

REFUGEE COMMUNITY CENTER

of the Episcopal Church of the Mediator



2022 GLOBAL FIGURES AT A GLANCE

There are
35.3 million
refugees worldwide

Only
1 in 309
are resettled

24 countries around the world accepted
refugee resettlement submissions from 84
different countries of origin.




1.5 million refugees are in need of
resettlement but **only 7% were resettled.**

Refugee: A person forced to flee their home country to escape war, violence or persecution.

Resettlement: Refugees who are resettled go to another country that has agreed to admit them and ultimately grant them permanent residence.

Why is refugee resettlement important? Resettlement is a life-saving solution for the most vulnerable refugees in the world, and is also an important way to share responsibility and support the countries that host the majority of the world's refugees.

5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

- ① Refugees do not apply for resettlement themselves. UNHCR identifies vulnerable cases to be considered for resettlement.
- ② Only the most vulnerable refugees are considered. All refugees who are referred must fit at least one category, some of which include:
 -  Physical protection needs
 -  Survivors of violence or torture
 -  Women & girls at risk
- ③ Countries decide which refugees to admit for resettlement.
- ④ Persons who have committed serious crimes or who might pose a security threat are not eligible for refugee status or resettlement.
- ⑤ Refugee resettlement saves lives.

U.S. RESETTLEMENT PROCESS

In addition to UNHCR's screening, the U.S. conducts its own vetting process to decide whether to accept a refugee for resettlement.

The entire process can take up to 2 years. UNHCR and NGO partners refer a refugee to be considered for resettlement and provides detailed background information.

The U.S. government screens the refugee and decides whether to admit them for resettlement. This process includes:

If the refugee is approved, the State Department assigns the case to one of 10 U.S. NGOs or a private sponsor.

Travel arrangements are coordinated by the International Organization for Migration and partners.

The NGO or private sponsor welcomes the refugee and helps them integrate and become economically self-sufficient in their new U.S. community.

8 U.S. government agencies

5 Separate security databases

6 Background checks

2 In-person interviews

RESETTLEMENT TO THE U.S. IN FISCAL YEAR 2023

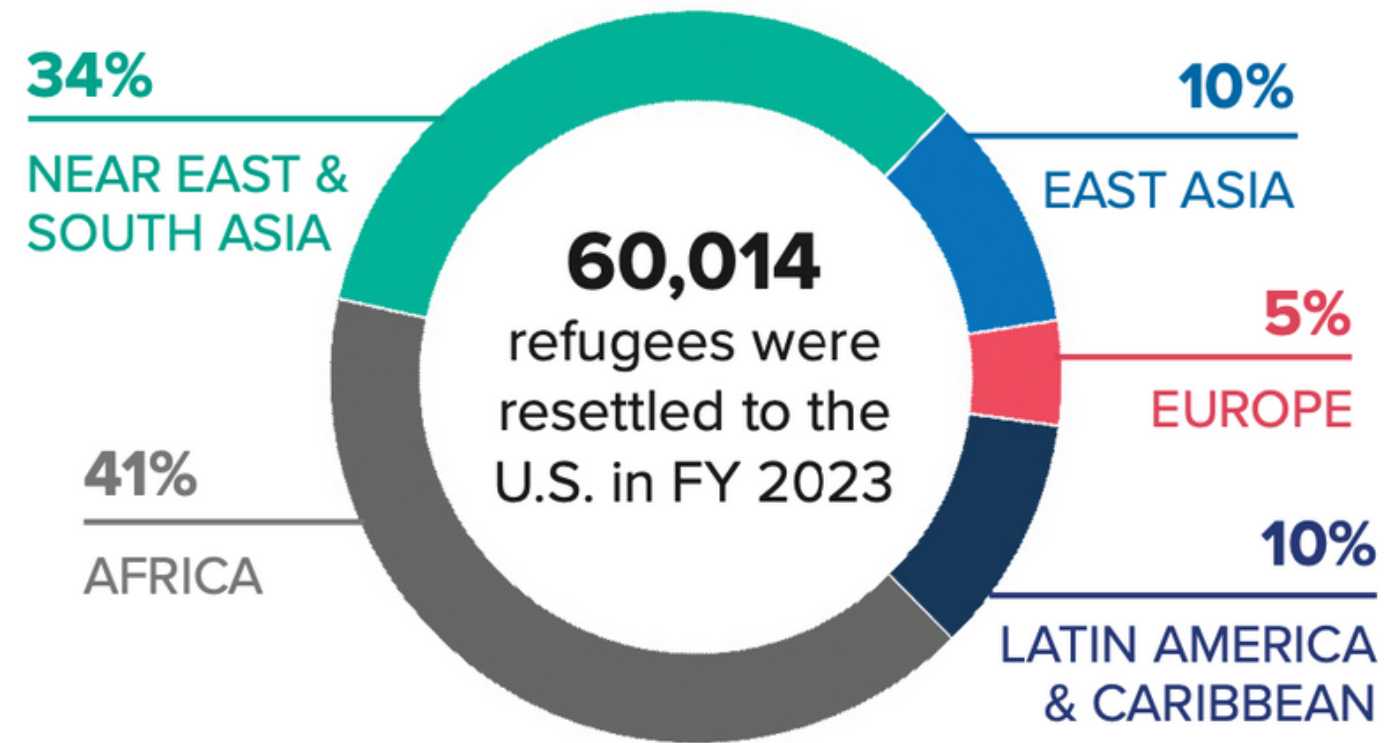
The United States has a long history of welcoming refugees and has historically been one of the largest refugee resettlement countries in the world. FY2023 data covers October 2022 - September 2023.

