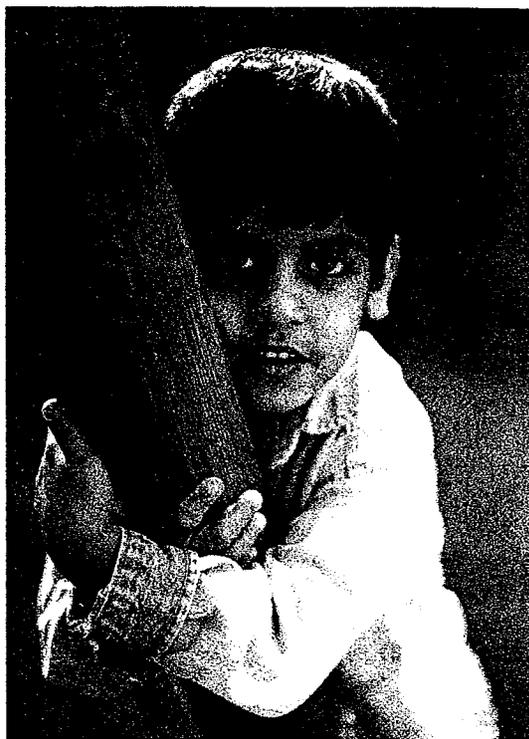


Office of
Refugee
Resettlement



Making a Difference

FY 1999 Annual Report to the Congress



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Administration for Children and Families
Office of Refugee Resettlement

Cover/Title Page Photo: Student at summer program—Community and Family Strengthening/Integration Project in El Cajon, California.

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Executive Summary

The Refugee Act of 1980 (section 413(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act) requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to submit an annual report to Congress on the Refugee Resettlement Program. This report covers refugee program developments in FY 1999, from October 1, 1998 through September 30, 1999. It is the thirty-third in a series of reports to Congress on refugee resettlement in the U.S. since FY 1975 and the nineteenth to cover an entire year of activities carried out under the comprehensive authority of the Refugee Act of 1980.

Admissions

- Just over 85,000 refugees and Amerasian immigrants were admitted to the U.S. in FY 1999. An additional 20,681 Cuban and 1,233 Haitian nationals were admitted as entrants.

Reception and Placement Activities

- In FY 1999, ten non-profit organizations were responsible for the reception and initial placement of refugees through cooperative agreements with the Department of State.

Domestic Resettlement Program

- **Refugee Appropriations:** In FY 1999, the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) provided \$420 million in new budget authority to assist refugees and Cuban and Haitian entrants. Of this, States received about \$189.0 million for the costs of providing cash and medical assistance to eligible refugees and entrants.
- **Social Services:** In FY 1999, ORR provided States with \$67.0 million in formula grants, \$10 million in special funds to States to assist refugee TANF recipients, and \$53.8 million in discretionary grants to States and non-profit organizations for a broad range of services for refugees, such as English language and employment-related training.
- **Targeted Assistance:** In FY 1999 ORR provided \$54.5 million in targeted assistance funds to supplement available services in areas with large concentrations of refugees and entrants.
- **Unaccompanied Minors:** Since FY 1979, a total of 11,588 minors have been cared for until they were reunited with relatives or reached the age of emancipation. The number remaining in the program as of September 30, 1999 was 240.
- **Voluntary Agency Match Grant Program:** Grants totaling \$30.9 million were awarded in FY 1999. Under this program, Federal funds are awarded on a matching basis to national voluntary resettlement agencies to provide assistance and services to refugees.
- **Refugee Health:** ORR provided funds to State and local health departments for refugee health assessments. Obligations for these activities and technical assistance support amounted to approximately \$4.8 million in FY 1999.
- **Wilson/Fish Alternative Projects:** ORR provided \$6.2 million to fund privately administered alternative projects in Kentucky, Nevada, and California in order to help refugees find employment and reduce assistance costs.
- **Cuban/Haitian Initiative:** ORR provided three States, Florida, Nevada and New York, with \$19 million in funds to increase services to Cuban/Haitian refugees and entrants in the areas of access to health, mental health, improved education for youth, crime prevention and employment.

Key Federal Activities

- **Congressional Consultations for FY 1999 Admissions:** Following consultations with Congress, President Clinton set a worldwide refugee admissions ceiling at 91,000 for FY 1999.

Refugee Population Profile

- Southeast Asians remain the largest group admitted since 1983, with approximately 637,500 refugees, including about 74,120 Amerasian immigrant arrivals. Nearly 438,750 refugees from the former Soviet Union arrived in the U.S. during this period.
- Other refugees who have arrived in substantial numbers since the enactment of the Refugee Act of 1980 include Afghans, Ethiopians, Iranians, Iraqis, Poles, Romanians, Somalis, and those from the former Yugoslavia.
- Six States have Southeast Asian refugee populations of 20,000 or more and account for about 59 percent of the total Southeast Asian refugee population in the U.S. The States of California, Texas, and Washington continue to hold the top three positions.

Economic Adjustment

- The Fall 1999 annual survey of refugees who have been in the U.S. less than five years indicated that about 67 percent of refugees age 16 or over were employed as of September 1999, as compared with about 64 percent for the U.S. population.
- The labor force participation rate was about 61 percent for the sampled refugee population, compared with 67 percent for the U.S. The unemployment rate was three percent, compared with 4.2 percent for the U.S. population.
- Approximately 66 percent of all sampled households were entirely self-sufficient.

About 19 percent received both public assistance and earned income; another 13 percent received only public assistance.

- Approximately 56 percent of refugees in the five-year sample population received medical coverage through an employer, while 28 percent received benefits from Medicaid or Refugee Medical Assistance. About 13 percent of the sample population had no medical coverage in any of the previous 12 months.
- The average number of years of education was the highest for the former Soviet Union (11.8 years), while the lowest was for Southeast Asian countries other than Vietnam (3.1 years). About five percent of refugees reported they spoke English well or fluently upon arrival, but 69 percent spoke no English at all.
- Approximately 32 percent of refugee households in the five-year sample population received some sort of cash assistance. The most common form of cash assistance was Supplemental Security Income, received by about 19 percent of refugee households. About 27 percent of refugee households received food stamps, and eight percent lived in public housing.

1999 REPORT TO CONGRESS

Director's Message

The goal of the U.S. refugee program is to provide assistance to help refugees achieve economic self-sufficiency and social adjustment within the shortest time possible following arrival to the U.S. In 1999, the United States opened its doors to more than 85,000 refugees from 64 countries for permanent resettlement in this country, representing a more diverse population than we have seen in the past. The increases are in arrivals from Bosnia and Kosovo as well as from many African countries -- Sierra Leone, Sudan, and Somalia.

Included in the 1999 arrivals were 10,500 Kosovo-Albanians who were rescued from muddy refugee camps in Macedonia through emergency processing to other countries. Over 4,000 of those coming to the United States were quickly evacuated from Macedonia to Fort Dix, New Jersey where a temporary Refugee Processing Center was set up for screening and placement activities. This 12-week rescue mission was led by the Office of Refugee Resettlement in which more than 20 Federal, State, and voluntary agencies collaborated effectively to rescue 4,050 Kosovo-Albanian refugees from the chaos of a Balkan war. Refugees were resettled across the nation, and the Fort Dix camp closed on July 16th as the last refugee departed to a waiting sponsor. As with all refugee population groups coming to this country, the American people continued their generosity through volunteering their time and resources in helping refugees adjust to their new life.

Programs serving refugees continued to make important progress, reporting increases in job placements, job retention rates, and wages at placement than the previous year. We continued to revise and improve our grant programs in 1999 to address current needs of the refugee groups and encourage the successful resettlement of refugees into our communities.

One such program was the Individual Development Account (IDA) program for refugees, similar to the IDA program established for U.S. citizens who receive assistance through welfare programs. The Refugee IDA Program represents an anti-poverty strategy built on asset accumulation for low-income working refugee families and individuals with the goal of promoting economic independence. The objectives of the program are to increase ability to save, promote participation in the financial institutions of this country, and gain access to capital. An important component of the ORR-funded program is the provision of basic financial training to assist refugees in understanding the American financial system. The Federal matching funds, together with the refugee's own savings may be used for five savings goals: 1) a home, 2) small business capital, 3) education or training, 4) an automobile, and 5) a computer. Early reports suggest this is a very popular program among refugees.

During the year we began an education grant program to State Departments of Education. The purpose of the program is to provide for some of the costs of educating refugee children incurred by local school districts in which significant numbers of refugee children reside. These grant funds may be used for a broad spectrum of programs such as English language instruction, tutoring programs, after-school programs, and parent training programs. In addition, our office has linked with the Child Care Bureau to collaborate on programs and issues affecting refugee children.

Another grant program revised to meet current needs is the Community and Family Strengthening Program. This grant program provided funds for activities which supplement and complement employment-related services by strengthening refugee families and communities

and enhancing their integration into mainstream society. The activities allowed under this program address social and economic problems and integration needs of refugee families and of the refugee community. Examples of activities are: mentoring programs and peer support; combating violence in families; crime prevention/victimization; refugee community centers and organizing.

ORR funded a strategic communications initiative to help refugee leaders develop and implement comprehensive communications programs that will result in greater visibility for their organizations and the communities they serve. It will provide leaders with the skills, including interacting with the media, to develop strong, effective messages about their community, deliver them in a persuasive manner and identify and train others to do the same.

In November 1999, we held the Annual ORR Conference, which was attended by more than 1600 national and international participants. The theme of the conference was "Resettlement through the Eyes of A Refugee Child." Remarkable young people from Sierra Leone, Bosnia, Cuba, Kosovo, and many other countries, were there to tell their stories of how they survived, how they came to the U.S., and how they experienced the resettlement process. ORR services have typically focused on adult wage earners and the need for early self-sufficiency. However, as we have become more aware of the effects of the trauma of resettlement on refugee children, we have made children more of a focus in our program.

For the future we'll continue to make adjustments in program services. As new and more diverse groups of refugees make their way to the U.S., the needs can change considerably from those who came before. The ORR must always stay alert to current needs. It has been an exciting year of accomplishments and I am pleased to transmit herewith the ORR 1999 Annual Report to Congress. The following pages

describe the exemplary work of the ORR staff and our many partners in resettlement work.

I. ORR'S REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM

Admissions

To be admitted to the United States, refugees must be determined by an officer of the Immigration and Naturalization Service to meet the definition of refugee as defined in the Refugee Act of 1980. They also must be determined to be of special humanitarian concern to the U.S., be admissible under U.S. law, and not be firmly resettled in another country. Special humanitarian concern generally applies to refugees with relatives residing in the U.S., refugees whose status as refugees has occurred as a result of their association with the U.S., and refugees who have a close tie to the U.S. because of education here or employment by the U.S. government. In addition, the U.S. admits a share of refugees determined by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees to be in need of resettlement in a third country outside the region from which they have fled.

The ceiling for the number of refugees to be admitted each year is determined by the President after consultation between the Executive Branch and the Congress. The President has authority to respond beyond the ceiling in cases of refugee emergencies. The table at right shows the arrivals and ceilings in FY's 1983-1999.

For FY 1999 the refugee ceiling was 91,000.¹ During FY 1999, 84,777 refugees and 241

¹ In this report, unless otherwise noted, the term "refugee" refers to persons admitted as refugees or as Amerasian immigrants, but not to Cuban or Haitian nationals designated as entrants.

Also considered entrants for the purposes of ORR-funded assistance and services are Cuban and Haitian nationals who are (a) paroled into the U.S., or (b) subject to exclusion or deportation proceedings under the Act, or (c) applicants for asylum.

Public interest and humanitarian parolees arriving from nations other than Cuba or Haiti are not

Amerasians were admitted to the U.S. In addition, 20,681 Cuban and 1,233 Haitian entrants and humanitarian parolees were admitted to the U.S.

Ceilings and Admissions (1983 to 1999)

Year	Ceiling	Admissions	% Admitted
1999	91,000	106,936	117.5
1998	83,000	90,628	109.2
1997	78,000	81,760	104.8
1996	90,000	75,728	84.1
1995	112,000	99,553	88.8
1994	121,000	112,065	92.6
1993	132,000	119,050	90.2
1992	142,000	131,749	92.8
1991	131,000	113,980	87.0
1990	125,000	122,935	98.3
1989	116,500	106,932	91.8
1988	60,500	76,930	127.2
1987	70,000	58,863	84.1
1986	67,000	60,559	90.4
1985	70,000	67,166	96.0
1984	72,000	70,604	98.1
1983	90,000	60,040	66.7

Source: Reallocated ceilings from Department of State (except for FY 1989 in which the reallocated ceiling was revised from 94,000 to 116,500). Admissions based on ORR data system, as of May 12000. Includes Private Sector Initiative admissions and Amerasians.

The Population Profile section and associated tables in Appendix A of this report provide refugee (including Amerasian) and entrant arrival numbers by country of origin and State of initial resettlement for the period FY 1983 through FY 1999.

Reception and Placement

Most persons eligible for ORR's refugee program benefits are the refugees resettled through the Department of State's refugee

considered entrants and not eligible for ORR-funded assistance. Similarly, individuals from nations other than Cuba or Haiti who apply for asylum are not eligible for ORR-funded assistance until asylum is granted.

allocations system under the annual ceiling for refugee admissions. Upon arrival, refugees are provided initial services through a program of grants, called Cooperative Agreements, made by the Department of State to qualifying agencies. In FY 1999 the following agencies participated: Church World Service, Episcopal Migration Ministries, Ethiopian Community Development Council, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, Iowa Refugee Service Center, International Rescue Committee, Immigration and Refugee Services of America, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, United States Catholic Conference, and World Relief Refugee Service.

These grantee agencies are responsible to provide initial "nesting" services covering basic food, clothing, shelter, orientation, and referral for the first 30 days. In FY 1999, the agencies received a per capita amount of \$720 from the State Department for this purpose. After this period, needy refugees are eligible for the assistance provided under ORR's program of domestic assistance.

ORR Assistance and Services

All persons admitted as refugees or granted asylum while in the U.S. are eligible for refugee benefits described in this report. Certain other persons admitted to the United States under other immigration categories are also eligible for refugee benefits. Amerasians from Vietnam and their accompanying family members, though admitted to the U.S. as immigrants, are entitled to the same social services and assistance benefits as refugees. Certain nationals of Cuba and Haiti, such as public interest parolees and asylum applicants, may also receive benefits in the same manner and to the same extent as refugees if they reside in States with an approved Cuban/Haitian Entrant Program.

Cuban and Haitian Arrivals in FY 1995 through FY 1999

In FY 1999, 21,916 Cuban and Haitian entrants arrived in the U.S. Eighty-three percent initially resettled in Florida. In FY 1998, 14,136 Cuban and Haitian entrants arrived in the U.S. Eighty-seven percent initially resettled in Florida. In FY 1997, 5,340 Cuban and Haitian entrants arrived in the U.S., with 89 percent initially resettling in Florida. In FY 1996, 17,361 Cuban and Haitian entrants arrived in the U.S., with 74 percent initially resettling in Florida. In FY 1995, 32,238 arrived in the United States with 82 percent initially resettling in Florida. This was the largest wave of Cuban and Haitian refugees/entrants to arrive since the 1980 Mariel boat lift.

Domestic Resettlement Program

Refugee Appropriations

In FY 1999, the refugee and entrant assistance program was funded under the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Act. In addition to this appropriation of \$414.8 million, States received permission to spend prior year unexpended funds. At the end of the year, \$15.8 million in FY 1999 appropriated funds remained unobligated.

Three Program Approaches to Domestic Resettlement

The domestic refugee program consists of three separate resettlement approaches:

- (1) the State-administered program,
- (2) the Wilson/Fish program, and
- (3) the Match Grant program.

(1) State-Administered Program

Overview

Federal resettlement assistance to refugees is provided primarily through a State-administered refugee resettlement program. States provide transitional cash and medical assistance and social services to refugees, as well as maintain legal responsibility for the care of unaccompanied refugee children.

Cash and Medical Assistance

Needy refugees who meet the eligibility requirements for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, and the Medicaid program may receive benefits under these programs. Those who do not qualify for the TANF, SSI, or Medicaid programs, but who meet the income and resource eligibility

standards of these programs, may receive special Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) and Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA) through the refugee program during their first eight months in the U.S. Due to insufficient funding, ORR does not reimburse States for their costs of the TANF, SSI, and Medicaid programs.

In FY 1999, \$177.2 million was appropriated for these maintenance activities. Of this, ORR obligated \$167.2 million to reimburse States for their full costs for the RCA and RMA programs and associated State administrative costs. Cash and medical assistance allocations for each State are presented in the table on pages 8 and 9.

Social Services

ORR provides funding for a broad range of social services to refugees, both through States and in some cases through direct service grants, for the purpose of helping refugees to obtain employment and achieve economic self-sufficiency and social adjustment as quickly as possible. After deducting set-asides mandated by Congress, ORR, as in previous fiscal years, allocated 85 percent (\$68.8 million) of the social service funds on a formula basis. ORR supplemented its FY 1999 \$68.8 million formula award with \$20 million in unexpended prior year funds. It also funded a special social service set-aside under which States provided (1) outreach and referral services to ensure access for eligible refugees to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and other programs for low-income working populations, and (2) specialized interpreter training and the hiring of interpreters to enable refugees equal access to medical and legal services.

Altogether, through both current year appropriations and prior year funds, ORR obligated \$104.3 million for formula social services. Program obligations varied according to each State's proportion of total refugee arrivals during the previous three fiscal years. States with small refugee populations received a

minimum of \$75,000 in social service funds. Of total social service funds, ORR obligated \$101.3 million to States under the State-administered program and \$3.1 million to other agencies through privately administered Wilson/ Fish and other alternative programs.

In addition to these funds, ORR obligated about \$99.6 million in social services funds to discretionary programs. A discussion of these discretionary awards may be found beginning on page 24.

Targeted Assistance

The targeted assistance program funds employment and other services for refugees and entrants who reside in local areas of high need. These areas are defined as counties or contiguous county areas with unusually large refugee and entrant populations, high refugee or entrant concentrations in relation to the overall population, or high use of public assistance. Such counties need supplementation of other available service resources to help the local refugee or entrant population obtain employment with less than one year's participation in the program.

In FY 1999, ORR obligated \$49.5 million for targeted assistance activities for refugees and entrants. Of this, \$44.5 million was awarded by formula to 29 States on behalf of the 50 counties eligible for targeted assistance grants. States in the State-administered program received \$43.4 million of these funds, and the remaining formula funds were allocated to State-wide Wilson/Fish alternative programs. An additional \$4.9 million was allocated to communities in the form of discretionary grants through the Targeted Assistance Ten Percent program. A discussion of these discretionary awards may be found beginning on page 29.

The table on pages 8 and 9 presents the amount of funds awarded to each State under the formula allocation program. The amounts for

individual counties are provided in the table on the right.

Unaccompanied Minors

ORR continued its support of care for unaccompanied refugee minors in the U.S. These children, who are identified in countries of first asylum as requiring foster care upon their arrival in this country, are sponsored through two national voluntary agencies—the United States Catholic Conference (USCC) and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS)—and placed in licensed child welfare programs operated by their local affiliates, Catholic Charities and Lutheran Social Services, respectively.

Each refugee minor in the care of this program is eligible for the same range of child welfare benefits as non-refugee children in the State. Where possible, the child is placed with a local affiliate of USCC and LIRS in an area with nearby families of the same ethnic background. Depending on their individual needs, the minors are placed in home foster care, group care, independent living, or residential treatment. ORR reimburses costs incurred on behalf of each child until the month after his eighteenth birthday or such higher age as is permitted under the State's Plan under title IV-B of the Social Security Act.

Since January 1979, a total of 11,588 children have entered the program through local affiliates in 41 States. Of these, 1,383 subsequently were reunited with family and 9,884 reached the age of emancipation. At the end of FY 1999, only 240 minors remained in the program. The number leaving the program by reaching the age of majority continues to accelerate. As a result, programs in 21 States have already phased out.

ORR Obligations: FY 1999
(Amounts in \$000)

A. State-Administered Program:	
Cash assistance, medical assistance, unaccompanied minors, and State administration ¹	\$167,190
Social Services (State formula allocation) ²	101,277
Targeted Assistance (State formula allocation)	43,397
Subtotal, State-administered program	\$311,864
B. Discretionary Allocations:	
Targeted Assistance (Ten Percent)	\$4,948
Social Services (Discretionary)	12,149
Social Service (Difficult to Assimilate)	26,000
Social Services (Cuban/Haitian Earmark)	19,000
Social Services (Welfare Reform)	14,000
School Impact Aid and Other Programs	23,522
Subtotal, Discretionary Allocations	\$99,618
C. Alternative Programs:	
Voluntary Agency Match Grant Program	\$43,410
Privately administered Wilson/Fish Projects ³	7,322
Comprehensive Resettlement Programs ⁴	8,290
Subtotal, Alternative Programs	\$59,022
D. Kosovar Resettlement and Other Activities	\$31,000
E. Preventive Health: Screening and Health Services	\$4,835
F. Data Collection, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Other	\$1,368
Total, Refugee Resettlement Obligations	\$507,707

¹Includes \$30,943,872 in FY 1998 spending authority for funds obligated in FY 1996, but not expended in that year.

²Includes \$15,047,562 in FY 1998 spending authority for funds obligated in FY 1996, but not expended in that year.

³Includes \$3,125,515 in CMA funds, \$3,064,073 in formula social service funds, and \$1,132,717 in targeted assistance funds.

⁴Includes \$4,416,763 in CMA funds, and \$3,866,193 in discretionary social service funds

**CMA (a), Social Services (b), and Targeted Assistance (c)
Obligations by State: FY 1999**

State	CMA	Social Services	Targeted Assistance	Total
Alabama	48,000	\$233,794		281,794
Arizona	5,468,000	2,632,278	979,275	9,079,553
Arkansas	30,000	94,340		124,340
California	26,019,000	13,612,603	8,427,677	48,059,280
Colorado	2,520,000	1,253,502	365,960	4,139,462
Connecticut	1,216,000	1,033,034		2,249,034
Delaware	50,000	78,574		128,574
Dist. Columbia	1,532,000	575,346	438,453	2,545,799
Florida	19,000,000	16,087,622	8,824,640	43,912,262
Georgia	5,700,000	3,259,409	1,382,778	10,342,187
Hawaii	150,000	81,864		231,864
Idaho d/	930,000	617,613		1,547,613
Illinois	7,433,000	4,491,969	1,957,424	13,882,393
Indiana	300,000	557,069		857,069
Iowa	1,613,000	2,015,426	387,268	4,015,694
Kansas	473,000	397,906		870,906
Kentucky e/	0	0		0
Louisiana	382,000	577,251		959,251
Maine	400,000	231,129		631,129
Maryland	2,236,000	1,196,006		3,432,006
Massachusetts	10,572,000	2,633,801	788,742	13,994,543
Michigan	6,132,000	2,956,695	550,857	9,639,552
Minnesota	4,440,000	3,147,843	904,528	8,492,371
Mississippi	911,000	80,672		991,672
Missouri	3,631,000	2,488,346	864,955	6,984,301
Montana	50,000	82,147		132,147
Nebraska	886,000	813,329	263,252	1,962,581
Nevada f/				0
New Hampshire	590,000	416,946		1,006,946
New Jersey	4,389,000	1,671,590	337,211	6,397,801
New Mexico	676,000	524,704	363,705	1,564,409
New York	17,216,000	11,927,687	7,147,719	36,291,406
North Carolina	2,157,000	1,408,857	235,969	3,801,826
North Dakota	1,658,000	497,289	188,166	2,343,455
Ohio	1,004,000	1,607,620	430,336	3,041,956
Oklahoma	299,000	185,817		484,817
Oregon	4,715,000	2,036,369	1,378,945	8,130,314
Pennsylvania	4,748,000	2,817,333	864,391	8,429,724
Rhode Island	290,000	129,843		419,843
South Carolina	124,000	113,557		237,557
South Dakota g/	500,000	0		0
Tennessee	481,000	1,517,758	366,298	2,365,056
Texas	6,099,000	4,866,268	2,484,154	13,449,422
Utah	1,246,000	1,204,763	519,176	2,969,939
Vermont	379,000	336,983		715,983
Virginia	2,779,000	1,812,856	670,250	5,262,106

**CMA (a/), Social Services (b/), and Targeted Assistance (c/)
Obligations by State: FY 1999**

State	CMA	Social Services	Targeted Assistance	Total
Washington	14,608,000	6,277,029	2,274,454	23,159,483
West Virginia	5,000	75,454		80,454
Wisconsin	1,104,870	619,136		1,724,006
Total	\$167,189,870	\$101,277,427	\$101,277,427	\$311,863,880

a/ Cash/Medical/Administrative, including Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA), aid to unaccompanied minors, and State administrative expenses. Does not include funds for privately administered Wilson/Fish programs in Kentucky (\$2,158,458), Idaho (\$381,000), and Nevada (\$967,057).

b/ Does not include funds for privately administered Wilson/Fish programs in Kentucky (\$1,833,418), Nevada (\$945,076), Idaho (\$617,613), and South Dakota (\$285,579).

c/ Does not include funds for privately administered Wilson/Fish programs in Kentucky (\$581,184), Nevada (\$390,312), and South Dakota (\$161,221).

d/ During FY 1999, Idaho ended its participation on the RCA and social service programs, but retained administration of the RMA program. An alternative program currently provides cash assistance and social services to newly arriving refugees.

e/ Kentucky has not participated in the CMA program since FY 1994. A privately administered Wilson/Fish program has since replaced the State-administered program.

f/ Nevada ended its participation in the State-administered program on April 30, 1994. A privately administered Wilson/Fish program has since replaced the State-administered program.

g/ During FY 1999 South Dakota ended its participation in the social services and targeted assistance programs. A privately administered Wilson/Fish program currently administers these two programs.

