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Greetings. The latest data from the Immigration Courts show that the number of cases waiting for a decision continues to climb. As of May 31, 2017, the Court's backlog had risen to 598,943, whereas one year ago, at the end of May 2016, the backlog stood at 492,978. This is an increase of more than 100,000 cases just in the past 12 months.

Most new cases filed in Immigration Court this fiscal year involve noncitizens charged by DHS with committing an immigration violation rather than involved in any criminal activity. For example, in only 1.7 percent of all cases were individuals charged as having committed an aggravated felony, while an additional 4.1 percent were charged with engaging in less serious criminal activity that allegedly made them deportable. Not a single person so far this year has been charged as being deportable because the individual endorsed or espoused terrorist activity, or were alleged likely to engage in terrorist activities.

TRAC's free query tools provide more details through May 2017 on the Court's backlog, the location of courts with the largest backlog, and the nationality of noncitizens in these cases. For an index to the full list of TRAC's immigration tools go to:

<http://trac.syr.edu/imm/tools/>

If you want to be sure to receive notifications whenever updated data become available, sign up at:

<http://tracfed.syr.edu/cgi-bin/tracuser.pl?pub=1&list=imm>

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TRAC is self-supporting and depends on foundation grants, individual contributions and subscription fees for the funding needed to obtain, analyze and publish the data we collect on the activities of the U.S. federal government. To help support TRAC's ongoing efforts, go to:

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