1997-2013 with no decrease in visa issued after 2002. Argentina had a 61% decrease with nearly a 50% decrease after 2002 while Azerbaijan had a 78% increase. Visas issued to Turkey and Bangladesh was nearly doubled and the number of visas issued to Benin increased fivefold. Additional increases were seen in doubling of visas issued in Egypt, India, Kyrgyzstan, Somalia, Tunisia, Venezuela, and Yemen.

Several countries saw notable decreases of at least 50% in the number of F-1 visas issued. Those countries are Botswana, Bulgaria, Eritrea, Israel, Japan, Kenya, and Pakistan. Significant increases (~90%) were seen in Burkina Faso, China, Iraq, Iran, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan. Significant decreases of over 50% included: North Korea, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Minor deviations were seen in Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Russia, and Syria.

### **The F-2 Visa Rates**

The number of F-2 visas issued from 1997 to 2012 was done in conjunction with the F-1 visas issued. There are some similar trends; but, there are also differences which will be addressed. There is noted increased number in many Arab nations as compared to other worldly locations. There are possible reasons for this trend which include religious as well as safety/prosperity associations. The desire to cohabituate with a spouse is one primary reason.

The F-2 Nonimmigrant Visas issued to at least 10% of F-1 Nonimmigrant Visa countries. These locations included Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Botswana, China, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Kuwait, Libya, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Somalia, Syria, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela, and Yemen. The number of F-2 visas issued to Botswana, China, Egypt, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen were all at least over 10% proportional to those individuals receiving F-1 visas. There was a significantly elevated F-2 issuance rate of over 50% from Libya and Saudi Arabia. One reason for the Saudi Arabian number is likely to the association to Islam and the husband and wife cohabitation beliefs.

The information provided on the F-2 Nonimmigrant Visas was purposefully less than the information given about the F-1 Nonimmigrant Visas due to the fact the trends would have a great degree of proportion when analyzed via the LAMP Method. The next visa of interest transitions from the F series into the M series.

### **The M-1 Visa Rates**

The number of M-1 Nonimmigrant Visas was lower than the F-1 Nonimmigrant Visas issued. The likely reason was the educational goal sought. Data trends revealed the fact there are typically more individuals who reside within the United States for secondary, seminary education than those students who seek to reside within the United States in order to attend a vocational school. The numbers from the Department of State directly support this correlation.

The overall increases for the time period analyzed were: Bulgaria (65%), China (95%), Egypt (83%), Iran (82%), Iraq and Kazakhstan (100%), Japan (62%), Kuwait (64%), Russia (71%), Turkey (36%). Although the specific reasons are not mentioned, there may be correlation to give international events. For example, Iraq had no visas issued until FY06. The numbers of visas issued are based upon several factors, selected by the DHS. The major trends are simple to identify; but, additional time assessing minor changes and practical constants may also be beneficial for further review.

There were also several decreases to the number of M-1 Nonimmigrant Visas (vocational) issued between FY97 and FY12. The most drastic decreases were from Kenya (75%), Saudi Arabia (overall decrease of 57% with a 2003 decreased value of 93%), and Tunisia (90%). The reason for the decrease may be attributed to unrest in Tunisia with the start of the Arab Spring. Kenya was once a large U.S. ally in the Global War on Terrorism; this depreciated value was not proportional to political issues.

### **The M-2 Visa Rate**

The M-2 Nonimmigrant Visas (dependent of vocational student) had the lowest number of recipients based upon the visa categories analyzed. The M-2 visas issued to Asia were the greatest for all years reviewed except for in FY04 and FY12, Europe had the greatest amount of visas issued. Of the visas issued, over 10% of all M-2 Nonimmigrant Student Visas issued were given to the following countries: Egypt, Pakistan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, Venezuela, and Yemen.

The specific countries of interest which were used in the LAMP Method were Bulgaria, China, and Egypt for the M-1 Nonimmigrant Student Visas and Afghanistan, Argentina, and Azerbaijan for the F-1 nonimmigrant student visas. The previously mentioned countries were selected due to major changes in numbers of visas issued over the period of selected. The details for each step of the LAMP are available for additional information (Lockwood, 2015). The entire LAMP was completed and this information is located in the next section; the specific findings have been placed in Appendix B.

### **The LAMP Method**

The LAMP Method was used to conduct a predictability of a specific country. There were originally over 200 countries and terror ties reviewed in this research. More detailed information for 38 countries of interest was completed; selections were based upon trends, world events, and U.S. interests. The LAMP website (Lockwood, 2015) has an automated option which codes the number of data sets and actors the researcher requires.

The LAMP provided all the potential outcomes for each entity. The findings are located in Appendices A and B. For the purposes of this research, the countries chosen for further analysis met two conditions, major changes in numbers of visas issued as well as a global perspective (i.e. no all Asian). The pair wise comparison was organized into F-1 and M-1 groups with three countries for each analysis to keep the data more manageable. For the F-1 the countries of Afghanistan, Argentina, and Azerbaijan were selected. The random sampling for the M-1 resulted in the selection of Bulgaria, China, and Egypt for further analysis. Each country was coded against the following criteria: Graduate returns (GR), Graduate and stay/remain (GS), and partial/some course work remain (PS/PR).

There are several major scenarios (Step 4 of the LAMP) which could happen with the F-1 visa countries selected. One major trend would be if Afghanistan tensions once again increased and Azerbaijan decided to not support a decision by the U.S. to assist. As a secondary actor, Argentina might want to assist and send additional aid monies to support the efforts of the United States. This result would be seen as Afghanistan (PS/PR), Azerbaijan (GR), Argentina (GR). The overall common trend for this scenario as well as many associated scenarios has a primary link, the United States. Determine the major scenarios (LAMP, Step 5) within which you compare the alternate futures.

For the M-1 countries (Bulgaria, China, and Egypt) there are several scenarios, a primary might be Chinese development in Tunisia which could limit Egyptian development. Chinese development could have the same effect in Bulgaria, but allowing Bulgaria to also profit from the Chinese effort. In this scenario, the results are China

(GR), Egypt (GR), and Bulgaria (GS). The likelihood of impact on visas to the U.S. are limited however, the increased development in Bulgaria might cause a Bulgarian student to remain upon graduation to seek higher education to eventually return to work in Bulgaria (country of origin). The aforementioned are only two of the several scenarios which could happen. This method of predictive analysis afforded the same possibility to each actor/country in order to allow my research a proven possible outcome.