**Targeted Assistance Allocations
by County, FY 1999**

Maricopa	AZ	\$983,963
Fresno	CA	339,804
Los Angeles	CA	1,951,899
Orange	CA	1,449,634
Sacramento	CA	1,329,790
San Diego	CA	1,052,107
San Francisco	CA	914,111
Santa Clara	CA	1,228,773
Yolo	CA	161,559
Denver	CO	365,960
Dist. of Columbia	DC	438,453
Broward	FL	388,847
Dade	FL	7,653,928
Duval	FL	434,169
Hillsborough	FL	347,696
DeKalb	GA	742,292
Fulton	GA	640,486
Cook/Kane	IL	1,957,424
Polk	IA	387,268
Jefferson	KY	581,184
Hampden	MA	252,429
Suffolk	MA	536,313
Ingham	MI	283,433
Kent	MI	267,424
Hennepin	MN	600,125
Ramsey	MN	304,403
St. Louis	MO	864,955
Lancaster	NE	263,252
Clark	NV	390,312
Hudson	NJ	337,211
Bernadillo	NM	363,705
Monroe	NY	435,522
New York	NY	6,247,137
Oneida	NY	465,060
Guilford	NC	235,969
Cass	ND	188,166
Cuyahoga	OH	430,336
Multnomah	OR	1,383,945
Erie	PA	211,165
Philadelphia	PA	653,226
Minnehaha	SD	161,221
Davidson	TN	366,298
Dallas/Tarrant	TX	1,426,410
Harris	TX	1,057,745
Davis/Salt Lake	UT	519,176
Fairfax	VA	406,998
Richmond	VA	263,259
Pierce	WA	299,667
King/Snohomish	WA	1,635,543
Spokane	WA	339,240
Total		\$44,529,300

(2) Wilson/Fish Alternative Program

An alternative approach to the State-administered program is the Wilson/Fish program. The Wilson/Fish amendment to the Immigration and Nationality Act, contained in the FY 1985 Continuing Resolution on Appropriations, directed the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to develop alternatives to the regular State-administered program for the purpose of:

- increasing refugee self-sufficiency,
- avoiding welfare dependency, and
- increasing coordination among service providers and resettlement agencies.

The Wilson/Fish authority provides States, voluntary resettlement agencies, and others the opportunity to develop innovative approaches for the provision of cash and medical assistance, social services, and case management. No separate funding is appropriated; funds are drawn instead from regular cash and medical assistance grants and social services allocations. Wilson/Fish alternative projects typically emphasize several of the following elements:

- Preclusion of otherwise eligible refugees from public assistance, with cash and/or medical assistance provided instead through specially designed alternative projects.
- Creation of a "front-loaded" service system which provides intensive services to refugees in the early months after arrival with an emphasis on early employment.
- Integration of case management, cash assistance, and employment services generally under a single private agency that is equipped to work with refugees.
- Development of mechanisms for closer monitoring of refugee progress, including a more effective sanctioning system.

On April 22, 1999, ORR published a revised standing announcement for Wilson/Fish projects (64 FR 19793). This announcement no longer limited projects to the amount being spent for current assistance and services in a location, and allowed grantees to serve families who might otherwise be eligible for cash benefits under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. It also required that projects serve all newly arriving refugees in a geographic area of the cash assistance type proposed.

In FY 1999, ORR provided \$6.2 million to fund three privately administered alternative projects in Kentucky, Nevada, and South Dakota and \$13.2 million to fund a publicly administered alternative project in Massachusetts. As in past years, Wilson/Fish program managers worked closely with ORR staff to establish outcome goal plans for their programs. The program outcomes established for FY 1999 are identical to the program measures adopted for the State-administered program. For a fuller explanation of each program measure, see the section entitled "Partnerships to Improve Employment and Self-Sufficiency Outcomes", beginning on page 15.

Wilson/Fish 1999 Obligations

	CMA	Social Services	Total
Private			
Kentucky	\$2,158,458	\$1,833,418	\$3,991,876
Nevada	\$967,057	\$945,076	\$1,912,133
South Dakota	\$0	\$285,579	\$285,579
Subtotal	\$3,125,515	\$3,064,073	\$6,189,588
Public			
Massachusetts	\$10,572,000	\$2,633,801	\$13,205,801

The Massachusetts Wilson/Fish demonstration is administered by the State of Massachusetts; it receives its social service and CMA funds through the State-administered program.

Kentucky

In FY 1999, the (USCC) and its local affiliate, Catholic Charities of Louisville, administered a State-wide Wilson/Fish with \$4.0 million in ORR funds for almost 1,800 refugees. The project provides interim cash assistance, private medical coverage and social services through a consortium of five local affiliates of four voluntary agencies. In addition, Kentucky received \$581,184 of formula Targeted Assistance funds based on the five-year population for Jefferson County. These funds were incorporated into the Wilson/Fish program, but were awarded separately.

Kentucky	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	1,601		872	
Entered Employments	1,049		838	96 %
Terminations	932	88 %	804	96 %
Reductions	0	0 %	0	0 %
Average Wage	\$6.19		\$7.06	
Retentions	761	73 %	779	93 %
Health Benefits	870	83 %	767	92 %

Massachusetts

The Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants (MORI) completed its second year of administering a State-wide Wilson/Fish alternative project. The project restructures the delivery of cash assistance and services and creates a case management and tracking system that provides each refugee family with a single case manager who works with them for their entire eligibility period.

Massachusetts	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	1,876		1,775	
Entered Employments	1,256		1,083	61 %
Terminations	550	44 %	520	48 %
Reductions	123	10 %	145	13 %
Average Wage	\$7.95		\$8.75	
Retentions	796	63 %	776	63 %
Health Benefits	734	73 %	741	87 %

Nevada

In FY 1999, Catholic Community Services of Nevada (CCSN) was awarded \$1.9 million to provide social services, cash, and private medical coverage to almost 600 refugees resettled throughout the State. In addition, Nevada received \$390,312 in Targeted Assistance funds for services to refugees in Clark County.

Nevada	FY 1998	FY 1999		
Caseload	594	914		
Entered Employments	310	454	50 %	
Terminations	200	345	76 %	
Reductions	2	109	24 %	
Average Wage	\$7.55	\$7.40		
Retentions	271	431	79 %	
Health Benefits	283	409	95 %	

South Dakota

On March 5, 1999, the South Dakota Department of Social Services (SD/DSS) notified ORR of their desire to withdraw from the administration of the social services portion of the refugee program. Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota, the primary resettlement agency in the State, submitted a Wilson/Fish Program application and was awarded a grant in the amount of \$230,504 for the provision of refugee social services starting July 1, 1999.

(3) Voluntary Agency Match Grant Program

FY 1999 marked the 20th anniversary of the Match Grant program. In those twenty years, more than two million refugees have come to this country and 430,249, or 20 percent of all refugees, were served through the Match Grant program.

The Match Grant program, funded by Congress since 1979, provides an alternative approach to State-administered resettlement assistance. The program's goal is to help refugees attain self-

sufficiency within four months after arrival, without access to public cash assistance. Participating agencies agree to match the ORR grant with cash and in-kind contributions; twenty percent of their match must be in cash.

Since mid-1996, ORR has matched each dollar of agency contribution of cash or in-kind services with \$1.40 of ORR funds, with a maximum Federal contribution of \$1,400 per refugee.

In 1999, ORR announced significant changes in the Match Grant program. Beginning with the second trimester, ORR raised the Federal contribution to \$2 per \$1 of agency cash and in-kind services with the maximum Federal contribution of \$2,000 per refugee. Furthermore, ORR directed Voluntary Agencies (VOLAGS) to raise the in-hand weekly cash allowance to adult refugees from the existing \$20 to \$50 or the maximum amount that would not disqualify a refugee from Medicaid benefits.

While ORR was preparing the supplemental awards, the crisis in the Balkans led to an unanticipated increase in arrival of refugees from Kosovo. In response, ORR issued an addendum to the Match Grant program to enable agencies to serve Kosovar refugees in the Match Grant program. These changes resulted in ORR increasing overall funding for the Match Grant program to an annual budget of \$49 million. This amount was offset by slightly more than \$6 million of unexpended funds resulting from the dramatic decline in arrivals from the Former Soviet Union anticipated by Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS).

The Match Grant program is characterized by a strong emphasis on early employment and intensive services during the first four months after arrival. ORR requires participating agencies to provide maintenance (food and housing), case management, and employment services in-house. Additional services, such as language training and medical assistance, may be provided in-house or arranged through

referral to other programs. Refugees in the Match Grant program may use publicly funded medical assistance.

Refugees from the Soviet Union and its successor republics had been the primary beneficiaries of the program since its commencement in 1979. With the decline in arrivals from the former Soviet Union, the Match Grant Program has served an increasingly diverse population. In 1999, participants were from the former Soviet Union, Kosovo, Southeast Asia, Bosnia, Ethiopia, Somalia, Iraq, and a host of other countries. Nine voluntary agencies operated programs in 202 locations last year and provided resettlement services to 31 percent of all refugee arrivals.

Except for HIAS, which places almost all eligible refugees into the program, grantees generally use the following criteria to select refugees for program participation: family size, resettlement site, motivation for employment, and willingness to participate in the program. HIAS' dramatic decline in arrivals resulted in a significant carry forward of funds for the second straight year.

As with the Wilson/Fish and State-administered programs, Match Grant voluntary agencies work with ORR staff to establish goal plans to measure continuous improvement in client outcomes. Because the program emphasizes family self-sufficiency (independence from cash assistance), goal plans measure the proportion of cases that are self-sufficient at four months after arrival in the U.S. and self-sufficiency retention two months later. Goal plans establish self-sufficiency and retention goals for individual participants as well as cases. Other goals for individuals are established for job placements, wages, and the availability of health benefits.

Church World Service (CWS) was awarded \$1,627,000 to enroll 850 refugees in 15 sites including 145 Kosovars. Syracuse, NY joined the

program in January. CWS actually enrolled 933 refugees, and 88 percent of the families became self-sufficient in 1999. The primary groups were Kosovars, Bosnians, and Cubans. The largest sites were in Richmond, Virginia; Greensboro, North Carolina; and Houston, Texas.

CWS	Cases		Individuals	
Self-sufficient (120 days) ¹	271	82 %	746	81 %
Self-sufficient (180 days)	213	100%	564	100%
Entered Employment			396	80%
Average Hourly Wage			\$7.34	
Health Benefits ²			292	77 %

Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM) received \$1,115,800 to serve 797 refugees in the Match Grant program. EMM enrolled 721 refugees at 15 sites and 684 refugees became self-sufficient during 1998. The largest ethnic groups served were Bosnian, Iraqi Kurd, and Somali.

EMM	Cases		Individuals	
Self-sufficient (120 days)	225	96 %	684	95 %
Self-sufficient (180 days)	212	98 %	616	99 %
Entered Employment			379	96 %
Average Hourly Wage			\$6.75	
Health Benefits			379	80 %

Ethiopian Community Development Center (ECDC) received \$877,400 in 1999 including \$300,000 to serve 150 Kosovar refugees and a total of 445 Match Grant clients. ECDC ultimately expended \$703,400 on 358 Match Grant clients, including 150 Kosovars. Their network comprised four sites in 1999: Houston, Texas; Chicago, Illinois; San Diego, California; and Washington, D.C. The major ethnic groups served were from the Eastern Europe and Africa. ECDC had a notable increase in average hourly wage to \$7.35/hr.

¹ The self-sufficiency rate is the ratio of the number of cases or individuals independent of cash assistance to the number participating in the program.

² Health benefit availability is presented as a percentage of full-time entered employments.

ECDC	Cases		Individuals	
Self-sufficient (120 days)	147	84 %	354	88 %
Self-sufficient (180 days)	123	89 %	301	90 %
Entered Employment			193	93 %
Average Hourly Wage			\$7.35	
Health Benefits			161	87 %

Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) was awarded \$11,369,800 in FY 1999 funds, but only expended \$8.8 million as the number of refugees from the former Soviet Union dropped by more than 2,500. This included \$800,000 awarded as an addendum to the initial award to serve 400 Kosovar refugees. They served 4,846 newly arriving refugees in the Match Grant, the vast majority from the successor republics of the former Soviet Union. This included 108 refugees from Kosovo; a smaller number of arrivals than originally anticipated due to the conclusion of the war. Of those refugees who completed six months in the U.S., 1,401 were completely self-sufficient. Self-sufficiency for the Kosovar population was higher than the overall population as 46.6 percent of the cases were self-sufficient within 120 days with job placements averaging \$9.41/hr. Sixty-eight communities, a decline of six, participated in the program during 1999. The six largest were New York City, San Francisco, Chicago, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and Boston.

HIAS	Cases		Individuals	
Self-sufficient (120 days)	728	33.4 %	1,689	32.5 %
Self-sufficient (180 days)	615	90 %	1,401	88.0 %
Entered Employment			1,015	30.3 %
Average Hourly Wage			\$8.74	
Health Benefits			478	68.5 %

HIAS is unique in the Match Grant program in that it places virtually its entire eligible refugee population in the Match Grant program, thereby extending services to many refugees who find it difficult to obtain employment within the four-month time frame.

Immigration and Refugee Services of America (IRSA) was awarded \$3,392,400 to resettle 1,800 refugees at ten sites in 1999. This included funding for 200 Kosovars. IRSA enrolled 1,800; 1,574 completed the 120 days of services. Of

these, 1,433 were self-sufficient. Bosnian, Kosovar, Vietnamese, Somali, and Iraqi refugees were the largest client groups; the largest of their ten sites were Kansas City and St. Louis, Missouri; Houston, Texas; and Erie, Pennsylvania.

IRSA	Cases		Individuals	
Self-sufficient (120 days)	612	91 %	1,433	91 %
Self-sufficient (180 days)	489	98 %	1,242	99 %
Entered Employment			875	92 %
Average Hourly Wage			\$6.80	
Health Benefits			683	81 %

International Rescue Committee (IRC) received an initial grant award of \$3,932,400 for its 1999 program to enroll 2,025 clients, a 100 percent increase from the previous year. By the end of the year, 1,624 new arrivals became self-sufficient by the end of the 120-day period. Sixteen sites participated in the Match Grant. The largest site was San Francisco, California. The largest ethnic groups served were Kosovars, Bosnians, and Cubans.

IRC	Cases		Individuals	
Self-sufficient (120 days)	763	69 %	1,624	76 %
Self-sufficient (180 days)	755	99 %	1,620	99 %
Entered Employment			975	80 %
Average Hourly Wage			\$8.77	
Health Benefits			610	68 %

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS) was awarded \$8,605,400 in 1999 including a \$2 million addendum to serve 1,000 Kosovars. However, only \$5.6 million was expended. They ultimately enrolled 3,656 of whom 3,446 completed 120 days of service at the time of this report. Of these, 2,913 became self-sufficient within 120 days. There were nineteen affiliates participating in the Match Grant program in 1999.

LIRS	Cases		Individuals	
Self-sufficient (120 days)	978	84 %	2,913	85 %
Self-sufficient (180 days)	814	99 %	2,242	99 %
Entered Employment			1,548	90 %
Average Hourly Wage			\$7.18	
Health Benefits			1,250	85 %

United States Catholic Conference (USCC) received \$15 million to serve 7,830 clients at 51

sites. Three new sites began Match Grant services, Indianapolis, Kansas City and New York. The largest groups served were Bosnians, Kurds, Kosovars, Vietnamese, Serbs, and Cubans.

USCC	Cases		Individuals	
Self-sufficient (120 days)	2,433	80 %	6,781	81 %
Self-sufficient (180 days)	1,979	81 %	5,280	76 %
Entered Employment			3,824	71 %
Average Hourly Wage			\$7.05	
Health Benefits			2,748	76 %

World Relief Corporation (WRC) received \$2,475,200 to resettle 1,300 refugees in five sites in 1999, including 300 Kosovars. WRC enrolled 1,294 refugees, with 1,130 reaching the 120-day mark by year's end, of which 1,044 became self-sufficient. The largest ethnic groups served were Eastern Europeans and Kosovar refugees. Tampa, Atlanta, and Ft. Worth were their largest sites. Atlanta and High Point, North Carolina joined the program. Of note, average hourly wage increased by \$1.

WRC	Cases		Individuals	
Self-sufficient (120 days)	340	93 %	1044	92 %
Self-sufficient (180 days)	283	92 %	789	99 %
Entered Employment			508	87 %
Average Hourly Wage			\$7.34	
Health Benefits			358	76 %

Special Initiatives

(a) Partnerships to Improve Employment and Self-Sufficiency Outcomes

State Outcome Goal Plans

In FY 1999, the Office of Refugee Resettlement undertook a joint effort with States to improve State performance in refugee employment and self-sufficiency outcomes. States and California counties have since been required to establish annual outcome goals aimed at continuous improvement of performance along the following six outcome measures:

- **Entered Employments**, defined as the entry of a refugee into unsubsidized employment.

- **Terminations Due to Earnings**, defined as the termination of a cash assistance case (RCA, TANF, and general assistance) due to earned income.
- **Reductions Due to Earnings**, defined as a reduction in the amount of cash assistance that a case receives as a result of earned income.
- **Average Wage at Placement**, calculated as the sum of the hourly wages for the full-time placements divided by the total number of individuals placed in employment.
- **Job Retentions**, defined as the number of persons working for wages (in any unsubsidized job) on the 90th day after placement. This is a measure of continued participation in the labor market, not retention of a specific job.
- **Entered Employments with Health Benefits**, defined as a job placement with health benefits offered within six months of employment, regardless of whether the refugee actually accepts the coverage offered.

ORR tracked State and county performance throughout the year. The FY 1999 performance was as follows:

- **Entered Employments** totaled 50,173, an 8 percent decline from the number recorded in FY 1998 (54,417).
- **Terminations due to Earnings** totaled 16,531 a 3 percent decline from FY 1998 (16,978).
- **Reductions due to Earnings** totaled 5,403 a 27 percent decline from FY 1998 (7,399).
- **Average Wage At Placement** (\$7.20) rose four percent from FY 1998 (\$6.90).
- **Employment Retentions** (35,739) a 10 percent decline from FY 1998 (39,763).

- **Entered Employments with Health Benefits** reached 28,579, a 1 percent decline from FY 1998 (28,991).

These performance measure outcomes must be viewed in the overall context of increasing arrival numbers, but a decreasing caseload. A caseload is defined as the unduplicated number of active employable adults enrolled in employment services. In FY 1999 the caseload decreased by eight percent. The rate of job placements increased by one percent, and 71 percent of refugees who found employment retained their employment for ninety days, consistent with 73 percent in FY 1998. The rate of cash assistance terminations increased by two percent in FY 1999. Sixty-seven percent of full-time placements offered health insurance, compared with 61 percent the year before.

Twenty-eight States and two California counties exceeded their placements from last year. Connecticut, Georgia, Maine, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Virginia exceeded their placements last year by more than one third.

Twenty-three States and three California counties increased the number of cash assistance terminations over the previous year. Six States (Arkansas, Florida, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Mexico and Rhode Island) reported that every cash assistance recipient terminated assistance after job placement.

Twenty-six States and three California counties improved the job retention rate over the previous year. Retention rates of over 90 percent were reported in Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Indiana, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, and Wisconsin. Among larger States, retention rates met or exceeded 80 percent in Florida and Oregon. Among California counties, Contra Costa, San Joaquin, and Yolo recorded high rates of retention.

FY 1999 saw significant improvement in the quality of jobs found for refugees. Forty States and nine California counties reported higher wages at placement than in FY 1998. Delaware (\$8.57), Massachusetts (\$8.75), South Dakota (\$8.24) and San Francisco County (\$8.92) reported the highest average wage at placement. Twenty-nine other States reported an average wage at placement of \$7.00 or above, compared with only twenty States the year before.

Refugees found employment not only at higher wages, but also with more benefits. Thirty-three States and four California counties increased their rates of health benefit availability over FY 1998. Arkansas found health insurance for all 12 of its job placements (100 percent), and Hawaii found health insurance for all 18 of its full-time job placements (100 percent). Rhode Island found health insurance for 56 of its 57 full-time job placements (98 percent). Seven other States - Arizona, Delaware, Indiana, Minnesota, North Carolina, Ohio and Virginia - reported that at least 90 percent of its entered employments included health benefits. In eleven other States, at least 80 percent of refugees found employment with health benefits available.

ORR also tracked the cost per job placement in each State and California county. This measure is the ratio of the total employment service funds used by the State for employment services divided by the number of entered employments recorded during the fiscal year. The State average unit cost was \$1,498 per job placement. The range was quite wide, however, from a low of \$301 per placement (Louisiana) to a high of \$6,398 per placement (West Virginia). In California counties, unit costs ranged from \$615 per placement (Merced) to \$5,846 per placement (San Diego). California's overall average unit cost was \$2,847.

Shown below is a summary of the FY 1998 and FY 1999 outcomes by State. The caseload presented for each State and county consists of the number of refugees with whom a service provider had regular and direct involvement during the fiscal year in planned employment-related

activities for the purpose of assisting the refugee to find or retain employment. For terminations, reductions, and retentions, each goal and outcome is also described as a percentage of entered employments. Some States opted to express terminations and reductions as a percentage of refugee cash assistance recipients who entered employment, rather than as a percentage of all entered employments. Health benefit availability is presented as a percentage of full-time entered employments.

Alabama	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	108		127	
Entered Employments	95		91	
Terminations	0	0%	0	0%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$6.27		\$6.50	
Retentions	87	92%	72	100%
Health Benefits	43	51%	34	37%

In Alabama, arriving refugees seldom go on assistance. Its entered employments thus produced no cash assistance terminations and no reductions.

Arizona	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	2,175		1,736	
Entered Employments	1,448		1,530	
Terminations	663	89%	750	50%
Reductions	3	1%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$6.27		\$6.39	
Retentions	1,195	85%	997	65%
Health Benefits	1,278	90%	1,383	94%

In FY 1998 cash assistance termination and reduction rates are based on entered employments of refugees actually receiving assistance.

Arkansas	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	12		12	
Entered Employments	12		12	
Terminations	0	0%	4	100%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$6.38		\$7.18	
Retentions	19	63%	8	100%
Health Benefits	12	100%	12	100%

In FY 1999 cash assistance terminations were based on entered employments of refugees actually receiving assistance.

Colorado	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	890		648	
Entered Employments	515		400	
Terminations	172	74%	156	88%
Reductions	36	15%	22	15%
Average Wage	\$7.35		\$7.60	
Retentions	474	89%	402	93%
Health Benefits	422	91%	328	89%

Colorado expresses cash assistance terminations and reductions as a percentage of cash assistance recipients who entered employment, rather than all refugees who entered employment.

Connecticut	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	1,051		996	
Entered Employments	459		658	
Terminations	133	29%	134	86%
Reductions	99	22%	21	14%
Average Wage	\$7.34		\$7.69	
Retentions	334	73%	345	58%
Health Benefits	310	90%	302	52%

Connecticut expresses cash assistance terminations and reductions as a percentage of cash assistance recipients who entered employment, rather than all refugees who entered employment.

Delaware	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	19		18	
Entered Employments	13		16	
Terminations	3	50%	9	60%
Reductions	1	17%	2	13%
Average Wage	\$8.12		\$8.57	
Retentions	12	100%	14	93%
Health Benefits	5	56%	14	93%

Delaware has presented its data on reductions and terminations as a percentage of cash assistance recipients who entered employment.

Dist. of Columbia	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	678		264	
Entered Employments	280		183	
Terminations	255	91%	167	41%
Reductions	25	9%	16	9%
Average Wage	\$7.71		\$8.07	
Retentions	232	72%	121	65%
Health Benefits	182	71%	124	74%

All full-time placements result in termination of benefits.

Florida	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	23,090		18,738	
Entered Employments	10,929		7,526	
Terminations	2,216	79%	2,903	100%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$6.02		\$5.74	

Retentions	7,475	74%	6,219	80%
Health Benefits	4,447	42%	2,213	31%

Due to low assistance payment levels, almost all refugees who enter employment terminate assistance.

Georgia	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	1,519		1,994	
Entered Employments	999		1,356	
Terminations	322	80%	366	82%
Reductions	3	1%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$6.58		\$7.50	
Retentions	977	76%	859	68%
Health Benefits	827	83%	936	70%

In FY 1999 Georgia presented its data on terminations and reductions as a percentage of cash assistance recipients who entered employment.