TOP STATES FOR RESETTLEMENT

| |
|-------------------|
| 1. Texas |
| 2. New York |
| 3. California |
| 4. Pennsylvania |
| 5. Arizona |
| 6. North Carolina |
| 7. Ohio |
| 8. Kentucky |
| 9. Michigan |
| 10. Washington |

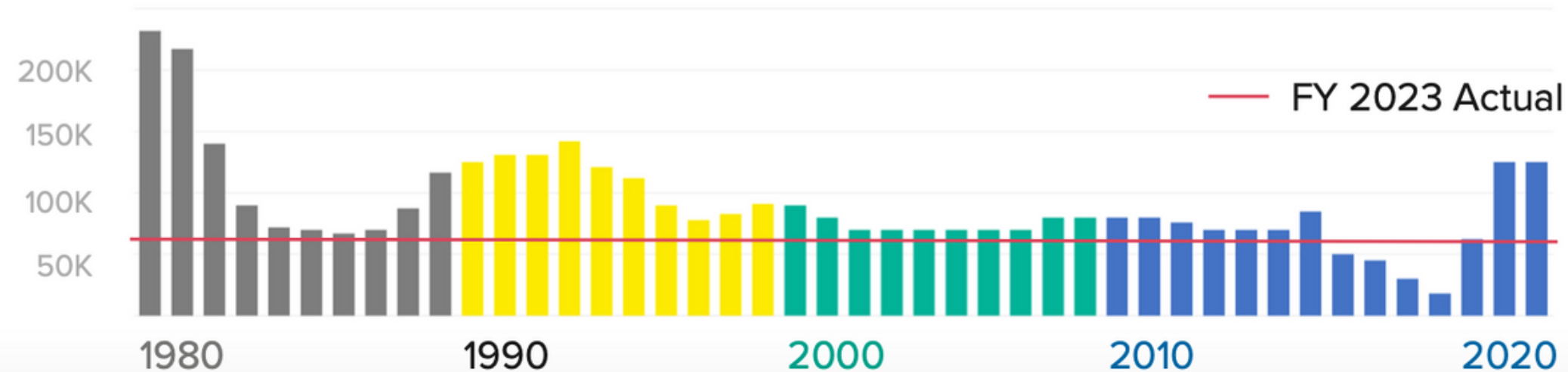
47 states received refugees for resettlement

REFUGEES RESETTLED TO THE U.S. BY REGION OF ORIGIN*



*includes refugees resettled with and without UNHCR assistance

U.S. REFUGEE ADMISSIONS CEILING



Immigration Myth #1:

“Immigration is a drain on the economy.”

TRUTH: Immigration actually has positive economic impacts.

Refugees and other immigrants contribute to the economy by [filling essential jobs](#), starting businesses and paying taxes.

[Studies have shown](#) that refugees and other immigrants, both documented and undocumented, contribute more to the economy in taxes than they receive in benefits. Refugees and asylees contributed [\\$123.8 billion over a 15 year period](#); this is consistent with earlier research that found that, within 20 years of their arrival, the average refugee adult has contributed approximately \$21,000 more in taxes than funds spent on their behalf.

According to the [American Immigration Council](#), immigrants are more likely to be active in the labor force and also harness a 1.6 trillion spending power.



Immigration Myth #2:

“Refugees and other immigrants increase crime rates.”

TRUTH: Refugees and other immigrants, including undocumented immigrants, are *less* likely to commit crimes than native-born Americans.



This is supported by [evidence from Texas](#), a state that tracks the immigration legal status of felony convictions. Additionally, [studies have shown](#) that areas with higher immigrant populations tend to have lower crime rates.

Immigration Myth #3:

“Seeking asylum at the border is illegal.”

TRUTH: Seeking asylum is a long-standing legal right protected by both domestic and international law.



The U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) grants the right to all individuals to seek asylum regardless of how they enter a country, including crossing between points of entry. Long-standing U.S. law says that any person must have the opportunity to seek asylum who is physically present in the United States or who “arrives” at the border.





www.episcopalmediator.org/refugees