The pair wise comparison determines all of the alternate futures (Appendix A) which could exist for the F-1 nonimmigrant student visa holders. There are 27 possible futures for each country analyzed is part of LAMP, step 6. The action of one might have a reaction on another. The most likely outcome is the student from each country comes to the U.S., complete education, and then return to their country of origin.

The rank ordered votes of predictive analysis are in Appendix B. Each nonimmigrant visa group have 27 possible outcomes which are ranked from 1-27 based upon a likelihood of occurrence. The grading criteria are based upon the experience of the analyst coding this data. The most likely occurrence is number one, stating all students will obtain a visa, complete education, and then return to country of origin without incident. The least likely occurrence is number 27, stating all students will obtain a visa, remain in the U.S. without completing education. This worst case scenario (Table 1, number 27) is the focus which could be used to predict possible threats to Homeland Security or even depict fear to return to country of origin for other reasons such as civil wars. Table 1

*Pairwise Comparison of Student Options*

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Rank	Afghanistan	Azerbaijan	Argentina
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1	GR	GR	GR
2	GR	GR	GS
3	GR	GS	GS
4	GR	GR	PR
5	GR	GS	PR
6	GR	PR	GS
7	GR	GS	GR
8	GS	GR	PR
9	PR	GS	GR
10	GS	GR	GR
11	GS	GS	GR
12	GS	GS	GS
13	GS	PR	PR
14	GS	GS	PR
15	GR	PR	PR
16	PR	GS	GS
17	PR	GS	PR
18	PR	PR	GS
19	PR	GR	PR
20	GR	PR	GR
21	GS	GR	GS
22	GS	PR	GS
23	PR	GR	GS
24	PR	PR	GR
25	PR	GR	GR
26	PR	GR	GS
27	PR	PR	PR

Note. GR (graduation rate), PR (partial education and remain/stay), GS (graduated) remain/stay.

The final steps of the LAMP (Steps 8 and 9) can be merged to note reasons a given future might happen. For the purposes of this assessment, the likelihood of an individual remaining in the U.S. (GS or PR) could exist for several reasons. The next step in LAMP (Step 10) is to determine a focal event/action to start the change. The primary reasons (Step 11 of LAMP) could be due to the desire to seek a greater prosperity, poor living conditions in country of origin, the desire to become a U.S. Person, or to conduct threats to Homeland Security. Each event has to consider the individual, their beliefs, existing circumstances, and coercion to conduct atypical actions in a democratic society.

The final step (12) of the LAMP is to find alternate futures. This practice of even more detailed predictive analysis should yield additional actions to be taken to resolve an issue or event. An example would be if Afghanistan became a stabilized nation and could then assist in humanitarian relief efforts in other local countries like Azerbaijan and an earthquake or Argentina after a flood. The alternate future would require a new rank order and pairwise comparison since the efforts were humanitarian assistance rather than an attempt to counter terrorism through better management student visa activities. This step would be the location a chain reaction of events could take place.

The findings provided direction to answer the original research question of how could a central database, populated by terrorism associated data from intelligence and law enforcement agencies, be created to allow access to the end user without compromising a source. The answer shows that these analyzed data could serve as baseline criteria for secondary analysis. The number of student visas issued annually by country changes based upon a modeling technique. The data from those metrics could then be used to

conduct trends of reasons (civil war, famine, terrorism) an individual might seek to remain, illegally, in the U.S. under the auspices of a student visa.

## Chapter 5: Discussion, Conclusions, and Recommendations

### **Introduction**

The research of nonimmigrant student visas was completed in order to determine if there is a link or trend towards visas issued in concurrence with a particular country. This link could then perhaps link to possible trends to a given threat to homeland security from an individual residing in the U.S for the reason of education through an approved student visa. This study was conducted in order to determine if links to visas and visa overstays could be directly tied to one another.

### **Confirming Visa Overstays**

The initial literature review is consistent with the findings of the research in Chapter 4. The following items will be explained in more detail. There are direct links to students and visa overstays. There are also changes in the number of visas issued. There have been confirmed links to overstays and threats to national security. There are known problems with the nonimmigrant student visa system used in the United States.

The data reviewed did not directly note the fact there are visa overstays; however, other authors mentioned this fact with the SERVIS. The reasons can vary from asylum seeker (Shuman & Bohmer, 2010). Other various reason such as fear of returning to home of record. There is also the possibility of seeking to cause harm/threats (Zuhur, 2005). This potential has increased beyond just Al Qaida to a more recent emerging international threat, Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (IS) also referred to as ISIS or ISIL. According to a video by the Brookings Institute (2015), the metamorphosis of Al Qaida has emerged as ISIL. This group is recognized as an international threat both within the

United States and abroad. The unknown location based on remaining in the United States after a visa has expired is problematic and almost impossible to resolve. The idea of more interim checks on visa holders may be helpful however; there is a fine line between assisting homeland security and infringing upon the rights of an individual to do as they wish as long as the visa is not expired.

One direct correlation to the literature review and the research completed are the changes in the numbers of visas issued to a given location annually. China had far fewer visas issued in 2012 than in 1996. There are several possible reasons for this fact. Brumfield (2004) noted the fact there are less students applying for visas for a logical reason, according to Chang (2004), there have been less visas issued. Another reason noted by Fischer (2012) is the fact potential Chinese students are unable to successfully complete the required language test. One final reason, applicable to several countries, was based upon the events of September 11, 2001. There is a fear of decreased safety in the U.S. since 2001 (Camarota, 2007).

### **Theoretical Findings**

The conceptual theory of this research was provided through the use of the LAMP method. Student nonimmigrant visa data sets were coded and analyzed in order to predict the likelihood an event could take place. The predictions selected for the events most and least likely to occur could easily be changed if the data deviates from the original indicators and warnings provided. The specific findings of this research are located in the appendices of this document. The most notable details were provided in Chapter 4; the application of findings could be limitless based upon the assessor of the situation. This

information might help to determine if there are state sponsors of terrorism or, if the individuals act in a lone-wolf situation such as the Boston Marathon bombers, two brothers associated with Chechen jihadists (Riedel, 2013).

### **Limitations of the Study**

There are some limitations to this study. The initial statistics provide data for the numbers of visas issued over the 16 year period. While this information can denote positive and negative trends to the numbers of visas issued, there is no direct link to the number of visa overstays available publically. This lack of information allows only generic modeling to be accomplished. The LAMP can be modified to several scenarios which can increase the possibility for probable overstays. One problem is the reason for the actual overstay. If the SERVIS could provide this information, then the potential threatening entities could be tracked and perhaps located by law enforcement.