Hawaii	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	84		72	
Entered Employments	19		22	
Terminations	5	26%	7	32%
Reductions	14	74%	4	18%
Average Wage	\$6.75		\$5.59	
Retentions	15	93%	30	86%
Health Benefits	7	47%	18	100%

Idaho	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	355		437	
Entered Employments	199		258	
Terminations	167	100%	155	78%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$6.16		\$6.61	
Retentions	198	92%	201	87%
Health Benefits	122	73%	153	70%

Idaho's benefit amount is very low; therefore, most full-time placements result in termination, rather than in a reduction of benefits.

Illinois	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	6,258		5,859	
Entered Employments	2,982		3,654	
Terminations	802	58%	866	53%
Reductions	588	42%	676	41%
Average Wage	\$7.76		\$7.99	
Retentions	1,731	58%	1,924	53%
Health Benefits	1,072	43%	1,800	64%

Illinois has presented its data on reductions and terminations as a percentage of cash assistance recipients who entered employment.

Indiana	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	386		665	
Entered Employments	344		317	
Terminations	116	43%	64	45%
Reductions	0	0%	4	3%
Average Wage	\$7.87		\$7.70	
Retentions	139	34%	300	91%
Health Benefits	135	42%	272	91%

Indiana has presented its data on reductions and terminations as a percentage of cash assistance recipients who entered employment.

Iowa	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	1,428		1,286	
Entered Employments	1,014		754	
Terminations	538	53%	386	51%
Reductions	30	4%	24	3%
Average Wage	\$6.36		\$7.57	
Retentions	818	81%	603	80%
Health Benefits	659	73%	473	72%

In Iowa, welfare recipients may receive an unreduced check for up to four months after employment begins. As a consequence, the State recorded few cash assistance reductions.

Kansas	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	632		432	
Entered Employments	438		284	
Terminations	145	84%	75	71%
Reductions	8	5%	19	18%
Average Wage	\$7.61		\$7.90	
Retentions	423	90%	284	89%
Health Benefits	320	84%	187	81%

Louisiana	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	316		368	
Entered Employments	274		274	
Terminations	46	17%	63	23%
Reductions	4	1%	28	10%
Average Wage	\$5.81		\$5.85	
Retentions	232	79%	203	72%
Health Benefits	80	31%	82	34%

The number of terminations are low because many clients never access cash assistance, but are placed directly into employment. Few reductions are reported because Louisiana pays cash assistance at a level where any income from employment makes the client wholly ineligible for cash assistance.

Maine	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	208		305	
Entered Employments	144		237	
Terminations	58	40 %	87	37 %
Reductions	25	17 %	62	26 %
Average Wage	\$6.60		\$7.21	
Retentions	95	69 %	196	83 %
Health Benefits	61	59 %	93	53 %

Many jobs are of a temporary and seasonal nature and therefore do not result in cash assistance terminations.

Maryland	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	679		589	
Entered Employments	477		501	
Terminations	124	78 %	149	78 %
Reductions	0	0 %	0	0 %
Average Wage	\$7.09		\$7.44	
Retentions	397	95 %	437	76 %
Health Benefits	334	85 %	373	86 %

The Cash assistance termination rate is based on entered employments of refugees actually receiving assistance. The State's cash assistance information system is not yet able to identify refugee reductions in cash assistance due to earnings.

Massachusetts	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	1,876		1,775	
Entered Employments	1,256		1,083	
Terminations	550	44 %	520	48 %
Reductions	123	10 %	145	13 %
Average Wage	\$7.95		\$8.75	
Retentions	796	63 %	776	72 %
Health Benefits	734	73 %	741	87 %

Michigan	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	2,319		2,794	
Entered Employments	1,620		1,828	
Terminations	466	66 %	471	69 %
Reductions	139	20 %	146	21 %
Average Wage	\$6.93		\$7.44	
Retentions	1,170	72 %	1,265	76 %
Health Benefits	1,199	85 %	1,445	88 %

Cash assistance termination and reduction rates are based on entered employments of refugees actually receiving assistance.

Minnesota	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	1,783		2,611	
Entered Employments	1,136		1,423	
Terminations	406	36 %	373	26 %
Reductions	183	16 %	309	22 %
Average Wage	\$7.84		\$8.07	
Retentions	1,036	85 %	1,088	78 %
Health Benefits	782	86 %	1,073	91 %

Mississippi	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	463		416	
Entered Employments	229		278	
Terminations	0	0 %	17	100 %
Reductions	0	0 %	0	0 %
Average Wage	\$6.19		\$8.10	
Retentions	206	86 %	222	70 %
Health Benefits	99	46 %	138	51 %

In FY 1999 the cash assistance termination rate is based on entered employments of refugees actually receiving assistance.

Missouri	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	2,338		2,246	
Entered Employments	1,489		1,413	
Terminations	460	92 %	458	96 %
Reductions	21	4 %	17	4 %
Average Wage	\$7.10		\$7.14	
Retentions	1,359	81 %	857	78 %
Health Benefits	1,148	82 %	1,136	83 %

Due to Missouri's low payment standards, minimum wage employment generally results in a termination of benefits, rather than a reduction in assistance.

Montana	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	280		292	
Entered Employments	93		73	
Terminations	11	46 %	33	51 %
Reductions	9	38 %	22	34 %
Average Wage	\$6.38		\$6.51	
Retentions	54	57 %	38	62 %
Health Benefits	12	20 %	9	12 %

Montana's reductions and terminations are presented as a percentage of cash assistance recipients who entered employment.

Nebraska	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	261		190	
Entered Employments	261		190	
Terminations	261	100 %	117	95 %
Reductions	0	0 %	6	5 %
Average Wage	\$7.11		\$7.15	
Retentions	271	94 %	207	86 %
Health Benefits	223	85 %	150	79 %

Placement at entry-level wages results in termination of benefits due to Nebraska's low benefit rate.

New Hampshire	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	199		445	
Entered Employments	197		334	
Terminations	197	100 %	251	100%
Reductions	0	0 %	0	0%
Average Wage	\$6.95		\$7.54	
Retentions	198	95 %	273	98%
Health Benefits	118	80 %	194	59%

No reductions in assistance due to earnings were recorded because the New Hampshire formula will terminate any full-time employee except in the case of very large families.

New Jersey	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	1,026		1,119	
Entered Employments	673		626	
Terminations	191	74 %	181	72%
Reductions	67	26 %	70	28%
Average Wage	\$7.22		\$7.55	
Retentions	545	80 %	480	80%
Health Benefits	339	60 %	307	58%

New Jersey's reductions and terminations are presented as a percentage of cash assistance recipients who entered employment.

New Mexico	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	420		691	
Entered Employments	235		480	
Terminations	62	100 %	10	100%
Reductions	0	0 %	0	0%
Average Wage	\$5.80		\$5.83	
Retentions	169	61 %	442	49%
Health Benefits	158	67 %	336	70%

Most refugees never access cash assistance. Cash assistance termination rate is based on entered employments of refugees actually receiving assistance.

New York	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	6,372		6,247	
Entered Employments	3,581		4,265	
Terminations	2,218	62 %	1,301	61%
Reductions	740	21 %	839	39%
Average Wage	\$8.60		\$7.89	
Retentions	2,515	70 %	1,884	71%
Health Benefits	1,764	67 %	1,726	60%

North Carolina	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	610		783	
Entered Employments	461		586	
Terminations	144	99 %	236	98%
Reductions	1	1 %	6	1%
Average Wage	\$7.12		\$7.20	
Retentions	444	97 %	527	92%
Health Benefits	378	87 %	517	91%

The number of reductions was small because more than half of the refugees placed in jobs went to work before receiving cash assistance.

North Dakota	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	496		433	
Entered Employments	275		339	
Terminations	207	75 %	275	81%
Reductions	62	23 %	5	2%
Average Wage	\$6.73		\$6.96	
Retentions	183	68 %	276	93%
Health Benefits	188	76 %	258	81%

Almost all refugees are employed three months after resettlement, the majority with health benefits.

Ohio	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	2,265		2,137	
Entered Employments	615		619	
Terminations	107	16 %	105	48%
Reductions	36	3 %	5	2%
Average Wage	\$6.86		\$7.47	
Retentions	461	75 %	478	62%
Health Benefits	520	90 %	554	94%

Oklahoma	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	273		360	
Entered Employments	198		210	
Terminations	52	26 %	18	67%
Reductions	0	0 %	0	0%
Average Wage	\$5.76		\$6.20	
Retentions	132	67 %	158	86%
Health Benefits	89	50 %	148	77%

In FY 1999 cash assistance termination rate is based on entered employment of refugees actually receiving assistance.

Oregon	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	2,650		2,618	
Entered Employments	1,472		1,519	
Terminations	736	37 %	774	88%
Reductions	95	5 %	105	12%
Average Wage	\$7.12		\$7.14	
Retentions	1,261	89 %	1,350	89%
Health Benefits	1,083	81 %	1,153	83%

In FY 1999 cash assistance termination and cash assistance reduction rates are based on entered employment of refugees actually receiving assistance.

Pennsylvania	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	1,964		2,135	
Entered Employments	972		1,117	
Terminations	357	37 %	303	27%
Reductions	80	8 %	92	8%
Average Wage	\$7.79		\$7.60	
Retentions	853	88 %	1,020	96%
Health Benefits	541	62 %	696	78%

Texas	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	3,763		3,625	
Entered Employments	3,295		3,336	
Terminations	213	76 %	394	76%
Reductions	0	0 %	0	0%
Average Wage	\$6.24		\$6.66	
Retentions	2,918	88 %	2,994	91%
Health Benefits	2,293	72%	2,511	79%

Rhode Island	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	80		161	
Entered Employments	40		68	
Terminations	25	63 %	52	100%
Reductions	0	0 %	0	0%
Average Wage	\$7.06		\$7.88	
Retentions	36	90 %	60	100%
Health Benefits	28	100 %	56	98%

Cash assistance terminations are presented as a percentage of RCA recipients who entered employment.

Utah	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	998		961	
Entered Employments	425		286	
Terminations	288	68 %	275	96%
Reductions	70	16 %	11	4%
Average Wage	\$6.52		\$7.55	
Retentions	395	96 %	299	96%
Health Benefits	373	88 %	239	85%

Cash assistance termination rates are based on entered employment of refugees actually receiving assistance.

South Carolina	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	195		215	
Entered Employments	105		128	
Terminations	14	88 %	23	64%
Reductions	0	0 %	0	0%
Average Wage	\$6.14		\$6.33	
Retentions	67	83 %	107	59%
Health Benefits	89	85 %	109	85%

Vermont	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	164		272	
Entered Employments	150		253	
Terminations	120	80 %	172	68%
Reductions	1	0 %	1	0%
Average Wage	\$7.06		\$7.31	
Retentions	141	97 %	183	100%
Health Benefits	92	66 %	181	75%

Last year saw no recorded reductions due to earnings because all refugees on cash assistance who went to work received enough income to terminate their cash assistance.

South Dakota	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	305		398	
Entered Employments	255		303	
Terminations	116	45 %	132	44%
Reductions	12	1 %	13	4%
Average Wage	\$8.77		\$8.24	
Retentions	191	59 %	306	97%
Health Benefits	211	95 %	206	79%

Virginia	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	1,176		1,665	
Entered Employments	768		1,041	
Terminations	134	17%	128	70%
Reductions	7	1 %	42	23%
Average Wage	\$6.44		\$7.18	
Retentions	598	74%	857	87%
Health Benefits	505	78%	768	92%

Most of South Dakota's arriving refugees find employment before applying for cash assistance.

Tennessee	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	1,102		1,128	
Entered Employments	730		767	
Terminations	86	54 %	37	31%
Reductions	0	0 %	0	0%
Average Wage	\$6.55		\$6.80	
Retentions	452	84 %	538	72%
Health Benefits	556	79 %	637	85%

Washington	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	2,922		3,729	
Entered Employments	1,527		1,487	
Terminations	242	19 %	636	62%
Reductions	315	25 %	127	13%
Average Wage	\$7.06		\$7.33	
Retentions	426	24 %	271	15%
Health Benefits	268	21 %	496	33%

Health benefits data are incomplete. Newly employed refugees are eligible under the State Basic Health program.

Cash assistance reductions are not applicable in Tennessee because jobs result in cash assistance terminations.

West Virginia	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	16		4	
Entered Employments	12		4	
Terminations	1	100 %	3	75 %
Reductions	0	0 %	1	25 %
Average Wage	\$5.75		\$5.85	
Retentions	8	67 %	4	44 %
Health Benefits	4	40 %	1	33 %

Terminations are presented as a percentage of cash assistance recipients who entered employment.

Wisconsin	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	1,307		939	
Entered Employments	1,234		852	
Terminations	493	94 %	212	57 %
Reductions	454	86 %	342	92 %
Average Wage	\$7.00		\$7.48	
Retentions	1,132	91 %	821	91 %
Health Benefits	841	77 %	588	76 %

Wisconsin records a grant termination only if it lasts three months and a grant reduction if it lasts six months.

California (Aggregate)

California	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	14,643		11,329	
Entered Employments	8,886		5,792	
Terminations	1,662	19 %	1,319	23 %
Reductions	4,028	45 %	1,878	32 %
Average Wage	\$6.06		\$6.77	
Retentions	5,822	66 %	3,402	59 %
Health Benefits	2,718	43 %	1,917	43 %

California Counties

Alameda	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	383		638	
Entered Employments	285		319	
Terminations	93	33 %	116	36 %
Reductions	54	19 %	33	10 %
Average Wage	\$6.78		\$7.05	
Retentions	146	51 %	221	69 %
Health Benefits	108	38 %	137	45 %

Contra Costa	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	103		99	
Entered Employments	61		54	
Terminations	10	16 %	13	24 %
Reductions	17	28 %	15	28 %
Average Wage	\$6.52		\$6.97	
Retentions	53	87 %	46	85 %
Health Benefits	23	55 %	16	43 %

Fresno	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	579		490	
Entered Employments	316		231	
Terminations	68	22 %	33	14 %
Reductions	308	97 %	201	87 %
Average Wage	\$6.02		\$6.17	
Retentions	274	88 %	138	60 %
Health Benefits	66	32 %	47	28 %

Los Angeles	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	8,451		3,099	
Entered Employments	1,414		744	
Terminations	320	23 %	50	7 %
Reductions	887	63 %	151	63 %
Average Wage	\$5.75		\$6.81	
Retentions	1,061	75 %	373	50 %
Health Benefits	585	60 %	108	21 %

Merced	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	567		528	
Entered Employments	335		388	
Terminations	53	16 %	72	19 %
Reductions	72	21 %	87	22 %
Average Wage	\$6.11		\$5.92	
Retentions	93	28 %	194	50 %
Health Benefits	32	15 %	68	50 %

The Merced County unemployment rate remained above 16 percent during FY 1997.

Orange	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	4,001		2,077	
Entered Employments	3,484		1,728	
Terminations	509	17 %	428	25 %
Reductions	169	57 %	639	37 %
Average Wage	\$5.96		\$6.19	
Retentions	2,410	69 %	1,179	68 %
Health Benefits	765	39 %	672	50 %

Cash assistance terminations and reductions are presented as a percentage of refugees who received cash assistance when they entered employment.

Sacramento	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	1,643		1,839	
Entered Employments	1,148		856	
Terminations	50	5 %	228	27 %
Reductions	291	31 %	252	29 %
Average Wage	\$6.15		\$6.39	
Retentions	618	54 %	389	45 %
Health Benefits	437	42 %	478	61 %

San Diego	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	785		766	
Entered Employments	622		485	
Terminations	75	12 %	15	3 %
Reductions	191	31 %	162	33 %
Average Wage	\$5.66		\$6.38	
Retentions	483	78 %	160	33 %
Health Benefits	216	40 %	22	7 %

California Department of Social Services (CDSS), and interested counties to improve refugee program results in selected counties in California.

Since its inception in FY 1995, a Federal/State/County team has recommended ways to improve employment and self-sufficiency outcomes for refugees residing in three California counties with large refugee populations: Merced, Orange, and Los Angeles counties. The team conducted in-depth, on-site assessments of the existing service delivery system in each county to determine how to improve the system to achieve better client outcomes.

San Francisco	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	570		234	
Entered Employments	294		110	
Terminations	232	79 %	39	35 %
Reductions	56	19 %	23	21 %
Average Wage	\$7.50		\$8.92	
Retentions	220	75 %	57	52 %
Health Benefits	88	50 %	44	37 %

San Francisco's service caseload consisted entirely of RCA-eligible refugees.

San Joaquin	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	821		679	
Entered Employments	350		206	
Terminations	91	26 %	40	19 %
Reductions	147	42 %	56	27 %
Average Wage	\$6.88		\$6.50	
Retentions	160	46 %	171	83 %
Health Benefits	175	56 %	82	43 %

The unemployment rate in the county has remained at 13 percent.

Santa Clara	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload	751		712	
Entered Employments	559		503	
Terminations	280	50 %	279	55 %
Reductions	279	50 %	97	19 %
Average Wage	\$6.70		\$7.26	
Retentions	343	61 %	322	64 %
Health Benefits	163	29 %	164	34 %

Grant terminations were mainly RCA cases.

Yolo	FY 1998		FY 1999	
Caseload			168	
Entered Employments			168	
Terminations			6	4 %
Reductions			162	96 %
Average Wage			\$6.66	
Retentions			152	90 %
Health Benefits			84	100 %

(b) The California Initiative

The California Initiative is a cooperative effort between the Office of Refugee Resettlement, the

Discretionary Grants

Alternative Projects for Comprehensive Refugee Resettlement Services

In FY 1999, eight grants totaling \$8,143,592 were awarded for Alternative Projects for Comprehensive Refugee Resettlement Services. Alternative Projects are designed to provide interim financial assistance, support services, and case management to newly arriving refugees in a manner that encourages refugee self-sufficiency and that fosters coordination among resettlement agencies and other service providers. Under this program the following agencies received funding:

- Catholic Charities, Diocese of San Diego, California, in partnership with International Rescue Committee, Jewish Family Services, and Alliance for African Assistance, was awarded \$2,600,000.
- Colorado Department of Human Services, in partnership with Lutheran Refugee Services, Ecumenical Refugee Services, Jewish Family Services, Rocky Mountain Survivor Center, and Spring Institute for International Studies; was awarded \$1,793,435.
- Mountain States Group, Inc.; Idaho, in partnership with World Relief, Immigration and Refugee Services, and Episcopal Migration Ministries, was awarded \$943,737.
- Catholic Community Services of Baton Rouge, Inc., Louisiana; was awarded \$253,867.
- Maryland Department of Human Resources, in partnership with International Rescue Committee, Lutheran Social Services, Immigration and Refugee Services of America, and Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, was awarded \$699,502.

- North Dakota Department of Human Services, in partnership with Lutheran Social Services, was awarded \$420,633.
- Associated Catholic Charities, Oklahoma, in partnership with the YWCA, was awarded \$235,520.
- Immigration and Refugee Services of America/Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program was awarded \$1,196,898.

The Alternative projects located in Colorado, Idaho, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and Vermont are Statewide projects; the projects in San Diego, California; Baton Rouge, Louisiana and Baltimore, serve specific localities. The eight projects are implementing a range of approaches to providing coordinated interim financial assistance and services as well as a range of employment incentives to encourage early employment. In all projects, financial assistance and services are provided both to refugees who are eligible for RCA and to refugees who are eligible for TANF

FY 1999 Community Service Employment Program

ORR instituted a new grant program, Community Service Employment (CSE), in FY 1998. There are communities across this country with large concentration of refugees, many of whom entered the United States over a decade ago. For some refugees, language skills, cultural barriers, the lack of financial resources, and years of relying on public assistance have isolated them from the mainstream, limited their employment opportunities, and hindered integration into American communities. ORR awarded \$11,583,765 to seven continuation and four new grantees to provide community service employment for refugees who have experienced long-term difficulties in assimilation into American communities. The grants increased support to communities with large concentrations of refugees whose cultural

differences made assimilation especially difficult.

The eleven grantees are:

Continuations

- Arab American & Chaldean Council, Lathrup Village, MI, \$214,000.
- Cambodian Association of America, Inc., Long Beach, CA, \$3,815,093.
- Cambodian MAA of Greater Lowell, Inc., \$263,000.
- Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission, Fresno, CA, \$3,785,359.
- Jewish Vocational Service, Kansas City, MO, \$443,195.
- LaMaestra Family Clinic, Inc., San Diego, CA, \$723,118.
- Wisconsin Dept. of Workforce Development, Madison, WI, \$723,118.

New

- Lutheran Social Services of New England, Inc., Natick, MA, \$452,804
- Cambodian Community of Greater Fall River, Inc., Fall River, MA, \$423,844
- Merced Lao Family Community, Inc. of Merced, CA, \$489,500
- Lao Khmu Association, Inc. of Stockton, CA, \$306,898

Preventive Health

ORR published a new program announcement in FY 1999. Applicants were designated by State Refugee Coordinators' or governors' offices. Thirty-seven projects were funded through

awards totaling \$4,670,105 to 36 States and the City of New York Department of Health. Through this program, ORR ensures outreach and access for newly arrived refugees to screening for contagious diseases.

The actual refugee health screening is billed either to Medicaid or RMA depending on eligibility and time of screening. In some areas, follow-up, treatment, and informational services were also provided through the preventive health funds. State Refugee Coordinators reported 58,742 preventive health screenings provided with RMA reimbursement in FY 1999.

Individual Development Account Program

Individual development accounts are matched savings accounts available for the purchase of specific assets. Under this program, the matching funds, together with the refugee's own savings, are available for fulfilling one (or more) of five savings goals. The five savings goals are: (1) home purchase or renovation; (2) microenterprise capitalization; (3) education or training; (4) purchase of an automobile if necessary to maintain or upgrade employment; and (5) purchase of a computer in support of a refugee's education or training.

Under the ORR-funded program, grantees provide matched savings accounts to refugees whose income is less than 200 percent of the poverty level and whose assets, exclusive of a personal residence, are less than \$10,000. Grantees may provide matches of up to \$2 for every \$1 deposited by a refugee in a savings account. The total match amount provided may not exceed \$2,000 for individuals or \$4,000 for households. Upon entering an IDA program, a refugee signs a savings plan agreement. The agreement specifies the Savings Goal, the match rate, and the amount the refugee will save each month.

The IDA grantees also provide basic financial training to the refugees who enroll. The financial training is intended to assist refugees

in understanding the American financial system. The IDA grantees also provide training focused on the specific savings goals. The specialized training ensures that refugees receive appropriate information on purchasing and managing their savings goal. For example, training is provided on how to purchase a home and refugees saving to start a microenterprise are assisted in developing business plans.

In FY 1999, ORR awarded grants totaling \$5,324,364 to sixteen non-profit organizations to establish Individual Development Account (IDA) programs for refugees. The IDA grantees are located in California, Florida, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin.

The following agencies received grants under this program:

- Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, San José, California was awarded \$252,320.
- Catholic Charities/Diocese of San Diego, San Diego, California was awarded \$270,445.
- El Rescate, Los Angeles, California was awarded \$311,306.
- Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission, Inc., Fresno, California was awarded \$262,461.
- Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Miami, Inc., Miami, Florida was awarded \$400,000.
- Lutheran Social Services of Northeast Florida, Jacksonville, Florida was awarded \$400,000.
- Institute for Social and Economic Development, Iowa City, Iowa was awarded \$400,000.

- Jewish Family and Vocational Service, Louisville, Kentucky was awarded \$449,000.
- International Institute of Metropolitan St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri was awarded \$162,010.
- New York Association of New Americans, Inc., New York, New York was awarded \$400,000.
- Jewish Family Services, Columbus, Ohio was awarded \$262,500.
- Lutheran Family Service of Oregon and Southwest Washington, Portland, Oregon was awarded \$118,051.
- Women's Opportunities Resource Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania was awarded \$400,000.
- Alliance for Multicultural Community Services, Houston, Texas was awarded \$436,271.
- Lao Family Community, Inc., Milwaukee, Wisconsin was awarded \$400,000.
- Wisconsin Community Action Program Association, Inc., Madison, Wisconsin was awarded \$400,000.



**Summary Of Targeted Assistance
Discretionary Grants FY 1999**

**TAG Ten Percent Employment -
Continuations**

ORR awarded 26 grants totaling \$11,212,491 to States to implement special employment services which cannot be met with formula social services or with TAG formula grants.

