

US REFUGEE ADMISSIONS

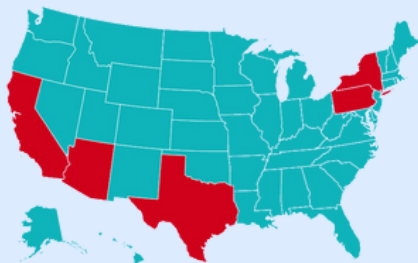
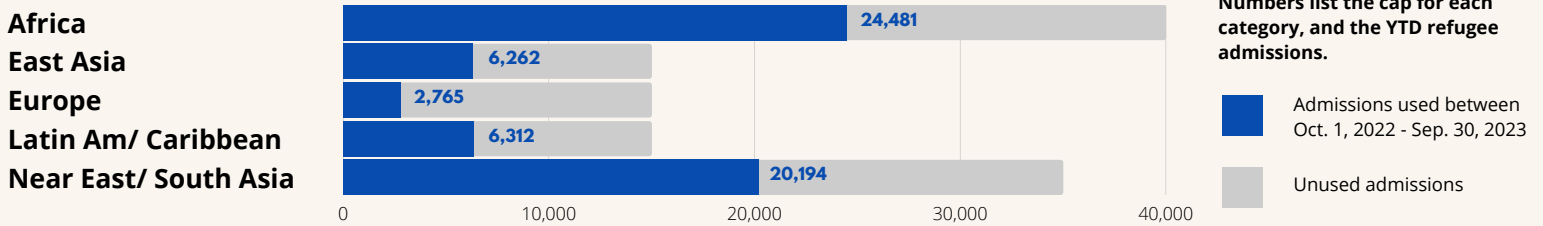
2023 Fiscal Year

Admission Goals

In consultation with Congress, President Biden set a refugee admissions goal of 125,000 for fiscal year 2023 (FY23). The 125,000 aimed to be met by the following regional allocations: Africa (40,000), East Asia (15,000), Europe and Central Asia (15,000), Latin America/Caribbean (15,000), Near East/South Asia (35,000), and an unallocated reserve of 5,000.

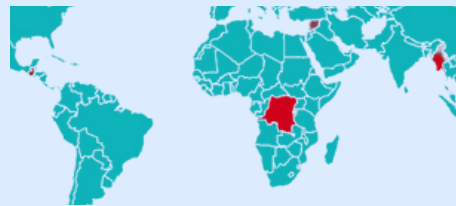
Actual Arrivals

Oct. 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023



Top 5 States Welcoming Refugees

1. Texas - 5,039
2. New York - 3,846
3. California - 3,664
4. Pennsylvania - 2,768
5. Arizona - 2,613



Top 5 Countries of Origin

1. DRC - 18,145
2. Syria - 10,781
3. Afghanistan - 6,594
4. Burma - 6,185
5. Guatemala - 1,748

Q1 - Q4 Total

The US resettled **60,014** refugees out of the 125,000 goal, or **48%**.

48%

Status & Future of USRAP

Over the course of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, which ended on September 30th, the Biden administration and Congress facilitated the welcome of 60,014 refugees to the United States, the highest number of refugee admissions since FY16. This is a marked increase from slashed admissions under the Trump administration, and builds on the progress made during the previous fiscal year.

FY23 also saw the introduction of Welcome Corps – a new private sponsorship initiative that allows for more community members and groups to become directly involved in welcoming refugees, including supporting service provision and integration. While only a small number of refugees were resettled through private

sponsors in FY23, Welcome Corps admissions are anticipated to increase markedly in FY24.

Refugee admissions from the Western Hemisphere, which totaled 6,312 in FY23, are also expected to increase considerably in FY24, as indicated by the regional allocation range for Latin America/Caribbean arrivals. This is in large part due to the Biden Administration's establishment of Safe Mobility Offices (SMOs) in several Latin American countries. SMOs were piloted during the final quarter of FY23, with the intention of identifying the most appropriate of several legal pathways for migrants and forcibly displaced persons from Guatemala, Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela – including a resettlement pathway for

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Status & Future of USRAP (Con't)

those who qualify through the US Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP). The FY24 refugee admissions goal is historic for its emphasis on welcoming refugees from the Western Hemisphere. Capacity remains a significant concern for refugee resettlement agencies. Resettlement capacity is constrained both by limitations on direct programmatic support from Congress, and by the broader housing and cost of living crisis all Americans are facing. Even with these roadblocks, the number of local resettlement offices has grown by 99 since January 2021 – with many more set to open their doors in the coming year, as resettlement agencies continue to rebuild following the Trump administration’s targeted disinvestment from humanitarian protection programs.

The RCUSA coalition asks the administration to make meaningful programmatic changes to help grow capacity and build a more sustainable, resilient refugee admissions program, such as:

- Bolstering equitable and accessible pathways to permanent protection;
- Addressing and reducing case processing backlogs;
- Positioning Welcome Corps and the private sponsorship of refugees as additive to the traditional resettlement program; and
- Supporting robust funding to expand domestic infrastructure.

On September 29th, President Biden signed the FY24 Presidential Determination, maintaining the refugee admissions goal at 125,000. RCUSA had recommended 125,000 plus an additional 10,000 to be resettled through the new private sponsorship program, Welcome Corps. The FY24 PD is commendable, and demonstrates this administration's ongoing commitment to rebuilding and strengthening the US resettlement program. These strong commitments must be paired with a bold strategy to build capacity and allow USRAP to reach the goal of 125,000 refugees resettled successfully and sustainably, while setting the stage for future expansion of this life-saving program.

Region	Q4 Arrivals	FYTD Arrivals	FYTD Goal	FYTD %
Africa	7,734	24,481	40,000	61%
East Asia	1,467	6,262	15,000	42%
Europe	1,105	2,765	15,000	18%
Latin Am/Carib	2,487	6,312	15,000	42%
Near East/South Asia	8,583	20,194	35,000	58%
Total	21,376	60,014	125,000*	48%

Number Explainer

In the last quarter of FY23 (July 2023 - September 2023), the US welcomed a total of 21,359 refugees from 74 different countries. Regionally, this included: 7,734 from Africa, 1,467 from East Asia, 1,079 from Europe and Central Asia, 2,496 from Latin America/Caribbean, and 8,583 from Near East/South Asia. Throughout FY23, the US has resettled 60,014 refugees, only meeting 48% of its total resettlement goal.

In order to be on track to meet the FY24 goal of 125,000 refugees resettled the US needs to resettle an average of 10,416 refugees per month, or just over twice as many as the monthly average for FY23. It is a hopeful sign that the number of refugees resettled monthly steadily increased over the course of FY23, reaching the year’s highest monthly total of 8,762 in September 2023. Data was obtained from WRAPNet.

*10,000 admissions were part of an unallocated reserve. No admissions were utilized from the reserve.