



Bureau of Consular Affairs
Visa Office
Legislation and Regulations Division

FAX TRANSMISSION

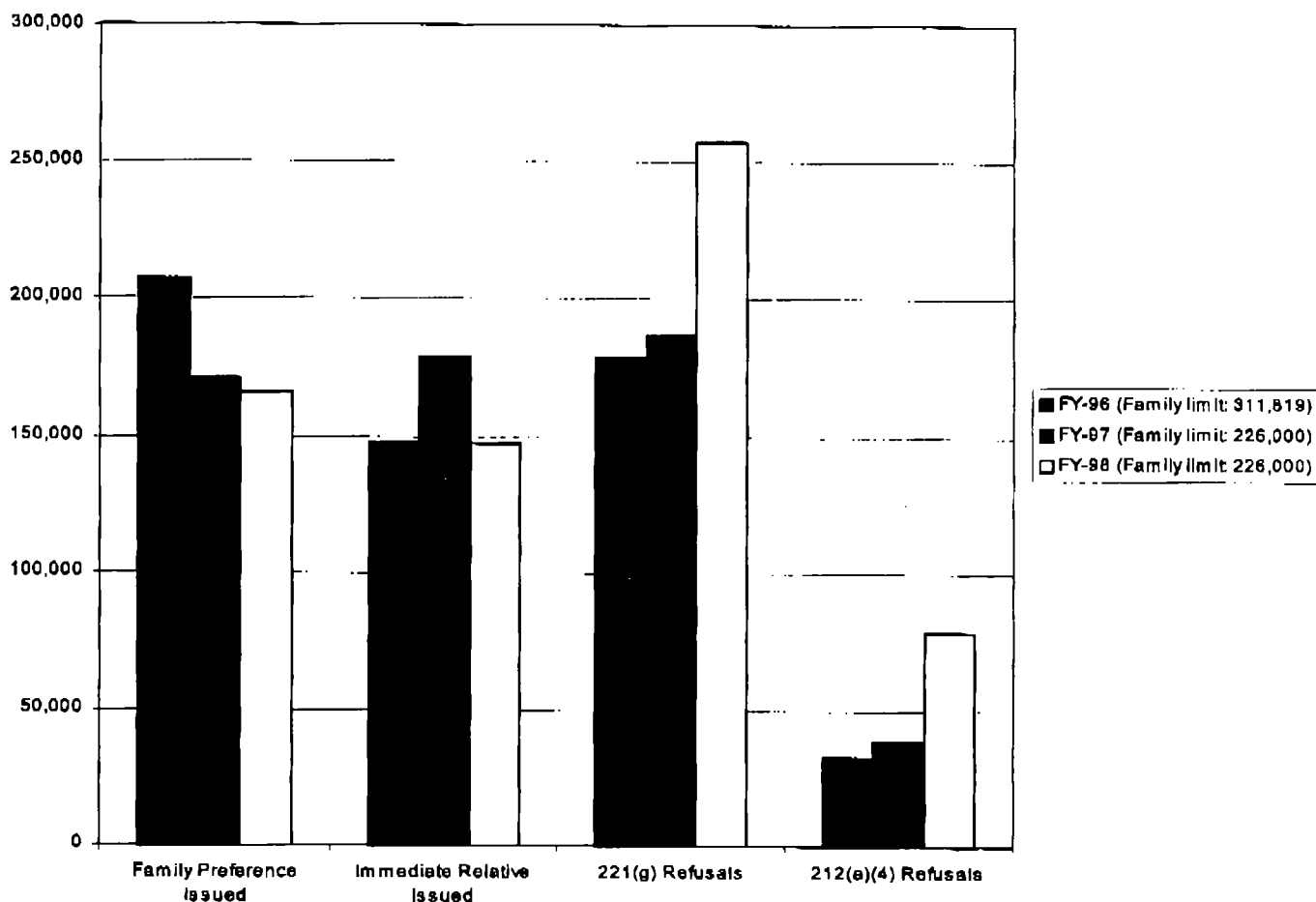
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Date: June 21, 1999
Subject: Effect of I-864 on visa issuance

As you requested, this is the info I had prepared for last week's briefing. In general, note the decline in preference visas issued and the sharp increase in visa refusals (both attributable for the most part to the I-864). Note too the increase in 221(g) refusals. This category is an interim refusal for those who have insufficient documentation, but who are offered an opportunity to provide more. It is our belief that some Foreign Service posts may have erroneously listed many of their I-864 final refusals in this category, rather than in 212(a)(4) – public charge. Thus, the actual 212(a)(4) refusals may be even higher than are reflected in these charts. Because of I-864 problems we are doing more work (having to interview more applicants) and still are not able to issue all available visas due to the fact that the sponsors of so many of the applicants cannot meet the 125% income threshold. (The six posts are just a sampling).

