

## Refugee Data

### **Definition of a refugee:**

A person who is outside their country of citizenship because they have well-founded grounds for fear of persecution because of their race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, and is unable to obtain sanctuary from their home country or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail themselves of the protection of that country.

### **UNHCR, (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) U.N. Refugee Agency data:**

21.3 million refugees in the world  
86% are hosted by developing countries  
Turkey 2.8 mil  
Pakistan 1.6 mil  
Lebanon 1.1 mil

Less than 1 % of refugees are resettled to a third country  
Only those with the greatest and most immediate need.

### **Refugees resettled to a third country:**

<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017 projected</b>
<b>Total</b>	81,893	140,000	140,000
<b>United States</b>	52,583 (64%)	84,995 (61%)	50,000 (36%)
Canada	10,236 (12%)		
Australia	9,321 (11%)		
Norway	3,806 (5%)		
United Kingdom	3,622 (4%)		
Others	(4%)		

**Presidential determination:** The number set by the President of the U.S. of refugees allowed to enter the U.S per fiscal year (FY).

FY 2015: 70,000

FY 2016: 85,000

FY 2017: 110,000 Under President Obama

FY 2017: 50,000 Revised by President Trump

Reduction of number of refugee arrivals lessens the global leadership of the U.S. in humanitarian relief.

Accepting refugees has always had bi-partisan support and seen as our moral responsibility to help the most vulnerable people in the world.

### **Refugee Vetting:**

A 120-day halt in receiving refugees was ordered to review the vetting process to see if more extreme vetting should be established.

The U.S has the most extensive vetting in the world for entrance of refugees.

**The U.S. Process for Vetting Refugees:**

1. UNHCR screens and interviews each resettlement candidate
2. UNHCR refers the most vulnerable refugees for resettlement
3. U.S. accepts refugee and begins vetting process:
  - 8 U.S. federal Government agencies
  - 6 Different security data bases
  - 5 separate background checks
  - 4 Biometric security checks
  - 3 separate in-person interviews
  - 2 inter-agency security checks

**Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA)**

800,000 immigrant youth currently protected by DACA program. They arrived with their undocumented parents when they were minors. Attorneys general from Alabama, Arkansas, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, South Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia, and the governor of Idaho have written a letter to President Trump calling for him to begin the phase-out of DACA by September 5—halting the renewal and issuing of new DACA or expanded DACA permits and calling for an ultimate end to the program. In early July a bipartisan DREAM Act has been proposed in Congress that would create a three-step process to allow these young people a path to citizenship.

**Refugee Arrivals in U.S. in FY 2017** (Data source: wrapsnet.org) Refugee Processing Center  
50,000<sup>th</sup> refugee arrived on 7-6-17

The new Executive Order allows only refugees with a “bona fide” family relationship to enter the U.S. The definition of “bona fide relationship” is not yet clearly defined and is being challenged in court.

**FY 2016 Arrivals by state** (Data source: wrapsnet.org) Refugee Processing Center

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. CA 7,909 | 6. AZ 4,110  |
| 2. TX 7,803 | 7. NC 3,342  |
| 3. NY 6,026 | 8. WA 3,233  |
| 4. MI 4,255 | 9. PA 3,219  |
| 5. OH 4,194 | 10. IL 3,125 |

**Refugee Arrivals in the U.S. FY 2016 by country of origin**

(Data source: wrapsnet.org) Refugee Processing Center

1. Congo 16,370
2. Syria 12,587
3. Burma 12,437
4. Iraq 9,880
5. Somalia 9,020

### **Agencies that receive refugees in the U.S.**

- Episcopal Migration Ministries
- U.S. Committee for Refugees & Immigrants
- Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services
- United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Ethiopian Community Development Council
- Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society
- International Rescue Committee
- Church World Service
- World Relief Corporation

### **Franklin County Refugee Resettlement, Primary Arrivals** (data source: Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement)

<b>Country</b>	<b>Fiscal 2010</b>	<b>Years 2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Bhutanese/Nepali</b>	117	260	432	391	425	244	479	2,348
<b>Somali</b>	288	124	183	467	414	278	530	2,284
<b>Iraqi</b>	193	109	137	239	248	151	181	1,258
<b>Burmese</b>	85	88	66	62	68	66	67	505
<b>Eritrean</b>	41	35	29	45	30		20	200
<b>Congolese</b>	33	16	23	26	22	20	117	257
<b>Syria</b>						1	149	150
<b>Ohio Total</b>	838	645	904	1296	1,309	859	1,688	5,851

### **Secondary Migrants**

Secondary Migrants are refugees who were originally resettled in other state and move to another state.