- Twelve distinct projects providing employment and microenterprise development services, California, \$2,401,564
- English language training/technical assistance, Colorado, \$351,355
- Enhanced employment services, Florida, \$200,000
- Language & employment for older persons, women, youth, families in remote areas, Idaho, \$231,577
- Coalition providing electronic assembly training & placement; Illinois
- JVS providing job placement services, \$420,000
- Specialized employment services, Iowa, \$200,000
- Collaboration providing microenterprise development, Kentucky, \$120,000
- Catholic Charities of New Orleans; VESL project, Louisiana, \$113,907
- Collaboration providing employment and family strengthening services, Maine, \$100,000
- ESL for elderly refugees, Maryland, \$131,003
- Two distinct projects: 1 provides a continuum of services to Cambodian families & 1 microenterprise training and loan program, Massachusetts, \$853,600
- Two distinct projects: 1 providing employment services and 1 providing a range of services to refugees, Michigan, \$398,730
- Nursing Assistant Training, Minnesota, \$119,533
- Employment services and a range of educational services, Mississippi, \$100,000
- Range of services to refugees in the City of St. Louis, Missouri, \$200,000
- Collaboration providing employment services and community education, New Jersey, \$299,122
- Microenterprise development project, New York, \$124,688
- Coalition providing microenterprise development, North Carolina, \$121,864
- Collaborative effort providing job linking services, North Dakota, \$212,500
- Collaboration providing a microenterprise development program, Oregon, \$176,247
- Collaboration of Mutual Assistance Associations providing employment and training, Pennsylvania, \$220,000
- Range of services provided by Lutheran Social Services, South Dakota, \$120,000
- Joint venture providing microenterprise development, Tennessee, \$160,934
- Refugee family violence project, Texas, \$171,952

- Employment service projects; one for youth, one for women, youth/young adults, Washington, \$367,425
- Collaboration providing an array of self-sufficiency services, Wisconsin, \$3,373,582

Microenterprise Development Initiative

In FY 1999, ORR awarded 16 continuation awards, consisting of eight direct grant awards and eight as part of a State's targeted assistance grant award. In addition, ORR awarded one third-year grant to provide technical assistance to ORR microenterprise grantees. The awards totaled \$2,380,112. The awards to direct grantees for the third and final project year totaled \$940,167. The eight awards for the second and final project year totaled \$1,332,945. The grant for technical assistance was \$107,000.

These projects are intended for recently arrived refugees on public assistance who either possess few personal assets or lack a credit history meeting commercial lending standards. They are also intended for refugees who have been in the U.S. for several years and who wish to supplement salaried income. Microenterprise projects typically include components of training and technical assistance in business skills, credit, administration of revolving loan funds, and business management seminars.

Since the program's inception in September, 1991, ORR has provided funding for 17 three-year microenterprise development projects that have achieved outcomes accumulated from the beginning of the program to September 30, 1998.

Client Businesses: Seven hundred ninety-eight (798) businesses have been developed under this program. Of these, 639 were new businesses and 159 were expansions of existing businesses. Fifty-three percent of the businesses were in service industries, 24 percent in retail and 10

percent in manufacturing. Eighty-nine percent were still operating as of September 30, 1999.

Loan Funds: Since 1991, the ORR programs generated funds for loans that totaled \$3,012,118, representing 414 business loans at an average loan amount of \$7,276 to refugee entrepreneurs. ORR provided \$1,182,215 of this amount in loan capital, leveraging an additional \$1,829,903 in other sources of funding. The default rate represented 1.6 percent of the amount of money loaned and 1.7 percent of the number of loans.

Client Characteristics: Over 4,617 refugees have participated in the training programs of group or individual technical assistance. At the time of entry into training, 33 percent had been in the U.S. less than two years; another 37 percent had been in the U.S. 2-5 years. Twenty-five percent had been in the U.S. over five years. About 64 percent were competent in English while 36 percent had little or no English language skills. The largest ethnic groups in the training classes were: Vietnamese (37 percent), Soviets (23 percent), Laotian (7 percent), Hmong (8 percent), Ethiopian (4 percent), Bosnian (4 percent), and Somalis (2 percent).

Thirty-three percent of the participants were women and 67 percent were men, with some clients not noted. Married clients equaled 68 percent and singles equaled 32. Thirty-seven percent had owned businesses prior to entry into the ORR program.

Grants have been awarded as follows:

Ethiopian Community Development Council Arlington, VA	\$124,595
Fresno County Economic Opportunity Commission, Fresno, CA	\$157,000
Coastal Enterprises Portland, ME	\$149,710

nt	Chinatown Manpower Project New York, NY	\$150,000
is	Jewish Family and Vocational Services of Middlesex County Edison, NJ	\$88,862
d	New York Association for New Americans, New York, NY	\$150,000
at	Economic and Employment Development Center, Los Angeles, CA	\$120,000
e	Institute for Social and Economic Development, Iowa City, IA	\$107,000
of	State of Wisconsin ADVOCAP, Inc; Community Action Programs Services, Inc.; Wisconsin Dairyland Economic Opportunity Council; and Wisconsin United Coalition of Mutual Assistance Association	\$300,000
e	State of California Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission	224,700
n	Sacramento Employment and Training Agency in contract with Interfaith Service Bureau	79,200
7	State of Massachusetts Jewish Vocational Service Center and Vietnamese Aid in Boston	150,000
r-	State of Oregon Mercy Corps International and International Refugee Center of OR	176,247
e	State of Kentucky Catholic Charities of Louisville in contract with Jewish Family and Vocational Service in Louisville	120,000
h	State of North Carolina Self-Help	121,864
e	State of Tennessee	160,934

World Relief in Nashville and Tennessee
Network for Community Economic
Development

**English Language Training (ELT),
Technical Assistance**

In FY 1999, under the Targeted Assistance
Discretionary Grant Program, ORR provided
\$227,520 to the Colorado Refugee Services
Program to subcontract to the Spring Institute
for International Studies to continue the
technical assistance and consultations to English
language training (ELT) programs around the
country. Technical assistance and training are
provided by a network of seven partners
including the Center for Applied Linguistics
(CAL); the Refugee Education and Employment
Program (REEP) in Virginia; the Minnesota
Department of Children, Families and Learning;
the Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment
System (CASAS) in California; the International
Institute of St. Louis, Missouri; the California
Department of Social Services, Refugee
Programs Branch; and the Spring Institute.

**Community and Family Strengthening and
Integration FY 1999 Funds**

ORR provided 25 new grants and continued 14
additional projects, with awards totaling
\$7,809,075 to public and private non-profit
organizations. Community and Family
Strengthening and Integration projects are
designed to serve refugees in the areas of
English language training, parent-school
relationships, intergenerational relationship,
youth development, crime prevention, spouse
and child abuse intervention, citizenship
promotion, and community activities. These
grantees committed to share up to 40 percent of
the costs of these projects.

- Catholic Charities of Santa Clara --
education, support and counseling for
Vietnamese families, California,
\$250,000

- International Rescue Committee, San Diego -- classes for mothers and children, California, \$240,000
- International Rescue Committee/San Jose -- organizational development for Bosnian MAAs, California, \$248,562
- Alliance for African Assistance, San Diego -- community strengthening, California, \$160,000
- World Relief Corporation/Sacramento and Stockton -- life skills and literacy training for men, women, and youth, California, \$350,000
- Jewish Family and Child Services, East Bay -- (with Afghan Coalition, Asian Community Mental Health Services, and Cambodian Council) youth leadership, women's development, intra-family violence intervention and volunteers, California, \$286,148
- Jewish Family & Children/Great San Francisco -- family strengthening for former Soviet refugees through language and self-advocacy, California, \$297,764
- Refugee Transitions/IRC San Francisco - - (with IRC) Bosnian literacy and community support in the East Bay area, California, \$96,507
- SEARAC -- (with four local MAAs) community strengthening through SNAP (Successful New Americans Project), District of Columbia, \$299,995
- National Crime Prevention Council -- promote refugee law enforcement relations, reduce intra-family violence, and develop refugee youth leadership, National, \$348,924
- Catholic Charities Legal Services, Inc., Miami -- community outreach, case management, and technical assistance regarding legal rights and services, Florida, \$192,770
- Refugee Women's Network, Inc., Georgia, \$362,805
- Bridging the Gap Project, Inc., Atlanta -- liaison among refugees and law enforcement and public housing systems, Georgia, \$249,522
- New Comer's Network, Atlanta -- school liaison for refugee youth, Georgia, \$185,400
- Family Resource, Inc. -- language access and interpreter capacity-building, Iowa, \$145,957
- Catholic Charities of Kansas -- youth services, Kansas, \$88,698
- IRC/Boston -- school and youth support, Massachusetts, \$200,000
- Association Advancement of Hmong Women, Twin cities -- (with Centre for Asian Pacific Islanders, Lao Assistance Center, Lao PTA, and Southeast Asian Community Council) family support and education services and access to public services through the development of bilingual case workers, Minnesota, \$250,000
- International Institute, Minneapolis -- English training, parenting education, and citizenship preparation for Sudanese women, Minnesota
- Catholic Social Services, Charlotte -- ELT for homebound and after school

mentoring programs for refugee youth, North Carolina, \$107,500

- Lincoln Interfaith Council -- Iraqi community development and citizenship services, Nebraska, \$137,063
- Southern Sudan Community Association -- community and family strengthening, Nebraska, \$208,340
- Jewish Family and Vocational Service of North Middlesex county, New Jersey, 250,000
- Tolentine-Zeiser Community Life Center, Bronx, New York, \$75,000
- NYANA -- comprehensive family programming for Bukharan refugee community, New York, \$250,000
- HIAS, New York, \$153,073
- Catholic Charities of Syracuse -- improves access to domestic violence intervention and parental understanding of child protective services. New York, \$100,000
- International Institute of Buffalo (with Concerned Ecumenical Ministry) family services including domestic violence response, school liaison, and legal and immigration services, New York, \$200,000
- National Coalition for Haitian Rights -- civil rights and responsibilities project to improve Haitian/law enforcement relations, New York, \$250,000
- Jewish Family Services, Columbus -- (with Community Refugee and Immigration Services) parent-school liaison, family violence prevention and Somali youth services, Ohio. \$154,447
- Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (supporting Russian Oregon Social Services - ROSS) MAA - development to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate counseling, Oregon, \$221,932
- IRCO-International Refugee Center -- domestic violence intervention, Oregon, \$125,000
- International Institute of Erie -- child care development, Pennsylvania, \$145,400
- City of Providence -- comprehensive Southeast Asian refugee youth services. Rhode Island, \$250,000
- Refugee and Immigration Services -- school liaison and youth development, Virginia, \$229,954
- Central Seattle Community Health Centers (with Refugee Women's Alliance and Somali Community Services) family and community strengthening for hard-to-serve refugees, Washington, \$230,000
- Hmong Education Advancements, Milwaukee (With Hmong American Women's Association. University of Wisconsin-extension and Neighborhood House parenting and youth service, Wisconsin, \$187,601
- Wausau Area Hmong MAA, Wisconsin, \$80,413
- Lacrosse Area Hmong MAA -- youth and family services, including gang prevention, citizenship and elderly programs, Wisconsin, \$200,000

ORR Standing Announcement

In FY 1999 the Office of Refugee Resettlement, seeking to assure that refugees are welcomed in their U.S. communities of resettlement with sufficient services to begin their new lives, revised and reissued the standing announcement with the following categories: Category 1, Preferred Communities; Category 2, Unanticipated Arrivals; Category 3, Community Orientation; Category 5, Mental Health Services; and Category 6, Ethnic Community Organizations.

This announcement provides for two application dates each year, January 31 and June 30.

Category 1: Preferred Communities

In Category 1, ORR seeks to promote opportunities for refugee self-sufficiency and effective resettlement. To that end, funds are made available for grants to voluntary agencies to increase placements of newly arriving refugees in preferred communities where there is a history of low welfare utilization and a favorable earned income potential relative to the cost of living.

In FY 1999, ORR awarded ten continuation grants totaling \$2,824,499 to national voluntary agencies to enhance entry level services in preferred communities with good employment opportunities needed by newly arriving refugees.

Two third-year continuations were awarded to the following:

- Immigration and Refugee Services of America, Colchester, VT; Manchester, NH; Twin Falls, ID; Erie, PA; Bowling Green, KY, \$304,978
- United States Catholic Conference, Grand Rapids, MI; Lansing, MI; Lincoln, NE;

Memphis TN; Mobile, AL; Phoenix, AZ; Pittsburgh, PA; Richmond, VA; Rockford, IL; Amarillo, TX, \$345,636

Eight second-year continuations were awarded to:

- Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society: Episcopal Ministries, Concord and Franklin, NH; Fargo and Bismark, ND; Tucson, AZ; Boise, ID; and Lexington, KY, \$473,124
- Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc., Arlington, VA, \$129,145
- Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, Tucson, AZ; Greensboro, NC; and Richmond, VA, \$176,500
- International Rescue Committee, Tucson and Phoenix, AZ; and Atlanta, GA, \$222,650
- International Rescue Committee, Dallas, TX; Baltimore, MD; Charlottesville, VA; and West New York, NJ, \$276,703
- Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, Sioux Falls, SD; Baltimore, MD; Atlanta, GA; Mechanicsburg, PA; Greensboro, NC; and Utica, NY, \$402,039
- National Council of Churches/Church World Service, Grand Rapids, MI; New Windsor, MD; Houston, TX; Lincoln, NE; Austin, TX; and Buffalo, NY, \$273,371
- World Relief Corporation, Atlanta, GA; Tampa, FL; and Nashville, TN, \$220,353

Also, ORR awarded supplemental funding totaling \$951,174, to provide special services under the Preferred Communities Initiative to newly arriving refugees that are HIV positive. These HIV sites are Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, Brooklyn, San Diego, and Minneapolis.

Category 2: Unanticipated Arrivals

The Unanticipated Arrivals program is intended to provide resources that bridge the gap between the arrival of refugees and the time when their numbers are included in the population-based formula social service funds. Situations that Unanticipated Arrivals funding are intended to mediate include those where bilingual staff are needed for new arrivals, where refugee services do not exist, and where available services are not sufficient to meet the needs of the additional refugees.

In FY 1999, ORR awarded thirteen grants totaling \$2,539,101 to provide services for a significant and unanticipated increase in the number of arriving refugees. They are as follows:

- Alliance for Multicultural Community Services, Texas, \$168,000; to provide case management and employment services to Kosovar refugees in Houston
- Church Avenue Merchants Association, New York, \$209,550; to provide intensive case management, language interpretation and social adjustment services to Kosovar refugees in New York City
- Dane County Human Services, Wisconsin, \$161,500; to provide intensive case management, ESL, and employment assistance to Kosovar refugees in Madison
- Hennepin County Welfare Department, Minnesota, \$250,000; to provide outreach and linkage to county and community resources to assist East African refugees and secondary migrants from Somalia and Ethiopia in resettlement in Minneapolis
- International Institute of Minnesota, \$250,528; to provide case management, community orientation, and employment services to newly arriving and secondary migrant African refugees (including Somalis and Ethiopians) in Minneapolis/St Paul
- International Institute of New Hampshire, Manchester, New Hampshire, \$173,619; to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services to address issues facing African refugees in the following areas: ESL, health, orientation, legal issues, social adjustment, and employment
- International Rescue Committee, Arizona, \$109,115; to provide enhanced orientation, employment counseling, assistance with medical appointments, housing, and school registration and benefit applications for Kosovar refugees resettling in Phoenix
- International Rescue Committee, Georgia, \$158,952; to provide extended social adjustment services, medical and employment-related interpretation, ESL, and child care for Kosovar refugees in Atlanta
- International Rescue Committee, New York, \$395,072; to provide case management, ESL, employment services, community outreach, and assistance with immigration issues and translation services to Kosovar refugees resettling in New York
- Jewish Family Services, Inc., Wisconsin, \$226,617; to provide case management, interpreter services, ESL, employment, mental health, and advocacy to Bosnians and Kosovar refugees in Milwaukee.
- Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, New York, \$262,892; to provide VESL classes in Staten Island, Queens, and Manhattan to refugees from Sierra Leone and Liberia, as well as culturally and linguistically appropriate case management, employment services, and transportation.
- Tolentine Zeiser Community Life Center, Inc. New York; \$101,616; to provide

orientation and related services, interpreter services for medical care, hospitals, and mental health services, child care services, and pre-employment counseling to Kosovar refugees in the Bronx.

- Western Kentucky Mutual Assistance Association, Kentucky, \$71,640; to provide case management, ESL, and employment services to Kosovar refugees resettling in Bowling Green.

Category 3: Community Orientation

In FY 1999, ORR funded 11 community orientation projects (4 new and 7 continuations) for a total \$1,298,669. These are:

- Lutheran Family Services of Oregon, Portland, OR, \$100,000; to provide orientation to newly arriving--18 months or less-- refugees on health and social services available in Oregon and Southwest Washington to ensure access to these services. The project will serve as a bridge between refugee communities and health and social service providers. The majority of the targeted refugees are Russians, with a small number of Bosnians.
- National Alliance of Vietnamese-American Service Agencies (NAVASA) in cooperation with five local Vietnamese mutual assistance associations (St Paul, MN; Springfield, MA; Oklahoma City, OK; Montgomery County, MD; and San Francisco, CA), \$260,000; to provide orientation and social adjustment services to newly arriving Vietnamese refugees admitted under the Resettlement of Vietnamese Returnees (ROVR) provision. With local staff's training and supervision, volunteer mentors will be recruited to assist new refugees.
- U.S. Catholic Conference (USCC) Las Vegas, NV; Lansing, MI; and St Louis, MO, \$69,423; to incorporate orientation materials into ESL classes for newly

arriving refugees in Las Vegas; provide additional focus on at-risk refugees, such as women, elderly and disabled refugees, in Lansing; and assist Bosnian refugees in St. Louis.

- HIAS for Phoenix, AZ, \$27,313; to design, test, and implement an orientation curriculum appropriate to newly arriving African refugees. The new curriculum will be made available to other service providers.

Seven community orientation projects, funded in 1998, were provided continuation grants in FY 1999:

- Kurdish Human Rights Watch, Inc. (KHRW), Fairfax, VA, \$102,597; to provide cultural orientation to newly arriving Kurdish refugees and assylees at 18 sites throughout the U.S., and to conduct cross-cultural training for refugees service providers. Staff from KHRW offices in Fairfax, VA and San Diego provide services.
- International Service Center, Harrisburg, PA \$170,628; to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate orientation programs for newly arriving refugees and cultural awareness training for service providers; to identify and provide specialized orientation for new ethnic communities and at-risk refugees such as the elderly, homebound women and youth.
- Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc., Arlington, VA, \$105,000; to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate orientation and training to newly arrived refugees; to conduct orientation for service providers and to promote the integration of the refugees through various media and activities involving interaction between the refugees and the community at large.
- The African Community Resource Center (ACRC), Los Angeles, CA \$150,000; to

influence orientation and youth project for African refugee youth 12-18 years of age who are resettled in two sites: Los Angeles and San Diego, CA.

- Ethiopian Community Development Center (ECDC), Virginia \$105,000; to conduct outreach to newly arrived refugees from Africa via a weekly radio program, monthly newsletter, cross-cultural orientation to 200 refugees, and workshops for service providers. A mentoring program will be established between arriving African refugee families and African-American families.
- USCC/Washington, D.C. National Office \$111,963; to fund four affiliates for delivery of outreach and orientation services to newly arrived refugees and to provide a mechanism for the new ethnic organizations to develop their own community organizations. The four affiliates are located in Atlanta, GA; Portland, ME; Baton Rouge, LA; San Diego, CA.
- USCC/Washington, D.C., National Office, \$117,521; to fund three affiliates in Louisville, KY; Orlando, FL; and Phoenix, AZ for delivery of outreach and orientation services to newly arrived refugees.

Category 4: Technical Assistance for Employment Services

In a continuing effort to improve employment services and to increase the capacity of employment service providers to help refugees attain employment, ORR awarded a cooperative agreement to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, New York, New York for \$256,014 for technical assistance and training to refugee employment service providers. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, in collaboration with their subcontractor, Refugee Works, provides technical assistance and training nationwide to refugee employment service providers. Technical assistance was provided by identifying model and best practices for providing employment services to refugees,

by conducting on-site analysis of employment services and providing the TA needed to improve outcomes, and by providing training in basic employment services skills to newly hired or less experienced staff, to agencies experiencing staff turnover, or to agencies which lack expertise in employment services.

Category 5: Mental Health

Newly arriving refugees come with anticipation of their new lives. They also have difficult adjustments with the resettlement experience. Some may arrive having experienced severe trauma related to their flight. ORR supported the following activities under the Mental Health program: 1) training and ongoing consultation for direct service workers to increase their knowledge and skill in working with refugees experience distress, 2) orientation programs for refugees to U.S. mental health services, 3) orientation for mainstream mental health professionals to refugees and refugee programs, and 4) clinical services to refugees of populations new to U.S. communities where there is little understood about their cultures and mental health characteristics.

Awards under the mental health program were given to:

- East Dallas Counseling Center, Dallas, TX \$133,185
- Survivors International of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA \$ 62,966
- Catholic Social Services, Archdiocese of Mobile, Mobile AL \$ 31,439
- United States Catholic Conference, Washington, DC \$ 30,442
- Catholic Charities of Syracuse, Syracuse, NY \$25,000
- Catholic Charities of Portland, Portland, ME \$29,560

- Child & Family Services of the Pioneer Valley, Springfield, MA \$119,622
- Catholic Charities of Boston, Boston, MA \$35,457
- Bethany Christian Services of Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids, MI \$150,000
- International Institute of New Jersey, Newark, NJ \$131,620
- International Institute of Boston, Boston, MA \$272,117
- Arab-American & Chaldean Council, Southfield, MI \$250,000
- Catholic Charities of San Diego, San Diego, CA \$106,427
- Center for Victims of Torture \$200,000
- Alliance for African Assistance \$100,000
- United State Catholic Conference \$77,228
- Richmond VA affiliate
- International Rescue Committee \$84,229
- Phoenix AZ affiliate
- Hmong American Women's Association. \$75,000
- Hmong National Development \$31,000
- Asian Americans for Community Involvement \$128,861
- Lutheran Family Services of OR & SW WA \$55,431
- United States Catholic Conference \$126,660
- Affiliates in Louisville KY and Davenport, IA
- Khmer Health Advocates \$63,220
- Chicago Health Outreach \$100,000
- Victims Services \$298,921
- Regents of the University of Minnesota \$168,144
- New York School of Medicine/Bellevue Hospital \$199,864
- Immigration and Refugee Services of America \$350,000
- Mountain States Group of Boise, ID \$135,179
- Jewish Family Services of Gulf Coast, Clearwater, FL \$91,799
- PA Department of Public Welfare \$182,500

Category 6: Ethnic Community Organizations

ORR supported five national and 8 local ethnic organizational projects with awards, totaling \$1,963,978. The organizations provided self-help networks, developed newsletters and web sites to enhance ethnic community communication, and conducted needs assessments and leadership training as follows:

Nationals

- Kurdish Human Rights Watch, Vienna, VA -- \$300,000
- Ethiopian Community Development Center, Arlington, VA -- \$175,000
- Free Iraq Foundation, Washington, DC -- \$223,890
- National Coalition for Haitian Rights, New York, NY -- \$170,000

- Kurdish Human Rights Watch San Diego, CA -- \$134,164
- Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society: Episcopal Ministries, \$180,000
- Bay Area Somali Consortium, CA -- \$103,365
- Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc., \$190,000
- Somalian Women's Association, Minneapolis, MN -- \$155,000
- Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, \$200,000
- Iraqi Community Association of San Francisco, CA -- \$189,634
- Iowa Department of Human Services, \$409,500
- Mohawk Valley Resource Center, NY, Bosnian organizing -- \$68,400
- International Rescue Committee, \$373,750
- Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, \$413,000
- ROZA Promotions, Staten Island, NY, Liberian organizing -- \$100,000
- National Council of Churches/Church World Service, \$257,860

Other

ORR has awarded additional, unrelated grants, contracts and interagency agreement grants totaling \$479,194 to support the services awards granted above.

- SEARAC, Washington, DC, Conference for contract, planning and support, \$358,194
- Arnold H. Leibowitz for a study on citizenship as it relates to current refugee populations, \$21,000
- Victim Services Inc, specialized services for survivors of torture who seek treatment in the greater New York City area, \$100,000

Kosovar Refugee Emergency Grants

ORR awarded \$3,112,944 to public and private non-profit agencies who resettle newly arriving refugees under a Reception and Placement cooperative agreement with the Department of State to augment the refugee resettlement program for Kosovar refugees.

The following national voluntary agencies received Kosovo Refugee Emergency Grants:

- United States Catholic Conference, \$776,250
- World Relief Corporation, \$260,214

Education Grants

ORR awarded 32 grants totaling \$17,806,687 to State education agencies, including the District of Columbia public schools, to assist local education agencies that are impacted by enrollment of large numbers of refugee children. These grants provide support for supplementary instruction to refugee students, fostering parents/schools partnership and assistance to teachers and other school staff in improving their understanding refugee children and their families. The following states received grants under this program:

- Arizona Department of Education \$296,020
- California Department of Education, \$2,016,380
- Colorado Department of Education, \$353,575
- Connecticut Department of Education, \$387,706

- District of Columbia Public Schools, \$1,500,000
\$249,849
- Florida Department of Education, \$2,000,000
- Georgia Department of Education, \$400,000
- Iowa Department of Education, \$250,000
- Idaho Department of Education, \$150,000
- Illinois State Board of Education, \$1,250,000
- Kansas Department of Education, \$250,000
- Kentucky Department of Education, \$250,000
- Louisiana Department of Education, \$250,000
- Massachusetts Department of Education, \$500,000
- Maine Department of Education, \$100,000
- Michigan Department of Education, \$1,000,000
- Minnesota Department of Children/Families & Learning \$1,000,000
- Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education \$400,000
- North Dakota Department of Public Instruction¹ \$170,000
- Nebraska Department of Education \$100,000
- Nevada Department of Education \$100,000
- New York Department of Education, \$400,000
- Ohio Department of Education, \$400,000
- Oklahoma Department of Education, \$105,569
- Oregon Department of Education, \$400,000
- Pennsylvania Department of Education, \$1,000,000
- South Dakota Department of Education & Cultural Affairs, \$130,000
- Texas State Education Agency, \$400,000
- Utah State Board of Education, \$250,000
- Virginia Department of Education, \$400,000
- Vermont Department of Education, \$100,000
- Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, \$1,647,588

Elderly Refugees

ORR developed a new elderly refugee discretionary grant program in FY 1999 that expects to bring together refugee service providers and mainstream agencies on aging to coordinate programs for older refugees. Approximately \$5.7 million was awarded to 25 states to establish and/or expand working relationships with State and Area Agencies on Aging to insure that older refugees would be linked to local community mainstream aging programs. Grants were awarded to Minnesota, Massachusetts, Ohio, Montana, Arizona, Florida, Wisconsin, Colorado, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, Georgia, Missouri, Tennessee, Michigan, Washington, North Carolina, New Jersey, Oregon, Illinois,

California, Virginia, Nebraska, Iowa, and Texas.