PAGES TO FOLLOW THIS COVER SHEET: 8

IV Workload at Foreign Service Posts

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Family Preference Issuances</u>	<u>Immediate Relative Issuances</u>	<u>221 (g) Refusals</u>	<u>212 (a) (4) Refusals</u>
1996 (limit 311,819):	207,734	147,883	178,972	33,230
1997 (limit 226,000):	170,785	178,774	187,033	39,077
1998 (limit 226,000):	165,952	147,672	257,319	78,388

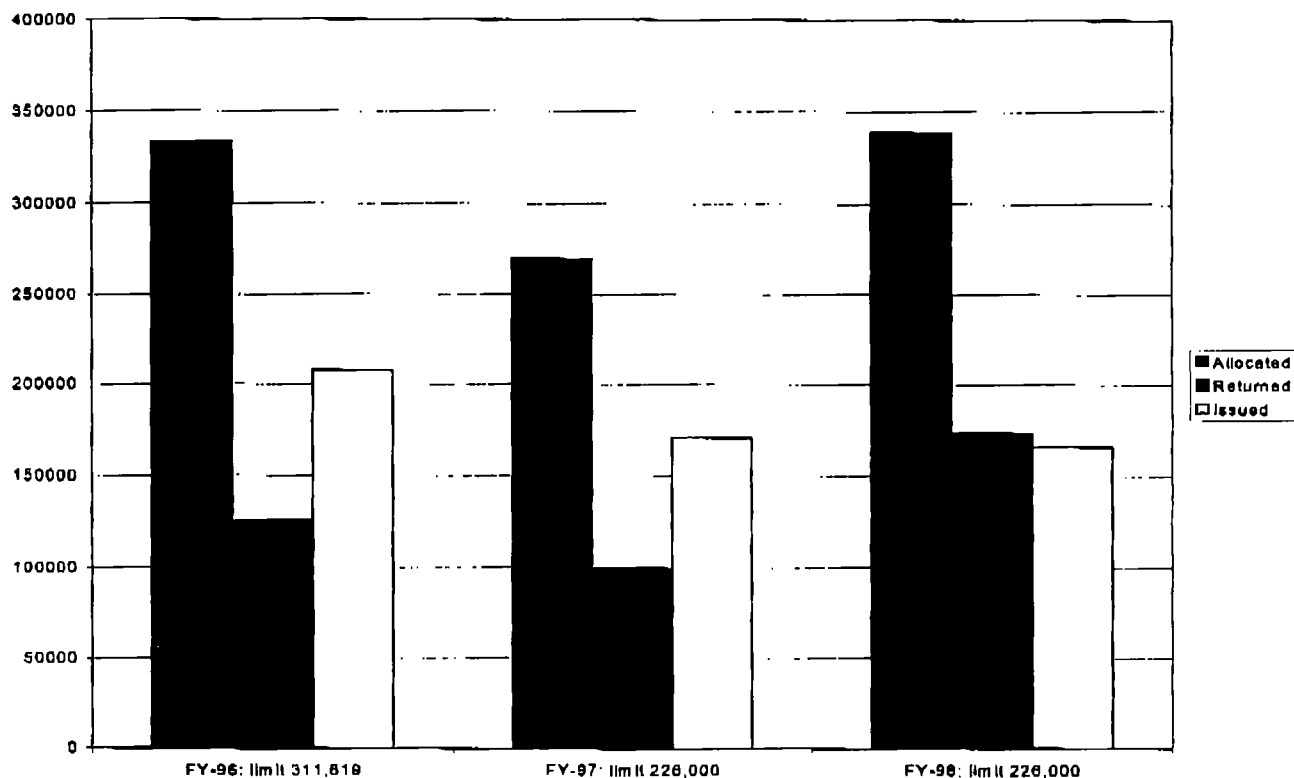


Note: 212(a)(4): Public Charge

221(g) : Required Documentation has not been provided. Missing Affidavit of Support documentation often involves: forms which are not complete/signed/notarized, lack of tax forms, inadequate evidence of sponsor's income.