### **Recommendations**

The use of the data collected by privately available government agencies should be shared between government entities locally as well as nationally. The findings might then be able to intervene prior to a threat against the U.S. being conducted. The links between agencies should serve as collaborative rather than competitive efforts which were noted a troublesome in the 9/11 Commission Report (p. 416). The unity of intelligence and law enforcement agencies would be of greater value in counterterrorism.

### **Visa Overstays**

The issue of information exchange was mentioned as a specific failure in the 9/11 Commission Report (Kean & Hamilton, 2004). As a basis for research, the modifications

since this event would likely have resulted in greater interaction on a daily basis to allow for an expedited exchange when an emergency or crisis occurs. The data being studied are from 1997 through 2012. The time of these data was specifically selected to allow for those students enrolled in 4 year degrees in 2001 to have to return to their country of origin and allowed for time to see if those individuals who remained longer have remained beyond visa overstays. One area of concern with acquiring all information is the availability or access of the subject and the levels which are revealed to the public under the FOIA. This information was drawn from law enforcement cases located in the literature review.

The largest gap in current literature is access to intelligence information due to classification. There are often years of intelligence collection on a group or individual which may not seem pertinent until an event is close to happening or, shortly after an event has happened. As a result, the focus of information will rely heavily upon law enforcement incidents, court cases, and case studies involving nonimmigrant visa concerns. By understanding the historical perspective, the future may be more easily defined.

### **Implications for Positive Social Change**

The possible impacts from this research for positive social change can be incorporated at numerous levels. At the individual and family level, the threats to national security could easily be decreased as the vigilance towards individuals residing in the US on nonimmigrant student visas increased. As far as benefits organizations (educators) the additional assistance from the government could lessen the organizations requirements

for tracking by making the laws more stringent. The positive changes to policy would require additional structure initially; but, the long-term benefit would link law enforcement and intelligence agencies to equally share relevant information with one another initially. Each entity could continue to provide updates to previously acquired information.

### **Conclusion**

Nonimmigrant students are likely to benefit society in almost all instances. There are minimal instances where more awareness is needed to continue to provide a positive benefit to society. Early awareness and information exchanges throughout student enrollment would greatly benefit the students as well as society overall. The fact foreign entities may seek to threaten national security will be a continued challenge. Minimalizing a threat will cause overall trends/awareness to preventing future threats.

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## Appendix A: Study Data

Table A1

*Student Visas Issued FY1997-FY2012*

	<i>N</i>	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
F-1	3164	.0	189402.0	1526.077	6536.2607
F-2	3164	.0	7254.0	115.429	552.1705
M-1	3164	.0	2604.0	36.654	131.9867
M-2	3164	.0	150.0	1.375	6.6639
Valid N (listwise)	3164	.0			

Table A2

*Pair Wise Comparison for Nonimmigrant Student Visas for F1 and M1*

	<b>Afghanistan</b>	<b>Azerbaijan</b>	<b>Argentina</b>	<b>China</b>	<b>Egypt</b>	<b>Bulgaria</b>
1	GR	GR	GR	GR	GR	GR
2	GR	GR	GS	GR	GR	GS
3	GR	GS	GR	GR	GS	GR
4	GR	GS	GS	GR	GS	GS
9	GR	PR	PR	GR	PR	PR
7	GR	PR	GR	GR	PR	GR
5	GR	PR	GS	GR	PR	GS
8	GR	GR	PR	GR	GR	PR
6	GR	GS	PR	GR	GS	PR
11	GS	GR	GR	GS	GR	GR
10	GS	GS	GR	GS	GS	GR
15	GS	GR	GS	GS	GR	GS
12	GS	GS	GS	GS	GS	GS
16	GS	GS	PR	GS	GS	PR
14	GS	GR	PR	GS	GR	PR
18	GS	PR	PR	GS	PR	PR
17	GS	PR	GS	GS	PR	GS
13	GS	PR	GR	GS	PR	GR
27	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
26	PR	PR	GS	PR	PR	GS
23	PR	PR	GR	PR	PR	GR
19	PR	GR	GR	PR	GR	GR
20	PR	GR	GS	PR	GR	GS
24	PR	GR	PR	PR	GR	PR
22	PR	GS	GS	PR	GS	GS
21	PR	GS	GR	PR	GS	GR
25	PR	GS	PR	PR	GS	PR

*Note.* Ranked in order for likeliness to occur. Publically available from Lockwood (2015)

web page listed in references. Pairwise Comparison.

Figures A1-A16 are bar graphs showing number of nonimmigrant visas issued from FY1997-FY2012 according to geographic location and nonimmigrant student visa type. From Department of State, 2014, Nonimmigrant Visas. Publically available from web page listed in references.

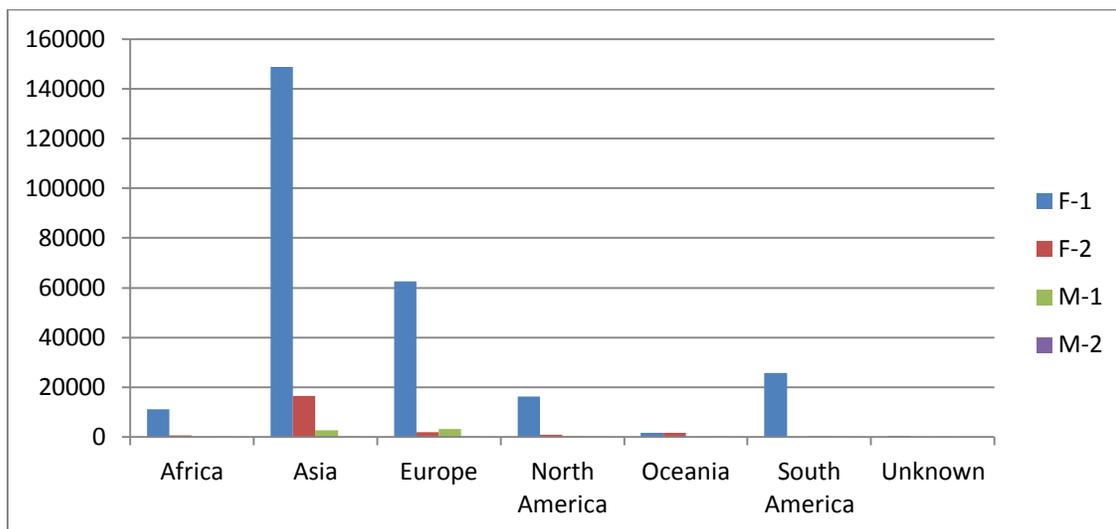


Figure A1. 1997 data.