Columbus is a city that has received a large number of secondary migrants. Because of available entry-level employment, affordable housing, and established ethnic communities, Columbus is a very attractive location for refugees to move in order to be close to family members. Columbus is a city that has many ethnic community organizations, stores and restaurants, and diverse religious communities. It is estimated that there are 40,000 Somalis in Columbus, second only to Minneapolis/St Paul for the largest Somali population in the U.S. It is also estimated that there are about 10,000 Bhutanese Nepali in Columbus. The majority from both countries are secondary migrants.

# How to be an advocate for refugees

Calls or letters to U.S. Senators and Congresspersons are effective. They keep track of all calls and report them to the representative.

Letters to the Editor of local and citywide newspapers are also a way to help make others aware of the real facts about refugee services.

## **Contact your U.S. Senator:**

**Write an email to them on their website:**

Senator Brown: [www.brown.senate.gov](http://www.brown.senate.gov) 202-224-2315

Senator Portman [www.portman.senate.gov](http://www.portman.senate.gov) 202-224-3353

## **Contact your Congressperson:**

**Write an email to them on their website:**

Representative Pat Tiberi: [www.tiberi.house.gov](http://www.tiberi.house.gov) 202-225-5355

Representative Steve Stivers: [www.stiverw.house.gov](http://www.stiverw.house.gov) 202-225-2015

Representative Joyce Beatty: [www.beatty.house.gpv](http://www.beatty.house.gpv) 202-225-4324

## **Possible message:**

I live in your district at (your address) and I urge you to welcome refugees and support the U.S. Refugee Resettlement program. Resettlement is a core American legacy that extends hospitality and offers a chance for refugees to rebuild their lives in safety and dignity. The Columbus area has welcomed refugees for many years. Refugees add important cultural and economic value to our community. I encourage you to encourage the President to lift the ban on refugee arrivals and establish a refugee arrival number at 85,000 for fiscal year 2018. Also please support the DREAM bill to allow 800,000 young people who arrived with their undocumented parents when they were minors, a path to citizenship.

**For further information or to schedule a program on The Real Facts on Refugee Services contact:**

**Steve Walker (614) 580-2274 or [kayaker45@gmail.com](mailto:kayaker45@gmail.com)**

# Ohio Refugee Resettlement Agencies

## **Columbus:**

**Community Refugee  
and Immigration Services**  
1925 E. Dublin Granville Rd., 102  
Columbus, OH 43229  
614-235-5747

**Us Together Inc.**  
2021 E Dublin Granville Rd.  
Suite 190  
Columbus OH, 43229  
614-437-9941

## **Cleveland:**

**Migration and Refugee Services**  
7800 Detroit Ave  
Cleveland, OH 44102  
216-939-3731

**International Services Center**  
815 Superior Ave E.  
Cleveland, OH 44114  
216-781-4560

**Us Together Inc.**  
2490 Lee Blvd.  
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118  
216-456-9630

## **Dayton:**

**Catholic Social Services**  
1046 Brown Street  
Dayton, OH 45409  
937-223-7217

## **Cincinnati:**

**Catholic Charities**  
7162 Reading Rd. Suite 600  
Cincinnati, OH 45237  
513-672-3784

## **Akron:**

**World Relief Akron**  
647 E. Market St.  
Akron, OH 44221  
234-334-5190

**International Institute of Akron Inc.**  
207 E. Tallmadge Ave  
Akron, OH 44310  
330-376-5106