Family-Sponsored Preferences at Foreign Service Posts

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Total Allocated</u>	<u>Total Returned</u>	<u>Total Issued</u>
1996 (limit 311,819):	333,429	125,695 (37.7%)	207,734 (62.3%)
1997 (limit 226,000):	269,850	99,065 (36.7%)	170,785 (63.3%)
1998 (limit 226,000):	338,942	172,990 (51.0%)	165,952 (49.0%)

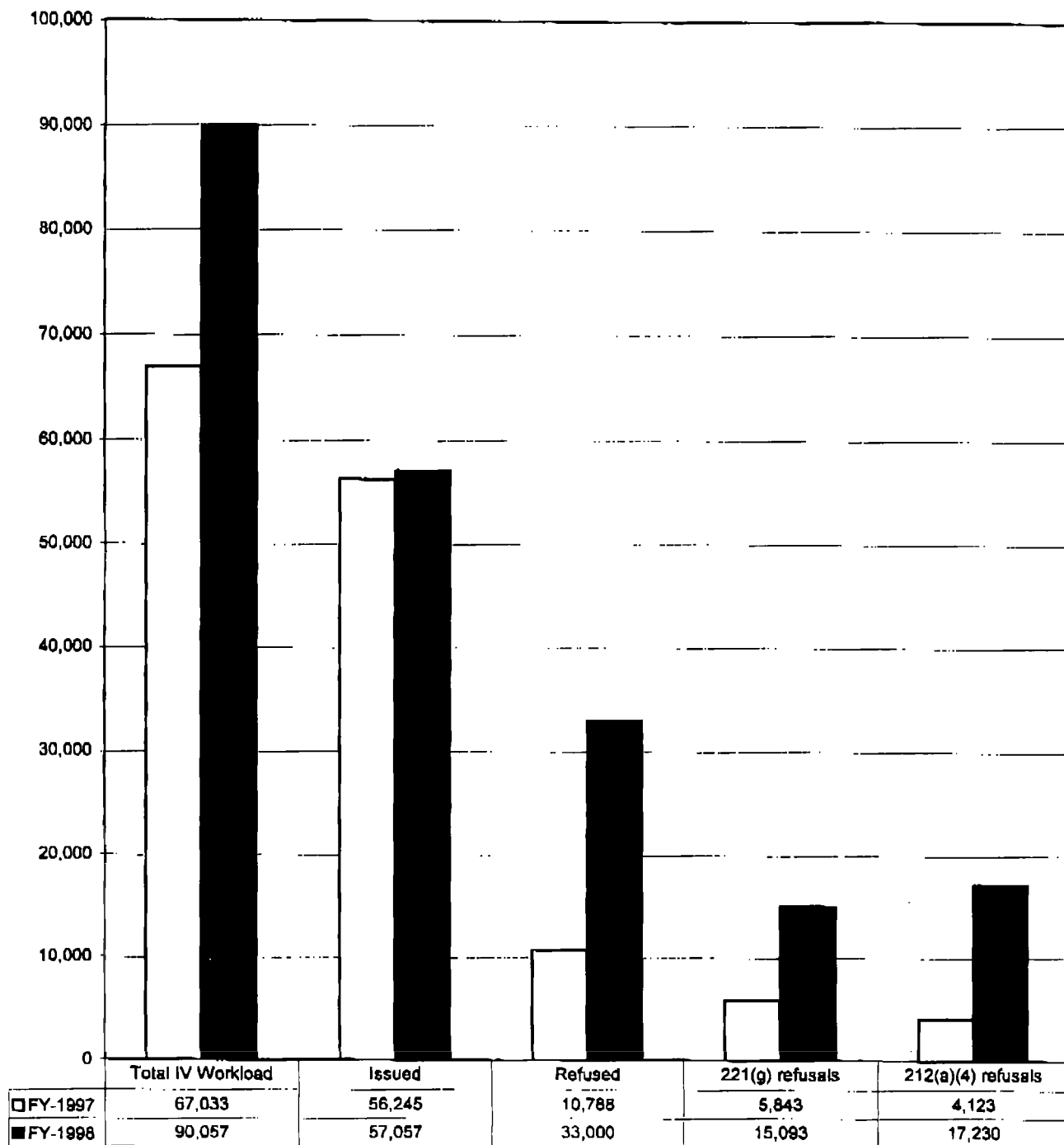


Notes:

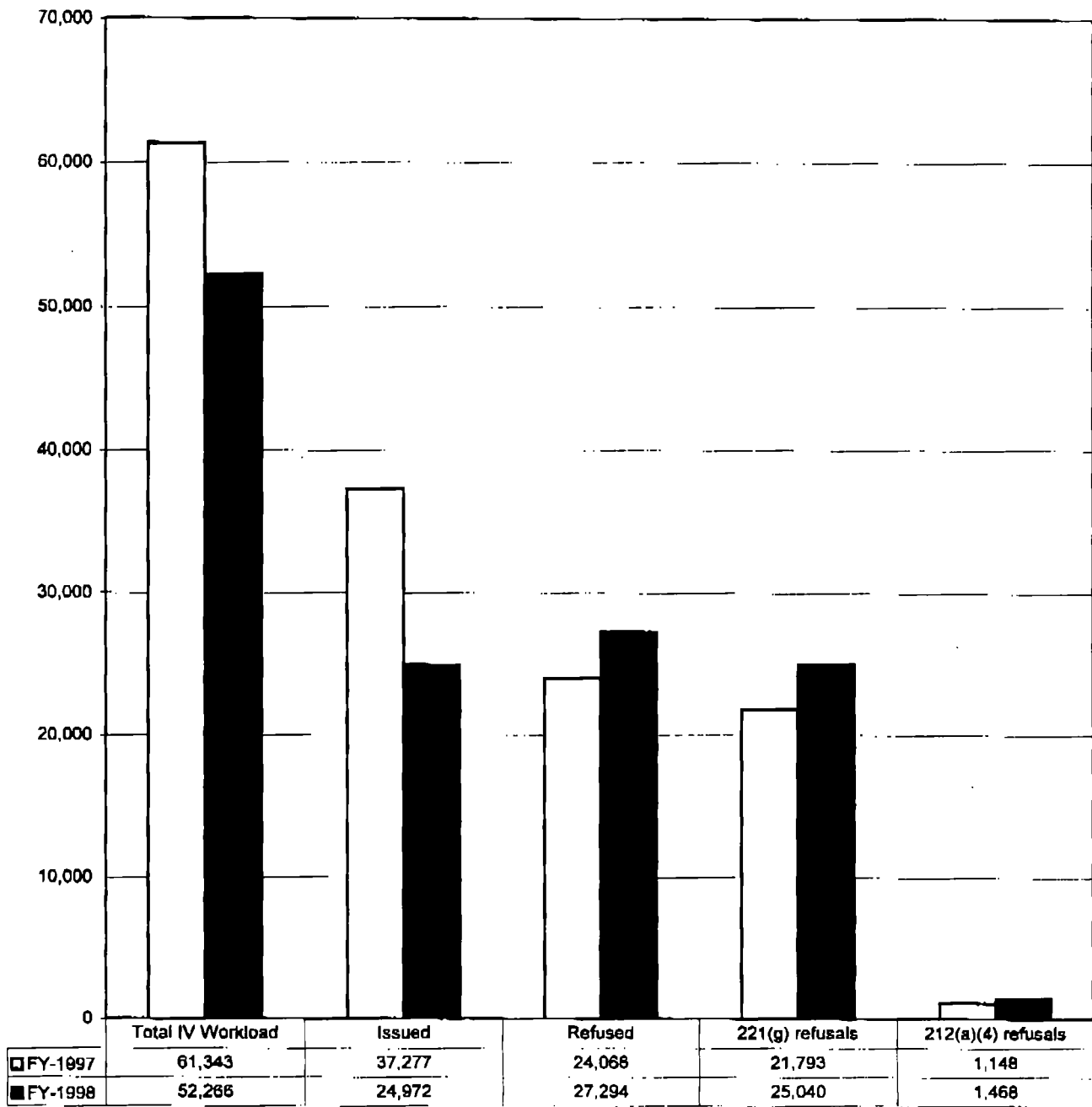
Although the numerical limit for FY-1996 was much higher than that for FY-1998, more numbers were allocated in FY-1998 because the new Affidavit of Support requirements resulted in a higher refusal rate. The necessitated the interview of more applicants in an attempt to issue the maximum number of visas within the FY-1998 numerical limit.