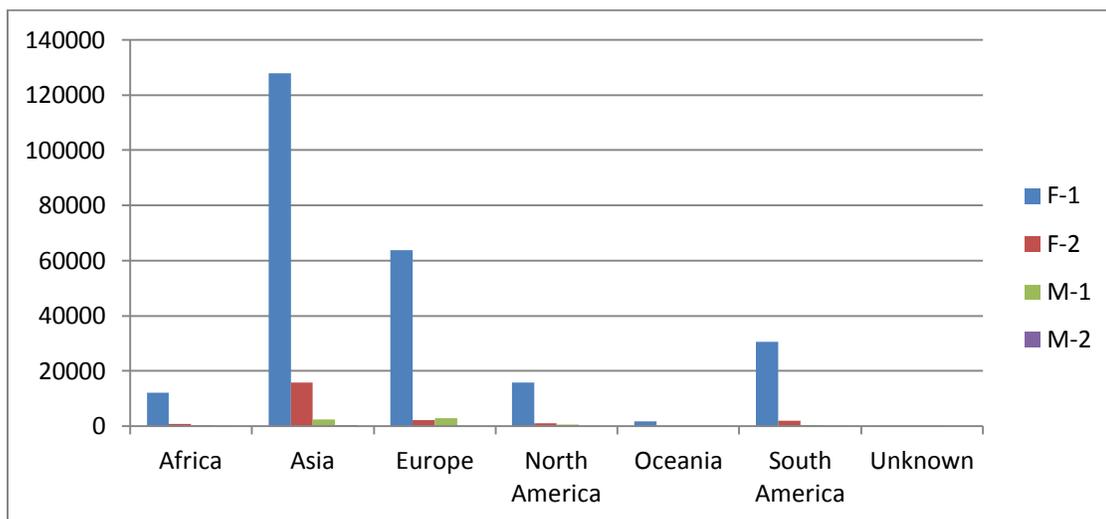


Figure A2. 1998 data.

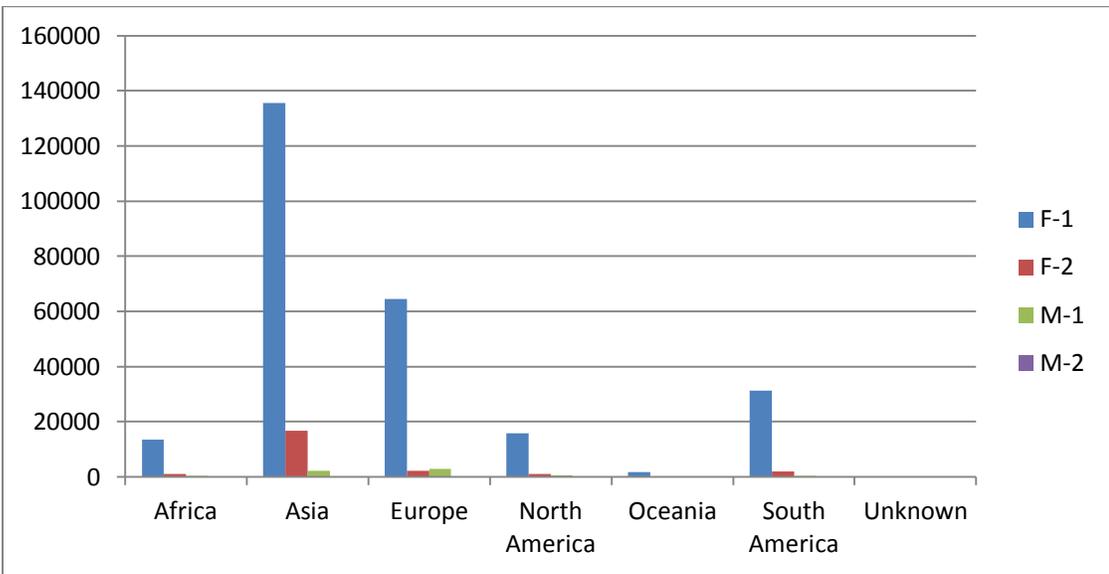


Figure A3. 1999 data.

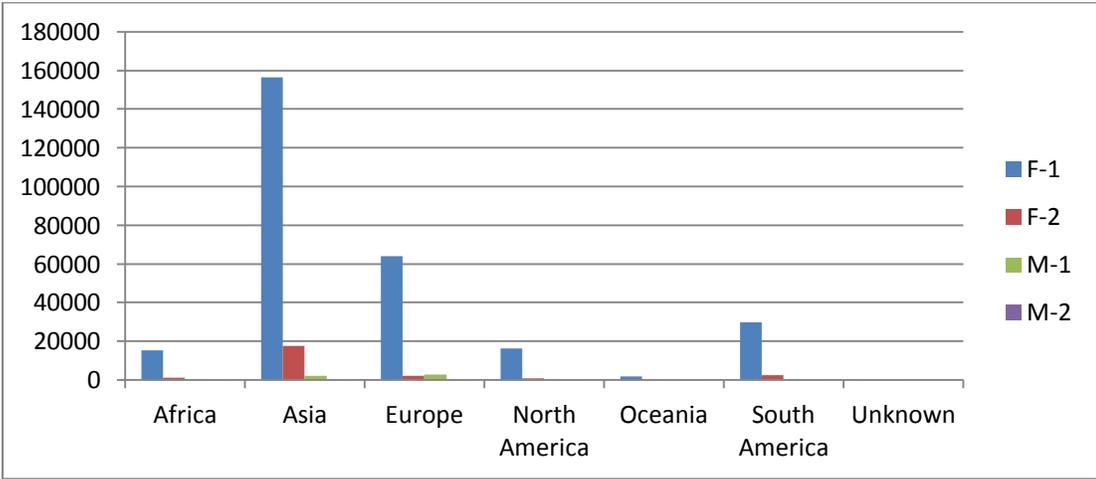


Figure A4. 2000 data.