The Catholic Legal Immigration Network, was awarded a grant of \$282,740 to provide on-site technical assistance to identify problems and develop solutions to linking together the aging and ORR service providing networks.

In addition, ORR continued its working relationship with Administration on Aging to identify ways in which both the aging and ORR networks could work together more effectively at the State and Local community levels to improve elderly refugees access to services.

Citizenship

ORR supported citizenship programs by providing continuation funding to 20 grantees in 18 states. The \$2.392 million in funding were awarded to the following S-tates: Michigan, California, New Jersey, Texas, Illinois, Massachusetts, Arizona, Mississippi, New York, Louisiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, Washington, Colorado, District of Columbia, Georgia, and Oregon.

The purpose of the program is to provide support for citizenship, education, and application programs for refugees who have met or are within one year of meeting the residency requirement to become citizens. Many of the programs help refugees who are hard to reach for existing citizenship programs and who have had historically low rates of naturalization because of language, cultural, or other barriers. These include preliterate refugees, elderly refugees who are non-English speakers and refugees with limited English and or literacy skills.

Mental Health: ORR - SAMHSA/CMHSA Intra-Agency Agreement

Technical Assistance for mental health activities with refugees is available to U.S. resettlement communities under an intra-agency agreement

with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Mental Health Services. Under this agreement, telephone consultation is available for communities on mental health treatment for refugee populations. Other activities conducted by the two SAMHSA professionals included: presentations at refugee-related conferences, consultation to ORR on mental health issues, consultation on mental health issues within SAMHSA, and technical assistance in local communities.

II. REFUGEES IN THE UNITED STATES

Population Profile

This section characterizes the Amerasian, asylee (from Northern Iraq), entrant, and refugee population (hereafter, referred to as refugees unless noted otherwise) in the United States, focusing primarily on those who have entered since 1983. All tables referenced by number appear in Appendix A.²

Nationality of United States Refugee Population

Southeast Asians³ remain the largest refugee group among recent arrivals. Of the approximately 1,638,000 refugees who have arrived in the United States since 1983, about 39 percent have fled from nations of Southeast Asia (refer to Table 1). Based on State Department figures for the period FY 1975 through FY 1999 (refer to Illustration 1 below), about 54 percent have fled from nations of Southeast Asia.

Vietnamese continue to be the majority refugee group from Southeast Asia, although the ethnic composition of the entering population has become more diverse over time. About 135,000 Southeast Asians fled to America at the time of the collapse of the Saigon government in 1975. Over the next four years, large numbers of boat people escaped Southeast Asia and were admitted to the U.S. The majority of these arrivals were Vietnamese. The Vietnamese share has declined gradually, however, especially since persons

from Cambodia and Laos began to arrive in larger numbers in 1980.

For the period FY 1983 through FY 1999, Vietnamese refugees made up 71 percent of refugee arrivals from Southeast Asia, while 18 percent were from Laos, and 11 percent were from Cambodia. Parenthetically, slightly less than half the refugees from Laos are from the highlands of that nation and are culturally distinct from the Lowland Lao. More recently, refugees from outside of Southeast Asia have arrived in larger numbers. Between FY 1988 and FY 1999, refugees arriving from the former Soviet Union have surpassed refugees arriving from Vietnam every year except FY 1991. More recently, in FY 1995, refugees from the former Soviet Union and Vietnam were surpassed by refugees arriving from Cuba. In FY 1998 and FY 1999, refugees from the former Yugoslavia eclipsed all other refugee groups.

² Tables do not include refugees who arrived prior to FY 1983. However, the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, U.S. Department of State, reports 805,644 arrivals for the period FY 1975 through FY 1982.

³ Southeast Asian refugees are almost entirely represented by Burmese, Cambodians, Laotians, and Vietnamese.

ILLUSTRATION 1: Summary of Refugee Admissions for FY 1975 - FY 1999

FISCAL	Africa	Eastern Asia	Eastern Europe	Soviet Union	Latin America	Near East Asia
1975	0	135,000	1,947	6,211	3,000	0
1976	0	15,000	1,756	7,450	3,000	0
1977	0	7,000	1,755	8,191	3,000	0
1978	0	20,574	2,245	10,688	3,000	0
1979	0	76,521	3,393	24,449	7,000	0
1980	955	163,799	5,025	28,444	6,662	2,231
1981	2119	131,139	6,704	13,444	2,017	3,829
1982	3326	73,522	10,780	2,756	602	6,269
Subtotal	6,400	622,555	33,605	101,633	28,281	12,429
1983-1999	65,423	633,582	166,225	425,664	40,321	93,699
Subtotal						
1975-1999	71,823	1,256,137	199,830	527,297	68,602	106,128
Grand Total						

Note: An additional 8,214 refugees were admitted between FY 1988 and FY 1993 under the Private Sector Initiative (PSI) for a total of 2,325,058.

Source: Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, U.S Department of State

Beginning with FY 1983, refugees from five countries represented 78 percent of all arrivals. Vietnamese refugees retain the largest share of arrivals (28 percent) followed by refugees from the former Soviet Union (27 percent), Cuba (nine percent), the former Yugoslavia (eight percent), and Laos (seven percent). For FY 1999, refugees from five countries represented 86 percent of all arrivals. The former Yugoslavia was in first place with 36 percent followed by Cuba with 21 percent followed by the former Soviet Union with 16 followed by Vietnam with nine percent and Somalia with four percent. Illustration 2 (below) highlights the top five rankings of arrivals by country of origin for the period FY 1983 through FY 1999, and FY 1999.

Cuba	3	2
Laos	5	-
Somalia	-	5
Soviet Union (former)	2	3
Vietnam	1	4
Yugoslavia (former)	4	1

Geographic Location of Refugees

Southeast Asian refugees have settled in every State and one territory of the United States (refer to Table 2). From FY 1983 through FY 1999, more Southeast Asians initially resettled in California than any other State (36 percent). For the same period, more non-Southeast Asians resettled in New York than any other State (20 percent). Illustration 3 (below) highlights the top five rankings for both Southeast Asian and non-Southeast Asian arrivals by State of initial resettlement for the period FY 1983 through FY 1999.

ILLUSTRATION 2: Arrivals by Country of Origin for FY 1983 through 1999, and FY 1999

Country of Origin	Arrivals for FY 1983 - FY 1999	Arrivals for FY 1999

The majority of refugees initially resettled in California were from Vietnam (40 percent) followed by refugees from the former Soviet Union (22 percent). Sixty-nine percent of the refugees initially resettled in New York were from the former Soviet Union followed by refugees from Vietnam (eight percent). Eighty percent of the refugees initially resettled in Florida were from Cuba and Haiti. Seventy-one percent were from Cuba (76 percent were entrants and 24 percent were refugees). Another nine percent were from Haiti (90 percent were entrants and 10 percent were refugees). In Texas, refugees from Vietnam (52 percent) and refugees from the former Yugoslavia (nine percent) made up the largest proportion. In the State of Washington, refugees from the former Soviet Union (40 percent) and refugees from Vietnam (30 percent) made up the largest proportion.

ILLUSTRATION 3: Rankings for Southeast Asian and Non-Southeast Asian Arrivals by State of Initial Resettlement for FY 1983 - FY 1999

State	S.E. Asian Arrivals	Non-S.E. Asian Arrivals
California	1	2
Florida	--	3
Illinois	-	4
Minnesota	4	-
New York	5	1
Texas	2	-
Washington	3	5

California and New York have resettled the greatest number of refugees to date (refer to Table 3). With the exception of FY 1984 and FY 1985, California followed by New York received the greatest number of refugees each fiscal year until FY 1995. In FY 1984 and FY 1985, California received the greatest number of refugees followed by Texas followed by New York. In FY 1995, FY 1996, FY 1998, and FY 1999 Florida received more refugees than California or New York. And in FY 1997, New York received the greatest number of refugees followed by California and Florida. Illustration 4 (below) highlights the top five rankings for all

arrivals by State of initial resettlement for FY 1983 through FY 1999 as well as for FY 1999.

ILLUSTRATION 4: Arrivals by State of Initial Resettlement for FY 1983 through 1999, and FY 1999

State	Arrivals for FY 1983 - FY 1999	Arrivals for FY 1999
California	1	3
Florida	3	1
New York	2	2
Texas	4	4
Washington	5	5

For FY 1999, the majority of arrivals initially resettled in the same five States. The majority of Florida arrivals were from Cuba (82 percent) followed by refugees from the former Yugoslavia (10 percent). Forty percent of the refugees initially resettled in New York were from the former Yugoslavia with another 36 percent from the former Soviet Union. The majority of California arrivals were from the former Soviet Union (36 percent) followed by refugees from Vietnam (24 percent). In Texas, refugees from the former Yugoslavia (47 percent) made up the largest proportion followed by refugees from Vietnam (23 percent). Sixty-six percent of the refugees initially resettled in Washington were from the former Soviet Union with another 18 percent from the former Yugoslavia. (Refer to Table 4

Secondary Migration

A number of explanations for secondary migration by refugees have been suggested: employment opportunities, the pull of an established ethnic community, more generous welfare benefits, better training opportunities, reunification with relatives, or a congenial climate.

The Refugee Assistance Amendments of 1982 amended the Refugee Act of 1980 (section 412(a)(3)) directing ORR to compile and maintain data on the secondary migration of

refugees within the United States. In response to this directive, ORR developed the Refugee State-of-Origin Report (ORR-11) for estimating secondary migration. Beginning with FY 1983, the principal use of the ORR-11 data has been to allocate ORR social service funds to States. The most recent compilation was September 30, 1999.

The method of estimating secondary migration is based on the first three digits of social security numbers which are assigned geographically in blocks by State. With the assistance of their sponsors, almost all arriving refugees apply for social security numbers immediately upon arrival in the United States. Therefore, the first three digits of a refugee's social security number are a good indicator of his or her initial State of residence in the U.S. (The current system replaced an earlier program in which blocks of social security numbers were assigned to Southeast Asian refugees during processing before they arrived in the U.S. The block of numbers reserved for Guam was used in that program, which ended in late 1979). If a refugee currently residing in California has a social security number assigned in Nevada, for example, the method treats that person as having moved from initial resettlement in Nevada to current residence in California.

States participating in the refugee program provide ORR-11 data for refugees currently receiving assistance or services in their programs (for the most recent three-year period). Compilation of ORR-11 data by all reporting States results in a 53 X 53 State (and territory) matrix which contains information on migration from each State to every other State. In effect, State A's report shows how many people have migrated in from other States, as well as how many people who were initially placed in State A are currently there. The reports from every other State, when combined, show how many people have left State A. The fact that the reports are based on current assistance or service populations means, of course, that coverage does not extend to all refugees who have entered since

1975. However, the bias of this method is toward refugees who have entered in the past three years, the portion of the refugee population of greatest interest to ORR.

Available information also indicates that much of the secondary migration of refugees takes place during their first few years after arrival and that the refugee population becomes relatively stabilized in its geographic distribution after an initial adjustment period. The matrix of all possible pairs of in- and out-migration between States can be summarized into total in- and out-migration figures reported for each State. Examination of the detailed State-by-State matrix showed several migration patterns: a strong movement in and out of California as well as a strong movement in and out of Florida; a strong movement into Iowa, Minnesota and Washington; a strong movement out of New Jersey, New York, and Texas; and some population exchange between contiguous or geographically close States (refer to Table 5).

Almost every State experienced both gains and losses through secondary migration. Twenty-two States gained additional refugees through secondary migration. California recorded the largest overall number of in-migrants and out-migrants (3,300). Washington recorded the largest number of in-migrants (2,199) along with a relatively small number of out-migrants (340). Minnesota and Iowa followed the same pattern as Washington. New York recorded the largest number of out-migrants (1,917) along with only a small number of in-migrants (81). Texas and New Jersey followed the same pattern as New York.

The largest net migration gain was recorded by the State of Washington (1,859). The primary sources for the migration into Washington were New York (490), California (378), Oregon (235), and Texas (184). The second and third largest net migration gains were recorded by Minnesota (1,571) and Iowa (1,216). The primary sources for the migration into Minnesota were California (324), Texas (247), Virginia

(133), and New York (122). The primary sources for migration into Iowa were New York (504), Illinois (319), California (157), and Texas (136).

The largest net migration loss was recorded by the State of New York (-1,836). The primary sources for the migration out of New York were Iowa (504), Washington (490), California (133), and Minnesota (122). The second and third largest net migration losses were recorded by New Jersey (-1,165) and Texas (-1,136). The primary sources for migration out of New Jersey were Texas (231), Georgia (141), Florida (106), and Arizona and Washington (both 72). The primary sources for migration out of Texas were California (287), Minnesota (247), Washington (181), and Iowa (136).

Economic Adjustment

Overview

The Refugee Act of 1980, and the Refugee Assistance amendments enacted in 1982 and 1986, stress the achievement of refugee employment and economic self-sufficiency as soon as possible after their arrival in the United States. This involves a balance among three elements: the employment potential of refugees, including their education, skills, English language competence, and health; the needs that they as individuals and members of families have for financial resources, whether for food, housing, or child-rearing; and the economic environment in which they settle, including the availability of jobs, housing, and other local resources. Past refugee surveys have found that the economic adjustment of refugees to the U.S. has been a successful and generally rapid process. During 1999, the process of refugee economic adjustment appears to have accelerated resulting in significantly higher employment and lower public service utilization, as discussed below.

Current Employment Status of Refugees

In 1999, ORR completed its 28th survey of a national sample of refugees selected from the population of all refugees who arrived between May 1, 1994, through April 30, 1999. Along with basic biographical information, the survey collected data on (1) education, (2) English language training, (3) job training, and (4) labor force participation of each adult member of the household. The survey also collected family housing, income, and welfare utilization data.

The 1999 survey indicates that refugees found employment at a higher rate than the general population of the U.S., and that they improve their economic circumstances over time. Employment rates have gone up, and unemployment rates as well as welfare utilization have gone down five consecutive years in a row. To evaluate the economic progress of refugees, ORR used three common measures of employment effort: the employment-to-population

ratio (or EPR), the labor force participation rate, and the unemployment rate.

Table 1 presents the EPR⁴ in October 1999 for refugees 16 and over in the five-year population. The survey found that the overall EPR for all refugees was 67 percent (72 percent for males and 61 percent for females). By contrast, the EPR for the U.S. population was only 64 percent in 1999. In addition, refugee employment appears to increase with each year of residence in the U.S. While the overall EPR for the 1999 arrivals was only 51 percent, the EPR of refugees who had arrived in previous years, i.e., 1995, reached 71 percent.⁵

From the 1999 data, ORR also calculated the labor force participation rate⁶ for refugees 16 and over in the five-year population (refer to Table 1). This rate is closely related to the EPR, except it includes individuals looking for work as well as

* ⁴ The **Employment-to-Population Ratio (EPR)**, also called the **employment rate**, is the ratio of the number of individuals age 16 or over who are employed (full- or part-time) to the total number of individuals in the population who are age 16 or over, expressed as a percentage.

⁵ The refugee sample population includes many refugees who have been in the country for only a short time and also excludes from the sample refugees who arrived before May 1994 (who are more likely to be residing in self-sufficient households).

⁶ The **labor force** consists of adults age 16 or over looking for work as well as those with jobs. The **labor force participation rate** is the ratio of the total number of persons in the labor force divided by the total number of persons in the population who are age 16 or over, expressed as a percentage.

TABLE 1 - Employment Status of Refugees by Year of Arrival and Sex

Year of Arrival	Employment Rate (EPR)			Labor Force Participation Rate			Unemployment Rate		
	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female
1999	50.9%	63.5%	37.1%	54.4%	67.2%	40.3%	6.6%	5.7%	8.3%
1998	63.2	68.6	57.3	66.8	71.6	61.5	5.5	4.4	6.9
1997	67.7	76.3	59.7	70.2	78.1	62.6	3.6	2.4	4.5
1996	67.8	71.8	63.6	69.3	74.3	64.2	2.3	3.3	1.1
1995	70.9	74.6	67.1	72.0	75.7	68.1	1.4	1.4	1.4
1994	66.8	72.0	61.5	69.0	74.0	63.9	3.2	2.8	3.6
Total Sample	66.8	72.3	61.1	68.9	74.4	63.3	3.1	2.9	3.4
U.S. Rates	64.3	71.6	57.4	67.1	74.7	60.0	4.2	4.1	4.3

Note: As of October 1999. Not seasonally adjusted. Data refer to refugees 16 and over in the five-year sample population consisting of Amerasians, Entrants, and Refugees of all nationalities who arrived in the years 1994-1999. U.S. rates are for 1999.

those currently employed. In October 1999, the overall labor force participation rate for the five-year refugee population was 69 percent (74 percent for males and 63 percent for females). Like the EPR, the labor force participation rate of refugees is higher than that of the U.S. population (67 percent in 1999). The overall labor force participation rate for the 1999 arrivals was 54 percent. It reached 72 percent for refugees who arrived in 1995.

A comparison of employment measures for each year, i.e., 1994 through 1999 (refer to Table 1) indicates that for 1999 arrivals, the EPR was 51 percent and the labor force participation rate was 54 percent, a difference of three percent.⁷ For FY 1994 arrivals, the difference between the EPR and

labor force participation dropped one percent. For all survey respondents, the difference between the EPR and labor force participation rate diminishes with time. Similarly, the unemployment rate⁸ drops with time. The survey found that the

⁷ The difference between the EPR and the labor force participation rate is the proportion of the adult population seeking employment but unable to find it.

⁸ The unemployment rate is a measure of the proportion of persons looking for work. Specifically, it is the ratio of the total number of adults age 16 and over who are looking for work to the total number of adults age 16 and older in the labor force, expressed as a percentage. (See footnote above for explanation on labor force.)

TABLE 2 - Employment Status of Refugees by Survey Year Administration and Sex

Year Survey Administered	Employment Rate (EPR)			Labor Force Participation Rate			Unemployment Rate		
	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female
1999 Survey	66.8	72.3	61.1	68.9	74.4	63.3	3.1	2.9	3.4
U.S. Rates	64.3	71.6	57.4	67.1	74.7	60.0	4.2	4.1	4.3
1998 Survey	56.0	62.8	49.3	59.1	66.6	52.8	5.2	4.7	5.7
U.S. Rates	64.1	71.6	57.1	67.1	74.9	59.8	4.5	4.4	4.6
1997 Survey	53.9	62.8	45.1	58.1	66.8	49.5	7.3	6.0	8.9
U.S. Rates	63.8	71.3	56.8	67.1	75.0	59.8	4.9	4.9	5.0
1996 Survey	51.0	58.6	43.4	57.4	65.4	49.4	11.2	10.4	12.2
U.S. Rates	63.2	70.9	56.0	66.8	74.9	59.3	5.4	5.4	5.4
1995 Survey	42.3	49.3	35.1	49.8	57.3	42.2	15.1	13.9	16.8
U.S. Rates	63.2	71.1	56.1	66.7	74.7	59.3	5.2	4.9	5.5

Note: As of October 1999, October 1998, October 1997, October 1996, and October 1995. Not seasonally adjusted. Data refer to refugees 16 and over in the five-year sample population consisting of Amerasians, Entrants, and Refugees of all nationalities who were interviewed as a part of the 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, and 1995 surveys. U.S. rates are for 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, and 1995.

unemployment rate for all refugees was three percent (the same for both males and females). The unemployment rate was seven percent for 1999 arrivals and three percent for FY 1994 arrivals. The overall unemployment rate for refugees was one percentage point lower than the unemployment rate for the U.S. (4.2 percent). A comparison of employment measures across the past five surveys demonstrates significant gains in refugee employment. The EPR reported in the FY 1999 survey is 11, 13, 16, and 25 percentage points higher than the EPR reported in the 1998, 1997, 1996, and 1995 surveys, respectively. Additional comparisons between the FY 1999 and FY 1995 surveys reveals that the labor force participation rate went up 19 percentage points and the unemployment rate dropped 12 percentage points (refer to Table 2).

By disaggregating the data, the EPR, the labor force participation rate, and the unemployment rate provide additional insights into the economic adjustment of refugees. Table 3 reveals significant differences between the employment

rates of the seven refugee groups formed from the survey respondents⁹. The EPR

⁹ The seven refugee groups are derived from the following countries or regions: Africa (Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, and Zaire), Latin America (Cuba and Haiti), the Middle East (Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, and Syria), Eastern Europe (Bosnia and Hercegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, and the former Yugoslavia), the former Soviet Union (Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan), Vietnam (including Amerasians), and Other Southeast Asia (Burma, Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand).

TABLE 3 - Employment Status of Selected Refugee Groups by Sex

Employment Measure	Africa	Latin America	Middle East	Eastern Europe	Former Soviet Union	Vietnam	Other S.E. Asia	All
Employment-to-Population Ratio (EPR)	59.7%	80.7%	70.8%	74.2%	50.5%	74.3%	38.0%	66.8%
-Males	59.5%	86.0%	72.9%	81.8%	59.8%	74.0%	45.7%	72.3%
-Females	59.9%	73.7%	67.6%	67.0%	42.8%	74.7%	29.8%	61.1%
Worked at any point since arrival	63.7	82.0	73.6	74.9	54.4	74.5	41.2	68.7
-Males	64.2	87.2	76.0	82.3	63.5	74.3	48.7	74.1
-Females	63.1	75.3	69.9	67.8	46.9	74.7	33.4	63.1
Labor Force Participation Rate	60.3	81.7	73.6	75.4	56.0	74.4	41.5	68.9
-Males	61.1	86.6	76.7	83.1	65.4	74.0	51.4	74.4
-Females	59.9	75.1	68.9	68.4	48.0	74.6	31.9	63.3
Unemployment Rate	1.1	1.3	3.5	1.7	9.7	0.0	8.5	3.1
-Males	2.2	1.5	4.8	1.5	8.6	0.0	10.8	2.9
-Females	0.0	2.0	1.4	2.0	11.0	0.0	4.5	3.4

Note: As of October 1999. Not seasonally adjusted. Data refer to refugees 16 and over in the five-year sample population consisting of Amerasians, Entrants, and Refugees of all nationalities who arrived in the years 1994-1999.

for the seven refugee groups ranged from a high of 81 percent for Latin America and 74 percent for both Eastern Europe and Vietnam (exceeding the EPR for the U.S. population), to a low of 38 percent for Other Southeast Asia and 51 percent for the former Soviet Union. Refugees from Eastern Europe, Latin America, and Vietnam continue to sustain the highest EPR whereas refugees from, Africa, the former Soviet Union, and Southeast Asia have endured the lowest EPR across the most recent surveys. The labor force participation rate followed the same pattern as the EPR. The unemployment rate was highest for refugees from the former Soviet Union and lowest for refugees from Vietnam. It is interesting to note that the largest disparity between the EPR and labor force participation rate was for the former Soviet Union (consistent with their unemployment rate). Table 3 also presents the proportion of refugees who have ever held employment since arrival in the U.S. Overall, the proportion of refugees currently working is about 97 percent of the refugees who

have ever worked (ranging from a low of 93 percent for the former Soviet Union and Other Southeast Asia to a high of 100 percent for Vietnam). From the 1998, 1997, 1996, and 1995 surveys, the proportion of refugees who were currently working to those that had ever worked was 95, 95, 93, and 93 percent, respectively.

Further disaggregation of the data by sex provides another vantage point relative to the employment status of refugees (refer to Table 3). Overall, the EPR for males was 72 percent versus 61 percent for females. The biggest disparity within refugee groups was for the former Soviet Union and Other Southeast Asia categories. (The disparity within Latin America is not considered as relevant owing to the fact that the employment measures for both males and females are quite high.) For the former Soviet Union, the EPR as well as the labor force participation rate for males was 17 percent higher than for females, and the unemployment rate was nine percent for males versus 11 percent for females. For Other Southeast Asia, the EPR for

males was 16 percent higher than for females, the labor force participation rate for males was 20 percent higher than for females, and the unemployment rate was 11 percent for males versus five percent for females.