Although the total allocation in FY-1998 was slightly higher than that made in FY-1996, fewer visas were issued in FY-1998 because many applicants could not meet the Affidavit of Support requirements.

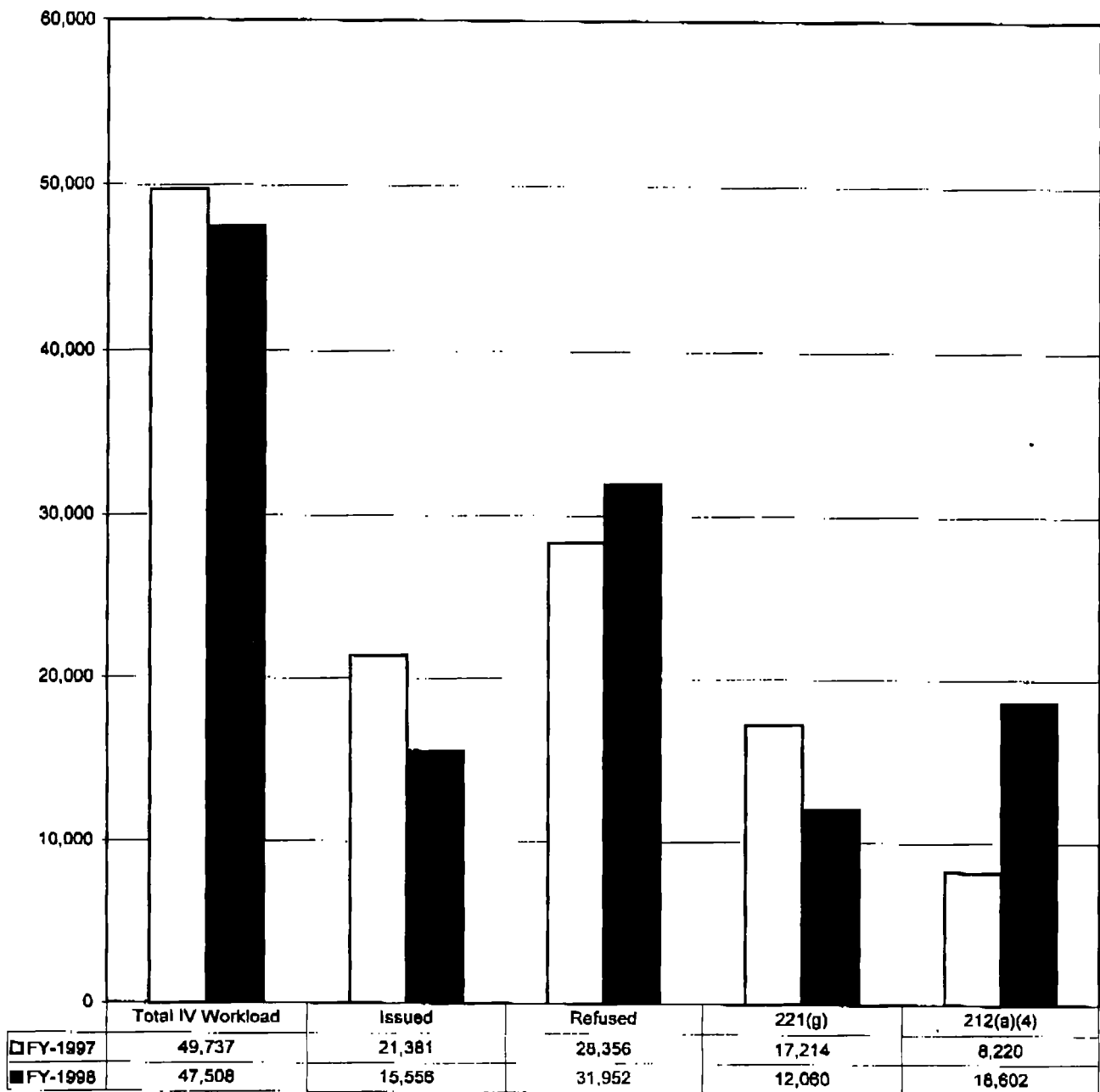
Ciudad Juarez