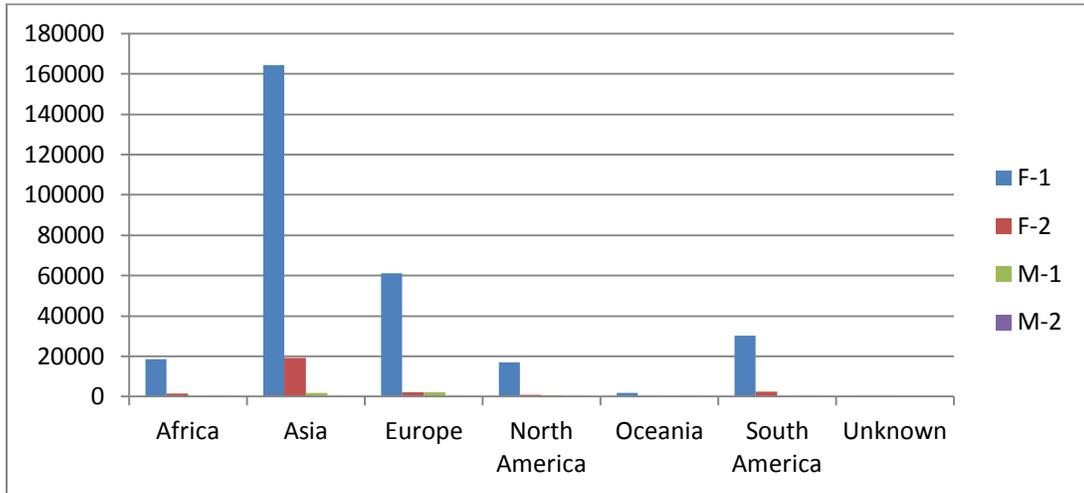


Figure A5. 2001 data.

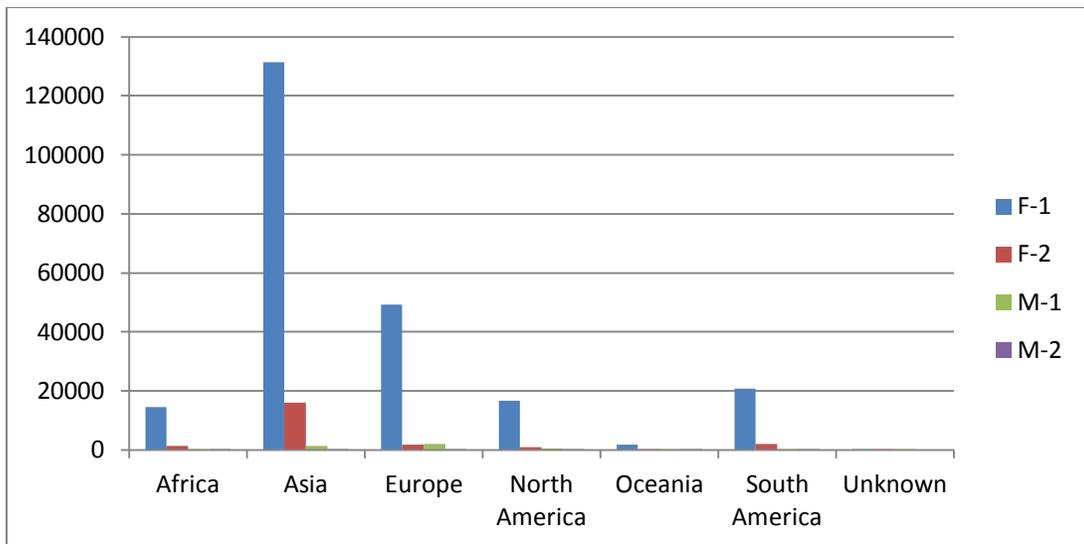


Figure A6. 2002 data.

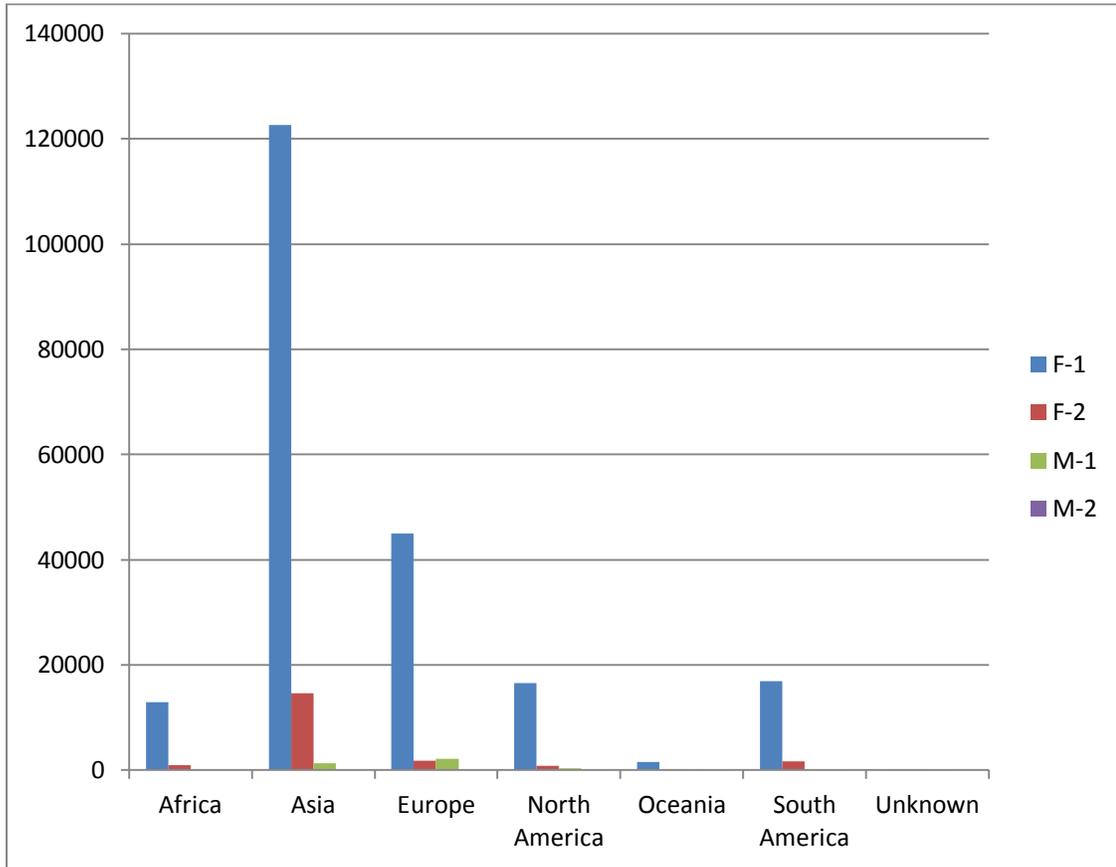


Figure A7. 2003 data.

