

## ABOUT THE

# U.S. REFUGEE ADMISSIONS PROGRAM

## How does a refugee come to the U.S.?



In most cases, the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)** refers vulnerable refugees in need of resettlement to the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program.



The State Department's **Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM)** manages the application process overseas and processes individuals who qualify for resettlement in the U.S.



Then, **U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)** at the Department of Homeland Security **conducts interviews** and **initiates security background checks** carried out by multiple agencies and ultimately determines if an individual can be resettled as a refugee in the U.S.



PRM determines **where** in the U.S. **refugees will be placed**, and provides assistance for refugees' **first 30 to 90 days** in the U.S. through the **Reception and Placement (R&P) program**.



The **Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)** at the Department of Health and Human Services **works with refugees after they arrive in the U.S.**



## What's the role of ORR?

ORR provides refugees and other new arrivals with **tools and critical resources** to **rebuild their lives** so that they can become **integrated and productive members of American society**. As refugees rebuild their lives they become essential, contributing members of their communities, making our cities and nation stronger, richer and more diverse.

## Quick Facts

### Who is a refugee?

A refugee is a person who is unable or unwilling to return to their country because of fear of persecution, due to race, membership in a particular social group, political opinion, religion, or national origin.

**25.9**

million refugees worldwide.

**24%**

of refugees referred by UNHCR were resettled in the U.S.

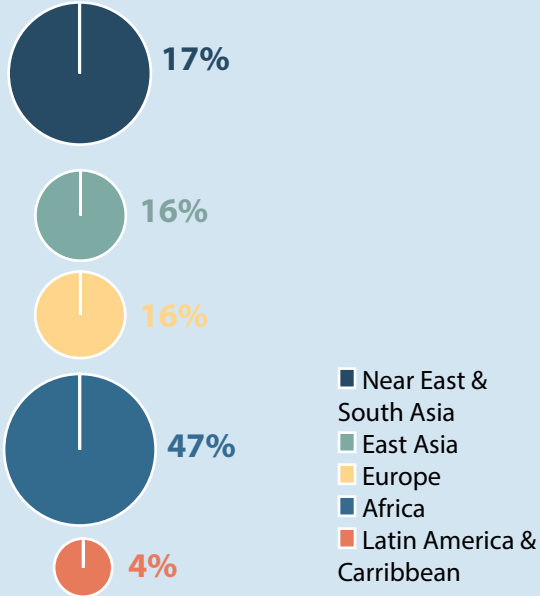
*(in calendar year 2018)*

**<1%**

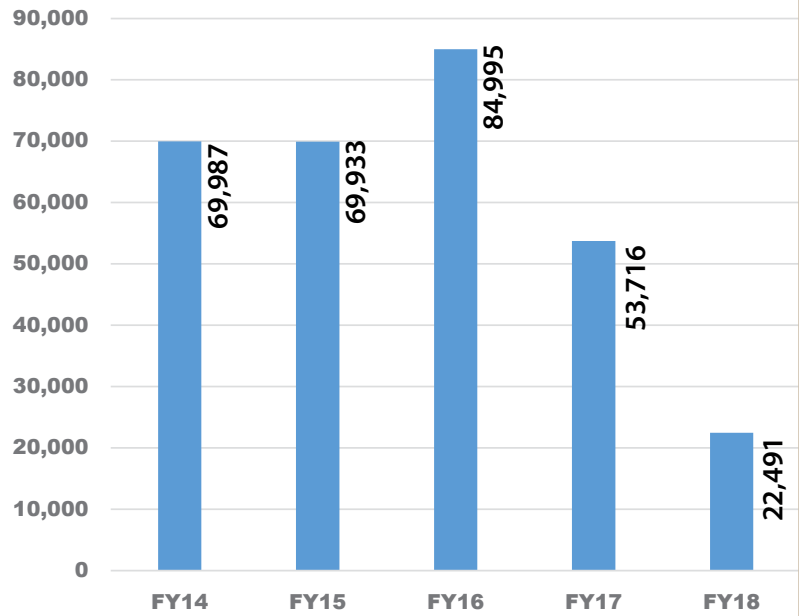
of refugees will be resettled.

# Quick Facts: Refugees Resettled in the U.S.

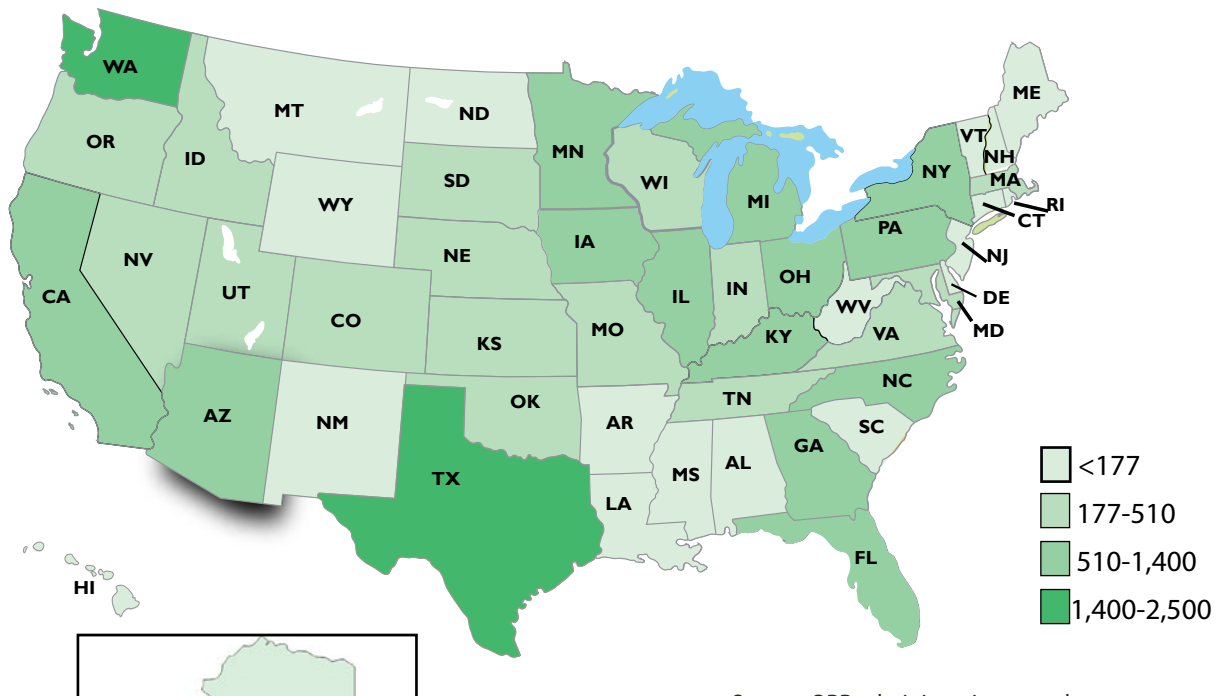
## REGION OF BIRTH FY 2018



## U.S. REFUGEE ARRIVALS — FY 2014-2018



## NUMBERS OF REFUGEES RESETTLED BY STATE — FY 2018



Source: ORR administrative records