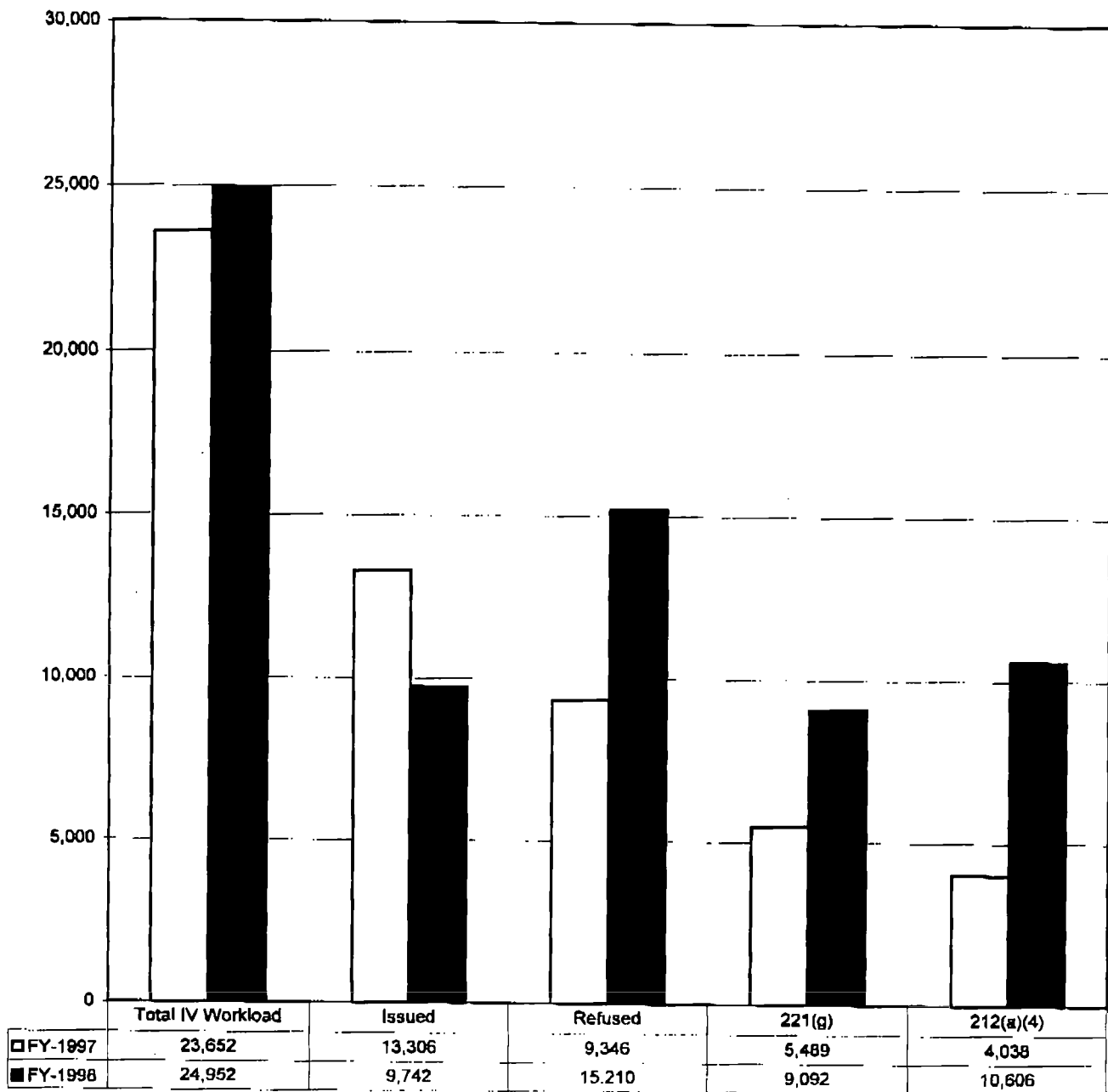
Manila



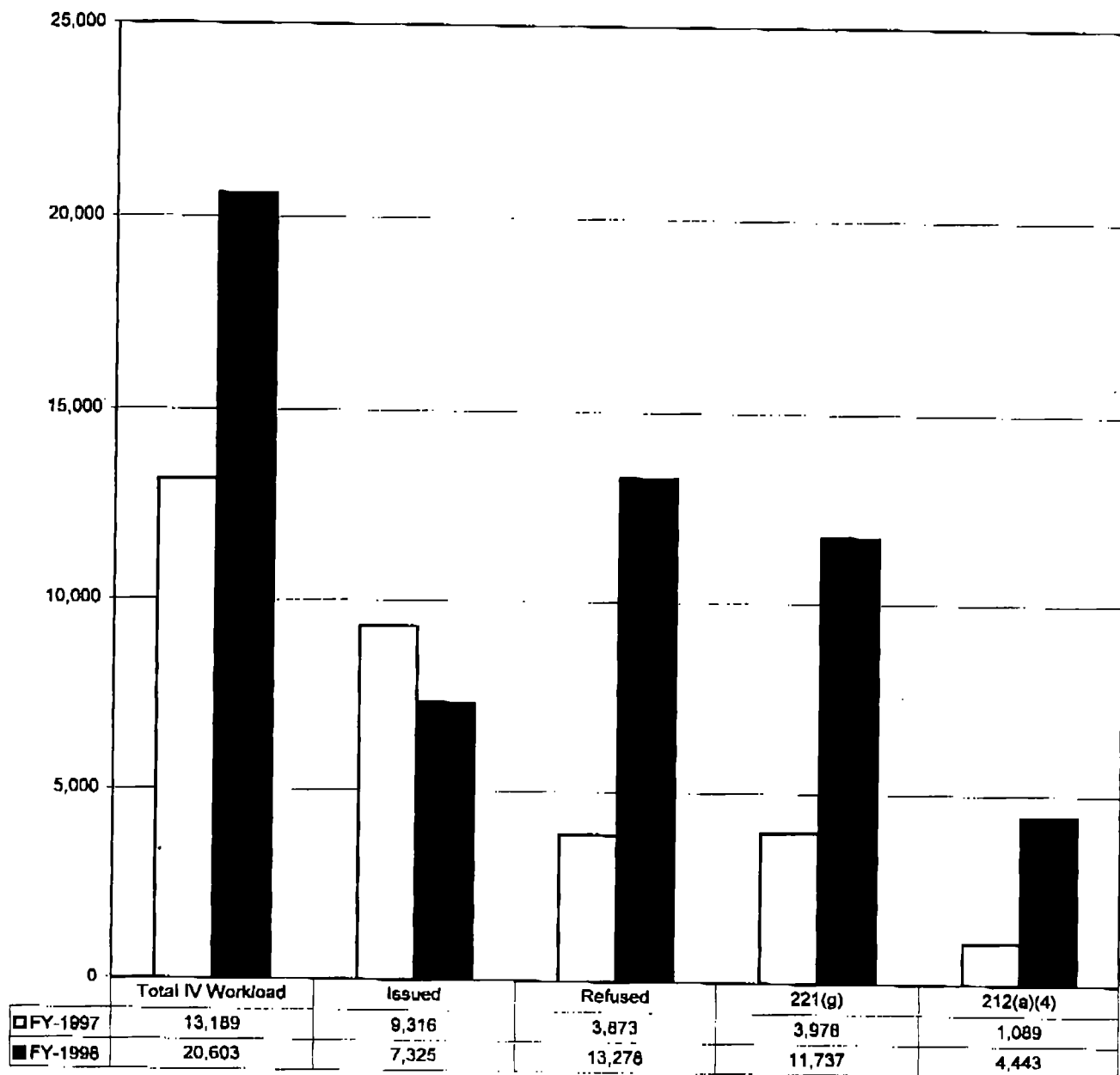
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