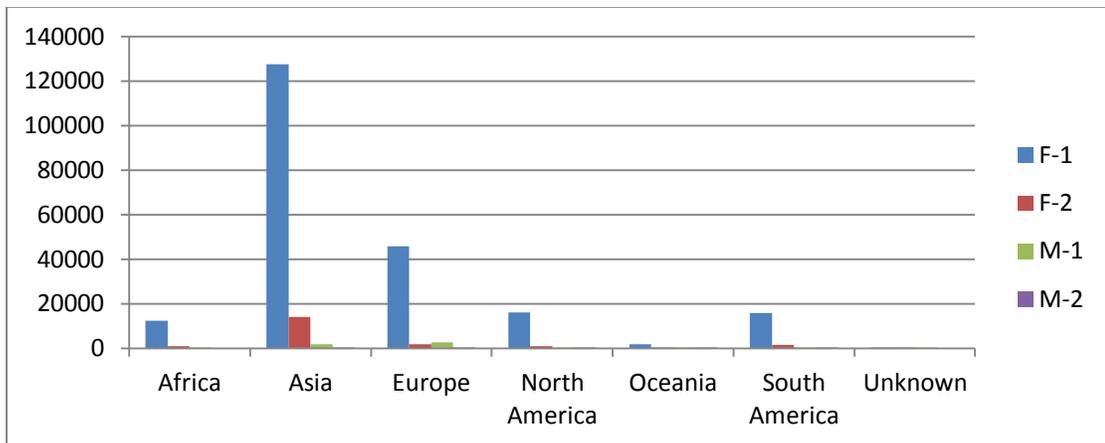
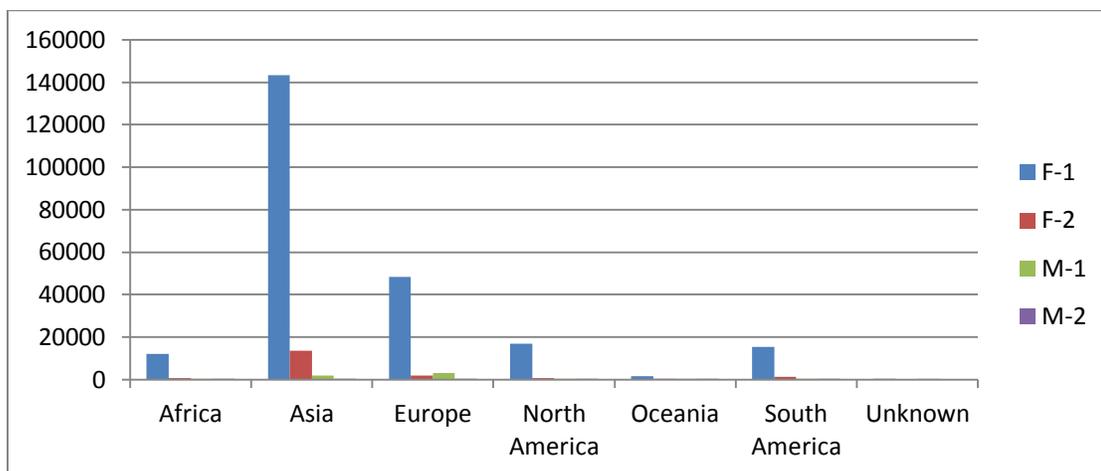


Figure A8. 2004 data.



*Figure A9.* 2005 data.

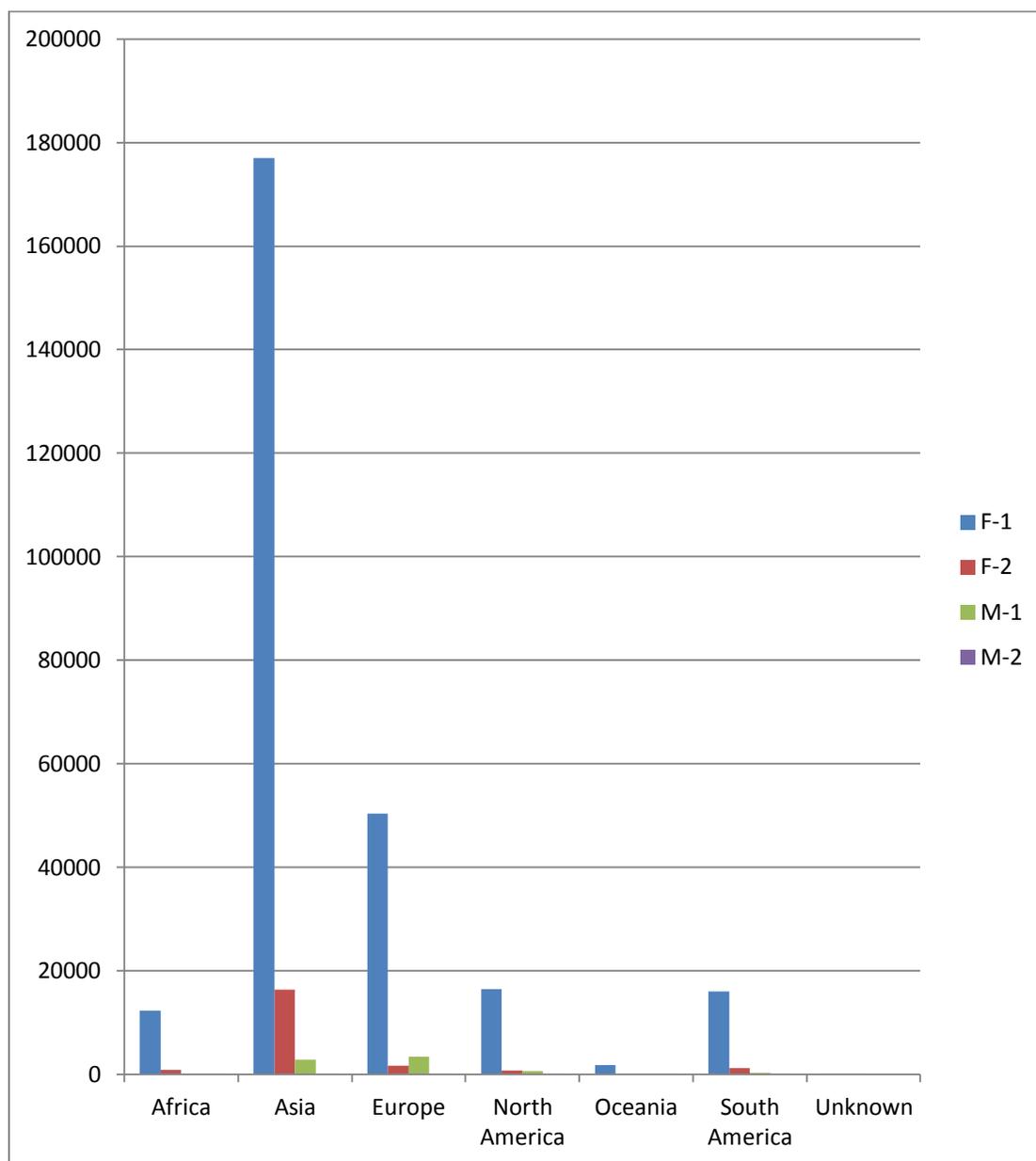


Figure A10. 2006 data.