The survey also asked refugees age 16 and over why they were not looking for employment. Attending school accounted for the largest proportion (36 percent) with an associated median age of 18. Age accounted for the second largest proportion (17 percent) with an associated median age of 70. Poor health or handicap accounted for another 10 percent with an associated age of 57. Child care or other family responsibilities accounted for another eight percent with an associated median age of 31. Furthermore, for those citing child care or other family responsibilities, 86 percent were under the age of 40 and 93 percent were female. Limited English accounted for another three percent with an associated median age of 49. However, a combination of Limited English and other answers (most often associated with poor health and age) accounted for an additional 20 percent. Finally, a mixture of still other answers accounted for the balance.

Factors Affecting Employment Status

Achieving economic self-sufficiency is based on the employment prospects of adult refugees, which hinges on a mixture of refugee skills, family size and composition (e.g., number of dependents to support), job opportunities, and the resources available in the communities in which refugees resettle. The occupational and educational skills that refugees bring with them to the United States also influence their prospects for self-sufficiency.

The average number of years of education for all arrivals was approximately 11 (refer to Table 4). The level of education prior to arrival has risen sharply over the past decade, most probably as a result of a significant increase in the proportion of refugees from Eastern Europe (particularly, the former Yugoslavia) and the former Soviet Union.

The 1999 survey revealed a pronounced disparity between the educational backgrounds among the seven refugee groups formed from the survey respondents. The average years of education was highest for the former Soviet Union (12 years) and lowest for Other Southeast Asia (three years). By combining high school, technical school, and university degrees, again, the former Soviet Union (over 77 percent) ranks highest for education while Other Southeast Asia (under five percent) ranks the lowest.

Refugees from Africa (30 percent) and Other Southeast Asia (64 percent) showed the largest proportion for no formal education before arriving in the U.S. However they rank high for attending high school for a degree during the past 12 months. Africa and the Middle East show the highest proportion for attempting to earn an Associate Degree and a Bachelor's Degree followed by the former Soviet Union. It should be noted that even though the survey asks about years of schooling and the highest degree or certificate obtained prior to coming to the U.S., the correspondence between years of schooling and degrees or certifications among different countries is not necessarily the same. Consequently, some degree of caution is necessary when interpreting education statistics.

At the time of arrival, for refugees 16 years of age and over in the five-year population, 69 percent reportedly spoke no English (refer to Table 4). By the time of the interview, only 12 percent spoke no English. At the time of arrival, 82 percent of refugees from Other Southeast Asia spoke no English followed by Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union (both 75 percent), Latin America (72 percent), followed by the Vietnam (68 percent), the Middle East (47 percent) and Africa (41 percent). By the time of the interview, only 12 percent of refugees from Other Southeast Asia still spoke no English behind the former Soviet Union (18 percent) and Eastern Europe (13 percent). All other refugee groups had dropped below 12 percent. By the time of the interview, refugees from the former Soviet Union (44

percent) had the smallest percentage for speaking English well or fluently followed by Latin

TABLE 4 - Educational and English Proficiency Characteristics of Selected Refugee Groups

Education and Language Proficiency	Africa	Latin America	Middle East	Eastern Europe	Former Soviet Union	Vietnam	Other S.E. Asia	All
Average Years of Education before U.S.	7.5	11.0	11.3	10.9	11.8	10.1	3.1	10.6
Highest Degree before U.S.								
None	30.2%	10.3%	12.7%	6.8%	2.2%	19.6%	64.1%	12.8%
Primary School	33.9	18.7	21.8	21.0	12.2	17.3	24.9	18.3
Secondary School	19.7	36.9	32.6	39.6	30.5	53.7	3.1	37.5
Technical School	1.1	7.4	3.4	13.2	22.9	0.1	1.4	9.9
University Degree	6.6	21.2	17.5	11.7	23.8	5.1	0.0	14.5
Medical Degree	0.0	1.3	1.1	0.9	3.4	0.1	0.0	1.4
Attended School/University (in U.S. during past 12 months)	40.3	8.7	22.2	14.9	16.4	18.1	34.3	17.7
Attended School/University (in U.S. during past 12 months) for degree/certificate	32.6	6.4	20.5	12.8	15.8	16.7	27.6	15.7
High School	23.2	4.3	10.9	7.5	6.4	10.0	17.3	8.8
Associate Degree	2.1	0.3	2.7	1.1	2.1	0.7	0.0	1.3
Bachelor's Degree	6.9	1.4	5.7	3.4	5.1	5.7	6.3	4.5
Master's/Doctorate	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.3	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.5
Professional Degree	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.2
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.9	0.1
Degree Received	0.0	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.9	0.3
At Time of Arrival								
Percent Speaking no English	41.2	71.8	47.3	74.6	74.6	68.0	81.5	69.1
Percent Not Speaking English Well	42.5	25.0	32.5	18.3	18.6	28.9	14.5	24.3
Percent Speaking English Well or Fluently	15.5	2.5	13.9	5.8	5.8	1.5	1.6	5.1
At Time of Survey								
Percent Speaking no English	5.5	11.0	5.8	13.4	17.5	6.9	12.3	11.5
Percent Not Speaking English Well	27.8	38.6	16.9	33.8	38.9	18.2	37.2	30.8
Percent Speaking English Well or Fluently	66.8	50.4	74.2	52.6	43.7	74.2	50.4	57.2

Note: Data refer to refugees 16 and over in the five-year sample population consisting of Amerasians, Entrants, and Refugees of all nationalities who arrived in the years 1994-1999. These figures refer to self-reported characteristics of refugees. Professional degree refers to a law degree or medical degree

America and Other Southeast Asia (both 50 percent).

The relationship between English language proficiency and economic self-sufficiency can be gauged by comparing the ability to speak English with the associated EPR (refer to Table 5). Fifty-seven percent of all refugees indicated that they spoke English well or fluently (at the time of the survey). Another 31 percent indicated that they did not speak English well, while 12 percent claimed they spoke no English at all. Those speaking no English had the lowest EPR (26 percent) versus those speaking English well or fluently who had a much higher EPR (77 percent). The difference in EPR between these two groups

1994	6.6 (9.0)	19.7 (45.4)	73.7 (77.7)
Total	11.5 (26.2)	30.8 (62.6)	57.2 (77.1)
Sample			
Note: As of October 1999. Not seasonally adjusted. Data refer to refugees 16 and over in the five-year sample population consisting of Amerasians, Entrants, and Refugees of all nationalities who arrived in the years 1994-1999. These figures refer to self-reported characteristics of refugees.			

is 51 percent. Although many refugees improve their English language proficiency over time, it appears that those who do not are the least likely to be employed. Of the 14 percent of the survey respondents who spoke no English at the time of the survey, the median age was 57. Females comprised 56 percent and males comprised 44 percent. The majority came from the former Soviet Union (41 percent) followed by Eastern Europe (20 percent), Latin America and Vietnam (both 15 percent)¹⁰.

TABLE 5 - English Proficiency and Associated EPR by Year of Arrival

Year of Arrival	Percent Speaking English (EPR)	Percent Not Speaking Well (EPR)	Percent Speaking English Well or Fluently (EPR)
At Time of Arrival			
1999	48.0 (43.7)	45.0 (62.4)	5.7 (31.8)
1998	71.4 (61.5)	23.6 (68.0)	4.8 (64.6)
1997	66.4 (61.5)	23.6 (78.3)	8.2 (88.0)
1996	65.0 (61.6)	25.5 (81.0)	6.2 (82.4)
1995	72.8 (66.7)	23.4 (85.1)	2.8 (80.1)
1994	74.3 (62.9)	19.5 (81.1)	4.8 (82.0)
Total	69.1 (62.6)	24.3 (77.8)	5.1 (77.7)
Sample			
At Time of Survey			
1999	21.6 (40.8)	44.5 (46.6)	33.9 (63.0)
1998	15.4 (30.5)	45.7 (69.7)	38.9 (68.6)
1997	14.6 (35.0)	33.6 (66.1)	50.9 (78.3)
1996	10.7 (17.0)	29.2 (68.0)	60.2 (76.6)
1995	9.3 (22.4)	26.0 (62.0)	63.8 (81.3)

During the past 12 months, 19 percent of all refugees attended English Language Training (ELT) outside of high school. Refugees from the former Soviet Union (27 percent) and Eastern Europe (24 percent) followed by the Middle East (22 percent) and Latin America (19 percent) have attended ELT outside of high school the most, whereas Vietnam (eight percent), Other Southeast Asia (13 percent) and Africa (16 percent) have attended ELT the least (refer to Table 6). For the same period, the proportion of refugees who have attended job-training classes lags far behind ELT. Overall, only five percent of all survey respondents had attended job training (refer to Table 6). Refugees from the former Soviet Union had attended the greatest amount versus refugees

¹⁰ It is interesting to note that refugees from Latin America have both low English language proficiency and a high EPR. These seemingly contradictory findings might be due to the concentration of Cubans in Florida where English language proficiency is not always required for employment.

from Vietnam and Other Southeast Asia who had attended the least. Across all refugee groups that attended job training, 58 percent indicated they spoke English well or fluently at the time of the survey, while 38

TABLE 6 - Service Utilization by Selected Refugee Groups and for Year of Arrival

Type of Service					Former	Other		
		Latin	Middle	Eastern	Soviet	S.E.		
Utilization	Africa	America	East	Europe	Union	Vietnam	Asia	All
ELT since arrival Inside High School (during past 12 months)	23.5%	4.4%	8.7%	5.4%	2.1%	9.5%	23.8%	7.2%
ELT since arrival Outside of High School (during past 12 months)	15.5	19.0	21.7	23.6	27.3	8.4	12.9	19.2
Job training since arrival (during past 12 months)	3.2	2.8	2.5	5.8	10.3	0.2	0.7	4.6
Currently attending ELT Inside High School	23.5	4.4	8.7	5.4	2.1	9.5	23.8	7.2
Currently attending ELT Outside of High School	13.8	7.5	13.9	11.7	16.4	8.0	12.2	11.6
Type of Service Utilization by Year of Arrival		1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	All
ELT since arrival Inside High School (during past 12 months)		9.2%	7.8%	5.1%	8.1%	7.0%	7.5%	7.2%
ELT since arrival Outside of High School (during past 12 months)		33.8	33.6	23.1	15.4	14.4	9.0	19.2
Job training since arrival (during past 12 months)		1.4	6.3	8.3	5.3	3.2	2.3	4.6
Currently attending ELT Inside High School		9.2	7.8	5.1	8.1	7.0	7.5	7.2
Currently attending ELT Outside of High School		24.8	19.6	10.7	11.1	8.0	7.1	11.6

Note: Data refer to refugees 16 and over in the five-year sample population consisting of Amerasians, Entrants, and Refugees of all nationalities who arrived in the years 1994-1999. In order that English language training (ELT) not be confused with English high school instruction, statistics for both populations are given.

percent indicated that they did not speak English well and four percent indicated that they did not speak English at all.

Economic Self-Sufficiency

The earnings of employed refugees appear to rise with length of residence in the United States (refer to Table 7). For 1999 arrivals, the average hourly wage was \$6.88.¹¹ For 1994 arrivals, the average

¹¹ The median wage for all full-time hourly workers in the U.S. for the fourth quarter of 1999 was \$10.22 per hour. The average weekly earnings for full-time salaried workers in the U.S. in 1999 was about \$16.02 per hour.

TABLE 7 - Hourly Wages, Home Ownership, and Self-Sufficiency by Year of Arrival

Year of Arrival	Hourly Wages of Employed	Own Home or Apartment	Rent Home Or Apartment	Public	Both Public	Earnings Only
				Assistance Only	Assistance and Earnings	
1999	\$6.88	11.9%	80.3%	21.0%	29.1%	42.7%
1998	7.57	9.2	88.1	12.7	23.4	62.1
1997	8.43	10.6	87.5	11.1	21.3	66.9
1996	8.21	13.4	84.8	12.3	20.1	65.9
1995	8.52	14.8	84.0	11.7	13.1	73.8
1994	9.04	16.5	82.5	13.8	16.7	68.9
Total Sample	8.29	13.0	84.9	12.8	19.1	66.4

Note: Data refer to refugees 16 and over in the five-year sample population consisting of Amerasians, Entrants, and Refugees of all nationalities who arrived in the years 1994-1999. These figures refer to self-reported characteristics of refugees.

TABLE 7 - Hourly Wages, Home Ownership, and Self-Sufficiency by Year of Arrival

hourly wage had risen to \$9.04 per hour (an increase of 24 percent). The overall hourly wage of employed refugees in the five-year population was \$8.29 (up from \$7.97, \$7.38, \$7.05, and \$6.77 reported in the 1998, 1997, 1996, and 1995 surveys, respectively). From the 1999 survey, the overall hourly wage of employed refugees who spoke English well or fluently at the time of the survey was \$8.63 compared to \$7.68 for refugees who did not speak English well and \$7.90 for refugees who did not speak English at all. Upon closer examination, refugees who spoke English well or fluently at the time of the survey accounted for 71 percent of jobs that paid over \$7.50 per hour compared to 24 percent of refugees who did not speak English well and only five percent of refugees who did not speak English at all. Finally, the number of refugees who reported home ownership also appears to rise with length of residence. Whereas less than nine percent of 1998 arrivals reported home ownership, nearly 17 percent of 1994 arrivals reported home ownership.

Table 7 also details the economic self-sufficiency of the five-year sample population from the 1999 survey. Overall, about 66 percent of all refugee households in the United States for five years or

less had achieved economic self-sufficiency by October 1999 (up from 60, 55, 49, and 37 percent reported in the 1998, 1997, 1996, and 1995 surveys, respectively). An additional 19 percent had achieved partial independence, with household income a mix of earnings and public assistance (the same as reported in the 1998 and marginally lower than percents reported in the 1997, 1996, and 1995 surveys). For another 13 percent of refugee households, however, income in 1999 consisted entirely of public assistance (dropping six percentage points from the 1998 survey, eight percentage points from the 1997 survey, 11 percentage points from the 1996 survey, and 18 percent from the 1995 survey). Hourly wages, home ownership, and self-sufficiency for the most recent five surveys are contained in Table 8.

Table 9 details several household characteristics by type of income. Households receiving cash assistance average three members and no wage earners, while those with a mix of earnings and assistance income average five members and two wage earners. Households that receive no cash assistance average three members with two wage earners. A child under the age of six as well as a household member under the age of 16 was present in households with a mix of earnings and

TABLE 8 - Hourly Wages, Home Ownership, and Survey Year Administration

Year Survey Administered	Hourly Wages of Employed	Own Home or Apartment	Rent Home or Apartment	Public Assistance Only	Both Public Assistance and Earnings	Earnings On
1999 Survey	8.29	13.0	84.9	12.8	19.1	66.4
1998 Survey	7.97	9.2	88.6	18.8	18.7	60.1
1997 Survey	7.38	7.9	89.4	20.7	21.3	55.3
1996 Survey	7.05	6.8	91.7	23.8	22.5	48.5
1995 Survey	6.77	7.8	90.4	30.8	22.0	37.3

Note: As of October 1999, October 1998, October 1997, October 1996, and October 1995. Not seasonally adjusted. Data refer to refugees 16 and over in the five-year sample population consisting of Amerasians, Entrants, and Refugees of all nationalities who were interviewed as a part of the 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, and 1995 surveys.

assistance more often than either welfare dependent households or households with earnings only.

English language proficiency was lowest in welfare dependent households. Only eight percent of these households contained one or more persons fluent in English. In contrast, about 27 percent of households with a mix of earnings and assistance reported at least one fluent English speaker. Thirty-six percent of households with earnings income only reported at least one fluent English speaker. Again, the relationship between English language proficiency and income is clear.

Medical Coverage

Overall, 13 percent of adult refugees surveyed lacked medical coverage of any kind throughout the year preceding the survey (refer to Table 10). This proportion varied widely among the five refugee groups, from a low of about eight percent for the group from the former Soviet Union to a high of 24 percent for Latin America. Refugees from Vietnam were the most likely to have medical coverage through employment (74 percent) whereas the group from Other Southeast Asia was the least likely to have medical coverage through employment (29 percent). These findings are consistent with the associated EPR for each refugee group. Medical coverage through Medicaid or RMA was highest for Other Southeast Asia (59 percent) and lowest for Latin America (11 percent). The proportion of refugees without medical coverage ranged from a low of

seven percent for 1994 arrivals to a high of 19 percent for 1998 arrivals. As a general rule, medical coverage through employment increases with time in the U.S., and medical coverage through government aid programs declines with time in the U.S. Overall, 56 percent of the refugees surveyed had medical coverage through employment and 28 percent had medical coverage through Medicaid or RMA. Medical coverage through employment rose from 31 percent for refugees who arrived in 1999 to 65 percent for refugees who arrived in 1994. And, medical coverage through Medicaid or RMA dropped from 49 percent for refugees who arrived in 1999 to 25 percent for refugees who arrived in 1994. After approximately one year of residence, more adult refugees were covered through an employer than through government aid programs.

Between the 1999 and the 1995 surveys, the proportion of refugees without medical coverage (throughout the year preceding the survey) has dropped by 13 percent, medical coverage through Medicaid or RMA has dropped by 37 percent, and medical coverage through employment has increased from 19 to 56 percent (refer to Table 11).

Welfare Utilization

The 1999 survey showed that welfare utilization continues to decline. This decrease corresponds to

an increase in refugee employment.¹² As in previous years, welfare utilization varied considerably among refugee groups. Table 12 presents welfare utilization data on the households of the seven refugee groups formed from the survey respondents. Non-cash assistance was generally higher than cash assistance, probably because Medicaid, food stamp, and housing assistance programs, though available to cash assistance households, are also available to households with low-income workers. Twenty-eight percent of refugee households reported receiving food stamps in the previous 12 months versus the 33, 40, 49, and 60 percentage points reported in the 1998, 1997, 1996, and 1995 surveys, respectively. Utilization ranged from a high of 50 percent for the group from the former Soviet Union to a low of 11 percent for Vietnam. Twenty-eight percent of all refugees reported that their medical coverage was through low-income medical assistance programs (Medicaid or RMA), down eight percent from the 1998 survey and down 10, 14, and 17 percentage points from the 1997, 1996, and 1995 surveys, respectively. In the 1999 survey, eight percent of refugee households reported that they lived in public housing projects versus the 15, 17, 12, and 14 percent reported in the 1998, 1997, 1996, and 1995 surveys, respectively (refer to Table 13).

Tables 12 and 13 also reveal that 32 percent of refugee households surveyed in 1999 had received some kind of cash assistance in at least one of the previous 12 months. This represents a decrease of approximately six percent from the 1998 survey, and a decrease of ten percent, 14 percent, and 23 percent from the 1997, 1996, and 1995 surveys, respectively. Overall, receipt of any type of cash assistance was highest for the former Soviet Union (57 percent) and Other Southeast Asia (49 percent) and lowest for Latin America (15 percent) and Eastern Europe (18 percent). Nine percent of all refugee households had received AFDC/TANF in the last 12 months,

¹² Refer to Current Employment Status of Refugees, Table 1 and Table 2, above.

approximately three percent less than the number reported in the 1998 survey, a decrease of seven percent from both the 1997 and 1996 surveys, and a decrease of eight percent from the 1995 survey. Utilization ranged from a high of 46 percent for Other Southeast Asia to a low of two percent for Eastern Europe and Vietnam. Only two percent of sampled households received RCA in 1999. This rate is the same as the 1998 and 1995 surveys, and two percentage points lower than the 1997 and 1996 surveys.

TABLE 9 - Characteristics of Households by Type of Income

Refugee Households with:				
	Public	Both Public		
Household Characteristics	Assistance Only	Assistance and Earnings	Earnings Only	Total Sample
Average Household Size	2.8	4.6	3.3	3.5
Average Number Of wage earners per household	0.0	1.7	2.0	1.6
Percent of households with at least one member:				
Under the age of 6	15.7%	29.9%	19.7%	21.1%
Under the age of 16	26.9	60.8	50.0	48.9
Fluent English Speaker	7.8	27.0	36.3	31.0

Note: Data refer to refugee households in the five-year sample population consisting of Amerasians, Entrants, and Refugees of all nationalities who arrived in the years 1994-1999. Refugee households with neither earnings or assistance are excluded.

Nineteen percent of refugee households had at least one household member who received Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in the past twelve months. This rate is three percentage points lower than the 1998 survey, two percentage points lower than both the 1997 and 1996 surveys, and three percentage points lower than the 1995 survey. Utilization varied largely according to the number of refugees over age 65. Refugees from the former Soviet Union were found to utilize SSI most often. With about 15 percent of their

five-year population aged 65 or over, 38 percent of their households received SSI. By contrast, only seven percent of refugees from Latin America were aged 65 or over and five percent or less of all remaining refugee groups were 65 or over. The median age for the seven refugee groups ranged from a low of 29 years for Africa and Other Southeast Asia to 40 years for the former Soviet Union. General Assistance (also called General Relief or Home Relief in some States) is a form of cash assistance funded entirely with State or local funds. It generally provides assistance to single persons, childless couples, and families with children that are not eligible for AFDC/TANF. The 1999 survey reported that about six percent of refugee households received some form of GA during the past twelve months compared to eight, nine, 15, and 23 percent reported in the 1998, 1997, 1996, 1995 surveys, respectively. Refugees from the former Soviet Union showed the highest utilization rate (17 percent) followed by Africa (nine percent) and the Middle East (eight percent). Refugees from the former Soviet Union initially resettled in New

York are a case in point (discussed in more detail below). Latin America and Other Southeast Asia showed the lowest utilization rate (zero percent). The lack of utilization by refugees from Latin America may be related to their concentration in Florida, which has no State-funded General Assistance program (also, discussed in more detail below).

The relationship between employment and receipt of welfare varied across refugee groups. Refugees from Latin America, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and Vietnam showed the lowest welfare utilization and the highest EPR. Refugees from Other Southeast Asia and the former Soviet Union showed the highest welfare utilization and the lowest EPR. Refugees from Africa showed moderate-to-high welfare utilization rates and a moderate-to-high EPR.

TABLE 10 - Source of Medical Coverage for Selected Refugee Groups and for Year of Arrival

Source of Medical Coverage	Africa	Latin America	Middle East	Eastern Europe	Former		Other	
					Soviet Union	Vietnam	S.E. Asia	All
No Medical Coverage in any of past 12 months	12.4%	23.8%	12.6%	12.2%	8.4%	10.2%	12.4%	12.6%
Medical Coverage through employer	50.8	63.4	64.7	64.0	33.0	74.3	29.0	56.3
Medicaid or RMA	33.8	10.5	20.6	18.4	53.6	13.9	58.5	27.7
Source of Medical Coverage by Year of Arrival								
		1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	All
No Medical Coverage in any of past 12 months		16.8%	18.9%	11.8%	14.3%	10.9%	7.2%	12.6%
Medical Coverage through Employer		31.0	40.8	55.8	55.8	65.6	65.3	56.3
Medicaid or RMA		49.1	36.4	28.2	25.1	21.5	24.9	27.7

Note: As of October 1999. Data refer to refugees 16 and over in the five-year sample population consisting of Amerasians, Entrants, and Refugees of all nationalities who arrived in the years 1994-1999.

TABLE 11 - Source of Medical Coverage for Selected Refugee Groups and Survey Year Administration

Year Survey Administered	Former						Other		All
	Africa	Latin America	Middle East	Eastern Europe	Soviet Union	Vietnam	S.E. Asia		
No Medical Coverage in any Of past 12 months									
1999 Survey	12.4%	23.8%	12.6%	12.2%	8.4%	10.2%	12.4%	12.6%	
1998 Survey	24.0	50.8	27.7	13.0	9.3	26.9	7.5	22.3	
1997 Survey	7.4	35.1	29.7	16.0	10.8	20.2	5.7	18.4	
1996 Survey	1.0	28.6	32.9	15.1	9.5	28.7	0.7	20.2	
1995 Survey	26.0	34.4	21.1	10.0	2.8	39.5	23.5	25.5	
Medical Coverage Through Employer									
1999 Survey	50.8	63.4	64.7	64.0	33.0	74.3	29.0	56.3	
1998 Survey	31.6	30.9	29.2	58.4	28.9	43.7	15.4	37.1	
1997 Survey	30.8	36.2	21.2	57.4	27.4	47.5	7.5	36.9	
1996 Survey	2.1	21.0	21.7	28.6	26.7	21.3	4.5	21.9	
1995 Survey	10.1	13.3	6.6	21.0	25.6	19.3	3.9	18.9	
Medicaid or RMA									
1999 Survey	33.8	10.5	20.6	18.4	53.6	13.9	58.5	27.7	
1998 Survey	38.3	17.5	34.0	18.8	54.3	28.2	71.6	35.6	
1997 Survey	49.7	22.4	45.0	16.6	53.8	27.1	81.0	37.8	
1996 Survey	54.7	34.9	42.7	44.2	58.2	24.4	83.8	41.2	
1995 Survey	49.7	20.7	61.6	66.5	58.8	35.5	48.1	44.2	

Note: As of October 1999, October 1998, October 1997, October 1996, and October 1995. Not seasonally adjusted. Data refer to refugees 16 and over in the five-year sample population consisting of Amerasians, Entrants, and Refugees of all nationalities who were interviewed as a part of the 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, and 1995 surveys.