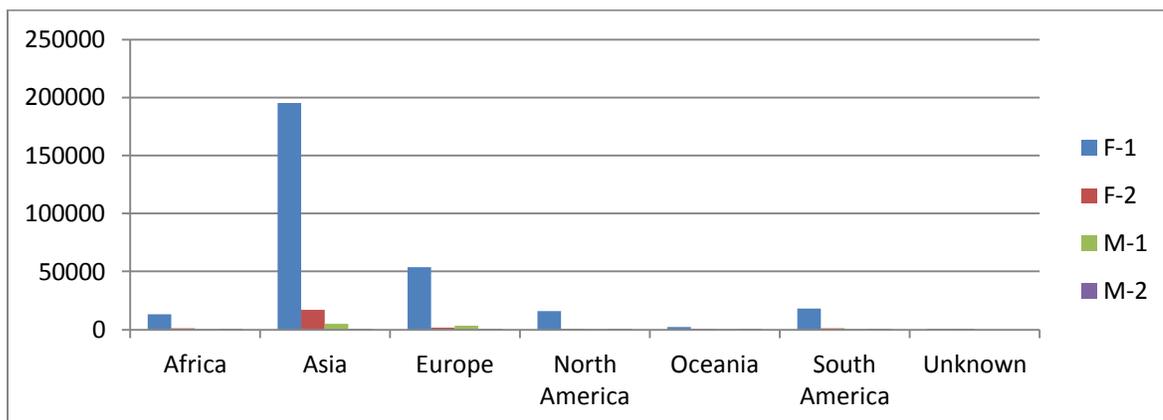


Figure A11. 2007 data.

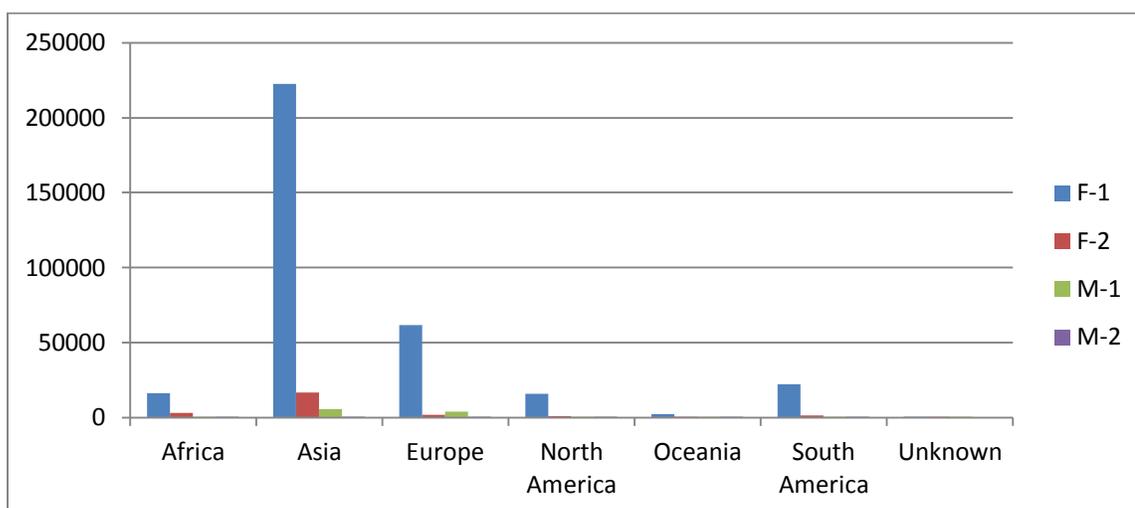


Figure A12. 2008 data.

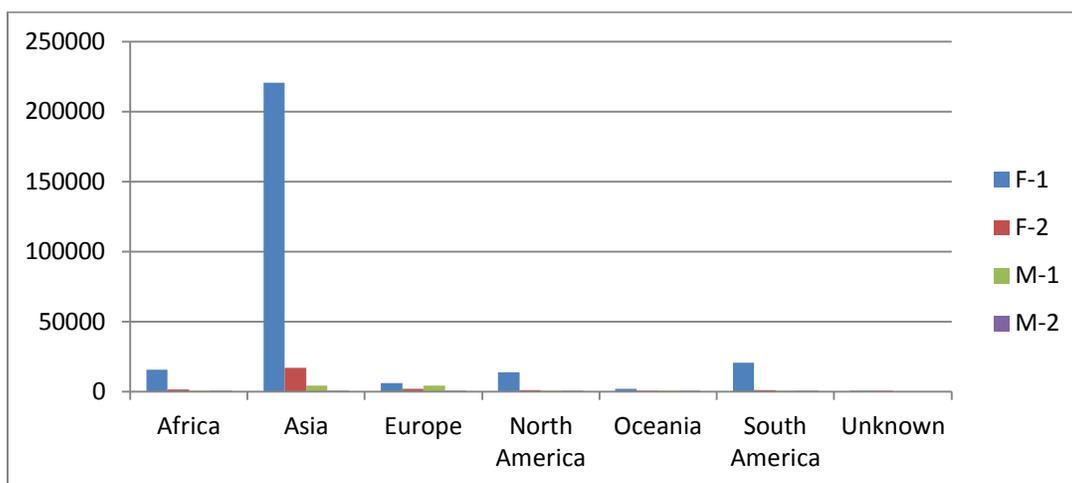


Figure A13. 2009 data.