TABLE 12 - Public Assistance Utilization of Selected Refugee Groups

Type of Public Assistance	Former						Other		All
	Africa	Latin America	Middle East	Eastern Europe	Soviet Union	Vietnam	S.E. Asia		
Cash Assistance									
Any Type of Cash Assistance	44.6%	15.3%	21.9%	17.5%	57.1%	22.1%	48.6%	31.9%	
AFDC/TANF	32.4	4.7	8.7	1.6	12.9	2.0	46.2	8.9	
RCA	1.2	1.0	0.0	5.2	1.5	3.5	0.0	2.3	
SSI	10.5	9.5	6.3	10.9	37.6	16.3	2.3	18.8	
General Assistance	8.5	0.0	8.0	2.3	16.9	1.2	0.0	6.4	
Non-cash Assistance									
Medicaid or RMA	33.8	10.5	20.6	18.4	53.6	13.9	58.5	27.7	
Food Stamps	40.3	14.7	18.2	15.3	50.3	10.7	46.2	26.7	
Public Housing	23.0	1.8	5.4	4.6	12.8	4.9	39.0	8.4	

Note: Data refer to refugee households in the five-year sample population consisting of Amerasians, Entrants, and Refugees of all nationalities who arrived in the years 1994-1999. Medicaid and RMA data refer to adult refugees age 16 and over. All other data refer to refugee households and not individuals. Many households receive more than one type of assistance.

Employment and Welfare Utilization Rates by State

The 1999 survey also reported welfare utilization and employment rate by State of residence. Table 14 shows the EPR and utilization rates for various types of welfare for twelve States, as well as the nation as a whole. Unlike Table 12, which computes welfare utilization rates for entire households, Table 14 presents data on utilization by individual refugees (including children).

The EPR was generally high where welfare utilization is low and vice-a-versa. Specifically, among the States with the highest EPR were Florida (79 percent), Georgia (71 percent), and Texas (70 percent), welfare utilization was below ten percent. However, Illinois and Michigan also had high EPRs, and relatively low welfare utilization. Massachusetts and Missouri had a high EPR with moderately high welfare utilization. Pennsylvania had a moderately high EPR accompanied by moderately high welfare utilization. California, Minnesota, New York, and Washington all had low EPRs and high welfare utilization.

Minnesota, followed by California and Washington, showed the highest proportion of AFDC/TANF utilization (39, 24, and 23 percent, respectively). Minnesota, followed by Massachusetts and Michigan, showed the highest proportion of RCA utilization (four, four, and three percent, respectively). New York, followed by Massachusetts and California, showed the highest proportion of SSI utilization (15, 10, and nine percent, respectively). New York, followed by Pennsylvania and Washington, showed the highest GA utilization (12, nine, and seven percent, respectively).

It is interesting to note the change in rate of welfare utilization that results from substituting individuals for households as the unit of analysis (the difference between the utilization rates reported in Table 12 and Table 14). Although the utilization rates for AFDC/TANF, RCA, and GA were close, the utilization rate for individuals receiving SSI was eight percent versus 19 percent for households. Finally, the overall welfare utilization rate for refugee individuals (25 percent)

TABLE 13 - Public Assistance Utilization of Selected Refugee Groups by Survey Year Administration

Survey Year Administered	Africa	Latin America	Middle East	Eastern Europe	Former Soviet Union	Vietnam	Other S.E. Asia	All
Any Type of Cash Assistance								
1999 Survey	44.6%	15.3%	21.9%	17.5%	57.1%	22.1%	48.6%	31.9%
1998 Survey	37.9%	11.8%	24.2%	16.3%	59.9%	38.3%	59.6%	37.5%
1997 Survey	53.9%	13.4%	31.4%	11.9%	62.3%	40.9%	66.1%	42.1%
1996 Survey	40.5	14.0	40.8	56.7	63.2	39.9	70.9	46.2
1995 Survey	40.8	16.0	62.6	37.8	67.0	53.3	85.4	55.1
Medicaid or RMA								
1999 Survey	33.8	10.5	20.6	18.4	53.6	13.9	58.5	27.7
1998 Survey	38.3	17.5	34.0	18.8	54.3	28.2	71.6	35.6
1997 Survey	49.7	22.4	45.0	16.6	53.8	27.1	81.0	37.8
1996 Survey	54.7	34.9	42.7	44.2	58.2	24.4	83.8	41.2
1995 Survey	49.7	20.7	61.6	66.5	58.8	35.5	48.1	44.2
Food Stamps								
1999 Survey	40.3	14.7	18.2	15.3	50.3	10.7	46.2	27.7
1998 Survey	43.5	10.9	21.5	14.3	52.3	27.2	72.9	32.7
1997 Survey	56.9	10.5	47.4	17.2	55.5	36.2	72.8	39.7
1996 Survey	67.0	29.3	51.4	57.2	59.8	38.6	68.5	48.5
1995 Survey	51.0	39.7	55.9	66.0	65.4	59.3	81.6	60.3

Public Housing								
1999 Survey	23.0	1.8	5.4	4.6	12.8	4.9	39.0	8.4
1998 Survey	18.9	0.7	7.6	0.5	13.6	37.7	26.7	16.2
1997 Survey	15.9	1.5	4.8	13.8	16.9	29.0	26.0	16.9
1996 Survey	41.8	4.3	5.0	1.6	18.3	4.5	26.8	11.6
1995 Survey	16.3	14.7	24.2	8.3	11.4	12.8	28.4	13.9

Note: Data refer to refugee households in the five-year sample population consisting of Amerasians, Entrants, and Refugees of all nationalities who were interviewed as a part of the 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, and 1995 surveys. Medicaid and RMA data refer to adult refugees age 16 and over. All other data refer to refugee households and not individuals. Many households receive more than one type of assistance

TABLE 14 - Employment-to-Population Ratio (EPR) and Dependency for Top Twelve States

State	Arrivals*	Number of Individuals (vs. Households) on Welfare					
		EPR	AFDC/ TANF	RCA	SSI	GA	Total**
California	(1,123)	54.8	24.3	1.6	8.8	5.7	40.4
Florida	(988)	78.8	2.5	0.3	5.5	0.6	8.9
New York	(698)	51.3	5.2	1.9	15.3	12.2	34.5
Washington	(514)	58.6	23.1	1.6	7.0	7.2	38.9
Illinois	(319)	73.8	1.2	0.0	7.8	3.8	13.5
Texas	(308)	70.2	3.2	0.3	5.8	0.3	9.7
Minnesota	(268)	54.3	38.8	4.1	6.0	4.9	53.7
Michigan	(253)	72.6	9.1	2.8	5.1	0.0	17.0
Georgia	(237)	71.1	4.2	0.0	4.2	0.4	8.9
Massachusetts	(175)	69.8	12.0	4.0	9.7	1.1	26.9
Pennsylvania	(142)	60.5	12.0	0.0	7.0	8.5	27.5
Missouri	(130)	69.8	14.6	0.0	6.2	0.8	21.5
Other States	(1,643)	72.1	7.2	3.0	6.2	3.4	19.9
All States	(6,797)	66.8	11.5	1.7	7.6	4.3	25.1

*The State arrival figures are weighted totals.

**The column totals represent individuals who received any combination of AFDC/TANF, RCA, SSI and/or GA, e.g., if an individual received AFDC/TANF, RCA, SSI, and GA, he/she is counted four times.

Note: As of October 1999. Not seasonally adjusted. Welfare utilization refers to receipt of public assistance in at least one of the past twelve months. The listed utilization rate for each type of public assistance is the ratio of the number of individuals (including minor children) receiving such aid to the total number of individuals in the five-year sample population residing in that State. Because some refugees have difficulty distinguishing between GA and AFDC/TANF, some GA utilization may reflect AFDC/TANF utilization. For data on welfare utilization by household, see Table 9.

was seven percent lower than the total welfare utilization rate for refugee households. As a general rule, measuring welfare utilization by household tends to inflate the utilization rate somewhat because households are counted as dependent on welfare even if only one member of a large family received any type of assistance.

Overall, findings from ORR's 1999 survey indicate (as in previous years) that refugees face significant problems upon arrival in the United States. But, over time, refugees find jobs and move toward economic self-sufficiency in their new country. The 1999 survey demonstrates that the employment rate of refugees has made significant strides, i.e., surpassing that of the U.S. population. Data also show that the continued progress of many refugee households toward self-sufficiency is tied to education and English proficiency.

Technical Note: The ORR Annual Survey, with interviews conducted by Arrington Dixon and Associates in the fall of 1999, is the 28th in a series conducted since 1975. Until 1993, the survey was limited to Southeast Asian refugees. A random sample was selected from the ORR Refugee Data File. ORR's contractor contacted the family by a letter in English and a second letter in the refugee's native language. If the person sampled was a child, an adult living in the same household was interviewed. Interviews were conducted by telephone in the refugee's native language. The questionnaire and interview procedures were essentially the same between the 1981 survey and the 1992 survey, except that beginning in 1985 the sample was expanded to a five-year population consisting of refugees from Southeast Asia who had arrived over the most recent five years.

In 1993, the survey was expanded beyond the Southeast Asian refugee population to include refugee, Amerasian, and entrant arrivals from all regions of the world. Each year a random sample of new arrivals is identified and interviewed. In addition, refugees who had been included in the previous year's survey--but had not resided in the United States for more than five years--are again contacted and interviewed for the new survey. Thus, the survey continuously tracks the progress of a randomly selected sample of refugees over their initial five years in this country. This permits comparison of refugees arriving in different

years, as well as the relative influence of experiential and environmental factors on refugee progress toward self-sufficiency across five years.

For the 1999 survey, 1,557 households were contacted and interviewed. Refugees included in the 1998 survey who had not yet resided in the U.S. for five years were again contacted and interviewed along with a new sample of refugees, Amerasians, and entrants who had arrived between May 1, 1998 and April 30, 1999. Of the 1,587 re-interview cases from the 1998 sample, 1,310 were contacted and interviewed, and six were contacted, but refused to be interviewed. The remaining 271 re-interview cases could not be traced in time to be interviewed. Of the 387 new interview cases, 247 were contacted and interviewed, one was contacted, but refused to cooperate, and the remaining 139 could not be traced in time to be interviewed. The resulting responses were then weighted according to year of entry and ethnic category.

In addition, of the 271 re-interview cases which could not be traced in time to be interviewed, two died, two moved back to their native countries, five people had unpublished phone numbers. Of the 139 new interview cases, which could not be traced in time to be interviewed, one died, one did not arrive, and one was seriously ill and unable to give an interview.

FY 1999 National Conference

Refugee services programs traditionally target employable adults in an effort to ensure early self-sufficiency for families and individuals. However, we have had a growing awareness of the trauma suffered by refugee children and youth from their experiences as refugees, and from their adjustment experiences during resettlement. ORR'S 1999 national conference held November 15-17 in Washington, D.C., was attended by 1,600 participants. We had double the number that participated in the 1998 conference because the theme for this year's conference was "Resettlement Through the Eyes of a Refugee Child."

The assumption had been that when you help the parents, the children are flexible and adjust naturally and easily. Our youthful presenters challenged this notion.

One of the most dynamic aspects of the conference came from the refugee children and teenagers in attendance, many of whom were panelists and speakers sharing their perspectives on what it is like to be refugee. They opened the eyes of many conference participants by demonstrating their maturity, and the articulate descriptions of jarring differences in cultural values and life experiences, compared with American peers. It was an enlightening experience for the many refugee case managers who work with entire families, but focus mainly on employable adults.

We were very pleased to have Secretary Donna Shalala as our keynote speaker, and Maria Echaveste, Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff, as speaker at our closing session.

The conference also addressed various interests of refugee service providers through a broad range of eight different workshop tracks, each one composed of three to seven workshops. The tracks addressed subjects such as: services for children in the mainstream community, psychological impact of the refugee experience

on child violence from a refugee child's point of view, and refugee youth' involvement in the community.

The conference closed with a town hall meeting that included representatives of Federal Government agencies that provide service to children and youth, along with representatives of refugee services programs. The meeting provided a forum for in-depth questions and discussions of mainstream services and ways to make them more accessible to refugee children. An important path was cut for future cooperation and coordination between refugee services and mainstream services for refugee children.

Appendix A
Tables

TABLE 1: AMERASIAN, ASYLEE (from Northern Iraq), ENTRANT, AND REFUGEE ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
FY 1983 - FY 1999

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	FY 83 - 94	FY 1995	FY 1996	FY 1997	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 83 - 99
AFGHANISTAN	22303	13	11	4	88	361	22780
ALBANIA	3555	50	26	6	3	11	3651
BULGARIA	1964	6	1	0	0	0	1971
BURMA	252	39	9	182	186	295	963
BURUNDI	17	6	19	34	28	223	327
CAMBODIA	71378	6	5	9	7	0	71405
CUBA a/	27381	6144	3517	2915	1587	2021	42503
CUBA(ENTRANT) b/	19498	31195	17013	5296	13546	20681	108291
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	7530	0	0	0	4	0	7534
ETHIOPIA	26168	193	170	204	188	1879	28802
HAITI c/	4779	1690	62	80	40	91	6742
HAITI(ENTRANT) d/	12701	1035	346	43	590	1233	15948
HUNGARY	5124	0	0	0	0	0	5124
IRAN	37814	972	1249	1340	1585	1737	44697
IRAQ	16373	3474	2691	9365	1620	1962	35485
LAOS	106572	3681	2203	915	9	19	113399
LIBERIA	2162	55	42	223	1637	2493	6612
LIBYA	357	0	0	0	0	0	357
NICARAGUA	1497	13	25	0	1	0	1536
NIGERIA	0	0	85	10	321	625	1041
POLAND	28757	22	9	6	2	2	28798
ROMANIA	34611	32	12	2	2	2	34661
RWANDA	39	87	129	97	85	153	590
SIERRA LEONE	0	51	24	57	183	678	993
SOMALIA	7921	2524	6440	4948	2952	4321	29106
SUDAN	1748	1693	583	281	1287	2389	7981
USSR (former) e/	307052	35495	29271	26758	23259	16917	438752
VIETNAM	302293	32254	16116	6611	10266	9622	377162
VIETNAM(AMERASIAN)	70819	948	906	833	375	241	74122
YUGOSLAVIA (former) f/	9367	9870	12021	21375	30823	38620	122076
ZAIRE	574	115	42	44	43	42	860
OTHER/UNKNOWN	2472	160	89	161	171	318	3371
Table Total	1133078	131823	93116	81799	90888	106936	1637640

a/ Includes Cubans with refugee status or humanitarian parolee status (prior to FY 1992).

b/ Includes Cubans with entrant status, humanitarian parolee status (as of FY 1992), or Havana Parolee status.

c/ Includes Haitians with refugee status or humanitarian parolee status (prior to FY 1992).

d/ Includes Haitians with entrant status or humanitarian parolee status (as of FY 1992).

e/ Includes refugees from the republics of the former Soviet Union.

f/ Includes refugees from the republics of the former Yugoslavia.

g/ Includes countries with fewer than 100 arrivals in each fiscal year as well as cases with unknown country of origin.

TABLE 2: AMERASIAN, ASYLEE (from Northern Iraq), ENTRANT, AND REFUGEE ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND STATE OF INITIAL RESETTLEMENT
 FY 1983 - FY 1989

STATE	Afghan-istan	Albania	Cambodia	Cuba a/	Cuba (Entrant) b/	Czechoslovakia	Ethiopia	Haiti c/	Haiti (Entrant) d/	Hungary	Iran	Other/UNK now/n g/	TOTAL
ALABAMA	35	0	291	133	134	5	68	85	27	3	35	7	4056
ALASKA	7	2	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	51	1	691
ARIZONA	442	27	659	367	980	40	651	81	12	66	451	660	25190
ARKANSAS	3	3	31	1	18	8	7	0	0	5	15	1	1817
CALIFORNIA	8644	177	18611	1368	1638	1715	6555	125	222	799	27643	1569	391763
COLORADO	389	14	681	113	15	130	472	75	3	36	237	153	16332
CONNECTICUT	94	185	1173	254	382	120	139	195	88	442	255	206	16836
DELAWARE	34	0	0	18	5	0	11	3	18	2	29	7	534
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	356	4	371	71	21	37	1167	58	2	134	201	408	11911
FLORIDA	260	258	1142	28218	88472	217	647	1424	13194	230	571	1089	165048
GEORGIA	720	10	1783	251	345	75	1542	34	45	111	493	386	38778
HAWAII	31	0	75	0	1	13	3	0	0	2	5	15	3956
IDAHO	23	32	273	69	7	293	8	116	0	23	19	96	6437
ILLINOIS	328	201	3002	409	579	323	1044	81	70	137	888	481	64235
INDIANA	89	5	227	14	28	37	124	33	3	22	102	299	6114
IOWA	3	3	582	7	10	13	158	20	0	54	42	254	15436
KANSAS	103	0	452	7	21	12	39	10	1	0	75	75	9493
KENTUCKY	45	3	454	289	1405	0	51	36	16	0	75	87	12611
LOUISIANA	49	0	561	205	371	16	54	37	53	1	64	103	11095
MAINE	339	7	739	60	1	26	138	0	0	18	147	169	4044
MARYLAND	471	95	1111	500	184	145	1564	209	95	76	1219	323	25518
MASSACHUSETTS	119	243	5706	107	193	963	589	410	414	79	466	128	50355
MICHIGAN	65	485	205	201	781	111	368	288	43	72	270	205	34520
MINNESOTA	183	3	2659	49	28	49	1668	55	1	67	161	280	38402
MISSISSIPPI	4	0	15	2	30	11	13	12	13	2	9	0	1294
MISSOURI	275	103	789	638	47	216	983	383	8	147	190	433	26292
MONTANA	5	0	5	0	0	7	9	0	0	0	1	4	901
NEBRASKA	252	4	167	105	47	68	10	6	0	10	26	76	8162
NEVADA	150	16	127	1062	1808	14	375	0	19	15	319	84	6867
NEW HAMPSHIRE	10	40	340	0	1	93	2	0	0	11	41	91	4160
NEW JERSEY	615	219	310	2857	2203	238	398	733	375	172	513	254	31867
NEW MEXICO	61	0	278	1174	1698	13	11	0	0	3	53	45	5894
NEW YORK	3717	1130	3149	967	2218	781	1419	822	871	715	5457	1278	224115

TABLE 2: AMERASIAN, ASYLEE (from Northern Iraq), ENTRANT, AND REFUGEE ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND STATE OF INITIAL RESETTLEMENT
FY 1983 - FY 1999

STATE	Afghanistan	Albania	Cambodia	Cuba a/	Cuba (Entrant) b/	Czechoslovakia	Ethiopia	Haiti c/	Haiti (Entrant) d/	Hungary	Iran	Other/Unknown g/	TOTAL
NORTH CAROLINA	136	2	1551	365	81	41	187	33	15	36	88	219	14511
NORTH DAKOTA	54	1	144	143	1	105	95	95	3	45	62	95	4956
OHIO	66	26	1703	4	74	115	613	9	39	187	181	124	24043
OKLAHOMA	44	0	489	12	23	10	32	0	0	1	218	8	5568
OREGON	197	6	976	27	784	32	309	57	87	25	182	106	27194
PENNSYLVANIA	333	73	3156	394	401	204	761	342	102	253	304	364	47461
RHODE ISLAND	2	55	1305	6	10	0	13	2	12	239	19	2	5750
SOUTH CAROLINA	28	0	107	4	15	0	10	0	0	8	43	13	1758
SOUTH DAKOTA	57	0	34	50	0	69	540	0	0	83	43	124	3879
TENNESSEE	212	2	1317	297	253	38	288	225	21	15	317	308	16502
TEXAS	710	51	5327	972	2133	242	3139	225	27	117	1641	718	83978
UTAH	49	0	1780	71	3	310	5	0	0	7	236	100	13115
VERMONT	8	34	223	8	0	306	7	0	0	19	17	33	3567
VIRGINIA	2387	39	2229	156	354	38	862	178	37	59	644	247	29988
WASHINGTON	472	55	4854	268	74	196	1585	245	0	551	497	248	69804
WEST VIRGINIA	11	3	16	0	1	8	1	0	0	6	9	6	376
WISCONSIN	48	35	212	5	25	26	66	0	0	11	62	67	18578
WYOMING	35	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	5	3	0	153
AMERICAN SAMOA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
GUAM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	56
PUERTO RICO	0	0	0	198	357	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	556
UNKNOWN	0	0	10	7	31	0	0	0	11	3	3	1	122
Table Total	22780	3651	71405	42503	108291	7534	28802	6742	15948	5124	44697	12009	163764
													0

a/ Includes Cubans with refugee status or humanitarian parolee status (prior to FY 1992).
 b/ Includes Cubans with entrant status, humanitarian parolee status (as of FY 1992), or Havana Parolee status.
 c/ Includes Haitians with refugee status or humanitarian parolee status (prior to FY 1992).
 d/ Includes Haitians with entrant status or humanitarian parolee status (as of FY 1992).
 e/ Includes refugees from the republics of the former Soviet Union.
 f/ Includes refugees from the republics of the former Yugoslavia.
 g/ Includes countries with fewer than 2,000 arrivals for the period FY 1983 - FY 1999 as well as cases with unknown country of origin.
 h/ Includes unknown States.

TABLE 2 (continued): AMERASIAN, ASYLEE (from Northern Iraq), ENTRANT, AND REFUGEE ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND STATE OF INITIAL RESETTLEMENT

STATE	Iraq	Laos	Liberia	Poland	Romania	Somalia	Sudan	Ussr (former) e/	Vietnam	Vietnam (a) (merasian)	Yugoslavia (former) f/	Other/unkn	Total
NORTH CAROLINA	39	953	164	215	116	489	58	1390	4817	1719	1797	219	14511
NORTH DAKOTA	638	37	8	112	138	320	262	396	423	506	1273	95	4956
OHIO	456	1398	66	228	980	227	23	12036	2868	382	2238	124	24043
OKLAHOMA	43	464	29	103	60	0	7	205	4008	697	115	8	6568
OREGON	248	1428	4	101	1374	348	28	11939	6399	1364	1173	106	27194
PENNSYLVANIA	1071	1158	789	1407	968	416	92	19455	9097	2786	3535	364	47461
RHODE ISLAND	7	1290	383	89	35	0	0	1890	330	31	30	2	5750
SOUTH CAROLINA	59	102	6	12	20	0	0	354	836	59	82	13	1758
SOUTH DAKOTA	139	65	0	160	168	125	564	611	235	167	645	124	3879
TENNESSEE	2192	1480	84	159	1075	1249	509	1256	3407	1249	1642	308	16502
TEXAS	2930	3780	412	1313	1235	2208	1379	4201	36497	7227	7494	718	83978
UTAH	607	572	1	360	66	428	268	1475	2851	951	2975	100	13115
VERMONT	83	19	0	31	182	0	6	298	392	607	1294	33	3567
VIRGINIA	957	898	184	220	157	3064	238	2488	10480	1632	2440	247	29988
WASHINGTON	1166	3771	11	933	900	1262	132	27975	17358	3633	3618	248	69804
WEST VIRGINIA	0	19	8	19	9	1	0	14	66	150	29	6	376
WISCONSIN	52	12855	3	198	40	167	35	2726	881	79	985	67	18578
WYOMING	0	14	0	7	0	0	0	49	29	6	0	0	153
AMERICAN SAMOA	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
GUAM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	18	0	0	56
PUERTO RICO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	556
UNKNOWN	8	1	0	4	7	0	0	15	14	7	0	1	122
Table Total	35485	113399	6612	28798	34661	29106	7981	438752	377162	74122	122076	12009	1637640

a/ Includes Cubans with refugee status or humanitarian parolee status (prior to FY 1992).

b/ Includes Cubans with entrant status, humanitarian parolee status (as of FY 1992), or Havana Parolee status.

c/ Includes Haitians with refugee status or humanitarian parolee status (prior to FY 1992).

d/ Includes Haitians with entrant status or humanitarian parolee status (as of FY 1992).

e/ Includes refugees from the republics of the former Soviet Union.

f/ Includes refugees from the republics of the former Yugoslavia.

g/ Includes countries with fewer than 2,000 arrivals for the period FY 1983 - FY 1999 as well as cases with unknown country of origin.