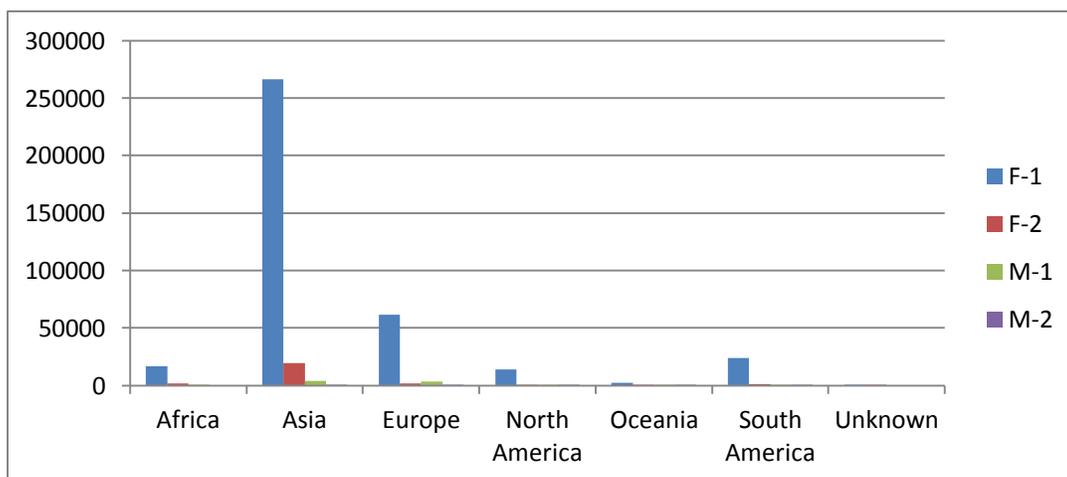


Figure A14. 2010 data.

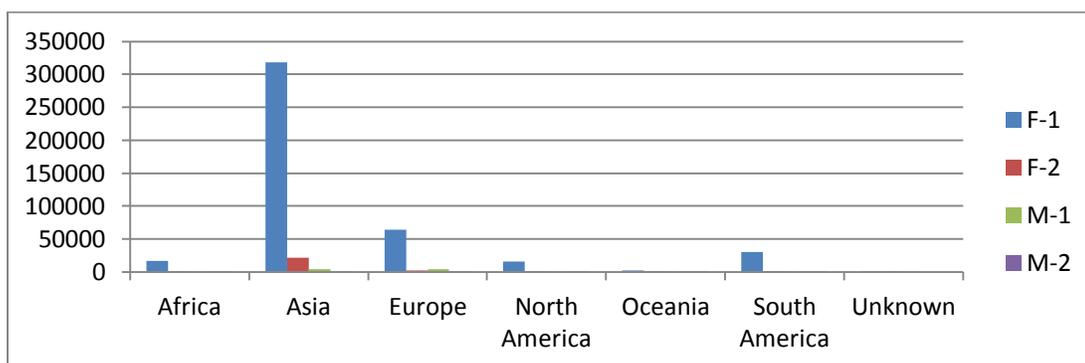


Figure A15. 2011 data.

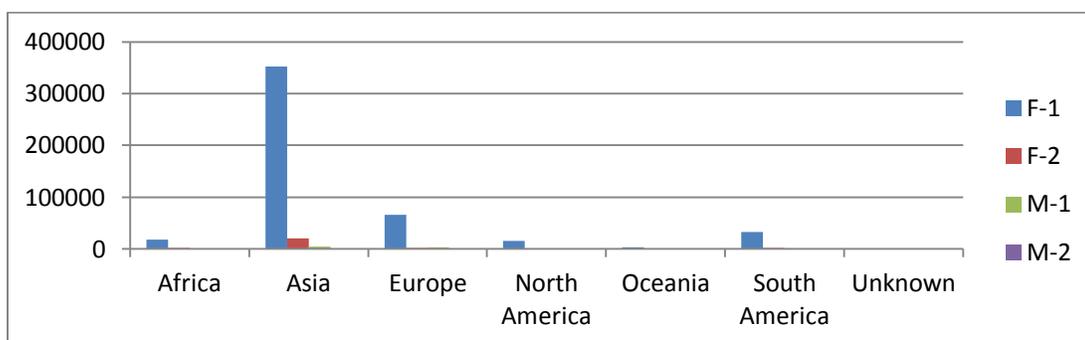


Figure A16. 2012 data.

## Appendix B: Results of the LAMP

Results of the LAMP for M1 and F1 Nonimmigrant Student Visas Publically available from web page listed in references. *Figures B1-B2*. Results of the LAMP for M1 and F1 Nonimmigrant Student Visas Publically available from web page listed in references.

LAMP

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Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt PS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GR	China GS	Egypt GR	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GR	China GS	Egypt GS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GR	China GS	Egypt PS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GR	China PS	Egypt GR	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GR	China PS	Egypt GS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GR	China PS	Egypt PS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China GR	Egypt GR	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China GR	Egypt GS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China GR	Egypt PS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China GS	Egypt GR	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China GS	Egypt GS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China PS	Egypt PS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China PS	Egypt GR	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China PS	Egypt GS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR

<http://lamp-method.org/software/LAMP-T1.htm>

2/5/2015

Figure B1. LAMP data 1.



Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt PS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GR	China GS	Egypt GR	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GR	China GS	Egypt GS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GR	China GS	Egypt PS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GR	China PS	Egypt GR	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GR	China PS	Egypt GS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GR	China PS	Egypt PS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China GR	Egypt GR	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China GR	Egypt GS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China GR	Egypt PS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China GS	Egypt GR	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China GS	Egypt GS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China GS	Egypt PS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China PS	Egypt GR	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR
Bulgaria GS	China PS	Egypt GS	OR	Bulgaria GR	China GR	Egypt GR

 LOCKWOOD ANALYTICAL METHOD FOR PREDICTION						
Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GS	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan PS	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GR	Argentina GS	Azerbaijan GR	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GR	Argentina GS	Azerbaijan GS	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GR	Argentina GS	Azerbaijan PS	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GR	Argentina PS	Azerbaijan GR	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GR	Argentina PS	Azerbaijan GS	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GR	Argentina PS	Azerbaijan PS	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GS	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GS	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GS	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GS	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan PS	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GS	Argentina GS	Azerbaijan GR	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GS	Argentina GS	Azerbaijan GS	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GS	Argentina GS	Azerbaijan PS	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GS	Argentina PS	Azerbaijan GR	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR
Afghanistan GS	Argentina PS	Azerbaijan GS	OR	Afghanistan GR	Argentina GR	Azerbaijan GR

Figure B2. LAMP data 2.