h/ Includes unknown States

TABLE 3: AMERASIAN, ASYLEE (from Northern Iraq), ENTRANT, AND REFUGEE ARRIVALS BY STATE OF INITIAL RESETTLEMENT

STATE	FY 83-94	FY 1995	FY 1996	FY 1997	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 83-99
ALABAMA	2883	304	229	194	201	245	4056
ALASKA	507	19	45	18	50	52	691
ARIZONA	13784	1686	1760	2128	2749	3083	25190
ARKANSAS	1572	76	78	38	22	31	1817
CALIFORNIA	324377	22443	13882	11069	10316	9676	391763
COLORADO	10893	1150	1036	1120	1018	1115	16332
CONNECTICUT	12317	917	795	666	849	1292	16836
DELAWARE	416	28	19	21	28	22	534
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	8265	926	722	868	675	455	11911
FLORIDA	69284	31252	16596	9006	16289	22621	165048
GEORGIA	22233	3302	2701	2875	3255	4412	38778
HAWAII	3589	178	85	19	34	51	3956
IDAHO	3514	464	414	603	633	809	6437
ILLINOIS	43852	4332	3567	4410	4022	4052	64235
INDIANA	3587	358	361	540	611	657	6114
IOWA	8417	1164	994	1420	1673	1768	15436
KANSAS	7377	759	490	372	259	236	9493
KENTUCKY	5347	1097	1367	1217	1781	1802	12611
LOUISIANA	8094	762	519	339	648	733	11095
MAINE	3007	271	152	196	210	208	4044
MARYLAND	20267	1853	1086	771	688	853	25518
MASSACHUSETTS	38284	2890	2398	2123	2352	2308	50355
MICHIGAN	20994	2649	2335	2640	2400	3502	34520
MINNESOTA	27045	2489	2075	1597	1712	3484	38402
MISSISSIPPI	1119	54	27	20	25	49	1294
MISSOURI	14908	1760	1893	2387	2523	2821	26292
MONTANA	716	58	59	62	6	0	901
NEBRASKA	5125	754	520	504	594	665	8162
NEVADA	3968	620	590	344	623	722	6867
NEW HAMPSHIRE	2133	301	217	367	511	631	4160
NEW JERSEY	22392	2764	1584	1186	1414	2527	31867
NEW MEXICO	3827	775	510	161	266	355	5894
NEW YORK	164253	17329	12891	11084	8141	10417	224115
NORTH CAROLINA	8836	1010	1011	991	1305	1358	14511
NORTH DAKOTA	2522	425	341	517	537	614	4956
OHIO	16801	1444	1395	1384	1535	1484	24043
OKLAHOMA	5458	397	217	152	152	192	6568
OREGON	18103	2047	1620	1551	2096	1777	27194
PENNSYLVANIA	34132	3011	2710	2280	2405	2923	47461
RHODE ISLAND	5078	162	103	92	133	182	5750
SOUTH CAROLINA	1296	153	85	98	50	76	1758
SOUTH DAKOTA	2249	242	287	278	377	446	3879
TENNESSEE	10096	1344	1191	1445	1215	1211	16502
TEXAS	59411	5597	4224	4180	5022	5544	83978
UTAH	7951	709	797	1238	1306	1114	13115
VERMONT	2022	230	262	279	380	394	3567
VIRGINIA	21124	2005	1701	1657	1362	2139	29988
WASHINGTON	43638	5894	4342	4709	6137	5084	69804
WEST VIRGINIA	337	8	12	5	9	5	376
WISCONSIN	15170	1195	743	551	268	651	18578
WYOMING	148	0	0	0	5	0	153
AMERICAN SAMOA	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
GUAM	51	0	0	4	1	0	56
PUERTO RICO	206	162	71	15	15	87	556
UNKNOWN a/	102	4	7	8	0	1	122
Table Total	1133078	131823	93116	81799	90888	106936	1637640

TABLE 4: AMERASIAN, ENTRANT, AND REFUGEE ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND STATE OF INITIAL RESETTLEMENT

STATE	Afghanistan	Burma	Burundi	Cuba a/ (entrant) b/	Cuba (entrant) b/	Ethiopia	Haiti c/ (entrant) d/	Haiti (entrant) d/	Iran	Other/unkn wn g/	Total
ALABAMA	0	0	0	14	25	0	0	0	1	0	245
ALASKA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52
ARIZONA	3	5	69	79	156	9	0	0	29	52	3083
ARKANSAS	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	31
CALIFORNIA	29	14	1	27	158	345	1	1	1074	27	9676
COLORADO	7	1	0	7	3	14	0	1	30	6	1115
CONNECTICUT	3	3	1	7	28	0	6	3	12	22	1292
DELAWARE	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	6	0	0	22
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	26	2	0	0	5	12	0	1	23	9	455
FLORIDA	13	0	0	1259	17222	12	30	1060	18	13	22621
GEORGIA	42	0	52	24	40	230	0	5	42	8	4412
HAWAII	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	51
IDAHO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	809
ILLINOIS	0	1	0	10	46	17	3	0	33	20	4052
INDIANA	7	63	0	0	7	5	0	0	0	0	657
IOWA	0	0	14	0	2	16	0	0	6	41	1768
KANSAS	8	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	236
KENTUCKY	5	6	13	20	412	0	7	3	9	7	1802
LOUISIANA	9	10	0	27	59	0	0	1	5	10	733
MAINE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	208
MARYLAND	6	0	1	5	8	4	1	3	25	0	853
MASSACHUSETTS	6	1	0	7	36	0	12	45	5	6	2308
MICHIGAN	0	8	0	17	265	14	1	1	17	4	3502
MINNESOTA	0	22	7	0	2	820	0	0	13	36	3484
MISSISSIPPI	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	49
MISSOURI	53	0	0	21	10	31	3	0	15	8	2821
MISSOURI	10	0	1	6	5	0	0	0	4	11	665
NEBRASKA	0	4	0	39	320	4	0	0	12	0	722
NEVADA	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	19	631
NEW HAMPSHIRE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NEW JERSEY	26	0	0	123	481	0	6	42	20	3	2527
NEW MEXICO	5	0	0	16	123	0	0	0	5	0	355
NEW YORK	12	59	10	55	489	25	1	56	113	63	10417
NORTH CAROLINA	0	43	0	20	17	0	0	2	10	14	1358
NORTH DAKOTA	23	0	5	17	0	0	1	0	7	3	614
OHIO	0	0	1	0	8	36	0	0	6	18	1484

TABLE 4: AMERASIAN, ENTRANT, AND REFUGEE ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND STATE OF INITIAL RESETTLEMENT
FY 1999

STATE	Afghanistan	Burma	Burundi	Cuba a/ (entrant)	Cuba b/ (entrant)	Ethiopia	Haiti c/ (entrant)	Haiti d/ (entrant)	Iran	Other/ unkno wn g/	Total
OKLAHOMA	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	13	0	192
OREGON	8	5	0	16	192	46	0	0	10	4	1777
PENNSYLVANIA	0	1	0	9	38	4	8	1	1	2	2923
RHODE ISLAND	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	2	182
SOUTH CAROLINA	5	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	76
SOUTH DAKOTA	0	0	10	0	0	72	0	0	8	17	446
TENNESSEE	4	8	11	26	19	6	0	0	30	12	1211
TEXAS	0	13	19	130	331	26	6	0	57	72	5544
UTAH	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	12	20	1114
VERMONT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	394
VIRGINIA	40	9	5	21	71	17	3	1	11	10	2139
WASHINGTON	11	5	3	6	7	113	2	0	52	7	5084
WEST VIRGINIA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
WISCONSIN	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	651
PUERTO RICO	0	0	0	12	75	0	0	0	0	0	87
UNKNOWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Table Total	361	295	223	2021	20681	1879	91	1233	1737	547	106936

b/ Includes Cubans with entrant status, humanitarian parolee status, or Havana Parolee status.

c/ Includes Haitians with refugee status.

d/ Includes Haitians with entrant status or humanitarian parolee status.

e/ Includes refugees from the republics of the former Soviet Union.

f/ Includes refugees from the republics of the former Yugoslavia.

g/ Includes countries with fewer than 200 arrivals as well as cases with unknown country of origin.

TABLE 4 (continued): AMERASIAN, ENTRANT, AND REFUGEE ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND STATE OF INITIAL RESETTLEMENT
FY 1999

STATE	IRAQ	LIBERIA	NIGERIA	SIERRA LEONE	SOMALIA	SUDAN	USSR (former) e/	VIETNAM	VIETNAM(A merasian)	YUGOSLAVI A (former) f/	OTHER/JUNK NOWN g/
ALABAMA	11	0	0	0	0	1	16	6	66	15	90
ALASKA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	1	0	25
ARIZONA	141	42	48	48	51	146	225	48	197	13	1770
ARKANSAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	7
CALIFORNIA	130	54	5	5	6	384	76	3480	2263	24	1577
COLORADO	19	6	13	13	35	69	69	301	110	3	490
CONNECTICUT	11	4	11	11	15	32	32	91	39	6	984
DELAWARE	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	14	22	2	2	0	37	47	3	78	0	174
FLORIDA	22	51	4	4	7	21	67	119	316	12	2375
GEORGIA	138	98	87	87	27	620	153	185	685	10	1966
HAWAII	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	0	0
IDAHO	5	0	0	0	0	10	23	18	36	0	716
ILLINOIS	133	45	55	55	27	1	36	582	183	8	2852
INDIANA	15	14	11	11	3	11	4	83	86	0	359
IOWA	26	17	36	36	7	30	107	15	174	18	1259
KANSAS	3	0	6	6	0	15	18	10	114	0	59
KENTUCKY	55	8	0	0	0	76	12	30	83	4	1052
LOUISIANA	9	0	10	10	0	35	53	0	203	16	286
MAINE	0	0	0	1	0	35	34	3	0	0	130
MARYLAND	6	122	1	1	70	47	48	155	58	0	293
MASSACHUSETTS	25	11	4	4	9	86	11	826	305	8	905
MICHIGAN	457	20	0	0	15	102	83	165	139	1	2193
MINNESOTA	1	402	11	11	44	1152	70	334	104	0	466
MISSISSIPPI	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	10	6	0	19
MISSOURI	61	22	67	67	25	118	53	83	231	1	2019
NEBRASKA	71	0	18	18	0	0	35	79	157	0	268
NEVADA	11	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	25	0	300
NEW HAMPSHIRE	30	20	27	27	3	12	66	18	40	5	390
NEW JERSEY	7	224	3	3	68	6	9	299	189	0	1021
NEW MEXICO	1	0	0	0	4	0	5	2	106	0	88
NEW YORK	56	571	45	45	188	141	98	3773	451	21	4190
NORTH CAROLINA	1	41	0	0	5	48	23	182	341	14	597

TABLE 4 (continued): AMERASIAN, ENTRANT, AND REFUGEE ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND STATE OF INITIAL RESETTLEMENT
FY 1999

STATE	IRAQ	LIBERIA	NIGERIA	SIERRA LEONE	SOMALIA	SUDAN	USSR (former) e/	VIETNAM	VIETNAM (merasian)	VIETNAM A (former) f/	YUGOSLAVI (former) g/	OTHER/UNK
NORTH DAKOTA	8	0	0	15	28	74	4	4	1	418	3	
OHIO	20	15	0	0	82	6	438	96	3	747	18	
OKLAHOMA	0	0	0	0	0	7	43	87	0	39	0	
OREGON	4	0	0	0	26	11	988	109	0	358	4	
PENNSYLVANIA	41	388	108	0	40	33	721	337	0	1265	4	
RHODE ISLAND	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	11	0	19	2	
SOUTH CAROLINA	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	24	0	17	2	
SOUTH DAKOTA	4	0	0	12	21	62	54	2	0	184	0	
TENNESSEE	88	32	0	26	97	116	43	137	10	530	17	
TEXAS	180	97	0	66	255	330	66	1268	22	2579	12	
UTAH	20	0	0	15	34	89	13	87	4	818	72	
VERMONT	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	47	8	337	20	
VIRGINIA	76	56	0	34	0	0	113	209	0	929	0	
WASHINGTON	62	2	0	0	141	32	3379	326	14	922	10	
WEST VIRGINIA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	7	
WISCONSIN	0	0	0	0	22	0	68	31	0	521	0	
PUERTO RICO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
UNKNOWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Table Total	1962	2493	625	678	4321	2389	16917	9622	241	38620	547	

a/ Includes Cubans with refugee status.
 b/ Includes Cubans with entrant status, humanitarian parolee status, or Havana Parolee status.
 c/ Includes Haitians with refugee status.
 d/ Includes Haitians with entrant status or humanitarian parolee status.
 e/ Includes refugees from the republics of the former Soviet Union.
 f/ Includes refugees from the republics of the former Yugoslavia.
 g/ Includes countries with fewer than 200 arrivals as well as cases with unknown country of origin.

TABLE 5: AMERASIAN, ASYLEE (from Northern Iraq), ENTRANT, AND REFUGEE SECONDARY MIGRATION a/ FY 1997 - FY 1999			
STATE	IN-MIGRATION	OUT-MIGRATION	NET MIGRATION
ALABAMA	8	54	-46
ALASKA b/	0	14	-14
ARIZONA	148	615	-467
ARKANSAS	12	35	-23
CALIFORNIA	1586	1714	-128
COLORADO	230	75	155
CONNECTICUT	413	95	318
DELAWARE	12	2	10
DIST. OF COLUMBIA	51	378	-327
FLORIDA	855	757	98
GEORGIA	483	390	93
HAWAII	4	8	-4
IDAHO	116	120	-4
ILLINOIS	302	736	-434
INDIANA	28	78	-50
IOWA	1546	330	1216
KANSAS	79	77	2
KENTUCKY	61	264	-203
LOUISIANA	95	248	-153
MAINE	50	29	21
MARYLAND	626	170	456
MASSACHUSETTS	282	251	31
MICHIGAN	538	202	336
MINNESOTA	1770	199	1571
MISSISSIPPI	38	15	23
MISSOURI	70	237	-167
MONTANA	0	9	-9
NEBRASKA	697	113	584
NEVADA	294	55	239
NEW HAMPSHIRE	39	52	-13
NEW JERSEY	83	1248	-1165
NEW MEXICO	4	74	-70
NEW YORK	81	1917	-1836
NORTH CAROLINA	419	192	227
NORTH DAKOTA	86	249	-163
OHIO	29	137	-108
OKLAHOMA	44	36	8
OREGON	91	347	-256
PENNSYLVANIA	344	339	5

RHODE ISLAND	19	25	-6
SOUTH CAROLINA	68	19	49
SOUTH DAKOTA	25	89	-64
TENNESSEE	300	389	-89
TEXAS	346	1482	-1136
UTAH	44	178	-134
VERMONT	18	23	-5
VIRGINIA	294	803	-509
WASHINGTON	2199	340	1859
WEST VIRGINIA	0	3	-3
WISCONSIN	358	71	287
WYOMING	0	0	0
OTHER b/	0	2	-2
Table Total	15285	15285	0

a/ This table represents a compilation of unadjusted data reports by States. The population base is Amerasians, Asylees (from northern Iraq), entrants, and refugees receiving State-administered services on 09/30/99.

Secondary migration is defined as a change of residence across a State line at any time between initial arrival in the U.S. and the reporting date. With regard to any given State, out-migrants are persons initially placed there who were living elsewhere on the reporting date, while in-migrants are persons living there on the reporting date who were initially placed elsewhere.

b/ Not participating in the refugee program.

APPENDIX B
FEDERAL AGENCY REPORTS

Department of State

Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

The United States leads the world in providing assistance to refugees and victims of conflict. The U.S. resettles about half of the refugees referred by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for resettlement each year. The Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) has primary responsibility for formulating U.S. policies on these issues and for administering U.S. refugee assistance and admissions programs overseas.

Of the 85,518 refugees admitted to the U.S. in FY 1999, the largest number came from the former Yugoslavia (38,658) and the former Soviet Union (11,403). As in previous years, the President authorized in-country processing in the former Soviet Union, Vietnam and Cuba for persons who would qualify as refugees were they outside their country of origin. In addition, the U.S. offered resettlement to refugees outside their country of origin who were deemed to be of "special humanitarian concern" to the U.S. Highest priority for resettlement was given to refugees referred by UNHCR and by U.S. Embassies. A number of particularly vulnerable groups, including persecuted religious and ethnic minorities, were determined to be of special concern to the U.S. and given priority processing.

Department of Justice

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) Administers immigration and naturalization laws relating to the interview, determination, admission, and naturalization of refugees and asylees. Overseas, INS is responsible for the interview of refugee applicants and the subsequent approval or denial of requests for refugee classification. Last year, immigration officers posted at overseas locations and asylum officers on detail conducted refugee

determination interviews in approximately forty different countries. INS also inspects and admits approved refugee applicants to the United States and processes refugees' applications for adjustment of status to lawful permanent resident. In FY 1999, over 85,000 refugees were admitted to the United States, representing more than 60 nationalities, with refugees from the former Yugoslavia constituting the largest portion. Domestically, officers in eight asylum offices interview and make determinations on the cases of asylum-seekers that have reached the United States. In FY 1999, according to preliminary data, the Asylum Corps completed 55,316 cases. The countries producing the greatest number of asylum-seekers in FY 1999 were People's Republic of China, Somalia, Haiti, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Mexico. The INS Headquarters main office building is located at 425 I Street, N.W., Washington, DC. Information about INS is available on the Internet web site <http://www.ins.usdoj.gov>.

Office of International and Refugee Health

The Office of Refugee Resettlement, (ORR) funds the Office of International and Refugee Health (OIRH) through an intra-agency agreement. The Associate Director for International and Refugee Health has administered the DHHS Task Force on Female Circumcision/Female Genital Mutilation (FC/FGM). After conducting seven community meetings around the U.S. with African refugee communities and consulting widely with institutions that train health professionals, DHHS undertook several projects designed to educate U.S. populations that traditionally have practiced FC/FGM about the dangers of the practice to women and girls. With funding provided through Interagency agreements from Women's and Minority Health, ORR funded a national project and several community-based projects to educate populations at risk.

Goals of Refugee Health

The two principal goals of providing health care to refugees coming to the United States are:

- to protect the health of the U.S. population
- to assure that the health status of refugees does not impede their achieving self-sufficiency.

Health screening of refugees after they arrive in the U.S. is directed at both goals. Refugees are screened for health conditions that may impede their ability to become self-sufficient. Refugees are treated for those health conditions that may be a threat to the health of the U.S. population, and are referred for treatment of other acute and chronic conditions that may impede their ability to become self sufficient.

Refugee Health Screening

Overseas health screening of refugees is conducted primarily for the purpose of identifying those individuals who have health conditions which would exclude them from entry into the United States under regulations promulgated by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services. Individuals with "A" and "B" conditions identified by overseas screening must be referred to U.S. public health officials upon arrival in the U.S. These procedures are intended to protect the health of U.S. residents.

APPENDIX C

RESETTLEMENT AGENCY REPORTS

(The following reports were prepared by the Voluntary Resettlement Agencies. Each report expresses the judgments or opinions of the individual agency reporting.)

Church World Service

Church World Service Immigration and Refugee Program (CWS/IRP) is a unit of the National Council of the Churches, an ecumenical body representing thirty-five Protestant and Orthodox communions in the United States. CWS/IRP, and its network of local affiliates works with individual congregations and national denominations in providing resettlement services, assistance to immigrants and asylum-seekers, and a variety of employment and social services

In FY 1999, the Church World Service Immigration and Refugee Program (CWS/IRP) resettled 6,723 refugees under the United States Refugee Program and 3,785 Cuban/Haitian entrants through its network of 29 local affiliate offices, 16 sub-offices and 10 participating denominations.

FY 1999 USRP Refugee Arrivals (DOS Program)

Africa	1,251
E. Europe/Former Soviet Union	4,224
Latin America	239
Near East	333
Southeast Asia	676
Total	6,723

FY 1999 Entrant Resettlements (DOJ Program)

Cuba	3,153
Haiti	632
Total	3,785

Episcopal Migration Ministries

Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM), a program of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church, responds to refugees, immigrants and displaced persons both domestically and

Internationally. EMM operates a national resettlement program through 41 diocesan programs that agree to organize parish sponsorships and community resources as part of their commitment to ensure the provision of reception and placement services to refugees; programs range in size and scope from multi-service centers in major urban areas to smaller diocesan programs and refugee ministry units of state councils of churches. In FY 1998, EMM resettled 2,745 refugees from the following regions:

Africa	317
Eastern Europe/Former Soviet Union	2,480
Southeast Asia	231
Latin America	82
Near East	79
Total	3,189

Ethiopian Community Development Council

The Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc. (ECDC) is a non-profit community-based organization dedicated to promoting cultural, educational and socio-economic development programs in the immigrant and refugee community in the United States, and conducting humanitarian programs in the Horn of Africa. ECDC serves both as a local resettlement agency and the national office for community-based affiliates providing similar services in local communities around the country.

During FY 1999, ECDC provided resettlement services to 921 refugees from Africa (337), Eastern Europe (485), Southeast Asia (73), and the Near East (26) through a network of five local affiliates. These include the African Community Refugee Center, Los Angeles, CA; Alliance for African Assistance, San Diego, CA; Alliance for Multicultural Community Services, Houston, TX; Ethiopian Community Association of Chicago, Chicago, IL; and ECDC/Multicultural Community Services,

Arlington, VA. ECDC also administers Match Grant, Preferred Communities, and Refugee Microenterprise Development programs.

Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society

HIAS, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, is the national and worldwide arm of the organized American Jewish community for the rescue, relocation and resettlement of refugees and migrants. HIAS works closely with Jewish federations, Jewish Family Service and Jewish Vocational Service agencies across the nation to maintain an extensive cooperative network committed to providing the broadest possible spectrum of professionally staffed resettlement services. All HIAS affiliates receive Reception and Placement grant funds through HISA to assist in meeting the needs of refugees during the initial phase of the resettlement process and many affiliates then choose to provide private funding, enabling them to participate in the Voluntary Agency Match Grant Program as a way of further enhancing their ability to assist refugees to attain social and economic integration.

HIAS World Headquarters is located at 333 Seventh Avenue (7th Floor), New York, NY 10001-5004. The HIAS website may be found at <http://www.HIAS.org>.

The following table presents the number of refugees resettled by the HIAS network during FY 1999:

Africans	41
Bosnians	204
Iranians	356
Kosovars	502
Former Soviet Union	6,586
Total	7,689

Immigration and Refugee Services of America

IRSA is the country's oldest non-sectarian network providing assistance to immigrants,

refugees, and their descendants. For more than 40 years IRSA has worked through the US Committee for Refugees for the protection and assistance of refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced persons around the world.

During FY 1999, IRSA and its member agencies resettled approximately 9,510 refugees: from Southeast Asia; Eastern Europe; the former Soviet Union; the middle East, Africa, and the Americas and the Caribbean. IRSA's headquarters is at 1717 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, DC 20036. On the Internet, IRSA has two sites: <http://www.refugees.org>, <http://www.refugeesusa.org>. E-mail can be sent to irsa@irsa-uscr.org.

International Rescue Committee, Inc.

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) was founded, at the request of Albert Einstein, in 1933 to help refugees fleeing Nazi persecution. For the past sixty-six years, IRC has been serving refugees in need around the world -- a population now estimated at over 22.3 million, the majority of whom are women and children. IRC helps victims of racial, religious, and ethnic persecution and strife to rebuild their shattered lives. IRC resettles approximately 13% of the total number of refugees admitted to the U.S. each year.

During the FY 1999, the International Rescue resettled 11,042, including 2267 Kosovars. Of this number, 1,964 were from Africa, 5,704 were from Eastern Europe, 758 were from the Near East, 439 were from Latin America and, 735 from East Asia.

Iowa Department of Human Services

The mission of the Bureau of Refugee Services' is to offer a home and a future to victims of persecution, by helping them to become socially self-reliant and economically self-sufficient

During Federal FY 1999, the Bureau, acting as a voluntary resettlement agency, resettled 655 refugees. During the same time period the Bureau, acting as the single state agency for refugee services, together with contract partners, placed 937 refugees in jobs.

The Bureau can be contacted at 1200 University Avenue, Suite D, Des Moines, Iowa 50314 or at www.dhs.state.ia.us/homepages/dhs/refugee.

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) was organized in 1939 to assist WWII refugee survivors to rebuild their lives in the United States, is now the largest Protestant resettlement agency in the U.S. Over the years the agency has grown to include immigration services, children's services, and advocacy for refugees, immigrants, asylum seekers and those in immigration detention through 27 affiliate offices, 14 sub-offices and countless partners and volunteers across the country.

In FY 99, LIRS resettled 6,942 refugees from Europe; 2,725 African refugees; 228 East Asian refugees; 577 from the Near East; and 228 from Latin America for a total of 13,985. Nineteen LIRS affiliates participate in the Match Grant Program and nine are Preferred Community Sites. LIRS also manages the ORR-funded Refugee Works project, a national refugee employment training program.

United States Catholic Conference

The United States Catholic Conference (USCC) is the public policy and social action agency of the Roman Catholic bishops in the United States. Within USCC, Migration and Refugee Services (MRS) is the lead office responsible for developing Conference policy on migration, immigration and refugee issues, as well as providing program support and field coordination for a network of 107 diocesan refugee resettlement offices throughout the United States. The total refugee arrivals in FY

1999 assisted under the Department of State Reception and Placement (R&P) Program was 21,929. Additionally, USCC/MRS resettled 3,816 Cuban and Haitian entrants through a cooperative agreement with the Department of Justice. USCC/MRS continued its successful participation in the ORR Match Grant Program during FY 1999 with a total of 8,016 clients being served.

World Relief Corporation

World Relief is the international assistance arm of the National Association of Evangelicals, which represents approximately 79 member denominations, as well as numerous individual congregations and independent churches. As the humanitarian arm of the NAE, World Relief provides assistance disaster and relief assistance in 38 counties throughout the world.

During FY 1999, the agency resettled 10,243 refugees through a network of 27 affiliates including sub-offices as well as sponsoring churches. World Relief's caseload this past year was largely comprised of African, Albanian, Kosovar, Soviet Evangelical Christians and Bosnian refugees. In addition, a number of Cuban refugees and asylees were resettled throughout the Miami, FL region.

APPENDIX D

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